

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

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September Messenger

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The Parish *Messenger*



September 2009 NEWSLETTER
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
HADDONFIELD, NJ

Saturday Worship Option Update: Guitarists Needed

The Worship and Music Committee, along with the pastors and other worship leadership, hope to launch a Saturday night worship option next month, beginning October 3. Three focus groups were held in July and August to discover what format, time, and other details were important to parishioners looking forward to attending the new worship. The development team, headed up by Dale Kredatus and Pastor Wayne Zschech along with other members of the Worship and Music Committee, discovered the following.

- A Saturday Worship option benefits young adults who would attend prior to Saturday evening social engagements, families with children in activities that include Sunday morning rehearsals or competitions, and seniors who may have mobility issues in the early morning. It also benefits those who attend regularly, but currently attend another church on Saturday night when they cannot attend at Our Savior on Sunday mornings.
- 5:00 appears to be the ideal time.
- The liturgy needs to be familiar and led with some form of musical accompaniment.

Songs might be more upbeat than some of the classical hymns.

Currently, the pastors and leadership staff are exploring the use of the Chicago Folk Service developed for the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod for use with the settings used in the Lutheran Book of Worship. This worship format features the use of guitar, piano, flute and bass for musical accompaniment. **Any musicians in the congregation who are able to play any of those instruments and are interested in being a part of the worship leadership are encouraged to contact the church office or Pastor Wayne Zschech or Pat Green, Director of Music.** Songs from the Lutheran "Worship & Praise" book are also being investigated for possibilities.

In order to evaluate how well this Saturday night option is meeting the worship needs of our congregation and the community at large it will be given an initial trial period of a year. During that time, suggested improvements will be welcomed. One restriction this new service creates is that weddings at Our Savior cannot be held after 3:00 so as not to create a conflict, but will likely not be a big issue as many weddings occur at or before this time.

Saturday, October
3, 2009 at 5:00 PM,
***Saturday, October 3,
2009 at 5:00 PM***, Satur-
day, October 3, 2009 at
5:00 PM, Saturday,
October 3, 2009 at 5:00 PM,
Saturday, October
3, 2009, 5:00 PM

This is the date for the First Saturday Service at Our Savior. A great time and day to hear God's word and sing his praise. This is your invitation to join the newest service with communion in a contemporary style.

~Dale Kredatus

Log in to MemberConnect!

Our Online Community

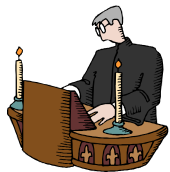
MemberConnect is a great way for our church family to communicate among ministry groups. It is an up to date online member directory and so much more! Staff and Ministry Leaders are posting announcements, calendar events, discussion forums, help wanted ads, photo albums, and so much more for the groups they lead.

You can access our MemberConnect site at oursaviorhaddonfield.ctsmemberconnect.net

To enter the site, you'll need your user ID and password. Please either call the church office to find out your password. After you log in you can change your password by clicking the My Info tab, then Administration, then Edit Your Personal Information

September Birthdays

*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.*



“Ready to Take the FAITH 5 Challenge?”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

I have a friend in Minnesota whose name is Rich Melheim. Rich is the creator of the catechetical materials we use in our confirmation ministry called Head to the Heart. Rich is passionate about his faith in God and Jesus Christ. More importantly, Rich believes that faith formation begins with and is nurtured in the home church of family more than the big brick church of the congregation. He believes this so much that he even created a simple method for families of all ages and generations to participate in being the church at home between our gathering for worship on Sundays.

It’s called the FAITH 5, and it’s been a part of our confirmation ministry for the past three years for those families that have taken advantage of the Home Huddle pages of their Living Journals. FAITH 5 stands for the five Faith Acts In The Home people do each and every night before they go to bed. Here’s a quick overview of the FAITH 5 that families of all ages can participate in that takes only about ten minutes to complete.

SHARE your high and low for the day with other family members, be it your spouse, child, mom or dad, grandchild or grandparent either in person, over the phone, or video link-up on your computer if you’re high tech enough.

