

# The Messenger of Faith



Faith Lutheran Church

May 2012

## Save the Dates

**June 3**

*Summer Worship Schedule Begins*

Voters Meeting

Music Recital & Reception

**July 16-20**

Vacation Bible School

**August 26**

Church Picnic at

Wingfoot Lake State Park

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## Why Red for Pentecost?

*Excerpts taken from "Colors of the Liturgical Season"*  
By Rev. Douglas K. Escue

Color. Color is everywhere. Color is God's way of filling his world with beauty and giving pleasure to those who live in this colorful world. Christians, for centuries, have used color in divine worship to emphasize the redemptive action of God through his Son.

Color, like music, plays an important role in the life of God's worshiping people. Just as music is the "handmaiden to theology," liturgical color complements the message of the seasons and occasions during the church year. Taking a familiar seat in the nave of his/her chapel preceding worship on any given Sunday, the worshiper's emotions and intellect are immediately engaged by color. Liturgical colors aid in establishing a climate in which Law and Gospel may be heard and received.

Color, like light which is its source, is most helpful when it is pleasing as well as stimulating to the senses. However, let's never forget its primary role in divine worship: Color allows us to see the Light of Life, Jesus Christ. It serves to communicate the message of salvation. And communicate it does when it reinforces a specific "colorful" chapter in the life of our Lord and his church, retold annually by the church calendar.

Red is a power color and is appropriate for use on Pentecost Sunday. On this day we remember the power and fire of "the Lord and Giver of Life," who revealed himself as the promised one. The color red communicates the motif of strength - strength and power the Holy Spirit gives in order for God's people to call on the name of Jesus Christ and share that powerful name with others.

## My Latest Viewings

by *Martin Kirche Rodentia*

So many activities for this small mouse to race to and from. I'm about out of



breath as I attend the wonderful, God pleasing activities here at Faith. My Lenten "cube" is still being used in my comfortable home. It is rolled to different sides so that I

can remember to "give up" many habits. Hope that you are able to use yours.

Wasn't the drama/musical one of the finest things that you have seen? Do hope that you were able to view the performance by the many folks who came to us from Columbus under the name of Tetelestai. The trial, execution and resurrection of Jesus were dramatically shown by these talented folks. To think that they pay to participate and then practice on Sunday afternoons from 12:30 to 5:00! What love they show. Thank you to all of those folks. And I watched our congregational members enjoy feeding, housing and providing so much hospitality to this group. Thank you to all of Faith. I wasn't asked to do anything but be there and enjoy everything!

Some of the Women of Faith have been very busy with planning the LWML District Convention. Such talent and dedication. I overheard talk and marvel at the plans. Do hope that you will be there.

Our yards, and especially the new small "garden", are truly being landscaped and are fun to view. Have you noticed the new upholstery and plants at the level 2 elevator area?

Yes, we are doing much to welcome those who seek the Lord. The services have been so meaningful. I especially appreciate seeing the visitors who are coming. Our greeters are in new areas and seem able to meet and talk to folks as they come to worship. Have you seen the pink cards? Maybe you can tell me what I have to do to get one although I am not really a visitor since I've been around for so long.

I am growing fatter from all the wonderful Lutheran food that is spilled on the floor during the monthly, 2nd Friday, dinners. Did you know that September will be an anniversary month for these affairs? Guess how long we've been eating this delightful food? Just ask some of those who are responsible for the food!

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## Vacation Bible School 2012

Join us on an Amazing Desert Journey! This year's Vacation Bible School will take place during the week of July 16-20, from 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Lunch will be served. Mark your calendars and spread the word to all your kids, grandkids, friends and neighbors!

Calling for volunteers in a variety of roles: kitchen workers, leaders for Bible story time, storytelling, games, music, crafts, and preschool and elementary groups. Keep an eye out for requests to donate food and supplies as we get closer to VBS week.

Questions? Contact Tammy Voelker [tvoelker@kent.edu](mailto:tvoelker@kent.edu) or 330-673-1506.

## Chad Pittman Leaving

It is with a sad heart that we have accepted the resignation of our organist/choir director Chad Pittman. Chad has been the cornerstone and enthusiastic director of the vocal and bell choirs for the past 3 years and church organist for 5 years. His last Sunday will be on May 27. We are sorry to see him go for he has truly been an inspiration to the music programs. We wish him well in his new position and with his remaining college years.

