



Faith Newsletter

VOLUME 45, ISSUE 6

JUNE 2010

FROM OUR PASTOR'S DESK...

Pastor Paul Wenz

A Father's Legacy

What do you live for? Many people today trying to make ends meet have to "work to live." On the other side there are those who are workaholics who seem to "live to work." As we celebrate Father's Day this month, it is important to think about what kind of legacy men are leaving for their children. In a men's Bible study years ago, I remember a question about what is the most important thing in your life. Many men view their worth by their career and put God and their family aside to pursue it. There are also those who are just interested in having fun and live for the weekend. To find out what is most important to you, just look at what you spend most of your money and time on! This is a very revealing exercise that shows what we really live for.

For me, it is my faith and my family. I love serving the Lord as a pastor and being with my family—both those related to me by blood and my "Faith Family" connected by the blood of Jesus! It is hard to be part of a church if you are not invested in the people of the church. God knows how important church is for our lives and so the writer to the Hebrews has said, "Let us not give up meet-

ing together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another" (Heb. 10:25). Unfortunately, there are many men today who have checked out of church. Either they don't see any relevance to their lives, or they see church as a something for women. Our society's continued disrespect for the church and Christianity also hasn't helped make church very attractive to men. Perhaps the church has failed to meet men's needs as well, but God has placed the spiritual headship of the family upon men and they will be held accountable by God for how they led their family either to or away from the Lord (see 1 Cor. 11:3 and Eph. 5:22-23).

Men and fathers, however, can have a huge impact on children's faith. Studies on the impact of father's influences on children's behaviors and well-being show that: "Even from birth, children who have an involved father are more likely to be emotionally secure, be confident to explore their surroundings, and, as they grow older, have better social connections with peers. These children also are



How does God
"bring His
Children home"?
Through YOU!
When YOU invite
them to hear
the Word of God
with YOU!

Invite
a family member,
neighbor,
Co-worker, fellow
student, or friend
to join YOU on
Sunday
in attending.

Worship
Services
8:00 a.m.
Traditional
10:30 a.m.
Contemporary

Sunday School
available Pre-K to
High School
at 9:15 a.m.
Adult Bible Study
Classes
at 9:15 a.m.

Continued on next page...

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less likely to get in trouble at home, school, or in the neighborhood"

(U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families at www.childwelfare.gov).

Even from a secular point of view, fathers' loving involvement in their children's lives will shape the future of their children! A father's faith will set the pace for a child's "race of faith" (see Heb. 12:1). Are you striving to run the good race by serving God and others? Then your children will most likely follow behind you! This is true of a father's faith walk whether he has young or grown children. The impact of a father's faith in Jesus might not be as strong when the kids are older, but it is still important. In other words, it is never too late to begin being an example of a faithful disciple of Jesus!

I know my own father has had a great impact on my faith. Even after my parents were divorced, I knew my father wanted to do what was right. He never left the church, but became more involved over the years. He is not perfect, but by God's grace, he has learned to be a better father. Today, I am proud of my dad's continued service for the Lord in many ways. He has served on church councils and as a communion elder for shut-ins at his church for many years now. I have grown to admire how he has become an even more faithful follower as he gets older. I am already reaping the benefits of my father's growing faith as he shows me how to serve God in new seasons of his life. I pray I will be as good of a father.



There is another Father whose legacy is even more important than any of our own father's or that which we ourselves might leave. God, our Father, gives us the very gift of faith and has given His Son to die in our place. To be technical, God doesn't really leave us a legacy, since by definition a legacy is some property or gift that is left for surviving members of one's family after one's death. God the Father didn't die, but God the Son did! Jesus left us God's Holy Spirit as a legacy, and a "deposit guaranteeing what is to come" (2 Cor. 5:5). So while God wanted to leave us a legacy of faith in His Son as an example for us, He also gives us the present and future-looking gift of the Holy Spirit to "guarantee" that we will follow Jesus through the forgiveness we have received. Our Heavenly Father doesn't want us to futilely try to be as good as Jesus—which is impossible. He wants to infuse us with the perfect life of His Son, so that we are considered perfect in His sight through faith in Jesus.

