



Bethany Lutheran Outlook
July - August 2013

Serving God, Community, and Individuals





PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

For the third year in a row I'm using the "semi-continuous" first readings from the lectionary during the after Pentecost season that will take us into November. When the Revised Common Lectionary was developed in the early 1990's it included two possible "tracks" for the first reading. The track that's most frequently used has first readings that are "complementary" in that they are intended to connect with the gospel text for the day. The "semi-continuous" track is intended to provide a more recognizable flow to the first readings similar to what is always the case with the second reading and the gospel. The downside of using the semi-continuous readings is that each one pretty much stands on its own, connections can be hard to find. The upside is that parts of the Bible are heard that are not normally part of the lectionary and you hear more about some of the great, although lesser known, characters of the Old Testament. I decided to use the semi-continuous track two years ago and since the lectionary is a three year cycle it made sense to go with it for three years.



What I found during the past two years and what I'm already finding this year is that using these readings provides me with opportunities to do "sermon as Bible study." I do that to some extent all the time, but the fact that many of the readings are from less familiar parts of the Bible makes it even more appropriate to try and provide some background and context. One of Martin Luther's guiding principles was the centrality of the Bible so as heirs of that tradition I don't think we ever have to apologize for efforts we make to enhance biblical understanding. Another suggestion I would make regarding these readings is to also follow the daily lectionary (as found in each issue of the Outlook.) The Sunday readings are "semi-continuous" but "semi" means that some parts are still omitted. The daily lectionary fills in some of the gaps and helps to provide even more of a context and flow for the Sunday readings.



Bible studies and Lay School classes are in summer recess at the moment but maybe as you hear some of these texts read and preached you might be inspired to want to know more. There certainly are parts of the Bible that are intimidating but they become easier to make sense of as you learn more about how to approach them. I'm quite sure that those who participate in Bible studies and Lay School will attest to that. Our tendency is to want to read the Bible as an eyewitness account of events that happened exactly this way. The trouble with that is it causes one to ask questions that the text has no interest in answering. With a better understanding of what the writers were doing though, a whole new world of possibility opens up, a different set of questions emerge. Answers can still be elusive, but the questions bring us closer to the mystery which is God.



The next newsletter will have more about Lay School and Bible Study offerings for the fall. Lay School especially needs new students so if you haven't taken a class, try one! They're held right at Bethany so it's easy and as I always say, the only prerequisite is a desire to learn and grow in faith.

Think about it. It's never too late.

Pastor Geier



August 11 @ 10:30 AM

On Sunday, August 11, 2013, the four Ishpeming ELCA Churches will be participating in an outdoor worship service with a picnic to follow. The churches include Bethany Lutheran, Bethel Lutheran, Faith Lutheran, and Trinity Lutheran. Worship starts at 10:30 AM at the Al Quaal Pavilion in Ishpeming. The picnic will follow the worship service.

Congregational members wanting to fulfill their pledge to their home church may use their own church's offering envelopes.

DAILY LECTIONARY



The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

July—August 2013

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”

—Martin Luther

July 2013

1 Psalm 75	2 Kings 2:15-22	1 John 2:7-11
2 Psalm 75	2 Kings 3:4-20	Ephesians 5:6-20
3 Psalm 75	2 Kings 4:1-7	Matthew 10:16-25
4. Psalm 30	2 Kings 4:8-17	Romans 7:14-25
5 Psalm 30	2 Kings 4:18-31	2 Corinthians 8:1-7
6 Psalm 30	2 Kings 4:32-37	Luke 9:1-6

7. Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 5:1-14	Psalm 30	Galatians 6:1-16	Luke 10, 1-11, 16-20
8 Psalm 6	2 Kings 5:15-19a	Acts 19:21-27	
9 Psalm 6	2 Kings 5:19b-27	Acts 19:28-41	
10 Psalm 6	2 Kings 6:1-7	Luke 10:13-16	
11 Psalm 82	Amos 1:1 -- 2:3	James 2:14-26	
12 Psalm 82	Amos 2:4-11	Acts 7:9-16	
13 Psalm 82	Amos 2:12 -- 3:8	John 3:16-21	

14 Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7: 7-17	Psalm 82	Colossians 1:1-14	Luke 10:25-37
15 Psalm 7	Amos 3:9 -- 4:5	James 2:1-7	
16 Psalm 7	Amos 4:6-13	1 John 3:11-17	
17 Psalm 7	Amos 5:1-9	Matthew 25:31-46	
18 Psalm 52	Amos 5:10-17	Hebrews 5:1-6	
19 Psalm 52	Amos 5:18-27	Ephesians 3:14-21	
20 Psalm 52	Amos 6:1-14	Luke 8:4-10	

21 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8:1-12 Psalm 52 Colossians 1:15-28 Luke 10:38-42

