Faith’s Tide

Faith Lutheran Church
8200 Ellis Avenue
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(Ellis Ave. between Beach & Newland Ave.)

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Web: www.faithhb.org
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Traditional Worship, 8:30 AM
Celebration Worship, 11:00 AM
Sunday Christian Education:
Ages 3 - adult 9:45 - 10:45 AM
Child care available 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM
for children ages one and up.

Child of Faith Preschool
(2 years - Pre-K)
Callie Paesano, Director
Phone - 714.962.1864
Email - childoffaith@faithhb.org

The mission of Faith Lutheran Church is to know God’s grace and make it known.

Volume 26 Issue 10
October 2018

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October events include:

Holiday Craft Faire
Trunk or Treat
Parents’ Night Out

( Look inside for all the details.)
Oh my! What a September! Can you believe all that God is doing here at Faith. We began with our first Parents Night Out event with 39 children spending a Friday night with us so their parents could have a break. What a wonderful evening with games and food and fellowship. If you haven’t been a part of it you need to be.

Then we installed our colloquy vicar, Rev. Nader Hanna. What a great day to be able to welcome him, his wife Amy and his son Hadi. We are looking forward to his outreach ministry to Muslim’s and how he can help us to understand this culture and how we can witness to them. We pray God’s blessings on his ministry with us.

And even though I am writing this prior to it happening, I know September 30th will have been a marvelous day. As we celebrated with Dr. Jack Brouwer at his Ordination into the ministry and his installation as our associate pastor for outreach, God has blessed our congregation. Jack and his wife Jennifer are bringing new joy and energy to our ministry as we seek to reach out to our community with the love of Jesus. We too pray for God’s blessings on Pastor Jack and his ministry with us.

Needless to say this has been an incredibly busy month. As such it would be so easy to lose sight of one’s self. A recent devotion I shared with our leadership quoted St. Augustine, from the 4th Century. At that time he wrote, “People travel to wonder at the height of mountains, at the huge waves of the sea, at the long course of rivers, and they pass by themselves without wondering.”

That thought caused me to reflect on the fast pace of life today. Life seems to be progressing at breakneck speed. Faster and faster is the word of the day. Even though all these things were wonderful events, life sometimes just feels like it is going by so quickly. I found myself complaining about all that I had to do and saying that I didn’t have enough time to do it all. I looked at my schedule and was exhausted!

Robin Dugall, a pastor and a professor wrote: “It seems like the faster we move, the more we miss. Not only do we miss the wonders of life around us: sunsets, flowers, the beauty of a smile, a moment of silence, the awesomeness of the changing seasons…but we also miss out on what may be the great wonder in life: the person who God has created us to be.”

He asks, “When was the last time you took a moment and simply reflected on the miracle of you?” “When was the last time you thought about how wonderfully complex you are? We all travel so fast and take so many things for granted.”

I wonder if we get so wrapped up and busy with our lives that we forget that God has carefully crafted each one of us. We reflect His handiwork. Do we find time for God or are we going so fast that we just wiz past Him at supersonic speed?

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Dr. Dugall closed with two questions.

1. What are some of the wonders in this world that you feel like you’ve missed because your pace of life has been as fast as it is? If you lived your life at a slower pace, what would you want to make sure you didn’t miss in life?

2. What parts of your life that, if you took a minute or two, would inspire you to praise God? How are you fearfully and wonderfully made?

God has made each of us. He has created us for life and for ministry. How are you involved in the life and ministry that God has given us to do here at Faith? Won’t you join us? Won’t you find a way to rid your fast paced life of non-essentials in order to let the Word of God move you to ministry. Just think of the joy that awaits you when you find yourself immersed in sharing the love of Christ with those in your world.

May God bless Vicar Hanna, Pastor Jack, our youth minister Spencer, Darwin and Charles and Sheri and all who are leading us forward to doing exciting things for God. God bless each of you.

Pastor Paul

October 14th is Pastor Appreciation Day!

All of October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Please take a moment to show Pastor Paul, Pastor Brouwer and Pastor Hanna that you appreciate them.

