



Bethany Lutheran Outlook
September 2013

Serving God, Community, and Individuals





PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

I spent most of the first forty years of my life either as a student or a teacher so my life revolved around the rhythm of the school year. Somehow I thought that was going to change when I went into ministry, but of course I was wrong. Life in the parish is also largely governed by the pattern of the school year with a slower pace during the summer followed by a re-energizing at the beginning of September as programs that have been on vacation for awhile get started up again. This is especially true for the education ministry of the church; Sunday School, Confirmation, Bible Studies and Lay School all get going again in September.

Maybe it's because of my teaching background, but in the churches I've served, I have tried to make Christian Education a priority. I have always thought that having people of all ages involved in Christian education promotes a healthy and vibrant congregation although it can be hard to say exactly *why* that's true. An article I read a couple of months ago in *America* magazine provided some insight as it helped me to more clearly see a connection between Christian education and evangelism.

America is a Catholic magazine but it addresses many of the same issues that are relevant in other churches. The article that I reference was about the increase in the number of people who identify themselves as atheists or as "nones," those claiming no allegiance to any faith or church. There are a multitude of reasons for this but what this article suggested was that Christian believers have played a part in the rise of atheism because they have neglected education in the faith. The Catholic Church has had an emphasis on what they call the "New Evangelization" and one of the points of the article was that evangelism starts at home; one can't attract others to the faith or counter the arguments of the atheists and "nones" without knowing more about the faith they claim to profess. That point put into words what I have thought for a long time and it applies to Lutherans as much as Catholics.

With Bible Studies and Lay School we provide opportunities for folks to learn more about the faith they claim to profess, especially relative to the Bible. A lot of people know some of the basic stories that they've learned in Sunday School or they've heard preached about in church, but attending a Bible Study or Lay School class can take you further and begin to open up a whole new world of meaning. It can be challenging at first, but it helps to enable evangelism when you better



understand the ways the Bible can be interpreted as well as how to sort out what is central. It also helps to better understand how to deal with difficult passages or how to respond to the “Bible bullets” someone might shoot at you.

At first, digging deeper into the Bible can feel like your faith is being challenged or broken down, but it leads to greater, more meaningful faith. A frequent comment at Lay School classes is “Why weren’t we ever told this before?” as students get new insights.

I’ve said all this before and I’m quite sure I’ll say it again because I won’t give up on how important Christian Education is. Information about Lay School classes is found elsewhere in the Outlook. Sunday School starts on September 8th and Confirmation on the 15th. Bible Studies begin on Monday September 9th at 11am and on Thursday the 12th at 6:30.



I’ll be looking for you!

Pastor Geier

Sunday School/Confirmation

Sunday School classes will begin on September 8th and Confirmation classes on the 15th. The schedule is the same with both beginning at 9 am except on the last Sunday of the month which will continue to be Family Worship Sundays.

There are some changes this year! All the students will be using the most recent, hot off the presses curriculum from Augsburg. For the younger Sunday School students it’s call *Holy Moly*, and for the fourth and fifth graders and the Confirmation students (grades six through eight) it’s called *Connect*. Both focus on Bible stories; each lesson includes a video component and a hands on project as well as the basic story. Confirmation students will also be studying Luther’s Catechism beginning this year with the Ten Commandments.

Grades Pre K to 3 will be taught by Gwen Bruhnke, Wendy Koski, Terra Fustaglio and Melissa Chartre. Grades 4 and 5 will be taught by Kathy Geier and Cheryl Frederickson. Confirmation will be taught by Pastor Geier and Tonya Perry. Tonya will also lead the kids in singing and other music each week.

It’s always fun! We’ve got a great group of students and teachers and we’re all looking forward to another great year!

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.

September 2013

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”
—Martin Luther

1 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 2:4-13 Psalm 81:1, 10-16 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16 Luke 14:1, 7-14

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|----|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 2 | Psalm 58 | Jeremiah 2:23-37 | Hebrews 13:7-21 |
| 3 | Psalm 58 | Jeremiah 3:1-14 | Titus 1:1-9 |
| 4. | Psalm 58 | Jeremiah 3:15-25 | Luke 14:15-24 |
| 5 | Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 | Jeremiah 15:10-21 | Philippians 2:25-30 |
| 6 | Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 | Jeremiah 16:14 -- 17:4 | Colossians 4:7-17 |
| 7. | Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 | Jeremiah 17:14-27 | Matthew 10:34-42 |

8 Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 18:1-11 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Philemon 1-21 Luke 14:25-33

