

# Good News

"A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger." - Proverbs 15:1



Faith at Home

St. John's Lutheran Church

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August 2011

## Pastoral Musings

This month I'd like to give this space over to Rev. Ken Klaus, speaker emeritus of the Lutheran Hour, who is still active, writing most of the Lutheran Hour Ministry's daily on-line devotions (and preaching once in a while on the Lutheran Hour). He wrote the following devotion back on July 10, 2011.

### "Unnoticed"

*(The LORD said) "... When I called, no one answered, when I spoke they did not listen; but they did what was evil in My eyes and chose that in which I did not delight." Isaiah 66:4b*

It was a fair number of years ago that a huge crowd gathered in the street outside a hotel in Glasgow, Scotland.

The folks, who hailed from every economic and educational strata, had come together for a very important purpose: they wished to welcome home their victorious soccer team.

During the midst of the celebration a quiet, little man entered the hotel unnoticed. He wasn't a soccer player and since he wasn't he didn't amount to anything in the eyes of that great group of enthusiastic humanity.

That shouldn't have been. For while the soccer team had brought home a trophy and a certain amount of civic pride, the unrecognized man had been responsible for many of them being there. Indeed, he was the reason many of them were still alive.

You see, the forgotten fellow was Alexander Fleming, the man most responsible for putting penicillin on the shelves of the world's pharmacists.

This is just this devotion's way of saying that sometimes the important can be pushed aside by the inconsequential. If I asked the Daily Devotion readers if the Savior is important to them, they would look shocked at such a foolish question. I pray all of us have been brought to that place where we recognize the incomparable value of the Christ whose life was offered up in payment for our salvation.

We would say, "Jesus is the most important Person in our lives," and we would mean it.

Sadly, things of this world often get in the way of our worshipping Him. Cabins, vacations, grass cutting, family visits, toothaches and a whole host of minor events and insignificant situations get in our way and draw our attention away from Jesus who is the "one thing needful" (see Luke 10:42).

If that is so, accept this devotion as a little reminder that when the Lord calls, we need to answer; when He speaks, we ought to listen and when the opportunity to worship Him presents itself, nothing ought to woo our eyes away from the cross and empty tomb.

**THE PRAYER:** Dear Lord, forgive the times the trivial pushes aside the important things in my life. Help me remember the wonders of Your love and respond with worship and praise. This I ask in the Savior's Name. Amen.

In Christ I remain His servant and yours,  
Pastor Ken Klaus

### Inside this issue...

Music Notes.....Pg 2

Faith at Home.....Pg 3

Parish Education.....Pg 4

Church Calendar.....Pg 7

### Worship Services:

Sacred Song (Traditional): 8:15am

Blended Voices (Contemporary): 10:30am

Night Song (Saturday service): 6:00pm

1st & 3rd Saturdays – Traditional worship

2nd & 4th Saturdays – Contemporary worship

5th Saturdays – Vespers worship

## *Hello ?? Where are you ??*

Your Board of Elders is beginning an ongoing effort to contact and connect with members of our congregation who have not been active in worship or participating in the activities at St John's. Our purpose is to bring our lost sheep back to St John's or to help them connect with a sister congregation if they have moved out of our service area. This effort is being made out of love and concern for the spiritual well being of our missing family members and is intended to be an opportunity to renew the spiritual life of these brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you have family members, friends or neighbors that you have not seen in worship, please ask them to join you in worship. In today's society there are many activities and diversions which may distract some people of God from keeping their confirmed commitment to the Lord Jesus Christ. Our prayer is to reconnect these folks with worship and the Word of God through personal contact. Please join the Elders in prayer and action as we ask the Holy Spirit to touch the minds and hearts of those who have been absent from St John's. If you are aware of special circumstances or situations, please advise Pastor Haupt or an Elder with information regarding our inactive members of the family of God. Thank you for your prayers and support as we begin this important area of ministry. Regular updates will follow in the church newsletter and weekly bulletin.

Charles Edwards, Director Board of Elders

## *Music Notes*

There are plenty of places to sing for every person here at St. John's! Find a place where you fit in and join us! Any Questions? Call Tracy Wood (616) 402-5099 or email at [twood@silcs.org](mailto:twood@silcs.org).

**September: Men's Choir.** This special group will only meet for a month. If you love to sing, but can't commit to an entire year of choir, this is the place for you. We will practice 7:00-8:00 Wednesday evenings and sing in late September/early October. First practice is September 7<sup>th</sup>.



