



# The SEED



## Load the Wagon

One day last week as I was driving down to University of Iowa Hospital to sit with a family I passed a semi truck. Nothing unusual, except on the back of this truck was a slogan that read **“Never mind the mules, load the wagon!”**

I thought to myself, that’s something to think about. I don’t know about you but I have a few “mules” that always seem to get in the way when I’m trying to load the wagon!

Mules like procrastination and laziness...ordering of priorities and use of time...managing of money and resources...spending time with family and making sure the work gets done...quiet time and busyness. Perhaps you can relate to this as well.

Jesus, however, calls us to “load the wagons.” Load the wagon of our life with forgiveness and compassion...be devoted to prayer and praise...be faithful in worship and service...give generously.

We are blessed as God’s children. We have the assurance of forgiveness and the promise of eternal life, yet so often we let the “mules” rule our lives.

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It’s time to focus on the wagon. Load it with care. Make sure the load is balanced so that it doesn’t break the wagon. Keep Christ at the center, and as an old friend of mine from North Dakota used to say, “Keep it between the ditches!”

Peace,

Pastor John Albertson

## Faith Church News

**We continue to pray** for Jane Wildes, Claire Diefenderfer, Rosemary Herrington, Jackie Devine, Scott Huebener, Wilma Burrell, Roger Grimm, Jim Holecek, Betty Jo Augsburg, mother of Barb Kalkwarf, Bonnie Eckhoff's brother, teachers and students returning to school.

**Barb and Dave Kalkwarf** have a new address: 13339 Jade Ave; McGregor, IA 52147. Their phone is 563-873-1987 or try their email [barbanddave@alpinecom.net](mailto:barbanddave@alpinecom.net).

### **Please keep our new Associate Pastor**

Paul Amlin in your prayers as he is ordained on Saturday, September 5, 2009 at 3:00 pm. Ordination will take place at Lutheran Church of the Cross in St. Petersburg, Florida. Pastor Paul will be available in the office on Tuesday afternoons and Thursdays during the next few weeks as he relocates to Marion. We're so excited to have him with us.

**Coffee with Pastor** this month will be on Thursday, August 27th at 3:00 pm. Join us as Cedar Rapids City Council Member, Pat Shey will present a power point presentation on the recovery efforts in our community. He will address the rebuilding of neighborhoods, temporary and permanent flood protections, the challenges of working with FEMA and our reliance on state and federal funds. All are welcome to come and attend this informative



**Reminder:** Worship times will change again in September. Our final summer Saturday worship will be August 29th at 5:30 pm and Sunday, August 30th at 9:00 am. On September 6th, we will resume our normal services of 8:00 am and 10:45 am. Sunday School Rally Sunday will be on September 13th.



## Upcoming Fellowship Opportunities

- ◆ Would you like to meet and make new friends at Faith? Here's how....contact Fellowship for an opportunity to join and help in a small group with the planning of two more events for 2009! We will be getting committees together soon for the fall **Chili Cook-off** and the **2nd Annual Cookie Walk** event. When you join a small group you get to know others on a first name basis as you and the small group make plans for an upcoming activity! You can "pair" up with another member as you help with the details. It's great to be part of the planning and implementing a fun activity. You get to share your great ideas and you get to know others in our church! Contact Bev or Steve Whitmore at 447-1285 or slip a note into our mailbox #207.
- ◆ Only a few months and the holidays will be constantly on our minds...we are looking for 2-3 families that would like to be on the **Christmas Walk** this year. Here are a few reasons why you might like to do this!
  1. You get your home tidied up and decorated by the first week in December. You get the rest of the month to enjoy the season and bake and shop because your home is done!
  2. This is a great opportunity to share with others your family traditions for Christmas! You get to share how you decorate your tree, your dining room and all your special family heirlooms.
  3. You get the opportunity to meet others that you have seen in church, but you never got the opportunity to get to know them. What a great time of year to extend your holiday greetings with friends and families of Faith.

Contact Bev or Steve Whitmore if you would like to participate in any of these special events! It's fun!

