

# FIRST FORUM Newsletter

226 North Putnam St.  
PO Box 516  
Algona, IA 50511-0516

## OCTOBER 2011

Word and Sacrament, these are the two most important words when a pastor is ordained to serve the Lutheran church. It is said we are ordained to Word and Sacrament. Meaning these are the two most important responsibilities we have as a pastor of the church. Word, means the Bible of course, we are to preach the Bible, teach the Bible and help our children learn the Bible stories. Sacrament, this word means both Holy Communion and Baptism for Lutherans and a number of other Protestant denominations.

The Protestant churches decided these were sacraments or special rites because Christ told us to "do" them. In Matthew 28 Jesus commands his disciples to go make disciples and "baptize them". In Holy Communion Jesus tells us for both the bread and wine, to "Do this in remembrance of me." The Catholic and Orthodox churches have five other sacraments.

Holy Communion is the most important because it is the practice we do on a pretty regular basis, some churches even weekly. But it is interesting within this broad understanding and semi-regular practice there is still many different qualities about communion that different churches will

have. You have probably noticed this in the different practices you have observed at different congregations you have visited.

For example, some churches will use just a cup of wine and a plate of un-leavened bread. The focus is being as genuine to the original act that took place at the Last Supper. Jesus passed around a loaf of unleavened bread, which each disciple took a bit of and then a cup of wine of which each disciple took a drink.

Other forms of drink will be a tray with small cups of wine, and perhaps a few cups of grape juice. This format is to be conscious of the health risk of all individuals sharing the same cup. The United Methodist tradition is to only use grape juice as a sign of respect to those who may have a problem with alcohol. Most other churches, like ours, will make grape juice available for adults and children.

I have also seen the pastor begin with a pitcher to bless, and then pour wine into individual cups held by the communicants. Then there can be the similarity with the one cup Christ used, but also respect health needs.

Bread can be un-leavened as I said earlier, but also wafers or leavened bread of different kinds. Wafers are un-leavened and pretty much have no expiration date, but hardly taste like bread. Leavened bread is

generally good tasting but not the same as the original unleavened bread.

Communion can be taken by coming to the railing, walking through a line or sitting in the pew. Some feel that kneeling at the railing is the most prayerful form of communion, yet it does take the most amount of time. Walking through a line with the pastor and server standing in one place is the quickest format, and individuals may have a personal prayer time when at their pew. Some churches pass around the tray, probably the quickest format, but also allowing for prayer time.

Probably the most important element of Holy Communion is our attitude when receiving it. Years ago there was a strong focus on having a repentful heart. Based upon Paul's suggestion that if you are fighting with another Christian you should go settle your dispute before taking communion, otherwise taking it "to one's own condemnation". Often times individuals would not want to take communion for fear they had not repented of everything they should have.

Nowadays the focus is on the gift of forgiveness and the grateful heart we should have because of that gift. We can hardly make all our sins right on our own, that is why we need Jesus in the first place. Overall, I think there should be a balance of the two focuses. One should take seriously one's sins so that one can truly appreciate the gift Jesus has given to you.

The next time you take communion, think about the many ways you have received it over the years. What has meant the most to you? Was there a time when it was particularly meaningful? What is your general attitude when you receive it and what are you thinking about? If we want to receive the full gift of Jesus' body and

blood, it is helpful to focus our hearts and minds on that gift each time we receive it.

Pastor Marsha



### OCTOBER IS CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH

October is "Clergy Appreciation Month". In gratitude for Pastor Marsha Smith and all that she has done for our congregation and in her service to the Lord, we invite you to write a brief note or sign a greeting card and send it to her or drop off in her office. Your thoughtfulness will be treasured and appreciated.



### OKTOBERFEST/REFORMATION CELEBRATION

On Sunday, October 30, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. we will celebrate Reformation Sunday with an Oktoberfest Celebration. We will have brats, potato salad, homemade root beer, hot dogs, pretzels, and cupcakes. There will be games for all

ages such as:  
horseshoes,  
volleyball,  
BINGO,  
Baptismal Apple  
Dunk, build a  
Mighty  
Fortress, Diet  
of Worms



# OKTOBERFEST

contest, and pumpkin decorating. Please contact Colleen Teeuwe at [youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com) or 281.701.4202 if you would like more information or to help.



