



Faith at Home

**St. John's
Lutheran Church**

527 Taylor
Grand Haven, MI 49417

www.silcs.org

Sacred Song (Traditional): 8:15 a.m.
Blended Voices (Contemporary): 10:30 a.m.
Night Song (Saturday service): 6:00 p.m.
1st & 3rd Saturdays - Traditional worship
2nd & 4th Saturdays - Contemporary worship
5th Saturdays - Vespers worship

Church Office

(616) 842-4510

Staff

Pastor: Dieter E. Haupt
Youth & Family Life Dir.: Craig Kaschube
Music Director: Tracy Wood
Church Secretary: Janice Korstange
Bookkeeper: Kelley Hargrave
Custodian: Mike Gilmore (interim)
Housekeeper: Paula Gilmore



School Office

(616) 842-0260
Fax (616) 842-0934

Staff and Faculty

Administrator: Laura Harvey
Librarian: Rosie Anderson
Director of Early Childhood Education:
Debbie Luytjes
Preschool Teacher: Kim Rykse
Preschool Asst.: Sherry Lyons
Elementary Teachers: Connie Behm
Patti Kooi
Barb Bunda
Laura Harvey
Debbie Kolberg
Middle School: Tracy Wood
Dawn Kohn

Good + News

"Misfortune pursues the sinner, but prosperity is the reward of the righteous." - Proverbs 13:21

Pastoral Musings

February 2011

"Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends..." (John 15:13-14a)

February, with Valentine's Day nestled within it, is a natural time to talk about "love". When we do, it's easy to get distracted by the romantic type of love that sizzles across our movie and television screens. Maybe because that's safe. Maybe because, in our pride, we think we're pretty good "lovers".

The other type of love we tend to talk about a lot is love for family. Maybe because it's easier. Maybe because they're right there - in home, in life - with us, nearby - touchable, reachable - tangible.

Oh, there's love of country, love of friends and all sorts of other things in groups that we "love"; but I would hold out to you that we talk about these types of love because we want to avoid the "hard" love, the kind of love that's "tough" to emulate and imitate - GOD'S LOVE.

It's so unique (one of a kind) that Scripture even has a word for it: AGAPE, that it doesn't use for any one else's way of loving or to describe any other type of love. AGAPE - God's love - totally "selfless", completely for the other person. God's love is unconditional. There are no strings attached. Nothing we have to do to earn it to keep receiving it. Indeed, we can't merit it. We don't deserve it. Our sin certainly stops us from reciprocating or even coming close to reflecting it back to Him or to others around us.

St. Paul describes God's type of love in 1 Corinthians 13 as "patient...kind. It doesn't envy...boast. It isn't proud...or rude. It isn't self-seeking. It isn't easily angered. It keeps no record of wrongs. Love doesn't delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails (vv 4-8a). In other words, it's God's type of love, not ours.

He can love like that we can't. It's what brought Him to earth and led Him to Calvary to climb a cross for us, to suffer sin's torment and punishment in our stead, to take it in the neck for our sake.

Yes, "Greater love has no one than this." Yet there are many imposters who would pretend to love us and tempt us away from God's true love for us. They claim to love us, to be just as good and gracious as God; but they're not! There's always a "catch", "hook" or "string". Always something to do, to earn, to achieve, to give, to sacrifice. Only God, in Christ, is all-giving, all-loving, ever-loving. So don't be fooled by a cheap imitation. Don't let others come along and cheapen God's love for you in Christ Jesus by saying something like "All roads lead to God, to heaven, to salvation." It's not true.

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Contacts

Church Contacts:

Church Office 842-4510 FAX 842-0934
Pastor: Dieter Haupt 846-7875
 Tuesday is his day off

Youth/Family Life Director:

Craig Kaschube 405-5514
 Thursday is his day off

Music Director: Tracy Wood 847-0979

Church Secretary: Janice Korstange 842-4510

Bookkeeper: Kelley Hargrave 844-7554

Handbell Director: Ruth Haupt 846-7875

(To schedule building use, call church office – can also check the church calendar at www.silcs.org) 842-4510

School Contacts:

School Office 842-0260 FAX 842-0934

School Administrator: Laura Harvey 844-0514

Early Childhood Ed. Dir.: Debbie Luytjes 846-9486

Custodian: Mike Gilmore 616-399-3571

School Lunch Coord.: Kelley Hargrave 844-7554

School Librarian: Rosie Anderson 842-2167

Elected Contacts:

