



# Table Talk

Fairbanks Lutheran Church  
1012 Cowles (across from the public library)  
Sunday Service Times: 8:30 & 11:00am, Sunday School 9:45

April 2010

## What's Inside:

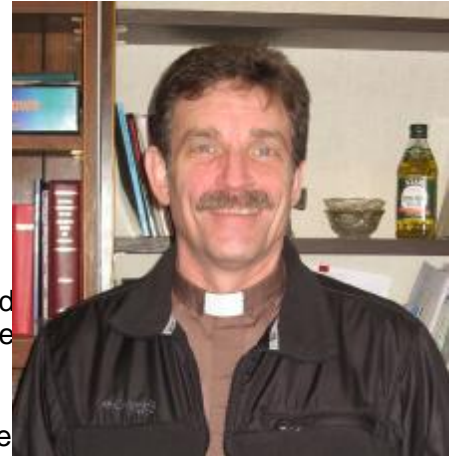
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Email articles to: [fairluth@gci.net](mailto:fairluth@gci.net)

[www.fairbankslutheranchurch.org](http://www.fairbankslutheranchurch.org)

## **From the Pastor's Desk:**

[pastorfairluth@gci.net](mailto:pastorfairluth@gci.net)



The piece of paper is blank. The student holds pencil ready in hand ...but nothing is written. The woman stands beside the crowd as the man's body is being covered and about to be carried away to the tomb. Her mouth is open, as though to cry out against the injustice which has just taken place

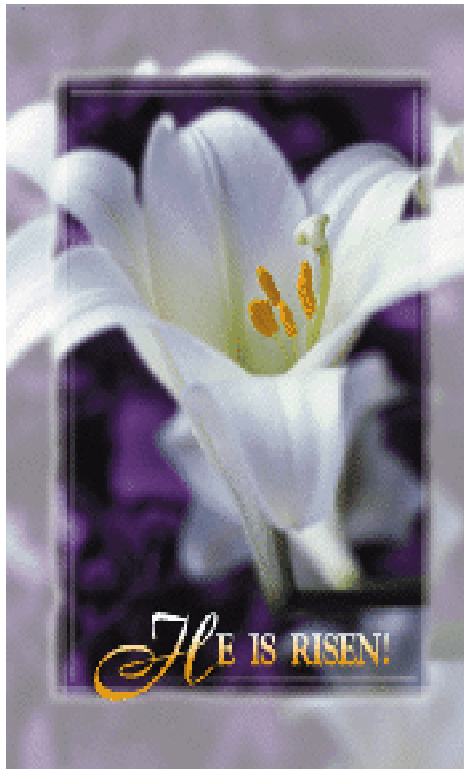
... but only the tears of her eyes speak. The world holds its breath for long moment ... then breathes, and carries on, "carrying on".

Three days later the scene is quite different. "We have seen the Lord - he is alive!" The extraordinary event is told, then retold ... then retold again! Generation after generation can hardly keep the pencils sharpened ... as the blank pieces of paper are filled with words - "He is risen!" And the world, which once held its breath for only a moment at his death - can scarcely catch a breath now, as it struggles to make room for this miracle: resurrection!

When I count the bodies in worship on Good Friday ... I see a mere token of gratitude when compared to the attendance at Easter services. It seems to me that such absence is a form of silence. But why would we be so silent about our Lord's death? Is our silence as a Christian community allowing us to catch our breath - so that we may find the strength to praise God continually? Is our absence at worship on Good Friday a reflection of the shock of knowing that an innocent man would be crucified? Perhaps. But it may also be the shock of realizing that someone else just gave their life for us ... and now we owe our very lives to them.

Or are we selectively waiting, in order to come for the "good" news of Easter?

Continued on page 2



Continued from Pastors Desk:

Thank God for Easter, which breaks through our silence. Now we must proclaim our Lord's death, for there could be no resurrection without a dead body. And so ... is that what our silence means - ultimately? That there can be no proclamation in the midst of pain and suffering ... but only after God's amazing grace and love and power are realized - then the proclamation begins? And so, does the death of Christ become the meaningless act of some martyr? NEVER! We proclaim a suffering Christ, a crucified Christ, a "dead and buried" Christ - in order that we might celebrate a risen One!

The piece of paper is your life ... the pencil - your actions. Whether in suffering, or rejoicing - what will your life tell? We cannot remain silent for long, for CHRIST IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN INDEED! Pastor Ottum



Maundy Thursday - 7 pm Worship w/ Holy Communion

Good Friday -12 noon - Community worship @ First United Methodist  
-7 pm Good Friday Service @Fairbanks Lutheran Church

Easter Sunday - 7:00 am - Easter Sunrise service at the bridge  
- 7:30 am - 10 am - Community Breakfast  
- 8:30 am - Holy Communion  
- 11:00 am - Holy Communion



Come join us for a study of II Peter. The class is a straight-through reading of the book, with ample time for questions and discussion. We meet in the Library downstairs.

