

# Walking in Faith

Faith Lutheran Church  
Harcourt, Iowa

MARCH 2007



## Notes from the Edge of the Desk

I took Introduction to Philosophy in college under Dr. Wilcox. He loved teaching that course. He was better than 6 feet tall, thin as a string, & when he was making a point, he would run right up to you, gesturing wildly with his arms & conclude with the question, "Isn't that right, Mr. Meyer?" Well of course you agreed—it was like being charged by a windmill! He was a great guy, but he died of cancer during my senior year—and in the process of dying, he shared with his students that formal schools of philosophy proved pretty inconsequential when one is faced with one's own mortality.

I don't remember much of the stuff I learned in that class, but I have held on to the concept that it is important for your personal philosophy to inform your life, infuse it with meaning & help you down the path of life. I collect truisms & proverbs that do that for me. (I live under the assumption that all the great truths of life can be expressed on the average size T-shirt.) Most of these lessons are very practical. "Never lick a steak knife" is a good, usable rule. "Never take a sleeping pill & a laxative on the same night." Common sense. "Never say anything that remotely suggests that you think a woman is pregnant unless you can see an actual baby emerging from her at that moment." A lot of us have learned that lesson the hard way...

Yes, some sayings are just pithy statements, but oft times they will inject a note of caution just where it is needed. "You deserve what you tolerate." "When a situation arises, there is always one person who perceives a solution & is willing to take command. 9 times out of 10, that person is crazy." "Sometimes a friend can kill you just as dead as an enemy can." "It is insane to want things different & keeping doing things the same old way." "If you don't like what you are getting, you better change what you are giving." "A person who is nice to you, but rude to the waiter, is not a nice person."

And sometimes these proverbs & lessons remind us that there is a difference between the time we're putting in & the life we could be living. Like, "Whether you get the answer you prayed for, or the answer you dreaded, God is still God." "God sometimes moves mountains one pebble at a time." "Sometimes it takes greater faith to stand still than it does to run off into battle." "Trouble, sorrow & life are all temporary." "What you love, you will make time for..."

Lent is our time to examine our lives—to make sure that we are living lives that are worth Jesus dying for.

rod



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**March 11-Daylight  
Savings Time begins  
Turn Clocks ahead**



**Worship 10:30  
Coffee 9:30**

**Sunday School  
9:30**

### SERVING COFFEE IN MARCH

March 4—  
March 11—  
March 16— Rod & Cheryl  
March 25- Chuck & Diane



## Church Council

Faith Lutheran Church Council met on February 4, 2007 at 12:00 pm. Members present were Doug Bahr, Grant Gibbons, Mark Greenfield, Dorothy Nahnsen, Eddie Peterson, Don Peterson, Jan Peterson, Jeff Peterson, Milt Smith, John Samuelson, and Pastor Rod.

The secretary's report was read and approved as presented. The treasurer's report showed a balance this month of \$3,043.00. This amount includes the \$1500 from the grant and \$1260.27 from interest received. The Memorial fund has a balance of \$4,250.57 and the saving account has a balance of \$7263.36. A motion was made, seconded and carried that Jan withdraws \$2500 from savings.

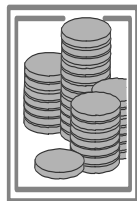
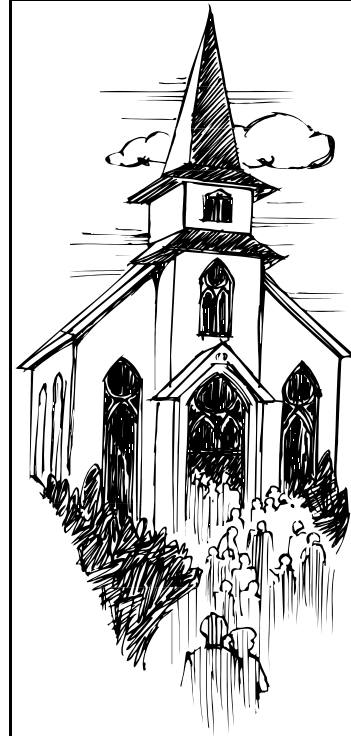
John reported that he had obtained information on a Workman's Compensation Policy. A motion was made, seconded and carried that we purchase Workman's Compensation Policy for \$311 per year. Pastor Rod reported that a CD recorder could be purchased from Modern Sound for \$687 installed. A motion was made, seconded and carried that we purchase the CD recorder with the \$500 allotted for this purchase plus the additional amount from the Memorial Fund. A transfer of membership of Stanley and Cloteen Nahnsen to Holy Trinity, Farnhamville was granted.

Ash Wednesday Services will be a joint service at Trinity in Boxholm on February 21st. at 730 pm. The Sedar meal will be at Trinity on Maundy Thursday. Soup suppers and Lenten services will begin at Faith on Wednesday, February 28th. Soup will be served at 6:00 pm and service will begin at 6:45 pm. Countryside Ministry Worship will be at Zion on February 18th. No services will be held at Faith that day. The Synod Assembly is April 20-22 in Sioux City. We are to contact Rod if anyone is interested in going.

The organist replacement will be on a weekly basis. Rod reported that he will be away from the pulpit June 10th and 17th. A replacement for each service will be provided. Mark and Dorothy will continue as Faith's representatives to Countryside Ministry. There is a defective light on the flag pole. Campbell Electric will be here to replace the light.

The next meeting will be March 4th after church. Meeting adjourned 12:45.