Board of Directors:

Executive Director: Joe Kovacs 846-6324

Asst. Exe. Directors: Scott Taylor 844-4181

George Huff 607-8758

Christian Day School: Scott Liggett 850-0265

Elders: Charlie Edwards 842-6456

Evangelism: Ronda Chapman 847-8736

Parish Education: Wayne Kohn 231-798-1561

Parish Fellowship: ~Vacant~

Public Relations: Tim Wood 847-0979

Social Ministry: Monica Boeve 846-5588

Linda Goresch 842-8446

Stewardship Life: Dave Thomas 847-8183

Treasurer: ~Vacant~

Trustees: ~Vacant~

Youth/Young Adults: Sheri Sanborn 846-6807

Endowment Fund: Bob Schulz 842-5941

Volunteer Contacts:

Altar Guild: Catherine Lake 842-8469

Church Librarian: Fay Hoffman 846-3124

Forget Me Not Ministry: Pat Young 842-1609

Ladies Aid President: Barb Tripp 231-799-9103

Lector Coordinator: Michele Ripka 846-6444

OWLS Coordinator: Peggy Erhorn 844-5095

Prayer Chain: Pat Young 842-1609

SCRIP Coordinator: Jerry Goresch 842-8446

Stephen Ministry: Donna Yost 510-8170

Scott Liggett 850-0265

Sunday School: Kim Tullock 847-1637

Tape Ministry: Dawn Van Dongen(616)566-8754

Newsletter/Website Editor: Janice Korstange 842-4510

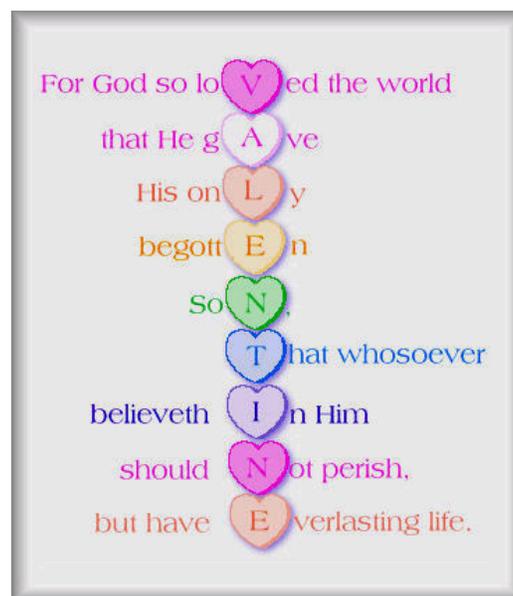
Pastoral Musings (Cont. from page one)

Such suggestions cheapen Christ's sacrifice and love for you. Such suggestions attack the cross, for if true, then the cross becomes unnecessary and Christ's sacrifice was for nothing.

No! His love for you is **so great** that He even is willing to die that you might be forgiven; and rise again so that you might live again with Him here in time and forever hereafter in eternity. Now that's a Valentine! No wonder St. Valentine loved the Lord Jesus and tried to love others like Jesus loved him. Perhaps we should rename February 14 after Jesus. Any suggestions?

Rejoicing with you in His love,

Pastor Haupt



Year End Tidbits

During 2010 our baptized membership declined from 1,023 to 993 (-30), while our confirmed membership went from 802 to 784 (-18).

2010 saw ten of our baptized members confirm their faith before the congregation. They were joined by ten adults (two of whom were baptized as well). Another eight adults who had been confirmed previously reprofessed their faith. During 2010, two adults, three children and nine babies were baptized.

We thrill over how the Lord continues to bless our outreach mission efforts. The current Fit For Life in Christ class also holds a lot of promise for more adults being added to our fellowship of faith.

2010 Giving Totals

During 2010 the people of God, through their gifts through St. John's, gave the following to the mission of our Lord outside of St. John's ministry:

Amount	Fund/Project
\$57,554	District and Synod missions (our 10% tithe off of our General Fund receipts)
\$7,806	Our congregation's New Orleans Mission Trip
\$3,076	Shaelin Hase's benefit
\$1,736	Love In the Name of Christ Homeless Shelter project
\$1,108	District's 125 th thank offering "The Future is Now" and Synod's "Fan Into Flame" mission effort
\$749	"Hearts for Jesus" District Day School collection for the LCMS "Eliminate Malaria" effort
\$708	Mr. Robert Walter, Chosen People Jewish Evangelism
\$257	Lutheran Youth Encounter
\$250	The Gideon's
\$217	Rev. Chuck and Karen Tessaro of Lutheran Bible Translators
\$196	Lutheran Heritage Foundation – Bible Story books for Ukrainian children (from Sunday School offerings)
\$150	The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML)
\$135	Lutherans for Life
\$30	Lutheran Hour Ministries
\$30	Lutheran Association of Missionaries and Pilots (L.A.M.P., U.S.)
\$30	People of the Book Lutheran Outreach (P.O.B.L.O.)
\$20	Allan Butterworth of Apple of His Eye – LCMS Jewish outreach in Florida
\$20	Concordia University, Ann Arbor, MI
\$20	Worship for Shut-ins of Fort Wayne, IN
\$20	Missionary Opportunities Short Term (M.O.S.T. Ministries), Ann Arbor, MI
\$10	Lutheran Child and Family Services (LCFS) of MI
\$10	Dakota Boys & Girls Ranch, Fargo & Minot, ND
\$10	Bethesda Lutheran Home, Watertown, WI
\$10	Lutheran Braille Workers, Yucaipa, CA
+	
\$75,152	Total, including tithe

For home purposes (besides giving to the General Fund to sustain ongoing ministry done by our church and school) God's people, through St. John's, gave:

Amount	Fund/Project
\$37,131	Financial Freedom Fund (goal – to be debt free in 5 years)
\$22,330	Building Under the Cross (BUTC) – this fund pays off our present mortgage which costs our congregation \$2,148 monthly (\$25,776 annually)
\$15,992	Skylight/roof repairs
\$9,050	God's Pantry (our congregation's charitable help fund)
\$8,740	St. John's Youth
\$3,070	Extra school projects
\$1,570	Day School Scholarship Fund
\$1,528	Day School library
\$1,215	Tom & Helen Foreman Day School Scholarship Fund
\$1,000	Faith at Home Marriage Ministry
\$600	Ladies Aid
\$525	Men's Pancake Breakfast receipts
\$420	Flowers to decorate the sanctuary
\$267	Faith at Home Ministry
\$38	Church Worker Scholarship Fund
\$15	Church library

Music Notes

Celebration Choir is busy working on some wonderful pieces of music for the winter season. You will hear a light, contemporary song during distribution called Come to the Table. A highlight for us is to sing We Walk by Faith with the Eagle Ringers – February 6th at 10:30. We are even working on an 'a cappella' African spiritual. Look for that in late February. As always, new members are welcome to this choir.

Praise Team is busy every Thursday evening preparing music for Sunday worship. New songs will include:

Because of Your Love

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyMFL-CGzwa>
How Marvelous

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXWKT1iqvaU>
Redeemer Savior Friend

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r_K8E8y2SU

Our Music Ministry Team could use a few more people on the tech and video teams. We are also looking for a trumpet player for Easter morning. Are you interested? Contact Tracy for more information at (616) 402-5099.

Tracy Wood, Music Director twood@sjlcs.org

Faith at Home



Marriage Ministry Date Night

Give your spouse an early Valentine's present!

Bring him or her to Date Night! We will have a fabulous dessert bar with goodies to satisfy any sweet-tooth and follow up that treat with another one... **Doug Swink** from **Winning at**



Home will be doing a presentation on Christian marriage. If you missed our first date night you won't want to miss this one! Event starts at 7:00 p.m., Friday, February 4. Presented by your Faith at Home Marriage ministry team.

Christianity and the Competition

A new Sunday morning Bible Study will start up on February 20, meeting during the 9:30 a.m. time slot. It will be in a DVD – Discussion format. It's author is Dr. Paul L. Maier (it's his latest).

Dr. Maier writes: "Although Christianity is by far the largest of the world religions, it is increasingly challenged today by competing belief systems. In fact, the globe is littered with every possible variety of religious and parareligious spirituality. While a seminar such as this cannot hope to deal with them all, we shall address the major religious systems in both the east and the west, providing a brief summary of each in terms of its founder, its holy book (if any), its prime beliefs and, in particular, its credibility.

As a model for this approach, we shall begin with Christianity, omitting details or its founders and beliefs since this series will primarily be used by Christians, but testing its credentials and comparing them with those of other world religious systems."

Other religions to be covered will be: The Far East – Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhs, Confucianism, Taoism and Shintoism. The Middle East – Judaism, Mithraism, Montanism, Manicheism, Baha'I and Islam. Western – Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, the Cults and Scientology.

