

# FOCUS

November 2010

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 one of our newest families—Brent and Mona Robertson and their children Emma and Elliott.

### **Tell us about the Robertson family.**

Brent and I got married on October 16, 1999, but met about four years earlier. Believe it or not, we met on the internet. In fact, I believe we were some of the pioneers of internet dating. We met in a chat room on AOL in 1995. I was living in Denver at the time, but I moved to Georgia in 1996, and we were married in 1999. Our daughter Emma was born in January 2001—can't believe she is going to be ten this winter. We knew we wanted more kids, and after exploring all our options, we decided to adopt.

### **How did the adoption process go?**

Well, Elliott was born on St. Patrick's Day in Wyoming. He was born on a Friday. On Sunday, we got a call from our adoption agency asking if we were interested in adopting him. Of course we were! On Monday, the adoption agency called back and told us we had been chosen... so get on a plane!! After getting bumped a few times, we finally made it to Casper, Wyoming and on Wednesday morning, we got to meet our new son. And we count our blessings for both kids every day.

### **What keeps you and Brent busy?**

Brent heads up our landscape/design company—Earthscape Designs—since 1994. I was working full time and helping him out where I could, but after Emma was born in 2001, I took a few years off to stay at home. In the meantime, we opened a second company—Mulch and More—in 2003. When our manager left on literally an hour's notice in 2004, I became the manager there and have managed ever since. So we run two separate companies, and we each have one we look after a little more than the other. It's nice, though, because our businesses can really complement each other.

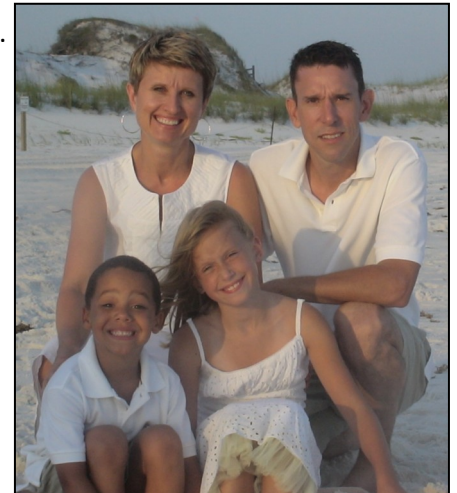
### **What's your family background like?**

I was born in Cleveland, but I grew up in Denver. My family's Polish, so of course we grew up Catholic. When we moved to Denver we had lost the church we grew up in and didn't seem to be to connect to another church. Our family really only attended services on a casual basis and never really found that "new" church.

Brent was born in Florida, but he's lived almost his whole life in Georgia, and naturally grew up a Southern Baptist. We actually got married in our own backyard by a Methodist pastor, because we thought Methodist might be a good middle ground for our family. Most of Brent's extended family lives in Coweta, and have for many years. My parents moved out here in 2001 to be closer to their, at the time, only grandchild. They live about a mile away, and Brent's parents live another half mile from there. It's great for our kids to be so close to their grandparents.

### **What brought you to Faith?**

We'd been visiting a number of different churches for some time. It was Greta Watkins who told us about Faith and brought us that first visit. But we were not yet convinced and continued looking. But after visiting other churches, we decided to come back to Faith one more time, and now we've never left. We love how it feels like a family here. We felt welcome immediately, and we are excited to have the chance to join and feel part of a church as it's in the process of growing up. FaithBuilders was great! Those classes helped us know for certain this was the right fit.



# Faith Lutheran Church's Fall Festival

## Sunday, November 7, 2010

It's time for **Fall Festival 2010** 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 worship, food, and fun.

**When:** Sunday, November 7, 2010  
Worship @ 10:30 AM  
Lunch @ 12:00 PM  
Games until 3:00 PM

**What:** Great Food! Contests! Crafts! Face Painting!

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

We hope to see you there!

# Thanksgiving Eve Bonfire

## Thanksgiving Eve

**Wednesday, November 24 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 is a sign-up sheet for those who will attend. We do not have a church service on Thanksgiving day.



## 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 20th. This was one of our most popular events last year!

Abiding Grace's teens hope to begin paintballing around 10AM at a paintballing facility near their church, so we plan on meeting at Faith at 8:30AM and carpooling to Covington.

All teens and interested parents and chaperones are invited. Invite your friends too! The cost is \$35 per person, and reservations need to be made as soon as possible. Please contact Vicar Nass at [nass.nathan@gmail.com](mailto:nass.nathan@gmail.com) very soon if you are interested.



