

FOCUS ON FAITH **Faith Lutheran Church**

N35 W6621 Wilson Street, P.O. Box 246, Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012
Office Phone: 262-377-0960 Fax: 262-377-1509
Website: www.faithlutherancedarburg.com
Email: faithchurchkathy@wi.rr.com



2011

Saturday at 5:30 pm: Taize` Service
Sunday at 9:00 am: Worship / Communion
Sunday at 10:15 am: Sunday School & Coffee Hour

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH -ELCA
N35 W6621 Wilson Street
P.O. Box 246
Cedarburg, Wisconsin 53012-0246

Change of Service Requested

Touched, we
Invide,
Equip and
Send people in Jesus' name.

DECEMBER 2011

PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

Usher Captain-Bob Beverung

Altar Care: Cindy Dellegrazio, Amy Fischer, Dottie Dorr

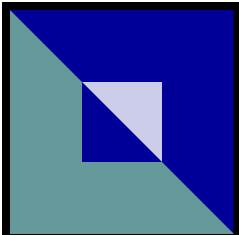
Team 6

Dec. 24, 6:30-Team 1; 10:30-Team 4

DATE	TIME	ASSISTANT MINISTER	PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH	READER	CUP DEACON	ACOLYTES	GREETERS	Child Care Center
Sunday, December 4	9:00 a Communion	Aaron Gresch		Aaron Gresch		Kayla Fischer Brenna Fischer		Bev Yurske Hannah Yurske
Sunday, December 11	9:00 a Communion	Judy Johnson	Judy Johnson	Judy Johnson		Sydney Hall- mark Mitchel Mal- louk	Geri Noack	Mariah Butler David Schnorr Dustin Dahlman
Sunday, December 18	9:00 a Communion	Cindy Dellegrazio	Cindy Dellegrazio	Lois Krueger		Tori Paige Hannah Yurske		Jessica Struhar and family
Sunday, December 24	6:30 pm— Family 10:30 pm— Candle & Communion				XXXXXXXXXX Joe & Dottie Dorr	Marcus Zarling Tanya Zarling Jacob Lehnberg Eric Dahlman		Joyce Christie
Sunday, December 25	10:00 am Communion				Tom and Janet Polum	Kyle Polum Nathan Struhar		Alisa Norquist Olivia Norquist

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR -

DO NOT DEPEND ON A REMINDER!!!!LET THE OFFICE KNOW OF ANY CHANGES



Focus on Faith

Faith Lutheran Church

December 2011

Staff

Pastor: John C. Norquist
Youth & Family Ministries: Toni Schnorr
Office Manager: Kathy Thiele
Bookkeeper / Office Assistant: Judy Gronbach
Sanctuary Choir Director: Tom Christie
Celebration Director: Stephen V. Hibbard
Financial Secretary: Lois Krueger
Treasurer: John Schnorr
Newsletter: Ryanne & Patrick Lee
Custodians: Gary & Kathy Gilstrap

Officers

President: Lois Krueger
Vice President: Bob Becher
Secretary: Vonna Pitel

Committee Representatives

Church in Society: Jerry Gierach
Communications & Evangelism: Vonna Pitel
Fellowship/Ministry Care: Kris Papke
Finance Advisory: Lois Krueger, Bob Becher
Fundraising: Jeff Fischer, Brad Hallmark
Music & Worship: Dottie Dorr
Parish Education: Amy Canapa
Personnel: Lois Krueger
Property: Bob Becher
Stewardship: Kris Papke
Trust Funds: Sandy Downey, Bob Guse, Lorraine Krueger, Jerry Gierach, Jeff Fischer, Bob Wendtland
Youth & Family: Vonna Pitel
Visioning: Jeff Fischer, Brad Hallmark
Web Site Committee: Toni Schnorr, Dottie Dorr, Kathy Thiele, Alisa Norquist



The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light...

Isaiah 9:2

What began as a barely perceptible decrease in September seems to become an oppressive force by the time December arrives. The darkness of winter comes upon us with ever-increasing, disorienting intensity as people still yearning for long summer days are plunged into sudden, enveloping night.

