

St. John Lutheran Church

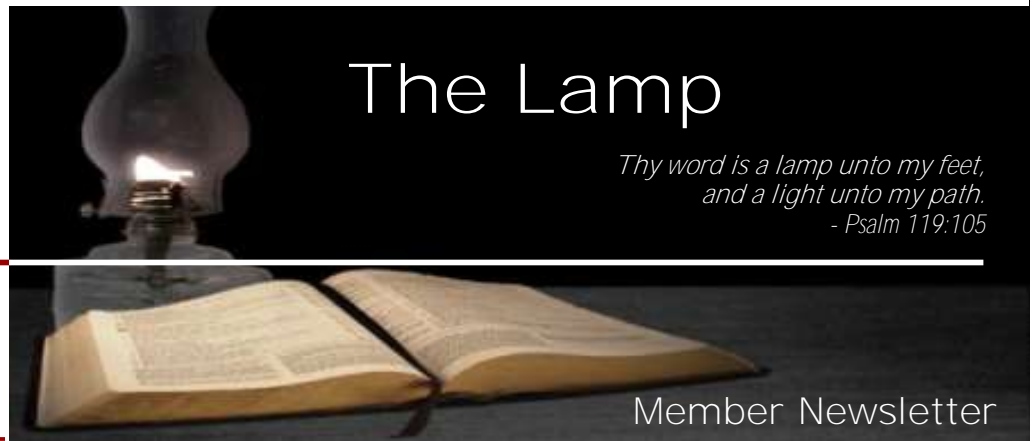
Random Lake, WI

July, 2010

Volume 2010 Issue 7

2010 Theme

“Every Soul A Treasure”



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every three years, over one thousand lay and pastoral delegates meet together in convention to review crucial resolutions and to elect new officers of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. There may be times when what the Synod does seems to be so far away from the day to day aspects of our local ministry. But the role the Synod plays is important to the direction of our church in respect to policies, church worker preparation, and mission work.

The convention will take place in Houston from July 10-17. The theme of the convention is “One People – Forgiven”. An important part of this gathering will be to consider a comprehensive effort to restructure our Synod and its supporting organizations. Regardless of how that vote turns out, we know that the congregations that form the synod are where the real ministry takes place. Of key importance is planning the funding of important programs in a down turned economy. I have heard impassioned opinions from many other pastors and lay leaders on this upcoming convention and the best any of us can do at this point is to pray that God’s will be done through us and sometimes in spite of us.

Also this month, thousands of our high school age youth will be attending the National Youth Gathering. A group from our congregation will be attending under the guidance of Tom and Sandy Maxwell. The Gathering provides young people an opportunity to learn more about God, Christianity, and their Lutheran identity. This event, which is the single largest LCMS event each year, is organized by LCMS District and Congregational Services, Youth Ministry office in St. Louis. Their theme will be “We Believe”.

Mrs. Laska and I will be gone for the first part of July on a mission trip to Bethlehem along with four other pastors and their wives. This is the final part of our work in the Pastoral Leadership Institute. Perhaps you might remember a cover story in the Lutheran Witness from last year about the role of witnessing to Muslims in Bethlehem being coordinated by a small Lutheran Congregation in that historic community. We will be serving in support of Rev. Mitri Raheb, pastor of Bethlehem’s Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church. He is involved in a lot of ministries. Besides the church, there is a K-12 school, a health and wellness center, a cultural and conference center, and a college. Programs include elder care, child development, young couples ministry, and promotion of the arts.

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July Adult Bible Study Opportunities

Rev. Raheb is a man of great faith and optimism in the face of great political opposition. "I think we are heading toward an apartheid system that for two generations will make our lives miserable," he said of the division between Palestinians and Israelis. "At the same time, I am very hopeful," he said, and adapted a statement attributed to Martin Luther: "Even if the world is coming to an end tomorrow, plant an olive tree." Raheb said he believes that only Christians can bring real hope to the Holy Land.

