



## The Joyful Noise

**2015**

### *“I Believe - Walking with Christ in the Adventure of Faith”*

*When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.”*

Luke 5:4 (NIV)



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So began the Adventure for Simon who would be called Peter. Beginning with listening to the Lord's teaching and then responding to the Lord's instruction, though it seemed silly to do so, a marvelous miracle made the nets fill to bulging and breaking. With the invitation “Follow me”, Simon Left behind all he knew, the daily life that he spent a lifetime learning, as he stepped out of the boat and went walking with Jesus. We know his name and we know of his life because he joined the adventure of faith following Jesus.

We can travel through all the Holy Scriptures and learn of people that stepped out by Faith and the Lord Almighty did wonders through them. Hebrews 11 tells short summaries of many of these heroes of Faith. These are people who connected what they believed with following whom they believed that impacted how they lived each day. They experienced ups and downs, challenges and blessings along the way. Through their lives, a testimony of faith was written by the Living God for the generations through time to learn from, imitate and emulate.

This year we will be learning how to make the connection of “I Believe” in our minds, hearts, and souls to following “Whom I believe” in daily life. Learning to make the faith that we confess and profess in Sunday worship be the guiding principle of life from getting up in the morning to going to sleep at night. Making real the Christian Faith by understanding the real nature of the faith we profess. Living the faith in more than an intellectual assent, it is also very practical life principles that mold and shape our daily decisions in life. In other words, being very identifiable as a follower of Jesus Christ.

Enter into this time with wide eyed and joyful expectation. Enter into this time with an exuberant sense of Adventure. Seek to know the Lord more. Ask the Lord to demonstrate His Power and His Presence!

**Come! Enjoy the Adventure!**

*Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.*

Ephesians 3:20, 21

Peace,  
Pastor Jeff

# Believe!

## **Prayer Moment:**

**O Lord, reassure me with Your quickening Spirit;  
without You I can do nothing.**

**Mortify in me all ambition, vanity, vainglory,  
worldliness, pride, selfishness,  
and resistance from God,  
and fill me with love, peace  
and all the fruits of the Spirit.**

**O Lord, I know not what I am,  
but to You I flee for refuge.**

**I would surrender myself to You,  
trusting Your precious promises  
and against hope believing in hope.**

**- William Wilberforce, 1759-1833**

**Walking in the Word – Tuesday  
Night Bible Study January 6<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>,  
and 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 P.M.**



**Walking in the Word**

**Start the New Year in Bible Study!**

**Come and Study the Bible with your brothers and  
sisters in Christ on Tuesdays at 7 pm.**

**The Northern kingdom has fallen!** Ten tribes taken into captivity and never to return. Judah, will you hearken to the warning? Will Judah worship the Lord God or go after Baal? Are their kings walking in the way of David or walking in the ways of the wicked?

We conclude by 8:15 p.m.

### **Children's Sunday School**

We are traveling down Route 66!  
Beginning at Genesis we'll work our way  
down the road through the 66 books of  
the Bible.

Moms, dads, grandmas and  
grandpas, great-grandma and great-  
grandpas, these intentional times of  
discipling will nurture the FAITH of those entrusted to your  
care. Make a Sunday morning faith commitment for you and  
your family! Attend Sunday School and Worship together.



Sunday School

*Train a child in the way he should go,  
and when he is old he will not turn from it.*

Proverbs 22:6 (NIV)

### **Discipleship**

- ! Learn what Jesus taught - Study the Scriptures of Old and New Testament.
- ! Do what Jesus taught - Live what you have learned from the Scriptures
- ! Spread what Jesus taught - Go and make disciples of All Nations.

### **Listen Online to a Sunday Sermon Message**

Sunday Sermon messages are recorded and made  
available for listening on our Website: [www.ficlc.net](http://www.ficlc.net) The link to  
the message archive is found on the Pastor page.

This is a great opportunity to hear again the Word  
Preached and also a great opportunity to share the Word  
Preached with a friend at work or anywhere you have access  
to the internet. The Lord can bring a blessing and draw another  
to Faith in Christ.

