



## “O Store Gud” How Great Thou Art

A couple of weeks ago Barbara Koch played How Great Thou Art as part of her prelude. It's one of my favorite hymns. This hymn was written by Carl Gustaf Boberg one evening during the summer of 1855.

As the hymn was being played I felt the presence of God fill the sanctuary. “How Great Thou Art” reveals the power of God and the message of salvation. Its words speak loud and clear of a God who is present in our lives. “How Great Thou Art” speaks of God the creator. “When through the woods and forest glades I wonder, I hear the birds sing sweetly through the trees...then sings my soul, my Savior God to thee, How Great Thou Art.”

The hymn describes God's saving acts. “But when I think of God, His son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin; then signs my soul, my Savior God to thee, How Great Thou Art.” God gave his son without condition. Paul in Romans reminds us of this: “Therefore since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ...we are justified by his blood and saved from the powers of sin and death by God.”

The hymn declares God's coming again. “When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, “My God How Great Thou Art.”

Indeed this is a powerful hymn because it carries the message of a great God. So great that he became like one of us to save us from our sins. With this great God we go about life confidently, working for that promised better day when there will be eternal shouts of joy,

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when Christ himself will come again to dry our tears, transform the world, and proclaim God's love.

Many thanks to Gustaf Boberg and Barbara Koch for reminding us all of God's greatness!

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson

## Faith Church News

**We continue to pray** for Jane Wildes, Donna Trumblee, Eunice Koeppen, Rose Brady, Marilyn Paulson, Helen Hale, Connie Herrington, Annette Mohling's mother, Russ Gerst's father, and Bonnie Eckhoff's brother.

**Save the Date!** July 18th 1:30-3:30 pm. We will celebrate Pastor Wendell Debner's 70th birthday with desserts and conversation at Faith Lutheran Church. More details will follow.

**Confirmation Canoe Trip**— Please have your food donation items to the church by Saturday, June 12th. Thanks in advance for your help!

**Popcan Fundraiser:** Cub Scout Pack 360 is having another popcan and bottle drive on July 10th at the Marion Hy-Vee. Contact Russ Gerst for pickup at the church or from your home.

**Congratulations to Jeffrey Nirschl** who received one of 278 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships awarded nationally. Nirschl is the son of John Nirschl and Jane Nirschl and is a junior biology major in CLAS at the U of I and is conducting research in the Department of Neurology with Dan Tranel, investigating sex differences in brain structure, decision-making and social behavior. He plans to earn a medical degree and doctorate in neuroscience to teach at a research hospital and explore the molecular and cellular basis of neurological disorders. The scholarship covers up to \$7500 per year for one or two years.

### Lifetouch Directories Are Here!

Finally....they have arrived! The Lifetouch Church directories are in. We have put attached an address label for each family and placed them in your mailbox.

Thanks for your time and patience and we hope that they are a useful tool in many different ways.



## Expectations of Discipleship

**Worship** every week, experience God's Word in Scripture and proclamation, the Means of Grace found in the bread and wine, and the waters of baptism. Commit to being in worship here or as you travel.

**Pray** in daily life, around the dinner table, as you drive, as you wake and as you sleep. Let all of life be a prayer! Commit to praying every day.

**Grow** in faith. Attend Bible studies, read the Bible, invest in your faith, learn spiritual practices, invite others to worship. Commit to growing in faith every day.

**Give** regularly. Be intentional about giving to grow God's Kingdom through Faith Lutheran Church. Commit to giving, work toward a goal of 10% (Biblical tithe).

**Serve** faithfully. Find a ministry and share your gifts through serving others. Commit to serving this community and its mission to the

## 2010 Bratfest

The 3rd Annual Bratfest will be held on Saturday, September 18th in the Faith Lutheran parking lot and the Bratfest Committee needs your help and support.

Food will be served from 4:30 pm until the final band break. The polka music will go from 5:00—9:00 pm. This year's band will be Barefoot Becky from Mt. Vernon.

Purchase your quilt raffle tickets on Sundays this summer. Volunteers are needed in the following areas: Kitchen Clean-up and Volunteer Coordinator.

For questions or to volunteer, please see Steve Deines or contact him at 373-0990 or [sddeines@inav.net](mailto:sddeines@inav.net).