22 Psalm 119:17-32 Amos 7:1-6 Col. 1:27 -- 2:7

23 Psalm 119:17-32 Amos 8:13 -- 9:4 1 John 2:1-6

24 Psalm 119:17-32 Amos 9:5-15 John 6:41-51

25 Psalm 85 Hosea 4:1-19 Acts 1:15-20

26 Psalm 85 Hosea 5:1-15 Acts 2:22-36

27 Psalm 85 Hosea 1:11 -- 2:15 Luke 8:22-25

28 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 1:2-10 Psalm 85 Colossians 2:6-15 Luke 11:1-13

29 Psalm 44 Hosea 2:14 - 3:5 Colossians 2:16 -- 3:1

30 Psalm 44 Hosea 6:1-10 Romans 9:30 -- 10:4

31 Psalm 44 Hosea 6:11 -- 7:16 Matthew 5:43-48

August 2013

1 Psalm 107:1-9, 43 Hosea 8:1-14 Romans 11:33-36

2 Psalm 107:1-9, 43 Hosea 9:1-17 Ephesians 4:17-24

3 Psalm 107:1-9, 43 Hosea 10:1-15 Mark 10:17-22

4. Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Hosea 11:1-11 Psalm 107:1-9, 43 Colossians 3:1-11 Luke 12:13-21

5 Psalm 60 Hosea 11:12 -- 12:14 Colossians 3:18 -- 4:1

6 Psalm 60 Hosea 13:1-16 Colossians 4:2-6

7 Psalm 60 Hosea 14:1-9 Luke 12:22-31

8 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Isaiah 9:8-17 Romans 9:1-9

9 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Isaiah 9:18 -- 10:4 Acts 7:1-8

10 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 Isaiah 1:2-9, 21-23 Matthew 6:19-24

11 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 Psalm 50: 1-8, 22-23 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40

12 Psalm 11	Isaiah 2:1-4	Hebrews 11:1-7
13 Psalm 11	Isaiah 24:1-13	Hebrews 11:17-28
14 Psalm 11	Isaiah 24:14-23	Luke 12:41-48
15 Psalm 80, 1-2, 8-19	Isaiah 2:5-11	Hebrews 10:26-31
16 Psalm 80, 1-2, 8-19	Isaiah 3:1-17	Hebrews 10:32-39
17 Psalm 80, 1-2, 8-19	Isaiah 3:18 -- 4:6	Matthew 24:15-27

18 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 5:1-7 Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 Hebrews 11:29 -- 12:2 Luke 12:49-56

19 Psalm 74	Isaiah 5:8-23	1 John 4:1-6
20 Psalm 74	Isaiah 5:24-30	Acts 7:44-53
21 Psalm 74	Isaiah 27:1-13	Luke 19:45-48
22 Psalm 71:1-6	Jeremiah 6:1-19	Hebrews 12:3-17
23 Psalm 71:1-6	Jeremiah 6:20-30	Acts 17:1-9
24 Psalm 71:1-6	Jeremiah 1:1-3, 11-19	Luke 6:1-5

25 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Psalm 71:1-6 Hebrews 12:18-29 Luke 13:10-17

26 Psalm 10	Jeremiah 7:1-15	Hebrews 3:7 -- 4:11
27 Psalm 10	Jeremiah 7:16-26	Revelation 3:7-13
28 Psalm 10	Jeremiah 7: 27-34	Luke 6:6-11
29 Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Jeremiah 11:1-17	1 Peter 3:8-12
30 Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Jeremiah 12:1-13	1 Peter 4:7-11
31 Psalm 81:1, 10-16	Jeremiah 2:1-3, 14-22	Matthew 20:20-28



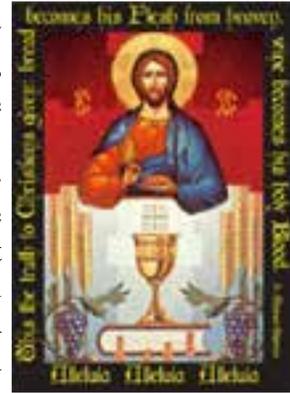
Congratulations Lindsey Stahlmann on being one of Republic-Michigamme's Educators of the Year.



Panis Angelicus : Bread of Angels

Keenan Tunnell

Many people asked for a translation of the duet Tonya Perry and I sang on 2 June. It is part of a number of Latin hymns written by Thomas Aquinas to celebrate Corpus Christi (the Sunday after Trinity Sunday) in the late thirteenth century. Corpus Christi (literally “body of Christ”) is a holy day created to draw special attention to Jesus’ gift of Himself in the Eucharist, through which He is always with us. While not widely celebrated in non-Roman Catholic churches, it is still occasionally celebrated meaningfully in some Anglican and Lutheran churches. A more contemporary emphasis has been to move from the Body of Christ in the Blessed Sacrament to the church as the body of Christ in the world....think about it!



The hymn directs us to contemplate the great mystery of becoming one with Jesus Himself whenever we receive Him. God Himself becomes our nourishment--“food for all mankind”! It then proceeds to ask Jesus for the grace to save our souls, so that we can join the citizens of Heaven, seeing Him forever in "the endless light in which You dwell".