That's the legacy each Christian can leave their loved ones—faith in Jesus Christ. Trusting in Jesus is God's gift to you (Eph 2:8) and is the greatest gift you can pass on to your children by your own words and actions!

Your servant in Christ,

Pastor Paul Wenz



The Sunday of Memorial Day weekend, May 30, 2010, between services was the first Fellowship Brunch of the summer

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Enjoying the Fellowship Brunch are Pastor Lowell and Kay Siebrass (front left) & Susan Garcia & her granddaughter (Rt).



**NEXT ELDER'S MEETING ON:
June 14th at 6 PM**

Confirmation



On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, 2010, three confirmands read their essays on "Faith" at the Confirmation service at the 8:00 a.m. worship service. They confessed their faith in Jesus and received a blessing and Confirmation verse from Pastor Wenz, above.



The confirmands for 2010 were Kim Dalton (left of Pastor Wenz), Carlos Olea (right of pastor), and Joshua Creacy (far right).

Treasure Box Distribution

May 22, 2010



▲ Stephanie Michaud (far left) organizes the off-loading of the food boxes for pick-up by local churches. Next to her are (from left): Missy Creacy, Junior Olea, Delaney Creacy and Nicole Kwiatkowski.



▲ Stephanie Michaud (above center) checks off the list of boxes each group receives.

Ready with dollies when the truck arrives are (from front) Rocco Tito, Karen Rice and Joe Kwiatkowski. ▶

Social Ministries at Faith is helping families at our church and in our community stretch their food budget money with the Treasure Box. Faith is now a delivery site for other churches in Riverside! The 25¢ per box handling fee Faith gets from Good Source Foods for hosting has added up to an additional \$180+ for our Social Ministries' Food Pantry!



What They Did Before TV

By Jim Elliff

My mother was the youngest of fourteen children growing up on a farm in the first part of the last century. The old home place burned down when she was a girl. It was a typical Southern house divided into a boys' room, a girls' room, a kitchen (they ate in the open breezeway during the summer), and the parents' room. A porch surrounded the entire home.

"Mom and Dad's" room was the gathering place at night. The fireplace blazed with what they called a "push 'em back" fire, arranged to throw out the most heat possible. Everybody sat and talked. Besides eating peanuts and throwing the shells into the fire, or maybe sharpening a knife or darning a sock, that's all that happened. They talked and talked and talked until they could not keep their eyes open. Then the kids ran across the open breezeway into their rooms (or perhaps to the outhouse first) and into bed.

These relatives, most of them dead now, treasured their growing up. It wasn't because they *had* much, or had it easy. They were dirt farmers during the depression, and they sweated much. But they *loved* it all. Why? Because of the beauty of relationships built on mounds of talk. They knew how to do it.

If someone came from another farm down the road they were there to "visit." This meant that they talked. While the family worked the garden, they talked. While the men plowed and mended fences and threw out the hay, or harvested the corn, they talked. And when the family sat around the long table for meals, they used their mouths for more than eating. They talked some more.

I believe I could say accurately that the main occupation of the house was talk. Next was work, but first was talk.

And, throughout the years, when family reunion time came, the relatives gathered for a conversation feast—"catching up" on all the news, reminiscing and laughing (uproarious laughing), discovering what the kids were doing now, looking over the new people entering into the family by marriage. Nobody turned on a TV (Who would even think of it?). Nobody turned on a radio, or a "record player." Never. They were there for talk—in mega-doses. And when they had to leave, it was with reluctance.

It seems almost inconceivable to believe that there was life before television. As good as the medium is for some things, it is an instrument of death to conversation in most families. Add computers, a personal CD player, and speed-eating and we've successfully killed off the last remnants of conversation

in most families. Frankly, most families have no meaningful conversation at all. Days and weeks pass, if not months and years, without the skimpiest morsel of a good conversation. When I think about this, I almost weep for the magnitude of the loss. A mudslide of media has pushed our families into a cold ravine. We exist together for as long as we can make it, but we don't know each other. Without face-to-face communication, the home has become an electronic desert.