## *Today's Faith Builds for Tomorrow*



**April 11, 2010 @ 12:15 pm**  
Fairbanks Lutheran Church

We need all Fairbanks Lutheran Church members to attend to **VOTE** for approval of a \$1.17 million dollar loan from ELCA Mission Investment.

FLC Council



The Annual Garage Sale is May 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. Many people have volunteered to help but we still need a few coordinators. If God gave you these skills and you are going to be in town will you please sign up.

<b>ADVERTISING</b>	Arlene Strandberg
<b>CANOPY &amp; STORAGE TRAILER SET UP INSIDE</b>	Arlene Orbeck Elrita & Jim Magoffin
<b>SET UP OUTSIDE</b>	
<b>CASHIERS</b>	Trina Anderson
<b>5 P.M. TO 8 P.M. May 4TH</b>	Heather Eversole 687-0909 Morgan Dufseth 6 p.m.457-6956
<b>5 P.M. TO 8 P.M. May 5TH</b>	
<b>5 P.M. TO 8 P.M. May 6th</b>	
<b>SIGNS TO DIRECT PEOPLE</b>	Kevin Frost 699-8646
<b>PICK UP DONATED ITEMS</b>	Ross & Eva Hansen Bev Munsterman & Greg Higdon
<b>NIGHTTIME SECURITY</b>	

We have had many more people sign up to be helpers and they are posted in the narthex, if you are able to add to this list please pray for guidance and if God wants you to help please answer his call.

We are still in great need of enclosed trailers to store items ahead of time and canopies to put up in the parking lot in case of rain! If you have any of these available please leave a note in the office.

**The Coordinators of the garage sale will meet between services at 10:00 AM on Sunday April 18<sup>th</sup> to finalize plans for the sale.**



**Thank you to Greg Wadson of Goldstream Appliance Repair** for donating his time to troubleshoot the broken oven in our kitchen. We really appreciate his time and skills.



# Fairbanks Community Food Bank

by Ellen Ayotte

As a member on Board of this organization I would like to tell you about Fairbanks Community Food Bank and our church's role for almost 20 years with this organization. Two of our members, Roy and Hope Helms have volunteered at the Food Bank Warehouse for close to 18 years.

Every Monday volunteers at our church take orders from people who call in their food box order. This information is then forwarded to the food bank where the orders are filled. Each box is prepared for 3 days (9 meals) and will be at least 20 pounds of food for each person who requests it. The van at the Food bank is filled with the orders, unloaded by volunteers at our church and given to the people who show an ID as proof that they had called in an order.

The executive Director is Samantha Kirstein. The Food Bank is primarily a volunteer organization. They collect local surplus food and give it to people who need it. The food Bank receives free food and gives it away free.

Each day they collect/recycle 2-5 tons of food, so the work is cleaning, organizing and distributing that food. This is the 27<sup>th</sup> year of Food Bank operation in our community. Last year they collected 2,040,487 pounds of food using 18,403 volunteer hours on site (and more volunteers in the daily food distribution sites) and served 36,417 people in Interior Alaska. 45% of those served are children.

The food collected at Souper Bowl Sunday went to Fairbanks Community Food Bank.

**Fairbanks Lutheran Church has a group of volunteers who work at our church narthex every Monday (except on Food Bank holidays). But we could use more volunteers among whom we'll be able to spread the responsibilities. With the present number of volunteers there are times when people's travel schedules and other commitments coincide and we need someone to take the Monday phone orders or assist with food box distribution in the afternoon. We'll gladly train volunteers, and everyone who's worked in this capacity will speak to the fulfillment of working together to help others. The person who takes the food orders works a block of time from 9:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Volunteers who help unload the Food Bank van are asked to be available between 12:45 – 1:30 p.m., and the assistants who distribute the food to clients work between 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Please contact the church office (452-3425) if you would like to help in this important FLC social outreach activity.**

***"When I was hungry, you fed me. When I was thirsty, you gave me water." Matt. 25:35***



## Renew, Respond, Rejoice!

Eighth Triennial Gathering  
July 14–17, 2011 • Spokane, Wash.

Among the Triennial Gathering speakers will be Leymah Gbowee, a Lutheran from Liberia who headed up the interfaith, female-led efforts that brought peace to Liberia after years of civil war. She is currently director of Women and Peace Security Network Africa and [was recently in the U.S. to speak to members of Congress](#) about the prevention of violence against women and girls.

We're also hard at work assembling workshop topics and presenters. Is there a topic you would like to see explored in a workshop at the Gathering? Drop us a line: [women.elca@elca.org](mailto:women.elca@elca.org)  
Alaska Synod Triennial Gathering Promoter is Carol Dahl at [cddahl1@qci.net](mailto:cddahl1@qci.net) for other questions.