While a smooth translation is difficult, perhaps this will give you some idea of the flavor of the hymn, which is the final hymn of the Matins for Corpus Christi:

The Bread of Angels has become food for all mankind. This Bread from Heaven puts an end to all fruitless imaginings. O wondrous mystery: that our Lord Himself feeds even the poor, the servant, and the most humble.

We beg You, Blessed Trinity, to visit us, as we worship You; and that You will lead us who seek Your ways into the endless light in which You dwell. Amen

Kids!



Vacation Bible School
"Kingdom Rock: Where Kids Stand Strong for God"
Monday, July 29 - Thursday, August 1
6 - 8:30 P.M.

Bethel Lutheran Church

Snacks provided.

Cost: suggested donation of \$5/child, a maximum of \$10/family

Ages: preschool through grade 6

Learn about: King David, Queen Esther, the kingdom of Jerusalem, King Josiah and, of course, Jesus, the King of Creation.



God's love helps us stand strong.



Trusting God helps us stand strong..



Family and friends help us stand strong.



Prayer helps us stand strong.



The Bible helps us stand strong.

**Volunteers are Needed for VBS
Can You Help?**

Bethany is in charge of the "Bible Adventures" -or bible story- station for each day, and for the snack on Thursday (recipe provided).

You could help by....

- Volunteering to be a teacher or helper for one or more days;
- Making/serving Thursday's Snack;
- Preparing classroom materials, decorations.

Talk to Pastor for more information



**Highlights of the 2013 Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly
Marquette, Michigan
Thursday, May 16-Saturday, May 18
Northern Michigan University and Messiah Lutheran Church**

The focus of this Assembly was the 25th anniversary of the ELCA and of the Northern Great Lakes Synod, remembering the history and celebrating the ministry we do together.

Through the ELCA, Bethany helps support the work of the wider church: other member congregations nationwide, 26 colleges and universities, 8 seminaries, missionaries throughout the world, advocacy for peace and justice issues, and initiatives to assist in disaster relief and alleviate hunger and disease.

Bethany participates in the work of the NGLS through partnerships with such agencies as Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp, Lutheran Social Services, Finlandia University, Lutheran Campus Ministry and Northland Lutheran Retirement Community. We are connected with programs like “Urban Plunge” for high school students; “Marked” events for Confirmation students; Lay School for Mission; Earthkeepers; a dental mission to our Companion Synod in Tanzania. And more.

The Assembly received offerings of \$17,965.19 for ELCA World Hunger initiatives, and \$5, 443.36 for Synod outreach projects, Tanzania projects and the Bishop’s Discretionary Fund. \$22,233.53 was collected throughout the synod to help rebuild the Mbagala Parish in Tanzania which had been burned in a riot.

There were only a few business items this year for delegates to address. Members of the Synod Council were elected, and resolutions were passed setting clergy compensation guidelines for 2014, and adopting the 2014 budget.

In addition, delegates approved a resolution submitted by the Headwaters Conference Clergy that “the Northern Great Lakes Synod in Assembly encourage its members, congregations and pastors to: participate in an educational activity such as reviewing the ELCA’s “Social Statement on Sufficient, Sustainable Livelihood for All” and/or a book study on economic justice...and/or becoming familiar with the employment practices in their community and surrounding area...”; “learn the stories of those who are struggling with unemployment or under employment and how economic policies

impact the working poor in our area and beyond”; seek ways to assist the working poor through local means and ELCA anti-poverty organizations.

Assembly delegates had the opportunity to hear speakers and attend workshops on Lutheran Men in Mission, Transformational Ministry, youth ministry, health, renewal, world hunger, Lutheran CORE, and “The Life and Future of the ELCA” by ELCA vice-president Carlos Peña. As always times of worship throughout the assembly were enjoyed and appreciated, especially with music provided by church musician and composer Jay Beech, and the Azania Front Lutheran Church Choir from Tanzania.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Geier, delegate to the 2013 NGLS Synod Assembly



Over 300 NGLS members attended the Assembly.



Ted Swanson took pictures for the NGLS.



Bethany Choir members were part of choir.

New Banners



Bethany celebrates the Eucharist during the “Green Season” with two new banners funded by the Memorials.

The one on the left is Grains of Wheat leading to the Alpha/Omega: Christ, the Bread of Life, the Word of God, the Beginning and the End.

The one on the right is a Grape Vine leading to the Chalice and the Host: Christ, Body and Blood, Life of the World.

Bob and Harriet Maki visited this statue in Gulfport, Mississippi, and found this interesting article about how the statue of Jesus came to be and its impact on people.

Community Pride takes Root in Jesus Sculpture



A tree that was damaged in Hurricane Katrina has brought new life to its Gulfport neighborhood, in the form of a carving of Jesus.

The tree at the home of Rev. Henry and Sheredia Marshall of Gulfport was struck by lightning during the 2005 hurricane. They said cutting the water oak down was not an option, as it was part of family history. Their property has been in Sheredia's family since the 1940s, and she has fond childhood memories of playing in the tree with other family members and neighborhood children.

