



# Table Talk

Fairbanks Lutheran Church  
1012 Cowles (across from the public library)  
Sunday Service Times: 8:30 & 10:00am

August 2009

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

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



## Church ANNIVERSARY

Join with us on August 23<sup>rd</sup> as  
we celebrate **65** years of  
memories, hopes, prayers and  
worshipping together.

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

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

There is nothing spectacular about the number **65**. It is a common speed limit for many states, including Alaska. It is the traditional age for retirement in the United Kingdom and Germany, and was previously the age at which a person in the United States could retire with full Social Security benefits (however, recent changes in the law have increased this age for younger workers due to improvements in life expectancy). **65** is the minimum grade required to pass an exam, or class, in many schools. **65** happens to be the number of college teams included in the NCAA'S Men's basketball tournament.



"Google-ing" the year **65AD** suggests only the death of Roman poet Lucius Seneca. He became famous not only as a playwright, but as an orator and philosopher as well. He served as tutor to the young Nero, but in AD **65**, he was accused of conspiring against Nero and was forced to commit suicide. Some scholars believe that Saint Paul died in the year **65 AD** in Rome. **65AD** is often held as the traditional date for the completion of the Gospel of Mark, and Matthew's gospel was believed to have been written sometime around **65AD**.

There is only one word that appears **65** times in the Bible, depending on the translation being used. In the oldest manuscripts available, the Hebrew word sheol appears **65** times. The King James Version translates this Hebrew word sheol, 31 times as "hell," 31 times as "grave," and 3 times as "pit." This may or may not be significant, were it not for the fact that **65** years ago, the world was experiencing a "hell" of it's own called World War II. The year was 1944. Unemployment was at 1.2% and the cost of a first-class stamp was \$0.03. The year was a leap year, and began on a Saturday. *Casablanca* won the Academy Award for Best Picture.

**65** years ago, in 1944, many of the events that happened during the year were related to WW II. For example, June 6<sup>th</sup> became known as D-Day, the day the allies invaded Normandy France. It was the invasion that turned the war and ultimately resulted with the end of the Nazi regime in Germany. The most famous battle of WWII, the Battle of the Bulge, took place in 1944, as Germans penetrated the Allied front in Belgium.

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(continued from Pastor's Desk on pg. 1)

That same year, German generals formed a coup against Hitler, but failed (this was the subject of the recent movie "Valkyrie", starring Tom Cruise). In 1944 the GI Bill of Rights was passed, providing benefits for armed-service veterans, and Anne Frank's hiding place was discovered. The next year, she and most of the family died in a concentration camp.

**65** years ago several noted personalities were born: boxer Joe Frazier, activist Angela Davis, and producer George Lucas. Other well-known media personalities were born, such as Jerry Springer, Stockard Channing, Tony Orlando, ... to name a few. In the news, President Roosevelt was re-elected, defeating Republican challenger Thomas Dewey. Among the more notable achievements **65** years ago is the construction of the first automatic, general-purpose digital computer by a group of scientists at Harvard University. DNA was isolated by Oswald Avery, and the first instance of network censorship occurred.

There is nothing spectacular about the number **65**. There is, however, something quite remarkable about the fact that **65** years ago, a small group of believers signed a charter to form Fairbanks Lutheran Church. In the midst of a world focused on war and Bogart's "We'll always have Paris" ... these believers clung to God's Word and provided hope. This hope was based on peace, and "We'll always have God's Word." Their trust in the ability of God to bring healing and love to others through the efforts of a small group of believers, marked the beginning of the ministry of FLC, which is still inspiring and leading others to Christ in the Fairbanks community today.

August 23<sup>rd</sup>, FLC will celebrate its **65<sup>th</sup>** anniversary with a 10 o'clock worship celebration, followed with a potluck luncheon. Come and share your joys, memories, hopes and prayers. Learn about our progress in calling new pastoral leadership as well as the plans for the start of new construction, to begin next year.

Your prayers and presence are important, not only as part of our history and present ministry, but also as a component of our future life together in Christ. It is truly God's work, together with our helping hands, which make the Kingdom of God grow.