READ a short passage of scripture (1-3 verses) out loud. You can pick one at random or use the ones listed in the home devotion booklets available at church, or listed in the Evangelical Worship Book. You may even just decide to read through the Psalms or book of Proverbs to get you started..

TALK about how the scripture reading might relate to your life or your highs and lows.

PRAY for one another. The prayer doesn’t need to be lofty or eloquent. It can be as simple as, “Lord Jesus, my hope and prayer for (name) is he/she have more (high)s like he/she did today and you can help (name) with the (low) of his/her life. Amen”

BLESS each other. You might make the sign of the cross on their forehead as the pastor did at their baptism or place both hands on their head while saying something like, “May God bless you as you slumber and in all you do tomorrow.”

Now imagine what our congregation would be like if half of our families began to practice the FAITH 5 every night in their home! Imagine moms and dads sitting down with toddlers, teenagers, and young adult children to share, read, talk, pray, and bless one another every night. Imagine newly married couples doing the same. Imagine parents whose children have grown and moved out rediscovering each other through intentional faith acts in the home. Imagine widow and widower grandparents calling one of their children and/or grandchildren for just ten minutes each night to do the same. What kind of a faith community would we look and be like when we gathered on Sunday (and soon on Saturday night as well) if we did?

THE CHALLENGE It is said it takes three weeks to learn a new practice and three more weeks for it to become a habit. Beginning on Rally Sunday, I invite individuals, couples, and families to take the FAITH 5 Challenge with me and my family. There will be a sign up in the narthex and at the Sunday school registration on the third floor. I’ll provide the scripture readings for the six weeks we will be living out the FAITH 5 Challenge to make it a bit easier and then on Reformation Sunday, October 25 we’ll celebrate with those who were able to complete the Challenge during the Coffee Hour fellowship time. The challenge will be ongoing, though, with the opportunity to sign-up occurring throughout the year and a celebration next Rally Sunday when I hope half of our congregation has taken and lived out the Faith Acts In The Home 5 Challenge. How hard can it be to take ten minutes to share, read, talk, pray, and bless each night in every home? After all, with Christ and the Holy Spirit, all things are possible.

Newcomers Orientation Classes Begin Sunday, October 4 at 9:15 AM

New Members Received on Reformation Sunday, October 25

If you’ve been a worshipping visitor of Our Savior for a week or over a year you are invited to join Pastor Glenn Englehardt for four weeks of a Newcomer Orientation class in Room 112 near the bulletin boards on the ground floor near the Parish Hall. The classes will cover a brief history of the congregation, as well as the Lutheran church and its main beliefs, along with the various ministry programs and volunteer opportunities that are available. A tour of the building and a “meet and greet” with the congregation council will also occur as well.

Then prepare to learn some new faces and names in the congregation on Reformation Sunday, October 25! New members will be received into the congregation of Our Savior at the worship service they normally attend with a photo taken of each family to help in putting names with faces. The Evangelism Committee along with Pastor Wayne will also have a member of the congregation act as a sponsor for the new members to help them continue to better know and grow in the congregation’s ministry. Take the time to welcome our newest members and introduce yourselves to them.

September Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: Kathy Shone, Joan Candia

Counters: Arranged by Dale Kredatus

Ushers: 8: Kristine & Linda Monsen
10:30: TBA

Acolytes: Please check the schedule in the Acolyte Room!

September 5

Readers: 8 - J. Oakes 10 - Deb MacBride

Communion Assistants: 10- Bill Cowan, Dale Kredatus

September 13

Readers: 8 - J. Wentzel 10:30 - G. Martin

September 20

Readers: 8- R. Genieser 10:30 - P. Larro

September 27

Readers: 8 - Holly Harrington 10:30 - B. Bogina

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

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

Nursery Provided at 9:15 & 10:30 AM

CHURCH COUNCIL


Kim Anderson	Youth
Glenn Martin	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, Director of Music
Linda Powell Cherub Choir
Bob Knight, Custodian
Jeff Gross, Night Lockup
Shirley Bramble, Nursery Care
Beth Hill, Altar Guild
Kim Anderson, Sunday School Superintendent

