



First St. John Journal



Volume 28, Issue 8

August, 2015

One Saturday Ken Erickson's wife cleaned out leftovers from the refrigerator. She gave the one remaining portion of tortellini to their 6-year-old son, Jeremy. Their 8-year-old son, Matthew, also wanted some, so bickering ensued. After several unsuccessful attempts to mediate the dispute, Ken decided on a theological approach. Hoping to convince Jeremy to share his portion with Matthew, he said, "Jeremy, what would Jesus do in this situation?"

Jeremy immediately responded, "Oh, Dad, He would just make more!"

Yes, that is exactly what Jesus would do. Jesus would just make more! We see Jesus responding this way many times during his earthly ministry. No doubt, the feeding of the five thousand is one of the best known of such situations. Especially in its retelling in the Gospel of John (6:1ff) it also becomes an opportunity for the disciples to learn that when Jesus is involved, it is more often a problem of a lack of faith than a lack of resources.

Many would agree the biggest problem facing the church today is lack of faith. It's not lack of resources. We think it is, but it's not. The first question someone will ask when a necessary expense or a new ministry idea is brought up is: "Where are we going to get enough to get that done?" But that's the wrong question. The only question we should ask is: "Is this God's will for our church?" We may not realize it, but we are rich in all the resources needed to do God's ministry. Together, we only scratch the surface in our giving of time, talent and treasure. What we lack as a community is faith.

What is it Christ said? "...if you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20-21) All too often in the life of a congregation there come opportunities, but in the deliberations too much

emphasis is given to the adequacy of the current perceived resources rather than determining whether the opportunity is the will and purpose of God. The problem is not a lack of resources but a lack of faith. So in solving the huge problem of providing food for over 5,000 people, we are told Jesus turned to Philip and asked him, "Where can we buy bread for these people to eat?"

(continued on page 9)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will hold a congregational meeting on Sunday, August 16th after the 9:00 am service. We will discuss the new church constitution, the new Dayschool charter, the future of the parsonage, and approving the use of money to upgrade the sound system in the church.

A copy of the revised church constitution can be found in the Narthex; please take one to review prior to the meeting. The revised constitution is on the church website (www.firststjohn.com) as well, and will be emailed with the this newsletter. **Voting will occur at this meeting, so please make sure you attend.** Thanks.

CONSTITUTION INFO MEETING

Our new church constitution is complete and will be voted on by the congregation on Sunday, August 16th. Prior to that, everyone is invited to attend an informational meeting on Sunday, August 9th after the 9:00 am service in the lounge. You will be able to review the constitution and ask any questions you may have. A copy of the revised church constitution can be found in the Narthex; please take one to review prior to the meeting. Also, the revised constitution is on the church website (www.firststjohn.com) and will be emailed with the this newsletter.



MEMORIALS



CHOIR FUND

In honor of **John Rowley's** 37 years of service by Bob & Sherrie Haar, Mary Ellen Miller.

CEMETERY FUND

In memory of **Don Higley** by Jean DeWitt, Ruth Cummerow, Marge Bollinger, Olga Zimmerman.
In memory of **Jack Myers** by the Ken Vilhauer Family.

ENDOWMENT FUND

In memory of **Don Higley** by Hilda Saelzler.

MEMORIAL FUND

In memory of **Don Higley** by Lois Sass, Norman & Phyllis Schuffenecker, Ada Kreger, Terry & Jane Schuetz, Barbara Sass, Joe Grady, Tom, Sandy & Kevin Garverick, Judith Bee, Bob & Sue Kudelka, Gayle Martinez, Florence Partin, Joseph & Michelle Scazzero. Betty Moser, Tom & Janet Eppard, Arnold & Nancy Starkey, Sue & David Kimmet.
In memory of **Lily Georgeson** by Pastor Gerald & Ilean Labuhn, the Rebecca Circle, Frederick & Sally Georgeson, Jr.
In memory of **Jack Myers** by Hank & Joanne Schumaker.

CURRENT FUND

In memory of **Lily Georgeson** by Jean Garey.
In memory of **Jack Myers** by Carl & Janet Morrison.
In memory of **Don Higley** by Carl & Janet Morrison.
In memory of **Fred Weidinger** by Carl & Janet Morrison.
In memory of **Jack Rang** by Carl & Janet Morrison.

