

FOCUS

February 2011

Pastor Jonathan Schroeder 770-253-4007



Focus on New Families at Faith.

As we focus on new families here at Faith, we take the opportunity to meet John and Cindy Adams and their kids Jaynie, Emily, Henry, and Liam. Here's what Cindy has to say about her family.

Tell us about you and John.

We're both from California. I was born in Placerville, CA. You've probably never heard of it, but Placerville is between Sacramento and Lake Tahoe in northern California. John was born in the mountains of southern California, but he moved north and we went to the same high school. We got married after I graduated from high school in 1978. John graduated a year earlier. I had to turn 18 before we could get married, so we got married four days after my 18th birthday! After we were married, I worked as a waitress, and John worked in a lumber mill.

What can you tell us about your kids?

Our daughter Sarah was born in 1979 in Sacramento. In 1980 we moved to San Jose, and our son David was born there in 1983. We moved again in 1986 to southern California, and our other daughter Katelin was born there. Every time we moved we had another baby! Sarah went to Clayton St. University. She got married in 2002 and lives in Covington with her husband and little daughter Natalie. David also went to Clayton St. He's married, has one son, and lives in Tucker. Katelin's a sophomore at Wesleyan in Macon studying psychology.

What brought you to Georgia?

I can still remember how it happened. I was working at a bank in California, and John came home one day and asked: "What do you think of Georgia?" I said, "I never think of Georgia." And he said, "Well, I've been transferred to Georgia." So we moved to Conyers in 1996. Then we just moved to Senoia in June 2010. We really like the area and the schools here. John works at Kik Custom Products in Hampton.

What can you tell us about your other kids?

I was an only child. I always wanted siblings, but my parents just decided not to have any more kids. I've never been a career person. I always looked forward to being married, and being a mom is my favorite job. So when our daughter Sarah got married in 2002, John and I both realized that we weren't looking forward to being empty nesters. I had always wanted to adopt, and in 2004 we started the process to adopt Jaynie. We brought her home from China in February 2005. But once you go to China, you can't leave with just one. We've gone back and adopted three more kids: Henry in 2006, Emily in 2007, and Liam in 2009. We haven't had any second thoughts. I'd go back and do it all over again on a dime!

What hobbies do you have?

Survival. No, I'm kidding. John loves to fish. We all like to play Scrabble. I like to knit and sew and drink coffee. And John and I have also started volunteering in any way we can to advocate for adoption and help Chinese children. All our kids love reading, and our girls love princesses.

What brought you to Faith?

We've always been Lutherans, and when we moved to Senoia we just googled Lutheran churches in the area and found Faith. We are so excited and so happy we found this church!



Faith Lutheran Preschool

Registration for the 2011-12 school year is now open!

If you, or someone you know, are interested in a spot in our program, please do not delay in contacting Holly Buth to secure a spot as we tend to fill quickly. I would be glad to give you brochures to hand out to neighbors, friends, co-workers, and our website www.georgiafaith.com/preschool is a great source of information to share with others. Thank you for helping to spread the word about our program.



Holly Buth
Director, Faith Lutheran Preschool

Women's Bible Study



Have you ever wanted to see the Holy Land but just couldn't afford it?
Well, now you can!

Join us as we travel to 6 different cities in the Holy Land each Wednesday night.
I promise you won't get jet lag!

Each Wednesday at 7pm until Ash Wednesday, March 9th

Childcare is available, please contact Holly Buth in advance for arrangements.

LWMS Spring Rally at Faith!

You are invited to attend the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society's spring rally at Faith on Saturday, March 26. Registration/breakfast begins at 8:00. Typically we're done by 3:00.

Your sisters in Christ from Georgia and the surrounding states have been invited to join us. Due to the wonderful blessing of quick growth and difficulties getting out information on the organization, our theme is "Come and See: Everything you wanted to know about LWMS."