Living in a northern climate I should be more accustomed to this, but it always seems to take me by surprise. As a metaphor, darkness often stands for our fears, for threatening powers beyond our control. Yet darkness is also part of God's good creation, and as ominous as it may seem, it does bring rare gifts.

My year-round bicycling brings me outside a lot, and this time of year I'm often riding in the dark. Shortly after daylight savings time had adjusted our clocks I was preparing to ride home after a meeting, and was taken by the sight of the constellation Orion rising huge and bright over the treetops of our "Westlawn Woods". I've always enjoyed finding this winter sentinel, and felt like I was seeing an old friend. Without darkness how could we gaze in wonder at the stars or ponder their message?

The gift of darkness is in what it helps us to see; including the one we call "Light of the World". Amid your fears and all that you cannot control is one who has come to dwell with you, whose radiance brings hope and offers direction. Like the stars he is always there. The darkness helps us to see and remember, and to shine as we reflect this brightness together!

God's peace,

Pastor John



Mission of the Month - Disaster Response Fund

Each month our congregation emphasizes a particular outreach ministry. You are invited to support these ministries in whatever way your heart moves you.

Contributions can be given in Mission of the Month envelopes found in your contribution envelope box or in the white envelopes in the church pews.

Disasters are tragic events that disrupt the normal routine of life, causing loss and human suffering. During a disaster such as an earthquake, major flood, tornado, civil war, or famine, the overwhelming concern is for the safety and preservation of life. After a disaster, the relief process begins. Food, safe drinking water, medicine, and shelter must be provided. The church has always ministered in disasters, bringing God's Word of comfort, healing and renewal to those who are suffering.

The ELCA reaches out in times of disaster through the **ELCA Domestic Disaster Response Fund** and the **ELCA International Disaster Response Fund**. The Disaster Response Funds are funded entirely by contributions from members and friends of the ELCA. Every single dollar given to each of these funds is used for disaster relief. Sometimes areas need assistance for several years following a major disaster. The Response Funds continue to provide relief as long as it is needed.

2011 has seen many disasters throughout the world. Following are some of the ones that the Response Funds have been reaching out to.

The ELCA International Disaster Response Fund is continuing to send relief to Haiti, to Japan following the earthquake and tsunami, to Southeast Asia, Central America and Australia following serious flooding, to the Horn of Africa in the midst of terrible drought, and to other African countries in the midst of political turmoil.

The ELCA Domestic Disaster Response Fund has supported recovery efforts following Hurricane Irene on the East Coast and serious flooding in Minot, Minnesota and in North Dakota.

Both Funds work with and through other social service agencies and local congregations.

What is needed?

Prayer support for those afflicted and those who help.

Volunteers when needs have been identified.

Contributions that will enable the church to respond to disasters at once and for the long haul.

During this Christmas season when we celebrate God's greatest gift to the world, won't you consider a gift to help people who are in great crisis by giving generously to the December Mission of the Month, the ELCA Disaster Response Funds? Your donation will be divided equally between the two funds or you can specify one fund or one area of need if you prefer.

The Response Funds are one way we can respond to the question, "Who is your neighbor?"



FAITH TRUST FUNDS, OUR LEGACY --- TODAY - TOMORROW - THE FUTURE

This will be the final FOCUS article for 2011. There will be a detailed report for the annual meeting in January. It has been an exciting year for Faith Trust Funds. Our “legacy” has been growing, and that has enabled us to “focus” more on “today, tomorrow and the future.” While we will list all of our disbursements in the year-end report, we would like to hi-light two of our donations that have been requested for mission work.

Pastor Rod Nordby and Nancy Anderson are a husband and wife missionary team that is sponsored by the ELCA Global Mission program. Pastor John met Pastor Nodby several years ago when he was meeting with a group of pastors from the ELCA, north shore area. For two years this missionary team has been assigned to Papua New Guinea. We, Faith Church, have supported them with a \$100 donation (in 2010 and 2011) to their ELCA Missionary Sponsorship. In response to that, they have sent a letter several times a year, describing their mission work in detail. We recently received an update. After completing their first two year commitment, they returned to the U.S. and enjoyed seeing family and friends in North Dakota and SW Wisconsin. During the past summer, they also traveled throughout Wisconsin, doing presentations at various sponsoring congregations. Now they have returned to New Guinea, with mixed emotions, for another two years of serving. In their recent letter, they described the feeling of “tug ‘n’ pull upon return – the tug back to the US and the pull toward Papua New Guinea where we have our home, our work and friends waiting our return. It’s not the change that does you in; it’s the transitions.”

