

My dear family in Christ,

I am writing this letter to you to announce that I have decided to accept the divine call to serve as pastor of Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church in Hiram, Georgia. I want to share with you some of the reasons for my decision.

The last four weeks have been a roller coaster of emotions for my family and me. Nights have been filled with sleeplessness and the days spent wrestling in prayer and finding strength in God's Word. The process of deliberating two divine calls is exhausting. I felt like a rope in a game of tug-of-war. There were many compelling reasons for me to stay and many to go. One thing I can say is that from the moment I received the call, it would not let me stop thinking about it. All I can say is that the Holy Spirit was working behind the scenes through the people I spoke with as I weighed both calls.

As I deliberated, many of the pastors with whom I spoke reminded me that both choices are the right choice because God's will is done, whether I go or stay. God's will is that the gospel is preached and his sacraments administered, which is what I would do in both congregations. My brothers in the ministry also encouraged me to evaluate my gifts and try to determine where I could best use them to serve the kingdom of God. As I evaluated the needs and opportunities of both congregations, I feel that I can best use my gifts to serve God's kingdom in Hiram, Georgia.

Some might ask, "What is it about a congregation in Georgia that would take you away from here? We've experienced tremendous growth in the past few years. You just confirmed 5 adults on Sunday. We have a beautiful new building. Things are good at Faith!" Let me add a few more questions: Why would you leave friends and family, take a cut in your salary, and try to sell a home in a housing market that will be flooded with homes in the next few months? All valid questions. The decision to go was not based on fiscal or emotional reasons. If that were the case, I would be staying. But the decision to go is based on ministry. The congregation here in Radcliff is thriving financially. The members of the church council have demonstrated spiritual maturity and strength. The members of this congregation have taken ownership of their church. Faith in Radcliff is mission-minded and knows how to do outreach in the community. Faith Lutheran now has a vision for the future and strong leaders to take that vision forward. It seems like the perfect time to stay and enjoy all of those wonderful opportunities. On the other hand, I know that this is a good time to go, because I know that the ministry at Faith will continue with or without me. I was reminded many times these past few weeks that this is God's church, not Pastor Horn's, and God will take care of it.

I was reminded by a brother in Christ that I am not leaving anyone or anything behind. I am simply moving to another part of God's kingdom - Faith in Radcliff and Mighty Fortress in Hiram are both part of that kingdom. That's one of the wonderful blessings of membership in the Wisconsin Synod - we all walk together. In fact, Faith Lutheran in Radcliff has been doing mission work in Hiram, Georgia. Through your mission offerings, you supported the congregation of Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church when it was established twelve years ago. What a wonderful blessing to be partners together in mission work!

Over the next few months, a few things will change. Your current pastor will move, and the Holy Spirit will call another pastor to serve you. And yet, so little is changing at Faith Lutheran. You will have the same beautiful sanctuary, a space that teaches the truths of God's Word. You will have people willing to use their talents to God's glory in worship and outreach. You will hear the same message preached from the pulpit, the same Sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be offered for the strengthening of your faith, the same water will be poured on the heads of sinners, washing away their sins. You will have the Lord Jesus Christ watching over his church, just as he has been for the past 20 years at Faith in Radcliff.

My dear family, it will be difficult for me to say good-bye, but the Army has taught me something over these past 10 years: there is no good-bye, only "See you later." I know that we will see each other again someday - maybe sooner, maybe later, but for sure forever.

The Horn family has been blessed in immeasurable ways by the people at Faith. The time we spent laboring together with you in Radcliff will always hold a special place in our hearts. We cannot thank you enough for the past ten years - all of your support, your generosity, your prayers and encouragement - has been overwhelming. I pray that the Lord Jesus continue to bless this congregation with what it needs, so that you may continue to carry out his mission until he comes again in glory.

In His Service,
Pastor Paul Horn

Happy Birthday!



February Birthdays

1-Feb	Lee, Wilma
2-Feb	Gurney, Peter
5-Feb	Enevold, Earl
5-Feb	Hartzog, Ruth
6-Feb	Disch, Bonnie
6-Feb	Mazdorff, Malcolm R
8-Feb	Milward, Ben
11-Feb	Tomita, Casey
12-Feb	Hogan, Lynne
17-Feb	Moreland, Katy
20-Feb	Hicks, Jeremy
21-Feb	Hunter, Kathi
24-Feb	Hicks, Nicole
24-Feb	Kiefer, Bill
26-Feb	Wright, Nikki
26-Feb	Johnson, Allison
26-Feb	Stover, Joshua
27-Feb	Jensen, Hunter
28-Feb	Ford, Jennifer

February Anniversaries

1-Feb	Oakes, Virgil & Sandra
12-Feb	Erne, Rocco and Valerie
13-Feb	Poore, Richard & Julie Dvorak
22-Feb	Campbell, Dwayne and JoAnne

Note: Please let Tina know if an error has occurred in the newsletter.

