

# GOOD NEWS

Volume 36, Number 5

May 2011

## Special Points of Interest:

- May Bible Studies
- Breakfast In A Bag
- Agnes Table
- Graduate Recognition
- Women of Faith
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Preschool Graduation
- Couples Bible study

## Never discount the influence of parents by Rev. William Plautz

Through the years there has been a story floating around about the differences between the family of atheist Max Juke and the family of Jonathon Edwards. It attempted to make the case that where faith is lacking nothing good comes from it. Of the 1100+ descendants of the Juke family 300 went to prison, 190 became prostitutes, 680 were alcoholics, and in total the family cost the state of New York over 1.25 million dollars. At the same time the Edwards family—a family of faith—was providing lawyers, judges, clergy, mayors, governors, senators, military men, and published authors. I went to check it out.

I learned from a search of the internet the story is incorrect. It is the work of Richard Dugdale and was published in 1877. Dr. Robert Frick, Ph.D. provides the scholarship that debunks the information about the Juke family. There were over 1200 descendants and among them were murders, prostitutes, alcoholics, and “jail birds”. But there were also successful farmers and business men.

So what’s the moral of the story? First,

make sure you check something out before you pass it on. Second, never discount the influence that you as a parent have on your children.

At the spring pastors conference I had a conversation with a fellow pastor who was saddened by how parents in the church today let their children dictate whether or not they go to worship and the Sunday Children’s Ministry. It is an attitude that allows for future exploration so that they can decide which religion—or if any religion—is best for them.

That rather conflicts with Jesus who said, “Let the little children come to Me.” The children only get to Jesus when moms and dads meet their responsibility as Christian parents. Proverbs tells us a child set on the path to Christ will not depart from it when older. Parents, be mighty in the Lord and the power of His strength.

## **Christian Humor** *Light-hearted humor with a spiritual lesson*

Seen in a veterinarian’s waiting room: “Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!”

Some of you know that we had a dog while at Webster. Bear weighed 105 pounds and his head was up to my hip. He had wandered onto a farm in Luck and when the family decided they couldn’t keep him—they already had four other dogs—my AAL insurance agent who

knew the family thought we would be good candidates for a dog.

I have to confess that I didn’t have the time I needed to work with Bear. He wasn’t trained and to try it when he was about a year old was a challenge. Obedience wasn’t his “thing”.

How is our obedience to the One who called us to be members of His

kingdom? Do we heed and follow the Savior who sacrificed all for us? Do we read and study His Word? Are we committed to following Him? If you do obey I will guarantee that He won’t treat you like a dog!

# Spring, Everyday!

Van Walton



## Why do I like spring?

I like new life. I can't help but open my eyes with a smile when birds' songs announce a new day. The smell of fresh wet dirt just after a good rain causes me to breathe life back into my wilting soul. Maybe it is the call of the wild or a basic instinct to start tilling, I am not sure. I just know that I thrive on all things in the spring.

When I first notice the flowers pushing through the dark dirt, I cannot contain myself. I become a fan cheering for the team of flowers that has fought the miraculous fight – popping out of a hard seed in a deep and dark place, forcing their way up though the cold soil, eventually tasting the bright rays of sunshine, and finally blooming in all their glorious color. Clapping and jumping, I announce to my neighbors and friends, "Spring is here! The flowers are blooming. Look at them. They are more glorious than ever!"

*"Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth! ...tell of his salvation from day to day."*

*Psalm 96:1-2*

**Guess what?** I have great news! In God's economy every day is spring!

Listen to what He says:

**2 Corinthians 5:17**, "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things have passed away; behold, new things have come." (NASB)

**Colossians 3:10**, "... put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge, according to the image of the One who created him." (NASB)

**2 Corinthians 5:18-20**: "The old life is gone; a new life begins! Look at it! All this comes from the God who settled the relationship between us and him ... God has given us the task of telling everyone what he is doing. We're Christ's representatives." (NASB)

## How can I make everyday like spring?

**Celebrate** your salvation. Praise God everyday with new songs that tell of His love and new life.

**Be intentional** every day to be renewed. Make it a priority to become deeply acquainted with God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Learn something new about Him every day!

**Be an ambassador.** Share the good news daily, either through good deeds or saving words. Ask for God's guidance and go forth and cast the seeds that are able to come to life even in the darkest of times.

