

## FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Somerset, PA 15501

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Somerset, PA 15501  
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# Faith's Blessings



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## From The Pastor....



JANUARY 2010

### Happy New Year!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

What does the New Year hold for us? New possibilities, and more of the same!

We have a new council. New members include: Dennis Young, Tomalee Will, Richard Walker, and Shirley Weimer (3 year terms); and Jeanetta Shaffer and Tom Hill (1 year terms). "Old members" include: Bill Hoffman II, David Walker, Brian Brant, Brenda Maust, Marge Walker, and Ken Will. We thank Bill Hoffman, Carl Schrock, Ken Shockey, Audrey Walker, and Steph Brant for their service. Tom Hill served Chris Sheeler's unexpired term as a Council Appointee, but now has been elected to finish that term. New faces on a Congregation Council can lead to new directions!

Much of what a church is about will continue in the new year. Worship will continue much as usual, with seasonal adjustments to keep our worship "alive". Both the kids' bell choir and the adult bell choir, as well as the senior choir will continue to add their contributions. We will again do a Sunday Evening Soup and Worship during Lent, but instead of animals, we will do **Holy Moses!**

Sunday School will continue. With Adult Catechism winding down, the Adult Class will choose a new course of study.

Adult Bible Study will also continue, though we are open to new thoughts on day and time. We will probably move into Crossway's **See Through the Scriptures** to help us see the "big picture" and understand how the Bible Story fits together. We also expect to continue Bible School.

We expect our Youth Groups to continue, although we are struggling to find adult leadership for the Junior Youth at this point. Stephanie Brant and Lori Dill, who have faithfully led our younger set, are ready to pass on the torch, but at this point we have no one to pass it to!

WELCA continues to reach out to the ladies of our congregation. Check them out! Meetings are always lively and informative.

Committees will continue to coordinate congregational activities. We will have congregational dinners with good food, good fellowship, and good fun.

New congregational members can also lead to new dreams and new directions. Pr. George has offered to help us work out a more intentional family ministry. (Look for his article!)

Talk to Pastor and Council about your ideas for Faith Lutheran! Let's work together!

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor Ardelle*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**FAITH NEWS . . .**

**Funeral**

Service for Cleda Mosgrave was held at Faith on Friday, October 30, 2009.

**Memorial Service**

A memorial service was held for Carol Stahl at Faith on Sunday, December 6, 2009.

**Address Change**

Joshua Walker, Sgt 1st Class  
HHC  
2-1STB 2 HBCT1-ID  
Ft. Riley, KS 66442

**Added member**

Eileen Knupp  
112 Hawthorne Lane  
Somerset, PA 15501  
Phone: 445-4745

**Phone number**

Rev. George Mason - 233-4367

**CHRISMON SERVICE**

On January 3, our morning Service of Holy Communion will take the form of a "Chrismon Service" Rather than using the normal Scripture Lessons and Sermon, we will examine a number of the Christian symbols that appear on our Christmas Tree through Scripture readings and explanations. Come and see!

**CAMPUS MINISTRY SUPPORT NEEDED**

Allegheny Synod supports ministry activities at three campuses on our territory: Penn State (University Park), Penn State (Altoona), and UPJ. Campus Ministries carry on our church's Baptismal promises to our children as they grow up and move away from home, by providing opportunities for worship, learning, and service. Your gifts in support of campus ministry can provide a lifeline to a student whose faith is faltering or who simply needs the support of a church away from home. Use your envelope to designate a gift for Campus Ministry. Thank you!

**FAITH MEMBERS:**

We received a letter from Somerset Fuel Company. They are offering a donation program to our congregation. For every gallon of fuel purchased by participating members, they will make a donation of five cents to Faith Lutheran. At the end of every month, they will mail the total amount directly to us in the form of a check. All you need to do is mention Faith Lutheran when ordering your next load of fuel. See bulletin board for more details.