September 2009						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 September		1 10:30 AM Pastors Perioope Group, Rm. 112 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Social Ministry Committee, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Toastmasters, Parish Hall (if avail) 7:30 PM Executive Committee Mtg.	2 4:00 PM Tai Chi 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall	3 9:30 AM Working Arm		5 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall
				Monica Away Pastor Englehardt Away		
6 Worship at 8 & 10 AM	7 <i>Labor Day</i> Church Office Closed 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Art Group, 3rd Floor 7:00 PM Prayer Group, Library	8 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room 10:30 AM Pastors Perioope Group, Rm. 112 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Toastmasters, Parish Hall (if avail) 7:30 PM Church Council	9 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Singing Angels 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Youth Choir 7:30 PM Memorial Gifts Meeting	10 Messenger Deadline 8:00 AM Handymen's Group 7:00 PM Adult Bells 8:00 PM Adult Choir		12 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 8:30 AM -2:00 PM Sunday School Teacher Training at Abiding Presence LC in Ewing
		Pastor Englehardt Away				
13 Worship 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM 9:00 AM Rally Day, Sunday School Registration 9:15 AM Adult Forum: First Light, Parlor 10:30 AM Blessing of Confirmands 10:30 AM McKeever Baptism 6:00 PM Confirmation Learn Event 6:00 PM -9:00 PM SAT Class, Rm. 301 7:00 PM Youth Group	14 <i>Holy Cross Day</i> 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Prayer Group, Library	15 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room 10:30 AM Pastors Perioope Group, Rm. 112 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Toastmasters, Parish Hall (if avail)	16 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM Children's Church 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Youth Choir Cindy Away	17 8:00 AM Handymen's Group 7:00 PM Adult Bells 8:00 PM Adult Choir		19 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall
	Pastor Englehardt Away					
20 Worship 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM 9:15 AM Adult Forum: First Light, Parlor 10:30 AM Clements Baptism 10:30 AM SCS Teachers Installed 6:00 PM Acolyte Training	21 <i>Saint Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist</i> 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Prayer Group, Library 7:30 PM Bible Study, Rm. 112	22 <i>Autumn begins</i> 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room 10:30 AM Pastors Perioope Group, Rm. 112 12:00 PM Senior Game Day 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112	23 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Singing Angels 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Youth Choir	24 Messenger Mailing 8:00 AM Handymen's Group 6:30 PM -9:30 PM SAT Class, Rm. 301 7:00 PM Adult Bells 8:00 PM Adult Choir		26 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall
27 Worship 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM 9:15 AM Adult Forum: First Light, Parlor 10:30 AM Blessing of Acolytes 1:00 PM -4:00 PM SAT Class, Rm. 301 6:00 PM Confirmation Learn Event 7:00 PM Youth Group	28 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Prayer Group, Library 7:30 PM Bible Study, Rm. 112	29 <i>Saint Michael and All Angels</i> 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room 10:30 AM Pastors Perioope Group, Rm. 112 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112	30 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 6:00 PM -7:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:00 PM Youth Choir	Aug 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	Oct 2009 S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	



Woman's Friday Fellowship

September Meeting

The group will meet on September 18th at 7:30 PM at Kate Zschech's house Join us for an evening of fun and fellowship. All women are welcome!

For more info, contact Connie Wolf, or the church office.

LCOS on Facebook!

Our new Facebook page has made it's debute. If you are on Facebook – join the fun and become a fan of LCOS by searching for Lutheran Church of Our Savior and clicking “become a fan”.

Confirmation Ministry

Begins September 13 at 6:00 PM

Another year of confirmation ministry with catechetical instruction is about to begin. The class of 25 seventh and eighth grade youth along with parents serving as Guides will cover the Ten Commandments, Lord's Prayer at bi-weekly Learning Events (Sunday nights from 6:00-7:30), and Stewardship on the fall retreat. The youth will also receive acolyte training on September 20 during the regular Sunday Learning Event time.