We will also be taking a look at how a Christian can respond to all these competing faiths. Plan on joining us beginning Sunday, February 20, at 9:30 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room.

The Truth Project

The Truth Project is still being presented and we will begin a new class on February 6th at 9:00 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the 7th/8th grade classroom. Those who are attending late service may be interested in coming in a little early and you will be out by 10:20 and be to church on time. Consider this 13 week study as part of your worship resolution for 2011.

Several people have attended this study more than once as it is packed with thought provoking concepts as we struggle with the Truth in today's world.

Family Spiritual Planning Session

Our next session is Saturday, February 26. This is a program you don't want to miss. This thought-provoking 4-hour planning session will help you to chart out specific plans to assist your family in making God a part of your home and family life.

The leaders will walk you through the steps, but the plan itself is written individually (or with your spouse), and privately. Your plan is personal to you, and your family and will be tailored to your passions in life. Please sign up on the Parish Ed bulletin board, or see **Richard Rothe** or **Craig Kaschube** to allow us to plan for materials and supplies. Child care is available.

Weekend to Remember

Weekend to Remember Marriage Conference: It's never too early or late to learn how to make your marriage flourish! Marriage getaways have made a huge difference in my marriage and it can in yours as well. The Weekend to Remember

Getaway, sponsored by Family Life, is coming to Grand Rapids March 4-6. Don't miss this opportunity to invest in your most important relationship! Join our group and save \$159/couple when you register. This is one investment that will pay huge dividends for the rest of your life! We hope you can join us.

<http://www.familylife.com>

For more info, contact Craig Kaschube at ckaschube@sjlcs.org or (616) 842-4510.





PRESCHOOL

The preschoolers were very excited and ready to come back to preschool after their long Christmas break. During January the preschoolers learned nursery rhymes. Many are familiar but some are new to the children. The children enjoyed their annual pajama party – they get to come to school in pajamas and bring blankets. They watch videos and play in their pajamas all day. It is tons of fun!

Mrs. Debbie Luytjes

KINDERGARTEN

The children were excited to return to school in January and tell about their time with friends and family during our Christmas break. Our room was filled with winter fun. Each child made a snowman for a bulletin board and wrote in a "voice bubble" what each snowman would say. They also drew pictures and wrote sentences of what they do in winter. We are working with our five senses preparing for the Science Fair. Using our ears to identify different sounds was interesting. Using our eyes to look at each other and things around us was exciting. It was hard to find Mrs. Behm in the gym with our eyes shut. We used our sense of taste to see if we liked or did not like how things tasted. We found out some things smell good and some things smell not so good. We had fun describing how some things felt. Thank you, God, for our five senses.

Mrs. Connie Behm

FIRST GRADE

The first graders returned to school after the Christmas break eager to see their friends and ready to learn once again. With half of the year behind them, the first graders are becoming active readers and are improving greatly on their phonics and reading skills. They are also using their writing skills creating sentences using their spelling words and remembering to include capital letters and an end mark, a real feat for the elementary student.

The children thoroughly enjoy the giant snow (ice) hill and the challenge of climbing it. The ride down hasn't always been as smooth as anticipated.

After learning about Jesus in the temple and His baptism at age 30, the children enjoyed seeing Mrs. Kooi's baptismal dress that she wore at her baptism. We are thankful to be God's children and especially knowing that our sins are forgiven through our baptism. It is important that we continue to practice that forgiveness with one another in the classroom.

Mrs. Patti Kooi

SECOND AND THIRD GRADE

Wow, January went by fast! We are busy getting ready for the Science Fair which will be on February 11th. Our dioramas are complete as well as our reports so we look forward to telling you all about the animals we researched and their habitats. In math we are learning about place value and subtracting greater numbers. In social studies we have learned about map skills, bodies of water and landforms. Religion has been interesting as we look at the descendants of Adam and the ancestors of Jesus.

Mrs. Barb Bunda, Mrs. Laura Harvey

FOURTH, FIFTH AND SIXTH GRADE

Gabe Casper is studying to become a Lutheran pastor at Concordia Seminary. The students received a picture of him from the Michigan District and have been praying for this young man and asking the Lord to bless his endeavor. In Literature class while reading the novel, Island of the Blue Dolphins, we discussed where we should place our trust. The Bible has specific passages that help with this question. Reading our Bible is one of the most important part of our day! Finally, the students are using technology in the form of Mrs. Kolberg's website to complete a blog question in Math and Reading.