This organization, dedicated to supporting our missions in the U.S. and around the globe, is a wonderful group to know about and support. Our guest speaker is Pastor Doug Tomhave from Hope Lutheran in Hampton. He is a past board member for LWMS and will share how his time with this organization was a blessing to him and to others.

You will also receive an update on the what's going on in many missions in our district, and you will get to hear a presentation from a world missionary from a past convention.

Come and see what women are doing to serve God! Come and see!



Thermostat or Thermometer –Which Are You?

With all of the changes we have been experiencing lately in the weather, I started thinking about how we control the inside temperature so we are comfortable in our homes. We try to be in control by using the thermostat we have in our homes by adjusting the temperature to a comfortable setting. When the temperature outside starts to get hot and the Georgia humidity increases, we turn on the air conditioner. And, when the temperature starts to get cold, like we have been experiencing lately, we turn on the heat.

For example, I remember on Thanksgiving, I was in short pants and a t-shirt frying a turkey. A couple of weeks later I was bundling up because it was cold. Guess it is just the Georgia weather around here, hot one day and cold the next day, and we then adjust the thermostat accordingly.

Just like the thermostat in our homes, we try and control our temperature, as well, by adjusting to the outside elements by the attire we choose to wear.

So, in our daily Christian lives, do we exhibit ourselves as a **thermometer** type person or a **thermostat** type person? Remember, the thermometer just reads the temperature while the thermostat not only reads the temperature but makes adjustments based on how it is set.

Keeping in mind the above, are you like a **thermometer** type person? Do you just go along with what everyone around you is doing and do nothing to change it? Do you jump on the bandwagon when you know something is not right and just go with the flow? Do you blame peer pressure for wanting to be like everyone else around you and yet do nothing about it even though you know it is wrong?

Or, are you more like a **thermostat** type person where you see something that is not correct and you do something about it? If you are a **thermostat** type person, then not only are you making a change in your own life and changing the situation (temperature) around you, but those in close proximity will and can also benefit from it - you are in fact changing the “temperature” around you.

I think the Apostle Paul was probably on to something when comparing the thermometer and thermostat with the verse listed below.

Romans 12:2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing and perfect will.

We should not give into the sinful ways around us but resist and change like the thermostat.

So, are you a **thermostat** type person or a **thermometer** type person?

Submitted By: Greg Morgan

Teen Group Upcoming Schedule

Faith's Teen Group has a number of events planned for the upcoming weeks. Mark these dates on your calendars and send Vicar Nass an email at nass.nathan@gmail.com if you'd like to participate. All teens are invited, and friends are always welcome!

Saturday, February 5, 2011 - Pizza/Movie Night

Do you like pizza? Do you like movies? Then join Faith's teens at church for pizza and a movie. We will begin at 5:00 PM with pizza, and then we'll watch the movie "To Save a Life" on the big projector screen. This movie presents the challenges Christian teens face. We'll end with a discussion of the real life topics the movie discusses.



Saturday, February 19 - Bowling

Are you up for some bowling? Then join Faith's teens for an afternoon of bowling at Junction Lanes in Newnan. We'll meet at church at 1:00 PM and carpool to the bowling alley in Newnan.

Friday, March 4 - Atlanta Hawks Basketball

It's time for some Hawks basketball! Faith's Teen Group will meet at church at 6:00 PM and carpool to the Hawks game against the Oklahoma City Thunder. The game starts at 7:30 PM.



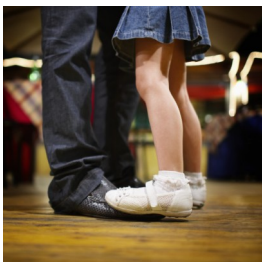
Father Daughter Dance

Fathers, you are invited to bring your daughter to a memorable evening of dinner and dancing on **Friday, February 11 from 6-9 p.m.**

When you arrive, you will have a father/daughter(s) portrait taken, and you and your daughter(s) will have time to work on decorating a frame to hold the picture while everyone is arriving and getting settled.