The class utilizes Power Point presentations for instruction and discussion as well as singing songs and scripture memorization. Small group discussions on the Learning Event themes are led by the adult Guides who are typically parents of the confirmands. Parents are also able to participate at home by utilizing the Living Journals that include Home Huddle materials for each night of the week. Parents and youth would then share the highs and lows of their day, read a passage of Scripture, talk about how it might relate to their lives, pray for each other, and then offer a blessing to one another. The Living Journals also allow parents whose children are unable to attend a class due to a conflict to provide “home school” catechetical instruction on the theme that was missed. Oddly, this is exactly the format Martin Luther designed for children to be formed in the Christian faith when he wrote the Small Catechism. The confirmation youth and their parents will participate in a Blessing Litany during the 10:30 worship on September 13.

Youth

Youth Group will meet be meeting on Sunday, September 13, 2009 in the Youth Room (the one with all the couches) from 7-8:30 PM All youth in 9th - 12th grade are invited to join.

If anyone has any service projects or fundraisers you would like the youth group to consider helping with this coming year, or if you have any questions please contact Kim Anderson.

Adult Forum

“First Light: Jesus and the Kingdom” Beginning September 13 at 9:15 AM in the Parlor

“First Light” is a 12-session DVD and web-based study of the historical Jesus and the Kingdom of God with two of the world's leading Jesus scholars on location throughout the Galilee and Jerusalem. Featuring John Dominic Crossan and Marcus Borg.

Join us on Sunday mornings as we tackle such questions as: Why did Jesus happen when he happened? Why the confluence of the Baptism movement of John and the Kingdom movement of Jesus? Why the tiny villages around the Lake? Why the confrontations in Jerusalem? Why then? Why there?

Why were the titles of Caesar Augustus -- Divine, Son of God, God from God, Lord, Redeemer, Liberator, and Savior of the World -- taken from a Roman emperor on the Palatine hill and given to a Jewish peasant on the Palestine plain?

What were the priorities of Jesus' proclamation of the Kingdom? How was the status quo of Roman imperial theology subverted by this obscure Galilean whose message continues to indict empire today?

Come join in the discussion as we answer these questions and MORE!



Sunday School Updates:

Sunday School Registration/Rally Day September 13, 2009 on the 3rd floor from 9 - 10:15AM. Please come and sign up your child for another great year of Sunday School. Take a tour of the new improvements made to the 3rd floor and stay for some light refreshments and coffee. Sunday School Teachers, Subs, Administration help still needed. Please contact Kim Anderson if you would be willing to help with any of the tasks.

Sunday School Teacher Training on Saturday September 12, 2009 from 8:30AM to 2 PM. If you are interested in attending please contact Kim Anderson.

Educational Services Center, Inc.

ESC is staffed by experienced and licensed high school teachers who are proficient in preparing students to excel on the SAT.

The PSAT / SAT Preparation Course reviews basic mathematical concepts in arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and algebra 2. An extensive review is given in vocabulary building, sentence completions, critical reading, grammar, usage, and essay writing.

Knowing how to take a test is almost as important as mastery of the subject matter. The course provides students with test-taking techniques that give them self-confidence and the ability to take the test in a more relaxed and assured manner.

Check them out on the web www.esctestprep.com

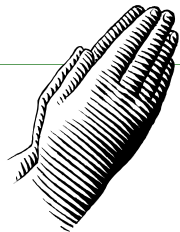
Meeting at LCOS September, October & November for the October / November exam.

Praying For You & Something New!

Monday 7 - 7:30 PM in the Church library

Alphabetically, we continue to pray for all members within a year; we send a postcard. Requests may be sent to Connie, or the church office or place a request in the box in the Narthex. Each week we pray for our congregation and part of its Mission Statement. We also pray for our community and the world.

Beginning in September, each week we will be lifting up specific situations where God's promises of hope, justice, and peace are especially needed. We are already doing this, but now we will be more intentional and specific! If you have suggestions week-to-week send them to Connie or to Pastor Englehardt. You are always welcome to join us on Monday nights, even to sit quietly and listen.