### **Gospel for Asia Build a Church Update**

The church that we have fully  
funded to be built will be built in  
Telangana, Andhra, Pradesh,  
India. The pastor is Brother  
Pinapati Buba.



**GOSPEL FOR ASIA  
Build a Church**

From his biography:

I was born June 16, 1978,  
into a nominal Christian family in  
India. As Christians, we were present in the church activities,  
but never applied the teachings in our lives. Since none were  
there to correct me, I walked in my own ways. Being delighted  
in the company of ungodly friends, I was blind to the ways of the  
Lord. But there came a time when I realized the futility of the  
pleasures I ran after as the joy it offered me did not sustain for a  
long time. My family one after another took to ill health and we  
were thrown into a helpless condition.

The Lord used this situation to intervene in my life. As  
trouble gripped my being, I turned to Him for help and the  
Lord was gracious enough to lift us from our battered situation.  
I was caught hold by His love that rescued me from despair,  
despite my transgressions. With repentance I confessed my sins  
to Him and accepted Jesus as my personal Savior. Now on I  
started attending church with a refreshed motive and obeyed His  
commandment in water baptism.

In the course of my closer walk with Him, I reasoned out the

need to reach out to the millions that are yet to be saved from sin. As he confirmed my call through the Word, I committed the rest of my days to serve Him. And to be trained for this purpose, I joined a Bible school.

Out of my unquenchable thirst to reach out to the lost of my nation, I serve the Lord as an evangelist by holding open-air meeting, distributing tracts visiting houses and planting churches among the Hindu communities of India.

Please pray for me and my wife, Parimaha, as we serve the Lord among the unreached.



#### A New Year's Prayer

Dear Lord, please give me. . .

A few friends who understand me and yet remain my friends.

A work to do which has real value without which the world would feel the poorer. A mind unafraid to travel, even though the trail be not blazed. An understanding heart...a sense of humor.

Time for quiet, silent meditation.

A feeling of the presence of God.

And the patience to wait for the coming of these things, with the wisdom to know them when they come.

Dear Friends,  
On behalf of more than 13,000 patients cared for at Rocking Horse Community Health Center thank you very much for your generous donation of \$890.00 for our Parent Infant Center.



Your support makes an immediate difference in the lives of some of the most vulnerable families in our area. Medicaid recipients, uninsured or underinsured individuals make up approximately 80% of our patient population.

Each year, based on growing need, Rocking Horse Center has increased the number and types of essential healthcare services provided for the families of our community. The much anticipated building expansion opened in March of last year and has allowed us to expand our Adult Services and Prenatal Services to many new patients who otherwise would go without healthcare.

Your generosity has made this necessary growth possible and confirms your belief in our mission and in our commitment to Raise Healthy Families in a Caring Community.

Rocking Horse Community Health Center

P.S. from the Church Mouse - the \$890.00 mentioned above was the total amount collected from our **"Blessings in a Bottle"** mission project. Thank you to everyone who took part in this wonderful fundraiser!

THANK YOU.....THANK YOU!

A big thank you goes out to everyone in the congregation who helped to support our Christmas Food Basket outreach project. Thanks to your generosity we were able to exceed our goal of providing 26 baskets for Individuals as well as 7 baskets for Families! Thank you for having such big hearts! The residents of IHN's Mulberry Terrace and other housing units will be very surprised to receive this Christmas gift from the family of Faith in Christ Lutheran to their family.



*Christmas Baskets*



"HERE WE COME A-CAROLING!"

Thanks so much to everyone who joined us for Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins.

Thank you to all who helped prepare the church for the Christmas season. All of the decorations and Christmas trees looked wonderful!





## ICE SKATING JAN 18<sup>TH</sup>

Come and enjoy an afternoon skating at the Chiller, downtown Springfield. The skate session runs from 1:30 to 3:30 P.M.

Admission: Adults \$6; Youth \$5; Kids 4 and under \$4  
Skate Rental: \$2; Kids 4 and under - included in admission

Need a ride to the rink? Meet at church 12:50 P.M.  
(Remember TNT Brown bag follows worship this day too so you can bring a bag lunch with you to church and then go skating!)