We want you to know
That we appreciate you,
Your tireless service for the Lord
Is reflected in all you do
So we pray that you will know
How special you are to us
And to carry on the work of God,
Serving in His love.

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Save the Date!

Holiday Craft Faire

Saturday
October 20, 2018

9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Halloween
Thanksgiving
Christmas

Decorations, gifts,
gourmet food
and more!

Support local crafters,
consultants and artisans.

Faith Lutheran Church
8200 Ellis Avenue, H.B. 92646
Good, Good Father

This is how the letter of Hebrews begins: “Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power” (Hebrews 1:1-3, ESV). When I was in the Vineyard church, I enrolled in their ministry school called the School of Kingdom Ministry (SoKM). One of the things they taught in the school was that Jesus is the best picture of what God is really like. They used this verse to explain that, while God spoke in the past through the prophets, Jesus was the clearest revelation of what God was like, “the exact imprint of his nature.”

This truth has stuck with me ever since those days. Even though I had read through the Scriptures before I enrolled in that school, I had never really read those words in Hebrews and comprehended what they were saying. Here’s what I mean: every once in a while I’d have a discussion with someone about some of the events that happened in the Old Testament, some of the more difficult events to understand, like when God asked Abraham to offer Isaac as a sacrifice (Genesis 22), when God hardened Pharaoh’s heart (Exodus 9:12), or the events of the book of Job. The questions would inevitably lead to why God did some of the things that He did in the Old Testament. This prompted thoughts that Jesus was simply the latest piece of revelation about God, that Jesus was on this roadmap of progressive revelation, and that would help explain why God seemed to take life in the Old Testament and why Jesus said in John 10:10, “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.” But after I heard these words in Hebrews, I started to realize that Jesus wasn’t just the next phase in the unfolding of who God was. He was the BEST picture of God, the EXACT imprint of God’s nature. In other words, if you want to know what God is like, look at Jesus before you look at anyone or anything else. That change in thinking caused me to shift the question from why God did certain things in the Old Testament to how do I understand these actions in light of what I know about God through Jesus.

Now, I still don’t have clean answers for why everything happened in the Old Testament the way that it did. But I have a new lens for approaching those events. If I set them side-by-side with the revelation of God in the person of Jesus and I find it difficult to reconcile them at face value, I will start with Jesus as the best picture of God and begin to figure out how to understand the Old Testament story in light of Jesus. If our reading of the Old Testament leads us to understand things about God that we don’t see in the person of Jesus, then we should probably take another look at how we’ve interpreted the Old Testament, because Hebrews says Jesus is the “radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature.” Take this into your Bible reading and see what you find!

-Spencer Behmlander, Director of Youth & Discipleship
The month of October is so exciting for children with Halloween and all of the festivities! We pray that you and your child are adjusting to the new routine of childcare, work, and home.

*(The following is a partial reprint with permission of LCMS School Ministry)*

All of us, including our children, find security in knowing what’s going to happen next. When something out of the ordinary happens, it’s easy to become frightened and stressed.

It happened to Jesus’ friends/disciples. After a busy day of teaching and healing, Jesus was tired. And yet the people continued to come. Jesus needed to get away, so He asked His friends to take Him for a boat ride. The rocking motion of the boat soon put Jesus to sleep. Then something out of the ordinary happened. A sudden violent storm developed, and Jesus’ friends feared for their lives. They woke Jesus and asked Him for help. Jesus showed He truly is God when He commanded the storm to end. He saved them.

Our children have fears just like the disciples. Maybe it’s the fear of the dark, strangers, loud noises, getting immunization shots, seeing the masks and costumes of Halloween, looking around and not seeing you, and so on. Remind your child of your love, care and protection. Remind your child of Jesus’ love and forgiveness, care and protection.