Dinner will be in room 6 after which you may invite your daughter to join you on the dance floor in the gathering space. You may get as dressed up for the event as would be fun for you and your daughter. The last time we did this we had everything from formal wear to shirts and ties. Tickets are \$5 per person, to help offset the cost for decorations, crafts and flowers, or you may sign up to bring food items (until the items are covered).

Tickets will be available after church Sunday, January 16 – Sunday, February 6. Holly Buth can be contacted to answer questions 770-683-3999.



Devotion Time

Standing Firm on the Ice

Did you enjoy the ice last month? Unless you're a kid who got out of school, you probably didn't. Ice isn't fun, especially when you have to walk on it. All it takes is one misstep, and soon you've lost your balance completely. It's fun to slide down a hill on a sled. It's not so fun to slide down the sidewalk on your elbows. Once you start sliding, you just can't stop. Ice reminds us what a blessing it is to be on solid ground.

Solid ground is what you've found in God's Word. God has used his Word to show you just what it means to be grounded—to have faith in Jesus as the foundation of your life. The apostle Paul writes: *"From the beginning God chose you to be saved through the sanctifying work of the Spirit and through belief in the truth. He called you to this through our gospel, that you might share in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ"* (2 Thessalonians 2:13-14).

The Holy Spirit has called you to the firmness found in the gospel message of Jesus. That means your life is based on the foundation that God loves you. That heaven is God's gift to you through faith. That forgiveness was won for you by Jesus. That God's Spirit lives in you and his angels surround you. There's no greater foundation for life than the foundation found in Jesus.

But as Paul writes those words, he includes this encouragement: *"Stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you"* (2 Thessalonians 2:15). Paul says *"stand firm,"* because he knows the slippery spots of life can threaten our foundation in Christ.

Those icy patches that can slip up our faith aren't always easy to see. Sure, there're the obvious pitfalls of open sins against God's commands. But the ice in our lives can be anything that gets in the way of our relationship with God. Sometimes we don't even realize we're slipping away from him. Baseball games can keep us away from church. The birth of children can discourage us from going out. Family vacations can lead us out of town on the weekends. And we don't even realize it, but soon we're spending less time with God and his Word. The slide has started.

And the hard part is that none of those activities are bad. Baseball's fun. Children are blessings. Family trips strengthen relationships. Except when these activities take us away from time with God. You know how it works. Once one activity takes the place of church on the calendar, more will follow. Once you've broken the pattern of making time for God each day, it's easy to slide further off the foundation you found in Jesus. Gradually priorities change. Faith falters.

And so Paul gives us this antidote for the icy spots in life: *"hold on to the teachings."* Only one thing can keep our hearts from slipping off our foundation in Jesus: regular contact with God's Word. So when a brother or sister in Christ encourages you to make time each day and each week for God, he simply wants to keep you connected to the foundation of Christ. It's easy to start slipping away from God. That's why it's so important to hold on to God's Word.

Spring is coming. Soon the threat of ice will be gone completely. But don't let your spiritual guard down. Always be aware of anything that might lead you away from your God. Don't slip. Stand firm on the foundation of Christ!

Vicar Nass

Acolyte & Friendship Register

	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Friendship Register</u>
February 6	Megan Buth	Daniel Buth & Daisy Collins
February 13	Lauren Curtis	Alyssa & Madison Countryman
February 20	Mike Eberle	Matthew Curtis & Emily Ford
February 27	Jeremy Countryman	Clayton Gibson & Elise Harris
March 6	Nathan Curtis	Ava Johnson and Nicholas Johnston
March 13	Jacob Fiscus	Tyler Kangas and Miranda Countryman
March 20	Siara Ford	Versailles Weigel & Will Smathers
March 27	Dalia Gibson	Emily Schroeder & Sam Pfliger

Cleaning Schedule

Date	Family 1	Family 2
Week of February 7	Hold	Christopher
Week of February 14	Springstroh	Wessinger
Week of February 21	Peterson	Bjornas
Week of February 28	Kangas	Koepke
Week of March 7	Quinn/J. Morgan	Duncan
Week of March 14	Madden	Ricker
Week of March 21	Heinz	Mueller
Week of March 28	Eckhardt	Bloy

