

Good News

"A truthful witness saves lives, but a false witness is deceitful." - Proverbs 14:25



Faith at Home

St. John's Lutheran Church

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July 2011

Pastoral Musings

Mark your calendar – July 9 & 10 – is going to be very special at St. John's. We're going to attempt something very unique. We're going to worship that weekend under the theme "Loving Hearts" and then go into our community and world in Jesus' name to serve our brothers and sisters in Christ! Not that that's anything new, we do it week in and week out all year round; but I wonder if we think it through or are aware of it. As one of the hymns in *Lutheran Service Book* puts it: **"Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing, The people of God from His dwelling take leave. The Supper is ended O now be extended The fruits of this service in all who believe. The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching, Shall blossom in action for God and for all."** **LSB 643** (v.1) That's what we're attempting to live out in a very visible, tangible way on July 9 & 10. We will gather for worship and scatter for service. We will gather for worship and seek to act out and realize that our worship continues all week long in our service to neighbor, brother and sister in Christ, and to all. Life should be seen as worship – used to Glorify God – to love Him with all our heart, soul and might – to love Him by loving and serving our neighbor. As Jesus reminds us in the parable of the sheep and goats in Matthew 25: **"Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."** (v. 40)

Thus as the verse begun to be quoted above concludes: **"His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us To work for God's kingdom and answer His call."**

We are going through this simple exercise of faith to remind ourselves and show others that all of life is connected to God, all that we do in life should have a conscious connection in our minds to God.

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

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We should always be asking ourselves: "How does this glorify God and fit into kingdom work?"

Some may be tempted to say, "Well, that's what I always do anyway, without making any big "to do" about it." If that were true, our churches would be overflowing with folks coming to thank and praise God for us and our loving actions. Either it's not happening, we're not loving as we should, as frequently and consistently as we should; or we're taking the credit and forgetting to give God the credit, failing to point to God by and with it.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, this is worth our concerted effort and each of our participation in it. That we might go on to sing (and pray) the words of the second verse of that hymn: **"with praise and thanksgiving To God ever living, The task of our ev'ryday life we will face. Our faith ever sharing, In love every caring, Embracing His children of each tribe and race."** **LSB 643** (v.2)

And, oh yes, there is another benefit the hymn writer points out to us as he finishes his anthem of praise. He lets us know that doing this as a conscious act of worship and life together on our part brings us closer together, helps us love one another and appreciate one another in the Body of Christ, unites us in fellowship and faith.

"With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us; Unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear."

Continued on next page

Pastoral Musings (Cont. from page 1)

Christ seeks to make us one in Him, for Him, under Him. We belong to Him. We bear His name. He made us His in baptism. He keeps us His by Word and Sacraments. Let's behave like His (like Him) and be Him to our neighbors and each other.

Come dressed to work on July 9 & 10 and don't worry, as such you'll be properly dressed for worship. We won't end our worship services that weekend (**by the way, please remember that on Sunday, July 10, we will only be holding one service and that will begin at 9:30 a.m.**); we'll continue our worship as we go forth to glorify Him by and through word and deed.

Looking forward to serving Him by serving others with you, I remain for Him your pastor,

Pastor Haupt

Music Notes

Summer months mean no formal choirs here at St. John's, but that does not mean that singing and praising our Lord slows down! No! We continue to raise our voices in glad song to our awesome and loving creator. A new song that's making its way into the 10:30 service has especially lovely lyrics.

Love is His word, love is His way, feasting with all, fasting alone,

Living and dying, rising again. Love, only love, is His way.

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord; Better than splendor and wealth.

Love is His news, Love is His name, We are His own, chosen and called

Family, brethren, cousins and kin. Love, only love, is His name.

Richer than gold is the love of my Lord; Better than splendor and wealth.

See you in worship!