**Upcoming Events**

Date	Event	Action Required
JANUARY 3, 2010	Chrismon Service	Attend
JANUARY 4, 2010	Committee Night	Attend
JANUARY 11, 2010	WELCA	Attend
JANUARY 13, 2010	Conference Pastors at Faith	
FEBRUARY 16, 2010	Pancake Supper	Attend
FEBRUARY 17, 2010	Ash Wednesday Service	Attend



**Birthdays**

Jackie Kimmel  
Matthew Rody  
David Delancey  
Natalie Custer  
Tanner Friedline  
Brenda Shaffer  
JoAnn Snyder  
Mark Trimpey  
Douglas Custer  
Kristen Dill  
Irma Walker  
Jody Berkebile  
Shelby Ream  
Betty Simmons  
Jordan Palumbo  
Randall Zerfoss

Alexis Trevarrow  
Janet Anderson  
Rebecca Nist  
Sarah Brant  
Ardelle Mason  
Sean Raupach  
Maxwell Trevarrow  
Austin Latuch  
Brock Bowers  
Marc Fochtman  
David Custer  
James Long  
Milton Snyder  
Beverly Thompson  
Kaden Klotz

**Anniversaries**

Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Walker  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Shaffer  
Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Heil  
Mr. & Mrs. James Ream  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Simmons  
Mr. & Mrs. David Walker  
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Landis  
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Rhoads



**Summer Camp 2010**

The 2010 Summer Brochure will be in the mail the week of December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Generally fees are increasing about 10%. We avoided increasing fees in 2008 and in 2009 the increase was less than inflation. The actual cost for a full week of summer camp is about \$500 per camper. The Board feels we need to begin to decrease the difference between what our campers pay and their actual cost. Our base fee of \$325 in 2010 is still less than the 2009 basic camp fee at all Lutheran Camps in our Region. It is also less than the 2009 basic fee at most of the other local denominational camps.

We have structured the weekly programming slightly different in 2010. There will be weeks of elementary and Jr. High camping and weeks of Jr. and Sr. High camping. After evaluating our experience of having elementary to Sr. High camp programs the same week we felt narrowing the age span during the week will result in an improved camp experience for all ages. This will also enable us to use our summer staff more efficiently.

This year we only have a few specialty camps listed in the brochure. Programs from the other specialty camps will be offered as add-ons during certain weeks. Only rafting and horseback riding add-ons will have additional fees. This means that most campers will pay no more than the \$325 base fee. Confirmation, Half week, and Mini Camps are less and Camp Bethesda is more than \$325.



**Financial state:** With increasing staff, energy, and supply costs and a smaller percentage increase in giving we expect to end 2009 about \$15,000 in the red. Generous end of year gifts could eliminate this deficit. This week the Board will be voting on a budget that holds the line on spending. With a summer program that has grown 120% in three years, needing to hold the line on spending is a challenge. This growth in camper numbers reduces the amount per camper we need to supplement. Even though the amount of the supplement per camper is reduced the total supplemental funds needed increases as the number of campers grows. Last year in addition to the above supplement, we issued \$4,100 in basic camp fee scholarships. Our policy is that no camper will be turned away for financial reasons. Please consider ways you or your congregation will be able to help us as we grow and expand as the outdoor ministry mission center for the congregations of the Allegheny Synod.

**Summer employment:** We are beginning to receive application for summer camp work and have begun to interview. Most summer staff need to be at least 18 years old but for some support positions we will hire younger youth. Areas we generally need to fill are male and female counselors, kitchen help, naturalist, arts and craft director and life-guards. Those interested in working at camp should contact Ang Illar, Program Director at [ang@sequanota.com](mailto:ang@sequanota.com).

**Faith Lutheran Council Minutes**

Faith Council met at 7 pm with 9 council members and Pastor Ardelle present. Pastor Ardelle had devotions.

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed. Motion made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried to approve. Treasurer's Report reviewed and a motion was made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried to approve. Pastor's Report reviewed. Motion made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried to approve.

Pastor's report issues – Pastor had questions regarding continuing Sunday evening worship. We will continue through December to see if attendance increases. The first Bible study should be completed in December. Gloria twisted her knee and may need surgery.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance – Reviewed Tally Sheets

Social – Planning advent dinner November 29 with worship to follow.

Worship – WELCA Thankoffering Service planned for Nov 15, Thanksgiving Eve, Christ the King services planned. In Advent we will use setting 10 in the ELW.

Education – Sunday School attendance was up. Christmas play practice has begun.

Property – The antenna on the parsonage roof needs to be removed. Someone has shown an interest in obtaining it. Council agreed that if this person is willing to remove it he may have it. Light bulb at the west end of the hallway needs looked at. The mailbox has been fixed. The hole for the basketball hoop will need something larger to drill it since they hit rock trying to drill.


Youth – 6 Senior Youth went swimming and to Pizza Hut November 8. Senior Youth also made Thanksgiving cards to send to the shut-ins. Junior Youth is in need of 2 leaders.