A Very Happy Birthday to...



Happy 85th Birthday to Ruth Hartzog

Ruth is our oldest member and the first student Pastor Horn graduated from Bible Information Class at Faith.

Worship

February Sermon Series: The Savior's Sermon

- 2nd—Trust in God's Strength
- 9th—Let Your Light Shine
- 16th—Live a Holy Life
- 23rd—Love Your Enemies



BRANCHES BAND

They will participate in our service on February 16, 2014. You won't want to miss this special service.

Branches Band Mission

Branches Band exists to serve and praise our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through our words, actions, and specifically our music. We aim to serve congregations by assisting in worship, serve fellow Christians by providing Christian concerts, and also serve our community by playing for a variety of public and private events and activities.

Youth Group

Service Project Ideas:

Cleaning for new Mom before her family gets here and her baby is born. People who have already signed up for this are Shelby, Ethan, Cody, Tyler, Christian, and Megan.

-Made cookies for Cindy Wright's new company's open house.

-Saturday trash pick up. Date is still not known.

-Church cookies: Being made on February 15th to be served as refreshments after church on Sunday.

-BBQ Night: All money made will help go towards the youth group's annual trip to Holiday World. We still need to pick a committee.

Meeting Dates For The Next Four Months:

-February 23rd

-March 16th

-April 13th: Nominate officers (keep in mind that if you do not want the office and you are nominated, you can decline the nomination. If you do get nominated for the office and you want it, please be prepared to face the job head-on and fulfill all of the duties that are presented to you in that office).

-May 18th: Elect officers

Education Chairman: Position is vacant. Please see Pastor Horn for more information.

We Need
Your



Offering Counters Needed:

Offerings can be counted anytime during the week to accommodate your schedule. Please let Rose Elliott know if you can help.

Christian Education

"I'd like to study my Bible but..."

Mark your calendars and plan to participate in the next Interactive Faith Bible study, "I'd like to study my Bible but . . ." led by *WELS President Rev. Mark Schroeder*.

In the study, Schroeder will provide practical helps for people to study God's Word on their own with confidence and understanding.

The Bible study will stream online live each Wednesday—Feb. 5 through Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at Faith Lutheran.

Sunday School, Confirmation and Bible Study for all ages

Sunday school is for ages 3-12. The children meet in the sanctuary after worship for music and then head to their classrooms. Class ends at 12:15pm

Confirmation class is for grades 6-8 and meets in the sanctuary after music time and ends at 12:15pm

Bible study for all ages meets in the Fellowship Hall after fellowship time and ends at 12:15pm.

Wednesday morning Women's Bible Study continues at 10 am.

The study of God's Word is our highest priority!



**Chili cook off will be on
February 9th**

after bible study.

**Sign up by mail boxes
Mild or Hot!**

**Also we will have a Bake
Sale to raise money for
packages for our
deployed Soldiers. It should
be a fun afternoon.**



Faith Lutheran Member Highlight Scott, Tina, Zach and Ben Milward

Q: How and where did you meet?

A: We went to High School together, but didn't start dating until a few years later when Scott was home on leave.

Q: When and where you married? **A: We were married August 29, 1992 in Eau Claire, WI.**

Q: Tell us about your children: **A: . Zach is 19 and stationed at Luke AFB in Arizona, he just bought his first car and is enjoying his freedom when he is not working. Ben is 16 and a junior at Fort Knox High School, he is active in JROTC, Archery Club, and Rifle Team.**

Q: What is your home state? **A: We are from Wisconsin.**

Q: What are your occupations? **A: Scott is serving as a Supply Instructor and Administrator of the Quartermaster School House and Fort Knox. Tina sells property and casualty insurance.**

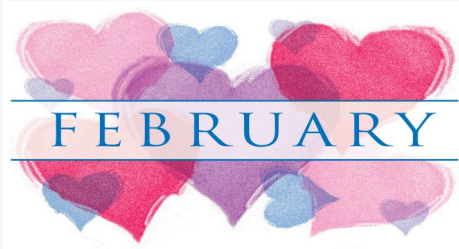
Q: Are you military and if so what branch, etc.? **A: .Scott is a US Army Reservist, currently serving on the Active Guard and Reserve Program (active duty).**






Q: What are your individual hobbies? **A: Scott enjoys his vintage motorcycle and building wooden model ships. He and the boys enjoy hunting and fishing when time allows. Tina enjoys knitting and reading, and will occasionally join the boys when they go fishing.**