Sunday School Teacher Training Saturday, September 12

Keynote Presenter: NJ Synod Bishop Roy Riley

Workshops: Confirmation Ministry; Adult Small Groups; Book of Faith Resources; Hands and Feet Bible Storytelling (Elementary Grades); Introducing the new SPARK curriculum; Learning Centers for Rotation Sunday School; Perfect Together – Bibles, Preschooler and You; Doing Church in Sunday School (Classroom management) **Cost:** only \$50/congregation; and our church is paying for you to attend! It includes lunch, handouts, and Christian Education resources **Place:** Abiding Presence Lutheran Church in Ewing, NJ. And yes, we will carpool! **Time:** 7:45 AM – 3 PM (which includes getting there and back). Yes, it's early, but it is important, and it's only once a year! Childcare is available as well. Join our teachers and Sunday School staff that day. **Registration** forms in the Church Office or see Pastor Englehardt.

WANTED Ushers In Short Supply

Volunteers in general are in high demand these days! Over the past 10 years the number of active ushers has steadily declined. Currently we only have 31 active ushers who serve throughout the Church year. Based on the service our ushers prefer for worship it breaks down to 18 to cover the early and 13 to cover the late for the entire year. The reason for the decline is largely due to three factors, members moving out of the area, entering life eternal, and occupational demands. I cannot thank our ushers enough for their time, commitment, and continued support. Based on the number of ushers we have each of them volunteer to serve multiple times throughout the year. Serving as an usher is a very easy task and gives you a chance to interact with your Church family. We desperately need your help, please consider becoming an usher and volunteering as little as 6 hours per year. If you are interested or have any questions feel free to contact Eric or the church.

September Social Ministry News

By Betsy Kuehn

Meeting dates:

We meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in being part of our committee, please call Betsy.

PACK-A-SACKS FOR IHOC

The Social Ministry collected school supplies for IHOC (Interfaith Homeless Outreach Council) all summer to be distributed to homeless children in South Jersey, 55 backpacks were assembled. Thank you to all who contributed and to Stacey Shaw for coordinating this project.

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!!

LCOS CARE PACKAGES

Send names, addresses, & e-mails of college students or military personnel to Eva Shaw. We plan to send care packages in October. Boxes will be available Sunday October 4th, to be returned by October 25th.

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.

BOSNIA FUNDRAISER

Social Ministry's first fund raiser of 2009. The congregation donated a total of \$1600 which was matched by Thrivent Financial with \$625, for a total of \$2225. 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 \$625.00.



to the following people for helping with the pantry in June; Joan Candia, Charlie Coleman Danielle Deery, Nancy Gulick, Eva Shaw & thanks to **Seniors** for their donations.

And to the following people for helping with the pantry in July; Ben & Carol Beahm, Joan Candia, Charlie Coleman, Pat Reiter & Eva Shaw.

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.**



In Harm's Way

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



Dear Friends at LCOS

Our son, Michael, has returned from Nepal and Doctors Without Borders (DWB).

He is fine and has stories to tell. We do not yet know if he will take another assignment with DWB.

In the meantime, we are enjoying his presence here in the USA. We wanted to thank the Pastors and all of you for your many prayers and good wishes on Michael's behalf. We sent Michael the bulletin with his name several times while he was in Nepal.

He was very touched...(even though he is a New Yorker now, he grew up at LCOS and has many fond memories)...that our church would have remembered him in such a thoughtful and prayerful way was quite moving to him. We believe those prayers helped sustain him. We can assure you that Eva Shaw's 'packages from home' sustained him – what a wonderful ministry for which Michael was very grateful.

Warmly,

Don and Lorraine M.

To Kim Warren:

A huge thanks for your hard work and dedication in making Vacation Bible School a HUGE success! Not only did my kids have a blast, but they took away many valuable lessons, and are still singing the great songs! We were touched not only by *your* commitment to making VBS great, but also by all the fantastic volunteers who came forth to benefit the children. We so appreciate the time and effort of all involved! Regards,

The Lynch Family

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.

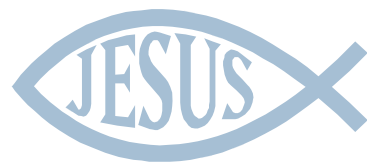
Thank You to the VBS Volunteers!

I just wanted to extend my thanks to all of the awesome volunteers that made this week a huge success! We had over 50 volunteers and 88 kids!