*Continued on page 5*



**JANUARY 2010**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<p>3 2nd Sunday after Christmas (white)</p> <p>9am Chrismon Ser. 6:30—8 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Committee Night, 7 pm</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Children's Bell, 6:30 pm, Adult Bell, 7 pm, Choir, 7:30 pm</p>	<p>7 Weekday, 9-11:30 am</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10 Baptism of Our Lord (white)</p> <p>6:30-8 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>11</p> <p>WELCA, 7 pm</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13 Conf. Pastor's @Faith Children's Bell, 6:30 pm, Adult Bell, 7 pm, Choir, 7:30 pm</p>	<p>14 Weekday, 9-11:30 am</p> <p>Council Mtg. 7 pm</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17 2nd Sun. after Epiphany (green)</p> <p>2nd Offering Sunday Feb. Newsletter Sr. Youth, 7 pm 6:30-8 pm Bible</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Children's Bell, 6:30 pm, Adult Bell, 7 pm, Choir, 7:30 pm</p>	<p>21 Weekday, 9-11:30 am</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 3rd Sun. after Epiphany (green)</p> <p>6:30- 8 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Children's Bell, 6:30 pm, Adult Bell, 7 pm, Choir, 7:30 pm</p>	<p>28 Weekday, 9-11:30 am</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Sr. Youth Snow tubing</p> 
<p>31 4th Sun. after Epiphany (green)</p> <p>6:30- 8 pm Bible Study</p>						

**IN MINISTRY IN JANUARY**

We thank the following people for their ministry this month:

**ALTAR GUILD**

Susan Friedline & Keri Friedline  
Susan & Keri  
Susan & Keri  
Susan & Keri  
Susan & Keri

**ACOLYTES**

Billy Bowers  
Cody Lenart  
Meaghan Anderson  
Zac Foster  
Tyler Will

**GREETERS**

William Bowers Family  
Dennis & Karen Young  
Janet Anderson & Meaghan Anderson  
Lori Dill & Kristen Dill  
Steve Will Family

**READERS**

Deanna Bowers – Jer. 31: 7-14, Ps. 147: 12-20, Eph. 1: 3-14  
Dennis Young – Isa. 43: 1-7, Ps. 29, Acts 8: 14-17  
Ruth Shockey – Isa. 62: 1-5, Ps. 36: 5-10, I Cor. 12: 1-11  
Brenda Walker – Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Ps. 19, I Cor. 12: 12-31a  
Steve Will – Jer. 1: 4-10, Ps. 71: 1-6, I Cor. 13: 1-13

**ASSISTING MINISTERS**

Katey Rose  
Wendell Heil  
Brenda Walker  
Bill Hoffman  
Jane Ohler

**DISTRIBUTE BULLETINS**

Brock Bowers  
Tyler Fisher  
Jeb Friedline  
Annalina Brant  
Travis Fike

**COLLECT COMMUNION CUPS**

Brock Bowers & Jacob Sheeler  
Tyler Fisher & Jennifer Fisher  
Matthew Shaffer & Shawn Shaffer  
Annalina Brant & Will Brant  
Travis Fike & Zachary Fike

**COUNCIL PERSON IN CHARGE**

Brenda Maust

January 3  
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January 31

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**FAMILY MINISTRY TEAM**

Through the education committee we are forming a ministry team to focus on families. This team of 5 to 7 members will include leaders from and work with our Children, Youth, Pre-school and a yet to be organized Young Couples Ministry groups. The Family Ministry Team goals include:

1. Creating a support network for younger families with and without children.
2. Assisting with planning, coordination and publicity of activities generated by ministry groups.
3. Creating programs and activities that meet needs identified by one or more of our ministry groups.

Some activities organized by Family Ministry Teams in other congregations include: bike and trike outings; hikes, campfires with hot-dog roast and singing; trips to a zoo, sports event or amusement park; picnics; youth, family and/or couples retreats; parenting classes; creating and presenting programs at nursing homes; helping at a soup kitchen or food pantry; discussions on nurturing the faith of children and much more.

As our extended families, even in a very family centered congregation like Faith, begin to shrink in size, we need new support groups where young families can find guidance and support as well as a place they can support each other. Many growing congregations have some form of a Family Ministry Team. In the near future visits to young families will begin. From these visits we will collect information that will be helpful to our current ministry groups and to the forming Family Ministry Team as they each plan future activities and programs. Through these visits we will seek to find persons with the gifts needed for the Family Ministry Team. Pastor George has presented this ministry team concept and offered to help organize and for a time serve as convener of the Family Ministry Team. Talk to him if have ideas or want more information.

