

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA

PO Box 325 926 West 6th Ave Junction City OR 97448 Office: 541.998.2601

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

J. Brennen Guillory, Pastor

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Rays of Sonshine November 2, 2014

Give Thanks to God

Comments? Pastor Brennen

St. Augustine of Hippo once gave an easter sermon on the text "Sing to the Lord a new song" from the Psalms. The thrust of his message is about how to praise God, not just with our lips, but with our lives.

"Sing to the Lord a new song; his praise is in the assembly of the saints. We are urged to sing a new song to the Lord, as new people who have learned a new song. A song is a thing of joy; more profoundly, it is a thing of love. Anyone, therefore, who has learned to love the new life has learned to sing a new song, and the new song reminds us of our new life. The new person, the new song, the new covenant, all belong to the one kingdom of God, and so the new person will sing a new song and will belong to the new covenant.

There no one who does not love something, but the question is: what to love. The psalms do not tell us not to love, but rather to choose the object of our love. But how can we choose unless we are first chosen? We cannot love unless someone has loved us first. Listen to the apostle John: We love him, because he first loved us. The source of our love for God can only be found in the fact that God loved us first. He has given us himself as the object of our love, and he has also given us its source. What this source is you may learn more clearly from the apostle Paul who tells us: The love of God has been poured into our hearts. This love is not something we generate ourselves; it comes to us through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Since we have such an assurance, then, let us love God with the love he has given us. As John tells us more fully. *God is love, and whoever dwells in love dwells in God, and God in him.* It is not enough to say: Love is from God. Which of us would dare to pronounce the words of Scripture: *God is love?* He alone could say it who knew what it was to have God dwelling within him. God offers us a short route to the possession of himself. He cries out: Love me and you will have me for you would be unable to love me if you did not possess me already.

My dear brothers and sisters, fruit of the true faith, holy seed of heaven, all you who have been born again in Christ and whose life is from above, listen to me; or rather, listen to the Holy Spirit saying through me: *Sing to the Lord a new song.* "Look," you tell me, "I am singing." Yes indeed, you are singing; you are singing clearly, I can hear you. But make sure that your life does not contradict your words. Sing with your voices, your hearts, your lips and your lives: Sing to the Lord a new song.

Now it is your unquestioned desire to sing of him whom you love, but you ask me how to sing his praises. You have heard the words: Sing to the Lord a new song, and you wish to know what praises to sing. The answer is: *His praise is in the assembly of the saints*; it is in the singers themselves. If you desire to praise him, then live what you express. Live good lives, and you yourselves will be his praise."

This Thanksgiving let us not just give thanks, but be thanks. By living lives of love those lives sing as clearly as any song.

Jean Larkin-Editor Mizzholly@msn.com C 541.514.9820 Hm 541.998.2475 Submit items for <u>DECEMBER newsletter by Tues Nov 25, noon.</u> Church & Hall events, meetings, etc. can be sent to me or Pastor Brennen or leave a note in his office mailbox. faithlutheranpastor@gmail.com Online church calendar - www.faithlutheranjc.org

NOVEMBER Service Opportunities

Sign-up sheet on the parish hall bulletin board

Date	Lay Reader	Worship Assistant	Altar Flowers	Coffee Hour	Custodians – Have church/hall cleaned by this date
Nov 2	Nancy C	Scott Z	Joe/Jean	Joe/Jean Larkin	Jean/Joe Larkin
Nov 9	Linde W		Tom/Teri Fries	Tom/Teri Fries	Jean, Joe
Nov 16	Ed A		Elsie in memory of Bill	Elsie Petersen & Family	Irene Ferris, Teri Fries, Linde Wicklund
Nov 23	Michelle G			Ed/Edna Amundson	Irene, Teri, Linde
Nov 30	Irene Lund	Joint Service with Methodist's at Faith		Potluck	Ed/Edna Amundson, Donna Lee
Dec 7	Tom Fries	Scott Z	Scott/Lori Z	Scott/Lori Z	Ed, Edna, Donna