## KICK

Kids in Christ's Kingdom  
Grades 1-5

### Early Out Fun Days

- October 5: 1:45-5:00 p.m.
- October 19: 1:45-5:00 p.m.

RECHARGE ~ FALL 2011  
CENTERPOINT! (Hebrews 12:2)

**Where:** Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp

### When:

- October 21-23 for Grades 4-6
  - Deadline to register: October 9
- November 4-6 for Grades 6-9
  - Deadline to register: October 16
- November 18-20 for Grades 9-12
  - Deadline to register: October 31

**Leave Church:** 6:30 p.m. on Friday night

**Return:** 2:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon

**Cost:** \$39.00

Come for a weekend filled with games, music, skits, free time, chapel, fun, and a few surprises. The theme is "Centerpoint!" - Hebrews 12:2

### Bring to camp:

Bible, Clothes, Towel, Flashlight, Pillow, Sleeping Bag or Twin Sheets, Canteen \$. Registrations are available in Colleen's office or on-line at [www.okoboji.org](http://www.okoboji.org).

Please contact Colleen Teeuwe at 281.207.4202 or [youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com) for more information or for a scholarship.



Grades 6-8

### October Meetings for Campaigners

- **October 5: 7-8:00 p.m.**  
*Chaperones & Snacks: Herbst-Ulmer family*
- **October 12: 7-8:00 p.m.**  
*Chaperones & Snacks: Gilbert family*
- **October 19: 7-8:00 p.m.**  
*Chaperones & Snacks: Teeuwe*
- **October 26: 7-8:30 p.m.**  
*Chaperones & Snacks: Denner family*



### Slingshot Paintball

**Where:** Prairie River Camp- Bricelyn, MN

**When:** Sunday, Oct. 16, 12:30-4:30 p.m.

**Bring:** \$15.00 & friends

**What:** Slingshot paintball

**RSVP:** By Wednesday, October 12, to Colleen at 281.701.4202 or

[youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com).



### In Between Service Treats

Assignments to date are as follows:

- October 2: Smith family
- October 9: Denner family
- October 16: Urban/Sadler family
- October 23: R. Meyer family

# Wisconsin Junior High Mission Trip

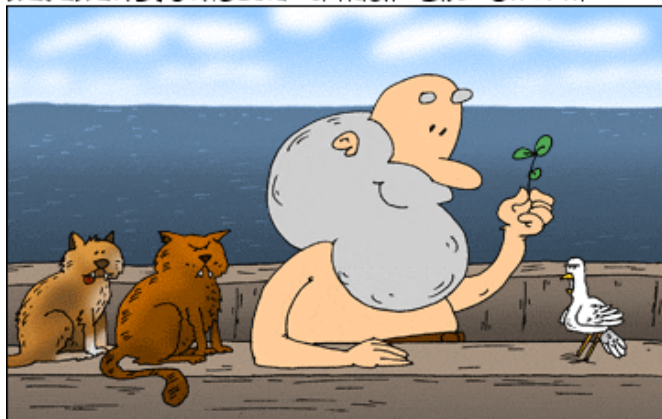
There is more to Wisconsin than cheese, dairy farms and the Green Bay Packers. Come and find out just what we mean by traveling with Shetek to WI this summer. Experience God's love in action as we serve alongside and learn from our WI neighbors.

Service opportunities may include things such as: planting a garden, painting, serving a meal, or packaging food. In addition to serving, we'll have a blast bonding and deepening your faith journey in daily devotions and worship. Along with time spent in service in the Racine, WI area, another highlight will be a day trip custom designed for our group exploring the big city of Chicago or Milwaukee.

Registration form for the trip along with a \$25 deposit is due by **October 9**. Friends are welcome to attend. Scholarships will be available please contact Colleen Teeuwe at 281.207.4202 or [youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com). Forms for registration will be online and in my office.