JuBELLation Ringers

🎵🎵🎵 Ringing Bells.... Ringing Chimes... 🎵🎵🎵

JuBELLation Ringers will be starting a new season on Wednesday, September 7th at 6:00 p.m. for an hour in the church balcony. We covet your participation. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to join others in the fellowship of music and praise to our Heavenly Father. Any questions about this ministry, call director Ruth Haupt (616) 846-7875 or email her at haupttruth@hotmail.com.

Church Library – 2011



★ I Kissed Dating Goodbye, Joshua Harris

How dating can hinder your future and relationship with God, particularly if you are young and not ready for marriage or a commitment.

BIBLE STUDY – FAITH AT HOME

Take a moment and glance at the display shelf. Read the printout of what's available on each shelf. Check it out – study it – return it at your convenience.

INSPIRITIONAL

Free at Last, Tony Evans

PARENTING

Raising Worldly Wise But Innocent Kids, David Wyrzten

TEENS/YOUNG ADULTS

Pure Excitement, Joe White – Focus on the Family
A radical righteous approach to sex, love, and dating

Until You Say I Do, Jay & Diane Strack

The Choice is Yours, Bonnie M. Parsley

Guide to self-discovery, relationships, values and Spiritual growth

The 10 Commandments of Dating, Ben Young & Dr. Samuel Adams

If I Could Ask God One Question, Greg Johnson
Answers to teens' most asked questions

FREE - daily devotions or duplicate donations. The donations thus far for 2011 are numerous and great reading. big thanks to the donors. It is thoughtful to think of the church library. See **"free"** description.

Fay Hoffman, Volunteer



Remember:

Worship

July 10

9:30 a.m.

Faith at Home



Marriage Ministry

Date Night is coming! Join the Marriage Ministry Team for a BBQ Potluck Picnic on Friday, July 22, at beautiful Pottawattomie Park in Grand Haven Township. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. and supper will be served at 6:00 p.m. We'll supply hamburgers, hotdogs, and beverages; you bring a side dish or dessert.

Come casually dressed and ready to enjoy some fun, games and fellowship. This event is for engaged or married couples. Please let us know you are attending by emailing Heather at heather.aspinall@gmail.com or Becky at eminger@chartermi.net. Feel free to invite other couples!

The park is located on Comstock, east of Mercury Drive. We will have a pavilion and modern restrooms are nearby. The Pottawattomie Bayou features a floating dock for fishing, horseshoe pits, and room for yard games.

Next event will be on Friday, September 9, at St. John's Lutheran.

Vacation Bible School

With **Big Jungle Adventure**, kids learn that they are never alone during the adventure of life because Jesus is by their side!

July 25-28 • 5:00-8:00pm
Includes dinner!



ATTENTION Youth - We would like Junior & Senior youth to serve as Group Leaders as well as join in the Opening and Closing each day: singing, reading, teaching, and a tech team. Please let Mr. Kaschube know by calling him at (616) 842-4510 if you can help.

ATTENTION Adults - Through the dedication of our members and friends who volunteer at VBS, we are able to minister to children each year with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you can help with this very important project, please contact Debbie Clark at (616) 844-7486 or Shelley Peets (616) 842-9051 to sign up!

"Loving Hearts" Servant Event

Our Take it Home servanthood emphasis for July 9/10 is ready to roll – now we just need those hands and hearts that are willing to take on the various serving opportunities. Please sign up in the Social Hall in advance so that there is some order on that day. For those either unavailable on the 10th, or wishing to instead do something on their own, there are "hearts" on the board with detailed instructions. Similar to our Christmas angel tree, just pick a heart off the board that appeals to you and do the loving event on your timeframe. We would like to gather photos of our hearts and hands at work in the community. Those can be emailed to Sharon Rothe at s_rothe@att.net.



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

This is the schedule:

Service Opportunity 1 **Sat., Jul. 9** 5:00-6:00pm
(before Sat. worship at 6:00pm)

Service Opportunity 2 **Sat., Jul. 9** 7:15-8:15pm (after Sat. worship at 6:00pm)

**Please Note: On Sunday., July 10 there is
No 8:15 or 10:30am WORSHIP**

Instead we will have a 9:30am Blended Worship!