Students are very excited to learn about the early colonies and the different lifestyles of the New Englanders, the Middle Colonies and the Southern Colonies. Very soon we continue our story of American History with the Revolutionary War.

Mrs. Debbie Kolberg, Mrs. Tracy Wood

SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADE

We have been reading To Kill a Mockingbird in school and discussing themes of racism, growing up, and moral character. It's thrilling to be able to introduce this great American novel to my students! Our last week of geography brings an essay test in which students will discuss how geography has influenced history throughout the Eastern Hemisphere.

The seventh and eighth graders are following scientific method as they design and conduct individual experiments to present at the St. John's Science Fair on Feb. 11th. We hope you will come to hear them share their results to questions such as the following: How does wind speed affect wind chill? Which hand lotion retains the most moisture? Can a hamster learn a maze faster with a particular treat as the reward? How does Stroop Effect change as we become fluent readers? and Does temperature affect the accuracy of a paintball?

Mrs. Tracy Wood, Mrs. Dawn Kohn



"FIESTA OF FAITH"

2011 SPRING AUCTION

FRIDAY MARCH 25TH, 2011
GRAND HAVEN COMMUNITY CENTER

Once again, St. John's Lutheran School will be hosting our annual **Spring Auction** fundraiser. This year it will be held on Friday, March 25th, 2011 at the Grand Haven Community Center. We need many hands for a successful event! This year's theme is a 'Mexican Fiesta'. The money we raise will go directly back into our school. **Please consider donating items**, whether it is a product or a service to be auctioned off, gift certificates or perhaps consider sponsoring our event this year.

Listed below are a few suggestions for items and services that families can donate. These are only suggestions, so feel free to use your imagination for something that would fit your talents and your schedule.

- ▶ You can use St. John's as your drop-off site, or *one of our volunteers would be happy to arrange a pick up for any items or donations.*
- ▶ We can create a certificate so the winning bidder will contact you directly to make arrangements on how to receive their prize.
- ▶ We are also looking for baskets of different sizes that we could use to "group" items together and present at the auction.
- ▶ We are hoping to borrow any Mexican blankets you may have, to be used as part of our décor for the evening (will be returned to you after the auction).

Ideas for Products to Donate	Ideas for Services to Donate
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ Certificate for 1 homemade dessert per month for a year ♥ Handmade Afghan/Quilt ♥ Woodworking projects ♥ A dozen jars of homemade jams or jellies ♥ Artwork ♥ Purchased items that we could 'group' together if needed ♥ Handmade jewelry ♥ Five pounds of deer meat, sausage, jerky, etc. ♥ Handmade note cards ♥ Six crock pot dinners the first Monday of the month ♥ Kindle or Nook ♥ iPod Touch 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♥ A weekend for two at your cabin or condo ♥ Five private music or band lessons ♥ A one hour massage ♥ Summer swimming lessons ♥ Housecleaning services ♥ Five one-hour sport lessons ♥ Wood carving lessons ♥ 3 hours of computer training or service work ♥ Babysitting services ♥ 4 hours of yard work/landscaping services ♥ Fishing excursion ♥ Spend an afternoon with your favorite teacher

You can contact **Kelly Liggett**, Auction Chairperson at (616) 850-0265 or kliggett@hotmail.com to notify her of your donation, or just fill out the donation slip below and return to the church or school auction.

2011 Spring Auction Donation

Donor Name: _____ Phone: _____

I can donate: _____

Please list a description such as color, quantity, time frame, type of services, etc.

Lakeshore Pregnancy Center Baby Bottle Fundraiser



By providing help to women in crisis pregnancies, we have found this to be true: *When a woman who is considering abortion visits a Pregnancy Care Center, more than half of the time she will change her mind and make the decision to give*

life to her unborn child.

When you insert a check or fill this bottle with currency or coins, you are helping to provide free pregnancy tests, biblical peer counseling, maternity and baby supplies, and a hand of friendship to a woman in crisis.



Return your filled "God's Gift Baby Bottle" to church by February 27. Thank you for supporting the ministry of Lakeshore Pregnancy Center! Thank you for your tax-deductible gift of life! (Receipts issued for checks.) www.lpcenters.com

Church Library - 2011

FREE shelf – browse the shelf and take what you wish. **NEW shelf** – new donations – check out / read / return.