God's peace, Pastor Bill Ottum

## Call Committee Update

The Fairbanks Lutheran Church Call Committee has concluded that none of the three finalists who visited Fairbanks and interviewed for the position of pastor met our requirements. The committee reported to the Church Council that none of the three candidates offered the skills and experience needed to lead our church as we strive to grow in membership, renovate our building, and fulfill our mission in the community. The Call Committee recommended unanimously that none of the three be called, and the Council voted in favor of that recommendation.

The Call Committee greatly appreciates the very helpful participation from so many members of the congregation during the visits.

The purpose of the Congregational Meeting scheduled for July 26 was to vote to approve or reject the candidate recommended to the Council by the Call Committee. However, since there is no recommendation for the congregation to consider, the July 26 meeting was cancelled.

This is by no means the end of the call process. The Call Committee, with the Church Council's approval, will take a short break, regroup, and work through the Alaska Synod office to consider a new batch of applicants. The goal remains to find the best possible pastoral leader for Fairbanks Lutheran Church.

Fortunately, Pastor Bill Ottum and his wife Linda have discussed our situation and Pastor Bill is willing to stay with us during the continuing process of calling a permanent pastor.



**There's excitement and anticipation in the air at Fairbanks Lutheran Church** as we prepare for our special combined Worship Service on August 23, and potluck lunch following in celebration of our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. We expect it to be a memorable event for our church, with our guests and us taking time to reflect on and celebrate our past, as well as FLC's present and to look to our church's future. We're happy to inform

you that to date we've received RSVP's from several out of town guests, including former FLC Pastor Paul Teyler of Oregon, and former FLC members Jerry and Lissi Grill, who now reside in Arizona, and greetings from a number of out of town people who won't be able to be with us on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

A planning committee comprised of Joe Shepherd, Lois Heine, Millie Dufseth, Kathy Alton, and Arlene Strandberg, along with Pastor Bill Ottum has been meeting this past month to plan for this special anniversary event. Everyone can play an important part in making our celebration enjoyable and successful by contributing some time in an area where you feel best able to serve. You'll see sign up lists in the narthex for Food for the Potluck, for the Church Cleaning Work Party on Saturday, August 15 from 9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., for the Set Up of the Church on Saturday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, at noon. There'll also be a sign-up list for Clean-Up Committee on the 23<sup>rd</sup>!

We ask volunteers to help us give the church a loving touch-up cleaning after a busy summer of wonderful youth activities and events in our church home at the church cleaning work party Saturday, August 15, 9:00 a.m. – 2 p.m. Please bring your favorite cleaning tools to supplement what we have at church and stay as long as you're able, whether for an hour, two, or the full time. Many helping hands make the cleaning work light duty, plus we can guarantee good fellowship. Another important way you can help prepare for the anniversary celebration is to assist with setting up the church and downstairs fellowship area on Saturday, August 22 at noon.

Invitations were sent in early June, and if you haven't yet returned your RSVP card, we'd still appreciate receiving it because it will assist us with planning.

We've paused before and after our planning meetings to give thanks and ask God to guide us and fill us with the joy of service in our planning for Fairbanks Lutheran Church's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, to watch over those who travel to our event, and to help us make the occasion a special time for our church and those who attend. We look forward to the reunions that will take place, the sharing of history, and the time together as we show our appreciation and honor our church's founders, the many people who've contributed in so many ways over the years to Fairbanks Lutheran Church, and as we remember "Today's Faith Builds for Tomorrow."



Linda Tilman's Fbks. ELC anniv. Plate



Requesting photographs of confirmations, baptisms and special events to be displayed at our 65<sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary!

Bring your photos to the church office to have them scanned or if you live out of state, email them to [fairluth@gci.net](mailto:fairluth@gci.net). Thank you for your help!

Calling all singers! In preparation for the combined service on Aug. 23, there will be two choir rehearsals. The first one will be Thursday, August 13, at 7:30 pm. The next one will be Thursday, August 20th at 7:30 pm. Anyone wishing to sing in the Heritage Choir is invited to come. If you have questions, please call Connie Oba at 488-2955.



**Mildred Wenger's** new address is: 990 W. Ocotillo Rd. #1003, Chandler, AZ 85248

Mildred is moving into an assisted living apartment not far from her old home. Her phone number remains the same. It is 480-883-7739. Feel free to drop her a note – she loves to hear from her Fairbanks friends.