### Highlights of FLC Congregational 3/16/10 Council Meeting

- Meeting called to order @ 7 pm by President Ross Hansen. Quorum Present: Tom Alton, VP; Trina Anderson; Richard Comer; Millie Dufseth, Treas.; Paul Koop; Arlene Strandberg, Sec.; Janelle Sweeney; Warrack Willson; Pastor Bill Ottum. Absent: Greg Higdon; Dawson Lewandoski; Sharon Lockwood (Alternate); Matt McClurg; Others present: Kathy Alton, Building Committee Chair.
- Devotions by Warrack Willson – *Phillipians 1:20-26*, Honoring Christ. Opening Prayer by Pastor Bill Ottum.
- 2/16/10 FLC Congregational Council Meeting Minutes approved.
- Kathy Alton, FLC Building Committee Chair distributed and reviewed highlights of her written monthly report.
- Council approved a motion for a special Congregational meeting Sunday, April 11 following Celebration 2 worship service (12:15 p.m.) to approve the ELCA Mission Investment Fund loan of \$1.17 million dollars. Notification of membership will be by mailed post card as well as through worship service bulletins and Table Talk announcements/reminders.
- Planning for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Mother's Day Weekend Garage Sale, May 7-8 is proceeding with sign-up lists in the narthex. At its February meeting, Church Council dedicated the garage sale receipts to help pay for our new Pastor's moving costs. At its March meeting Council voted to tithe 10% of garage sale proceeds to charity with distribution as follows: 5% to Fairbanks Food Bank and 5% to Fairbanks Rescue Mission. Prospectively an application will be made for a 50% match from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans for the amounts given to these two non-profit organizations.

The liquidation of Perpetual Fund, which was approved by the FLC Congregation at its January 31, 2010 annual meeting, is in process and will be deposited in the FLC's General Fund when the check is received until the Council determines its further distribution.

Warrack and Pat Willson have agreed to be FLC Liaisons to the Next Step Ministries this summer.

Council Committee Liaisons listing was reviewed. Personnel – Tom Alton; Communications / Programs – Arlene Strandberg; Finance Committee – Millie Dufseth (she reported that the committee has been formed); Worship & Arts – Richard Comer (Heritage Service) & Greg Higdon (Celebration 2); Property – Ross Hansen; Youth – Dawson Lewandoski; Education – Janelle Sweeney / Sharon Lockwood; Stewardship / Wellness – Trina Anderson; Community Outreach – Paul Koop; Social Concerns – Matt McClurg

Pastor's Report – Pastor Bill distributed his report and reviewed highlights.

President Ross is working with Alaska Synod and Pastor Bill Ottum on transition details and the arrival of Pastor Paul Bodin and his wife, Cherie.

Council discussed and completed the FLC Congregation Council Questionnaire as part of the ELCA/Alaska "Synod Discernment Process." Tom Alton recorded Council's answers, which will be submitted to ELCA by April 15 due date. Pastor will complete and submit his Pastor Questionnaire. Congregation surveys will be provided to both FLC worship services Sunday, March 21 and March 28 for completion, compiling and submission to ELCA.

Recruitment to fill Sharon's Youth Director position is underway.

Finance (Millie Dufseth): Income/expenses have been pretty near balanced for 2 months. Treasurer's Report was distributed, discussed and accepted by Council.

Worship and Arts Committee: will meet Thursday 3/18 at 5:30 p.m.

**Easter Sunrise Service:** Pastor Bill (Chair) & Bill Bubbel (Coordinator) have been meeting with the planning committee for the past several weeks. Connie Oba is working on the music. Other churches, including True Victory of North Pole are working with us. Bill Bubbel obtained the FNSB permit for use of the William Ransom Wood Centennial Bridge.

Parsonage: We need to prepare the parsonage for the new Pastor and his wife.

Property renovations: Ross reported that Holaday Parks is working on the upgrades to the main HVAC system (long overdue and necessary as part of our Phase I new construction work). Safety concerns: Must tear out the wooden sidewalks and steps in front of the parsonage and replace as soon as possible as they are beyond the end of their service life.

Council members' comments: Millie Dufseth noted that this coming Sunday it will be 60 years since she and her husband, Gordon and children arrived in Fairbanks and thus began their membership at Fairbanks Lutheran Church.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

# *EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE*



**A Community-wide,  
Non-denominational Event**

**When: April 4**

**Time: 7:00 - 7:30Am Service**

*Refreshments Before and After*

**Where: Centennial Park Bridge**

**Parking: Courthouse, Denali State Bank,  
Doyon Building.**

*Hot Refreshments, Warm Up Tent,  
Community Choir, Handicap Access  
Kid's Warm Up Bus - Porta Potties*

## **Celebrate The Resurrection Of Jesus Christ**

**Please Call 452-3425 or  
460-8820 with Questions.**

Fairbanks Lutheran Church  
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Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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