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|----|----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 9 | Psalm 2 | Jeremiah 18:12-23 | 1 Timothy 3:14 -- 4:5 |
| 10 | Psalm 2 | Jeremiah 19:1-15 | 1 Timothy 4:6-16 |
| 11 | Psalm 2 | Jeremiah 20:1-18 | Luke 18:18-30 |
| 12 | Psalm 14 | Jeremiah 13:20-27 | 1 Timothy 1:1-11 |
| 13 | Psalm 14 | Jeremiah 4:1-10 | 2 Peter 2:1-10a |
| 14 | Psalm 14 | Jeremiah 4:13-21, 29-31 | John 10:11-21 |

15 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28 Psalm 14 1 Timothy 1:12-17 Luke 15:1-10

16 Psalm 94	Jeremiah 5:1-17	1 Timothy 1:18-20
17 Psalm 94	Jeremiah 5:18-31	2 Peter 3:8-13
18 Psalm 94	Jeremiah 14:1-10, 17-22	Luke 22:31-33, 54-62
19 Psalm 79:1-9	Jeremiah 12:14 -- 13:11	Romans 3:1-8
20 Psalm 79:1-9	Jeremiah 8:1-13	Romans 8:31-39
21 Psalm 79:1-9	Jeremiah 8:14-17 ; 9:2-11	Mark 12:41-44

22 Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 8:18 -- 9:1 Psalm 79:1-9 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Luke 16:1-13

23 Psalm 106:40-48	Jeremiah 9:12-26	Acts 4:1-12
24 Psalm 106:40-48	Jeremiah 10:1-16	1 Cor. 9:19-23
25 Psalm 106:40-48	Jeremiah 10:17-25	Luke 20:45 --21:4
26 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16	Jeremiah 23:9-22	2 Cor. 8:8-15
27 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16	Jeremiah 23:23-32	Ephesians 2:1-10
28 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16	Jeremiah 24:1-10	Luke 9:43b-48

29 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 1 Timothy 6:6-19 Luke 16:19-31

30 Psalm 119:49-56	Jeremiah 32:16-35	Revelation 3:14-22
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A Season of Glory

Now has come the glory season. Glory in the bountiful fruits of God's earth. Glory in the breathtaking multi-colored leaves of the trees. Glory in the invigorating smells of Fall. Even glory in the sparkling frost-blanket covering the grass and putting it to sleep for the winter. Glory, glory everywhere we look.



LAY SCHOOL NEWS



- The Fall 2013 Semester is set to begin on September 3 and will continue every Tuesday until November 19.
- Classes will be held at Bethany, Ishpeming (715 Mather Ave.) with Pastor Warren Geier as the site coordinator.

Five classes will be offered in the Fall 2013 semester **(please note the dates and times for each class as they do vary)**

Pentateuch September 3-October 1 (3-5:30pm) (5 sessions)

A study of the first five books of the Old Testament. The stories of the Pentateuch will be examined, not merely as history, but as theological statements, and the legal material will be considered in light of our contemporary culture. (Pastor Warren Geier; Bethany, Ishpeming)

Systematics Second Article September 3 –October 1 (6-8:10pm) (5 sessions)

A study of the second article of the Nicene Creed concerning who Jesus is and what he represents, and what is it about the human condition that necessitates Christ and the cross? What are the historical foundations, especially regarding the nature of Christ? (Pastor Peter Anderson; Messiah, Marquette)

Spiritual Development October 8-October 29 (3:30-5:45) (4 sessions)

An exploration of spiritual practices, especially prayer, and how as we develop them they develop us in our faith journey. There will be an emphasis on learning and doing spiritual practices, not just learning about them. (Terry Cathcart, retired Covenant church pastor and spiritual director)

Overview of Ministry in the Congregation October 8-Nov 12 (6-8:30pm)
(6 sessions)

This class will feature guest speakers representing some wider ministries of the church such as Lutheran Social Services, Lutheran World Hunger, Earthkeepers, the Lutheran Office of Public Policy and Reconciling Works. Many of our churches work with these ministries and this will represent an opportunity to hear firsthand about what they do and how they operate as well as learning how to be more involved as individuals and as congregations



Ethics November 5-November 19 (3:30-5:30) (3 sessions)

A brief course on ethical behavior in light of the cross and God's call to righteousness. (Pastor Jim Duehring; Prince of Peace, Harvey)



A reminder that there is no tuition; the only cost is for books and instructors do the best they can to keep that within reason. Many of the books can be bought used which can also provide significant savings. Students have been responsible for purchasing their own books.

As is always the case, we need new students! It should be emphasized though that one does not have to sign up for all the classes, one does not have to complete all the classes in a certain period of time, one does not even have to complete all the classes ever. You can take as much or as little as works for your schedule and your interests. There is reading to do outside of class and some teachers suggest an occasional short paper but the program is designed to be flexible. Also, please note that Lay School is not designed to produce Licensed Lay Ministers. While that is a possibility and some graduates have gone in that direction, most students are just interested in growing in faith and becoming more active in their own congregations.