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



(See Genesis 6-8)

09-16-2011

YOU THROW THE CATS OVERBOARD AND I'LL  
TELL YOU WHERE I FOUND THE BRANCH



## BASIC

### Brothers & Sisters in Christ Grades 9-12

#### October Meetings for BASIC

- **October 12: 7-8:00 p.m.**
  - *Snacks: Rodney Meyer family*
- **October 26: 7-8:00 p.m.**
  - *Snacks: Meyerink family*

\*\* Please add these dates to the October 2011 calendar enclosed in the newsletter. \*\*

#### Halloween Bash for BASIC

**Where:** Mechler's

**When:** Sunday, October 30  
7:00-9:00 p.m.

**RSVP:** By Wednesday,  
October 26, to Colleen at  
281.701.4202 or  
[youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com)



**No man ever got very high  
by pulling other people  
down...**

**Don't knock your friends.**

**Don't knock your  
enemies.**

**Don't knock yourself.**

**~ Alfred, Lord Tennyson**

# **BASIC Mission/Service Trips for Summer of 2012**

## **2012 ELCA Youth Gathering Citizens with the Saints July 15-24, 2012 New Orleans, Louisiana**

A non-refundable deposit of \$150 is due by **October 9** for anyone interested in attending! Forms are available online and must be turned into the office along with the deposit fee by 10/9.



This is one of two

mission opportunities for FLC youth entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade thru graduating seniors. Please contact Colleen if you have any questions @ [youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com) or 281.701.4202.



## **Denver Urban Ministries Sr. High Mission Trip**

We're heading to the Mile High City of Denver, CO for four days of service through the Urban Education program with dates to still be decided. Opportunities to volunteer include: working with the homeless, low-income families, children, people with disabilities through VBS, food and clothing banks. We'll also learn about the causes of poverty and homelessness thru experiential learning.

Cost for the trip is \$200 per youth includes transportation, gas, food and lodging in Denver, four days of service (lodging, food, preparation materials, ministry supplies, and

staff) and two free days to raft, zipline, and other mountain adventures.

Registration form for the trip along with a \$25 deposit is due by **October 9**. Friends are welcome to attend. Scholarships will be available please contact Colleen Teeuwe at 281.207.4202 or [youth@netamumail.com](mailto:youth@netamumail.com).



### **CROP WALK ~ OCTOBER 2**

On Sunday, October 2 the 2011 CROP Walk will be held in Algona. Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. that day. Please contact the Church Office for a sponsor packet if you would like to participate. It's not too late! Let's walk so others can be fed!



## ***Installation***

### **PASTOR JERRY WITTMUS INSTALLATION**

Our former intern Pastor Jerry Wittmus is inviting all First Lutheran members to his installation at the Bethany Lutheran Church in Laurens, Iowa on Saturday, October 15 at 4:30 p.m. Following his installation will be a potluck meal.

## Mission Endowment Fund First Lutheran Church

Our Mission Endowment Fund was established in January 2003 at the annual meeting of the church. The purpose is to accumulate funds and to earn income from those funds. The central role of the fund is to enhance the mission outreach of the congregation in various ways.

Giving through accumulated, inherited, and appreciated resources is called "asset stewardship". A Christian is called to respond faithfully to God's grace in Christ. God calls us to respond with acts of kindness towards others. As "asset stewards" planning for the distribution of all lifetime accumulations, we take a vital step in completing our stewardship plan.

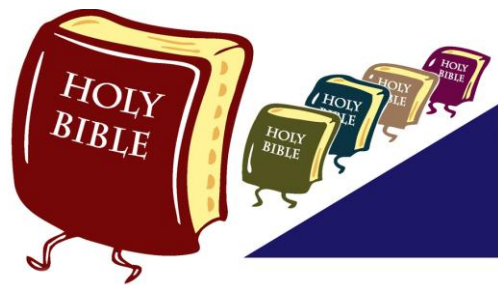
In the coming months the Mission Endowment Fund board will provide information on how our members can practice "asset stewardship". We encourage you to review the Mission Endowment Fund brochure included with this newsletter and which can be found in the rack in the narthex. If you have questions or want further information call the church office.



### A LETTER OF CHRIST

St. Paul gave a wonderful compliment to the church at Corinth. *"You show," he wrote, "that you are a letter of Christ...written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God...on tablets of human hearts"* (2 Corinthians 3:3, NRSV).

Would you consider yourself to be a "Letter of Christ?" Whatever the case, shouldn't that be an ambition for us all?



