

**The Evangelical  
Lutheran Church of Our Savior  
204 Wayne Avenue  
Corner of Wood Lane and Wayne Avenue  
Haddonfield, NJ 08033**

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***July/August Messenger***

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# The Parish *Messenger*



**July/August 2009    NEWSLETTER  
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR  
HADDONFIELD, NJ**

## **July & August Birthdays**

## **Discovery Canyon VBS Theme July 27-31 @ LCOS**

There’s nothing like an echo in a canyon to make spreading the good news easier! Register your child for Vacation Bible School by filling out a registration form found on the VBS bulletin board located beyond the office. The cost will be \$15 per child between the ages of 4 and those who have completed 5<sup>th</sup> grade and \$10 for each additional sibling.

This year’s theme is “Discovery Canyon: Explore the Wonders of the Word”. Each day is centered on a Bible memory verse and daily theme. Children will “hike” to 6 different sites to fill the day with fun and learning.

VBS will be held July 27-31 from 9:00 to 12:00. We are still looking for volunteers for the week as well as volunteers to do the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade float. We will also be posting a “wanted” list on the VBS bulletin board, so check back to see if there is anything that you can donate to help us make VBS “rock”!

If you have questions, concerns or would like to help, contact Kim Warren

## **Sticky Situations Continues During the month of July**

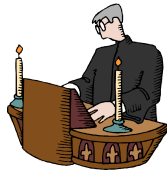
Ever wonder how the Sunday lesson or lessons can be applied to a real sticky situation of your faith? Join a growing number of 8:00 and 10:00 worshippers in the Parish Hall for a focused fellowship of sticky buns, coffee, and conversation over just that topic each Sunday in July from 9:15-9:45. Each week Pastor Wayne creates a “sticky situation” of faith related to one of the day’s lessons from which the group talks about how they might faithfully respond. Most weeks the conversation leads to discussing other “sticky situations of faith” the typical Christian might encounter in life and how we might respond as the group enjoys sticky buns and coffee together. Join them in July for this unique Focused Fellowship opportunity only offered in June and July.

## **Wiggle Worship at 10 AM Worship All Summer**

Even with the replacement of windows and overall refurbishment of the rooms on the third floor, Wiggle Worship will continue during the months of July and August. Pastor Wayne or Pastor Englehardt (whoever is not preaching that day), along with Pat Green and Jaime Frazier, invite any and all children ages 3-8 to join them for a brief children’s worship in the assembly area of the third floor each Sunday during the 10 AM worship. Each week while parents are listening to the lessons and sermon in the sanctuary, children will sing songs, participate in a children’s message based on one of the readings, learn about a part of worship that correlates to the lesson, and close in prayer before rejoining their parents during the sharing of the Peace.

The goal of Wiggle Worship is threefold. First, parents have an opportunity to focus their full attention and participation during the readings, sermon, hymn of the day, and creed during the Word portion of worship. Second, children who naturally would not benefit from those same parts of worship get to participate in a worship that is tailored specifically for their age and comprehension. Third, children will learn how different parts of worship are related to the lesson theme for that day, and also how they can participate more fully in worship with their parents whenever they are in church. In doing so, Wiggle Worship is hoped to be something children look forward to participating in for worship as much as their parents and older siblings look forward to worshipping overall.

*The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord,  
proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs,  
and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.*



## “This Summer Remember to Breathe” *By Pastor Wayne Zschech*

As I write this article I’m attending the Large Congregation Workshop in Burnsville MN, “Let the River Flow”. However, what is the river that is to be let flow? The river could be the “River of Life” that flows in the Kingdom of God as described in the book of Revelation. The river could also be the one that flows from our baptism that calls us to live out of the gospel promise of new life through death. Or, as we are so close to North Dakota, the river could also be the one that sweeps us up and away in the flood, threatening to drown us in the waters or wash away that to which we believed provided safety and security. Again, the image of baptism arises.

One of the other emphases of this gathering is one provided by the Board of Pensions of the ELCA. It focuses on how in baptism, we are a new creation in Christ, and called to live out that new creation in a life of well-being. This well-being comes in six ways; intellectual, social/interpersonal, emotional, physical, financial, and vocational. (for more information on the Wholeness Wheel of Well-Being check out [www.elcabop.org/LiveWell/Wholenesswheel.aspx](http://www.elcabop.org/LiveWell/Wholenesswheel.aspx) on the ELCA Board of Pension’s website).

Breathing is important when it comes to living well. It’s also important if you’re in the middle of river. Breathing is essential to life. Breathing properly provides the amount of oxygen we need to not only survive, but reduce stress. Breathing is a gift from God. Yet, how often do we think of it that way.