**October – April: Celebration Choir.** This choir is for people high school age and older. Don't hesitate to join us! You don't need to be a seasoned singer/musician to be a part of this exciting group. We are glad to teach and would love to have lots of new members. We will practice 7:00-8:00 Wednesday evenings and sing on Sundays and Saturdays throughout the church year, with special emphasis on the Christmas and Easter seasons. First practice is October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Christmas Eve Women's Choir.** Gals of all ages! Back by popular demand! Please join me for a special, one-time choir event. We will sing "I Saw Three Ships Come Sailing In" at the 7:00pm service on Christmas Eve. Just a few Wednesday evening practices – December 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>. We will meet from 6:30 -7:00pm.

**March – April: Guitar Choir.** Back by popular demand! Let's meet again as guitar players and hopefully we will discover much hidden talent in our congregation! This choir is for those of you who would love to bring out your old guitar and learn some easy 'folk' type songs. Guitars must be in good working order. We will practice 6:15 – 7:15 on Thursdays and play together on various Sundays along with the Praise Team. Guitar choir members should be in 6<sup>th</sup> grade or older. See Tracy early if you are curious to look over the music.

**May: Women's Choir.** This month long choir will meet 7:00-8:00 Wednesday evenings. This is a great choir for you ladies who want to sing with friends and can't commit to an entire year of choir.

**Every Thursday 7:15-9:00 p.m. Praise Team.** Would you like to be a part of this fun and dynamic group? Singers and musicians are always welcome. We are also actively looking for people to man the sound board and run video projection during worship services.

**September – April: JuBELLation Bell Choir.** This choir is open to anyone in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and up wanting to ring bells! This lively musical group is only improved with additional members – the more the better. We meet from 6:00-7:00 on Wednesday evenings and ring throughout the church year.

♪♪♪♪♪ **JuBELLation Ringers** ♪♪♪♪♪

Our Fall Season starts on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the church balcony. Our first ringing for worship will be Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at the beginning of both services. Interested in ringing with us or learning how to ring, call director Ruth Haupt (616) 846-7875 or email her at [haupttruth@hotmail.com](mailto:haupttruth@hotmail.com).

# Faith at Home



## “Loving Hearts” Servant Event

Thank you, people of God, for your tremendous response to our Faith at Home Take it Home Event: Loving Hearts. Your gifts of love touched lives all over the Tri-Cities. We would like to direct special thanks in a few directions. Thank you to the Endowment committee. Their quick and generous response to our request for seed money allowed us to focus on the mission rather than fund-raising. Thank you to our pastor, elders, music team, and the people of this congregation for being willing to be flexible with the worship service time that day which allowed us to better meet the service requests that we had received. Thank you to our prayer warriors who covered us in prayer before, during and after the event. And most especially, thank you-for your gifts of time, service and love to those around us. Please be aware that many of the service requests that we had received for this event represent ongoing needs. For instance, Loving Spoonfuls (feeding the homeless-weekly), sorting at Love INC, visiting shut-ins, etc. There are always opportunities out there to stay involved if you so choose. If you would like contact information for any of these ministry opportunities, see Craig Kaschube or Richard Rothe and they can put you in touch with the right people. The Faith at Home team's prayer is that service to others is always a part of your offering back to God in thanksgiving for His bountiful, daily gifts to each of us.



*Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth. 1 John 3:18*

### More re: Loving Hearts from the Salvation Army...

Thank you Thank you Thank you for all they did for us, and for the housing clients. Let me know if you have anyone who wants more Volunteer projects in the future! God Bless

Wendy L. Jobin

Social Service Caseworker/Volunteer Coordinator  
Grand Haven Salvation Army

## Everyday Evangelism

In June a husband/wife team from Mission U of Lutheran Hour Ministries came to St. Matthew Lutheran Church and presented a program on "everyday evangelism." In the next few newsletters I would like to share with you the key points of this seminar, based on the Power Point notes I received from Ronda Chapman.



The goal of this presentation was to help the participants gain confidence in Christian witnessing. To "witness" means to speak from personal experience and to introduce others to Jesus. Have you ever wondered how many people surrounding you such as neighbors and co-workers really know Jesus and understand the meaning and importance of having a personal relationship with Him? If you want to change someone's life, start them on a path of learning about Jesus. Plant the seed, and the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

We tend to think of witnessing as a prepared monologue on our part that we recite from someone's doorway. With that thought in the back of our mind it's no wonder we approach witnessing with timidity. Actually, the spotlight is not on us. It's on Jesus. Witnessing is not about me! It's about Jesus. It's all about His mission, His message, and His power; and the person who needs to know Him. It's our privilege to participate!