## Bible Presentations

### YOUTH RECEIVE BIBLES

During the weekend of September 18 youth in Kindergarten, Third and Seventh grades received Bibles, gifts from our congregation at the start of their faith journeys. Those youth receiving Bibles were:

- Sydney Seebecker
- Violet Bode
- Cort Klein
- Jaiden Reinking
- Kylie Allen
- Sadie Klein
- Thor Phelps
- Caitlyn Tran
- Josie Wiita
- Ryan Merrill
- Alexis Reinking
- Mikaela Cooper
- Alexis Bryant
- Christian Davis
- Theo Herbst-Ulmer
- Jacob Mechler
- Morgan VanZante

### **UPCOMING CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

**October 1- Youth Encounter**  
**October 15**  
**October 29**  
**November 12**  
**November 26**

### THIS MONTH'S CALENDAR

**October 6:** 9:00 a.m. Quilt Work Day. Betty Murphy is the hostess.

**October 11:** 9:30 a.m. Rebecca Circle meets at the church. The group will discuss the lesson together.

**October 13:** 7:00 p.m. "Quilting Treasures" will be a program presented by Beverly Nordman & Twyla Schipper. Shirley Johnson & Neva Johnson are the hostesses for the evening. *(See more information about this evening on the next page of the newsletter).*

**October 18:** 7:30 p.m. Priscilla Circle will meet with Mary Rahe serving as hostess and leading the Bible Study.

**October 20:** 1:30 p.m. Sarah Circle will meet at the church with Shirley Johnson serving as hostess and Betty Murphy leading the Bible Study.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

*Matt. 18:20 says, "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."*

I think that this exactly describes our September meeting. We enjoyed our traditional September salad bar. Our program allowed everyone a chance to talk about a favorite time that she came together, with another, to serve others in our church. I enjoyed trying just a few bites of every salad brought! By the time I finished my plateful, I certainly was NOT hungry anymore. For me, this reminded me that we all are different, in our own way, but yet as we come together, we all become one with God and share in Him, and his missions. So, although this wasn't a particular memory, like so many other wonderful stories, it's one that in our church (as well as food-loving Lutherans) we have the opportunity to celebrate, often.

Finding new officers for 2012, was originally a challenge. If you'll have me for another year,

I have agreed to continue as your president. Thank you to Marcia Sundet for volunteering to be our Secretary, and thanks also to Sandy Peterson for volunteering to be our Treasurer. We'll try not to be too tough on you! Also, an additional person will be added to the Mission: Service (the kitchen) each year, beginning now, for a total of three in this group. After this year, one will go off as a new one comes on. We understand that this can be a time-consuming position, and we are trying to keep our "church duties" from turning into jobs. We want to give us each a chance to praise God through our joint, occasional efforts. Remember, many hands make light work. Work Groups are being revamped, to better divide our time and strengths. It isn't fair to always ask the same ones to continue doing the same things, over and over. Please bare with our board as we work on these changes, it is not an easy task. Your understanding will be greatly appreciated. Thanks to each of you, for this.

The Executive Board has also put together the 2012 schedule of programs. By now, you may have been asked to sign as a program doer/helper or as a hostess. We would like two people to each job, each month, unless otherwise noted. Again, so we do not want to ask any ONE person to do too much. We have also transitioned the business meeting to match our Women of the ELCA guidelines; from the usual every meeting to only once every quarter. This should also make selecting a president next year easier, since there are fewer meetings.

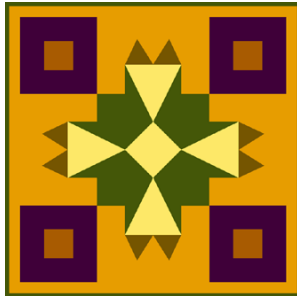
We absolutely have a WONDERFUL, fun-loving group. I am so glad that we were able to come together, find new officers, adjust our group as times & responsibilities & families change. I realize that many, many prayers went sent up in the two weeks between our regular meeting and the Executive Board meeting. Obviously, they were ALL answered.

*"Even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me." (Psm. 139:10)*

In Christ's Love,  
Dr. Judy Reinking

## WOMEN OF THE ELCA-OCTOBER 13

Does your talent lie in quilting? Or-- do you have a quilted item that someone else has made that you treasure? Perhaps it is a quilt top made by your grandmother or a table runner that you have put together. Whatever it is, bring it to our next Women of the ELCA meeting on Thursday, October 13 and share "*Quilting Treasures*". If you don't have anything quilted (*how can this be?*), bring some other handmade treasure. See you on October 13!



