

# FOCUS

November 2011

Pastor Jonathan Schroeder 770-253-4007



## Focus on New Families at Faith

As we continue focusing on new families here at Faith, we take the opportunity to meet some of our newest members, Troy and Dawn Holldorf and their children, who were received into membership in August.

### **Where did you two grow up? What was life like?**

Dawn grew up in Brooklyn, NY for her first 11 years, then moved to Staten Island, NY.

Troy grew up in Staten Island, NY. Life was fun and a lot safer. We used to walk home from school ourselves and stay alone in our homes when our parents were at work.

### **How did you two meet? Any funny or interesting relationship stories?**

We met through our siblings who were friends first. The day we met I was moving into a new apartment, and my sister Sue & Troy's brother Kevin came to help. They also called Troy to ask him to help too. Little did I know that they wanted to set us up. But at the end of the day, my sister asked me, "So, what do you think of Troy?" I said, "He's cute, but I can't be bothered." One month later she tried again, though, and timing was much better. We hit it off instantly and it's been great ever since!



### **Where have you lived, and what kinds of jobs have you had?**

We've lived in Staten Island, NY until moving here to Sharpsburg, GA last year.

I worked in Manhattan for 20 years. I had a few office jobs while attending college to get my degree in photography. I did work full time at J.P. Morgan in Manhattan in the Graphics department as a Graphics Coordinator. I worked there for 11 years. All the while I was still doing freelance photography, and I also started selling Tupperware. Today I am a stay-at-home mom, working part time as a Tupperware Consultant as well as a part time receptionist for a law firm in Peachtree City.

Troy was a NYC Police Officer for 20 years, retiring last year just before we moved here. He worked in various precincts in Manhattan and Staten Island before transferring to Counter Terrorism in Brooklyn, NY.

### **Tell us about your kids.**

We have two wonderful children. Stephanie is 8 and Thomas is 6. They go to Cannongate Elementary and are in 3rd & 1st grades respectively. They both take karate classes. Stephanie is in girl scouts, played soccer for a year and loves arts & crafts. Thomas is in cub scouts, plays baseball and loves Legos!

### **What kinds of things do you like to do? Any hobbies?**

We both like spending time with our family, camping, playing games, and watching movies. We love to ride motorcycles. I like to scrapbook, clean & organize. Troy is busy in his garage with his tools, car & motorcycle.

### **How did you end up here in Georgia, and especially here at Faith?**

We ended up here after finding the area as "one of the ten best places to live" on a website. We wanted to get out of New York and we wanted change. We were so sick of the crowds, the craziness. We were ready to put a bid on a house in northern New Jersey, but we said "let's just take a ride to Georgia to check it out." We fell in love with the area as soon as we got here.

We come from a Lutheran church back home, so when we moved here and saw that Faith was only minutes from our house, it was perfect. And once we started attending every Sunday, then taking the Faith Builder classes, we realized this was the home for us.

# Faith Lutheran Church's Fall Festival

## Sunday, November 6, 2011

It's time for **Fall Festival 2011** at Faith Lutheran Church! The festival is completely free and the whole community is invited, so we'd love to have you join us at Faith for a day of relevant, meaningful worship, great food, and family fun.

**When:** Sunday, November 6, 2010  
Worship @ 10:30 AM  
Lunch @ 12:00 PM  
Games until 2:00 PM

**What:** Food, Bounce House, Crafts, Face Painting, Cornhole, and More!

**Bring:** Lawn chairs and your family and friends!

## We hope to see you there!

Faith Lutheran Church  
575 Fischer Road  
Sharpsburg, GA 30277  
770.253.4007

## Devotion Time — Psalm 116:15

### Precious in the sight of the LORD / is the death of his saints.

I've heard it said that the one thing that people are generally most afraid of is public speaking. #2? Death. That means, supposedly, that the average person would rather die than have to make a speech in front of a crowd of people. But what if, for the sake of the integrity of the results, those polled were given the choice between the two? Would the results come out the same if someone had a gun to their head with the ultimatum, "Speak, or else"? I doubt that many would opt for choice #2.