But interestingly, with the demise of our conversation, there is no diminishing of our desire. We still long for meaningful relationships. Here is my suggestion:

Take a total break from electronic media as a family for at least two months (just eight weeks of your entire life!), or better yet, six months (OK, you can check the email after the kids are in bed). Read a great book together, play together, take walks and go to the park, eat outside, drive into the countryside (ever heard of that?), sit down and eat a real meal together with everyone helping to clean up, invite friends over to

"visit," do a project together, pull all the chairs up close to the fire, roast wieners in the fireplace, drink lots of tea or hot chocolate, pray together, plant a garden, sing around the piano or with the guitar, have your own Friday night retreat, or just sit down . . . *together*.

It is only in our age that talk has come on such bad times. God made us to communicate, and people have done so much of it throughout history that the Bible does not address the lack of it. But it cannot be assumed any longer. TV is doing all the talking, and we are dying inside. I don't doubt that you long for something better, but sadly, few will ever do anything to accomplish it.

Oh yes, here's one more idea. In your next reunion, pull all the TVs into one room facing each other, and force them to listen to each other. Then find a real person and . . . talk.

"A word spoken in due season, how good it is!"
Proverbs 15:23

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www.CCWtoday.org



HEALTH NOTES

by Marla Lichtsinn, RN, MPA, CIC, FCN, Parish Nurse
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JUNE: NATIONAL SOBRIETY CHECKPOINT

Every year in the U.S., nearly 13,000 people are killed by drunk drivers with an illegal alcohol level of .08 BAC (blood alcohol concentration) or greater. That means that every month, more than 1,000 families must face the tragic consequences of drunk driving – and that number only represents the deaths associated with driving drunk, not including all those who are injured but survive with permanent disabilities, and those whose lives are turned upside down by loss of income, fines and imprisonment...

A published editorial – “Ignition locks are worth long look” in the *Sacramento Bee* (April 28, 2009) – tells the story of a 54-year old man’s death following an accident involving a woman now charged with murder, drunken driving and attempting to leave the scene of an accident – her fourth drunk driving arrest since 1994.

Accidents such as the one described leave us wondering whether current penalties for driving under the influence (“DUI”) are effective deterrents. In 2007, there were 203,866 drunk driving arrests in California, involving more than 53,000 collisions in which 1,501 people were killed.

The editorial raises questions about the use of ignition interlocks: cell-phone-size breath-alcohol-testing devices that can be affixed to the steering column in a car owned or operated by a convicted drunken driver – a driver blows into the device to demonstrate he/she is alcohol free.. if the device detects alcohol, the car can’t be started.

Under current law, judges in California *may* (not *must*) require convicted drunk drivers to install such devices on cars they own or operate as a condition of probation. Pending legislation would establish a pilot program that would make the devices mandatory for all first-time DUI convictions in five counties – Orange, Alameda, Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Diego. A 1998 Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) study of interlocking ignition devices concluded that they “are not effective in reducing DUI convictions or incidents for first-time DUI offenders.” However, the same study suggested that they could be effective for repeat drunken drivers under certain circumstances: second-time DUI offenders who serve half of their

suspended license period and then install the device in order to obtain a restricted driver’s license have a lower risk of DUI recidivism than their counterparts who remain suspended, research has shown.



IF SOMEONE YOU KNOW DRINKS AND DRIVES....

Drunk driving is the most frequently committed violent crime in the United States. Thousands are killed and a half million are injured each year as a result of drunk driving (NHTSA statistics). In this country, about 18 million people (8.5% of the population) meet the criteria for alcohol abuse or alcoholism (NIAAA, 2004). They may be wonderful people, but their behavior is unacceptable.

IMPAIRMENT VS. INTOXICATION...