Please pray for safe travel for all of the participants of the three above events and for fruitful efforts to be done to the glory of God. Pray that the lives of those attending these events will be changed and the people they come in contact with will also be changed.

In service to Christ,

Pastor Greg Laska



Attendance — May

Sunday 8:00 AM Worship	373
Sunday 10:30 AM Worship	372
Wednesday Evening	81
Contemporary	87
Graduation	186
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TOTAL for May	1099

Thursday Morning Men’s Bible Breakfast

This study and format enables men to feed on the Word of God while they are being fed breakfast. Men of all ages are invited to meet in the back dining room at Midway Restaurant on Highway 57 from 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 A.M. on Thursdays with Pastor Laska as the leader. Dick Wegner and Dale Becker will be also assisting this month. After ordering breakfast off the menu we will have a 45 minute study while we eat. Our summer study that is just starting is based upon the New Testament Epistle to the Hebrews. This Christ centered letter leaves the reader convinced of the deity of Jesus. Bring a friend and let’s have a good time of fellowship as we study God’s Word!

Thursday Morning Mid Week

Pastor Seifferlein is leading this ongoing joint study this month with members of St. John and Emmanuel. This month the class will meet in the Memorial Hall at Adell on Thursdays from 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. We will be studying the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. The class will not meet on July 8. This is a refreshing way to prepare for worship. Men and women of all ages are welcome to attend.

Sunday Morning, Women’s Bible Study and New Life Groups

These groups will not meet during the summer and will start up again the week after the Church Picnic in September.

THANK YOU

Random Lake Area Interfaith Food Pantry

Every month we receive a thank you letter to the members of St. John saying, "Thank you for your generous contribution of food to the Random Lake Area Interfaith Food Pantry. The need for food has been increasing every month. In these difficult and uncertain times, your donation is received with open arms. Thank you for 'Helping Us Help Others'".

Evangelism Committee News

St. John Float: Plans have begun for designing an interactive St. John float. We will be participating in the **Random Lake Firemen's Parade, on Sunday July 25. The float theme is; "Come Follow Me". There are several ways you can help support this project.**

Attend the parade, and wear a St. John T-Shirt. If you do not have a St. John T-Shirt, one can be ordered for you.

When you see the St. John float go by, follow it for the rest of the parade route. All ages are welcome.

Share ideas for float design.

Help build the float.

A sign-up sheet for the float will be in the church narthex. If you have any questions please call either Chris Pannier 920-994-9764 or Kris Vojnovich 920-838-2855.

Fellowship Sunday: Come take time out of your busy summer schedule and join us for worship each week. After the Wednesday July 14 and Sunday July 18 Worship Services, plan to stay and visit with friends and family, while enjoying some tasty treats.



VBS SIGNUP

JOIN US at the ALL MY SENSES VBS!

ALL CHILDREN AGES 3yrs-12yrs ARE WELCOME

BRING A FRIEND!

Date July 26 – 30 Time 8:30-11:30 AM

We hope that your child/children will be able to join us for another exciting and fun session of Vacation Bible School. Each day the Lord leads us, and reminds us of His love and care through our five Senses. Each day of the "All My Senses" VBS, the children will explore God's Word through interactive Bible stories, games, crafts, songs, and sensational snacks. Extra Sign-up sheets are available in the school and church office. They are also on the Welcome Center in the church narthex.

ALL HELPING HANDS WELCOME! Come join us as a teacher or teacher's helper. Contact Kris Vojnovich at 920-838-2855 for more information..

Birthdays

The members of St. John Lutheran Congregation pray that all those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries during the month of July will continue to be blessed by the Lord in all ways. He is the source of all that we need and has richly supplied us with the gifts of family, friends and faith. May each of you celebrating in July enjoy your special day in good health and by giving honor and glory to God.

