

# Walking in Faith

Faith Lutheran Church  
Harcourt, Iowa

October 2005

## Notes from the Edge of the Desk

I was leaving Wendy's in Fort Dodge the other day, following a pick-up truck. It seemed to me to be a new truck – but then I assume that ANY vehicle that is shiny is new. No vehicle of ours has been waxed & buffed since – well, I gave up wondering who invented Turtle Wax before I was married, let alone why anyone would want a shiny turtle. (And what in blue blazes is a 'canuba'?)

Now, I will readily admit that I am not a pick-up truck aficionado, but still, this was one of THOSE pick-ups. You've seen them. They are TALL – they have running boards to step up into them, & handles formed into their very construction, so you can pull yourself up into them, in much the same way that one would climb a rock wall...if it were constructed on the south slope of Kilimanjaro. I suspect that the things come equipped with difibulators. I have yet to understand why one would want a vehicle that would induce nosebleeds when you climbed into it...

This particular truck had an extended cab; I would guess it would carry about the same number of passengers as one of those short school buses. (I hesitate to use the word "buses" in an article, because the word has always looked wrong to me. "BUSES" looks like it should rhyme with "FUSES", & "BUSSES" looks like something that would be confined by a Victorian corset.) This particular truck had four tires in the back, making it so wide that if the right tire was rubbing against the curb, the far left one would extend 32 inches into the on-coming lane. It also had an extended bed. The thing was so massive, it had its own gravitational field, & five Ford Escorts were orbiting around it. The exhaust was supplemented by its own subwoofer, so that, as it idled, it sounded like there were 20 military helicopters hovering just behind the Subway next door. I don't know what it was rated for miles per gallon, but I understand that the only way you can burn gas faster involves an open container of gasoline, a match & a catastrophic medical insurance plan.

I have seen the commercials for these trucks. They are driven by men who would gladly give their lives for a moment of real adventure. There they are, driving their pick-up trucks, climbing mountainsides that would frustrate mountain goats – grappling their way over boulders & through whitewater rivers, usually at speeds that would require a parachute & a landing strip to stop. If you were to believe the commercials, you could ride across the lunar landscape at 160 mph in one of these things, without spilling your coffee or having your cd skip.

But I was behind this guy, riding so high in his truck in the sky, waiting for him to turn right out of Wendys in Fort Dodge. When he finally did so, he took two minutes to reach a top speed of 6 mph, AND HE PUT ON HIS BRAKES TO SLOW HIMSELF DOWN WHEN HE STARTED TO CROSS THE RAILROAD

*(Continued on page 3)*



### Inside this issue:

<i>Serving Faith—October</i>	2
<i>Church Council</i>	
<i>Treasurer's Report</i>	
<i>Lawn Mowing</i>	3
<i>Table Affair</i>	
<i>Success</i>	
<i>Reserved</i>	
<i>October Schedule</i>	4
<i>WELCA News</i>	
<i>Choir News</i>	



**Worship 9:00**  
**Coffee 10:00**

**Sunday School**  
**10:15**

### **SERVING COFFEE IN OCTOBER**

2– Donna Brundage  
9– Rosie & Shirley  
16–  
23– Donnie & Jo  
30– Rod & Cheryl



## Faith Church Council Minutes

Faith Lutheran Church Council met September 1, 2005. Members present were Kari Bahr, Joe Buda, Dorothy Nahnsen, Jan Peterson, Don Peterson, Jeff Peterson, John Samuelson, Milt Smith and Pastor Rod. Pastor Rod led the Council in devotions based on Matthew 18:21.

The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's reports showed a balance of \$6291.84 on 6/30, \$6414.59 on 7/30, and \$6609.13 on 8/30. From that balance, \$1433 will be returned to savings. There are unpaid bills of \$3230 to Joe for shingling labor and \$416.88 to Engquist Lumber. There is a balance of \$2613.40 in the Memorial fund and \$928 in the church savings. Money for the pews will be taken from the fund from Dallas Carlson. We have spent approximately \$6300 on the sanctuary renovations. The Ice Cream Social and Bake Sale raised \$1367. Thrivent funds of \$200 will be coming for a total of \$1567. As of 7/31, there is a balance of \$10,216 in the Mission Investment Fund. The treasurer's report was approved.