DEBT RETIREMENT

In memory of **Lily Georgeson** by Louise & Jim Sommers.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRIES

In memory of **Lily Georgeson** by Bob & Sherrie Haar.

QUILTERS

In memory of **Lily Georgeson** by Jean DeWitt, Olga Zimmerman.

ALTAR GUILD

In memory of **Lily Georgeson** by Penny DeWitt.

AUGUST COMMUNION

We will commune on August 2nd and August 23rd. The next Chapel communion will be next Sunday, August 2nd at 2:00 pm.

MEMBER ADDRESS CHANGES



Linda Erdmann
5110 Parkside Dr.
Oregon, OH 43616

Ethel Rideout
Lane Park #101
3450 Seaman Rd.
Oregon, OH 43616

Hilda Saelzler
Lutheran Home Assisted Living Apt. 20
2519 Seaman St.
Toledo, OH 43605

ADDRESS CHANGES/CORRECTIONS

To keep current information for office records, if your name, address or phone number changes, please notify the office by faxing (419-691-7220), emailing (office@firststjohn.com) or mailing the changes to: 2471 Seaman St./ Toledo, OH 43605.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____ Phone _____

MEMBER UPDATES

Births

None of which we are aware.

Baptisms

7-5-15 *Brad Wayne Hickman*, born September 11, 2014 to Brad and Kelly (Phillips) Hickman. Sponsors are Carrie Phillips and Eric Karlene.

7-12-15 *Ahmiya Merie Moore*, born April 2, 2015 to Al Moore, Jr. and Christina Boos. Sponsors are Melissa Boos and David Harvey.

Marriages

6-20-15 Daniel Myrice, Jr. and Kathryn Lyn Metzger

Deaths

6-5-15 Donald Higley

6-16-15 Carol Cousino

6-22-15 Lily Georgeson

Transfer To / From First St. John: None

PERSONAL NEEDS PANTRY DONATIONS



This ministry provides a month's worth of hygiene supplies to people in our neighborhood to help them stay clean and healthy. We receive some funding to help keep our shelves stocked, but donations are always needed.

The items needed include dish soap, paper towels, toilet paper, tissues, deodorant, adult and children size toothbrushes, toothpaste, adult and children's shampoo, body soap, laundry soap, sanitary pads, tampons, band aids, and body lotion. If you'd like to help, please deposit your donated items in the pull-out drawer to the left of the Feed Your Neighbor bin in the Narthex (under the main bulletin board) or in the bright green bin in the lounge.

PLEASE NOTE: No travel size or sample items—the families who come to this pantry need items to last them the month.

Remember, monetary donations are also appreciated. If you'd like to send a donation, write a check to First St. John Lutheran Church and write "Personal Needs Pantry" on the memo line. Thank you so much for your help.

— East Toledo Lutheran Ministry



ELDERS FOR AUGUST

We will continue with our summer worship services at 9:00 am for the month of August. We'll return to our regular schedule on September 13th, after Labor Day.

2nd	Dick Haar, Jeff Ladd
9th	Jeff Smith, Jason Blazeovich
16th	Ryan Hogueley, Bill Nelson
23rd	Darold Henninger, Mike Winslow
30th	Linda Yenrick, Laurie Witt

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR DOROTHEA HEIDMANN

A memorial service for Dorothea Heidmann, wife of the late Rev. Gerd Heidmann, will be held here at First St. John on Saturday, August 1st at 11:00 am. Mrs. Heidmann passed away on January 20 of this year at the age of 93.

DAYSCHOOL REGISTRATION

Classes for the 2015/2016 school year are filling up, so register soon! If your child is 3, 4, or 5 years old by August 1st and you'd like to enroll him or her, call the Dayschool office at 419-691-6480. If you'd like to check out the school first, you can call to schedule a tour. Tell your friends and neighbors!

LAPTOP NEEDED

The JAM/Sunday School needs a newer laptop that is compatible with our sound system. If you have one you would like to donate, please contact Jamie in the church office for more details.

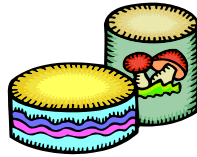


CIRCLE NEWS

Rebecca Circle will meet on Saturday, August 15th at noon at Rayz Café in Genoa. If you would like to carpool, please meet at church by 11:30 am.