July 3 - *Roberta Laska*

July 4 - *Barbara Guidinger, Abigail Winter*

July 5 - *Gracie Yankunas*

July 6 - *Tom Spieker, Nathan Preder*

July 7 - *Jacqueline Goetsch, Jean Vetter*

July 8 - *Chelsea Stelmachowicz, Jason Vorpahl*

July 9 - *Gavin Kohler*

July 11 - *Merlin Spieker, Doris Stolper, Don Vetter,
Janice Hoffmann*

July 12 - *Audrey Richter, Jim Veldboom*

July 13 - *Elizabeth Roeber*

July 14 - *Jesse Kohlwey, Erin Krueger, Sandra Stolper*

July 15 - *Doug Winter, Ralph Zimmer*

July 16 - *Jim Schmitz, Lawrence Sanders*

July 17 - *Summer Lange, Carol Wegner, Tom Heidemann,
Cora Tischer*

July 18 - *Miles Koepp, Aidan Koepp*

July 19 - *Dona Winter*

July 20 - *Ryan Huston*

July 22 - *Jill Mitchell*

July 24 - *Kara Ramirez*

July 25 - *Jodine Ney, Ryan Brooks, Chris Pannier*

July 26 - *Emma Daniels, Alivia Bilgrien*

July 27 - *Chris Treichel, Keith Risse, Debra Arndt, Chris Holz,
TJ Newsome*

July 28 - *Dawn Meerdink, Olivia Russ, Isaac Ramirez*

July 29 - *Tara Fenske, Tyler Hoogester*

July 30 - *Barry Boehlke*

July 31 - *Lyle Dysert, Emma Kazmierski*

Anniversaries

July 1 – *M/M Joe Anderson*

July 5 – *M/M Matthew Zuengler*

July 8 – *M/M Randy Heidemann & M/M Carl Treppish*

July 15 – *M/M Ken Witte*

July 16 – *M/M Tom Spieker*

July 19 – *M/M Arthur Suelflow*

July 20 – *M/M Greg Kohler*

July 22 – *M/M Paul Kohn*

July 25 – *M/M Ron Ernst & M/M Rolf Sommer*

July 26 – *M/M Tom Maxwell*

July 27 – *M/M Clarence Broetzmann*

July 28 – *M/M Andrew Kopplin*

July 29 – *M/M Tim Geidel*

July 31 – *M/M DoWayne Lawrenz*

Open Congregation Information Session

We will have an open forum session on Tuesday, July 20th at 6:30 PM in the Friendship Room to discuss matters pertaining to our upcoming year of church and school ministry. All communicant members are welcome to attend.

Our Church Council felt strongly that it was imperative to get the input and support for our work and to do so separate from a Voters Meeting. Our church finances will certainly be a part of the discussion but ministry will be the primary focus. No vote of any kind will be taken at this session but comments and constructive ideas will be appreciated. Our Congregation President, Jason Vorpahl will lead this session.

If you are unable to join with us, please pray daily that God will grant us wisdom in all future decisions and mercy to forgive our failures.

Dear Congregation Members:

This letter is being sent on behalf of Camp LuWiSoMo which is a Lutheran Camp located outside of Wild Rose, WI. We camp here every August for Family Fun Weekend, August 13-15, 2010. See the website www.Luwisomo.org for more information. We would like to be able to help support and update the facilities of this camp. I am writing you to see if your congregation would be able to donate to our cause.

On Family Fun Weekend, we would like to hold a silent auction as a fundraiser. What we would like, if this is possible, is a donation of one item that we could use in this silent auction. We know that there are a lot of talented people in this congregation. LuWiSoMo is in the process of trying to build a new dining hall, along with maintaining the current facilities and serving all the campers and public that use these facilities. We are looking for items like quilts, afghans, woodworking projects, ceramics, leather, metalwork, and any other new items or services which could be used in a silent auction. These items can be sent to me at the address below or any camp board of directors (call for addresses) at any time prior to August 1, 2010. Any item that you could donate would be appreciated.

Please feel free to call if there are any questions about this request. If items can be picked up, please call; and we will make arrangements for this.

Gail Mieden,
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