Impairment is the point at which one’s intake of alcohol or other drugs affects their ability to perform appropriately – this is a process that begins with the very first drink. While they may not *appear* to be impaired, their judgment, coordination and reaction time have been affected. Intoxication, on the other hand, is a legal term that establishes a level of alcohol in the bloodstream which is severe enough so that criminal sanctions are enforced. In the U.S., the level of legal intoxication is .08 BAC. *For those under the age of 21, it is illegal to drink and illegal to drive with any measurable alcohol in the bloodstream.*

TAKING ACTION...

- Designate a driver – a person who agrees not to use alcohol or other drugs through the day or evening ...if selected prior to the event, he can pick everyone up so no one is tempted later to drive home after drinking.
- Plan on public transportation – if your group does not have a designated driver, drinkers should plan to use public transportation: most bars and restaurants are more than happy to call a cab for their patrons.
- Be smart at home – when the drinker is in your home, develop a transportation plan before the drinking starts: if the drinker becomes belligerent, you can consider hiding the car keys, letting the air out of their tires, removing the distributor cap, or even moving the car!

▪Contact local law enforcement – if the person of your concern continues to drink and drive, call the police immediately after he/she leaves and give a description of the car, driver and direction of travel!

▪Don’t blame yourself, and don’t allow the alcoholic to blame you for their predicament.

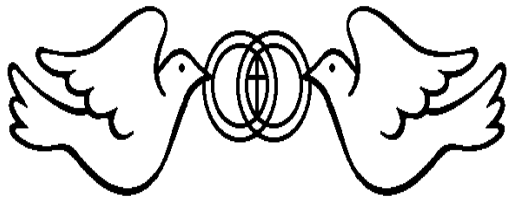
▪Never ride with a person who has been drinking – this protects you and sends a clear message that you will not tolerate such behaviors.

For more information, go to:
www.madd.org and www.niaaa.nih.gov

STATES' IGNITION INTERLOCK LAW STATUS	
Mandatory all convictions	Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Utah, Louisiana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Washington
Mandatory to reinstate license	Oregon
Mandatory for high BAC and repeat offenses	Florida, Hawaii, Kansas, New Hampshire, Virginia, West Virginia, Wyoming
Mandatory for other specific offenses	California, Idaho, Texas, Oklahoma, Iowa, Missouri, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, So. Carolina, New Jersey, Maryland, Massachusetts
Allowed, not mandatory	Nevada, Montana, No. Dakota, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky, Maine New York, Tennessee, Georgia, No. Carolina, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Delaware, Wash DC
No laws	So. Dakota, Alabama, Vermont



Ron Johnson	6-7
Alex Cammorata	6-15
Ray Garcia	6-19
Paul Yearyean	6-20
Katherine Cross	6-24
Joellyn Nelson	6-26
Victoria Wenz	6-30