Ruth Circle will meet on Wednesday, August 5th at 11:00 am at Luckie's Barn & Grill on Navarre Ave.

FEED YOUR NEIGHBOR



Don't forget our ongoing ministry to the Feed Your Neighbor program. Donations of non-perishable food items are always appreciated. Please place your donations in the two right-hand bins under the main bulletin board in the Narthex or in the marked blue plastic bin in the lounge. Remember, no glass jars, please. Thanks for your help.

WELCA BOARD MEETING

The board for the Women of the ELCA will meet on Monday, August 17th at 6:30 p.m. in the lounge.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Men's Fellowship breakfast on Saturday, August 15th at 8:00 am at Bob Evan's Restaurant on Navarre. If you need a ride, please call Bob Haar at 419-250-9409. Hope to see you there.

CHOIR PARTY



This summer's choir party will be Saturday, August 22nd beginning at 5:00 pm at Dave and Beth Hodges' home. They will provide meat and drinks; please bring a dish to share. They are located at 8970 Cedar Point Rd. in Oregon, at the corner of Cedar Point and Decant.

In order for them to have an accurate count, please RSVP to Beth at 419-260-7594. See you there!

CATECHISM "HEADS UP!"

School will be starting soon, and with that, it's also time to start thinking about catechism here at First St. John. Catechism is for all young people going into 7th and 8th grades this fall.

We will have an informational meeting in September. When we get a definite date and time, we will include this in our Sunday bulletins and contact students via snail and email. Regular catechism classes will begin after Labor Day during the Sunday School hour at 9:00 am.

EYEGASSES NEEDED



The Women of the Church have an ongoing program collecting used eyeglasses. Donated glasses are then given to the Lion's Club, which distributes them to the needy. If you have glasses to donate, please drop them off at the church office any time. Thank you very much for your help.

J.A.M. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking forward to the start of our JAM and other Sunday School sessions, and we need volunteers to help us lead our **J**esus **A**nd **M**e (JAM) program, our Sunday School for ages 3 through 6th grade. If interested, contact Jamie Blazeovich at either 419-691-7222 or cedir@firststjohn.com

RALLY DAY!



Rally Day will be held on September 13th at 9:00 a.m. We are inviting all our First St. John Church and Dayschool families and children to this special event. We will have a special presentation as well as snacks. This will be the kick off to another great year of our Sunday School program – Jesus And Me (J.A.M.). Plan to attend this awesome event in the gym that will be filled with a joy, laughter and fellowship!

First St. John Lutheran Prayer Chain (as of 7-24-15)

Crisis Prayer Chain List: *Those who need prayers for upcoming surgery, emergency medical care (ICU), etc. Individuals moved to Chronic after 1st month unless a prayer chain contact is notified of special circumstances:*

**Family of Gail Chaffee
Family of Carol Cousino
Family of Lily Georgeson
Family of Don Higley
Family of Stephanie Larkins**

Ongoing Concerns: *Those who need prayers for ongoing serious situations such as cancer treatments, medical struggles, recovery, and/or personal situations. Individuals moved off after 3 months unless a prayer chain contact is notified of special circumstances:*

**Betty Anderson
Fritz Babcock
Don Babish
Jordyn Beckhusen
Greg Contat
Charlene Creswell
Jackie Curtis
Tina Curtis
Patty Gable
Bob & Debbie Hecklinger
Delores Heilman
Nikki Houch
Scott Keller
Connie Koch
Jennifer Koch
Pastor Labuhn
Darlene Lorenzen
George "Skip" McCullough
Milena Mendoza
Donna Miller
Jeanette Miller
Christopher Molnar & his family
Sue Momenee
Jessica Mueller
Pam Pirolli
Gene Price
Sheryl Rayl
Michael Rheinbolt & family
Ethel Rideout
Cindy Roecker
Dick Ross
Steve Rowe
David Ruedy
John Tsaousidis
Pat Vogelsang**

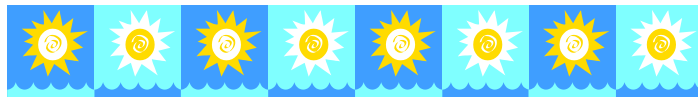
**Bill Wegman
Pastor Jim Wicker & Karen Wicker
Winnie Wohlgamuth
Raetta Zeisler**

Please let any of the prayer chain contacts know if any of the individuals can be moved off the list.