NOVEMBER

Ushers: Frank Marrs & Ed Amundson Altar Guild: Mara Taylor & Donna Lee

PRAYERS requested for those in Mourning, with Health Concerns, or with Other Needs:

Family/friends Jim Junker Milton Lee is home and doing well!! Marilyn Jones, Nancy's aunt, health Brad Larson, health Stacy Neal, Maureen Rainville, Regina Root, Larry Wilson, Linda McClellan, Pat Driscoll, Ingrid Autumn Rose, Margaret Waite, Donna Putnam & Deanna, Ron Zook, R.W. & Karen Wallis, Mike Ross, Virginia Randle, Ethel Beck, Lynn Randall, Norman Davis, Frank Fries, Karen Copeland, Chuck Smith, Jake & Shannon, Bob Lemieux, Miranda & Jacob Rutledge, Gene Coughran, Jackie Gribskov, Shayna Dunbar, Colt Gordon, Ray Dodson, Lyle Long, David Heggestad, Glenn Robinson, Alyce Riddle, Will Spearin, Mildred Guillory, Ken Van Devender, Sam Bliese, Gary Garrett, Duane & Rose Van Devender, Norine, Collin Randall, Ruth Buckley, Shari Pierce, Bonnie Miller, Pam McNight, Jones Family, Kathy & Dennis Bendickson, Howard Peterson, Bobette Peterson, Kristina Barrett, Fran LaPerna, Marilyn/Dale Huth, Karen Elles, Joyce Cagle, Don, Shawn, Jason, Jade Wilson, Wanda Curtis

Those in Military Service and their Families:

Paul, Dale, Dane, Lex, Max

September Treasury Report

Current operating expense: \$8284 Current operating income: \$7317

DECEMBER

Ushers: Frank Marrs & Ed Amundson Altar Guild: Marie Lockett & Lori Zimmerman

IC United Methodist Happenings:

Sat Nov 1 –Women's Bazaar, 9-3 pm Homemade donuts in the am; Lunch from 11–2 Crafts & Foods for sale

Faith Library & Book Club News – Irene Lund

We are currently reading any book of your choice concerning after death experiences, or real life encounters with angels. We will discuss our various books at the next meeting on December 14 during coffee hour. All are welcome to join us.

What I am reading: Jan Karon's latest bestselling novel, <u>Somewhere Safe With</u>
<u>Somebody Good.</u> As usual it is a delightful, heartwarming and inspiring novel. I found it was a little slow in the beginning, but was great once I got into it.

What's on your nightstand? lreneLund@wildblue.net

Sunday Scriptures: For more information on this narrative lectionary series, <u>click here.</u>

Nov 2 Elisha Heals Naaman 2 Kings 5:1-14 Elisha heals Naaman, a foreigner and leper (Matt 8:2-3, Jesus heals a leper, "I will, be clean")

21st Sunday after Pentecost

Nov 9 Micah Micah 5:2-4; 6:6-8 God promises a ruler from Bethlehem

22nd Sunday after Pentecost (Matt 9:13, God wants mercy, not sacrifice)

Nov 16 Swords into Plowshares Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; then 2:1-4 Assyria threatens Jerusalem and King 23rd Sunday after Pentecost Hezekiah despairs. Isaiah says the city will be saved. Promise that Jerusalem will

be a center for teaching and nations will beat swords into plowshares.

(Matt 5:14, light of the world, city on a hill)

Jeremiah 1:4-10; 7:1-11 Prophetic call as warning; temple as den of robbers Nov 23 Jeremiah's Temple Sermon Christ the King Sunday (Matt 21:12-13, Jesus cleanses the temple, which has become a den of robbers) Nov 30 Faith as a Way of Life Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:2-4; 3:17-19 The prophet, grieved by injustice/suffering,

watches for God's reply. Faith is a way of life, not an answer.

(Matt 26:36-38; In Gethsemane Jesus is grieved, asks disciples to watch with him)

Esther 4:1-17 For such a time as this, Esther was made queen.