NEW DONATIONS

BOOKS

Children

Baby Jesus Prince of Peace, Arch Books

The Christmas Story, Random House

Heaven's Little Helpers, Precious Moments

Life

Activities

The Great Bible Question and Answer Book

Inspirational

Where Tulips Bloom, Patricia Jane Palmer

Reference

The Dead Sea Scrolls, Public Museum of

Grand Rapids

The Zealots of Masada, Moshe Pearlman

DVD

Building Families...Building Structures

Lutheran Child & Family Service of Michigan

REMINDER: Tapes of the Sunday Services (10:30 a.m.) are available on the "Jesus Loves Me" shelf in church library.

Want to get out of the house for a couple of hours a week? Volunteer in your community or church.

Fay Hoffman, Volunteer (church librarian)

Financial Freedom Fund Update

Good news! The first goal of the Financial Freedom Fund has been met and we're now working on goal No. 2.

As of Jan. 12, the Financial Freedom Fund balance was \$37,366. At the end of the church's 2009-10 fiscal year, the Dedicated Funds total was at a \$25,000 deficit. We have replenished the Dedicated Funds to whole (using the end of the last fiscal year as the target) and have since contributed \$10,000 of the remaining balance of the to-date Financial Freedom Fund to goal No. 2: paying off the short-term note with the Church Extension Fund.



The original short-term note was \$50,000, but it has been paid down to approximately \$45,000. With the contribution from the Financial Freedom Fund, the balance of the note will be less than \$35,000.

This has happened in less than four months since we officially kicked off the project to eliminate the burden of debt at St. John's on Oct. 1, 2010.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed, with their generous gifts and/or prayers, to make all of this happen.

While we celebrate the first victory, and praise the Lord for the good news to share, we're still far from the finish line. After the short-term note is paid off, we'll build a cash management fund. That fund will keep us from creating more debt by borrowing from the outside to make ends meet. Then we'll begin paying off the longstanding mortgage.

Consider a weekly, monthly, quarterly, annual or even one-time gift to the Financial Freedom Fund. Green envelopes that will earmark your gift to the fund are in a box on the counter in the narthex.

Please remember that any gifts to the Financial Freedom Fund should not deplete your tithes to the church's General Fund and operations. Those tithes are vital to keeping the church doors open and our mission on track.

— Your Stewardship Life Board



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God's Pantry/Social Ministry:

Contact Linda Goresch (842-8446) pantry needs, Marlene Guske (842-6879) meals; and Monica Boeve (846-5588) all other assistance. We thank all of you from the bottom of our hearts for generously supporting us and making it possible throughout this year to help and share God's love to so many who are in need. FOR GOD IS GOOD, AND HE LOVES GOODNESS; THE GODLY SHALL SEE HIS FACE. PS.11:7 In Christ's love, your Social Ministry Board.

Camp Concordia is excited to announce a \$10K dollar for dollar match opportunity to complete recent septic and well renovations without a loan. Contributions received between now and the end of Feb. will be matched. Every gift helps keep this wonderful site open and available for kids from all over MI and the mid-west. Contributions can be given through St. John's, or at campconcordia.com, or mailed to Camp Concordia, 13400 Pinewood St, Gowen MI 49326. For more information, go to www.campconcordia.com or contact Paul Golke, Camp Director at (616) 754-3785.

Lutheran Hour Ministries

Sunday: Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) declares the Good News about salvation through Jesus around the world—and equips congregations to share it with others. On Feb. 6, join us in celebrating Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday! Want to learn more about LHM today? Visit www.lhm.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St. John's Preschool & Kindergarten:

Registration for next school year will begin soon. Congregation members will be receiving a letter in the mail with an enrollment form. If you would like to schedule a visit to preschool, kindergarten or daycare before the open house please call the school at (616) 842-0260. On Mon., Feb. 22, 6:00 – 8:00pm, there will be an open house for everyone. Open registration begins the night of the open house. All congregation members are encouraged to enroll before open registration begins to ensure them the spot they want for the fall. For more information, please call Debbie Luytjes, Preschool Director, or Laura Harvey, Administrator, at (616) 842-0260.

Fleece Fabric Needed: Please consider picking up a few yards of fleece and donate them to our youth group who will be making blankets for Lutheran Child And Family Services at a servant event in March. Two years ago we collected 200+ yards of fleece and were able to make 80 blankets for children. Each blanket takes 3-4 yards of fabric. Contact Sheri Sanborn (616) 846-6807 for more info.