Deep down, everyone knows that death is unnatural and terrifying. Everyone knows it's coming for them, no one really knows what it's like except when they've seen others go through it (which often isn't pretty), and many don't know what happens afterwards. It's the great unknown, and we're afraid of what we don't know.

The Bible confirms that there is good reason to be afraid of death. When God created Adam and Eve, he never intended for them to die. He intended them to live on with him in perfection forever. Death came only as a result of sin, as punishment for sin. "The wages of sin is death" the apostle Paul says in Romans 6, and he's not just referring to physical death. Physical death is something to be feared because through it sinful humans should be condemned to eternal death in hell forever - away from the holy God and everything that is good.

*Should be.* But then God turned the tables. He sent Jesus to die for us, to make us holy.

Eternal death in hell is what we deserve, but by God's grace, he doesn't treat us as our sins deserve. When our Savior Jesus died for us on the cross, he took our punishment upon himself and turned something that was unimaginably bad – death – into something that is now for us who believe in him indescribably good – a portal to eternal life in heaven. What was meant to be a punishment for sin God now uses as a way for us to escape sin and its effects forever. And so our Savior Jesus promises in John 11, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die."

Many of you know that my grandmother died recently. That makes two grandparents I lost in four months. I loved them both, I was close to both, I'll miss them both – but I really couldn't feel very sad about either of them. Both were Christians who lived long, blessed lives and are now away from sin and suffering forever. They're with Jesus in heaven, wearing white robes washed in his blood and crowns of victory. That assurance makes their loss much more bearable. Because of Jesus, we don't have to be sad about death, though we may miss the one who dies. We don't have to be afraid of death, though we may fear the process. When we fall asleep in death, we know that's just our loving God's way of bringing us home to be with him in eternal life.

Lord, let at last your angels come;  
To Abram's bosom bear me home  
That I may die unfearing.  
And in its narrow chamber keep  
My body safe in peaceful sleep  
Until your reappearing.  
And then from death awaken me  
That my own eyes with joy may see,  
O Son of God, your glorious face,  
My Savior and my Fount of grace.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
My prayer attend, my prayer attend,  
And I will praise you without end. (CW 434, v. 3)

Vicar Reichert

# Wednesday Night Internet Bible Study

Join us this Wednesday at either 7:30pm or 9:30pm for an internet Bible study taught by Pastor Schroeder.

## INTERNET BIBLE STUDY?

This is a new and different format here at Faith. Pastor will be presenting from his study, rather than teaching a physical class. Pastor Schroeder has been asked by our national church body to be the national broadcast Bible study teacher for November.

## WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

It's really simple--you just need a computer with internet and speakers. Join us over the internet by going to [georgiafaith.com/tv](http://georgiafaith.com/tv) and following the directions there.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- Join up in small groups of members at people's homes to watch the broadcast together. The study is built around small group interaction.
- Join by yourself and you can use the discussion sections to talk with me via chat or do self reflection.

## SCHEDULE:

Wednesday evenings at either 7:30pm and 9:30pm. There are two live broadcasts, to accommodate the west coast.

## THE TOPIC:

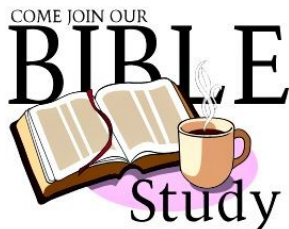
### *UNCOVERING OUR CALLING*

"I want my life to matter." Everyone hopes to find their purpose in life, the certainty that comes from knowing that your life and your actions have meaning. We don't want a job or task list; we want a calling. Join us to explore "Our Calling," and see what God intends for your life. When God speaks, he opens his mouth wide—that means that when God talks, nothing is the same afterward. This Bible study will discuss what it means that God opened his mouth wide and called you.

We'll look at three callings that God has for each us:

1. Our calling to be the children of God (Nov 2)
2. Our calling to be the mask of God (Nov 9)
3. Our calling to the Church of God (Nov 16)

## Women's Bible Study



All Women are invited to join us as we continue our study called "*Physician's Prescription for the Soul.*" This is an in depth look at the book of Luke.