(Matt 5:13-16, Salt and light)

Second Sunday of Advent

First Sunday of Advent

Dec 7 Esther

Bunches of Lunches Faith is collecting oatmeal and fruit cups currently. Please leave your donations in the marked tub in the fellowship hall. Local school kids thank you!!

"The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song." -Psalm 28:7

First Tuesday Potluck and Speaker November 4

POTLUCK STARTS AT 6 PM Bring your best dish!

Our speaker will be **Ellen McCumsey** from Junction City. Ellen is an OSU Art Professor who will give a presentation on photographer **Jacob Riis**. His photographs are about poverty at the turn of the century.

Jacob August Riis was a Danish American social reformer, "muckraking" journalist and social documentary photographer. He is known for using his photographic and journalistic talents to help the impoverished in New York City by exposing their living conditions to the middle and upper classes.

The photos are amazing and tell quite a story of life circa 1900.

Calling Bakers & Crafters!

With the Holiday Bazaar Sat, Nov 15, we need donated crafts and homemade goods!

The Bazaar is sponsored by the DLA but this is an all church event. Everyone who can is encouraged to participate in some fashion.

For sale will be BAKED GOODS and other food stuffs, CRAFT items; new this year will be an area of "lightly used" items, see below.

Everyone... please help provide these items! Your talents are needed... baking, cooking and crafting. Can you provide breads, cookies, pastries, candies, pies, pickled items, jams or jellies? We can't have enough of these items! Make some to sell; no store-bought goods.

Men/women who do woodworking or other crafts... now's the time to build/create items.

From Marie Lockett: Donations are needed of saleable "slightly used" items. Home decorative items, dishes, glassware, unused gifts (check the back of your closet), linens, CDs, DVDs, nice Christmas ornaments (no strings of lights)... anything saleable. NO furniture, old clothes, shoes, rusty pots and pans... you get the idea.

You can also donate small, new items for gift baskets that will be assembled for the bazaar. Herbal teas, exotic coffees, candles, etc.

Contact Marie at 234.2247 with questions or to have stuff picked up.

Our God is an Awesome God!

Contact Judy, Teri, Marie, or Dorothy for ideas.

2014-2015 Junction City Arts Council Sunday Concert Series

Nov 16 at 3:30 the concert series continues with the **Polka Band** playing at JC United Methodist Church. A reception will follow with a chance to meet and talk with the musicians.

Admission free with a suggested donation of \$10.

This is part of a new concert series effort by Faith, United Methodist and St Helen to bring music events to Junction City.

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The concert series now includes Dec 21, 3:30pm at JCUMC. The Christmas Festival Chorale is singing "Let the Whole World Sing" by Joel Raney. Those interested in joining the chorale-practice is 8-8:30pm Wed nights at JCUMC.

Fifth Sunday Worship w/ the Methodist's

November 30 United Methodist folks will worship with us at Faith. Following the service is a potluck; bring your best leftover dish from Thanksgiving. ©

Thank You Faith and Friends!!

- For your donations for Womenspace health kit bags
- For those who clean the church and hall each week
- To those who have mowed, weeded and watered the church property this year
- For your support of local aid, cropwalk,
 Synod special missions, local school kid
 hunger issues, Lutherwood, etc etc.
- For your service during worship time...
 altar guild, readers, lay assistants,
 ushers, choir, music, speakers
- Festival workers
- For attending church
- For sharing the Word with others beyond our walls

Holiday Bazaar

Faith Lutheran Church 926 W 6th St - Junction City

> SATURDAY NOV 15 9 am - 3:30 pm

Baked Goods – Foods
Handcrafted Items – Gift Baskets
Attic Treasures
Christmas Decorations

Enjoy Cinnamon rolls & hot beverages in the a.m. while you shop
Beginning at 11:00, lunch on
Rullepolse & Cheese open-faced sandwiches plus three types of Soup (one vegetarian)

Brought to you by Danish Ladies Aid and Assisted by the People of Faith and Friends

Items from the Sept Church Council meeting:

- Discussed that the cost of Pastor's medical insurance is going up 12.8%. Other plan options were reviewed and council voted to continue with the Gold + plan.
- Council was informed that the cleaning schedule will move to every other week on a trial basis.