## Faith Youth News

### Bratfest 2009

Mark your calendars for this year's Second Annual Bratfest Dinner and Polka Dance on Saturday, September 19th at the Faith Lutheran Church Parking Lot.

The Bratfest Dinner will take place first from 4:30-6:30 pm with the Polka Dance featuring the Peter and Paul Wendinger Band from New Ulm, Minnesota occurring from 5:30 - 8:30 pm.



Volunteers are very much needed. Check the display board in the narthex and sign up for a time and way you can help make this event possible! We can't do it without you!

### Coffee with Pastor Fall Bus Trip

The details of the fall bus trip have just been released. Mark your calendars for October 7th and 8th as our Coffee with Pastor group ventures out to Omaha for an exciting fun-filled 2 days of travel. The cost and trip itinerary includes visits to:

- ◆ Boys Town
- ◆ Chapel- Holy Family Shrine
- ◆ Hotel - Crown Plaza
- ◆ Supper @ German American Society
- ◆ Breakfast buffet - Plaza
- ◆ Museum of Religious Arts
- ◆ DeSoto Wildlife Refuge
- ◆ Smalls Fruit Farm
- ◆ Smitty Bee Honey
- ◆ Transportation

Cost is \$129 per person, double occupancy with single rooms at \$179 per person. Sign up sheets will be available soon. See Pastor John or Jen for more information.

### Wednesday Night Live

Our Wednesday night youth program that was once known as LOGOS has been revamped and changed for the coming year. Beginning on September 9th, our program is now called Wednesday

Night Live. The schedule for 2-8th graders is Recreation Time from 5-5:30 pm, Bible/Worship /Confirmation Time from 5:30-6:30 pm, Family time from 6:30-7:00 pm and Recreation time from 7-7:30 pm. The High School schedule is Family/Meal Time from 6:30-7:00 pm and Large/Small groups from 7-9:00 pm.



Wednesday Night Live is a dynamic ministry enabling children and young people (grades 2-12) to experience God's unconditional love and to have an opportunity to share that unconditional love with their peers, adult leaders, and with their families. The basis for every aspect of WNL is God's love for us---enabling us to love and care for one another.

WNL welcomes anyone in grades 2-12 who is willing to participate in a loving, fun-filled Wednesday evening adventure. This adventure occurs in the context of a well-designed program to give our youth the best foundation for their lives--the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Parent informational meetings and sign ups are scheduled for August 22-23rd, following worship services and August 29-30th following worship.

Volunteer positions are open to all members of the congregation. Parents of WNL youth are expected to fill in at least one volunteer position.

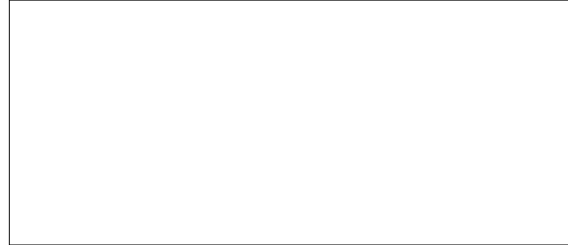


## Faith Lutheran Church

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Email: marionflc@msn.com  
Website: www.faithlutheran.org

*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.

### *Worship Services*

Saturdays at 5:30 pm

Sundays at 9:00 am

### *Worship Times Change September 6th*

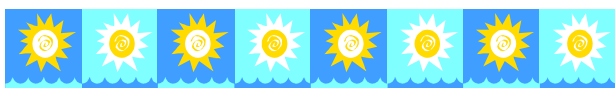
Sundays

8:00 am Worship

10:45 am Worship

### *Sunday School Rally Sunday*

*September 13th*



*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**

**Jeff Ausman**  
President

**Bob Schunter**  
Director of Worship

**David Ripley**  
Vice President

**Todd & Carolyn Mitchell**  
Directors of Youth

**Lois Yoerger**  
Secretary

**Steve & Bev Whitmore**  
Directors of Fellowship

**Russ Gerst**  
Treasurer

**Diane Lehtinen**  
Director of Witness

**Dave Koch**  
Financial Secretary

**James Gardiner**  
Director of Facilities

**Al & Bonnie Eckhoff**  
Directors of Adult Nurture

**Ryan Legge**  
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.