# Our Prayer Partner Church

is Joy Lutheran, Eagle River. Pray for their pastor and congregation.

## To submit a prayer request

to our prayer chain pray-ers, contact Millie Dufseth at 452-2992. This group of women has been organized for many years and is well connected with our Lutheran and other community churches.

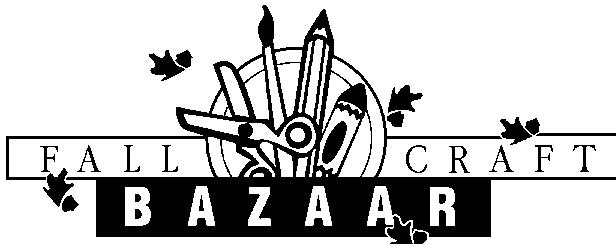
## Financial Report

### YTD January 1-June 30, 2009

Total Income + Jan. 1 Balance	\$145,839.55
Checks issued thru June 30	<u>-154,360.58</u>
	-8,521.03
Garage Sale Monies	<u>8,592.88</u>
	71.85

### July 1-31, 2009 Income

General Fund	17,958.70
Simply Giving	4,400.00
Today's Faith Pledges	<u>4,902.00</u>
	27,260.70



Ellen Ayotte, retired UAF Cooperative Extension Service District Home Economist, and knitter, hobbyist has had an idea for quite some time of a potential fund-raiser public outreach event that Fairbanks Lutheran Church may be interested in hosting this year. She has observed a need in the community for a place for small business crafters to market their crafts at a reasonable entry cost and in a convenient location at a date early enough to reach Christmas gift shoppers, who like to shop and/or mail early.

The Council voted unanimously at their July 14, 2009 meeting to authorize a bazaar if Ellen and the other planners determine that there are enough essential volunteers for a core committee that would accept responsibility for six main areas: Registration; Publicity; FLC Church Tables; FLC Food Preparation and Sales; Set Up; and, Clean Up Committees. If enough folks are committed to

work on this event to make it successful, the planning committee will proceed.

The Council voted to designate that profits of this event would go to pay for FLC's Benevolences, an area that is key to our mission. The tentative dates of the proposed bazaar event are Friday, November 6, and Saturday, November 7. If organizers prefer that this first bazaar be a 1-day event, it would be held Saturday, November 7. These dates are clear on our church calendar and would be early in the Christmas bazaar season.

The registration fee for tables would be \$40, which is very competitive with similar Fairbanks venues. FLC members may register to enter their own crafts table if they wish. If you are a crafter, who would be interested in donating crafts to the FLC table with 100% of the proceeds going to FLC benevolences, or you have an interest in volunteering in any of the above co-chair capacities, or see other ways you could assist with this endeavor, please contact Ellen Ayotte at 474-0364, or Arlene Strandberg at 457-2840 by **August 31**.

Further progress information will be forthcoming through announcements in the worship service bulletin and next month's Table Talk to let you know our progress. Once it's confirmed that we have the volunteer support to proceed, an invitation will go out giving the date or dates of the bazaar with the request of our talented members to sew, knit, crochet, or craft their favorite bazaar items!

## Women of the ELCA ALASKA CONVENTION

Hosted by the Women of Central  
Lutheran Church, Anchorage

Speakers, workshops, Bible studies, 5K "Walk & Roll", fellowship, service projects, Listening Post, music, storytelling, Fair Trade, election of Triennial delegates, a travelogue of Israel and Palestine by the Bishop & Barbara Keys, and much more.

Special guests include: Diane Brauer, WELCA Executive Board Member, Pastor Michael Keys, Bishop, and you, yes you!

Cost is \$65.00. Registration & Travel scholarships are available!

Contacts:

Karen Emmel 345-5709 [akaskaemmel@gmail.com](mailto:akaskaemmel@gmail.com)  
Kay Zernia 333-5249 [dayrayz@gci.net](mailto:dayrayz@gci.net)  
Scholarships 333-5826 [buzzdar@gci.net](mailto:buzzdar@gci.net)



## August Meeting Date Changes

Please make a note of the following date changes:

**Council Meeting** has been rescheduled for **Tuesday, August 18**, 7:00pm at the church.

**Worship & Arts Meeting** has been rescheduled for **Saturday, August 29**. Meet at the church at 11:00am. Submit your agenda items to Lois Niewohner 474-0877. Thank you.