Science Fair: Mark your calendar for Fri., Feb. 11 at 6:00pm as all students will be participating in our Science Fair. You will be amazed at how our students research and present their science projects! Be sure to stay for the seventh & eighth grade Awards Presentation at 7:00pm in the church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER. Learn how to pray *with* and *for* your family at our next **Faith At Home Take it Home event** the weekend of March 12th/13th.
"Be joyful in hope,
patient in affliction,
faithful in prayer."
Romans 12:12

Mama's Market: Planning on cleaning out your closets this winter? Perhaps you would like to sell your items at our next Mama's Market to be held on Sat., Apr. 16. This PTL fundraiser will be renting booths for \$25 each or a double for \$40; tables will have an additional fee. Doors open at 9:00am. To reserve your booth, contact Peggy Street at (616) 850-0846.

Salvation in Mongolia: Mix up the vast landscapes of a deserts, snowcapped mountains, dramatic gorges and sparkling lakes. Sprinkle in the felt homes of the nomads, Buddhist temples and mysterious ruins. Top it off with the legendary hospitality of the Mongolian people. If this description piques your interest, then perhaps you should consider being part of **MOST Ministries** first ever mission trip to Mongolia. Members of this team will provide VBS with a health component to the communities of Zuunmod and Ulaanbaatar. For more info, contact Debby Suchyta at (734) 994-7909, ext. 11 or dsuchyta@mostministries.org www.mostministries.org/teams.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Receive a FREE ultrasound and picture of your unborn baby!

Lakeshore Pregnancy Center is expanding their nurse sonography staff and are in need of women who are 8-15 wks pregnant who are willing to serve as volunteer training models starting Feb. 21. ALL ultrasounds will be performed under the supervision of a registered sonographer. Call (616) 396-5840 for an appointment.

Spiritual Growth Seminar

hosted by Messiah Lutheran Church, 2727 Five Mile Rd. NE, Grand Rapids Sat., Feb. 5, 9:00am-3:00pm. Prof. Jeffrey Pulse from Concordia Fort Wayne will teach about the Old Testament and our relationship with God. Check in and a light breakfast begins at 8:30am. Cost is \$15 for adults, \$10 for students and includes breakfast, lunch, and all materials. Register by calling (616) 363-2553 or email dianel@messiahgr.org through Feb. 2.

Rev. Farrukh Khan, of **People of the Book Lutheran Outreach**, is conducting workshops on Islam on Sat., Mar. 1 at **St. Paul, Trenton**. The topics include: History of Islam, Teachings of Islam, Agenda of Islam in America, Role of Women in Islam and How to Respond to the Challenge of Islam. The workshops will start at 9:00am - 4:00pm. All are invited to learn more about the religion called Islam. For more information, contact POBLO at (313) 563-2051 or office@poblo.org.
<http://www.peopleofthebooklutheranoutreach.org/WP/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Super Bowl Sub Sandwich

Fundraiser: Special thanks to all who ordered subs from our Youth. Subs will be ready for pick-up in the Social Hall on Sunday morning, **February 5th**.

Keep saving those Box Tops!

We are still collecting a variety of items to help out our school. There is a plastic 3-drawer cart in the church entrance to place all these items in. Collect these from your friends, neighbors, family! A poster of "Do's & Don'ts" is mounted on the wall above the carts. Please help us by following these rules so it will speed up processing the rewards. What are we collecting?

- **Box Tops for Education** can be found on *hundreds* of items. Check out the website for a current list.
www.boxtops4education.com
- **Labels for Education** are the 1-point and 5-point UPCs found on **Campbells** products.
www.labelsforeducation.com
- **Cash for Labels** Spartan UPCs can be found on all **Spartan** products.
www.spartanstores.com
- **Funding Factory** Bring us all your old printer ink cartridges and cell phones.
www.fundingfactory.com
- **Coke Rewards** Enter the Reward code under the cap/on the box to accrue points for merchandise.
www.mycokerewards.com
- **Tyson Look for** Tyson Project A+ labels on all **Tyson** products.
www.Tyson.com/projecta+/labels

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIP Update: I'd like to thank everyone that participates in SCRIP each week. Since the middle of June when I took over, because of you, we paid out about \$6,000 in bills for the school and \$1,200 in tuition assistance. There are about 40 church families that are enrolled in our SCRIP program, with about 30 of these that faithfully purchase weekly (24 of these are also school families). This is all free money to us. **All we need is you!** If we could increase our sales by half it could do wonders. If everyone in church could faithfully purchase SCRIP on a weekly basis it would relieve a tremendous amount of burden on the church budget for the school. For more information on our SCRIP program, please contact me at scrip@silcs.org. Jerry Goresch, SCRIP coord.