This is a women led Bible study for women that meets every Wednesday evening from 7 - 8 p.m. in Room 4. Guest and visitors are always invited to participate.

# Faith Lutheran Preschool

In November the preschool is going to collect bags/boxes of cereal for the food pantry. If you would like to participate, you are certainly welcome to do so. Please bring in bags or boxes of cereal and put them in the box designated for them down by the desk by the education entrance. We are also collecting loose change (and bills are certainly accepted) to turn into a Kroger gift card for a needy family. If you would like to help with that, please give your donation to Holly.

We have a few spaces open in our program. The fours and the threes both have room so if you hear of anyone looking for a great program, please send them my way. Before long we'll be working on registering for next year so if you know of someone that is looking for a program for next year, have them contact me for a packet of information.

Thank you for keeping the preschool in your prayers. Every day is a ministry opportunity for us, and we need God's continued blessings so that we are always doing our best in service to Him. Happy Thanksgiving from everyone here at the preschool!

Holly Buth, Director  
Faith Lutheran Preschool



The Preschool staff also knows how to have a little Halloween dress-up fun. Do you recognize these ladies?

## Meeting other Mom's—Tuesday, November 22nd

Are you a Mom that wants to meet other Moms? Join us on Tuesday during the week of Thanksgiving when school is out. We will meet at church at 11am for fellowship, fun, and lunch. The children will play out on the playground if weather permits, otherwise they will do an inside activity. Then we will each lunch together and be done by 12:30pm in time for naps.

Bring a sack lunch for you and your children. All moms and children welcome. If you have any questions or are planning to join us, contact Tiffany Harris at [tiffany.harris123@gmail.com](mailto:tiffany.harris123@gmail.com).

## November-December Volunteer Schedules

### Sunday

Sunday	Acolyte	Friendship Register		Nursery	Video Taping
Nov 6	Ashley Kangas	Daniel Buth	Nicholas Johnston	Bonnette	Katherine Curtis
Nov 13	Noah Kvidt	Julia Norcross	Alyssa Countryman	Buckley	Anna Curtis
Nov 20	Katie Watkins	Henry Adams	Clayton Gibson	Quinn Madelyn/ Terri Ricker	Tyler Buth
Nov 27	Keith Schroeder	Elise Harris	Stephanie Holldorf	Pfeifer	Caleb Christopher
Dec 4	Andrew Nichols	Bella Amodeo	Hannah Buckley	Soletto	Andrew Bjornas
Dec 11	Nathan Curtis	Maddie Bonnette	Daisy Collins	Christopher	Joshua Buth
Dec 18	Megan Buth	Harrison Lanier	Piper Lanier	Foust	Katherine Curtis
Dec 24				Volunteers	Keith Schroeder
Dec 25	Justin Schroeder	Laura Kvidt	Emily Schroeder	Volunteers	Anna Curtis

### During the Week

Week of	Lawn Mowing	Church Cleaning	
		Family 1	Family 2
Nov 7	We have reached the end of the lawn mowing season. Thank you to everyone who helps keep the lawn at God's house looking nice and the lawn mowers working!	Peterson	Bjornas
Nov 14		Kangas	Koepke
Nov 21		Quinn/Ricker	Duncan
Nov 28		Madden	McDevitt
Dec 4	If you have any questions about the lawn mowing schedule, please speak to Scott Buth.	Heinz	Mueller
Dec 11		Eckhardt	Bloy
Dec 18		Clow/Hicks	D Ford
Dec 25		Moro	Bonnette

### Ushering Teams

November			
<b>Morgan</b>	<b>Greg</b>	Kangas	Tim
Bjornas	Richard	Lanier	Mike
Chapman	Pascal	Lass	David
Gibson	Scot	Lindemann	Nathan
Green	Lee	Norcross	Chris
Heitshusen	Gary	Quinn	Jack
Johnson	Doug	Redmon	Rex

December			
<b>Heinz</b>	<b>Travis</b>	Kassulke	Joel
Buckley	Dennis	Kvidt	John
Countryman	Jimmy	Massmann	Mark
Deschamps	Michael	McDevitt	Mark
Foust	Jeff	McDevitt	Miles
Holldorf	Troy	Oberhelman	Jim
Johnson	Cole		

## Teen Outing—Paintballing!

Our Teen Group has been invited to join in some paintballing fun with teens from Abiding Grace Lutheran Church in Covington on Saturday, November 12th. This was one of our most popular events last year!