Recently we received a request, via Pam Schwalbach, from Kelly Adlington. Kelly wrote: “In February I will be traveling to Tanzania, Africa, with Pam. I will be finishing a school house. We’ll install windows and a door and build desks and chairs for students. Tanzania is quite far from Wisconsin; my journey will not be cheap. A total of \$3000 inspired my mother to think of a way for me to raise money. I have been going around my neighborhood telling people about my goal and asking them to sponsor an apron. A \$25 donation means an apron with a “sponsored by” patch on it, and I will deliver it myself to a woman in Arusha. For every \$25 donation I receive, my mother and I will sew an apron. Your interest in my trip has not only touched me, but it has opened up opportunities for youth and adults at your church. I would be more than ecstatic to report back to you, when I return in March, about my experience to show you what your help has given me and those in Tanzania. I am so anxiously anticipating February and this rewarding experience. Your help is bringing me closer to my goal, and I cannot thank you enough.”

Pam had enclosed a note stating: “Kelly is a young girl who is not blinded by the world. She is stepping out in her faith to travel with us. Kelly is a junior at Menomonee Falls High School. At age 14 Kelly knew that the HS needed a more compassionate group of individuals to deal with our global world, so she went in front of the principal and the school advisory committee and began the “Amnesty International” Club. They began in October 2010 and quickly raised \$1000 for our November ‘packathon’ which takes place at the high school. Kelly and a few others from the club also began to raise money for us to take vitamins and to purchase shoes for the children in Arusha and Singida, Tanzania. Karen, Libby, my daughter, and I took this money with us when we were there in March of this year. I want to give Kelly every opportunity in her mission trip. Her kindness for other human beings is contagious! I hope you will consider helping her in her mission to travel to Tanzania. She will be a wonderful ambassador for Simple Hope, Faith Lutheran Church and our world.”

Needless to say, the Trust Funds committee was impressed with Kelly’s request and Pam’s recommendation. We approved a \$500 donation to Simple Hope for Kelly’s trip and are looking forward to meeting her when she returns with Pam in spring. The \$500 donation adds up to 20 aprons that will say “sponsored by Faith Church.” We are very thankful that Pam has given us this opportunity to get involved in her wonderful mission work.

Trust Funds Committee: Sandy Downey, Jerry Gierach, Bib Guse, Lorraine Krueger, Bob Wendtland. Any questions? Contact any one of the committee.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE

Sunday school is in session for Pre-school through 5th grade. All youth are welcome to attend. Sunday school starts at 10:15 and goes until 11:15.

Confirmation Class is held on Wednesdays from 4:00 – 5:00 for 6th and 7th graders and on Sundays from 10:15 - 11:15.

Mentor/Mentee Teams – Our new Mentor/Mentee Teams are Hannah Yurske & Bev Yurske, Tori Paige & Cory Thiele and Marc Zarling & Nial Peterson. **Our next Mentor/Mentee Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 11th at 11:30.**

College Boxes – Sixteen College Care Packages were prepared for our college students who have or will receive them during their exam week. A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who put goodies into the care packages and also to Phil and Cindy Dellegrazio for shipping the boxes. I know our students appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Activities for December:

Annual Live Nativity – Faith will again participate in the Live Nativity that will be held in downtown Cedarburg next to Advent Church. Our performance date is Friday, December 2nd at 7:30pm. Our youth will be portraying Mary, Joseph, Shepherds and Angels and our adults will be singing Christmas Hymns. Please join us in witnessing to the unsuspecting shoppers in Cedarburg.

Activities for future months.....

Youth Gathering – 2012 – We have registered four youth and myself to attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We are partnering with Trinity Lutheran Church who has twelve youth attending and three adults. The ELCA Youth Gathering only happens every three years. The event is scheduled for next year July 16th – July 24th. The Gathering offers opportunities to do service projects, listen to great bands and speakers, learn and hang-out with 36,000 other youth from around the United States. Stay tuned for ways you can help support the youth raise money for this great opportunity.