Prayer Chain Contacts

Carol Abbey 419-351-9795 or cabbey@jcrinc.com

Lynn Folk	419-691-3410
Donna Koehn	419-693-5030
Ada Kreger	419-693-1549
Gloria Ross	419-836-7166



HOMEBOUND COMMUNION AVAILABLE

Our Homebound Ministry team would like everyone to know they are available to provide communion to our homebound members. If you or someone you know can't make it to church for health reasons and would like to receive communion, please call the church office to be placed on the list. Someone from our team will contact you to schedule a visit.

ALTAR GUILD MEETING

We will meet on Monday, August 3rd at 6:30 pm. Mark your calendar!



MONTHLY MINISTRY OUTREACH

Our summer ministry outreach is *Lutheran Disaster Response*, which brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the U.S. and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, they stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. Because of lighter summer attendance, we will collect for Lutheran Disaster Response throughout the summer months.

DIRECTOR OF FAITH DEVELOPMENT
Jamie Blazeovich



It's been a very busy summer! We had over 85 children attend our Vacation Bible School on Monday, June 22 – Thursday, June 25. We couldn't have had a more

successful VBS without all the wonderful volunteers. I am so blessed with all who gave their time and donations. Thank you, God, for all my volunteers.

This year, we collected items for our Personal Needs Pantry. Thank you to everyone who donated to this awesome ministry!

You can check out pictures from this wonderful week at www.firststjohn.com

By Design met for a playdate on Tuesday, July 21 at Cedar Creek Park in Northwood. We all had a wonderful time incorporating our children into this awesome ministry!!!! We are looking forward to meeting again in August, and then we are excited to start meeting again in the fall.

RALLY DAY

Rally Day will be held on September 13th at 9:00 a.m. We are inviting all our First St. John Church and Dayschool families and children to this special event. We will have a special presentation as well as snacks. This will be the kick off to another great year of our Sunday School program – Jesus And Me (J.A.M.). Plan to attend this awesome event in the gym that will be filled with a joy, laughter and fellowship!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR J.A.M.

As we start to think about fall and the beginning of school, we look forward to the start of our JAM and our other Sunday School sessions. We are looking for volunteers to help us lead our JAM program. If you are interested, please contact me either through the church office or through email at cedir@firststjohn.com

**AND NOW, A LITTLE
HOUSEKEEPING . . .**



MOVING? Please notify the office when your address has changed. Newsletters sent to your old address are re-routed, but the church pays a fee each time this happens. OR, consider having the newsletter emailed to you or picking up your copy here at church in order to save postage. If you would like this newsletter and calendar e-mailed, please send your e-mail address to: office@firststjohn.com

ELECTRONIC GIVING: First St. John relies on the financial support of the congregation, and electronic giving offers an easy way to give on a recurring basis and also while you may be out of town for work or vacation. Please contact the church office for details. Thank you!



**DONATIONS NEEDED FOR
NEW LUTHERAN HOME
PROGRAM**

The Lutheran Home at Toledo is starting a new program called Music and Memory. This program involves using iTunes to create personalized playlists for the residents in hopes of improving their mood and memory. At this time, we are asking for donations of iTunes gift cards so that we can begin to build our music library. If you would like to donate, please drop off your gift cards in the church office. If you have any questions please contact Rachel Nelson at 419-350-1117.

***“SOMETHING OLD,
SOMETHING NEW”***



We have begun to put together First St. John's church archives, and we need your help. If you have anything pertaining to our church history—photos, meeting minutes, items from events, etc., we need these items. If you have something to donate or have any questions, please contact Lee Frazier by calling 419-698-1690 or emailing her at leondra42@att.net Or you can stop by the Educational Building on Tuesdays from 9:30 am to noon and look for Lee in the Archive/Finance room (the room next door to the lounge). Thank you.

FIRST ST. JOHN COUNCIL MINUTES

June 16, 2015

President Keith Mullen called the Tuesday, June 16, 2015 meeting to order and council attendance was noted. Pastor Rayl opened the meeting with devotions.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from the May meeting by Lori Peiffer, seconded by Mike Winslow, motion carried.