We will be playing at Shane's Hot Shots Paintball, 45 John Frank Ward Blvd, McDonough, GA 30253-3214 from 1—5pm . We will meet at the church around noon to caravan over to McDonough.

The cost is \$35 per person for 4 hours and 500 paint balls. Please contact Vicar Reichert at [mark.d.reichert@gmail.com](mailto:mark.d.reichert@gmail.com) or sign up on the sheet in the gathering area if you are interested.

All teens and interested parents and chaperones are invited. Invite your friends too!



## Thanksgiving Eve Bonfire

### Thanksgiving Eve

**Wednesday, November 23 at 6:00PM**



Give thanks to God for all his rich blessings with your brothers and sisters at Faith at our Thanksgiving Bonfire. We will eat supper and have a bonfire behind the church with a time of devotion. There are two sign-up sheet for those who will attend, one is for sharing a food item and one is for attending.

Don't forget to bring your chairs to sit and relax outside by the fire and dress for the weather. We do not have a church service on Thanksgiving day.

## Advent Dinner & Devotion

During the season of Advent, we share time together on Wednesday evenings for dinner and devotion. Dinner starts at 6:00pm. A devotion follows dinner around 6:45pm in the church and will last until about 7:30pm.

Each week will have a different dinner theme:

November 30—Casseroles

December 7—Soup

December 14—Italian

There are two sign-up sheets for each Wednesday. One to bring a food item and one to record that your family is attending dinner for food planning. Connect groups will be hosting these dinner.





## Birthdays

Hannah Schrader	1	Ava Johnson	14
Chad Anderson	2	Kim Johnson	15
Carrolyn Wendt	2	Judy Christopher	20
Antoinette Massmann	3	Jimmy Countryman	20
Maddie Bonnette	4	Lee Green	20
Holly Johnson	4	Jonathan Schroeder	20
Chandler Cline	5	Taylor Heinz	22
Dylan Johnson	5	Emily Schroeder	26
Melissa Moro	6	Ezekiel Mueller	27
Kerri Madden	11	Ava Payne	28
Mark Massmann	12	Beth Ford	30

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Jonathan Schroeder..... 770-253-4007  
 President: Gary Eckhardt ..... 678-364-1383  
 Treasurer: Gary Hill ..... 678-817-6208  
 Financial Sec.: John Kvidt..... 770-252-9252  
 Preschool: Greg Morgan ..... 770-253-0380  
 Outreach: Scott Buth..... 770-683-3999  
 Prayer Chain: Dawn Hill ..... 678-977-2946  
 Connect Group: Judy Christopher.. 770-599-6055  
 Teen Group: Mark Reichert ..... 770-253-4007  
                   Andy Schwab ..... 404-759-5901  
 Youth Group: Gary & Dawn Hill..... 678-977-2946  
 Newsletter: Dawn Hill ..... 678-977-2946  
                   Sherry Kangas..... 404-680-2175

If you have information for the newsletter,  
 please submit it to  
[sherry.kangas@chick-fil-a.com](mailto:sherry.kangas@chick-fil-a.com)  
 by the 25th of each month. Thank you.

## Saints Triumphant—White Carnations

November 13th is Saints Triumphant Sunday, when we remember the saints that have gone home before us to heaven. We will have an altar arrangement made up of white carnations that day. If you would like to remember a loved one with a carnation, please sign up on online at [georgiafaith.com/flowers](http://georgiafaith.com/flowers). Carnations are \$1.00 and you may take your flower(s) home with you after the service. Payments go in the envelope labeled 'carnations' on the admin's desk. Write your name on the outside, so I know you have paid. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Hill at [faithadmin@gmail.com](mailto:faithadmin@gmail.com).



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*"Faith comes from hearing the message,  
 and the message is heard through the word of Christ."  
 Romans 10:17*

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