Since July is the seventh month of the year I thought you might appreciate a little breathing exercise provided to us from the BOP called “Circle 7”. It’s very simple.

- Take a deep breath as you count to seven. (You might even think “Spirit fill me” as you do.)

- Hold your breath for seven counts (pay attention to the stale air building up in you, like the staleness of sin and stress that can also build up inside us.)

- Over seven counts, slowly exhale (all the while thinking “Spirit cleanse me”).

Repeat the process seven times.

Obviously it is not an exercise to do in thirty seconds. Counting all the seven seconds intervals, it would take a person 147 seconds (2.5 minutes) to do the procedure faithfully without any stopping. The point is, when we focus on our breathing in such a way we center ourselves with respect to our relationship with God, ourselves, and quite possibly God’s creation and our neighbor as well.

So when you’re at the shore, lake, or swim club this summer and remember your baptism as you go under the water, remember to breathe properly (but not while you’re under water). Remember each breath is from God and can be used to bless or curse. The choice is yours. By focusing on our breathing we draw closer to God and his Son, Jesus. So take a breath this summer. In fact, take the Circle 7 of breaths this summer and discover the various forms of well-being that results from your exercises. Taking a breath is the first thing we do when we come up for air from being underwater. As we let the river flow, may we also not forget to breathe.

## Yard Sale July 11 Raise Youth Mission Trip Funds

The youth and adults participating in this year’s Youth Summer Mission Trip are holding a second fundraiser in July to raise additional funds toward their donation to Habitat for Humanity in Goldsboro NC. On Saturday July 11, from 8:00 to 1:00, the Mission Trippers will hold a Yard Sale stretching from the parsonage driveway to the parsonage front lawn. While Mission Trippers will be donating priced items to be sold from their respective homes, the congregation is invited to donate any items they believe would benefit the cause in order to raise as much money toward the HFH donation as possible. Items should be dropped off to the church and placed in the Youth Room NO SOONER than Monday, July 5 and NO LATER than Thursday, July 9.

Currently there are 21 youth and 6 adults planning to participate in the Summer Mission Trip to Goldsboro from July 18-25. Last year they were able to frame a house from the foundation up to, but not including the roof trusses, as well as paint the trim at a house in Mt. Olive (you know, where they pack a peck of pickles). This year, the group may have another house to frame, and youth under 16 may have some finish work to do as well, but there are no guarantees. Over \$1,000 was raised in the Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser and the group hopes to raise an additional \$500 at the Yard Sale for a sizable donation to Habitat. Mark the date and bring your “treasures” in July for a fundraiser the youth hope will be extremely fruitful. If nothing else, pray for fair weather and generous yard sale shoppers.

## Saturday Worship Slowed in Implementation

The Worship and Music Committee had every intention of holding some focus meetings in May to determine what format would be best suited for those intending to attend Saturday night worship services, but were unable to do so. Rather than begin holding some form of worship on Saturday nights simply for the sake of having a service, the committee decided it would be better to use the summer months to discover and discern what format would be best and then offer the best worship experience possible, beginning in the fall. Vacation and work schedules may make it difficult to complete this work quickly, and the committee asks the congregation’s patience and support in this task. If you have any input or insights please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Wayne, Tom Reiter, or Pat Haines with your comments.

## Vision Team Retooling for Clarity and Communication

The Vision Committee began the task of updating the database, identifying ministry needs, and discovering best/worst practices for ministry within Our Savior’s history, the synod, and possibly the ELCA itself. While initially the work of the database committee really shined it has become apparent the committee has slowed down greatly over the past year. At its last meeting, the committee decided to explore the possibility of identifying pre-fabricated congregation renewal or visioning programs available through the NJ Synod, ELCA, or community of the Church at large.

Pastor Wayne has used one such program in another call, but will meet with Assistant to the Bishop, Rev. Bruce Ewan, and discover what other options might be available that include synodical support should Our Savior choose to go that route. They plan to meet again in early July to decide what options might be best to pursue in order to begin the process by fall of 2009.

## Attention Seniors! Senior Game Day

**NEXT DATE IS:  
Tuesday, September 22nd  
at noon**

~ Bingo, Pinochle, Bridge ~  
Come out and Have Fun!