Next month I'll talk about the hindrances to witnessing. In the meantime think about how you came to the Christian faith and what it has meant for your life. We speak best about what we truly know!

Randy Cooper; Evangelism Committee

[Renzie@aol.com](mailto:Renzie@aol.com)

## Parish Board of Education

Crossways Bible studies will resume September 6<sup>th</sup> ~ the first Tuesday in September.

We will finish with the intertestamental period (4 lessons) and then begin with the study of the New Testament on October 4<sup>th</sup> ~ the first Tuesday in October.

This is a great opportunity to join in at either point as we begin the new series.

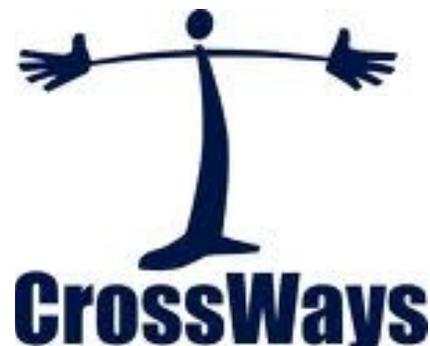
The only prerequisite required is a yearning for studying the Bible and a deeper understanding of the Biblical narrative.

Crossways offers a unique approach to Biblical studies utilizing illustrations along with the workbooks. A strong historical perspective adds to the understanding of the times and practices of the Jewish nation.

The ultimate focus of the studies is Jesus, the Servant-King. Dr Wendt, the author, does a marvelous job of demonstrating how the Bible consistently throughout the ages directs us to Jesus who invites us to follow him by loving and serving others.

The call to service is compelling and you will hear it and feel it if you join us and participate with fellow members in the weekly Crossways studies.

If you would like to order the 2 workbooks that cover the New Testament please contact Wayne Kohn at (231) 798-1561 or [wdjnd@comcast.net](mailto:wdjnd@comcast.net). The approximate cost for the material would be \$35.00. If you just prefer to stop by and listen and give it a try you are welcome as well. We will be meeting Tuesday evenings in the Sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. and we usually go for about 90 minutes. Please feel comfortable to join us as we are very informal and have some great and inspiring discussions around these materials. God bless you as you contemplate your studies for the coming year.



## CLASSIFIED AD SECTION OF YOUR LOCAL ST. JOHN'S NEWSLETTER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The family of Denny Hoffman** wishes to thank all of you who sent a card, made a phone call, delivered food, visited with Denny, and kept Denny and family in prayer. The outpouring of care and support during the last three years, especially the last month of his journey here on earth was overwhelming. Thank you to the Ladies Aid for working the luncheon. A big thank you to Pastor Haupt whose visits gave encouragement yet peace to Denny. Also, the patience shown was appreciated. A special thank you to the "Saturday Night Friends". You were/are wonderful © Blessings to All - Fay Hoffman and Family

#### Office Administrator Needed:

St. Matthew Lutheran is looking for a part time (15-20 hrs/week) Administrative Assistant for Pastor Goers and the church office. Along with this person's love for the Lord and Savior Jesus they are looking for a self motivated individual with office computer skills and beyond. Send resume to: St. Matthew Lutheran, 15395 Rannes Rd, Spring Lake, MI 49456

#### Parking Lot Fundraiser:

The annual Washington DC Coast Guard Parking Lot Fund Raiser will be Coast Guard Saturday, August 6 at St. John's ~ help our school kids get to Washington DC! Thanks!

#### Ladies Aid Meeting:

Because of Coast Guard Festival the first week of August the Ladies Aid is meeting the second Thursday, August 11 at 1:00 p.m. Kim Hardy will be our guest speaker. All ladies are welcome.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**OWL Activities:** Nothing is planned for August. The committee will discuss upcoming activities at the next meeting on Monday, August 8 at 4:00 p.m. and welcomes any ideas you might have. Peggy Erhorn, Owls Coordinator – (616) 844-5095 or [perhorn@comcast.net](mailto:perhorn@comcast.net).