## Faith Lutheran Preschool

The preschool has adopted a needy family to help with a Kroger gift card for food. The kids will be placing coins in a jar as they collect them, and we'll turn the coins into a food card in time for the Thanksgiving holidays. We did this last year for the first time, and the children really enjoyed the idea of helping someone else.

We've had some staffing changes. Jennifer Green has left the teaching staff to pursue other ventures. We were able to hire Deb Peterson to aide Kristine Schroeder in the four-year-old room, and Emily Nass has come on board to aide Kerri Madden in the two-year-old classroom. God is so gracious to bless us instantly with the people we need, when we need them.



Angie Wessinger has again done a fantastic job with school pictures, and we are very appreciative of Farmer Collins for using his tractor for hay rides at our fall party. We have such a talented congregation, and the preschool is blessed to get to borrow many of those talents.

Please continue to keep our staff and the sixty-three children and their families that we have the privilege of serving in your prayers.

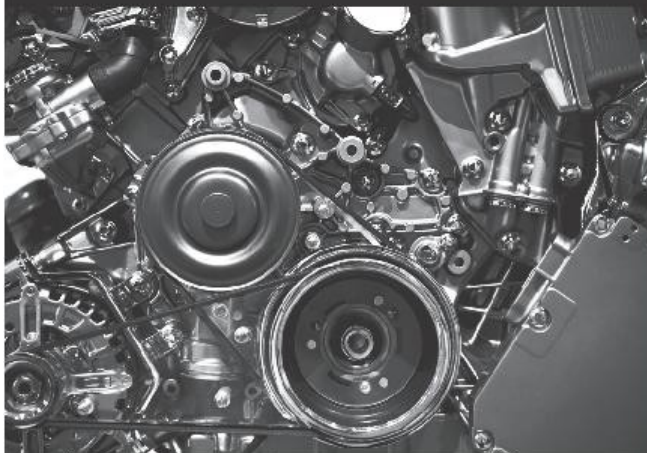
Holly Buth, Director, Faith Lutheran Preschool



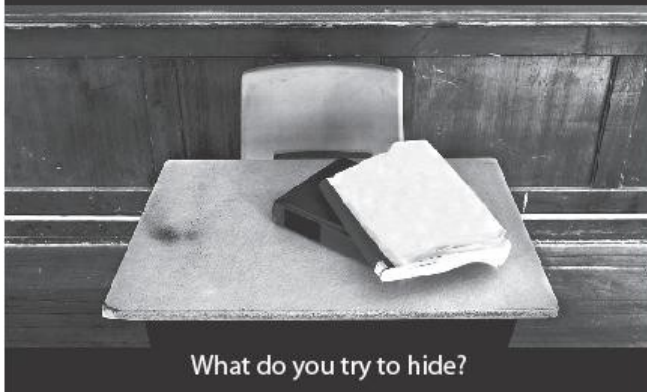
Ever feel alone in a crowded room?



How do you separate fact from feeling?



What happens when life breaks down?



What do you try to hide?



Engage, a series of short films, is a new style of Bible study that fits right where you are and shows you where God wants you to be.

**Watch.**

**Talk.**

Engage and discover what God has to say to you through His grace in Jesus Christ.

Meeting on Wednesday nights at 7:00 PM in Room 4.

November 3, 10, and 17

**FAITH**   
**LUTHERAN**

# Devotion Time

## Always on God's Mind

How many things have you forgotten today? Well, if your day has been anything like mine, I bet you've misplaced either your cell phone or your car keys. You've blanked on either an internet password or on the name of your child's friend. Or maybe it's all of the above. And that's not to mention all those forgotten things that never crossed your mind, like the names of coworkers and the birthdays of relatives. Forgetting is just part of everyday life—we do it all the time.

But as much as we forget, boy do we hate being forgotten. Can you still picture the look of dejection on your little son's face when you forgot to pick him up from school? Can you remember how hurt you felt the time your spouse forgot your anniversary? Do you find yourself getting angry when friends forget about the plans you've made with them? There's nothing lonelier than being forgotten by those closest to you. It hurts when we aren't on their minds.

And so there's nothing worse than feeling forgotten by God. I think you know that feeling. It's that agonizing feeling that comes up at the death of a loved one. It pop ups in our minds when our children are sick. But that's not all. That feeling of being forgotten by God pop ups simply at the end of a frustrating day in which the little problems of life have formed quite a big pile on your plate. "God, why are these things happening to me? Why have you forgotten me?"

God's people throughout the Bible were tempted to ask that same doubt-filled question. In fact, the people in the days of the prophet Isaiah cried out: "*The Lord has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me*" (Isaiah 49:14). It didn't seem like God was there when they needed him the most.