Please know that I'm very open to your input and assistance. Stop-in to see me or give me a call at (262) 377-0960 ext, 204 or email me at faithchurctoni@wi.rr.com

For the Mentor / Mentee Stewardship project, Bev and Hannah Yurske have chosen both a local and global project. The local project is the Volunteer Center of Ozaukee County. We will be dealing with Clearinghouse Collections. All collected items will be distributed to community agencies that serve those in need. The "wish list" is:

December – Teddy Bears & Senior gifts
January – Pajamas

February – Dental care products
March – Laundry soap, paper towels
April – Children's books
May – Food drive

Our global project is Simple Hope. We will be collecting vitamins (non-gummy) and monetary donations for shipping food and buying shoes. Collection boxes for these projects will be in the narthex. Thank you for helping those in need.



Cooke Sale at Faith

December 11 - be sure to mark your calendar. Why? Because that is the day of the famous cookie sale at Faith. This sale will take place directly after the Sunday service. Why? Because that is the date we will try to break our record from last year with a profit of \$900.00 for the general fund at Faith.



However, we cannot accomplish this unless we get a lot of help from our Faith members. So, start planning ahead and help make this sale be the best ever. We need lots and lots of cookies. Small Christmas cookies, decorated or not, round, square, whatever you desire to bake will be just great. These cookies should be brought to the church on Thursday, December 8th, packing will take place on Friday, December 9th and then on Sunday, December 11th the big sale.



These cookies are beautifully displayed and make wonderful gifts for that special person or if you just like a nice assortment for your family. The price this year will be \$9.00 a lb. which is cheaper than local stores sell them and besides, these are home baked from the wonderful bakers at Faith.

There is a sign-up sheet in the church narthex. If you have not signed up for baking, or helping, please do so. We look forward to this event and just know, with your help, we will have a wonderful turnout and the general fund will look a bit "healthier" with all of our help. Thanks in advance and the Sunrise Circle thanks everyone in advance. God bless and have a most blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank You for Supporting Luther Manor Ministry (September Mission of the Month)



Thank you for 25 memberships in the Luther Manor Friends (formerly Auxiliary) along with \$125 contributed to the Friends that will be used for special items that make life more enjoyable for persons living at the Milwaukee campus and River Oaks in Thiensville or attending the Lakefield Adult Day Center.

Thank you for \$631 contributed to the September Mission of the Month. The Mission of the Month gifts will be divided between Luther Manor Milwaukee and the Lakefield Adult Day Center.

And thank you for 62 ½ dozen cookies that will be enjoyed by residents at the Luther Manor complex in Milwaukee! Your generosity is helping to make Luther Manor's ministry of caring possible. Praise the Lord!

Thank you to Carol Bury and Sylvia Wessel who donated items for crafts and game prizes for Lakefield participants. Thank you, also, to Pastor John for leading devotions at the Day Center.

Stewardship Campaign Success

Our Fall Stewardship Campaign, “Good Begets Good,” is nearing completion. The neighborhood routes were completed smoothly and on time thanks to a great group of route coordinators and the efforts of members to pass on the materials quickly. As of this writing, we have received 84 pledges totaling \$153,802 for Faith ministry in 2012. We are awaiting more pledges in the mail. The number of pledges is slightly higher than last year, but the total pledged is presently slightly under last year.