## Vacation Bible School

Faith Lutheran is gearing up for another great year of Vacation Bible School. This year's VBS will take place on July 19th—22nd...so mark your calendars! Details of our fun, faith-filled programs follow:

**Baobab Blast** is our VBS program for children ages 3 to those entering Kindergarten in the Fall. This is an open invitation to be part of God's Great Get-Together! Set under the impressive baobab tree, kids will have the opportunity to hear the Word, be amazed at God's wildlife as the sun rises and sets on the



savannah their faith will grow! The hours for VBS are 9:00 am—11:00 am. The fee is \$15 and includes a t-shirt and a daily snack and drink are provided.

**For Children entering 1st—6th Grades** we are blessed to have once again a team of high energy devoted staff from Riverside Bible Camp to lead your children in Bible studies, music, recreation and crafts. The theme this year is "Grow" and your children will grow kindness, grow goodness, grow faithfulness and grow love as they share God's word based on Galatians 5:22 *By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness.*



The fee for Day Camp is \$25 per child and includes a t-shirt, snack and drink provided daily. Please bring a sack lunch for your child. Times for Day Camp are from 9:00 am—2:00 pm. We will also be having a closing program on Thursday night at 6:30 pm. Join us for a fun evening as the kids share what they've learned

in their fun-filled week of learning about the word of God and seeing their faith grow.

**Volunteers are needed** in all areas to make this week a success. Prayerfully consider how you could help. There are plenty of big and small ways to contribute, check out the volunteer sheets by the VBS display for details. Contact Traci Berquam at 538.5499 or [traciberquam@gmail.com](mailto:traciberquam@gmail.com).



## Coffee With Pastor Potluck

Make plans to attend our Annual Coffee with Pastor Potluck on Thursday, June 24th at 11:30 am. This is a fun and fabulously filling time with plenty of fellowship thrown in!

This year we have a speaker as well as Rich Patterson from the Indian Creek Nature Center will join us to talk on "Hot Topics in Nature."

Just bring a dish to pass and meat, table setting and drinks are provided.

## Spoke Folk Coming in July...

The Spoke Folk are once again stopping by for a visit on Friday, July 2nd at Faith. It is a 12-day biking and musical ministry tour for up to 30 participants (15-20 years old) and 10 adult counselors. All these people are from different states and all over the country. Each of the tours bikes during the day and shares an evening concert /worship service with the host congregation. Mark your calendars for July 2nd at 5:00 pm for a potluck & music to follow.



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*We are a community of Faith,  
growing in Christ, sharing God's love.*



## Worship Opportunities

All are welcome and invited to worship at Faith Lutheran Church.

### ***Summer Worship***

Saturdays at 5:30 pm

Sundays at 9:00 am



*Faith has been serving the Marion-Cedar Rapids area for more than thirty years; supporting local ministries such as the Marion Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, and Senior Assistance Programs. We are in partnership with the 10,657 congregations, 28 Lutheran colleges and universities, 8 seminaries, 450 global missionaries and one of the largest non-profit social service networks in the United States; as well as Lutheran World Relief worldwide. All are ministries of the 5.2 million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

### **Faith Lutheran Church Staff**

**John A. Albertson**  
Senior Pastor

**Paul M. Amlin**  
Associate Pastor

**Jen Heinsius**  
Secretary

**Diane Lehtinen**  
Choir Director

**Steve Roggow**  
Bell Choir

**Don Schluter**  
Custodian

### **Faith Lutheran Church Council Members**

**Paul Gibbs**  
President

**Angie Miglia**  
Director of Worship

**David Ripley**  
Vice President

**Todd & Carolyn Mitchell**  
Directors of Youth

**Lois Yoerger**  
Secretary

Directors of Fellowship

**Russ Gerst**  
Treasurer

**Diane Lehtinen**  
Director of Witness

**Dave Koch**  
Financial Secretary

**James Gardiner**  
Director of Facilities

**Mark Siebenga**  
Directors of Adult Nurture

Director of Youth Nurture

**Kerry Koch**  
Director of Social Concerns

But most of the real work is done by unpaid members of the congregation, often without recognition, who see their service as a response to God.