John reported that power to the church sign and flag pole will be installed by the Community Betterment Club. Work is continuing on the steeple. John reported that we need a better electrical system to bring it up to code. This will cost approximately \$850. A 200 amp box will be installed. A motion was made and carried that we upgrade the electrical system.

Rod reported that the water softener at the parsonage was not working. A motion was made and carried that a new water softener be installed. Joe will do the work needed. Rod reported that Thrivent is matching \$1 for every \$2 raised up to 1 Million dollars for Katrina relief. On September 18th a special offering will be taken.

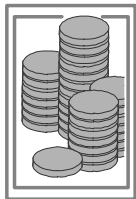
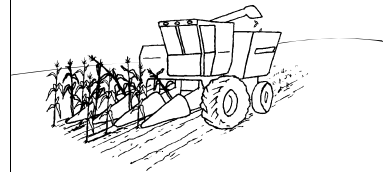
Rededication Sunday will be September 11, 2005. A pancake and sausage breakfast will be served prior the service from 8-8:45AM. Sunday school will start that Sunday also. A motion was made and carried that the church be used as a voting place in Harcourt. Joe will install the small hot water heater for use in the bathrooms at a later date.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Nahnsen



## HARVEST



### Treasurer's Report

<b>Beginning Balance 8/1/05</b>	<b>\$ 6414.58</b>
<b>August Deposits</b>	<b>5178.02</b>
<b>August Expenses</b>	<b><u>4983.47</u></b>
<b>Balance 8/31/05</b>	<b>\$ 6609.13</b>

## Serving Faith

**Ushers-**  
Ed Peterson & Harold Larrington

**Communion Assistants-**  
Joe Buda & John Samuelson

**Altar & Greeter-**  
Fern Anderson & Arlene Hintch

**Altar Flowers-**  
Milt & Deb Smith

*(continued from page 1, NOTES FROM THE EDGE)*

TRACKS!!!! Come on! This isn't the Australian Outback or the Baja Peninsula! It's Business Highway 20 & three sets of recessed railroad tracks!

Once we crossed the tracks, two of us decided to pass him: I did so in what remained of my lane on his left, & an elderly woman with a walker & a limp do so on the sidewalk on his right. That was Friday at 12:30 – he should be approaching the outskirts of town about now, unless his progress was completely thwarted by a pothole.

This guy was equipped to do so much more than he was willing to do.

So are we.

As children of God, we are created for adventure. We are fueled by the Holy Spirit. We are empowered to get off the beaten path. We are driven to be lights in the darkness. Sometimes I get frustrated when our progress to & through the Kingdom of God slows to a snail's pace.

But then again, sometimes it's me with my foot on the brake pedal.

I saw a bumper sticker once that said, "If God Is Your Co-Pilot, Change seats..." Let's pray this week that God will show us how to get out of our own way, and on to His Way.

rod

### **SUCCESS**

**At different stages of our lives, success means different things...**

**At age 4—success is not peeing your pants.**

**At age 12—success is having friends**

**At age 16—success is having a driver's license**

**At age 35—success is having money**

**At age 50—success is having money.**

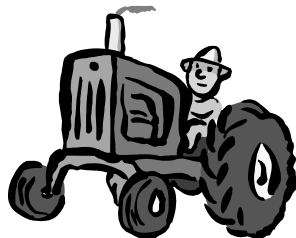
**At age 70—success is having a driver's license**