The church will be posting the positions in the coming month and will be accepting resumes for the following positions: Organist, Choir Director, and Bell Choir Director. Resumes should be mailed or brought to the church and directed to John Ferlito or Linda Fisher.

A congregational farewell pot-luck dinner will be held at noon on Sunday, May 20. The sign-up sheet in the Narthex includes lines for main dishes, side dishes, salads and desserts. All members, families, and friends are invited.

The spring choir party will be held at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 25 at the home of Rosine Johnson. Members of both choirs, and their families, are welcome to come. Everyone attending is asked to bring a heavy hors d'oeuvre.

## Lenten Charities

\$952 was collected from our Lenten offerings this year. \$450 has been given to Apple of His Eye Ministries and \$502 has been given to Kent Social Services. Once again, Kent Social Services qualifies for matching funds from the Feinstein Foundation - a philanthropic organization dedicated to the alleviation of hunger. Thank you!

## Birthdays

Christian Earnest 2<sup>nd</sup>

Lori Harvey 4<sup>th</sup>

Vicki Silvey 4<sup>th</sup>

Jeff Usner 6<sup>th</sup>

Andreas Johansson 8<sup>th</sup>

Jennie Stumm 9<sup>th</sup>

Grace Hanna 11<sup>th</sup>

Michael Looker 13<sup>th</sup>

Elise Derer 17<sup>th</sup>

Kris Martin 19<sup>th</sup>

Annalise Stumm 19<sup>th</sup>

Emily Ulreich 20<sup>th</sup>

Bill Nome 21<sup>st</sup>

Jerry Luna 24<sup>th</sup>

Bruce Darrah 25<sup>th</sup>

Dan Ruch 25<sup>th</sup>

Greg Ulreich 31<sup>st</sup>

Ann Gamble 31<sup>st</sup>

Cindy Usner 31<sup>st</sup>

## Anniversaries

Richard & Cindy Reich 12<sup>th</sup>

Michael & Jill Earnest 14<sup>th</sup>

Allen & Karen Harshbarger 20<sup>th</sup>

David & Cathy Danner 31<sup>st</sup>

## Kent Social Services

### Item for May

### *Toilet Paper*

Please put all donations on the table by the elevator. Thank you!

# Tetelestai

THE TRIAL, EXECUTION and RESURRECTION OF JESUS

Tetelestai weekend started Friday evening with the arrival of the advance crew and a truckload of equipment, costumes and props. By the time the cast and their families arrived from Columbus on Saturday morning, the transformation of the Sanctuary was well underway. When the setup was finished, Rob Dinehart took the cast and crew on a walking tour of Kent State University. Members of Faith's congregation provided a potluck dinner before the performance.

Before the start of the performance, Russ Nagy, one of the writers of Tetelestai, prepared the audience of 130 for what they were about to see. He invited the children up to the stage where four members of the cast gave a behind-the-scenes look at the special effects used during the depiction of Christ's crucifixion.

For the next two hours, the final week of Jesus' life was put on display through

music, light and drama. His triumphant entry into Jerusalem. His trial. His execution. And His resurrection. It was an amazing and emotional performance.

Everyone attending, including the cast and crew, were invited down to the Fellowship Hall for cookies, beverages, and lots of conversation. By 11:30 p.m., the stage, costumes, and props had been packed up and the Sanctuary restored for the Sunday worship service. Family by family, suitcases and sleeping bags were loaded into cars for overnight stays at many members' homes.

Sunday morning, the Youth from Faith and Columbus met in the Chapel for a special Sunday School presentation. During the late service, several members of the cast participated in "From the Pew" – a story narrated by a church pew. The story followed the life of a

*(Continued on page 5)*



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young couple, starting from the time they met on this church pew. It witnessed years of joy, adversity, and challenge that saw the couple marry, have children, and face old age. After being empty for many years, the pew then saw the return of the children as each realized the need for Christ in their lives.

The weekend came to a close with a brown-bag lunch in the Fellowship Hall. At last sighting, the cast, crew, suitcases, and sleeping bags were lined up on the sidewalk next to the memorial garden waiting for their bus to take them back to Columbus.