Respectfully submitted, Dorothy Nahnsen



## Treasurer's Report

<b>Beginning Balance 1/1/07</b>	<b>\$ 1679.23</b>
<b>January Deposits</b>	<b>4812.52</b>
<b>January Expenses</b>	<b><u>3448.75</u></b>
<b>Balance 1/31/07</b>	<b>\$ 3043.00</b>

## Serving Faith

**Ushers-**  
John Samuelson & Milt Smith

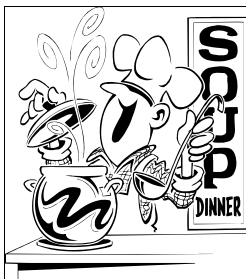
**Communion Assistants-**  
Marc Greenfield & Eddie Peterson

**Greeter-**  
Diane Peterson

**HAVE FAITH**

### Benefit Update

Thank you to all who helped to make February 11th a special day for Faith and Chris Dehart. Our congregation really stepped up and baked, cooked soup and worked together. The Bake Sale, Raffle & Soup donation totals were \$3211 and more offerings were received in the mail. Chris will also receive \$2000 from Thrivent. Thanks to all for sharing your gifts and we hope and pray that Chris will be well soon.



### Letter to Youth Group from Iraq

I just wanted to write you a quick note and say thanks so much for all the care packages. They were full of great stuff, it will all be put to good use. I can not tell you how much it means to all of us over here when we receive mail, it never fails to put a smile on our faces. Everyone greatly appreciates all the work you went to.

Everything over here is going really well. We are staying very busy, but that is a good thing because it keeps the time moving along. The only thing we can really complain about is the weather, it is freezing cold over here. Who would have thought Iraq of all places would get cold enough to freeze our water. I for one never imagined that. The good news is that it should start warming up within the next month. And then we will be heading home, we can't wait. Well, I am sorry to cut this so short, but we are about ready to head out on patrol.

Thanks again.



Jordan Frein & the  
Guys of Aztec 2



### FINANCIAL NEWS

Our congregation received the second distribution of funds from the Dallas Carlson Estate during the first week in February.

The \$100,000 gift was invested in a one-year CD with First American Bank in Fort Dodge for 5.5% and will pay interest quarterly. We now have two \$100,000 CDs on deposit, the other deposited with Security Savings for one year at 5.53%. As stated at our annual meeting, these gifts will be used for special projects at Faith. Your offerings are still needed each month to operate our church.

### Sonshine Singers

present

“Holy Spirit Rain Down”

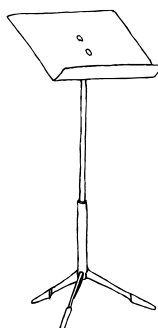
Saturday, March 10 & Sunday March 11  
2 p.m.

First United Methodist Church  
127 North 10th Street, Fort Dodge

Free will Offering for admission

The concert will feature  
beautiful, heartfelt and up  
tempo gospel style  
music, all with messages of  
God's unending  
love for us.

Everyone Welcome!



*THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO MY BENEFIT. THE GENEROSITY SHOWN HAS BEEN OVERWHELMING. I THANK GOD FOR ALL THE PEOPLE IN MY LIFE AND COMMUNITY WHO HAVE HELPED ME BY PRAYERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS. A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MY “WALKING LADIES” AND HELPERS FOR THE DELICIOUS MEAL.*  
*SINCERELY,*  
*CHRIS DEHART*

*Thank You*

## Schedule for Lent

Soup Suppers will begin on Wednesday February 28th. Soup will be served at 6 pm. The Lenten service will follow from 6:45 - 7:30 pm.

Soup Servers:

February 28— Rod, Cheryl & Marsha

March 7— Dorothy, Jan & Arlene

March 14— Shirley, Rosie & Donna

March 21— Charlene, Joan & Diane

March 28— Youth Group

Everyone is invited for supper, fellowship and services.

April 5-Sedar Meal on Maundy

Thursday at Trinity

April 6-Good Friday service at Faith



- March 4 Worship/Communion 10:30 Coffee & Sunday School  
Church Council after worship
- March 7 Soup Supper 6 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm
- March 11 Worship 10:30 Coffee & Sunday School 9:30
- March 14 Soup Supper 6 pm Lenten Worship 6:45 pm
- March 15 WELCA General Meeting 6:30 pm
- March 18 Worship 10:30 Coffee & Sunday School 9:30
- March 21 Soup Supper 6 pm Lenten Worship 6:45 pm
- March 25 Worship 10:30 Coffee & Sunday School 9:30
- March 28 Soup Supper 6 pm Lenten Service 6:45 pm
- March 30 500 Card Club 7 pm-Don & Joan Peterson home

## WELCA NEWS— March 2007

I don't want to sound redundant, but just wanted to thank all you ladies again for the wonderful effort at our recent benefit for Chris Dehart. We had 4 round tables mounded with baked goods to sell and 6 big roasters of soup to serve. Cheryl figured around 220 people attended that day, and we collected a nice amount to help Chris with her medical expenses. I am so proud of our church family and what we were able to accomplish.

And now we move on to Lent. Our soup suppers and Lenten service will begin on February 28 and continue on Wednesday evenings. Thursday, March 15th, will be the Spring General meeting for the Women of Faith. Hostess' are Cheryl Meyer & Dorothy Nahnsen. The evening will begin with a light supper at 6:30 pm at the church. Rod will lead the lesson and business meeting will follow.

As lent begins, we are reminded of how cold and lifeless that our world can be. And as we begin our Lenten journey, we need to remember that this is an opportunity to turn from those things that preoccupy and separate us from God's presence. Lent invites us to remember to practice the presence of God in our lives every day through prayer, repentance and acts of love for others. Just as we wait for springtime, sunshine & rains to nourish the earth, we look to Easter as a sign of the life-giving presence of God who is always with us and loving us.

"Return to the Lord your God, for God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." This Lent may we all be awakened to God's saving presence among us and that he is always with us and that his presence will give us a strength for each new day.

Marsha