*Dear Lord, thank you that every day You shower Your new mercies down on those You love. Help me to always see the new thing You are doing in my life. Give me wisdom and strength to respond in a way that would please and glorify You. In Jesus' Name, I pray. Amen.*

## May Bible Studies

### Kingdom Quest (age 3-grade 8)

Class is offered Sunday's at 9am.

### Sunday Morn Class

Come Sunday's at 9am for the study of "Heroes of the Faith" led by Crystal Moore. There will be coffee and refreshments, come enjoy fellowship & God's word!

### Monday Eve Bible Studies

Class meets on Monday's at 2:30pm for the study called "Faith Weavers". Weave Christ into your life, through study of His word. Leader: Sue Smith

### Tuesday Morn Bible Study

Class meets Tuesday's at 6:30am at the Chippewa Family Restaurant. Bring your Bible and your appetite (cost of the meal is on your own). Topic: Romans led by Pastor Plautz.

### Tuesday Eve Bible Class

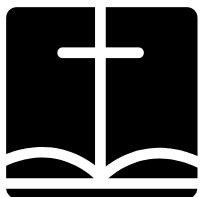
An In-Home Bible class is being held weekly at the home of Fred & Joan Bargmann's, 11250 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Chippewa Falls, WI on Tuesday's at 7pm. Topic: Fruits of the Spirit. Leader: Joan Bargmann

### Thursday Morn Bible Study

Come Thursday's at 9:30am to this fun class. If you're thinking about joining a daytime Bible study, this one is for you!

### Thursday Eve Women's Bible

Class meets weekly at 6pm and will consider the topic "The Heart of Jesus: Women in the Gospel of Luke". Come join this delightful class.



# Congregational News

## MISSION & MINISTRY UPDATE

Council met on April 11, 2011 with Bob Whipkey, Assistant to President Hoelter, from the No. WI District office. Mr. Whipkey outlined the steps necessary to complete the process of pursuing a new staff member here at Faith Lutheran. Council will be considering Phase One "Exploring the Need" at their May meeting. If you have questions or concerns relative to the matters of the church, please contact Mission & Ministry members. They are as follows: Bill Musser, Chairman; Pam Pfankuch, V-Chairman; Bea Newman, Treasurer; Jane Christian, Secretary. Members-at-large: Brenda Musser, Bob Normand, Larry Bohl, Dan Helgeson and Pam Johnson. We pray for God's guidance in their efforts in serving our congregation.

## ROOF UPDATE

The project to replace the parsonage & garage roof is complete. The total cost for the project is \$14,780 of which \$8676 has been afforded to date, leaving a balance of \$6104. If you would like to donate to this cause please designate it as "Roof Fund". Your support is appreciated.

## Breakfast in a Bag

On May 15 (between services), we will celebrate a year of God's blessings with the families of our Sunday School by hosting a Breakfast in a Bag event. As in the past, everyone in the congregation will be invited and a delicious egg breakfast (in the bag) will be served. A free-will donation will be gathered to benefit the recent roof repair project. Come & enjoy this unique opportunity in fellowship.

## Sunday School Recognition

The year is coming to a close, and we would like to recognize the people who helped with children's ministry, they are as follows: Teri Goulet & Donna Schoch, Kim Entenmann, Judy Drivas, Sue Smith, Sarah Schultz, Janell Newcomb, Pam & Jacob Johnson, Shari Schumacher, Kate Schumacher, Pam Pfankuch, Darlene & Sandra Prickett, Julie Schaller, Rosemary Plautz, Lisa & Kelsey Hackler, Scott, Celeste, Emmilee, Erika Swoboda, Stacey Hallman, Jerry Hallman, Kathy & Ed Heidtke, Ethan Erickson, and anyone & everyone who helped in anyway promote Kingdom Quest this past year.

## THANK YOU!

With Lent & Easter behind us, it's time to reflect and offer thanksgiving to all who made this "journey" so inspiring. The lay readers, the Wednesday eve readers, worship assistance teams, altar guild, greeters, the Lenten supper teams, Palm Sunday bake sale helpers, the Easter journey cast & crew and coordinators, choir members, praise team, Easter breakfast set-up, serving crew and contributors. Everyone and anyone who made this year so memorable... we thank and praise God for His glorious goodness!  
-the staff of Faith Lutheran

## Agnes Table

We need volunteers to help cook and serve a meal to the less fortunate of Chippewa County on Thursday, May 19 from 3-8pm at the Trinity United Methodist, 201 W. Central St., Chippewa Falls. A sign-up is available in the narthex. Your support of this effort is appreciated.