FOOD AND DRINKS (SODA) SERVED

Best of all . . . **It's Free!**

**RSVP:** Betty Keene 429-5083,  
or Eleanor Gaines 429-8056



### THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033

(856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245 (fax)

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

**Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM**

**Nursery Provided at 9:15 & 10:30 AM**

#### CHURCH COUNCIL

Kim Anderson	Youth
Brian Bell	Property
Bill Cowan	Secretary
Charles Coleman	Christian Education
Danielle Deery	Congregational Resources
Tracey DiCrescenzo	Social Ministry
Tom Foscett	Treasurer
Larry Friant	Vice President
Patricia Hanies	Worship & Music
Dale Kredatus	Financial Secretary
Betsy Kuehn	Social Ministry
Deb MacBride	Christian Education
Bobbi Newsham	Fellowship Development
Tom Reiter	Worship & Music
Juhan Runne	Personnel
Kathy Simpkins	Seniors
Hans Underwood	Youth
Dave Wyche	Communication

#### MEMORIAL GIFTS BOARD

Cathe Bare  
Jack Berrigan  
Paul Clark  
Larry Friant, ex-officio  
Paul Knauer  
John Laughlin  
Laura Oakes  
Stacey Shaw  
Elizabeth Woltz  
Wayne Zschech, ex-officio

#### STAFF AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Wayne Zschech, Senior Pastor  
Glenn A. Englehardt, Associate Pastor  
Monica Ebbenga, Office Administrator  
Cindy Randall, Office Assistant  
Eric Ebbenga, Organist  
Patricia Shaw-Green, Dir. of Music  
Linda Powell Cherub Choir  
Bob Knight, Custodian  
Jeff Gross, Night Lockup  
Shirley Bramble, Nursery Care  
Beth Hill, Altar Guild  
Bonnie Richards, Sunday School Supt.





## Worship Leaders

**Altar Guild:** Sue Tharp & Betty Keene  
**Counters:** Arranged by Dale Kredatus

### July 5

**Readers:** 8 - R. Genieser 10 - Betsy Kuehn  
**Communion Assistants:** 10- Bob Ely & Dave Wyche  
**Ushers:** 8 - Joe & Peggy Hartman 10 - Stacey & Eva Shaw  
**Acolytes:** 8 - Rob LaBarge, Brie Zschech, Alex Fabian  
10- Noelle & Ethan Quanci, Emily Donovan,  
Michael McLaughlin, Bobby Jelonek

### July 12

**Readers:** 8 - A. Super 10 - D. Deery  
**Ushers:** 8 -Joe & Peggy Hartman 10 - Stacey & Eva Shaw  
**Acolytes:** 8-Rob LaBarge, Holly Harrington, Joseph Kiernan  
10-Karen Graeber, Sam Lyons, Robby Reiter,  
Andrew Shaw, Nicole Fallon

### July 19

**Readers:** 8- K. Monsen 10 - R. Amme  
**Ushers:** 8- Joe & Peggy Hartman 10 - Stacey & Eva Shaw  
**Acolytes:** 8-Rob LaBarge, Stephen Woltz, Samantha Prepsel  
10-Dan & Michael Wolf, Julia Gross, Shelby Cain, Andrew Vitale

### July 26

**Readers:** 8 - B. Neveling 10 - K. Carpenter  
**Ushers:** 8 - Joe & Peggy Hartman 10 - Stacey & Eva Shaw  
**Acolytes:** 8-Rob LaBarge, Brie Zschech, Joseph Kiernan  
10-Chris & Nick Heinze, Kyle Carpenter,  
Steven Peterson, Molly Tomlinson



## JULY

Wed 1 Tai Chi 4 PM,  
**Sun 5 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 6 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 8 Tai Chi 4 PM  
**Sun 12 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 13 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 15 Tai Chi 4 PM  
Sat 18 **Summer Mission Trip—until Sat 25**  
**Sun 19 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 20 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 22 Tai Chi 4 PM  
Sat 25 Rivershark's Game  
**Sun 26 Worship 8 & 10AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 27 **VBS Week July 27-31**  
Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 29 Tai Chi 4 PM  
Fri 31 Family Movie Night

## AUGUST

**Sun 2 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 3 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 5 Tai Chi 4 PM  
**Sun 9 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Blessing of Grads 10AM, Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 10 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 12 Tai Chi 4 PM  
**Sun 16 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 17 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 19 Tai Chi 4 PM  
**Sun 23 Worship 8 & 10AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 24 Prayer Group 7 PM  
Wed 26 Tai Chi 4 PM  
**Sun 30 Worship 8 & 10 AM, 9:15 AM Sticky Situations,  
Wiggle Worship 10:15 AM**  
Mon 31 Prayer Group 7 PM



### Lenape High School

**Kristin Peterson**  
Bloomsburg University  
Major: Nursing.

**Kenneth F Carpenter, III**  
Rutgers University,  
School of Engineering

### Haddonfield Memorial High School

**Kelly Hope Harrington**  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Major: Computer Science

**Noelle Quanci**  
Fashion Institute Technology  
Major: Fashion Design

### Haddon Heights High School

**Julia Lynn Tredinnick**  
Philadelphia University  
Major: Textile Design



**Keith Friant** graduated from The University of Maryland  
with a BA in Government and Politics.

**Erica Gensel** graduated from The Yale School.

**Jacquelyn Gitzes** graduated from Ursinus College with a BA  
in International Relations, Cum Laude, Political Science  
Honor Society Pi Sigma Alpha.

