

Pastor Janneke's Page

Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls, SD
October 8-9, 2016

Biking for Life

Two weeks ago, I was blessed to be able to participate in the 19th annual Bike For Life ride. The full ride is 100 miles, from Redeemer Lutheran Church in Armour to The Alpha Center (just south of the intersection of Kiwanis Ave. and 41st St. in Sioux Falls). I started this year's ride at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Freeman, SD. I completed 40 + miles of this year's ride. Faith members, Jeff and Sam Goddard, pedaled from Armour to Parker.

Due to lightning between Freeman and Parker, all of the cyclists had to pile into support vehicles. We drove the remaining 6 miles into Parker and waited out the storm for about 45 minutes. God has blessed the Bike For Life ride with favorable weather through the years. In fact, this was the first time in the history of the event that this was necessary! The Lord provided the perfect amount of support vehicles with space for the cyclists and bikes.

This event was created by Pastor Nabil Nour in 1997 after receiving a bike from his sons for Father's Day. (Thank you Tony, David, and Michael for your role in making Bike For Life history! ☺) Pastor Nour retired several years ago from leading the Bike For Life, making way for other laypeople and pastors to keep this event going. Over the course of 19 years, the Bike For Life has raised well over \$100,000 in support of the ultrasound services provided by The Alpha Center here in Sioux Falls.

While the Bike For Life supports just one portion of The Alpha Center's work, The Alpha Center does much more than encouraging people to choose life for their children: life skills classes are taught for expecting or new mothers and fathers, mentoring and counseling is available for those who need it, and baby supplies are earned through participating in classes and appointments. The Alpha Center works not only to save lives but to build strong families as well!

There's still time to make a donation in support of this year's Bike For Life efforts. Please make checks out to SESDLFL (Southeast S.D. Lutherans For Life). A pledge sheet is still available near my office. Thank you once again for your prayers and support for this life-saving cause!

Please check out more announcements on the reverse side.

Youth Worker Meeting

It's been around six years since Faith had a dedicated youth worker on staff. Many members have been discussing the need for a staff member to lead the charge in this area of our ministry. Your congregational leaders and pastors have also been discussing this in our recent Elders and Council meetings.

We've been blessed with several young couples who have volunteered their time and energy to lead Bible studies and other activities for our high school youth in recent years. However, it's becoming clearer that we need additional help in this area, particularly to support our young people and their families during a crucial time of life and faith development.

If you are interested in this discussion, please plan to join us for a meeting on **Wednesday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m.** If you are a parent of grade school or high school children, please come and share your thoughts! We also want our youth to be involved in this discussion – please join us! Other interested members and church leaders are also encouraged to attend! Please come to share your thoughts, questions, or concerns.

Here are some more specific things to think about prior to next month's meeting:

- What might some of the primary responsibilities be for such a staff person?
- Would this be a part-time or full-time position?
- In what other ways would a youth worker/Director of Family Ministry/Director of Christian Education fit into Faith's ministry?

Check Out New Library Resources!

Faith's library (located in the coatrack area in the entryway) has received some new additions. Our library includes resources that can help you grow in your faith and respond to various challenges to the Christian faith in today's society. Here are a few of the new titles:

Know Why You Believe by Paul Little (Defending the Faith section)
The Case for a Creator by Lee Strobel (Creation & Youth sections)
College 101: A Christian Survival Guide (Youth section)
Mere Christianity and *The Screwtape Letters* in One Volume by C.S. Lewis (Defending the Faith section)

I encourage you to make use of these or similar resources to be ready to share your hope in Christ (1 Peter 3:15)!

Peace in Christ,

Pastor Kory Janneke