A free-will offering was collected during the intermission of the Tetelestai performance. There were no strings attached to what Faith could do with these monies except to let the group know how it was spent. At the April PLC meeting, it was decided to give \$410 to Food for the Poor to cover the cost of water pumps for two villages in the Caribbean countries where it serves. The remaining \$95 was given to Kent Social Services, who is receiving matching funds during the month of April.

A heartfelt "Thank You" to the many families at Faith who provided food, housing, time and organizational skills for the Tetelestai event. The weekend was truly a blessing!

## Worship Assistants

*Altar Guild: Carol Lohman*

		<b>May 6th</b>	<b>May 13th</b>	<b>May 20th</b>	<b>May 27th</b>
<b>Acolytes</b>	10:45	Kody Doll	Brendon Oliver	Jessica Danner	Darrin Parks
<b>Chancel</b>	8:15	Bartley Family		Ferlito Family	
	10:45	Pastor Voelker Allen Harshbarger		Pastor Voelker Ron Rivett	
<b>Children's Message</b>		Tammy Voelker	Pastor Wartick	Linda Ferlito	Pastor Wartick
<b>Greeters</b>	8:15	Nash Family	Sandy Davis	Dinehart Family	Bisson Family
	10:45	Eloise Danner	Christine Hudecek	Parks Family	Joe Fisher
<b>Readers</b>	8:15	Abbie Schultheis	Carolyn Nome	Rob Dinehart	Linda Ferlito
	10:45	Shirley Wemyss	Guy Russ	Mike Humphrey	Allen Harshbarger
<b>Tellers</b>		Jim & Mildred Edmonds	Jack & Carol Lotzgeselle	Ron & Mary Rivett	Shirley Nash
<b>Ushers</b>	8:15	Sandy Davis Rob Dinehart	Ferlito Family	Scott Schultheis Rob Dinehart	Mike Bartley
	10:45	Guy Russ Jack Burns	Vavra Family	Rivett Family Wemyss Family	Guy Russ Mike & Jane Butz

## April Showers Bring May Flowers

**"April showers bring May flowers. April, traditionally a rainy period, gives way to May, when flowers will bloom because of the water provided for them by the April showers"** (According to Wiktionary – a wiki-based Open Content Dictionary). In many parts of our country this old idiom still rings true. Proper amounts of rain and sunshine combine to produce beautiful flowers. It is a kind of "action/reaction" thing.

There is an application for our lives as God's stewards and managers of all of life and life's resources for His purposes. Dr. Martin Luther's explanation to the First Article of the Apostles' Creed states it so well when it credits God with being our Maker and Provider. God richly provides us with **all** that we need to support this body and life. **All** is used nine times in Luther's explanation. Our Almighty Father in heaven has made us and all creatures, gives us all we need and defends us against all danger and guards and protects us from all evil.

The clincher for us as God's stewards comes in the closing paragraph of Luther's explanation of the First Article as he writes: **"All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him."**

The truth of the matter is that our Heavenly Father provides everything that

we need in this life. His greatest gift is His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came willingly to this sinful world to offer up His holy life for the sins of the world – yours and mine included. That takes care of our spiritual welfare. That is the most important gift, but God also lavishes all kinds of physical gifts upon us as His people.

God richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment (1 Timothy 6:17b), but He also wants us to use all these blessings in unselfish ways to bring glory to His holy name and blessings to those people around us, just like April showers bring May flowers. Our faithful management and use of God's gifts makes life more beautiful and fragrant for us and others.

How we use our time, abilities and financial resources makes a big difference for us and others. How we manage our relationships, God's creation, our own bodies and the privilege of sharing the good news of Jesus also makes a big difference for us and others.

**We give thanks to God for calling us to be His maturing stewards who are privileged to manage all of life and life's resources for His purposes!** May God's Holy Spirit work richly in, with and among us so that we live each day as God's redeemed children who are growing in the divine traits of loving and giving!

May 2012 Stewardship Article  
[www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)

## John C. Voelker II Ordained

On April 22, 2012, family, friends, Kent State University students, and members of the clergy gathered at Faith Lutheran Church in Kent, Ohio to witness the ordination of John C. Voelker II into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament as Campus Missionary Pastor.

The Rev. Terry L. Cripe, President, Ohio District, Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, presided over the service. Dr. David R. Zachrich of Tallmadge Lutheran Church served as Liturgist and Rev. Douglas E. Riley served as Lector.