Since night seems to be an especially frightening time for young children, here are some things you can do to help your child feel secure and safe:

- Have a nightlight
- Sing or play quiet music
- Hang a picture of Jesus in your child’s room. Talk about it. Remind your child that Jesus promises to be with us and take care of us always.
- Pray to Jesus before giving your child a goodnight kiss and tucking him/her into bed. A favorite prayer is: Now I lay me down to sleep. I pray the Lord my soul to keep. Guard me through the starry night and wake me at the morning light. Amen.
- Another prayer you might use: Dear God, thank You for Your care all day and all I did in work and play. Thank You, too, for Jesus from heaven, so my sins are all forgiven. Amen

This month we have **Picture Day** Wednesday, October 11th. We will be trunk or treating on Saturday, October 20th from 10 am – 12 pm in Faith Lutheran Church parking lot!!!!

In His Service,
Callie Paesano, Director
Parents’ Night Out!

Friday
October 12th
6:00 - 9:00 PM

We hope your kids will join us for our next Parents’ Night Out!

We have a lot of great activities planned this month. After the kids gather and enjoy some time outside, we’ll eat dinner and then enjoy several activities including games, craft, movie, etc. At the end the kids will “trick or treat” in our courtyard from our staff members.

Parents Night Out is time that YOU get to spend doing something for yourself… shopping, a date with your significant other, a movie, a NAP! Enjoy some time kid free, knowing that we are taking great care of your kids FREE of charge.

Any child, preschool age (potty trained) through 5th grade is welcome to participate and attend. Any student in Middle School and older, is welcome to come and help out. Friends and family are ALWAYS welcome as well.

Please RSVP…
To help us plan food, crafts, etc., please let us know how many children you will bring to Parents' Night Out. Please call the church office or send an email directly to the church by Wednesday, October 10th. No worries if your plans change, we will plan for extras. Thank you so much!

If you have questions or would like to serve, please contact
Spencer at spencer@faithhb.org or our church office at office@faithhb.org.

We hope to see you there!
Welcome Jack Brouwer, Ph.D.

Please welcome Dr. Jack Brouwer, who was ordained and installed as Associate Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church on Sunday, September 30th. Jack and his wife Jennifer of 31 years, along with their four sons (Andrew, Stephan, Jacob, and Daniel), have been members at Light of Christ Lutheran Church in Irvine, CA since 1997. Before entering the Cross Cultural Ministry Center (CMC), Jack served as elder (8 years), and president of the congregation (4 years), among other voluntary and service roles in the congregation. Jack has served his CMC vicarage in service of both Light of Christ Lutheran Church, led by Pastor Jim Gwaltney, and the Korean Lutheran churches that have jointly ministered to and witnessed in the community from the same Irvine campus (owned by Light of Christ). The Korean churches that Jack served in his vicarage were One Faith Lutheran Church, led by Pastor Sang Choi, and Jesus Love Lutheran Church, led by Pastor Chimin Jun.

During his CMC vicarage, Jack led all of the English language weekly Sunday morning worship services for One Faith. He also regularly participated in a Korean meal and fellowship hour (every Sunday after church). During this time Vicar Jack also led a joint Korean (One Faith) and American (Light of Christ) youth bible study and multicultural youth program, which included weekly Bible studies, outings and fun activities (e.g., theme park attendance, beach parties, sleep-ins at church, retreats). Jack also regularly assisted in church services at Light of Christ with canting and communion assistance, as well as periodic preaching in the last two years of his vicarage.

Jack continues to work full-time at the University of California, Irvine as a Professor in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and the Associate Director of the National Fuel Cell Research Center. In 1993, Brouwer earned a doctorate in mechanical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and then took a job in the research division of Reaction Engineering International.
Welcome Rev. Nader Hanna, Vicar

On Sunday, September 16th, Rev. Nader Hanna was installed as Vicar at Faith Lutheran Church. Pastor Paul will oversee and mentor Pastor Hanna as he pursues being ordained as a pastor in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Pastor Hanna will continue to disciple to Muslims in our surrounding communities. Please join us in welcoming Pastor Hanna to Faith Lutheran! Learn more about Pastor Hanna by reading his biography below.