To register for classes, or for more detailed information or if you have specific questions, contact Pastor Geier (486-4351; pastor@bethanyishpeming.org).

It would be great to have some new students give Lay School a try, so consider this a personal invitation! If you're not sure, try a course and see how it goes. You will grow in faith and you and your church will benefit from your involvement!

If you're planning to take classes and haven't contacted Pastor Geier, please do so. Also, new students are welcome and needed. The texts for the first two classes are **The Pentateuch** by Terence Fretheim (Abingdon) and **Christian Theology** by Bradley Hanson (Fortress). Both are available from Amazon. **Christian Theology** is a little pricey, but it's the text used for Systematics I, II, and III. If you'll settle for a used book, it's much cheaper. For Pentateuch students, please read Chapter 1 before the first class if you can.



Worship and Music



“What motivates people to commitment? What causes them to continue week after week, even if they've had a bad day at work and they'd rather be at home with their feet propped up, watching the news? The foundation of commitment to any kind of Christian service is a commitment to Jesus Christ himself.”

As I read this in an article describing singing in the church choir I thought of all those who participate in Bethany's Music Ministry. We have a group of individuals who love music and love singing and ringing bells. We are a blessed congregation. Many churches these days don't have choirs for a variety of reasons.

We give special thanks to those who participated in our Summer Choir; our regulars as well as those who joined us just for the summer months. We practiced and sang an anthem during each of the Sundays of the summer.

We look forward to fall and the return of all of our singers and ringers whose dedication to Christ and His church lead our liturgy and raise their voices and bells in music Sunday after Sunday.

—Bob Bucan

“Healthy Spirituality”

Did you know that ...

- While studying elderly people and their immune systems, Duke University scientists discovered that senior adults who attend worship regularly have healthier immune systems than those who don't attend regularly
- At the University of California, Los Angeles, a study showed that college students who participate in religious activities have better emotional and mental health than those with no religious involvement. A high degree of spirituality correlated with high self-esteem.

Participating in worship and other church activities appears to boost not only your spiritual health but also your physical and mental health. Make a commitment to stay involved.



Social Ministry Update September 2013

By Rae Elliot



Thanks again to all who have contributed to Bethany's on-going food collection during July and August! The Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul and individual recipients are always grateful for our continuous support.

The noisy offering for June/July (\$471.44) was donated to the Medical Care Access Coalition of Marquette County. The August and September noisy offering will be donated to Lutheran Social Services.

We received a note of gratitude and thanks from the Harbor House/ Women's Center for our donation of \$200. Social Ministry is able to contribute to a wide variety of needs thanks to the generosity of our congregation. We are not a line item in the budget so we rely entirely on coffee fellowship donations and individual contributions.



A blood drive was held on August 22, and twenty-three pints of blood were donated.



Our fall reorganizational meeting will be Tuesday, September 10 at 1:30pm. We hope you will consider joining us. Current members are: Jill Carter, Marie Chilman, Rae Elliot, Kathy Geier, Loreth Johnson, LaVerne Koski, Pat Liivoja, Harriet Maki, Marion Medlyn, Sue Ryan, Ruth Solberg and Pastor Geier.



The September Offering will go to Lutheran Social Services.

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

Farewell to Ida Anderson

Long time Bethany member Ida Anderson recently moved to Jackson, Michigan, which will be close to her daughter Joanne, as well as her daughter Roberta who lives about two hours away. She will become a new member of St. James Church, a small Lutheran congregation.



During the August 4th worship service, Bethany said farewell to Ida and wished her well. Afterward, a coffee hour was held in her honor.

Before Ida left, she gave a special message to her Bethany family.

I want everybody to know what being a Lutheran and being a part of Bethany has meant to me. You see, I wasn't always a Lutheran; I was a Methodist. Les and I were married by a Lutheran pastor. And then when Les was in service, my mother-in-law came and said, "You, and Molly, and Oscar, her husband are going to Adult Confirmation. I sort of wanted to raise my eyebrows, but you don't defy a Swedish mother-in-law. And so we moved then to Ishpeming in 1948 and we were going to join the Trinity Church, but my neighbor Lester Lundin, who is Marian Medlyn's father, visited us one night and invited us to Bethany. And so we went, and here I still am.

And the reason I'm here is because I found a place for me. When you're young or when you're old, there's a place for you. I taught Sunday School for many years and went on to help in the kitchen. I thought it was a privilege when I would be asked to read the lesson and assist the Pastor. And then, as I have gotten older, you can't do so many physical things, I found that I could help with the quilts. So I was putting quilts together and then I got promoted to the sewing machine where I could sit down.