**Kimberly Haines** graduated from Georgetown University  
Cum Laude, with honors in American Studies. Beginning a  
graduate program in Education at University of Pennsylvania.

**Kathryn Hallowell** graduated from Lady of Lourdes Nursing  
Program with Honors & Camden County College with the  
Associate in Science, Diploma in Nursing.

**Alison M Welker** graduated from Rutgers University with a  
BS in Marketing.

**Erik W. Wyche** earned his Master's of Architecture degree  
from The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC  
after his thesis *Redefine the Homeless Shelter* was accepted. He  
earned his BS in Architecture from CUA in 2007.



**Altar Guild:** Carla Wright & Beth Hill  
**Counters:** Arranged by Dale Kredatus

### August 2

**Readers:** 8 - L. Oakes 10- Brian Bell  
**Communion Assistants:**10: Juhan Runne & Betsy Kuehn  
**Ushers:** 8 - TBA 10 - TBA  
**Acolytes:** 8-Brie Zschech, Alex Fabian, Stephen Woltz  
10- Karen Graeber, Chris & Nick Heinze, Sam Lyons, Emily Donovan

### August 9

**Readers:** 8 - T. Cheney 10 - C. Gross  
**Ushers:** 8 - TBA 10- TBA  
**Acolytes:** 8-Holly Harrington, Joseph Kiernan, Samantha Prepsel  
10-Dan & Mike Wolf, John Finnerty,  
Jackie Stillwell, Michael McLaughlin

### August 16

**Readers:** 8- A. Stolarick 10 - H. Harrington  
**Ushers:** 8- TBA 10- TBA  
**Acolytes:** 8-Brie Zschech, Alex Fabian, Stephen Woltz  
10-Ethan Quanci, Dan Leverick, Robby Reiter,  
Andrew Shaw, Nicole Fallon

### August 23

**Readers:** 8 - Bill Wilson 10 - K. Meyer  
**Ushers:** 8 - TBA 10- TBA  
**Acolytes:** 8-Holly Harrington, Joseph Kiernan, Samantha Prepsel  
10-Brian & Alison Gensel, Julia Gross, Hayden Remphrey, Shelby Cain

### August 30

**Readers:** 8 - T. Weber 10 - C. Bogina  
**Ushers:** 8 - TBA 10- TBA  
**Acolytes:** 8-Rob LaBarge, Stephen Woltz, Brie Zschech  
10-Andrew Vitale, Sarah Swan, Kyle Carpenter  
Steven Peterson, Molly Tomlinson

## LCOS Youth Perform in Godspell

Voorhees Theatre Company will be performing the musical Godspell on August 13, 14, and 15 at Voorhees Middle School. Come see Brian Gensel perform as Martin Luther and Dan Wolf narrate the parable of the Prodigal Son! Told almost entirely in song, Godspell presents the gospel of St. Matthew updated to New York City of the late '60s/early '70s, featuring Jesus Christ as a wandering minstrel dressed like a circus clown.

Godspell is filled with great music and fun as the cast reenacts Biblical parables with great enthusiasm and flamboyance. For more details contact Connie Wolf.

## Sunday School Updates:

The Sunday School floor is under going a major renovation this summer. We are hoping to have it finished by Rally Day. We will be having an open house with coffee and desserts sometime in the fall.

Registration will be on Rally Day (September 13, 2009). Reminder letters will be going out in August. Sunday School is for 3 year old through 6th grade. If you have any questions regarding Sunday School please contact Kim Anderson. There is a Sunday School Teacher Training on Saturday September 12, 2009 from 8:30AM to 2 PM. If anyone is interested in attending please contact Kim by August 20, 2009. There will be no cost to those attending.

## Host Families Needed

M.I.S.T. Agency is seeking Christian host families/homes for two Korean students who will be attending Paul VI high school in Haddonfield for the 2009 – 2010 school year. Would you please open your heart and home to a student this year. We find that this is a wonderful ministry and experience for all involved. Host Families provide room and board, the student will pay for all his/her personal expenses and have their own medical insurance. They speak and understand English. As a host family you will receive a monthly stipend of \$600. If you are interested please contact Lisa at [Lspruck@monarchbsinc.com](mailto:Lspruck@monarchbsinc.com) or 678-264-8671

## June Social Ministry News

By Betsy Kuehn

### BOSNIA FUNDRAISER

Social Ministry's first fund raiser of 2009 under Care in Congregations was on the Sundays in May in support of Ed Nace, who will be traveling to Bosnia from June 20 to July 3, 2009 as part of the International Service Team of the New Jersey Synod. The congregation donated a total of \$1205 which will be matched by Thrivent Financial with \$625, for a total of \$1830. Thank you to all who have contributed.