OWLS Info/Upcoming Events:

OWLS Committee Meeting Mon., Feb. 14, 4:00pm. Open to all OWLS (anyone over 50). Bring a hors d'oeuvre to share. Coffee and punch will be provided. Please come and share your ideas with us. Looking forward to seeing you. Peggy Erhorn (616) 844-5095 perhorn@comcast.net.

Stay Tuned For Next Month's Pastors & Pancakes KOINA

Center Fundraiser: The Koina Center works to be a collaborative for all our LCMS churches and schools in West MI to help educate our children in the Lutheran tradition. The goal is to help grow each school in West MI: preschool – high school.
<http://www.thekoinacenter.org>



**Bouquets
and Kudos:**

...to **Ruth Haupt** for organizing and serving the fellowship time on December 26 along with the **elders' wives**. And to **Beth Kaschube, Karen Shields** and the rest of the **Fellowship Board**

for hosting the fellowship time on January 2. Special thanks to all who brought goodies to share at these fellowship times and to **Les Chapman** for serving up the coffee even as he does most Sunday mornings through the year.

...to **Harry Schmidt** for adding our website address to our signs in the bell tower.
 ...to all who "un"decorated the sanctuary on Saturday, January 8 along with the **Board of Trustees: Scott Spink, Caleb Tullock, Chuck & Dawn VanDongen, Dan & Kim Hardy, Scott & Roxana Taylor, Dave Daniels, Dale Timmer, Craig Kashube, Connie Behm, Pastor Haupt, Mike & Paula Gillmore**
 ...to **Alex VanderVest** for singing We Three Kings with the JuBELLation Ringers.

FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

Births:

12/14/10 **William Harrison**, son of **Jon & Heather Harrison**, grandson of **Linda* Harrison**

Deaths:

12/19/10 **Sophie Kephart**, aunt of **Irene* Cooper**

Removed by Letter of Transfer:

Stan & Norma Buczek, to Lakeshore Lutheran Church, Spring Lake, MI

Released:

Baptized members **Alexander, Christopher, Francisco, Jaden and Henry Anderson** to Watermark Wesleyan Church, Grand Haven, MI

Dale & Kim Bishop to Watermark Wesleyan Church, Grand Haven, MI

*** Members of SJLC**

Our current membership stands at 982 baptized, 778 of whom have confirmed their faith.

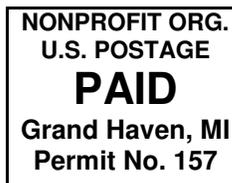


Fiscal Year Comparisons

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 - Nov.	8,182	7,560	6,129	5,633	\$ 336,486.90	\$ 298,277.17	\$ 30,326.51	\$ 60,976.26
December 5	322	273	248	216	\$ 13,892.16	\$ 18,195.50	\$ 1,114.60	\$ 2,416.66
December 12	387	310	315	228	\$ 11,996.56	\$ 15,522.16	\$ 3,050.73	\$ 2,490.23
December 19	331	327	267	236	\$ 12,735.76	\$ 13,184.15	\$ 3,777.10	\$ 1,582.25
December 26	236	592	179	147	\$ 28,156.83	\$ 21,364.55	\$ 6,690.00	\$ 7,827.00
Fifth Sunday								
Year to date	9,458	9,062	7,138	6,460	\$ 403,268.21	\$ 366,543.53	\$ 44,958.94	\$ 75,292.40
Weekly ave.	315	302	255	223	\$ 12,941.80	\$ 12,218.12		
General Fund weekly needs					\$ 15,165.67	\$ 13,561.54		



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



Rev. Dieter Haupt, Senior Pastor dhaupt@sjlcs.org
Craig Kaschube, Youth & Family Life Director ckaschube@sjlcs.org

Services:

Sacred Song (Traditional): 8:15 a.m.
Blended Voices (Contemporary): 10:30 a.m.
Night Song (Saturday service): 6:00 p.m.

Return Services Requested

God's Blessings To:

You and your
family!



*Give your spouse an early
Valentine's Day present!*

Bring him or her to Date Night at 7:00 p.m.,
Friday, February 4 where you'll both enjoy a
fabulous dessert bar and a
presentation on Christian marriage.