Rev. Nader Hanna was born and raised in Egypt, a Muslim Arabic speaking country, currently lives in Huntington Beach CA, and works as an evangelist and itinerant speaker. Nader helps launch Disciples making movements among Muslims, and helps churches know more about Islam and how to reach Muslims in their communities with the message of God’s love and salvation in Christ Jesus.

Nader is a regular guest speaker at several Christian Arabic TV networks. He has traveled to preach the Gospel and train leaders in countries in Africa, Asia and Europe. Nader is recognized as an ordained minister by “Covenant Ministries International” CMI in New Jersey. He received theological training in Beirut-Lebanon, Training on missions at the “Keystone Project” in South Dakota, “Horizons International” in Colorado, “crescent Project” in Indiana USA. Nader is a certified trainer with EQUIP, and a “Haggai Institute” faculty member; both are leadership training organizations. And currently colloquizing to enter the ministerium of LCMS.

Rev. Nader Hanna and His wife Amy have a 17 years old son; Hadi Hanna. Nader and Amy have been full time in ministry for the past 20 years producing and broadcasting Christian TV and radio programs to the Arab/Muslim world, doing outreaches, discipleship and leadership training in Egypt, Lebanon, Cyprus and the USA.
Child of Faith

“Trunk or Treat”

Volunteers bring their car (decorated, if possible) and pass out your candy to kids who “trick or treat” by going from trunk to trunk. Games and prizes for the kids will be provided. Everything is free to the kids and their families.

Saturday, October 20th, 10 am – Noon

We need your help!

Please sign up to:

- Hand out candy from the trunk of your vehicle to “trick or treaters”
- Decorating trunks/cars is encouraged but not mandatory (See Kathy for ideas)
- Cars should arrive by 9:30 am
- Prize will be awarded for the best decorated car
- Donate candy, popcorn or water

Note: Holiday Craft Fair is the same day, same place from 9 am – 2:00 pm

PLEASE attend both fun events!!!

Please contact Kathy Dudash with any questions. 714-963-5400 or 714-916-4302
Church Care Day

We are coming up to the Holidays again, time just whizzes by, doesn’t it? On Saturday, November 9th we are having a Church Care Day to help us get ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Properties is a small but mighty team, but we do need some help. We would like to invite you to give us a hand on Saturday morning November 9th to help us clean and do minor repairs to our church. We need people to help clean and polish the pews, clean windows, do some gardening and several other tasks that need to be done. Let’s work together to help make our church sparkle. After the work festivities, we will have a thank you lunch and fellowship in Haas Hall after we are done. If you would like to help us just let us know. “Thank you”, and God bless you all.

Education Ministry

Knowledge – Wisdom – Understanding

Proverbs 15:14
The discerning heart seeks knowledge, but the mouth of a fool feeds on folly.

Psalm 119:66
Teach me knowledge and good judgment, for I trust your commands.

Luke 2:52
And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Quotes with comments:

The above quotes are just a few that if understood and followed would keep many people out of self-inflicted wounds. People in my profession of law, pastors, psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers etc. are just a few of the professionals that see the results of failure to apply or understanding the above. Too many people know what they believe and too many people are just plain wrong and lead astray from the Truth.

Just read some of the filtered “information” fed to us each day on the internet, by news organization, Madison Avenue (commercials) to include friends, neighbors and teachers. Key facts are left out that would change your understanding such as in dating as an example “oh I didn’t tell I was married but I am getting a divorce, oh didn’t you know I have three children, oh is it important to you that I have a few “bad” habits i.e. alcohol, drugs, spousal abuse I am also in bankruptcy etc.” Note, the last quote from Luke above if you think you do not need to learn and get wisdom and strive to get discernment. Even Jesus studied and learned scripture and saw how to apply it. This was 1500 years before Martin Luther asked his students to question and asked them to ask “WHAT DOES THIS MEAN”. Jesus tried to reach the people through his stories but even then many people still did not fully understand his comments. They did not ask “what does this mean”.

See you in Bible study. Consider opening your home to a bible study and getting to know other church members and the meaning within the words of the Bible.

God Bless You All – Albert J. Rasch - Chair Education Ministry.

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Remember this is your Church be involved