EXTRA! EXTRA!

There will be a door prize given away  
that night!

EXTRA! EXTRA!



## WORLD HUNGER QUARTERS



9-4	\$11.75
9-11	\$17.75
9-18	\$9.50
9-25	\$21.75

**TOTAL GIVEN IN 2011:  
\$659.00**

**TOTAL GIVEN SINCE AUGUST 2001:  
\$8,865.75!!!**



## BEYOND LUTHER

At this time of year, we hear much about Martin Luther. But many other reformers also had lasting effects on the Christian church. You may want to do more reading about them to learn about their lives and legacies.

- John Huss (1369-1415) was a Catholic priest from the Czech Republic. He opposed indulgences and emphasized right living over sacraments. Huss was burned at the stake.

- Swiss priest Ulrich Zwingli (1484-1531) was a father of the Reformed tradition. He taught that people should believe and practice only what's in the Bible.

- Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556), a contemporary of Luther, played a large role in the English Reformation, leading to the formation of the Anglican/Episcopal tradition. He was burned at the stake.

- Menno Simons (1496-1561), founder of the Mennonite Church, taught believers' baptism, nonresistance and symbolic Eucharist.

- John Calvin (1509-1564) introduced new forms of liturgy and church government, led the church in Geneva and taught the doctrine of predestination. His work influenced the Reformed and Presbyterian traditions.

- George Fox (1624-1691) founded the Society of Friends (Quakers), emphasized the Inner Light of Christ and took frequent missionary journeys.

- John Wesley (1703-1791), the founder of Methodism, taught the Arminian doctrine of free will and emphasized sanctification.



Our records show that the following members celebrate birthdays and anniversaries in October. We pray for their health and happiness as we share in their celebration. We appreciate being notified of any errors or omissions.

- 10-1 Kaden McKean
- 10-2 Lois Wieland
- 10-3 Mark Wiemann, Christopher Pityer
- 10-4 Cindy Schaffer, Marc Johnson, Makenna VanZante
- 10-5 Angela Davis
- 10-6 Jennifer Lenz, Kathy Nelson, Josh Stone, Jayden Erpelding, Erica Cecil
- 10-8 Jill Ludwig, Ardis Lande
- 10-9 Jacob Mechler, Madison Adams
- 10-10 Fran Wiese, Matthew Hefti
- 10-11 Ann Brincks, Ben Habeger, Vern Nelson, Amber Lenz, Cort Klein, Jason Cecil
- 10-12 Michael Cook, Kelley Helmers, Kathy Moss, Pastor Marsha Smith
- 10-13 Preston Engelbarts, Gavin Weber
- 10-14 Amy Brynsaas
- 10-15 Derrik Johnson, Carol Merrill, Hannah Severson
- 10-16 Howard Omdahl
- 10-17 Jill Thompson
- 10-18 Amanda Sabin, Caitlyn Tran
- 10-22 Jackie Lenz, Jaeley Thacker
- 10-23 Megan Sabin
- 10-24 Jordan Allen, Jackson Cecil
- 10-26 Greg Kinseth, Merle Schipull
- 10-27 Kayley McKenna
- 10-28 Jacque Wagner
- 10-29 Theo Herbst-Ulmer

## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO...

- 10-1 Bill & Angela Cook (23 years)
- 10-2 Dave & Susan Sandven (40 years)  
Chad & Jennifer Sadler (12 years)
- 10-5 Paul & Mary Haverkamp (26 years)
- 10-7 Merlin & Marlis Beenken (51 years)
- 10-12 Lowell & Lois Kloster (48 years)
- 10-21 Randy & Carol Holmes (33 years)
- 10-26 Don & Marcia Beisch (42 years)  
Drew & Laura Severson (9 years)
- 10-28 Steve & Kim Weaver (22 years)



*September 8, 2011*

*Walker James Ludwig*

*Parents:*

*Jill & Nate Ludwig*

*Grandparents:*

*Connie Farnham,*

*Bill & Colleen Farnham*

*“Faith, like light, should always be simple and unbending; while love, like warmth, should beam forth on every side and bend to every necessity of our brethren.”*

*~ Martin Luther*

# Thank You! THANK YOU!

## MEALS ON WHEELS THANK YOU

*"...and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord." 1 Corinthians 12:5*

One of the many and varied opportunities for service at First Lutheran is through our involvement with the Algona Meals on Wheels program based out of the Senior Center.