The second fundraiser under Care in Congregations will be the Holiday Food Drive in November, donations to be matched up to \$625.

### MY FATHER'S HOUSE

LCOS has been approved for \$1000 in supplemental funding for 2009 from Camden County Chapter of Thrivent Financial through its Care Abounds in Communities Program to be used for My Father's House. Thank you to all who prepare meals each week for the 14 girls. Meals have been scheduled until the end of the year. Remember to save your receipts, we must have \$3000 in receipts for this year to receive the supplement. Contact Jan Amme if you are interested in preparing a meal.

### LCOS CARE PACKAGES

Social Ministry is coordinating the LCOS Care Package ministry. Packages are sent two times per year (late winter & fall). Send names, addresses, & e-mails of college students or military personnel to Eva Shaw. In February, we sent 32 care packages. We plan to send care packages again the end of October.

### CARING HEARTS

LCOS Social Ministry sponsored a deodorant and socks collection for Caring Hearts Ministries, an organization that helps children and their families that are affected by AIDS. Caring Hearts hosted their Easter/Spring Party on Friday April 3rd. Caring Hearts also hosts a Fall Give-A-Way and Holiday Party, dates and items needed to be announced.

### PANTRY

Help is needed to pack and deliver food to our Pantry families. A sign up sheet is outside the Pantry. Contact Nancy Gulick & Charlie Coleman if any questions. Also please remember the Pantry when shopping and pick up a few extra items. Current Pantry needs include pasta, sauce, beans, tuna, and cereal. Monetary donations are also needed to purchase supplies for the Pantry.

### PACK-A-SACKS FOR IHOC

See Stacey Shaw's article on page 5 for details.

**Meeting dates:** We meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at 7pm in Room 112. Upcoming meeting dates are 9/1, 10/6, 11/3, and 12/1. If you are interested in being part of our committee, please contact Betsy Kuehn.



to the following people for helping with the pantry in May; Cheryl Cook, Charlie Coleman, Carol & Ben Behm, Danielle Deery, Joan Candia, Juhan Runne, Eva & Stacey Shaw & thanks to **Seniors** for special donations.

Thank you to **all who cook meals** for My Father's House each Tuesday.

Office Helpers: **Jane Evans, Jaime Fallon, Ward Laubach, Arlene Stolarick & Sue Underwood.**

Messenger helpers: **Lynn Boyle, Arlene Berger, Jane Evans, Eleanor Gaines, Betty Keene, Rose Marie Krauss, Louise Mowrer & Dottie Powell.**

## Praying for You

Monday 7-7:30 PM in the Church library

*"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, God may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."* (Ephesians 3:16-19)



These words are used each week at our Monday night prayer group as we lift up before God 8 or 9 of our households, knowing that within a year or so, all of those listed in our church role will be prayed for. You are welcome to drop in at any time to join us for our half hour of prayer, Mondays at 7 PM in the church library, year-round, even on Holidays.

When you receive a postcard feel free to make specific requests (which as asked will be kept confidential).



## Home From the Military

SFC Donald Brandinelli,



### In Harm's Way

**Lt. John L. Gaines**, aboard USS Vicksburg  
**Ben Green**, serving in the Middle East,  
**Jonathan Keck**, stationed in Afghanistan,  
**Michael Miano**, stationed in Nepal.

Keep all who serve our country and preserve our freedoms in your prayers!





To All at LCOS,  
Many thanks for our weekly “DVD” of the church services. We are most appreciative and enjoy being connected.  
Hopefully, we will be there in person.  
*Sincerely, Ingrid & George Hager*

*Dear LCOS,*  
Many thanks to the Altar Guild for the lovely flowers. Thank you for the calls and cards of sympathy at the loss of my mother. I appreciate all your love and caring.  
*Yours in Christ, Carleen Dunkle*

## Church Office Hours

**Monday - Friday: 9 AM - 5 PM**

Monica Ebbenga 9 AM - 2 PM  
Cindy Randall 12 - 5 PM

*One calling the church office between these hours can generally expect to reach a church staff person to talk to.*

## Staff Summer Vacation Schedule

During the summer the pastors, office and worship staff will be “re-creating” while on vacation the same as they hope and pray the congregation has time to do as well. Here are the staff vacation dates as of this newsletter, which are subject to change.