Henry, the pastor of Mercy Seat Missionary Baptist church, said instead of just cutting the branches back, he thought, "Let's be creative."

He had a vision of transforming the tree into the face of Jesus.

He had seen the work of chainsaw artist Dave Perez at Gulfport High School, where he created a dolphin carving as a fundraiser for the school's art department. He heard that Perez "worked wonders with tree" and commissioned him to create this work.

"It was ironic," Perez said. "Before he called me, I had seen the tree on the way to Gulfport High and thought it had a lot of potential for a carving."

He began work the day after Christmas and completed it just in time for Easter. It stands 6 feet high and is about 4 feet wide.

Many passersby stopped to watch Perez work as the statue progressed, amazed he was doing most of the work with only a chainsaw.

Some visitors asked questions and shared insight.

“A reverend passing by told me, ‘Did you know Christ had 72 thorns in his crown?’” Perez said. “I had just finished adding 34 to the front side so I was just about right on the money.”

The finished carving is attracting lots of attention, with strangers and church vans full of people stopping by daily. The Marshalls invite them all to observe or take pictures.

The site of the statue changes visitors’ demeanor, Henry said. They compose themselves and get serious.

He said he knew the Jesus carving would become a center of fellowship.

“That was part of the sole purpose,” he said. “We wanted to feel good about what we’re doing for our neighborhood. And now it’s part of our landscape.”

The Marshalls are in awe of the final outcome.

“To look at this daily, it’s refreshing. It’s rewarding,” Henry said.

“I feel like I’m being watched over all day long,” Sheredia said.

“People have told me it’s my best work yet,” Perez said. “But you want every piece to be a masterpiece, so I’ll keep trying to get better and better.”

“If someone can rejoice, take energy from, or feel good about it in general, I’ve met my goal,,” Henry said of the carving. “It’s for the general public, not just for me.”

The public is invited to visit the sculpture, located at 438 Silver Ridge in Gulfport, Mississippi.



By Cecily Cummings
In a special to the Sun Herald

**Rev. Henry and Sheredia
Marshall and artist Dave Perez**



Social Ministry Update July—August 2013

By Rae Elliot



Summer is here and the need for food and household paper products remains high. Contributions may be made at any time. Donations are given to the Salvation Army and St. Vincent's. Please continue to place items on the table especially on the first Sunday of the month. Thank You!

Social Ministry delivered lunch to workers at the Habitat Building Site on Marble Street in Ishpeming. Construction is underway for 2 homes with an additional 4 planned. The dedicated group we met call themselves *The Care-A-Vaners*. They were from Illinois, Oregon, Indiana and Kansas.

Bethany was able to contribute \$200 to Women's Center and Harbor House. This shelter marks its 40th year of operation in 2013. During the last fiscal year they provided 4,174 shelter nights to 165 adults and 75 children.

The noisy offering totals for April and May were as follows:

Malaria Sunday (April 28)	\$52.65
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Mgbala Lutheran Church Fire	\$142.13
ELCA Quarters for Peace	\$60.85
ELCA Hunger Drive	\$301.19

The on-going noisy offering for June/July will be contributed to the Medical Care Access Coalition of Marquette County which coordinates services for low-income and uninsured clients who do not qualify for other services.



The July offering will go to the Medical Care Access Coalition. The August/September Offering will go to Lutheran Social Services.

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

The noisy offering for August/September will be donated to **Lutheran Social Services**. **LSS** is the social ministry arm of the ELCA. The range of services under the umbrella of LSS is diverse and strives toward extending a hand of Christian ministry to the “least of these”...our brothers and sisters. Available services are adoption, foster care, services for children, youth, families, older adults, persons with disabilities, prison ministries and more.

Lutheran Social Services (LSS) offers a variety of services throughout Wisconsin and Upper Michigan. With the help of over 1,400 employees, LSS provides services across a person’s lifespan, addressing a variety of conditions. Services are available for children and families, adults, older adults and persons with disabilities. Services are open to all, regardless of religious affiliation or background.

LSS conducts its ministry on behalf of 500,000 Wisconsin and Upper Michigan Lutherans in nearly 800 congregations in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).



The Care-A-Vaners





Time and Talents

By the time this newsletter is published and being read, the church committees and organizations will be starting to organize for the beginning of the new school year. Many of our programs take a break for the summer months when there is a lot to do outside and people travel on vacations. Once the school year approaches and fall comes upon us, we restart the myriad programs and activities that provide service to our community, church and all of God's people.

Last spring we circulated a "Time and Talents" survey to the congregation. We got a good response and some additional people indicated they would like to get involved with church activities. I'm hoping that someone contacted you if you indicated a willingness to help with the endeavor that they lead. If no one has approached you, go looking for them and remind them you want to get involved. If you aren't sure who to talk to about a certain board, committee or activity, ask one of the council members, Pastor or "a church elder." They will assist you in locating that special someone you are looking for to sign up and get involved.

