

# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Issue 07 July, 2019 928-535-9575 2750 Mogollon Drive, Overgaard, AZ 85933

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

**WORSHIP SERVICES – 10:30 am & 6:00 pm Sunday**  
**Solid Bible-Based Preaching & Teaching**

"Ya DON"T name PIGS!"



For two years, while I attended Seminary, we rented an old family farmhouse on a working farm in Indiana. The farmer had built a more modern house down the drive with air-conditioning and all. It was more energy efficient than the old two-story 4-bedroom farmhouse, but we thought it was a palace; perfect for Patty and I and our three young boys. After moving in, it didn't take long to figure out one of the other motivations to build another house a little farther away; the old house was situated within 100 feet of the barn and holding pen. When you have 200 heifers in the pen and 200 hogs in the barn it can get pretty aromatic on those warm summer nights with all the windows in the house open to catch a bit of a cooling breeze.

Nobody in my family had lived on a farm for at least three generations, so farm culture was a bit alien to us. We took it in stride, however, and took it all in as an on-going learning experience. Apparently, there are some pretty firm rules about how some things are done, and to do otherwise is just unthinkable. Some are little things ... and some are BIG things.

There was the time the farmer showed me a burned-out John Deere tractor he was restoring. He had really done a lot of work on it, rebuilding the motor and replacing tires. Now what was left were the cosmetics of re-upholstering the seat, replacing the melted steering wheel, and painting the body. As I was admiring his work, I spoke over my shoulder to him behind me, "You know, with a little sanding and good prep, you could paint this puppy a deep thick black and add on some bright red and yellow flames right here ... kinda a tribute to bringing it back from the flames."

I heard a choking gurgle sound behind me. I turned around and saw his face, aghast in disbelief. "But ..." he said, stopped, shook his head, and repeated, "But ... It's a *John Deere!*"

I didn't get it. I returned that blank questioning stare of one who is lost.

He repeated, "It's a JOHN DEERE!" with more force and volume now.

Same blank stare in return.

He exhaled in exasperation and raised his hand in the most animate expression I ever saw from him, "John Deeres are GREEN!" And he turned around and walked away from me shaking his head.

Then there was that time with the pigs...

*Continued on the last page)*



# Women's Ministry

Open to ALL women who attend Faith Lutheran Church!

- Rummage sale was quite successful – thank you everyone for your help. We couldn't have done it without you.
- We will be resuming our support of Isaac Wirtz come fall.
- Barb Lawson's funeral was 2-5 Sunday, 6/23
- Next meeting July 15, 2019 @1:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening Services at 6:00 PM



IF YOU SHOP ON AMAZON, BY LOGGING INTO SMILE.AMAZON.COM 0.5% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE CAN BE DIRECTED TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH, OVERGAARD. ONCE ON SIMPLY CLICK "CHANGE CHARITY" BUTTON THEN SEARCH FOR "FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH OVERGAARD"



## Birthdays

July 26 Helen Pebler

July 31 June Jensen

## Anniversaries

July 8 Steve & Candy Murray

## CHURCH COUNCIL UPDATE



- Don & Jenny are overseeing landscaping
- Elders covered two services while Pastor was on vacation
- Women's Ministry arranged the Narthex for pre-service fellowship
- Budget for 2019-2020 was approved
- 1+1+1 Missions Jar was approved for another year

## MONTHLY MEETINGS & EVENTS



July 9 – Church Cleaning 9:00am  
July 15 – Elder’s Meeting 9:00am  
July 15 – Women’s Ministry at 1:30pm  
July 23 – Council Meeting at 9am



Practice Tuesdays - 4:30 PM

## Pastor's Office Hours

Mondays - 10am - 4pm In the Office  
Tuesdays - 10am - 12pm In the Office  
Wednesdays - Visitation Day  
Thursdays - 10am - 12 pm In the Office

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Call for appointment -  
928-535-9575 or 323-717-4390

[revnwirtz@yahoo.com](mailto:revnwirtz@yahoo.com),  
or just drop in, or call anytime

## BIBLE STUDY

Sundays – 9 am

Hebrews

Thursdays - 9 am

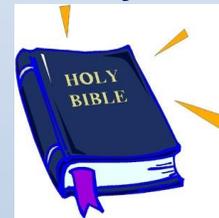
Joshua

Mondays – 2pm

Adult Confirmation

Wednesdays – 4:30pm

Youth Confirmation



## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Bible Lesson  
for Kids



Sundays – 9 am

Sermons and Bible Studies can  
be listened to on the website.

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

(Pastor's Corner: continued from page 1)

For my boys, living on a farm, surrounded with chickens, roosters, pigs, and cows was an every-day adventure. Animals were SO interesting. The boys had fun doing an egg hunt every day trying to find the different places the chickens would select to hide their eggs. (The chickens had free run of our part of the farm.) Sometimes they would find fresh eggs, and sometimes they would find an egg that had remained hidden for a long time ... too long! Other times they would chase the chickens all around the outside of the house (a great game as far as they were concerned), and still other times the rooster would chase the boys around the outside of the house (a not-so-great game in the boys opinion).

But the pigs were a different story. The boys had seen how the pigs treated each other, and how they attacked each other, bit off each other's ears, and even killed a weak or sick pig amongst them. A large group of pigs were not creatures you wanted to get into a pen with and chase around! But the boys DID find a way to play with the pigs. They would go out into the field and pick up gleanings of corn cobs from the ground and bring them back and throw them into the pen to watch the pigs fight over who would get to eat the tasty treat. Sometimes the pigs would see the boys coming and come up to the fence hoping to be hand fed a cob or two.

One day as the boys were feeding the pigs in this way, the farmer came up behind them and heard them talking to the pigs;

"Here you go Blackie, I got this one just for you."

"And I got this one for Spot" Benjamin said, "cuz it has spots too"

"This's for Pinky," Isaac mumbled as he held out his cob.

The farmer scratched his head. "You boys NAMED those pigs?"

"Sure." Aaron said. "We named a bunch of 'em. That one's Fred, and that one's Don. And over there's Skippy (cause he looks like peanut-butter color), and that one's Wilbur (we got a book about him and a spider named Charlotte)."

"Ya DON'T name PIGS!" the farmer said, exasperated.

"Why not?" little Isaac questioned, looking way up at the farmer from knee level.

"Because you're gonna EAT 'em!"

I think we learned a lot from that farmer over the two years we were there with him. I also like to think that maybe he came to see things in some different light or think of other possibilities because of us. I do know, that often times (and there were many) when he walked away, shaking his head in exasperation, there was often just a hint of a smile on his face.

The time with the pigs really sticks with ME. I think of how important naming the pigs was to my boys. A name gives something (or someone) an identity, and identity establishes worth and relationship. By naming the pigs, my boys showed they wanted to KNOW the pigs; that they cared about their friends on the other side of the fence.

When Jesus talked about "the good shepherd" he talked about one who called each of his sheep by name;

"[The Good Shepherd] calls his own sheep by name and leads them out." John 10:3

The Good Shepherd, then is one who knows and cares about his sheep. He is one who is intimately involved with his sheep. They have great worth to him ... even his own life.

In return, his sheep know his voice and listen to him. They see how much he cares for them and they trust him with their very lives. Jesus said this about his sheep (even as he invites each and every one of us to be "his sheep"),

"I am the shepherd, the *good* one. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep ... I know my own and my own know me. ... I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:14, 15c, and 10:10b