I am so grateful for the volunteers... Alicia Leahy, who was the co-director. The wonderful teachers, who put in many hours preparing, decorating and caring for the children; Jaime Fallon, who got together all of the registrations and ironed the "Discovery Canyon" logo on 88 shirts!; Lisa Quanci who did a wonderful job on crafts - and spent a lot of effort on the t-shirts that were worn in the Thursday evening performance; Eva Shaw and Linda Doherty who bought, prepared and served snacks for 88 kids daily!; Heather Vaughn, who taught the children music and pulled together a fabulous show complete with choreography in 4 days!; Karen Rodriguez, Pat Green, Bill Cowen and Spencer Cowen, who lead the children in games and organized a pick-up and drop-off for the week. The aides, who were vital in making everything run smoothly; Pastor Wayne, Pastor Englehardt and Jacquelyn Gitzes who did the opening ceremonies - one of my favorite parts of VBS! I could go on and on, but let me just say "thank you" to the many others who put their time and effort into this wonderful ministry as well as those who donated items. You truly helped make this year's VBS "rock"!

Thank you also to the families who participated in *Discovery Canyon*. Your support was a great encouragement for us all. Enjoy the rest of your summer and we hope to see you again next year at VBS!

~Kim



New Bible Study

Begins September 21 and 23.

Mondays at 7:30 PM or Wednesdays at 9:30 AM

Muslims are by nature violent, and we Christians are not, except of course in self-defense. Like the Jews, they don't think much of Jesus, yet we know he is the Son of God, the promised Messiah. So they probably don't believe in forgiveness or heaven. They would seek revenge, you know "an eye for an eye," cut off your hand if you're caught stealing, philosophy. Since they're all Arabs they aren't very accepting of foreigners (we Western *infidels*); certainly we Christians are much more tolerant and inclusive of others. Therefore our morals and behavior are superior to theirs. We are also great defenders of women's rights; their women are kept in their place, basically uneducated (backward Third World people), and strongly encouraged to cover their bodies modestly.

If you believe any of the above, you've been sadly misinformed. Allah (meaning 'the Almighty') is not a different God from Yahweh or 'Our Father Who art in Heaven,' but there is only one Supreme God, no matter what people call him or what they believe about him.

Join us for a Fall Bible study as we look at the ancient texts of the Bible and Qu'ran and their insights on being a faithful Muslim or Christian in the 21st century; we will be discovering many common themes in our quest.

We will also be offering this study on Member Connect – more in the October *Messenger*.

Goodman Estate

Continues Legacy of Faith Formation

When Freda Goodman was a little girl growing up in Illinois, she may not have been introduced to the Christian faith were it not for the initiative of her neighbors. One day, two elderly women who lived across the street from Freda and her parents asked if they could take Freda with them to church so she could attend Sunday school while they were at worship. Her parents said Yes and thus began Freda's journey of faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Throughout her life, Freda was a faithful Christian, always an advocate for children and youth ministry. Having never married and without siblings or cousins the church family of pastors and congregation was her family. It is therefore, not too surprising that Freda left half of her estate to the church, and the family she loved for so many years, the congregation of The Lutheran Church of Our Savior.

The Memorial Gift Board deliberated how this generous gift might be best used for ministry. Oddly enough, a proposal to renovate the Sunday school areas had been submitted to the Congregation Council for consideration and funding. The upgrades and updates to the facility would create a more welcoming, functional, and flexible environment for teachers to share and children to experience the good news of Jesus Christ as well as expand the potential for use during times in the year when air-conditioning was necessary. The Board approved half of the estate for this project and other property concerns that would foster the same and the work began.

By Rally Sunday on September 13 the children and Sunday school teachers will return to transformed classrooms and education spaces. The drafty windows have been replaced with energy efficient vinyl windows. New high-efficiency light fixtures now illumine the once dim areas of the third floor. New air-conditioning units are being installed to all rooms as well as addressing the heating irregularities of the past. The walls have been painted with bright colors and the floors re-carpeted. Even the superintendent's office and closet areas received a makeover to maximize storage, efficiency, as well as create an environment where teachers want to teach and children look forward to learning about our faith in God.