But then look at God's response: "*Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne?*" (Isaiah 49:15). The answer, obviously, is no. No loving mother can forget about the baby lying in her arms. If God's love for us is as great as that of a mother for her child, how loved we are! But God's love is even greater. God continues: "*Though she may forget, I will not forget you!*" (Isaiah 49:15). Do you understand God's picture? He reassures you and me that a mother will forget the baby nursing at her breast before our God will forget one of his children lying in his protecting arms. You are always on God's mind.

As proof of that wonderful truth, God says: "*See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands.*" Have you ever known someone who's written reminders for herself on her hands or arms to remember something important? Well, God uses that same picture to describe his concern for you and me. He's written our names on his hands. He can't possibly forget us! As your child plays at the park, don't worry. God's got his name written on his hand! As your spouse leaves the house for a weekend away, know that God's got his or her name on his mind. And as you face every obstacle that each day brings, remember that God's got your name written on his hand. He can't possibly forget you!

So as you go about your day today, there's one thing you don't want to forget: God will never forget about you! Write a note on your hand. Tie a string around your finger. Do whatever you need to do to remember that you are always on God's mind!

## Acolyte & Friendship Register

	<u>Acolyte</u>	<u>Friendship Register</u>
November 7	Nathan Curtis	Daniel Buth & Daisy Collins
November 14	Siara Ford	Alyssa & Miranda Countryman
November 21	Dalia Gibson	Madison Countryman & Matthew Curtis
November 28	Raelee Heinz	Emily Fiscus & Siena Ford
December 5	Grant Heinz	Clayton Gibson & Elise Harris
December 12	Ashley Kangas	Ava Johnson & Nicholas Johnston
December 19	Noah Kvidt	Tyler Kangas & Laura Kvidt
December 26	Tyler Madden	Grant & Garrett Madden

## Cleaning Schedule

Date	Family 1	Family 2
Week of November 1	Springstroh	
Week of November 8	Peterson	Bjornas
Week of November 15	Kangas	Koepke
Week of November 22	Quinn / J. Morgan	Duncan
Week of November 29	Madden	Ricker
Week of December 6	Heinz	Mueller
Week of December 13	Eckhardt	Bloy
Week of December 20	Clow/Hicks	Countryman
Week of December 27	Pfeifer	Harrington
Week of January 3	Freeman	

## Nursery Schedule

November 7	Oberhelman	December 5	D & H Johnson
November 14	Morgan	December 12	Peggy Clow/Linda Hicks
November 21	Gibson	December 19	Emily Nass/Julie Anderson
November 28	Madden	December 24	VOLUNTEERS
		December 26	The Pickett

## Video Taping

November 7	Keith Schroeder	December 5	Cole Johnson
November 14	Anna and Katherine Curtis	December 12	Caleb Christopher
November 21	Andrew Bjornas	December 19	Luke Hendricks
November 28	Anna and Lauren Curtis	December 24	Keith Schroeder
		December 25	Joshua Buth
		December 26	Keith Schroeder

## November

## Ushering Teams

## December

<b><i>Morgan</i></b>	<b><i>Greg</i></b>	<b><i>Hill</i></b>	<b><i>Gary</i></b>
Bjornas	Richard	Boe	Gordon
Chapman	Pascal	Collins	David
Gibson	Scot	Harrington	Matt
Green	Lee	Hill	Justin
Heitshusen	Gary	Joyner	Roy
Johnson	Doug	Koepke	James
Kangas	Tim	Peterson	Duane
Lanier	Mike	Schroeder	Michael
Lass	David	Seitz	Tom
Lindemann	Nathan	Springstroh	Dave
Quinn	Jack	Weigel	Martin
Redmon	Rex	Wulf	Dick

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!

If you have any questions about the lawn mowing schedule, please speak to Scott Buth.



## Birthdays

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

### 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 Hill..... 678-977-2946  
 Connect Group: Judy Christopher . 770-599-6055  
 Teen Group: Nathan Nass ..... 770-253-4007  
 Youth Group: Gary & Dawn Hill ..... 678-817-6208  
 Newsletter: Dawn 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.

## Need to Work On Your Christmas Cards?

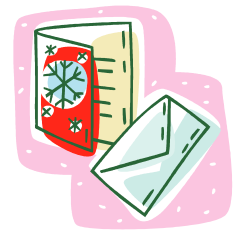
All the ladies are invited to a Christmas card get-together on

**Thursday, November 18 at the Bjornas home.**

Bring your address book, cards, stamps and let's get those cards done!

Please RSVP to Joan Bjornas at [Joan.Bjornas@gmail.com](mailto:Joan.Bjornas@gmail.com) if you can make it.

Feel free to drop in any time after 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served!



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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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**LUTHERAN**