Pastor Zschech:  
June 22 – July 1, August 24-29  
Pastor Englehardt:  
July 2-8, September 3-10  
Monica Ebbenga:  
June 29-July 3, August 3-7  
Pat Green: June 17– July 1

## Pipeline... a column for older people and their families *by Lorraine Miano*

Losing a loved one to death touches us in ways we cannot imagine – for some death of a loved one reaches to our deepest feelings of sadness, heartache, questions, regrets and loneliness; for others – a sense of life come full circle. However, no matter what the response, the truth of the matter is that these thoughts are all human and you are not alone in these feelings. All of us cope in a variety of ways with this loss – prayer, conversation with family, friends, or a counselor, or through the help of a support group.

Although there are these informal support groups of friends or neighbors, there are more formalized support groups available. These groups offer support, information and a healing experience over time. A formal support group usually has a leader who moves the group along in conversation and adds meaningful structure to the meeting. There are many kinds of support groups - groups exist for those who are coping with a disease, or problems with kids, or addictions or any of the human conditions we encounter in life. There are also “Grief Support Groups” for those who have lost a loved one – be it family, friend, co-worker or partner.

Our church, LCOS, started a Grief Support group this past spring lead by Cindy Wisser Murphy with assistance from our Associate Pastor, Glenn Englehardt. Upon speaking with Cindy, I learned that through her own deeply felt losses she has learned that support from others can offer a healing journey of talk, tears and hope. Her support group at LCOS offers a non-threatening, welcoming and calm atmosphere. The group meets in the church parlor once per week for 7 weeks for about 1&1/2 hours. All are welcomed without any pressure – it’s a safe atmosphere. My sense was that this support group offered comfort, counsel, confidentiality, conversation and courage. “***Comfort***” comes from the comfortable surroundings and the knowledge that all who are there understand something of what you feel; “***Counsel***” comes from listening to how others are coping in the group as well as Cindy’s hand-outs distributed at every meeting; “***Confidentiality***” is the expectation & information remains within the group; “***Conversation***” is what just flows when people are together; “***Courage***” to go on knowing that you are not alone.

All attendees are attempting to cope with a death – be it a recent one or not so recent – and seeking their own answers. The journey for each person is individual yet there are common threads of hopes and fears to be shared. Cindy tells me that generally once one enters the group, he/she does not wish to miss any session because of the bond that develops. Men and women and people of all ages are welcomed warmly by Cindy.

Other Grief Support groups in the area include: The Haddonfield United Methodist Church (856- 429-0403); many of the hospices in the area (and one does not have to have been associated with them directly); and a long-time grief support group called HOPE (Helping Other People Evolve, Inc.) (1-888-920-2201) for widows and widowers. There are two similar and well guided support groups at Jewish Family and Children’s Services. The first for more recent Widows and Widowers (which meets in the afternoons at their campus on Kresson Rd in Cherry Hill) and another group for those further along the process called “New Beginnings”, please call (856) 424-1333). One might be for you.

## Faces of LCOS: Hans Underwood-Disciple To His Family and Church

At 27 years of age, Hans Underwood has come full circle with his life and his faith. “I was born in Maine but raised in Westmont,” said Hans, a 2000 graduate of Haddon Township High School who earned his B.A. in secondary education/ physical education from The College of New Jersey in 2004. “My family made it a point to go to church every Sunday,” he continued. “Church was part of our traditional family values, my parents (Sue and Don, who both sing in the adult choir) never held anything over me, but we were just expected to do the right thing. Church was part of our family community.”

Hans served as an acolyte after being confirmed and Pastor Dunkle invited him give the opening prayer to begin the 8 am worship service on occasion. “Those things were important to me,” Hans said.

During his years in college, Hans said he “drifted” away from church, did some “church hopping” and experienced different worship styles. “LCOS was always familiar and comfortable to me,” he said. “I liked Pastor Dunkle and I like both Pastor Zschech and Pastor Englehardt. The Pastors and the people are warm. I think I have found my niche in the church.” That niche is as a leader and role model. Hans presently serves on Church Council, regularly assists as a counter and is an active leader of the Youth Group with Kim Anderson. “I think I was sought out for that role as a younger member of the congregation who attends worship regularly,” he said. “I feel like I am the face of the youth. It was a need to be filled and I took the opportunity. Kim does most of the organizing and I kid her that I’m her sidekick who goes along for support and as a role model. I really enjoy the rafting trip, and the Pastors come along and we are able to hang out and talk about our faith,” Hans said. “I believe faith formation is important,” he continued. “We have some kids in the Youth Group who don’t go to our church, and sometimes these are the only times they get to hear about faith. And I’ve always had a connection to the outdoors. We still have a farm in Maine and, to me, that’s God’s country. It is like a religious experience just to walk around. I feel a real connection to God there.”