I want everybody to know that no matter how old you are, you can do something. I used to tell that to the Patience Circle as their leader. You can look in the Outlook and there are people who are shut-ins, are homebound, You could write a note, you could call them on the phone. You could send a card. Now don't send just a card on their birthday or their anniversary. Send them

a card that says "Thinking of You". And I hope my mailbox will have a few of them in it when I get to Jackson because I sure am going to be thinking about my Bethany family who have helped me in many ways. God has blessed me. Thank you.

Ida's new address is....

2150 Robinson RD APT 2
Jackson MI 49203

Farewell and Godspeed

Eternal God, we thank you for Ida Anderson and for our life together in this congregation and community. As you have been a blessing to us, so now send her forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.



Elizabeth Eaton elected ELCA presiding bishop

From the ELCA NEWS SERVICE

PITTSBURGH (ELCA) - The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Northeastern Ohio Synod, was elected Aug. 14 presiding bishop of the ELCA at the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. She was elected on the fifth ballot.

There were 889 votes cast, and 445 votes were needed for an election. Eaton received 600 votes and the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, ELCA presiding bishop, received 287. Eaton is the ELCA's first woman presiding bishop-elect.

"We are a church that is overwhelmingly European in a culture that is increasingly pluralistic. We need to welcome the gifts of those who come from different places, that is a conversation we need to have as a church," Eaton told the assembly shortly after the election.

Prior to becoming synod bishop, Eaton served as pastor for ELCA congregations in Ohio. She earned a Master's of divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor's degree in music education from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.

Eaton will be installed on Oct. 5, possibly at Rockefeller Chapel in Chicago's Hyde Park, and her first day in office will be Nov. 1.

Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

O for a Closer Walk with God

O for a closer walk with God,
A calm and heavenly frame,
Alight to shine upon the road
That leads me to the lamb!



Where is the blessedness I knew,
When first I saw the Lord?
Where is the soul refreshing view
Of Jesus and His Word?

What peaceful hours I once enjoyed!
How sweet their memory still!
But they have left an aching void
The world can never fill.

Return, O holy Dove, return,
Sweet messenger of rest!
I hate the sins that made Thee mourn,
And drove Thee from my breast.

The dearest idol I have known,
Whate'er that idol be,
Help me to tear it from Thy throne,
And worship only Thee.

So shall my walk be close with God,
Calm and serene my frame;
So purer light shall mark the road
That leads me to the Lamb.

By William Cowper

O for a Closer Walk with God; The Story Behind the Hymn

“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”
Colossians 2:6

Soon after William Cowper was discharged from Cotton’s mental asylum, he met Morley and Mary Unwin coming out of church. Morley, an evangelical clergyman, invited William to spend two weeks with them—and William ended up staying in the Unwin home for 22 years. He took up gardening as a hobby, which helped ward off his depressions.

When Morley was killed from falling off a horse, Mrs. Unwin, wanting to sit under the ministry of another evangelical preacher, decided to move to the village Olney, where John Newton was vicar. Newton, ex-scoundrel and slave trader, had become a celebrated preacher in England. William moved with her, and he and Newton were soon fast friends. They frequently met in the lawn between their houses, and William began assisting John in visiting the sick and dying, and in distributing benevolent funds.

In December, 1769, Mary Unwin fell ill and appeared to be dying. William’s anxiety and depression returned with a vengeance. Mary, being quite a bit older than William, was a mother--figure to him. He prayed earnestly for her, and it was during this time, that, examining his own spiritual condition, he wrote “O For a closer Walk with God.” William’s prayers for his dear friend were answered, and Mary recovered.



He said, “Mary is the chief of blessings I have met with in my journey since the Lord was pleased to call me...Her illness has been a sharp trial to me. Oh, that it may have a sanctified effect...I began to compose these verses yesterday morning before day-break, but I fell asleep at the end of the first two lines. When I awaked, the third and fourth verses were whispered to my heart in a way I have often experienced.”

The hymn begins, “O, for a closer walk with God, a calm and heavenly frame.”

from *Then Sings My Soul* by Robert J. Morgan

Notes from Ann Gonyea



I've thought a lot about thresholds before. What would happen if one were more aware of them and what they signify? I mean this in the sense of both literal and figurative thresholds. Before and after you step into someone's home; the threshold between feeling hunger and that first bite of food. They are times of transition and they can also play out in time differently. One threshold may be crossed so quickly it's hard to notice, like that moment between sleep and wakefulness. Others may be quite lengthy, like waiting for a baby to be born.

I have just crossed a threshold that was both figurative and lengthy – a space of time and change of circumstance between finishing up my second year of classes at LSTC and beginning my internship year at Winds of the Prairie Ministries in southwest Minnesota. I tried to be as mindful and intentional with this time as I could. I wanted to relish it and have it prepare me for the intensity and learning ahead of me this year.