While additional funds from the Goodman estate are also being used to fix and upgrade the heating and air-conditioning of other floors and provide a fresh coat of paint and carpeting to the first floor hallways and narthex, this project was mostly about the Sunday school. It was there that a young Freda Goodman first learned that "Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so" a long time ago in Illinois. Now, thanks to her generosity, it will be a place where the children of our congregation and the visitors who come with us, their neighbors, can experience the same. The tradition lives on.

Musical Notes...

From the Music Director

By Pat Shaw-Green



If you've ever thought of joining one of our choirs...here's your chance. You don't have to be a professional singer or ringer to be in the choir. If you can carry a tune, like to sing, and love having fun and fellowship – come check us out!

Wednesday:

Children's Bells at 3:45 PM & Singing at 4:15 PM.

Youth Choir is a change this year at 7 PM.

Thursday:

Adult & Youth Bells at 7 PM while the Adult Choir is singing at 8 PM

Come See The Book of Faith: From 1874 - Today

Did you know that LCOS has a Bible from 1874? This treasure is part of a new display in the library in celebration of the ELCA Book of Faith Initiative. Come explore various editions of the Bible including The Comic Book Bible, Extreme Faith Bible, KidsBible.Com, and other more traditional versions.

100 New Books Added to the LCOS Library

Come see the many new books just added to the LCOS Library! There are many new books for children and teens, as well as books on living out our faith, parenting, Christmas and Easter. Have a few minutes before or after church or while waiting for your children to finish choir practice? Stop by the library and see what's new! If you would like to check out a book, just sign the card in the back of the book and leave it in the blue basket. Enjoy it and return it whenever you are finished.



“Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness”

~Pastor Englehardt

For many people, fear comes down to several things: protect my job, keep me healthy, let me keep most of my money, minimize my family members’ problems, kill the terrorists. And fear is contagious; when there is war (Iraq, Afghanistan), a serious recession, the threat of a pandemic (H1N1 virus), the media, politicians, even well-meaning neighbors fan the flames of ever-deepening concern. And there is despair and suicide.

We live in unsettling times marked by uncertainty and anxiety.

Is there anyone in whom I can trust? How can I live in this world as a person of faith? ‘In such times as these, God calls us to be both faithful and courageous. Paul said “Keep alert, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong (I Corinthians 15:13-14).” Faith and courage prevent fear from becoming our defining reality. Faith calls us to see the world through the eyes of God’s vision of *shalom* (that peace which the world cannot give) – a vision of the goodness of creation, of creation in harmony, of humanity interdependent.

Fear dares not acknowledge failures or expose weakness. Faith frees us to confess our bondage to sin, to admit that we cannot free ourselves, and to accept the gift of forgiveness.

Fear causes us to be possessive of what we have, distrustful of others, “downright anti-neighborly.” Faith compels us to be engaged in the world, bearing witness to the signs of the inbreaking of God’s reign of justice, mercy, and peace.

Fear turns us in upon ourselves, leaving us immobilized. Faith gives us the courage to reach out in love, even globally (Bosnia Mission Trip, Summer Youth Mission Trip for Habitat for Humanity, My Father’s House in Camden, our food pantry).

Fear leaves us cynical toward the world. Faith compels us to take up our cross and follow Jesus, to respond to suffering in the world. Faith also calls us to rejoice, praising the Creator for the wonder, beauty, and mystery of life.

Into a context of fear and distrust, God speaks faithful words of promise. So often our fears close us off from hearing God’s word of promise, from being open to God doing a new thing. In Isaiah 35 there is the promise of a homecoming from exile. In Luke’s Christmas story the angel announces “For to you is born this day,,, a Savior” The Easter encounters with the risen Christ too are preceded by an angel saying “Don’t be afraid! I know that you’re looking for Jesus who was crucified. He isn’t here; because he has been raised.” ‘ (quotes are from ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson)

Open the Book of Faith – hear God’s many promises.