## Graduate Recognition

If you know of someone who has graduated from higher education this past year, please let the church office know so proper recognition can be given. Graduate recognition is May 22.

## Other Congregational News...

### Women of Faith

The next meeting for Women of Faith is Tuesday, May 17 at 7pm. Bring plant slips to exchange. Hostesses are: Sue Smith, Ruby Schumacher and Pat Saxon. All ladies of the congregation are welcome to attend.

### Donations Needed:

Family Support Center which supports Chippewa County families in need has requested the following items: dish-soap, laundry detergent, fabric sheets, disinfecting wipes, latex-free gloves, garbage bags, paper towels, toilet paper, handwipes, toothpaste, deodorant, microwavable non-frozen meals, coloring books, children's books for ages 10-15, cereal bowls, juice, snacks, paper plates, plastic silverware, chalk, bubbles, etc. Submit items to the basket in the narthex. We would appreciate your support of this effort.

### If anyone is interested in volunteering at Country Fest in Cadott

we have some shifts available for you. Country Fest runs from June 23-26th and you get a free ticket for each shift worked. We are arm banding and selling wristbands & workers will need to be able to be on your feet a couple of hours at a time. Proceeds may benefit the next Youth Gathering or can be used in another way for the church. Call Julie Schaller for questions 715.726.9009 or to sign up in the narthex. Deadline is May 15.

### Preschool Happenings...

In May, Students will be focusing their efforts on graduation. Commencement for Tuesday/Thursday classes are May 12 at 7pm and May 16 at 7pm for Monday/Wednesday/Friday's class. Come and see God's children in action!

### Couples Bible Study Group

Join them Sunday, May 1 at 6:30pm at the home of Justin & Kimberly Musser (10921 34th Avenue, Chippewa Falls). Refreshments will be served. Contact Lynn Musser for details 715.726.1148.

### Young Women's Group

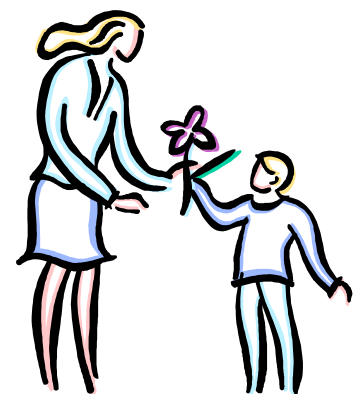
meets May 28 at 8:30am (location to be announced). If you are a mother with young children do consider joining this group. They enjoy breakfast and time in fellowship.

### Please Note...

Due to Easter being late this year, Ascension service is June 1 at 6pm.

**"Honour...thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee..."**

Deut. 5:16



**Mother's Day—May 8**

# **May Birthdays and Anniversaries**

## **Happy Birthday!**

1-Matthew Engel, Bryon Nesvacil  
2-Emily Carson, George Flint  
3-Ralph Schumacher  
4-Todd Dreger  
5-Bonnie Schimmel  
6-Wendy Harings  
7-Linda Ahlen  
10-Helen Kummer, Kendal  
Musser  
11-Brenda Beaudette, Kaleb  
Xiong  
12-Shari Schumacher, Patricia  
Smith  
13-Edith Freeman, Kylie Webb,  
Della Young  
14-Talley Halvorson, Tarrin  
Halvorson, Lehmen Larson  
16-Wally Knecht, Paula Kohl-  
beck, Stanley Meier  
17-Kevin Harings, Donna Spaeth

18-Ezabel Eliason, Bea Grassnickle  
19-Judy Markow, Deanie Schaller  
21-Jennifer Carli  
22-Michael Newman  
23-Cindy Prueher  
25-Keara Garbers, Andrea Strand  
26-Kara Hauptmann, Leonard Lang-  
teau  
27-Barb Erikson  
28-Joan Bargmann, Michelle Haller  
29-Zachary LaGesse, Betty Solin  
30-Neil Chittendon

## **Happy Anniversary!**

3-John & Yvonne Carlsten  
3-Emery & Janice Schindler  
4-Eric & Jeannie Dubberke  
5-Dale & Jolene Andersen  
9-Steven & Barbara Missfeldt  
10-Larry & Dianne Marquardt  
12-Gordon & Elna Buttenhoff  
14-Allen & Susan Kern  
19-Eric & Jennifer Kmiecik  
25-Robert & Sandra Luloff  
26-Rick & Karen Ericksen  
27-Harold & Cleo Zempel  
29-Ralph & Lydia Schumacher



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