**At age 75—success is having friends**

**At age 80—success is not peeing your pants!**

**Thank You to all the volunteers who kept the lawn looking so great all summer.**

**You did a wonderful job!!!!**

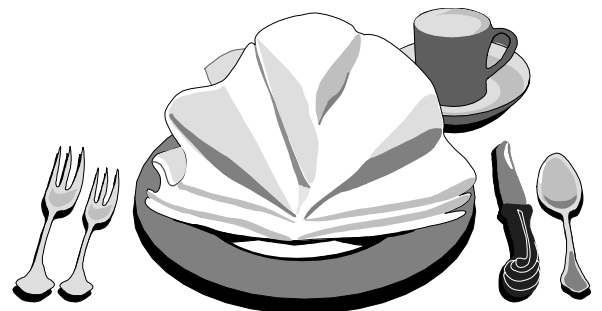


## **R E S E R V E D**

**Special People**  
 Since our renovation this summer, some of you may have noticed the reserved sign on the back pew on the east side. That is saved for the ushers on Sunday. They do a great job every week and we appreciate their service to Faith.

### **Table Affair**

**The 4th Annual Table Affair will be held on Saturday, October 29th. Viewing will begin at 11:15 am, seating at 11:45 am. The salad bar will include Blue Willow chicken salad, beverages and a variety of desserts. Tickets are \$7 and can be purchased from Rod & Cheryl 354-5224. We still need more Ladies to hostess the 14 tables and to sell tickets. Invite your family and friends to Faith for an enjoyable, festive luncheon.**



## FAITH CHOIR

The Choir has begun to meet & it looks like it should be a great time for everyone.

In an effort to avoid scheduling conflicts with council, we have decided to meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday nights, except on the third Thursday, when WELCA meets.



We would still like to encourage anyone else who would like to join us to do so. We have a good time!!!

- |         |    |  |
|---------|----|--|
| October | 2  | * Worship/Communion 9 am , Coffee Hour<br>* Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 am                                      |
| October | 4  | * Fall Cluster meeting 9 am at Zion  |
| October | 6  | * Choir 6:30 pm<br>* Church Council 7:30 pm  |
| October | 9  | * Worship 9 am, Coffee Hour<br>* Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 am   |
| October | 13 | * Choir 6:30   |
| October | 16 | * Worship 9 am Coffee Hour<br>Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 am  |
| October | 20 | * Martha Group 2 pm at church<br>Ruby Koppen, Hostess<br>* Sarah Group 6:30 pm at church<br>Charlene Peterson, Hostess |
| October | 23 | * Worship 9 am Coffee Hour<br>* Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 am  |
| October | 27 | * Choir 6:30 pm  |
| October | 29 | * Table Affair 11:15 am  |
| October | 30 | * Worship 9 am Coffee Hour<br>* Sunday School & Confirmation 10:15 am  |

## WELCA NEWS—October 2005

It is hard to believe that fall is almost here, certainly not by the warm days we have been having lately. But soon the days will cool off and we can look forward to our fall event at Faith. This year our 4th annual "Table Affair" will be held on Saturday, October 29th. We will host the salad bar luncheon, which will include Blue Willow chicken salad, beverages and dessert. The tickets will be \$7 and are available from Rod or Cheryl. We hope to have 14 decorated tables this year, but so far we need more ladies to hostess a table. Please let Cheryl know as soon as possible if you might be able to decorate a table. We have some great minds that can help develop your idea if you need some inspiration. Some of the table ideas we have so far are Singing in the Rain, Basset Hound Table, Birdhouse Table, Poinsettia Table, a Tuscan Table, and of course some for fall and Christmas. We all have fun things that we collect, so please think about sharing what you have for a table that day. Table Affair has become a special event of fellowship and friendship that so many look forward to attending. We hope to be able to continue the tradition.

Our Ice Cream Social & Bake Sale was another fun day at Faith. We had a great crowd and profits of \$1379.50. Thank you to all who served, baked and attended that day.

Our bible study for October calls us to "Act Boldly with Joy". As this month begins may we all think of ways that we can be more joyful. We live in a wonderful nation and have so much for which to be thankful. Let's get ready for our next big event!

Marsha