Through the rotation system that has been in place for many years, First Lutheran serves every seven months.

Sincere thanks to the following members who delivered meals in September:

- Derald Goetz
- Becky Fjetland
- Bob & Karen Speich
- Don & Judy Hansen
- Becky Gates
- Ray & Marilyn Nielsen
- Bill & Betty Holtz
- Margo Adams
- John & Bev Nordman
- Connie Mechler
- Julie Gunderson
- Kathy Moss
- Pat Bernau
- Sandy & Bette Schenck
- Mike & Diane Kleineweber
- Karilyn Claude
- Betty Murphy
- Paul & Neva Johnson
- Mark & Linnea Holmer

Larry & Susan Legore  
FLC Meals on Wheels Coordinators



## HOLY COMMUNION

October 1 & 2, 2011  
October 15 & 16, 2011

Bake Bread  
Julie Gunderson

Preparation  
Julie Murphy

Clean-up  
Julie Gunderson

### Communion Assistants for October

October 1 (5:30 pm): Al Buyck  
October 2 (8:00 am): Ray Nielsen  
October 2 (10:30 am): Larry Legore  
October 15 (5:30 pm): Tony Wiita  
October 16 (8:00 am): Derald Goetz  
October 16 (10:30 am): Susan Legore

### Communion Assistants for November

November 5 (5:30 pm): Dan Peterson  
November 6 (8:00 am): Don Hansen  
November 6 (10:30 am): Nathan Countryman  
November 19 (5:30 pm): Jim Hefti  
November 20 (8:00 am): Connie Mechler  
November 20 (10:30 am): Dave VanDeventer



## **BULLETINS FROM TRAVELING WORSHIPPERS**

If you have been traveling and would like to share the bulletin from the church of which you visited, please drop it off in the church office at your convenience. Every month in the newsletter we will note all our travelers.

August 14, 2011: Jean Sabin attended worship at the Shalom Lutheran Church in Harrisburg, South Dakota for the baptism of two great-granddaughters.

August 21, 2011: Merlin & Marlis Beenken attended the Martin County Fair Worship Service at Fairmont, Minnesota.

August 27, 2011: Bruce & Marcia Sundet attended the Faith Lutheran Church in Clive, Iowa for the baptism of their granddaughter, Laney Claire.

August 28, 2011: Jean Sabin attended the Faith Lutheran Church in Orange City, Iowa.

August 28, 2011: Pastor Mark & Linnea Holmer attended worship at the Christ Memorial Lutheran Church in Plymouth, Minnesota.

September 4, 2011: The Al Klepper family attended worship at the First Lutheran Church in Duluth, Minnesota.

September 4, 2011: Laurene Gunder attended worship services at the St. Michael Catholic Church in Whittemore, Iowa.

September 18, 2011: Paul & Neva Johnson attended the Lutheran Church of Hope in West Des Moines, Iowa.

## **A PERSPECTIVE ON PERILS**

Martin Luther's wife, Kate, said, "I would never have known the meaning of various Psalms, come to appreciate certain difficulties or known the inner workings of the soul; I would never have understood the practice of the Christian life and work, if God had never brought affliction to my life."

Martin Luther went one step further, saying, "Oh! His grace and goodness toward us is so immeasurably great, that without great assaults and trials it cannot be understood."

*~ Homiletics*



## **EO FUNDRAISER**

Exceptional Opportunities is sponsoring a campaign this fall to raise funds to remodel the kitchens of all three ICF homes in Burt. The South Home project has already been approved and work will begin this fall. Please see the letter from Exceptional Opportunities posted on the narthex bulletin board for more information on this fundraiser.

 **Thrivent Financial  
for Lutherans™**

## **THRIVENT ELECTION MEETING**

All members of Thrivent are invited to attend the annual election meeting on Sunday, October 2 at 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Burt Activity Complex. The meeting is being called a "Shredded Party", so come see what we are having to eat and what kind of prize you may win! RSVP to Kathy Paul at 515-320-1149.