**Building Committee** will resume their regularly scheduled weekly meetings on **Thursday, August 13**.

## Baptisms, Church Membership, Weddings, Funerals

We would welcome the opportunity to walk with you or members of your family through important passages of your life: baptism, weddings, and funerals. **Please speak to Pastor Bill for more information.**



## Worship Service Times for Fall

Beginning on Sunday, September 13, we will begin our fall worship times. We'll meet at 8:30am and 11:00am for worship



and Sunday School from 9:45am – 10:45am.

Also, on Sunday, September 13, we begin meeting for Sunday School from 9:45am – 10:45am. We will have classes for all ages from preschool through adult. More information regarding the curriculum will be published at a later date.

## Confirmation Classes Resume in September



Every Wednesday from 4-5pm, Middle School youth are invited to meet with Pastor Ottum for study. On the first Wednesdays, Youth, Education & Family Director, Sharon Lockwood, plans and leads a service project event - helping the youth to apply their faith in service to others. September through December, classes will be focusing on The 10 Commandments and The Apostles Creed. **Please speak to Pastor Bill for more information.**

## Other Activities

Other activities that begin in September include: Youth Meetings, Confirmation Classes, Adult mid-week bible study, Women's bible studies and more. We look forward to an exciting year of studying God's word through fellowshiping together.

# August

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
						<b>1</b> 12noon – Al Anon 5pm Dufseth/Stickler Wedding 6-10pm Service Master
<b>2</b> 8:30 & 10am Services	<b>3</b> 12noon – NA 1:00pm Foodbank	<b>4</b> 5:00pm TOPS 5:30pm – Building	<b>5</b> 9am Pastors' Text Study 10:30am TOPS	<b>6</b> 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 6:30pm Building Mtg @Cook's Cabin 7pm – AA	<b>7</b> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">             Lutheran Family Camp – August 7-9, 2009              at Victory Bible Camp           </div>	<b>8</b> 12noon – Al Anon 6-10pm Service Master
<b>9</b> 8:30 & 10am Services	<b>10</b> 12noon – NA 1:00pm Foodbank  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">             Thrivent Rep in Fairbanks Aug 10-11, 2009           </div>	<b>11</b> 5:00pm TOPS	<b>12</b> 9am Pastors' Text Study 10:30am TOPS 5:30pm 65 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning Mtg	<b>13</b> 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 4:30pm Piano Tuning 5pm Building Meeting 7pm – AA 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9am Cleaning Party 10am Ravens Landing Groundbreaking 12noon – Al Anon 6-10pm Service Master
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;">             Lutheran Youth Summer Camp – August 9-14, 2009 at Victory Bible Camp           </div>						
<b>16</b> 8:30 & 10am Services	<b>17</b> 12noon – NA 1:00pm Foodbank  FNSB school begins	<b>18</b> 10am – Staff Meeting 5:00pm TOPS 2pm Women's Bible Study 7pm Council Meeting	<b>19</b> 9am Pastors' Text Study 10:30am TOPS	<b>20</b> 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 4pm Staff Meeting 5pm Building Meeting 7pm – AA 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal TableTalk Articles due	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 12pm Set up & decorating 12noon – Al Anon 6-10pm Service Master
<b>23</b> 65 <sup>th</sup> Church Anniversary Celebration  10am Service 11:30am Picnic	<b>24</b> 12noon – NA 1:00pm Foodbank	<b>25</b> 5:00pm TOPS	<b>26</b> 9am Pastors' Text Study 10:30am TOPS	<b>27</b> 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 5pm Building Meeting 7pm – AA	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 11am Worship & Arts 12noon – Al Anon 6-10pm Service Master
<b>30</b> 8:30 & 10am Services	<b>31</b> 12noon – NA 1:00pm Foodbank					

# 2009

Fairbanks Lutheran Church  
1012 Cowles Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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Beth Larson of Next Step Ministries leading a game!

Thanks to Rachel, Lauren, Beth and Dan for ministering to our youth, our church and our community!  
God Bless you all and have a successful, God-filled year!