At first I thought it was going to be really hard to do this because life has been so busy – the story for many of us. But I wonder if one of the gifts of being really busy is that the unnecessary can fall away and the really important stuff shows in stamina. I realized through this threshold time, most of that important stuff came in the forms of my relationships – relationships with my family and my faith communities, to be precise.

I was reminded of a tiny article by Bonnie Ware I read last summer about the wisdom of the dying. She wrote “It all comes down to love and relationships in the final weeks, love and relationships.”

It's these relationships – even those that are really challenging at this time – that feel like they have helped prepare me so well for this internship.

Larry and I have been welcomed here by the faith communities in Ivanhoe, Arco, Minneota, Lake Benton and Ruthton, MN, in a manner driven by the Gospel. They've provided us with a beautiful place to live, loads of garden veggies (even a pot roast, much to Larry's delight), and with wide open arms and big smiles – all of it pinned in a love of Christ and neighbor. I believe I have a safe and rich place to grow in ministry.





So as I begin this new leg of the seminary adventure, I am excited to start discovering what this year holds – how that rich tapestry of relationships changes and grows. By the grace and wisdom of God, there will be new colors and different textures added. I suppose there will be tears in the fabric of that tapestry, but likely mending and repair too.

So, my Bethany peeps, since you are an important part of that tapestry, it's kind of like you are all here with us too. So welcome to southwest Minnesota! I look forward to sharing stories and experiences with you throughout the year.

Ann and Larry's new address -
214 South Norman ST
Ivanhoe MN 56142

Dancing with God

When I meditated on the word *Guidance*, I kept seeing "dance" at the end of the word. I remember reading that doing God's will is a lot like dancing.

When two people try to lead, nothing feels right. The movement doesn't flow with the music, and everything is quite uncomfortable and jerky. When one person realizes that, and lets the other lead, both bodies begin to flow with the music. One gives gentle cues, perhaps with a nudge to the back or by pressing lightly in one direction or another. It's as if two become one body, moving beautifully. The dance takes surrender, willingness, and attentiveness from one person and gentle guidance and skill from the other.

My eyes drew back to the word *Guidance*. When I saw "G" I thought of God, followed by "u" and "i". "God," "u" and "i" dance." God, you and I dance. As I lowered my head, I became willing to trust that I would get guidance about my life. Once again, I became willing to let God lead.

My prayer for you today is that God's blessings and mercies be upon you on this day and everyday. May you abide in God as God abides in you.

Dance together with God, trusting God to lead and to guide you through each season of your life.



—Author Unknown



Bethany's Homework Club

Homework Club Ministry

The Bethany Lutheran Homework Club is scheduled to start on Thursday, October 16th and will, again, serve K-4 students from Birchview Elementary School. The mission of Homework Club is to support student achievement through mentor relationships, focusing on math and literacy skills. The work we do for K-4 students is both rewarding and challenging and provides an opportunity to show the love of Christ to those who live in our community. We open the church doors to students who may or may not have church homes, and while we do not spend any time teaching about our faith, we share our faith through the service we provide.

Last year nearly 30 students showed up on the first day of Homework Club! Over the course of the year, we lost about half of them to sports and other programs. The students who stayed with us, however, told us they wished we could meet more often!

I am working with Trinity Lutheran to start a club for 5th and 6th grade students. In developing their format, we came up with some job descriptions. Homework Club relies on the work of volunteers and many hands can make the work light. In order for our ministry to continue, volunteers are needed. Please consider volunteering for one or more of the jobs below.

Schedule Organizer – This person would make sure there are people scheduled to work each Thursday and call subs if necessary!

Activity Group Leader- The activity group leader spends about 40 minutes with students, playing educational games, conducting a science inquiry, practicing spelling or math facts or engaging in conversation that encourages students to believe in themselves. We need a leader for each grade level.

Homework Helper – This person will assist students with homework. When students are finished with homework, they may join an activity group.

Snack Coordinator – The Snack Coordinator will keep track of supplies on hand and solicit donations from the congregation and/or community. This person will also make sure someone is at Homework Club to serve snacks.

Snack server - This job is simple! Put snacks out for students, inventory supplies on hand and let the coordinator know what's what. Assist students with cleanup.

Reading Buddy – A reading buddy will provide a listening ear for students who wish to improve their reading fluency. If you are a good listener and like stories, this is the job for you!

Substitutes – Are you willing to help on a part time basis? Let me know which jobs you are interested in and sign up to be a sub!