Also participating in the service were Rev. Kent G. Wartick, Faith Lutheran



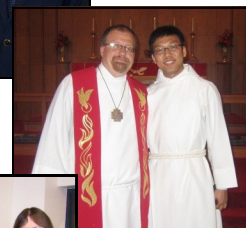
Church, Kent, OH; Rev. Kent D. Pierce, Campus Lutheran Church, Columbia, MO; Rev. Joshua A. Schoon, Zion Lutheran Church, Akron, OH; Rev. Ryan L. Honeycutt, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Cuyahoga Falls, OH; Rev. Ralph Clark Hough, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, N. Canton, OH; Rev. Emeritus Joseph Grether; Rev. Norman H. Schinkel, Trinity Lutheran Church, Warren, OH; Rev. Dennis L. Schmidt, Intentional Interim Pastor, Retired; Rev. John G. Eiwen, Zion Lutheran Church, Akron, OH; and Rev. Eric E. Tritten; Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Hudson, OH.

Mrs. John Voelker (Tammy) presented her newly-ordained husband

with a Bible. Rev. Kent G. Wartick presented Pastor-elect Voelker with a Prayer Book, a Jar of Oil, and a Baptismal Ewer. On behalf of Lutheran Campus Ministries of Kent, Karen Parks presented him with a Communion Kit. As Pastor-elect Voelker's Supervisor and Mentor, Rev. David R. Zachrich presented him with a Stole. On behalf of the congregation of Faith Lutheran Church, John Ferlito, Congregational President, presented him with a Cross designed and made by congregation member Noreen Miller.



A reception for Pastor JJ was held in the Fellowship Hall after the service.



## My New Life in Christ

By Lu Wei "Roy"

Sometimes when I have nothing to do, I begin to ask myself "can I be one hundred percent sure that I have been truly saved by God?" Praise Lord, I always got the positive answer with more and more confidence. When I look back the path how God chose myself among millions people, I feel nothing but his amazing love which I can never deserve. Guess though with different stories, we all went through the same process: know God, experience God, decide to believe, repent, receive the Holy Spirit from the baptism, and last but not least get a second chance to live a different life.

In the book of Ephesians, Apostle Paul talked about the armor of God to defend the devil. "Take the helmet of salvation" means our new life should have the heavenly mark given by God. In another word, we need to abandon old us (in flesh), and live in a way to honor our savior and to prove we are God's children (in spirit). "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!" (2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV)

God uses his words to guide me in many ways:

I used to be a pretty impulsive person who can easily lose temper, and then I saw "My dear broth-



ers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become an-

gry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires." (James 1:19 NIV)

I used to easily believe I am doing ok most of time, however others do not, and then I saw "Why do you look at the speck of sawdust in your brother's eye and pay no attention to the plank in your own eyes?" (Matthew 7:3 NIV)



I used to try to prove everything I did is right in front of my parents, and then I saw "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right". (Ephesians 6:1 NIV)

I used to care about a lot of things, degrees, career or marriage, and then I saw "So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:18 NIV)

My friends, guess we all have our own problems and weaknesses, however Bible always provide me the coolest answer to each of them. God never promise his children that we can be as perfect as Jesus immediately (actually not a single human being can), but he does promise that he will always be with us. "Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me." (2 Corinthians 12:9b NIV)

Hope we all enjoy the new life in Christ!

## What it means to have friends and to be one yourself

By Kimberly Oliver

Solomon speaks on the most significant choices a young person can make, for example the friends you choose. It is unfortunate that such important choices in life have to be made by those who of us who lack the understanding and wisdom needed to help us make the proper choices. Solomon instructs us that *"The righteous should choose his friends carefully for the way of the wicked leads them astray"* (Prov. 12:26 NKJV). Witnessing in life that the worst people are often the coolest to make friends with. Friendships are significant and we must not let them progress

by chance. Friends have considerable influence over us, their ideas soon become ours. My mother would say "If your friends jump off a bridge does that mean you have to as well?" Solomon expressed the same



thought when he said *"He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of the fools will be destroyed"* (Prov. 13:20 NKJV). So in choosing our friends one must ask how can I be a friend. *"A man who had friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother"* (Prov. 18:24 NKJV). If you want to have a good friend, be one yourself.