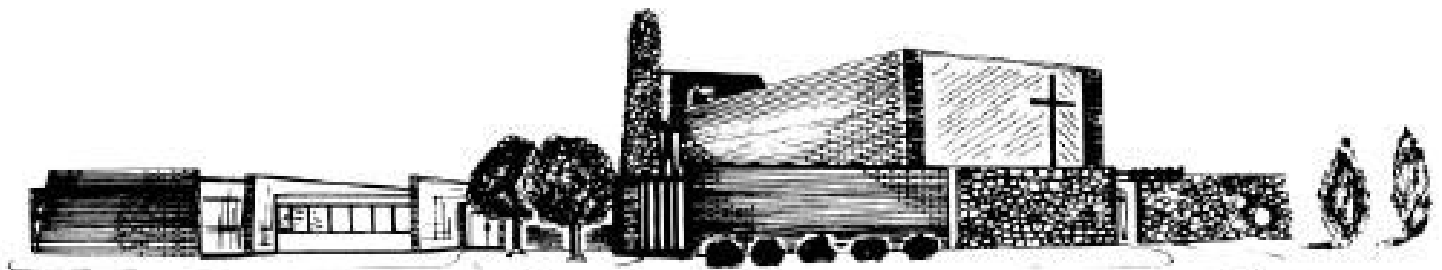
Celebration Sunday was an exciting and uplifting day here at Faith. Route Coordinators placed route bags filled with pledges before the altar, and Sunday School children brought up the School Kits they had packed with school supplies donated by our members. The Adult Forum featured Pam Schwalbach and her guests sharing stories about their mission work in Tanzania. That was followed by a potluck brunch (part of the “Month of Potlucks” Project) kicking off our November Mission of the Month, the ELCA Hunger Appeal.

Contributions of time and talents by many made this year’s Stewardship Campaign a success.

Sewed School Kit bags :	Renny Rappold, Bev Yurske, Joyce Christie, Judy Johnson, Janet Wendtland, Kathy Thiele, Colleen Rasmussen
Prepared mailing:	Sylvia Wessel
Computer work:	Lois Krueger
Prepared route bags:	Bev and Hannah Yurske
Sewing machine:	Judy Johnson and the Schnorr family
Route Coordinators:	Julie Allen, Walt Becker, Joyce Christie, Mary Erickson, Jeff Fischer, Brad Hallmark, Janet Polum, Jim Schwengel, Tom Sear, Hal Sherman
Office assistance:	Kathy and Judy
Inspiring preaching:	Pastor John

Thank you to everyone – including all members who faithfully support the ministry work of Faith Church.

The Stewardship Team



**NURSERY:**

December 4: Bev Yurske & Hannah Yurske
December 11: Mariah Butler, David Schnorr,
Dustin Dahlman
December 18: Jessica Struhar & family
December 24: Joyce Christie—Family Service
December 25: Alisa Norquist & Olivia

LOCK-UP

December 4: Dottie Dorr
December 11: Brad Hallmark
December 18: Brad Hallmark
December 24: Brad Hallmark
December 25: Brad Hallmark

USHERS:

Team 6	Captain:	Bob Beverung
December 24, 6:30 pm:		Team 1
December 24, 10:30 pm:		Team 4
December 25:		Team 6

COMMUNION SET-UP:

Cindy Dellegrazio
Amy Fischer
Dottie Dorr

ALTAR FLOWERS:

December 4: Marlene Christensen
December 11:
December 18:
December 25:

BULLENTINS

December 4:
December 11:
December 18:
December 25: Kathy Thiele

Bible Readings**Sunday, December 4, 2011**

Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 40:1-11
Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; refrain, Ps. 85:13
2 Peter 3:8-15a
Mark 1:1-8

Sunday, December 11, 2011

Third Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126; refrain, Ps. 126:3
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
John 1:6-8, 19-28

Sunday, December 18, 2011

Fourth Sunday of Advent
2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
Luke 1:46b-55; refrain, Luke 1:52
Romans 16:25-27
Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, December 24, 2011

Nativity of Our Lord / Christmas Eve
Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96; refrain, Ps. 96:11
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)

Sunday, December 25, 2011

Nativity of Our Lord / Christmas Day
Isaiah 52:7-10
Psalm 98; refrain, Ps. 98:3
Hebrews 1:1-4 (5-12)
John 1:1-14

December Birthdays

December Anniversaries

12/1 Lucille Becker
 12/2 Erin Rickard
 12/3 Craig Hoff
 Gerold Scherbert
 Sydney Hallmark
 12/4 Kayla Fischer
 12/5 Thomas Christie
 Christy Corrigan
 12/6 Jonathan Garrett
 12/7 Todd Benz
 Janet Wendtland
 12/10 Amir Abu-Fares
 Whitney Morton
 12/13 Peter Guse
 12/14 Amy Blau
 12/16 Dottie Dorr
 Kari Miller
 12/17 Troy Benz
 12/18 Judy Schwengel
 Taylyn Steinert
 12/19 Heidi Parker
 Dorothea von Trott
 12/21 Allen Fritz
 12/22 Trevor Brandenburg
 Linda Petersen
 12/24 Michael Meade
 12/27 Jeffery Fischer
 Nicole Zarling
 12/29 James Gollnick
 12/30 Michael Dellegrazio