As with any church or civic organization, a certain small percentage of the membership is "actively" involved with the organization's work. I think Bethany has a higher percentage than most, but we can always use more people to help out. Some of the efforts that could really use more help are our children's ministry programs and those willing to host a coffee hour after church services. There are lots of other things to do, but I'll highlight these two items for this article. Who doesn't like the fellowship hour after church? As Pastor has said many times, you don't need to provide a fancy feast of baked goods. All we need is something simple so we can sit and talk with friends we only see once a week or so.

The Sunday School program can always use more help. Imagine if we had enough teachers so that a person didn't need to teach every week. Two or more people could team teach. That way one teacher could get a break from the weekly preparations

once in a while. I'm sure Bethany is like most other churches, in that parents of Sunday School age children are active while their children are involved. Then they move on as their children are confirmed. I don't think that should be the requirement for teaching Sunday School. Others are welcome to volunteer and help out. Homework Club and Vacation Bible School (VBS) are also venues where you can help out with ministry to children. Both have a small core of dedicated volunteers but more help is always welcome. Homework Club meets one afternoon a week during the school year. VBS is four evenings in the summer, this year the dates are July 29th to August 1st at Bethel. Many hands make light work for everyone.

You can still download the Time and Talents survey off of the Bethany website and turn it in at the church office or in the offering plate on Sunday. The survey is in the March 2013 version of the Outlook newsletter on the website. You can also see Carrie in the office. She will find a survey for you to fill out.

God's Peace,
Tom Perry
Board of Stewardship

Coffee Host Volunteers

Church Boards & Organizations:

- Social Ministry (Rae Elliot)
- Christian Education (Brent Clark)
- Stewardship (Tom Perry)
- Worship & Music (Tonya Perry)
- Personnel (Jim Bjorne)
- Property (Bill Heavyside)
- Finance (Jim Kinnunen)
- Quilters (Shirley Tyni)
- WELCA (Cathy Barton)
- Sunday School (Kathy Geier)
- Martha Circle (Marian Medlyn)
- Memorial Committee
(Karen Plaisier)
- Joy Circle (Kay Chartre)

Parishioners:

- Barb Lucas & friends (Paul K., Marilyn P., Rosemarie S, Cathy B)
- Tim & Sally Grant & friends (Addy L., Cheryl F. Sheree M.)
- Brent Clark & friends (Denise C., Kathie C., Meredith S.)
- Bob & Peggy Clark
- Tony & Rae Elliot
- Tom & Tonya Perry

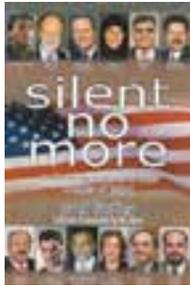
Thanks to all who volunteered. Anyone else is welcome to be part of the Coffee Host Volunteers. We welcome everyone's participation.



New Books for July-August 2013

By Keenan Tunnell

This month's titles are a range of books which have been given to the Library by Bethany members; I assume the donor has read his/her contribution (!) and I hope you will too. Surely you have a chance to sit down quietly for a few minutes (at camp??) and enjoy a challenging read. The non-fiction titles are related to Islam, but the fiction ones are "different;" read on and see what suits your taste!



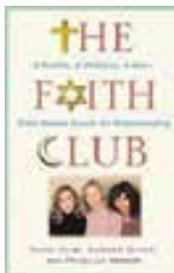
Findley, Paul. Silent no more; confronting America's false images of Islam. 297 FIN

"This book chronicles Paul Findley's far-flung trial of discovery, the false stereotypes of Islam that linger in the minds of the American people, the corrective actions that the leaders of American's seven million Muslims are undertaking, and the community's remarkable progress in mainstream politics." (WorldCat)



Hoyt, Sarah, A. All Night Awake. FIC HOY

William Shakespeare and his rival, Christopher Marlowe, find themselves in dire peril when their beloved Lady Silver leaves the world of the faerie to come to London to track down a dangerous creature possessing supernatural powers. (WorldCat)

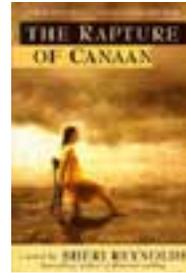


Idliby, Ranya, et al. The Faith Club; a Muslim, a Christian, a Jew—three women search for understanding. 261.2 IDL

Traces how three American women of different faiths worked together to understand one another while identifying the connections between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, during which they openly discussed the issues that divided them. (WorldCat)

**Reynolds, Sheri. The Rapture of Canaan (an Oprah Book Club title)
FIC SHE**

The impact on a religious community in the South when the 14-year-old granddaughter of the founder becomes pregnant. The community is the Church of Fire and Brimstone where sin is punished by whipping. The girl insists she is not guilty of the sin of fornication and no amount of punishment will make her recant. When the baby is born with a birth defect, her grandfather takes that as a sign the baby is the New Messiah. (WorldCat)