***See Through the Scriptures Bible Study is being planned. Pastor Ardelle needs to know how many plan to attend, so she can order materials. Please let her know if you're interested.***

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2009 TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>2009 Totals</u>	<u>Previous Month</u>
Current	15,725.21	109,774.30	8,241.00
Benevolence	1,143.00	10,058.50	593.00
Missionary Support	352.00	2,564.00	71.00
Building/Maint.	1,057.50	7,612.00	296.50
Misc. In/Out	1,926.55	56,313.08	3,707.65
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>20,204.26</b>	<b>186,321.88</b>	<b>12,909.15</b>
			2009 Proposal
<u>EXPENSES</u>			
Total Ministries	948.25	7,597.37	7,750.00
<u>Operating</u>	1,857.95	16,325.42	20,000.00
<u>Payroll</u>			
Total Payroll	8,622.70	77,018.51	90,920.00
<u>Outreach</u>			
Total Outreach	1,684.75	15,615.34	15,000.00
<u>Maintenance</u>	1,835.51	17,732.34	19,000.00
<u>Misc. In/Out</u>	3,260.00	59,221.00	0.00
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>18,209.16</b>	<b>193,509.98</b>	<b>152,670.00</b>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
General Checking			\$4,967.22
Computer Lab			\$50.00
Savings (Emergency Fund)			\$2,665.87
Savings (Pastors Disc. Fund)			\$69.85
CD (3.94% 9 month)			\$0.00
CD (1.95% 13 month)			\$7,000.00
Memorial Funds			\$3,599.81
Camp Scholarship			\$6,699.81

**"The Dash" Poem**

By Linda Ellis

I read of a man who stood to speak at the funeral of a friend. He referred to the dates on her tombstone from the beginning to the end.

He noted that first came the date of her birth and spoke of the following date with tears, but he said what mattered most of all was the dash between those years.

For that dash represents all the time that she spent alive on earth and now only those who loved her know what that little line is worth.

For it matters not, how much we own, the cars, the house, the cash, what matters is how we live and love and how we spend our dash.

So think about this long and hard; are there things you'd like to change? For you never know how much time is left that can still be rearranged.

If we could just slow down enough to consider what's true and real and always try to understand the way other people feel.

And be less quick to anger and show appreciation more and love the people in our lives like we've never loved before.

If we treat each other with respect and more often wear a smile, remembering that this special dash might only last a little while.

So, when your eulogy is being read with your life's actions to rehash, would you be proud of the things they say about how you spent your dash?

**LORD, PLEASE PUT YOUR ARM AROUND MY  
SHOULDER AND PUT YOUR HAND OVER MY MOUTH!**

**Council Minutes Continued..**OLD BUSINESS

Kitchen repairs are still waiting for the tops of the islands to come in.

A doorbell/intercom has been purchased and needs installed.

2010 Ministry Proposal – Looked at the budget numbers. We will check and make sure that Pastor's housing equity is included in the numbers. Payroll needs to be increased by \$1300 to reflect someone playing for choir practice. Motion made to present budget to the congregation with the corrections, seconded approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Pastor George is interested in starting a Family Ministry Team.

A request was made to upgrade the telephone system. It would be good to be able to have an intercom system between the offices and kitchen. Shirley Weimer indicated that her brother would be able to do the work. Council will ask for a proposal.

Request was made for a lighted billboard at the road. Request tabled until a later date when funds are in better shape.

Synod would like a figure for Benevolence so they can build their budget.

Stephanie Brant has resigned her council position and is moving her membership effective immediately.

4 members will be going off of council. It was agreed to leave Stephanie Brant's seat open until the election of council. There will be the 4 regular 3 year terms to fill and 2 1 year terms to fill.

We will participate in the Birthright Giving Tree again this year.

Pastor wondered what to do with the Lutheran Books of Worship in her office. Council will see what the congregation would like to do with them at the annual meeting. Pastor would like to keep enough that the Marriage and Burial Services can be used out of them.

2010 will be Faith's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Will start planning something in January.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Next council meeting will have devotions. Motion made, 2<sup>nd</sup> and carried to adjourn. Closed with the Lords Prayer.

Audrey Walker, Council Secretary