Hans said he really enjoys community service projects like the 30-hour Famine and is hoping they can increase those opportunities for the Youth Group. “Kim and Pastor have come up with a lot of service opportunities, and there are a lot of fun things thrown in, so I look forward to many more in the future,” he said. “Pastor and Kim have done a nice job creating a balance – worship, service, fellowship.”

However, Hans has served as a role model to more than the Youth Group at LCOS. His example has strengthened his entire family’s faith. “When I went to college, I feel I got away from the church,” said Hans, currently a special education teacher at Lenape High School in Medford. “When I came back, my Mom re-introduced me to the church. Her faith is strong. “As I started to get involved, my sister Beth and her husband Mark started going to church,” he continued. “Then my brother Don started coming. And then my brother Rob and his family. It was pretty neat. I think they saw the changes that took place in my life and how my faith in God affected me. My Mom was certainly instrumental but, certainly, my brothers and sister seeing me and the life changes that have taken place have served as an example for them. Rob and Beth both moved recently to North Carolina and I enjoy spending summers there and worshipping with them. I can worship wherever the name of Jesus Christ is proclaimed.

“I feel blessed and thankful,” Hans concluded. “God blessed my family and changed my life.”

## LCOS Office Efficiency

With the goal of increasing office efficiency, Office Administrator, Monica Ebbenga and Office Assistant, Cindy Randall attended an Environmental Technology Showcase hosted by Ricoh on June 10th. They attended workshops on improving business processes, information security and environmental sustainability.

One of the most interesting things they learned about was processes for utilizing the document scanner on the office copier to archive documents electronically. With the amount of paper archive storage required from our 80+ year history, space is at a premium these days. Perhaps with some volunteer help, the office can begin to electronically archive items such as bulletins and *Messengers*, in a searchable database, and free up space while recycling paper at the same time!

## Pack - A - Sack

The end of another school year is here. Are you wondering what to do with all those extra school supplies? We have the solution. Donate them to IHOC. The social ministry committee will be collecting school supplies all summer long to be distributed to homeless children in south jersey. All you have to do is pick up a shopping "backpack" fill it with school supplies and return it to the church. The bags will be available June 1st and must be returned by August 15th. Any questions please call Stacey Shaw (856) 309-2817.





## Living Faithfully in a recession

A serious recession. Some people out of work. Investments declining. Most are budgeting more carefully, watching their spending. Vacations are being taken closer to home, which works well in our area because of the great diversity of wonderful activities within 100 miles of us. A “very serious” recession for those now unemployed and those living from paycheck to paycheck.

I have read and been told, especially by those who experienced the Great Depression, that times like these drive people to church. I have seen no evidence of that personally, and in talking to colleagues, including those of other denominations, neither have they.

Is this recession just not serious enough? Are people finding other ways to cope? Is God’s purpose and his presence in our daily lives simply not viewed as important? Has the church failed to market itself as a refuge of hope? Are those staying away finding their faith empty and unsatisfying? I can’t answer any of those questions for you, but can say that it deeply concerns me whenever you are not able to join us on Sunday mornings.

The church, despite its many flaws, is a place to experience God’s grace in many meaningful ways. We worship the God who loves us and who provides for us; we hear of his faithful promises through the written and spoken word of the Bible; we experience his presence in the joy of the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion; we fellowship with other believers remembering that in God’s eyes we are all equal; we are refreshed and encouraged to go out and share ‘Good News’ as we help meet the needs of others I hope and pray that you will be encouraged to join us as often as the Spirit and your busy schedule allows.

A current author, Diana Butler Bass, reflecting on A People’s History of Christianity, contends that “Christianity has from its earliest days been marked not so much by its theology as by the Christian ways of life. Bass contends, Christianity succeeded largely because it transformed lives.”

Lives being transformed from hopeless and helpless to hopeful and at peace, from despairing to Spirit-filled. We are confident that it is happening here at Our Savior on Sunday mornings. Won’t you come and be a part of it!

~Pastor Englehardt

## Synod Assembly Focus Social Justice Issues & More

Congregations of The New Jersey Synod of the ELCA met June 5-6 in New Brunswick for their annual assembly. One of the highlights of the Assembly was a celebration of social justice ministry in the synod for the past 25 years through the Lutheran Office on Public Policy. Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey also gave an enlightening report and provided a comprehensive ten-minute video of their ministry in New Jersey for over a century.