Seierstad, Asne. The Bookseller of Kabul. 958.1 SEI

Capturing the harsh realities of life in modern-day Afghanistan and the plight of Afghan women, the Norwegian journalist provides a portrait of a committed Muslim man, a bookseller, and his family living in post-Taliban Kabul, Afghanistan. Reading Group Guide included. (WorldCat)





The Lutheran: July 2013

Creation Care



Cover story

Environmental urgency

Changing the way we think, behave will be the hard part
by James K. Honig



Features

A theology of sand castles

by Charles M. Austin



In a new key

Ecumenical effort supports music and worship leaders
by Elizabeth Hunter



Love grows where Swedes planted

Diverse community served by St. Paul, Minn., church
by Susan J. Alexis



Twelve clicks for a baptized baby

by Rich Melheim



Wild thing

During Pentecost, God makes our hearts sing
by Bill Uetrich

Columnists



Challenging conversations:

Letting go

by Peter W. Marty

Presiding bishop:

When creation speaks to us

by Mark S. Hanson



Homework Club Ministry Update



Homework Club kids and mentors gathered for a final party on May 16, 2013. Pizza, pop and Mrs. Medlyn's monster cookies were consumed with gusto. As we ate, we talked about the things we enjoyed about Homework Club this year. Snack and "recess" were popular responses, but we also heard kids say they appreciated that we gave them our time. They made suggestions for improvement as well. They would like more games, a chance to go upstairs for class (some students stayed downstairs, while others used our Sunday School classrooms), and they would like to come more than one day per week.

Our group thinned itself out as the year progressed. We started with 30 students and ended up with 12 regular attendees. Our largest group was the K-1 class, a challenging group of 4 boys and 1 girl.

I would like to thank our many volunteers. Debbie Cain and Marian Medlyn had nearly perfect attendance; this ministry is blessed by their support, care and kindness. Pastor and Kathy Geier gave their time without complaint. Kathy gave several well-received book talks while Pastor took on the responsibility of the 4th grade group. Pat Liivoja shouldered the task of assisting 2nd grade with their math tasks for much of the year and, as an added bonus, brought her granddaughter (and Homework Club veteran), Taylor, as a helper. Maria Mariani has not only served as a volunteer, but she brought in some interesting activities and ideas. Sue Holmgren, Pam Allen, and Marilyn Pontii were willing subs and supporters when we needed help. Pam also cleaned up after us. And finally, I'd like to thank all those who contributed snacks, materials, books, and supplies. This ministry relies on many hands to keep it going. If you have ideas for interesting games, science or math activities or just want to know more about Homework Club, please talk to Tonya Perry, Debbie Cain or Marian Medlyn.



Moved by the Spirit



**All the Women of the ELCA
in the Northern Great Lakes Synod
are invited to a weekend
of Spiritual Renewal at
Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp**

**The Synodical Women's Organization Convention is on September 20, 2013,
before the retreat. Come for the convention and stay for the weekend
for a very relaxing and uplifting Fall Retreat.**

**Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful
in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who
are in need. Practice hospitality.**

Romans 12:11-13(NIV)

Lodging: Cost depends upon lodging preference. Price includes meals.

Please choose from one of the following

Duplex—\$100: Houses up to 8 people.

Bunk beds with full baths and a lounge area.

Bring your own bedding, linens, and toiletries.

Emmanuel Lodge—\$125: Quad occupancy in two queen beds.

Full bath. Bedding and linen provided.

Grace Place Retreat Lodge—\$125: Double occupancy, twin beds.

In room sink and shared bath with adjoining room.

Bedding and linen provided.

Sorry, no single rooms available and no pets permitted.

Motels are available in the area.

If you have any dietary restrictions, please bring what you will need.

Please contact Fran Voyce at francesvoyce@yahoo.com with any questions.

Check out the brochure at www.nglsynod.org

Lutheran World Relief Kits

School Kits (New guidelines)

- Four 70 sheet spiral notebooks (no loose-leaf paper)
 - One blunt scissors
 - One ruler with inches and centimeters
 - One pencil sharpener
 - One eraser, approx. 2 1/2" long
 - Five unsharpened #2 pencils secured with a rubber band
 - Five ballpoint pens secured with a rubber band
 - One box of 24 crayons
- All items except crayons should be removed from packaging



Personal Care Kits (New guidelines)

- One dark colored bath towel (approx. 52x27)
 - Two bath size bars of soap
 - One adult size toothbrush left in packaging (if multiple toothbrushes in packaging are purchased, put each toothbrush in an envelope)
 - One wide too comb (removed from packaging)
 - One nail clippers with file (removed from packaging)
- Do not enclose any item in plastic bags.



Layettes (New guidelines)

- New or gently used items can be used.
- Two cotton t-shirts
 - Two gowns or sleepers without feet
 - Two receiving blankets
 - Four cloth diapers
 - One dark colored hand towel
 - One sweater with hat or sweatshirt jacket with hood
 - Two diaper pins
 - Two bath size bars of gentle soap



Fabric Kits (New guidelines)

Two pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits of

- 2 1/4 yds of 60" wide fabric or
- 3 yds of 44" or 45" wide fabric or
- 4 yds of 36" wide



100% polyester) meas-

Bethany will be collecting kits for Lutheran World Relief during September and early October. Please consider making some kits and/or bringing in items to help complete individual kits.