Nursery Schedule

February 6	Springstroh	March 6	West
February 13	K Schroeder	Mach 13	Kvidt
February 20	Bjornas	Mach 20	Watkins
February 27	P & J Green	March 27	Debra Rector/Jamie Payne

Video Taping

February 6 Luke Hendricks
February 13 Anna Curtis
February 20 Joshua Buth
February 27 Keith Schroeder

Lawn Mowing Begins in April. If you are willing to serve in this way, please contact Scott Buth so he can include you in the schedule.

We currently have two older residential lawn mowers that we are using to mow the church lawn. A fund has been setup to save for a new commercial lawn mower. If you would like to donate to this purchase, please mark your donation "Lawn Mower Fund" and place it in the offering. If you have any questions, please speak with Scott Buth

February

Ushering Teams

March

Eckhardt

Bloy

Duncan

Duncan

Duncan

Freeman

Green

Johnston

Madden

Moro

Pfliger

Soleto

Sporleder

Gary

Aaron

Stuart

Colin

Matt

Todd

Patrick

Raymond

Bill

Mike

Michael

Joseph

Wayne

Buth

Anderson

Adams

Buth

Creel

Ellis

Fiscus

Hendricks

Mueller

Roberts

Smith

Wessinger

Robertson

Scott

Chad

John

Joshua

Al

Brent

Jeff

Luke

Matthew

Jim

George

Pete

Brent

February Birthdays

Sophie Amodeo	2/1	Kate Harris	2/15
David Collins	2/1	Sharon Smathers	2/15
William Collins	2/1	Dick Wulf	2/15
Al Creel	2/3	Versailles Weigel	2/16
Emma Kvidt	2/3	Sam Fisher	2/18
Julie Redmon	2/6	Wayne Sporleder	2/18
Shirley Seguin	2/9	Jaynie Adams	2/20
Valerie Lee	2/10	Linda Hoth	2/21
Matthew Garrelts	2/12	Grace Shelley	2/22
Jaden Everhart	2/13	Jonathan Pfeifer	2/24
Jennifer Caparoso	2/14	Michelle Bjornas	2/28
Mary Beth Eckhardt	2/14	Madelynn Garrelts	2/28



CONTACT INFORMATION

Pastor: Jonathan Schroeder..... 770-253-4007
 President: Gary Eckhardt.....678-364-1383
 Treasurer: Gary Hill.....678-817-6208
 Secretary: Rob Nichols 770-629-5228
 Financial Sec.: John Kvidt..... 770-252-9252
 Foundations: Jenny Schroeder..... 770-253-6565
 Preschool: Greg Morgan 770-253-0380
 Outreach: Scott Buth 770-683-3999
 Prayer Chain: Dawn Hill678-977-2946
 Connect Group: Judy Christopher.. 770-599-6055
 Teen Group: Nathan Nass..... 770-253-4007
 Youth Group: Gary & Dawn Hill.....678-817-6208
 Newsletter: Dawn Hill678-977-2946
 Sherry Kangas.....404-680-2175

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

Men's Softball

Calling all softball players.



Spring is rapidly approaching and we will be fielding a church softball team for the spring season Men's Church League.

The season starts the week of March 7th and if it is like last year, the games are either Tuesday or Thursday night at 7, 8 or 9 pm. The registration will be \$50.

Anyone interested in playing, please contact Scott Buth, at buthhalfdozen@numail.org or 770 683-3999.

Lenten Suppers & Devotions

This year our Lenten suppers and devotions begin on Ash Wednesday, March 9, 2011.

Each Wednesday during the Lenten season we will gather for dinner and devotion. Look for more information and sign-up sheets in mid-February.

Supper:	begins at 6:00pm
Devotion:	begins around 6:45pm
Choir Practice:	begins at 7:30pm