President Keith Mullen announced that Barb Shellhammer will no longer be employed as First St John's Dayschool Director. Keith would like any questions or concerns from the congregation directed to him; please feel free to contact him.

Director of Faith Development/Sunday School—Jamie stated all efforts are being made to make this year's VBS a success. They are anticipating a large amount of kids and are always in need of volunteers.

After VBS is done, she is looking at a new curriculum for the JAM program. She will have more information next month.

Elders—Bill Nelson said everything is going well since we have gone to one service in the summer.

Mike Winslow discussed how well the David Winslow Scholarship distribution presentation went. He also said there are still openings available for the Winslow Scholarship Golf Outing.

Property Management—Grass planted after the final grading east of the Education Bldg. Roofing quote received by Nordmann, two additional quotes are in the works.

Electrical contractors being consulted for circuit overload that has been an ongoing issue in the office areas.

One-year Habitec inspection agreement signed and returned for annual inspection.

Joint caulking and epoxy coating discussed in the front entrance of the church. Strong winds and heavy rains continue to cause leaks in the basement restrooms.

Handrail has rusted off west of the front church entrance. Re-welding and anchor required.

Playground surface coating needs to be repaired. Bill Caldwell agreed to talk to Brad Morrison regarding

this issue. Swing repair to be investigated.

Dave Wilbarger reported fire inspection is also due in July. He'll take care of contacting the inspector and setting up a time. He took off work last year to handle that, so he'll do it again this year. Seemed to him it was just a couple of hours.

Finance Committee—Chris Hunsaker reported that in the month of May we realized a positive month ending balance of \$923.13. Overall, year-to-date as of tonight's meeting we have a shortfall of \$5,345.65. This is significant, since this time last year we had a shortfall of \$23,972.24.

A motion was made by Larry Paul to accept the Finance report and it was seconded by Jeff Ladd, motion was carried.

Dayschool Report—Kindergarten enrollment is low, with only four confirmed/paid children. Talks will be held in the next several weeks and if there are no additional children enrolled, they will be cancelling the kindergarten class at First St John Dayschool. There are currently 107 preschool and extended care children enrolled. Bill Caldwell said they are putting in place a Dayschool Charter and programs to better manage and track financially how the school operates.

Pastor's Report—Pastor stated there are two baptisms in July. Also, there are three weddings remaining for this year. He also wanted to mention again that he will be on vacation as of July 13th through July 27th. He has Sunday worship services covered and also any additional items that may arise during that time.

Old Business—None

New Business—Bill Caldwell has been working to take care of our sound system problems and has decided the pricing quotes we received from Torrence Sound are out of line. He is getting additional quotes from another company and will have more details to bring to the congregation at a later date.

FIRST ST. JOHN COUNCIL MINUTES

July 21, 2015

The July 21, 2015 meeting was called to order by President Keith Mullen. Bill Nelson opened the meeting with devotions. Roll call was taken. John Spoerl made a motion to accept the minutes from the June meeting. Larry Paul seconded. Motion carried.

Director of Faith Development / Sunday School—Jamie Blazeovich reported we had over 85 children attend our Vacation Bible School Monday, June 22 – Thursday, June 25. We couldn't have had a more successful VBS without all the wonderful volunteers. We thank God for the blessing of all who gave their time and their donations. This year, we collected for the Personal Needs Pantry. Thanks to everyone who donated to this awesome ministry! You can check out pictures from this wonderful week at www.firststjohn.com

By Design met for a playdate on Tuesday, July 21 at Cedar Creek Park in Northwood. We all had a wonderful time incorporating our children into this awesome ministry! We are looking forward to meeting again in August, and then we are excited to start meeting again in the fall.

RALLY DAY will be held on September 13th at 9:00 am. We are inviting all our First St. John Church and Dayschool families and children to this special event. We will have a special presentation as well as snacks. This will be the kick off to another great year of our Sunday School program—Jesus And Me (J.A.M.). Please plan to attend this awesome event in the gym that will be filled with joy, laughter, and fellowship!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! As we start to think about fall and the beginning of school, we look forward to the start of our JAM and other Sunday School sessions. We are looking for volunteers to help us lead our JAM program. If you are interested, please contact Jamie either through the church office or through email: cedir@firststjohn.com

Elders Report—A recent wedding went very well. There is one wedding still on the calendar for this year. They discussed communion and going back to two services on September 13th.