## Loyal Followers of Christ - (LFC)

Will not meet in January. The next meeting will be on February 6<sup>th</sup>, 12 Noon, in the Bay Breeze Restaurant, weather permitting. Newcomers are always welcome.

## Women of Today -

Will meet at 3:00 p.m. in the church on Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

## AVAILABLE NOW

### **Offering Envelopes**



Your giving envelopes for 2015 are now available. They can be found on the table in the Narthex.

## **ALTAR FLOWER CHART**

The 2015 Altar Flower Chart is also now available. It is hanging on the wall leading down to the offices.



All information for the annual report must be submitted to the church office no later than Sunday, January 11, 2015!



**JANUARY 25, 2015**

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The annual report will be distributed and the contents discussed at the annual Congregational Meeting which will be held Sunday, January 25, 2015, immediately following worship. New Council Members will also be elected at this meeting.



- |              |                                                |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Jan 9-11     | Confirmation Retreat @ Fairhaven               |
| Jan 13       | AA Dinner @ FIC                                |
| Jan 16       | Cub Pack Overnighter @ FIC                     |
| Jan 18       | Ice Skating @ Chiller                          |
| Jan 24       | TNT Overnighter @ FIC                          |
| Jan 25       | Congregational Annual Meeting                  |
| Jan 27       | Scouts Dinner @ FIC                            |
|              |                                                |
| Feb 6        | Loyal Followers of Christ Meeting @ Bay Breeze |
| Feb 8        | Scout Sunday - Luncheon @ FIC for all          |
| Feb 17       | Shrove Tuesday Dinner @ FIC                    |
| Feb 18       | Ash Wednesday Worship                          |
| Feb 21       | Scout - Blue & Gold Banquet @ FIC              |
| Feb 26       | First Lenten Soup Dinner & Worship             |
|              |                                                |
| Mar 5        | Lenten Dinner & Worship                        |
| Mar 6        | Loyal Followers of Christ Meeting @ Bay Breeze |
| Mar 12       | Lenten Dinner & Worship                        |
| Mar 19       | Lenten Dinner & Worship                        |
| Mar 21       | Scout Pinewood Derby @ FIC                     |
| Mar 26       | Lenten Dinner & Worship                        |
| Mar 29       | White Cloth Drama @ FIC                        |
|              |                                                |
| Apr 2        | Maundy-Thursday Worship                        |
| Apr 3        | Good Friday Worship                            |
| <b>Apr 5</b> | <b>EASTER SUNDAY</b>                           |





### INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK OF SPRINGFIELD, INC.

2014 WAS A BUSY YEAR FOR IHN. Through the end of November a total of 677 unduplicated individuals have been served, 356 at Norm's Place Family Shelter (154 of these were children), and 321 at the Hartley House shelter for single men. Through intensive goal setting case management, 72% of those leaving the shelters have moved into a permanent housing situation.

When the extreme cold weather early in 2014 hit this area, IHN went into overflow mode, meaning that no one was turned away. The Hartley House received special permission from the Fire Department to temporarily increase their capacity, while the number of single women and families over the capacity of Norm's Place were placed in a local motel. Overflow mode was placed into operation again in November when the weather turned extreme.



2015

It's a new year and you know what that means....time to re-evaluate our lives, make new resolutions or just to think about what direction we would like our lives to take this year, allowing for the inevitable changes and complications, of course.

Here at FIC we also need to "get on with the new", so to speak and there are many, many areas where we need volunteers to serve in various capacities in the new year.

Some of those areas are:

**Assisting with Sunday Services**.....as Lectors, Ushers, Communion Assistants, Etc.

**Fellowship Hosts/Hostesses**.....we are in need of volunteers to provide goodies for our Fellowship time each week.

**Altar Flower Sponsors**.....we need people to sign up to sponsor a vase or two of altar flowers for each Sunday.

**Coming soon**....we will need volunteers to volunteer to provide a soup or dessert for the upcoming Lenten Soup Suppers during the Season of Lent.

I'm sure that there are many other areas of life here at FIC that are in need of volunteers. So....come join in the fun of serving your church alongside your church family members!