Service opportunity 3 **Sun., Jul. 10** 10:45am (some projects may require more than 1 hour)

For more info contact Richard Rothe rjothe@att.net or Craig Kaschube ckaschube@silcs.org.

One of our Loving Hearts tasks for July 10th involves filling "**flood**" buckets, which are distributed by LCMS World Relief to survivors in areas affected by flooding. We need your help in gathering the supplies necessary to fill 75 buckets. Donations of any of the following will be appreciated and can be left in the marked box in the Social Hall. Thank you! Each bucket contains:

devotionals; cleaning tips; paper towels; disposable rags; glass cleaner; cleansing powder; liquid cleaner; bleach (1-gal. size); scrub brush; 2 pair of rubber gloves; sponge(s); Optional: broom and/or mop.

Financial Freedom Fund Update

The Financial Freedom Fund (FFF) is close to reaching goal No. 2!

As of early June, the church's short-term \$50,000 loan has been sliced to less than \$7,400. It looks like it will be paid off several years early, thanks to all your sacrificial giving to make it happen. Total receipts for the FFF since August 1, 2010 is over \$60,700; the balance on the short term note as of October 1, 2010 was \$45,938.



We will then start building our Cash Management Fund, so that the church can borrow from itself when we encounter the inevitable dips in the road.

As a reminder, please don't sacrifice your regular tithes/offerings to the general fund to contribute to the Financial Freedom Fund.

— Your Stewardship Life Board

Video Contest

The "I Love Lutheran Schools Video Contest"

is an opportunity to use social media to promote Lutheran schools. Students and their families are invited to make a brief video and upload it to YouTube and post the

link on www.facebook.com/lutheranschools. The video that receives the most "likes" will win a cash prize and 50 random participants will win a free t-shirt. For complete contest instructions, visit www.michigandistrict.org/schools/services/iheartlutheranschools. The contest runs until July 30, 2011.



Handy Little Chart

God has a positive answer:

<u>YOU SAY</u>	<u>GOD SAYS</u>	<u>BIBLE VERSES</u>
You say: "It's impossible"	God says: All things are possible	(Luke 18:27)
You say: "I'm too tired"	God says: I will give you rest	(Matthew 11:28-30)
You say: "Nobody really loves me"	God says: I love you	(John 3:16 & John 3:34)
You say: "I can't go on"	God says: My grace is sufficient	(II Corinthians 12:9 & Psalm 91:15)
You say: "I can't figure things out"	God says: I will direct your steps	(Proverbs 3:5-6)
You say: "I can't do it"	God says: You can do all things	(Philippians 4:13)
You say: "I'm not able"	God says: I am able	(II Corinthians 9:8)
You say: "It's not worth it"	God says: It will be worth it	(Roman 8:28)
You say: "I can't forgive myself"	God says: I forgive you	(I John 1:9 & Romans 8:1)
You say: "I can't manage"	God says: I will supply all your needs	(Philippians 4:19)
You say: "I'm afraid"	God says: I have not given you a spirit of fear	(II Timothy 1:7)
You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated"	God says: Cast all your cares on ME	(I Peter 5:7)
You say: "I'm not smart enough"	God says: I give you wisdom	(I Corinthians 1:30)
You say: "I feel all alone"	God says: I will never leave you or forsake you	(Hebrews 13:5)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The new LCMS.org was launched on Easter Monday, April 25. A fresh look was unveiled with great new features designed to help visitors more easily connect with the church. A few highlights of the new website include: easier navigation, centralized location for resources, brand new media gallery, a consolidated newsroom, and document library. The redesigned and streamlined site will retain many of its most popular features, including the FAQs, worship resources, and church, school, and church-worker location. Take a moment to view the new site at www.lcms.org.