Deadline for final collection TBA



Council Highlights—May & June

- Received thanks from Feeding America for Bethany donations of \$187
- Debbie Bussone, Personnel Director, resigned for personal reasons.
- Jake, Danielle and Emie Carlson were received into membership
- Bible study groups, quilters and homework club are not meeting during the summer.
- Jay Beech, composer and musician, will be doing a music workshop in October.
- Pastor attended the last of the Iowa workshops which offered good retreat time.
- Children's Mother's Day program was excellent.
- Received letters of thanks from ELCA World Hunger, Feeding America (Ishpeming), Synod Assembly Benevolence, Northern Great Lake Synod, and ELCA Tornado Relief.
- Council unanimously approved Jim Bjerne completing Debbie Bussone's term as Director of Personnel
- Vacation Bible School will be at Bethel July 29-August 1.
- Quad Parish Worship and Picnic will be August 11.
- Directors' terms expiring at the end of the year are Rae Elliot (Social Ministry), Brent Clark (Christian Education), Bussone/Bjerne (Personnel), Bill Heavyside (Property).
- Finance received a quote from 906 Technologies to continue technology upgrade. They will proceed with this project for which funds are already allocated
- The blood drive was successful



YTD Income: \$78,936.47
YTD Expenses: \$79,945.23

(Through May 2013)



Dear friend,

You did it! Thanks to your overwhelming generosity, gifts totaling more than \$300,000 have been given for the ELCA Malaria Campaign to expand work in Uganda -- and that's in addition to the \$130,000 in matching funds.

Because of your gifts, our church will partner with The Lutheran World Federation and the people in Uganda to offer education, treatment, mosquito nets and more. **Because of your gifts – lives will be saved.**

Your gifts will help mothers like Lucy Akiding and her children. Lucy says, "Rarely a week goes by when one of my children is not fainting, maybe every two weeks someone has malaria. When I have it, that is a week when I cannot work."

The people in Uganda are ready. And thanks in part to your gifts, plans and projects are prepared to launch now.

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Your gifts to the ELCA Malaria Campaign on World Malaria Day 2013 are going directly to fight this preventable disease.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Nipp Hacker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jessica Nipp Hacker
Coordinator, ELCA Malaria Campaign



P.S. Our work in Uganda is just one example of the amazing things our church can accomplish together. When each of us contributes toward a shared purpose, our gifts are multiplied and magnified. We are pressing faithfully forward toward our goal of \$15 million by 2015. Your gifts of any size, at any time, make a big difference.

THANK YOU



Thanks to Tonya Perry and Keenan Tunnell for their gift of song. Thanks also to Douglas Holmgren for leading the church service and Tom Perry for his sermon. We appreciate you all.



SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE



Bethany's Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

To view the latest edition of the Outlook in color, please visit Bethany's website.



**Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate
Are Available at Bethany**



Café Salvador Coffee
Organic Decaf Coffee
Whole Bean Coffee
Whole Bean Decaf
Teas
Hot cocoa
Baking Cocoa
Milk Chocolate Bar
Dark Chocolate Mini Bars

From Small Farmers With Love



Keep In Your Prayers

- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents: Teckla Holmgren (home), Barbara Crabb (Mather), Doreen Brown (Valente), Joyce Lehto (Mill Creek), Marjorie Rosten (home), Shirley Sundblad (Valente), Anna Mae Collins (Mather), Ray Sundblad (Valente)
- Emilie Brown
- Pastor Marcia Solberg
- Evelyn Nadeau
- Zander Atkins
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Kathy Routhier
- Jim Bjorne
- Nancy Swanson
- Angie Kempainen
- Jean Lawson
- Mary Bertucci
- Jim Smullen
- Melissa Chartre
- June Forsberg
- Allen Beauchamp
- Allen Maki
- Steven Leverton
- Carol and Juan Papaleo and family
- Pam Waters
- Those in the military that they may remain safe



**Thank you for celebrating
my 80th birthday with me.**

Marian Medlyn



Deadline for September Outlook

August 19

Contributions to and ideas for the newsletter can be made by contacting **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

485-1625

linkarzig@netscape.com

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Website: www.bethanyishpeming.org

Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau
Asst. Exec. Director, Ted Swanson
Christian Education, Brent Clark
Finance, Jim Kinnunen
Personnel, Jim Bjerne
Property, Bill Heavyside
Social Ministry, Rae Elliot
Stewardship, Tom Perry
Worship & Music, Tonya Perry