In addition to these celebrations the following resolutions and memorial were either passed or referred to Synod Council for further consideration and recommendation.

1. A resolution to lift up, support, and encourage ministry to, with, and for senior citizens in our congregations was approved.
  2. A resolution for pastors to have two days off a week was referred to Synod Council.
  3. A resolution for congregations to provide maternity and parenting leave written into Statements of Call for pastors was also referred to Synod Council.
  4. A resolution expressing congregations of the New Jersey Synod’s disapproval of racism and commitment to work against in the communities they serve was approved.
  5. A memorial to the ELCA Churchwide Assembly to approve the Social Statement on Human Sexuality as recommended by the Church Council was approved.
- A resolution calling for congregations to learn about and respond to the inappropriate treatment of undocumented aliens and legislation pertaining to the same was approved.

Many thanks to Nancy Frazier who attended as Our Savior’s voting member as well as to her daughter Jaime, even though she was unable to attend due to illness. Both will be attending the special meeting of the synod to approve the 2010 Financial Spending Plan as it had to be delayed until such time a more realistic plan could be developed from actual Mission Support offerings in 2009. If all congregations give according to their Mission Support Intent the synod will be able to finish the year without any more cuts (currently they had to cut over \$300,000 due to anticipated shortfall).

## THRIVENT CORNER Making Financial Goals: with both Head and Heart

What distinguishes financial winners from losers? Some people might be tempted to respond, “the size of a person’s bank account” or “the performance of a person’s investments.” While few people would argue that how much one owns or how well it performs doesn’t matter, those who view these measures as standards for success may be forgetting an important truth: money is a tool, not an end, in life.

Following the tragic events of September 11, 2001, life insurance sales surged as people turned their focus to caring for their families and communities. Those values superseded gathering wealth. But it should not take tragedy to bring our values into our financial decisions. Instead, they should be integrated throughout our financial decision-making.

Asking the right questions upfront can help. For example, “What is my mission statement in life?” “What mindset do I bring to my possessions - scarcity or abundance?” “What values are the guiding forces in my life?” “What activities give me energy and make me feel alive?” “How do I want people to remember me?” “What organizations and causes do I care about deeply?” “Does the way I manage my money truly reflect my life’s priorities?”

Knowing the answers to these questions can assist people in integrating their personal values with their financial decisions.

How do people integrate their personal values with their personal finances in the real world? Some choose to express their support of particular issues and organizations through charitable gifts. Others leave a legacy to their children or grandchildren. Still others allocate dollars for their personal development through education and training to bring their skills or passions to a higher level. And some people simply better monitor their spending to focus on long-term needs.

Those who are most satisfied with life – whether enormously wealthy or just scraping by – have successfully connected how they manage their money with their values and life purpose. They correctly understand that money is a tool, not an end, in their life. Their finances surround and support their deeper values linked to family, time, legacy, care for others, leisure, faith and everyday living.

Real financial success comes from examining both what is in one’s heart and what is in one’s portfolio. When people’s values and money are in alignment, they can be assured that the way they manage their money is supporting who they are and what they believe in. That’s a sure way to satisfy both head and heart.

*George C. Welker, FIC, is a Financial Associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in Haddon Heights, NJ. George can be reached at 856-546-0500. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. This column was prepared by Thrivent Financial for use by this representative.*

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## Musical Notes... From the Music Director

Well, another choir year has come and gone. O my, how the time flies! It continues to be a joy and pleasure to work with so many musically talented people! Each year in our Children’s and Youth Choirs, we watch the musical “changing of the guard” so-to-speak. Some of our Cherubs jump up to Children’s choir; some Children’s Choir members to Youth Choir, and, sadly, some Youth Choir members to the world of college and/or employment. We will miss them terribly and wish them God Speed in their new and upcoming adventures in life! There is always an open invitation to come and join the Adult Choir if you’re close enough to do so! A very special thank you to the Mom’s and Dad’s who religiously, (no pun intended,) get their kids to each rehearsal every week. My heart-felt thanks to all of you!

A very special thank you goes to the Adult Choirs, both singing and bells. These dedicated people who, after working all day, are willing to come to rehearsals so that they can share their talents and sing their praises to God every week! This year, as in the past, we’ve had the opportunity to perform special concerts which are open to the public. Along with our wonderful organist, Eric, we have had the opportunity to sing some beautiful music, with some incredibly talented musicians, which we wouldn’t be able to do in a regular worship service. This has been an exciting and meaningful time for all. The Choir appreciates the support we have been given for these concerts. All in all, it has been a great year, and we look forward to singing and ringing again next year and in the many years to come!

By Pat Shaw-Green