Advent and Christmas Choir will be forming soon... anyone can join the fun

regardless of talent. ©

"Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving."

- WT Purkiser

NOVEMBER 2014									
<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	Wednesday	Thursday	<u>Friday</u>	<u>Saturday</u>			
2 10:30a Holy Communion	3 7p Weight Watchers	4 6p POTLUCK 7p Speaker Ellen McCumsey	5 7:30a Men's Bible Study & Breakfast Gary Garrett BD	6 9-12 LWR Quilters 1-4 Memory Makers	7 7p Game Night at the Larkin's	8 10a – 4p Synod planning meeting at Faith			
9 10:30a Holy Communion	7p Weight Watchers	7p Council	7:30a Men's Bible Study & Breakfast Les Gregersen BD	13 BAZAAR SET-UP 9:30-1 Hens & Chicks	14 BAZAAR SET-UP	15 9a - 3:30p HOLIDAY BAZAAR LUNCH starts at 11 CRAFTS, FOODS, BAKED GOODS, LIGHTLY USED			
16 10:30a Holy Communion 3:30p Polka Band Concert at United Methodist	17 7p Weight Watchers	18	7:30a Men's Bible Study & Breakfast	9-12 LWR Quilters 1-4 Memory Makers	21	22 10a – 7p Van Devender Family			
23 10:30a Holy Communion	7p Weight Watchers Carl Nielsen 90 th BD! Pete Lund BD	12P December NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE	7:30a Men's Bible Study & Breakfast 6:30p Theology on Tap	27 <u>Thanksgiving Day</u> Bess Jones BD Ken Van Devender BD	28	29			
30 10:30a Holy Communion United Methodist worships at/with Faith. POTLUCK to follow.	Dec 1 7p Weight Watchers	Dec 2 6p POTLUCK 7p Speaker	Dec 3 7:30a Men's Bible Study & Breakfast 6:30p Theology on Tap	Dec 4 9-12 LWR Quilters 1-4 Memory Makers	Dec 5 Dorothy Hansey BD	Dec 6 9-3 Lutheran World Relief Quilters, Drop by to help, no experience needed!			

Pastor Brennen's Office Hours: Mon & Wed 10 am – 3 pm & Thurs 10 am – 12 pm or call 998-2601 for an appt

If you no longer have a land line, have moved, changed cell phone number or email address, please let me know so that your contact info is updated. Jean 541.998.2475, Mizzholly@msn.com

RAYS OF SONSHINE - NOVEMBER 2014

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA PO BOX 325 JUNCTION CITY OR 97448

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Church Carpet Replacement

Danish Ladies Aid (DLA) has undertaken the project of replacing the carpet in the church. The first phase of this project is raising funds. We have a beginning cost estimate of \$8100; DLA has pledged a starting amount of \$3500 from their account towards the replacement. In addition, all profits earned thru hosting the Frikadeller Dinner and the upcoming Bazaar will go towards the replacement. We had a wonderful turnout for the Frikadeller Dinner, and we encourage everyone come to the Holiday Bazaar to support this project.

DLA will also accept donations towards the carpet replacement. Anyone wishing to donate, please make your checks out to the "Danish Ladies Aid" designating on the check "Carpet Replacement". Please remember any gifts to this project should be in addition to your normal stewardship giving to Faith Lutheran Church.

Check out the yellow bulletin board in the hall to track our progress towards meeting our goal. Thank you!

As members of Faith Lutheran Church (ELCA) we affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's grace and unconditional love.

We celebrate both the diversity and inclusive unity of all people as created by God.

Following Jesus' example we embrace all people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance.

With welcoming hearts we invite you into full participation in the life and ministry of our congregation.

Faith is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation. For more information, http://www.reconcilingworks.org/what/fic/about-reconciling-in-christ