If you are not able to volunteer for Homework Club, please keep the ministry in your prayers. I'm excited about year #3! For more information call Tonya Perry at 486-4861 or email me: tonyaperry@gmail.com

God's World

O world, I cannot hold thee close enough!
Thy winds, thy wide gray skies!
Thy mists, that roll and rise!
Thy woods, this autumn day, that ache and sag
And all but cry with color! That gaunt crag
To crush! To lift the lean of that black bluff!
World, world! I cannot get thee close enough!

-Edna St. Vincent Millay

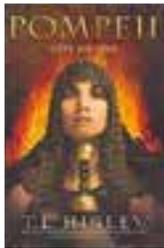




New Books for September 2013

By Keenan Tunnell

September already!! Like last month, these items are also gifts from Bethany members or books that have been sitting on my "to do" shelf waiting for an opportunity to tempt a new reader! I hope you'll find something you'll enjoy in these titles ranging from art to theology to historical/Biblical fiction...something to fill an idle moment or two as we slip into autumn. Happy Reading!!



Higley, T. L. **Pompeii: city on fire.**

FIC HIG

"An enslaved Jewish girl and a struggling aristocrat separately escape to Pompeii. They both encounter religious persecution and political corruption just before the city is destroyed by Mount Vesuvius in A.D 79." (WorldCat)



Locklin, Reid B. **Spiritual but not religious?**

248.4 LOC

"Drawing upon anecdotes from his experience, as well as wisdom from the Hindu and Christian religious traditions, Reid Locklin offers a thinking person's guide to commitment in a world characterized by religious pluralism. He invites us to consider institutions such as the Christian church anew, to see them not as obstacles to spiritual fulfillment, but as rafts that continually bring us an oar stroke closer to the farther shore." (Book Jacket)



Lose, David. **Making Sense of Scripture; big questions about the Book of Faith.**

220.6 LOS

The book invites the reader to engage in a conversation, one that he imagines discussing around his kitchen table, about these seven major questions of the Bible: What is the Bible? Is the Bible true? How is the Bible the Word of God? Where did the Bible come from? How can I read the Bible with greater understanding? Is there a "center" to Scripture?

Marrucchi, Giulia & Riccardo Belcari. **Art of the Middle Ages; masterpieces in painting, sculpture and architecture.**

709.02 MAR

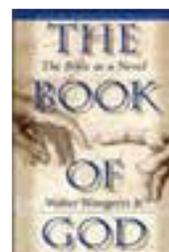
In a single volume, Art of the Middle Ages offers a magnificently illustrated tour of the great artistic riches of Medieval Europe, conceived with three goals in mind: clarity of language, precise and up to date contents, and stunning visual images. (from the jacket)



Wangerin, Walter, Jr. **The Book of God; the Bible as a Novel.**

FIC WAN

“Here is the story of the Bible from beginning [almost] to end as you’ve never read it before—told with [the] exciting detail and passionate energy...of a fine novel.... Wangerin helps you understand what it was like for each person to be caught up in the events of a particular time and place—a time and place where the eternal God somehow reached out and touched ordinary men and women.” (from Jacket)



Christian Women’s Fellowship

“Autumn—a Colorful Change”

Immanuel Lutheran Church US 41, Negaunee, MI
September 19, 2013 9:30—11:00 am

Come for fellowship
Refreshments will be served — \$5.00

Nancy Toyra will present Fall Color Arrangements.

Guest speaker: Norma Nominelli from Hancock, MI
“Walking in His Way”





The Lutheran: August 2013

Looking back, leaning forward



Cover story

- 20 Largest ELCA congregations in 1988
 - 20 Largest ELCA congregations in 2012
- by Charles M. Austin



Cover story

Leaders 'back then' left their marks

by Charles M. Austin



Cover story

Looking back, leaning forward

The 'new' ELCA celebrates 25 years

by Charles M. Austin



Coming down the mountain

Sky Ranch serves neighbors through Four Winds program

by Meghan Johnston



Pet Partners

Meet Dolly and Shelby — dogs with a vocation

by Ann Hafften

Columnists



Challenging conversations:

Talking about Christ

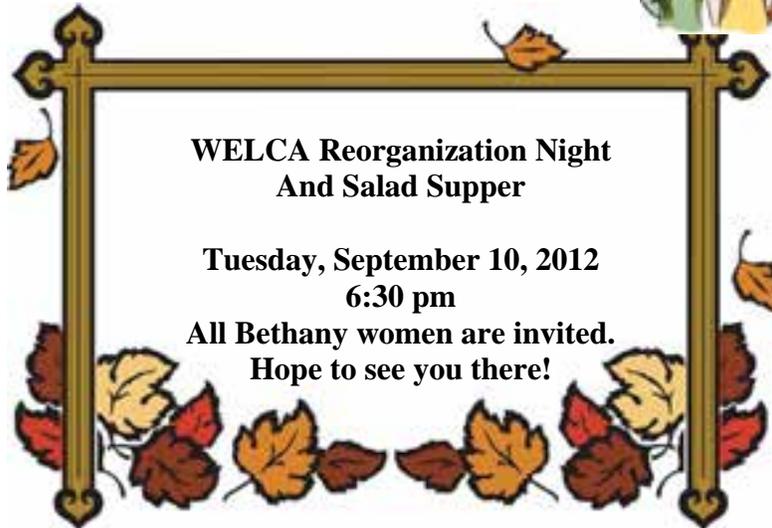
by Peter W. Marty

Presiding bishop:

Telling an evangelical story

by Mark S. Hanson





**WELCA Reorganization Night
And Salad Supper**

**Tuesday, September 10, 2012
6:30 pm**

**All Bethany women are invited.
Hope to see you there!**

Lutheran World Relief Kits

Thank you to those who have donated supplies for our school kits. At this time we do not need any more erasers. School bags are available on the table next to the church office. There are lists of items needed for the school kits, personal care kits, layettes, and sewing kits in the grocery cart in the narthex. Items that were in short supply last year were bath towels and bath size bars of soap. Also diapers are always needed. Supplies will be collected until the last Sunday in September. If you have any questions please contact me (Sue Holmgren) at church or call me at 486-8127.

Part of the instructions for the Fabric Kits was inadvertently omitted in the July/August Outlook. Below are the complete instructions..

Fabric Kits (New guidelines)

Two pieces of cotton or cotton blend fabric (no knits of 100% polyester) measuring:

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



Two spools of neutral colored thread

Tie items together with ribbon, yarn, string, or a strip of fabric (No plastic bags)

Kids!

**Sunday School
Begins
September 8th**



holi
MOJY

- Animated Bible story video
- Bible storybook
- Creative activities



- Quirky videos
- Hands-on activities
- Bible exploration

Vacation Bible School

Over 60 children registered for one or more days of this summer's Vacation Bible School, "Kingdom Rock". A cooperative project sponsored by Bethel, Bethany, Trinity and Faith Lutheran Churches, this year's VBS was held at Bethel Lutheran Church and was coordinated by Lisa Rautio. Bethany volunteers taught, shepherded children, made and served snacks and helped create the "Bible Adventures" area. Many thanks to Tonya Perry, Addy Lemire, Brent and Denise Clark, Kay and Melissa Chartre, Pastor and Kathy Geier, Courtney Allen and Sheri, Maria and Christina Mariani.



**Vacation Bible School
"Kingdom Rock: Where
Kids Stand Strong for
God"**



**"The Lord is my strength
and my shield."**



At the Jerusalem Wall



**Christina Mariani
as Queen Esther**

The Last Night





Council Highlights—August

- Letters of thanks were received from Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, NGLS (contributions to World Hunger, Malaria Fund, Domestic Disaster and Tornado Relief and MbGala Church Fund), and Women’s Center/Harbor House.
- Crop Walk planning and organizational meetings will be held at Bethel (August 29 @ 6:30 pm) and at Messiah (September 10 12 6:30 pm)
- Need to find replacements for council slots; Tonya Perry will serve as director of Christian Education
- Pastoral Acts: Weddings: Ryan Anderson & Kim Lewandowski June 29 and Lindsey Stahlmann & Troy Drebenstedt July 13
- Hope and Glen St. Amour were received into Bethany membership.
- Lay School starts Sept. 3, Sunday School begins September 8, and Confirmation begins September 15.
- Council supported a motion to continue supporting Ann Gonyea’s scholarship fund at LSTC at the same level for the next 2 years.

“That old September feeling, left over from school days, of summer passing, vacation nearly done, obligations gathering, books and football in the air ... Another fall, another turned page: there was something of jubilee in that annual autumnal beginning, as if last year's mistakes had been wiped clean by summer.”

— Wallace Stegner, *Angle of Repose*



YTD Income: \$114,374.37
YTD Expenses: \$110,680.64

(Through July)



Watching the parade on the Fourth of July



Summer 2013



Pastor Silvius visits.



Happy Birthday, Doreen Brown!



Serving for Coffee Hour



Family came to visit.



Ann and Larry visited.



Doug substituted for the organist and played for the summer choir



Enjoying the fruits of summer at the Strawberry Social



Happy Birthday, Shirley Tyni!



The altar at the Outdoor worship service.



Happy 91st Birthday, Evelyn Nadeau



Benefit for Local Fireman Jerry Hebert

Family, friends and loved ones of Jerry Hebert will be holding a benefit on September 21, 2013, at the National Guard Armory in Ishpeming from 2 pm until 8 pm. The benefit will include a spaghetti feed, music and entertainment, a Chinese auction, and a silent auction. The donation tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children under 12.