12/5/98 Nicholas & Jennifer Wittenberg 13 years

Office Hours
Tuesday—Thursday
9:00 - 2:00 pm
Friday
9:00-Noon

THE MINUTES FROM
 COUNCIL MEETINGS
 CAN BE FOUND ON THE
 BULLETIN BOARD
 IN THE
 NARTHEX.



OUR PRAYERS are invited for Jim Gresch, Bill Duff (Dottie Dorr's brother), Tony Navarre (a teacher at Homestead H.S.), Karen (good friend of Kathy Thiele's), Peter Ehlers, LaVerne Gresch, John & Lindsey (daughter & son-in-law of neighbors of Thiele's), Allen Thiele (Chuck's brother), Lisa Quinlan (cousin of Toni Schnorr), Loretta Strehlow, Ron Rappold (Ken & Renny's son), Shirley Peters; Ed Rappold, Allen Roberts (friend of Dorr's), Eric Keifer (friend of Jessica Struhar), Teresa Schmitz (sister of Jessica Struhar); for all in military service, especially Chaplin Brady Eggleston, Paul Brissman (Vera's son), Chris, Jacob Elbe (Hal & Vangie Sherman's grandson), Doug Downey; for all those in mission work, especially Pam Schwalbach and Emily Sear.

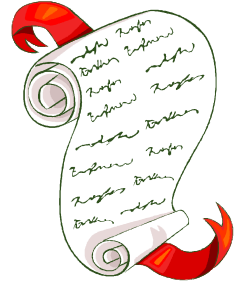
Names will stay on our prayer list for one month. If you would like your loved one or friend on longer, you will have to let the office know.



Christmas Gift List

Are you busy making your Christmas giving list? Thinking about what to give to the special people and the special causes that you care about in your life?

How about including your church on your list? Your church is here for you to share in worship every Sunday. Your Faith family is here to celebrate good times with you and to support you in not-so-good-times. Won't you consider an extra gift to Faith during the month of December in thanksgiving for the greatest gift of all, God's gift of a Savior?



You can give your gift in a pew envelope or just add it on to your regular giving. Your gift will go toward the general budget and be used for God's work here at Faith.

More gift suggestions:

Good Gifts Catalog in the narthex (includes God's Global Barnyard)

Simple Hope – Pam Schwalbach's mission to Tanzania (boxes in narthex)

Giving Tree – mentor-mentee project (in narthex)

Mission of the Month – ELCA Disaster Response Funds (envelope in your contribution envelope box or use a pew envelope)

“Peace on earth; good will to all!”

News from the Faith Church Council - November 16, 2011

Irene Nitzke Donation:

Jerry Gierach moved that the council accept the finance committee recommendation to apply the Nitzke gift plus any undersigned memorials received year to date (total \$8333.96) to the general operating budget with \$4800 earmarked to pay the outstanding benevolence payment to the Great Milwaukee Synod, seconded by Amy Canapa, motion passed.

Ecumenical Council of Cedarburg School District-The council nominates someone for a peace award who demonstrates working towards peace in the community. Jeff Fischer moved to support a free will offering in the spring for the School District Peace Award, Jerry Gierach seconded, motion passed.

Thanksgiving Service

The Thanksgiving offering will go to World Hunger. Brad Hallmark moved that the loose change offering go to wherever pastors agree upon at the November 16th meeting, Jerry Gierach seconded, motion passed.

Handbook; Review

Brad Hallmark made a motion to accept the revised Faith Congregation Council Handbook, Jerry Geriach seconded, motion passed.

Other Topics

Categorized list of Ministries

Lois Krueger announced the list of ministries has been completed and posted in the Narthex

Church Constitution.

Lois Krueger indicated the council will receive the final copy of the revised church constitution, and it will have 30 days to read and approve it.