#### Sunday School Superintendent

**Needed:** Kim Tullock has decided to step down after many years of leading the Sunday School program. We were truly blessed by her love of children, her organizational skills and leadership. Please call the church office if interested or for more info, please call Kim at (616) 847-1637.

#### Scholarships Available:

Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity at Western Michigan University is offering one \$500 scholarship to incoming Lutheran men for their education at Western. Scholarship applications are available in the church narthex and should postmarked by August 22. If you have any questions, Karl Wacker, one of the recruitment chairmen for Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity, can be reached at (641) 750-3109, [karl.j.wacker@wmich.edu](mailto:karl.j.wacker@wmich.edu), or at Beta Sigma Psi, c/o Scholarship Committee, 1720 W. Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

#### God's Pantry/Social Ministry:

Contact Linda Goresch (616) 842-8446 pantry needs, Marlene Guske (616) 842-6879 meals; and Monica Boeve (616) 846-5588 all other assistance and anyone interested in adopting a shut-in.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Social Ministry News: Diaper Drive** – We delivered 1,738 diapers to the Lakeshore Pregnancy Center. Wow, what a magnificent contribution! Thanks to all those that contributed to this effort.

**School Supply Drive** – We are beginning our annual drive to collect supplies for our students at St. John's School. Please check the list in the Social Hall and Narthex and io ohelp us get our Crusaders off to a great school year. **Meal Ministry** – Please call Marlene Guske at (616) 842-6879 if you can in provide a meal for someone experiencing a need.

**Buy Gas at Walmart:** Through Sept. 30 you can save 10¢ a gallon on gas purchased with Walmart gift cards (their usual discount is 3¢ a gallon). You can purchase Walmart gift cards (\$100s & \$25s) on Sunday mornings and from our school office as part of our SCRIP Fundraising Program. Our SCRIP Program is a year round effort to generate funding for our school. We sell gift cards for dozens of local and national retailers, restaurants, gas stations, grocery stores, movie theaters, etc. We try to keep the most popular cards on hand. Participating businesses sell the cards to nonprofit organizations at a discount. When we resell the cards at their full value the difference is funds raised for our school. The beauty for SCRIP users is that it costs you not a penny more than you are already spending and yet generates significant funds for St. John's! Thank you to all who purchase SCRIP on a regular basis!



...to all those who prepared and delivered twenty-seven meals to families during the months of May-July.

...to all those families that adopted a shut-in. We still have eighteen more shut-ins waiting for a family.

... to **Craig Kaschube, Kelley Hargrave,** and **Janice Korstange** for all of their hard work painting the church office. Stop in and see the fresh paint and new arrangement of the church office.

...to **Jim & Kelley Hargrave** for delivering 75 "flood" buckets, which are distributed by LCMS

World Relief to survivors in areas affected by flooding. And thanks to all who helped with the gathering of the supplies necessary to fill the buckets!

...to **Bill Gierke** and **Amy, Hannah & Noah Kelly** for watering the flowers planted around the church grounds.

...to **Ron Kieff** for entering all the visit data into the church database and also for all the attendance data entry that he and his wife, **Lenore**, faithfully do.

...to **Joe LaLonde** for all the extra hours he puts in during the week and on the weekends to update and troubleshoot our computer system here at St. John's Church and School.

...to **TJ Sibley** for donating his and his company's time and resources to keeping the church, school and parsonage grounds cut, trimmed and weed-free all growing season.

...to **Deb Clark** and **Shelley Peets** for leading our Vacation Bible School efforts once again and to the rest of our VBS staff: **Brian Peets, Scott Clark, Amy Kelly, Ruth Haupt, Craig Kaschube, Amy Tolliver, Holly Spink, Tracy Wood, Julie Williams, Duff Duer, Tara Brooky, Erin & Brian Walker, Kyle & Rylan Peets, Ryan Montgomery, Anthony Jeske, Andrew Pirrotta** and **Megan Daniels**.

...to all who helped St. John's set a new congregational record as we participated in Lutheran's for Life Statewide diaper drive. We gathered and gave 1,738 diapers to the Lakeshore Pregnancy Center. Thank you to everyone who gave; and thanks to the Social Ministry Board for taking the time to count and deliver them.

## FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

### Marriages:

07/16/11 **Ryan\* Bishop** and **Kerri Skeels**

### Deaths:

....06/21/11 **Sandra\* Bayes**, wife of **Al\* Bayes**

....06/22/2011 **Denis\* Hoffman**, husband of **Fay\* Hoffman**

....07/02/11 **Bernice\* Pellegrom**

07/07/11 **John Tielesch**, husband of **Alberta\* Tielesch**

### Transferred Membership:

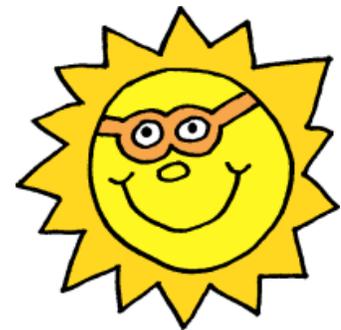
**Michael Gilmore** to Christ Our Savior Lutheran Church, Holland, MI

### Released of Membership:

**Rick Arendsen** and son, **Jacob**, to Spring Lake Wesleyan Church, Spring Lake, MI

### \* Members of SJLC

Our current membership stands at 967 baptized, 769 of whom have confirmed their faith.



## Fiscal Year Comparisons

Our Stewardship Of The Gospel					Our Stewardship Of Gifts			
Date	Worship Attendance		Communion Attendance		General Fund		Outside Missions "Extra-Mile Giving"	
	2009/2010	2010/2011	2009/2010	2010/2011	2009/2010	2010/2011	2009/2010	2010/2011
June 5	360	343	263	237	\$ 17,862.05	\$ 17,456.60	\$ 764.00	\$ 5,639.00
June 12	312	302	234	250	\$ 11,155.90	\$ 11,864.60	\$ 1,561.00	\$ 1,047.00
June 19	243	282	196	231	\$ 7,820.49	\$ 10,610.65	\$ 751.30	\$ 1,261.92
June 26	245	258	197	218	\$ 9,287.65	\$ 6,865.01	\$ 6,797.00	\$ 1,150.00
Fifth Sunday								
Year to date	<b>1,160</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>936</b>	<b>\$ 46,126.09</b>	<b>\$ 46,796.86</b>	<b>\$ 9,873.30</b>	<b>\$ 9,097.92</b>
Weekly ave.	290	296	223	234	\$ 11,531.52	\$ 11,699.22		
General Fund weekly needs					\$ 13,561.54	\$ 13,515.87		



Faith at Home

St. John's Lutheran Church  
527 Taylor Avenue  
Grand Haven, MI 49417

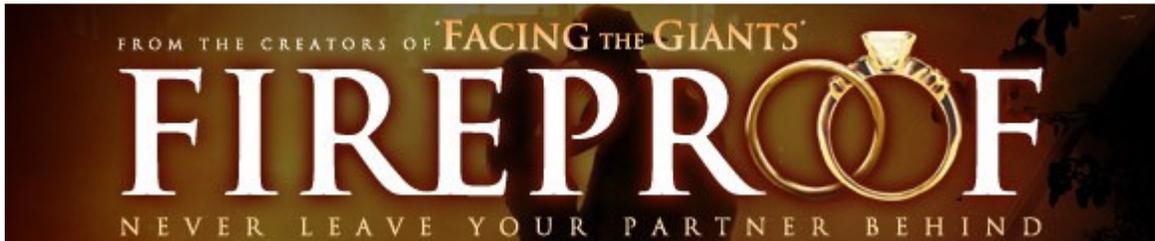
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Rev. Dieter Haupt, Pastor [dhaupt@silcs.org](mailto:dhaupt@silcs.org)  
Craig Kaschube, Youth & Family Life Director [ckaschube@silcs.org](mailto:ckaschube@silcs.org)  
Laura Harvey, School Administrator [lharvey@silcs.org](mailto:lharvey@silcs.org)

**Return Services Requested**

*God's Blessings To:*

You and your  
family!



**FIREPROOF: Coming to St. Johns September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

At work, inside burning buildings, Capt. Caleb Holt lives by the old firefighter's adage: Never leave your partner behind. At home, in the cooling embers of his marriage, he lives by his own rules. Is it too late to fireproof his marriage? His job is to rescue others. Now Caleb Holt is about to face his toughest job ever ... rescuing his wife's heart.

On September 9, please join the St. Johns Marriage Ministry team for our fourth date night featuring the movie **FIREPROOF**. The next movie from Sherwood Pictures and Provident Films has audiences laughing, crying, and on the edges of their seats as they are drawn into the world of a firefighter, his wife ... and a marriage worth rescuing.

Watch the theatrical trailer at [www.FireprooftheMovie.com](http://www.FireprooftheMovie.com)

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