Q: What does your family enjoy doing together? **A: Because Scott and I are both students in addition to working full time, most of our free time is spent studying! When we do have some free time together, we enjoy exploring our new surroundings here in Kentucky. If there is a car show to be found, Scott will find it and make sure the rest of the family comes along – he and the boys enjoy the cars, I like the food and crafts!**

Q: Do you have a favorite sports team? **A: Green Bay Packers and Wisconsin Badgers – we enjoy watching football and college basketball.**

Q: What do you like best about Faith Lutheran Church? **A: We have enjoyed watching Faith grow and expand, while reaching current and new members with the gospel. Although we are far from home, we know that we have a “family” here.**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Sundays: 10 am Worship 11:30am Adult Bible Study & Sunday School Communion Sunday = </p>						1
<p>2</p> 	<p>3 6:30 pm Out-reach calls</p>	<p>4 6:30 pm EMV</p>	<p>5 10 am Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Interactive Bible Study</p>	<p>6 6:30 pm Out-reach calls</p>	7	8
<p>9 Chili Cook Off and Bake Sale</p>	<p>10 6:30 pm Out-reach calls</p>	<p>11 6:30 pm EMV</p>	<p>12 10 am Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Interactive Bible Study</p>	<p>13 6:30 pm Out-reach calls/ EMV</p>	<p>14 <i>Valentine's Day</i> </p>	15
<p>16 Branches Band will participate in our worship service</p> 	<p>17 6:30 pm Out-reach calls  <small>PRESIDENTS DAY</small></p>	<p>18 6:30 pm EMV</p>	<p>19 10 am Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Interactive Bible Study</p>	<p>20 6:30 pm Out-reach calls/</p>	21	22
23	<p>24 6:30 pm Out-reach calls</p>	<p>25 6:30 pm EMV</p>	<p>26 10 am Women's Bible Study 7:30pm Interactive Bible Study</p>	<p>27 6:30 pm Out-reach calls</p>	28	



STEWARDSHIP CALENDAR

Thank you for your service to our Lord!

A friendly reminder: if you are unable to perform your duties as usher, please find someone to take your place.



2014

SUN	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>Pray for the members of our church family on the day their name is listed.</i></p>						<p>1 Jamie, Wendy, Dakota Rogers</p>
<p>2 Ushers: Dann Reynolds, Paul Kassebaum, Jamie Rogers, Malcolm Matzdorff Attendance: Valerie Erne Counters: Ed Tomita, and Carols Orta Organist: Louise Skinner </p>	<p>3 Michael, Rita Rowlette</p>	<p>4 Ana, Troy, Tyler, Dominic Sanders</p>	<p>5 Christa, David Saski</p>	<p>6 Sean, Louise, Hannah, Molly, Abby, Natalie Skinner</p>	<p>7 Barbara Snider</p>	<p>8 Nicole, Chris Spencer</p>
<p>9 Ushers: William Castellano, Cameron Ford, Steve Rein- heimer Attendance: Earl Enevold Counters: Brien Grace and Debbie Fangel Organist: Lynne Hogan</p>	<p>10 Jake, Angy, Chris- tian, Abby, Joshua Stover</p>	<p>11 Rob, Kris, Justin, Collin Strickland</p>	<p>12 Megan Strickland</p>	<p>13 Joel, Mary, Kaydence, Ryan Thibodeau</p>	<p>14 Brian, Renaе, Cody, Ashley Todd</p>	<p>15 Ed, Becky, Aaron, Shelby, Casey Tomita</p>
<p>16 Ushers: Pat Hogan, Cecil Maus, Earl Enevold, Jake Stover Attendance: Valerie Erne Counters: Earl Enevold and Ben Emerson </p>	<p>17 Brigitte, John Wells</p>	<p>18 Gene Whitaker</p>	<p>19 April, Jim Wiedeman</p>	<p>20 Anna Wiley</p>	<p>21 Ken, Mindy, Nathan, Samantha Wood</p>	<p>22 Cindy, Molly, Nikki Wright</p>
<p>23 Ushers: Michael Rowlette, Aaron Tomita, Brian Todd, Ken Wood Attendance: Earl Enevold Counters: Ed Tomita and Carlos Orta Organist: Katie Hefti</p>	<p>24 April, DaVana, Sawyer, Lewtin Yates</p>	<p>25 Cynthia, Joey, Tyler- Jay, Chelcee, Chase Vincent</p>	<p>26 Ben Zuberbier</p>	<p>27 Kathie Allard</p>	<p>28 Jenn, Jeremi- ah, Pay- ton, Zachery Ayden, Jordan Allen</p>	