Property Management Report—Fire inspections were done. Electrical work is being done to bring the office areas up to code. An air conditioning unit was also installed. John Spoerl motioned and Mike Winslow seconded to spend approximately \$11,000 to upgrade the electrical system in the pastor's office and the other office areas in the Educational Building with money from the Designated Funds. Motion carried.

Finance / Treasurer's Report—Jim Sommers reported we are a little ahead of last year in our current fund, thanks to our members. Dick Haar made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Sherrie Haar. Motion carried.

Dayschool Report—Bill Hamilton reported they have had several resumes sent in for the Dayschool Administrator position. The Dayschool Board is looking over them with hopes of doing interviews soon. They also will be meeting with the teachers to set up the fall programs.

Pastor's Report—Pastor was on vacation, so there was no report this time.

Old Business—None.

New Business — There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, August 16th to vote on the new church constitution, the removal of the parsonage, and approval of money to the upgrade to the sound system in the church.

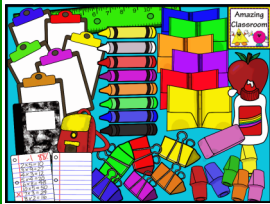
Mike Winslow noted he has 22 teams scheduled to play in the Winslow Golf Outing on August 1st. He would like to get 25 teams.

A motion to adjourn was made by Larry Paul and seconded by LuAnn Spoerl. Motion carried.

Bob Haar led us in praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Keith Mullen
Council President



SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE ITEMS NEEDED!

In September of this year, the Men's Breakfast Fellowship will be celebrating ten years of meeting together for breakfast on one Saturday each month. To celebrate, the men's group is sponsoring a school supply drive for our adopted grade school, Birmingham, in East Toledo.

Many parents cannot afford to buy school supplies for their children, so we will collect items from now until August 16th in the Narthex. The list includes:

- glue sticks
- crayons (no more than 12 in a pack)
- color markers & pencils
- regular #2 pencils
- pens (blue and black ink)
- boxes of Kleenex
- safe scissors
- construction paper
- small bottles of hand sanitizer
- thick Expo Dry Erase markers

Thanks. If you have any questions, please call Bob Haar 419-250-9409 or email him at bobhaar@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE AUGUST 21st

JUNE COUNCIL MINUTES (continued from page 7)

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Haar and seconded by Jeff Ladd, motion carried. Pastor Rayl closed the meeting with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hunsaker

PASTOR'S NEWS (continued from page 1)

Philip, who can only think about the enormous problem and scarce resources answered, "Eight months' wages would not buy enough bread for each one to have a bite!" At last another of Jesus' disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, spoke up: "Here is a boy with five small barley loaves and two small fish, but how far will they go among so many?" As far as the disciples were concerned, the problem was resources. They didn't have enough. But Jesus knew better. What they had was not a resource problem, but a faith problem.

The gospel writer tells us, "He asked this only to test him, for he already had in mind what he was going to do." Isn't that interesting? Jesus already had in mind what he was going to do, but he needed to test his followers. He wanted to know whether they were fact-based thinkers or faith-based thinkers. There's a powerful concept for you. Are you a faith-based thinker or a fact-based thinker? Jesus wanted to test his disciples. Could they see beyond human limits and focus on God's infinite power? Inventor Henry Ford once said, "I am looking for a lot of men who have an infinite capacity to not know what can't be done." That seemed to be Jesus' aim too. Lots of people are experts in what can't be done. The important question is, what can be done?

God is working in our lives at all times, in big and small ways. But much of God's work can be seen only in hindsight. As we look back over our lives, we see our every need supplied right on time. We see prayers answered years after they were prayed. In other circumstances, we thank God for prayers that He, in His great wisdom, chose not to answer according to our desires. But faith-based thinkers don't have to rely on hindsight. The great thing about faith-based thinking is that it allows you to rejoice ahead of time in the knowledge that God is loving, just, and powerful, and that He will meet every need according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.

St. Paul put it like this in Ephesians 3:20: "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, forever and ever!" St. Paul knew. We can do anything God has called us to do. We have the resources. Do we have the faith?