## SIXTY PLUS POTLUCK



### *Sixty Plus*

The next potluck for those "Sixty Plus" will be Friday, October 14 at 12:00 p.m. Please bring a dish to share with the group as well as your own table service. A program

on prearranging funerals will be presented by Rick Murphy. Hosts for October have not been determined.



## COMPANION SYNOD 2012 TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

### Youth Mission Trip

Three weeks between July 15 and August 15, 2012 for those aged 15-21 years at the time of travel. Time to explore life and mission in the South Diocese of Tanzania, to serve and walk in faith as fellow Christians, to spend time with Tanzanian Youth Ministry, to work on a mutual development project, to make a difference in the world, to share your experiences with others, to go on safari, and more! Estimated cost \$4,000-\$4,500 USD/per person. **Chaperones potentially needed**, apply if interested.

### Adult Group

Three weeks between September 1 & September 25, 2012 for any age willing and able to endure the physical, spiritual and emotional rigors of a third-world trip. Time to explore life and mission in the Southern Diocese, to serve and walk in faith as fellow Christians, to delve into an area of individualized interest (preaching, companion congregation visit, medical, girls secondary education, sustainable agriculture, well-

drilling), to share your experiences with others, to go on safari, and more! Estimated cost \$3,500-\$4,000 USD/person.

Please visit [www.wisynod.org](http://www.wisynod.org) to obtain youth, chaperone, and adult application forms, and behavioral covenants.

**Application deadline: October 15, 2011.**



*September 17, 2011  
Kansas City, Missouri*

*Jennifer Claude  
&  
Alphansu (Zo) Coker*

### 24-7-365

God's presence in Christians' lives can be summed up in these numbers: 24-7-365. It's not a very complex code to crack. The God revealed through Christ's sacrifice is a 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week, 365-days-a-year God. No timeouts, no halftime breaks. God is present for us and with us every moment of every day of our lives.

God can be a 24-7-365 God because Jesus was a one-time Savior. Jesus' sacrifice was once and for all. It doesn't need to be endlessly repeated.

Praise God that his Son's one act of complete obedience gives us true peace of mind 24-7-365!

# SATURDAY

## SERVERS

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### GREETERS

Oct. 1	Al & Kirsten Klepper
Oct. 8	Betty Murphy, G. Peterson
Oct. 15	Jim & Becky Gates
Oct. 22	Brian & Sande Rodemeyer
Oct. 29	Julie Collison, Shirley Johnson

### GREETERS

Nov. 5	Dan & Sandy Peterson
Nov. 12	Jerry & Nancy Kissner
Nov. 19	Dave & Sandi Markla
Nov. 25	Richard & Judy Schiek

### ACOLYTES

Oct. 1	Hannah Sadler
Oct. 8	Myra Meyer
Oct. 15	Levi Penning
Oct. 22	Rebekka Voss
Oct. 29	Hunter Urban

### ACOLYTES

**Volunteer Needed**

Nov. 5	Rachel Meyer
Nov. 12	Hannah Sadler
Nov. 19	Levi Penning
Nov. 25	

### LECTORS

Oct. 1	Kathy Nelson
Oct. 8	Marcia Sundet
Oct. 15	Dan Peterson
Oct. 22	Betty Holtz
Oct. 29	Reggie Alt

### LECTORS

Nov. 5	Clark Conner
Nov. 12	Betty Holtz
Nov. 19	Marcia Sundet
Nov. 25	Carol Merrill

### USHERS

Oct. 1	Brian & Sande Rodemeyer
Oct. 8	Dave & Sandi Markla
Oct. 15	Tom & Jayne Lipps
Oct. 22	Dan & Sandy Peterson
Oct. 29	Bruce & Kim Knudsen

### USHERS

Nov. 5	Vern & Kathy Nelson
Nov. 12	Gerald & Laura Zwiefel
Nov. 19	Tom & Jayne Lipps
Nov. 25	<b>Volunteers Needed</b>

Please remember that if you can't serve, you are to find your own replacement and notify the Church Office so the change may be printed in the bulletin.

Thank you!

## COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE NOTES

The Congregation Council met on September 13, 2011 for a Congregation Council meeting. Present: Jean Davis, Donna Meyerink, Al Buyck, Tony Wiita, Kevin Benschoter, Brian Meyerink, Nathan Countryman, Jim Hefti, April Braun, Colleen Teeuwe, Pastor Marsha Smith. Absent: Mark Meyer, Keith Dwire, Bill Lenz.

### Old Business

- **Mold Report:** Preliminary "oral" report is that our carpets in the Fellowship Hall and Youth Room are okay. We will receive a written report and will show it to the Iowa Extension office to assure that all is good.
- **Injury Policy:** Discussion with insurance company concerning the clarification of our "Med Pay" policy. We will continue to check into the details of what this policy covers and redefining coverage within and outside the church parameters.
- **Committee Job Descriptions:** Property Committee is working on completing changes to their committee job description.
- **Nominations for Committee Members:** Nominating Committee needs to be formed which consists of three Council members and three congregation members. They will also be making recommendations for filling vacancies within church committees.
- **Removal of Inactives:** Lengthy discussion was held on the "language" of the proposed bylaw concerning the removal of inactive congregation members. There was a revision to the language of the proposed bylaw and follow-up discussion will continue.

### New Business

- **Correspondence:** Exceptional Opportunities is seeking funds for home improvements. Information will become available to our members.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Worship and Music

Four members present. Music stands are being purchased with Contemporary Worship funds. Thanksgiving worship will be planned at the October meeting. Advent worship will be held on December 1, 8 and 15. Christmas holiday worship service schedule was set: Christmas Eve- worship at 4:00 and 7:00 p.m. Christmas Day: one worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m. and one worship on January 1 at 10:30 a.m.

### Property Committee

Seven members present. Donated TV will be installed in the Messiah's Matinee Sunday School room. Shed project still in progress. Checking to see if construction class at the high school could build it. Church sign was discussed. Waiting for local estimates. Parking lot has some cracks that need to be filled along with adding grass seed in areas.

### Christian Education

Four members present. Discussion and plan to find missing curriculum packets was held. Supply room needs to be organized. Plans were discussed regarding the renovation of the Sunday School rooms. Incentives for Sunday School attendance will be according to trimesters this year using a prize box and ticket approach. Need to find a director the Christmas Program.

### Youth Ministry

Six members present. A presentation was viewed about Boy Scouts venturing into Youth Ministry. Money from can collection during Founder's Day was more than expected (\$222.33). Outdoor Extravaganza will not be continued next year. Octoberfest is October 30 and will be a multi-generational event.

### Stewardship/Finance

Five members were present. Giving is below budget. Would like to have Derald Goetz or Kathy Nelson come to occasional Council meeting to make clarifications to budget/spending. 2012 Stewardship Campaign will be "Giving Out of An Abundant Heart". Electronic pledges count as 25% of our giving.

### Evangelism/Social Ministry

Three members were present. CROP Walk is October 2. Check with lay communion assistants to see if they can help Pastor Marsha with distribution of communion to shut-ins and hospital patients. Continued interest in a suggestion box for members to give their input. Discussed revisions to current "prayer basket" during worship. Fall adopted highway clean-up will be organized soon.



- Pork 'n Beans
- Tubes of toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Bars of soap

Items may be placed in the grocery cart in the south hallway or delivered to the Algona Food Pantry.



### Attendance and Offering Report

#### SEPTEMBER 2011

#### ATTENDANCE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
9-4	47	60	107
9-11	37	89 (CW)	126
9-18	39 (CW)	131	170
9-25	32	99	131

#### 2011 OFFERINGS

9-4	\$3,898.75
9-11	\$2,639.00
9-18	\$3,036.50
9-25	\$7,533.75
Received in 2011	<b>\$188,398.28</b>
Pledged in 2011	<b>\$217,427.67</b>



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**Secretary**

*Jeanine Haack*  
Home Phone: 515-295-7865  
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**Organist**

*Linnea Holmer*

**Choir Directors**

*Todd Herbst-Ulmer*  
*Julie Murphy*  
*Chris VanDeventer*

**Contemporary Music**

**Director**  
*Kurt Kissinger*  
**Custodians**  
*Carolyn Mosher*  
*Bob Speich*

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