Jerry Hebert, a local fire fighter and 911 dispatcher from Ishpeming has been diagnosed with Asbestosis, otherwise known as Armored Lung. This condition is caused by exposure to asbestos. Jerry is a fire fighter with Ishpeming Township Fire and Rescue. In his 16 year career with the department, he has served as 1st Captain and most recently was elected to Chief in 2012. Jerry has served our community in a variety of ways: fire fighter, EMT, and Rescue 131. He has had to take an indefinite leave of absence from the Marquette County Central Dispatch while he receives treatment and recuperates from surgery performed by a medical team at Massachusetts General Hospital. Jerry has a wife, Tammy, and three children, Ryan 22, "Gabby" 16, and Jordan 14.

Any help, donations, and /or attendance at the benefit are greatly appreciated.



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

Divine Chocolate



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)
- Family and friends of Barbara Crabb who mourn her loss
- Emilie Brown
- Pastor Marcia Solberg
- Evelyn Nadeau
- Zander Atkins
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Kathy Routhier
- Jim Bjorne
- Nancy Swanson
- Angie Kempainen
- Jean Lawson
- Mary Bertucci
- 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



Thrivent Choice Dollars

You may have choice Dollars available to direct now. If you direct Choice Dollars online between July 1 and October 31, 2013, you will be designated an additional \$25 Choice Dollars!

Visit Thrivent.com/choicedollars to see whether you have Choice dollars available to direct to organizations you care about. If you wish, you may direct your Choice Dollars to Bethany.

If you do not have access to an online connection, you may contact your local representative to assist you in directing your Choice Dollars.



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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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

September Worship Assistants

Thank You!

September 1

Assisting Minister - Marilyn & John Pontti
Acolyte - Ben Bruhnke
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Coffee Hosts - Prayer Shawls
Flowers -
Bread - Dan and Sharon Argall

September 8

Assisting Minister - Tom Perry
Acolyte - Kory Kaukola & ShyAnn Holm-Brown
Altar - Shirley Tyni
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers - In memory of Sue Norell & Fred Blewett
Bread - Kathy Geier

September 15

Assisting Minister - Sandee Sundquist
Acolyte - Savannah Marietti & Liam Seppanen
Altar - Sandee Sundquist
Coffee Hosts - Board of Property
Flowers - In memory of Inez & Clayton Simons by
Colleen and Ray Sundblad
Bread - Shirley Tyni

September 22

Assisting Minister - Meredith Seppanen
Acolyte - Jacob Clark & Hannah Skewis
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Coffee Hosts - Board of Personnel
Flowers - In memory of Diane Harris by Ann
Sundblad
Bread - Bob Bucan

September 29

Assisting Minister - Ned Johns
Acolyte - Sabrina Holm-Brown
& Kayla Kaukola
Altar - Kaye Frederickson
Coffee Hosts - Quilters
Flowers -
Bread - Kaye Frederickson

September Ushers:

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



October Ushers:

Bruce Bussone
Tom Perry
Ed Johns
Jim Kinnunen
Craig Kitchen
Jerry Plaisier
Knut Strom

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Daniel Gonyea-Alexander
- 2 Jennifer Carriere
- 2 Sally Grant
- 3 Travis Allen
- 4 John Lusardi
- 4 Preston Smith
- 5 Tom Ryan
- 7 Janet Anderson
- 8 Matthew Price
- 9 Ray Leverton
- 11 Jonathan Vallier
- 12 Kenneth Kinnunen
- 13 James Carlyon
- 13 James Chartré
- 13 Kathy Kish
- 13 Debora Paavo
- 13 James C. Sodergren
- 14 Alice Eman
- 14 Marlene King
- 15 Jeff Leaf
- 15 Cindy Warner
- 16 James Anderson
- 17 Pam Allen
- 17 Jacob Dault
- 18 Natalie Rasmussen
- 19 Amy Christopherson
- 19 Katherine Kitchen
- 21 Jaren Kipling
- 21 Chad Pohlman
- 22 Robert Maki
- 23 Janine Johns
- 23 Annette Larson
- 23 Jenna Chartre
- 24 Steven Leverton
- 26 John Leverton
- 27 John Waters
- 27 Robert Waters
- 29 Jerry Luokkala
- 30 Jean Lawson



Happy Anniversary!

James & Melissa Chartre
9/2/2006 7 years

Clifford & Karen Mattson
9/8/1973 40 years

Robert & Gwen Bruhnke
9/16/1995 18 years

Tom & Sue Ryan
9/17/1966 47 years

Robert & Carol Waters
9/25/1954 59 years

John & Sherry Lusardi
9/28/1974 39 years