A Trip to Turkey: Pastor John & Nancy Westra from Zion Lutheran in Holland, are hosting a trip to Turkey, Mar. 19-28, 2012. Visiting ancient cities in the Book of Acts, and the Seven Churches of Revelation, all found in the country of Turkey. There is still time to sign up for the trip. Contact Pastor John or Nancy at (616) 394-4784 for more details or a brochure.

Ladies Aid Picnic: Come join the Ladies Aid members at their indoor picnic on July 7 at noon at St. John's Lutheran Church. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service. Do you have an item you no longer need and can put in the white elephant sale? Pastor Haupt will be the auctioneer for the sale. Proceeds go to the Ladies Aid treasury to spend on church/parsonage projects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday School Superintendent Needed: Thank you to Kim Tullock for her many years of leading the Sunday School program. We were truly blessed by her love of children and her organizational skills and leadership. Kim has decided to step down. If you feel that this would be a way for you to serve our children beginning in September, please call the church office and let us know. For more info regarding the responsibilities of this position, please call Kim at 847-1637.

Do You TWEET? The Board of Evangelism would like to thank Tracy Wood for being willing to "Tweet" on behalf of the Board. The goal is to reach out to the lost and strengthen the faith of fellow Lutherans. She posts Bible verses, quotes from Portals of Prayer and other Lutheran publications. You can follow Tracy on Twitter. The address is **@LutheranTweet**.

Parking Lot Fundraiser: The annual Washington DC Coast Guard Parking Lot Fund Raiser will be August 6th right here at St. John's. You can't beat the location or the price! Park here Coast Guard Saturday and help our school kids get to Washington DC! Thanks!

Upcoming OWLS Event: The Owls Annual Picnic will be held Sunday, July 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the Church Social Hall. Please bring a dish to pass, your own table service, and card or games to play. OWLS will supply coffee. Please call Peggy Ehorn (616) 844-5095 for more information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bethlehem Revisited?!? How would you like to be involved in the next best thing this community offers all year long? It is a live nativity on a whole new level, complete with Roman Soldiers on horseback, a row of shops in a town square area, angels, shepherds and the holy family. Visitors are transported back to the first century and physically walk to Bethlehem to participate in the census! It concludes in an indoor facility where a video is shown and a response is offered. It will run four nights in a row in the first or second week of December requiring over 100 volunteers. Sound like a worthwhile venture? Come and participate with your skills as an organizer, costumer maker, actor, builder, etc. We will be meeting on Monday, July 11, at 7:00pm at the Community Center. Call Terri Metzger with questions at (616) 822-2943.

Short -Term Mission Team Scholarships Offered to College Students: Being part of a MOST Ministries short term mission trip can be expensive. Often, a student's only hope for going and sharing the love of Jesus in less developed countries is through financial assistance. The Renken Scholarship Fund is now extending \$500 scholarships to students, age 18-25, who are currently enrolled or attending a MI university or college. There are several summer team openings and teams scheduled over the Thanksgiving holiday. For more info, contact Debby at dsuchyta@mostministries.org or (734) 994-7909 or visit www.mostministries.org.

Twenty Truths to Remember

1. Faith is the ability to not panic.
2. If you worry, you didn't pray. If you pray, don't worry.
3. As a child of God, prayer is kind of like calling home every day.
4. Blessed are the flexible, for they shall not be bent out of shape.
5. When we get tangled up in our problems, be still. God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot.
6. Do the math. Count your blessings.
7. God wants spiritual fruit, not religious nuts.
8. Dear God: I have a problem. It's me.
9. Silence is often misinterpreted, but never misquoted.
10. Laugh every day, it's like inner jogging.
11. The most important things in your home are the people.
12. Growing old is inevitable, growing up is optional.
13. There is no key to happiness. The door is always open.
14. A grudge is a heavy thing to carry.
15. He who dies with the most toys is still dead.
16. We do not remember days, but moments. Life moves too fast, so enjoy your precious moments.
17. Nothing is real to you until you experience it, otherwise it's just hearsay.
18. It's all right to sit on your potty every now and again. Just be sure to flush when you are done.
19. Surviving and living your life successfully requires courage. The goals and dreams you're seeking require courage and risk-taking. Learn from the turtle -- it only makes progress when it sticks out its neck.
20. Be more concerned with your character than your reputation. Your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are.

FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS

Births:

06/09/11 **Micah John Hasseldahl**, son of **Kevin & Jill Hasseldahl**, great-grandson of **Chuck* & Sally* Hasseldahl**

Baptisms:

06/12/11 **Annalise Cora Vink** daughter of **Andy* & Megan* (Braman) Vink**, granddaughter of **Priscilla* Isabel**

06/17/11 **Megan K. Barnhart**, daughter of **Philip & Susan (Boyle) Barnhart**

Marriages:

05/13/11 **Philip Von Tom & Erin Kauth**

06/18/11 **Philip Barnhar & Susan Boyle**

06/25/11 **Markus Lidacis & Mara Lazdins**

Deaths:

05/31/11 **Sandra* Francik**, sister of **Terry* Francik** and **Cathy* Lutz**

05/31/11 **Helen Charlene Van Sweden**, sister of **Don* Moll**

Received by Reaffirmation of Faith:

05/16/11 **Lanelle Strait**

05/20/11 **Kerry Barr**

06/13/11 **Steven Dodson**

Transferred Membership:

Paul & Kim Goosen and **Rory, Mitchell, Tyler Goosen** to Lakeshore Lutheran Fellowship Church, Spring Lake, MI

Released of Membership:

Jonathan Ritter to St. Pius, Grandville, MI

* Members of SJLC

Our current membership stands at 970 baptized, 771 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 - April	15,362	14,529	11,307	10,061	\$ 647,436.78	\$ 639,642.44	\$ 85,416.84	\$ 134,912.90
May 1	334	341	274	223	\$ 11,857.92	\$ 12,108.40	\$ 942.00	\$ 1,432.13
May 8	331	340	258	227	\$ 10,275.97	\$ 14,025.91	\$ 664.05	\$ 539.75
May 15	345	318	264	250	\$ 16,431.52	\$ 23,479.28	\$ 6,031.45	\$ 1,948.83
May 22	359	330	268	248	\$ 14,955.10	\$ 15,802.00	\$ 1,745.05	\$ 3,870.00
May 29	285	351		41	\$ 8,219.76	\$ 8,761.80	\$ 1,453.26	\$ 1,768.40
Year to date	17,016	16,209	12,371	11,050	\$ 709,177.05	\$ 713,819.83	\$ 96,252.65	\$ 144,472.01
Weekly ave.	327	312	258	230	\$ 13,638.02	\$ 13,727.30		
General Fund weekly needs					\$ 15,165.67	\$ 13,561.54		



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

Faith at Home

Rev. Dieter Haupt, Pastor dhaupt@sjlcs.org
Craig Kaschube, Youth & Family Life Director ckaschube@sjlcs.org
Laura Harvey, School Administrator lharvey@sjlcs.org

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God's Blessings To:

You and your
family!

Vacation Bible School!

With **Big Jungle Adventure**, kids learn that they are never alone during the adventure of life because Jesus is by their side!

July 25 – July 28 ° 5:00-8:00 p.m. ° dinner included

Kids ages Preschool - 4th grade meet friends, explore Bible stories, do fun activities, sing great songs, make crafts, play games, and eat snacks. **We need you!** Through the dedication of our members and friends who volunteer at VBS, we are able to minister to children each year with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We pray for God to provide leaders and helpers for this important mission. If you can help with this very important project, please contact Debbie Clark at (616) 844-7486 or Shelley Peets (616) 842-9051 to sign up!



We appreciate your prayers for BIG JUNGLE ADVENTURE. Ask God to bring children to our program so they can know and grow in Jesus, our Savior! And ask God to provide leaders and helpers for this important mission.