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Linda Dahl
- 1 Marsha Jarvi
- 1 Shirley Sundblad
- 2 Therese Korpi
- 2 Marcia Waters
- 3 Kellie Clark
- 3 Ned Johns
- 3 Nicholas Olgren
- 6 Kristina Mattson
- 6 Charles Stahlmann
- 8 Ann Gonyea
- 8 Florence Pohlman
- 9 Dan Argall
- 10 Loreth Johnson
- 10 Roger Solberg
- 12 Aaron Mattson
- 12 Jessica Penhale
- 13 Ruth Solberg
- 13 Tim Grant
- 14 Morgan Rhoades
- 14 Carol Anderson
- 15 Kyle Wooden
- 17 Donald Meyer
- 22 Judith Meyer
- 23 Brady James Johnson
- 24 Jeffrey Scanlon
- 25 Debbie Leaf
- 25 Mike Starrine
- 26 Kay Chartre
- 26 Jaren Johnson
- 27 Marian Franti
- 27 Shirley Tyni
- 27 Kathy Geier
- 28 Leigh Gugin
- 28 Wendy Penhale
- 28 Mallory Warner
- 29 Michelle Richards
- 31 Doreen Brown
- 31 Cory Clark
- 31 Sue Holmgren



Happy Anniversary!

Nicholas & Jenna Chartre
7/9/11 2 years

Pastor & Kathy Geier
7/11/92 21 years

Dale & Mary Toivonen
7/26/75 38 years



July Worship Assistants

July 7

Assisting Minister - Gary Sundblad
Acolyte - Sabrina Holm-Brown
Altar - Sue Ryan
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers - In memory of our parents by John & Marilyn Pontti
Bread - Bob Bucan

Thank You!

July 14

Assisting Minister - Ed Holmgren
Acolyte - ShyAnn Holm-Brown
Altar - Clara Carlson
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers -
Bread - Kay Chartre

July 21

Assisting Minister - Keenan Tunnell
Acolyte - Jacob Clark
Altar - Marian Medlyn
Coffee Hosts - WELCA Strawberry Social
Bread - Rae Elliot

July 28

Assisting Minister - Bob Clark
Acolyte - Liam Seppanen
Altar - Marilyn Pontti
Coffee Hosts - Brent Clark family and friends
Flowers -
Bread - Evelyn Nadeau



Welcome!

July Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Robert Maki
Donald Meyer
Dan Sleeman
John Pontti



Happy Birthday!

1 Robert Bruhnke
1 Jackson Vidlund
3 Kaitlyn Thompson
4 Kimberlee Smith
7 Craig Kitchen
7 Pat Liivoja
7 Debbie Sodergren
8 David Leverton
11 Evelyn Nadeau
12 Stephanie Swanson
13 Rick Rhoades
14 Kathy Richards
15 Debra Cain
17 Jamie Rhoades
18 Dallas Leaf
18 Dillon Leaf
18 Barbara Lucas
18 Jerry Plaisier
19 Larry Alexander
19 Jane Anderson
22 Gary Sundblad
23 Joelle Johns
23 Lindsey Young
24 Vera Blewett
24 Linda Hares

Happy Anniversary!

Gerald & Carol Anderson, Jr.
8/2/75 38 years

Edward & Jean Johns
8/7/54 59 years

Raymond & Kay Chartre
8/8/70 43 years



Elizabeth & Russell Aho
8/12/95 18 years

Debbie & David Paavo
8/18/84 29 years

Brian & Anita Ulrickson
8/19/78 35 years

Edmund & Sue Holmgren
8/21/65 48 years

Halley & Bobby Reichel
8/21/2010 3 years

Brent & Denise Clark
8/22/92 21 years

Robert & Ruby Kaukola
8/22/70 43 years

Robert & Harriet Maki
8/22/59 54 years

Craig & Judy Kitchen
8/27/87 26 years

Tom & Debbie Sodergren
8/28/76 37 years

Robert & Peggy Clark
8/29/70 43 years

Ralph & Lois Goethe
8/29/53 60 years

Greg & Carrie Meyer
8/29/09 4 years



August Worship Assistants

Thank You!

August 4

Assisting Minister - LaVerne Koski
Acolyte - Kayla Kaukola
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Worship & Music
Flowers - In memory of Roy Lemin by Barb Lemin and Pat & Tom Varda
Bread - Marian Medlyn

August 11 Quad Parrish Picnic

Assisting Minister - Linda Dahl
Acolyte - Savannah Marietti
Altar -
Coffee - Social Ministry
Flowers -
Bread - Terra Frustaglio

August 18

Assisting Minister - Brent Clark
Acolyte - Noah Kaukola
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Barb Lucas and friends
Flowers - In memory of Stuart Sundblad by Ann Sundblad
Bread - Tonya Perry

August 25

Assisting Minister - Sally Grant
Acolyte - Kory Kaukola
Altar -
Coffee Hosts - Jerry Plaisier's 80th Birthday
Flowers -
Bread - Cheryl Frederickson

August Ushers:

Jaak Liivoja
Mike Richards
Tom Ryan
Ted Swanson
John Waters
Tim Grant
John Hansen



September Ushers:

Robert Nadeau
James Anderson
John Carlson
Tom Brown
Maurice Hansen
Tom Sodergren
Greg Stahlmann
Roger Solberg