A true friend is one who will reinforce us spiritually and draw us closer to God. When a friend sees mistake in our life, he will not waver to reproach us. Some people, even Christians, get upset when challenged with the truth, but those who aspire to live for the Lord will cele-

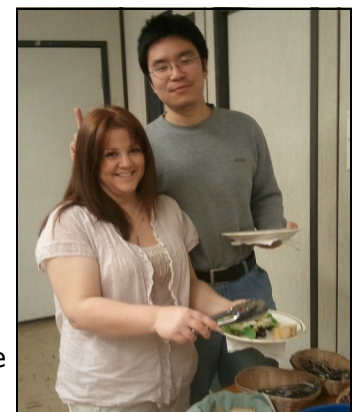
brate in the fact that another cares for their soul. While we might appreciate our friends because we have comparable interests and life styles, the real pleasure of friend-



ship comes from their guidance. You can be open with a friend and know their advice comes from a desire to see you grow and prosper in life and in the Lord. We need to encourage friendships, for Solomon said, *"Do not forsake your own friend or your father's friend, nor go to your brother's house in the day of your calamity; for better is neighbor nearby than a brother far away."* (Prov. 27:10 NKJV)

Three years ago had to choose a new Church; the first thing that I was looking for was a friendly face and a warm welcome. When walking through the doors at Faith Lutheran Church, and not even getting all the way in, someone was there to greet me and ask my name. Sitting in the third row and looking up at the altar, to my delightful surprise was someone I had gone to high school with, and he came over to me and

asked how I was and what had I been doing as I asked him the same question. I found out that he was the Campus Minister of the church and he invited all of us to the luncheon held after the services; where there were other students to



talk with who had the same issues and hurdles to overcome being a college student. I knew that this was the church my family had been looking for. I have found my friends, how blessed am I?

## Faith Lutheran Church

931 East Main Street Kent, Ohio 44240

Voice: (330) 673-6633

Fax: (330) 673-1240

Email: [faithlcms@neo.rr.com](mailto:faithlcms@neo.rr.com)

Web: [www.faithlutheran-kent.org](http://www.faithlutheran-kent.org)

Rev. Kent G. Wartick - Pastor

[eph2810tr@hotmail.com](mailto:eph2810tr@hotmail.com)

Helen Knoch - Office Secretary

[faithlcms@neo.rr.com](mailto:faithlcms@neo.rr.com)

Chad Pittman - Organist, Director of Choirs

[chadpit@msn.com](mailto:chadpit@msn.com)

Kim Klein - Editor of *The Messenger*

[TheMessenger@neo.rr.com](mailto:TheMessenger@neo.rr.com)



## Sunday Worship Services

8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

## Education Hour

9:30 a.m.

## Lutheran Campus Ministries of Kent

931 East Main Street Kent, Ohio 44240

Voice: (330) 673-6427

Web: [www.kentstatelutherans.org](http://www.kentstatelutherans.org)

John "JJ" Voelker - Campus Missionary Pastor

[jvoelker@kent.edu](mailto:jvoelker@kent.edu)

## Explore the Web

### Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS [www.lcms.org](http://www.lcms.org)

LCMS Ohio District [www.oh.lcms.org](http://www.oh.lcms.org)

Lutheran Witness [www.lcms.org/pages/witness](http://www.lcms.org/pages/witness)

LCMS Foundation [www.lcmsfoundation.org](http://www.lcmsfoundation.org)

LCMS World Relief & Human Care  
[www.lcms.org/ca/worldrelief](http://www.lcms.org/ca/worldrelief)

### Lutheran Hour Ministries

LHM [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org)

Men's Network [www.lhm.org/mensnetwork](http://www.lhm.org/mensnetwork)

Woman to Woman [www.lhm.org/womantowoman](http://www.lhm.org/womantowoman)

JCPlayZone [www.lhm.org/jcplayzone](http://www.lhm.org/jcplayzone)

### Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LWML [www.lwml.org](http://www.lwml.org)

LWML Ohio District  
[www.lutheransonline.com/lwmlohiodistrict](http://www.lutheransonline.com/lwmlohiodistrict)

### Miscellaneous

The Book of Concord  
[www.bookofconcord.org](http://www.bookofconcord.org)

Bible Gateway [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com)

Lutheran Church Extension Fund  
[www.lcef.org](http://www.lcef.org)

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans  
[www.thrivent.com](http://www.thrivent.com)