



# Emmanuel-Faith Messenger

September, 2011

## Events:

September 1 - First  
Magazine Turn-in  
Day

September 2 -  
School Pictures  
Day

September 5 - No  
School, Labor  
Day

September 11 - PTL  
Movie Night,  
6:30 pm

September 12 -  
Magazine Sales  
End

September 18 -  
Grades 3-5 sing  
in church

September 26 - No  
School

September 27 - Eat  
at Runza evening



## Hurricanes

Luke 12:6-7: *“Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”*

Watching the hurricane this past weekend, I heard about the high winds of 50 mph. My first thought was that those New York reporters need to spend an hour in a Nebraska thunderstorm.

Events like hurricanes, though, frighten us. Earthquakes, stock market crashes, terrorist attacks, and visits to the doctor’s office all are frightening.

It was to us that Jesus directed the words, “Don’t be afraid.”

In the midst of turmoil and trial, the calming words of Jesus quiet our own fears. “Don’t be afraid.” Our reliance on the grace of God will see us through whatever the world throws our way.

Teach your children to have the faith in God that will calm fears.

---

## Magazines

Our annual magazine sales take place over the next two weeks. This sale helps to pay for school necessities that are not in the budget. Please help by taking as many orders as possible. The only rule we have is that you do not allow your child to go door-to-door.

All checks should be made to Emmanuel-Faith Lutheran School. Be sure that the order blanks are filled out clearly. If someone is renewing a subscription, you should copy the magazine’s mailing label address exactly.

Since our school receives no tax money, we must pay for some school operations through the fundraisers. Help us make this a successful money-maker for the school!



## Thou Shalt Not Cursive

If you are an adult, one of your memories of elementary school is the art of cursive writing, or as my teachers called it, penmanship. We spent time each day drawing ovals, up and down lines, and connected circles. We didn't mind the assignments because they were never difficult, but the teacher always made sure we were sitting correctly and were holding our pencils in just the correct way.

With the advent of computers, learning cursive writing has declined to the point that today, only 20% of schools still teach it.

There has been a lot of debate in education over this issue. Many schools feel it is a waste of time because of new technology. Emmanuel-Faith, on the other hand, continues to teach cursive and require cursive writing in the upper grades. There are several reasons we continue with cursive:

- Johns Hopkins University, in a published study, found that students' brains changed in reaction to learning cursive. They found that the changes led to an "almost immediate improvement in fluency" which led to development of new neural pathways. This led to more stable knowledge.
- Another study showed a connection between cursive writing and mental effectiveness and language skills.

There are presently hundreds of studies being conducted on this topic. At this time, Emmanuel-Faith will continue to side with the old way. We will continue to teach and require cursive writing until research convinces us that it is not necessary.

Call Mr. Seim if you have any questions concerning this topic.

---

## School Clothing

This is the time of year to order your PTL Emmanuel-Faith apparel. Fill out an order blanks if you are interested. There are:

- Short sleeve or long sleeve T-Shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Hooded Sweatshirts
- Polo Shirts
- Nylon Drawstring Bags

Orders should be sent to the school office as soon as possible.

First Turn-in  
Day for  
Magazines --  
Thursday,  
September 1

School  
Pictures are  
scheduled for  
Friday,  
September 2.