Grief Support Ministry

Grieving is a journey that eventually affects all of us. It is helpful to realize that other people have experienced much the same adjustments, and have similar questions and concerns that need resolving. And we know how comforting support groups can be.

With that in mind, Cindy Wisser-Murphy and I are offering once again (we had a small group but successful series back in the Spring) a 6-7 week seminar series here at LCOS on Tuesday nights in the church parlor from 7 - 8:30 PM, beginning October 6. This will include such topics as sharing and understanding grief, remembering, role changes, and how to cope. This may be an opportunity for you to gain strength and support.

Please let Cindy or myself know if you are able to join us ~ **Pastor Englehardt**

Lutheran Study Bibles

An order will be placed on Monday, September 14

Soft cover at \$25
Hard cover at \$35

If you would like to have your own copy please contact Pastor Englehardt via email or leave a message on his voicemail at church.

THRIVENT CORNER

Baby boomers: it’s still about me

It’s their money, and they’ll share if they want to

As the baby boomer generation nears retirement, nonprofits (or anyone else, for that matter), should not count on profiting from any accumulated wealth the “me generation” may have.

Among baby boomers, charitable donating is among the lowest priorities in retirement. In fact, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans’ fall 2006 survey of 2,500 U.S. adults age 45 to 64 found that only 3 percent of pre-retirees feel that leaving money to a preferred charity is very important. Furthermore, 68 percent of respondents stated that donating in retirement is not important to them.

Although financial contributions to charity are not a priority, a more promising number of baby boomers intend on donating time. Sixty percent of the baby boomers surveyed intend on giving time and money or just volunteering to causes important to them. But volunteerism is more than good intentions.

A December 2006 survey of 1,000 U.S. adults by Thrivent Financial found a large gap between volunteer intent and follow-through in several volunteer activities. Sixty-five percent of American adults said they would be willing to serve meals to homeless people, but just 12 percent had done so. Forty-eight percent of adults said they would be willing to build affordable, decent housing for those in need, but just five percent had done so.

Overcoming volunteer lethargy can be done. There is no shortage of organizations and causes that need volunteer help. Congregations, nonprofits, civic groups, environmental organizations are just a few groups that offer meaningful volunteer opportunities to those who are willing to serve. And programs such as Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity (www.thriventbuilds.com) offer tremendous opportunities for people of all abilities to serve.

Charities likely won’t be the only ones ignored by baby boomers. Among boomers surveyed by Thrivent, 39 percent stated that leaving money to their family was not important. In addition, only 15 percent of pre-retirees feel that leaving an inheritance is very important.

According to the survey, the boomers’ attitude towards retirement may be driven in part by the fact that 71 percent feel that they will not have enough money in retirement.

Whether leaving an inheritance is intended or not, life insurance can help protect financial contributions and provide for the people and organizations that depend on it.

Even though baby boomers appear to be living up to their reputation as the “me generation”, many will generously give both their time and their money. Boomers should be assured that it is never too late to integrate their financial goals with their personal values. Doing this will ensure that their legacy remains for generations to come.

George C. Welker, FIC, is a Financial Associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in Haddon Heights. 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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Treasurer’s Outlook

by Tom Foskett

Expenses remain in a controlled state. Nothing too out of the ordinary for those line items. Thanks to a few recent bequests some major renovations on the church will begin soon. This includes new windows for the whole church and an improvement to the ventilation system throughout most of the building. The particulars on the heating and air conditioning have not been worked out, but the thought and planning appear obvious to me, that the job will be done right and have lasting benefits for decades to come.

I have had the opportunity to assist Dale Kredatus with counting of the offerings. Much to my delight, I can say that, that group has an efficient process with the appropriate level of controls to assure accurate record keeping and proper custodianship of the funds. One thing I did learn while counting though was, **if paying by check, please but the number of your envelope on the check.** This makes it easier for the counter, who otherwise writes your envelope number in the memo section of your check.

Because I had the benefit of counting the first two weeks of June I can tell you that the strong giving trend continues. In the event that things slow down we do have some alternatives, but fortunately we have not had to look into any of them to this point.

For the next three months it is a time of hanging on, hopefully we can be presently surprised with offering performance.