Ron & Cherie Johnson 6-12

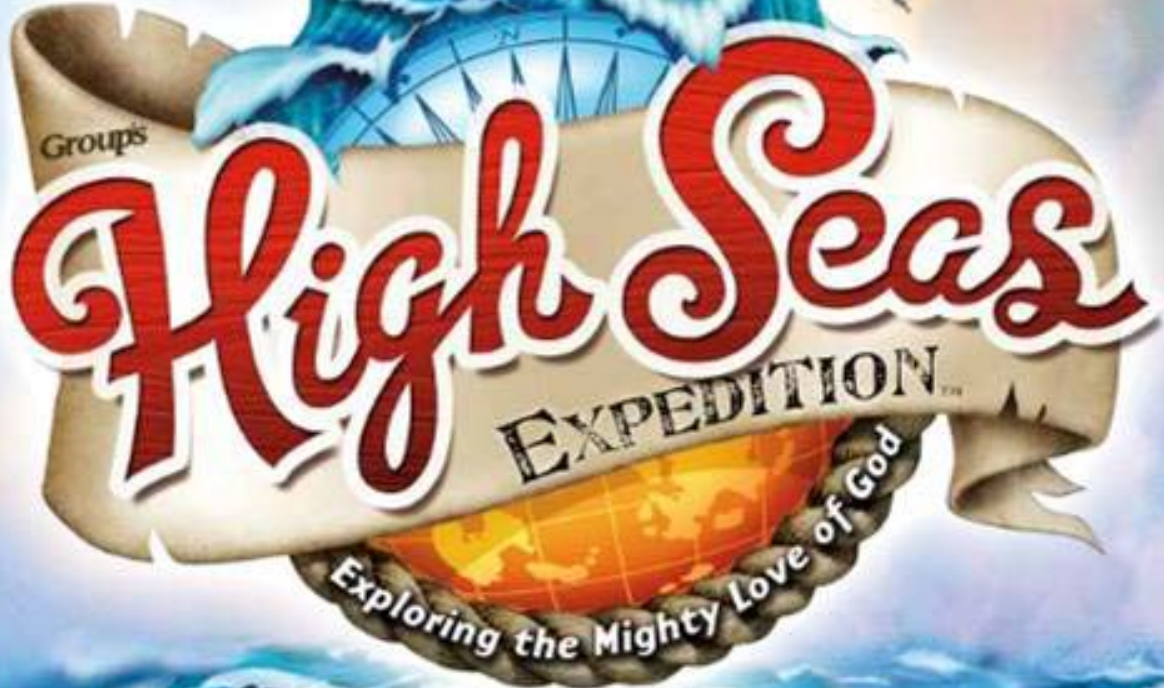
*If there are any birthdays or anniversaries we missed,
please contact the church secretary. Thank You.*



FAITH LUTHERAN 2010 VBS

June 21st—25th
2010, 5 pm—8pm
Ages 3yrs to Adults
Games, Crafts, Music
and More!

Family Dinner
5 pm to 5:30 pm
Free Will Offering
will be taken.



June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
6 8:00 am-Traditional Worship 9:15 am- Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am-Contemporary Worship	7 Bible Study 10 a.m.	8	9 Food Distribution 10:15 am	10 L.E. & Bible Study @ 10 am W.O.F Bible Study 6:30 pm	11	12 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study @ 7:30am
13 8:00 am-Traditional Worship 9:15 am- Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am-Contemporary Worship	14 Bible Study 10 a.m. Elder's Meeting 6 pm	15	16 Board of Director's Meeting 6 pm	17 L.E. & Bible Study @ 10 am W.O.F Bible Study 6:30 pm	18 Church Movie Night 7:30 pm	19 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study @ 7:30am 11 am LWML Luncheon at Flo's
20 8:00 am-Traditional Worship 9:15 am- Sunday School & Bible Study 10:30 am-Contemporary Worship Youth Bake Sale FATHERS DAY	21 Bible Study 10 a.m. VBS 5 – 8 pm	22 VBS 5 – 8 pm	23 Food Distribution 10:15 am VBS 5 – 8 pm	24 L.E. & Bible Study @ 10 am VBS 5 – 8 pm W.O.F Bible Study 6:30 pm	25 VBS 5 – 8 pm	26 Men's Breakfast & Bible Study @ 7:30am
27 8:00 am-Traditional Worship 9:15 am- FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH 10:30 am-Contemporary Worship	28 No Bible Study	29	30	-----PASTOR WENZ'S VACATION-----		



2010

COME BE A PART OF GOD'S GREAT GIFT!

As an act of Grace — undeserved love for us — God sent Jesus
“to be sin for us, so that in Him we might become righteousness of God.”

— 1 Corinthians 5:21b

Jesus took our sin & death
and in exchange — week by week — we receive
forgiveness, eternal life and the status of holy children of God.

Please join all the members of Faith on Sundays:

8:00 am **Traditional Worship Service**

9:15 am **Sunday School and Adult Bible Class**

Opportunities for all ages (preschool to adult)
to be planted, nurtured, and grown in faith through God's Word.

10:30 am **Contemporary Praise Service**



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
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GOD BLESS THOSE WHO DELIVER THIS!