

First Lutheran Church

Newsletter for Members & Friends

June, 2010



Keeping the Sabbath Day Holy

I picked up a new book: The Sabbath World by Judith Shulevitz. The author is trying to explain a very ancient tradition to a modern world that is much different from the Biblical times. And yet our human nature is the same and so is God and so is our need for Sabbath time. It is time to step into a personal relationship with “holiness”.

At about the same time I read an editorial that made reference to a book whose title was something like When our Work is not Working Out. And it was about this situation in American culture where we work harder to catch up but the harder we work, the worse our productivity and the more our mistakes. The author is suggesting that we need time to reflect, step outside of the routine, and connect spiritually with God and with one another. We need affirmation as well as accomplishments.

That these two pieces came to me at the same time caused me to stop and wonder, “am I keeping Sabbath time for myself?” I worship and that is Sabbath time. I also need time to privately reflect and sit with God in word and prayer. Sabbath is also about reconnecting to creation and here long walks in the fresh air come in handy.

I know how stressed for time all of us are. Every moment seems programmed. Maybe worship can offer us a moment to just listen and not try to accomplish anything. To be fed by word and sacrament. Somewhere along the way we need to unplug and reflect and give thanks for what we have been given. We need time to be with the source of our being, not just our doing.

Maybe worship becomes for some just one more demand and one more activity. If so, then I think we have lost our sense of Sabbath.

Pastor Greg

Council Highlights: May, 2010

The council met with: 13 members present and Pastor Olson. Devotions were given by Nancy Arians. The secretary’s report was approved. The treasurer’s report was approved.

Pastor’s Report: Pastor reviewed with the

council the Anniversary activities. We thanked the Evangelism Committee for their hard work in hosting this event. We were grateful to Pastor Clements sermon and remarks during the forum that followed worship. Pastor suggested a summer picnic and worship in the park and the council

agreed to let him schedule it this summer. There will be a July 3rd worship service on Saturday night as the 4th is on Sunday. The summer trips with the youth were reviewed. Kai Swanson will be preaching on May 30th when Pastor is on vacation. The adult education experiences were reviewed. Pastor asked the committees to think of ways to encourage better attendance at worship and these were shared during the committee reports. These suggestions will be forth coming.

President: Jason shared with the council the good news that the insurance policy for the church has been changed to a new company that will save us \$1500 for the same coverage.

Property: A leak in the educational wing was repaired. Starting May 19th the Narthex bathroom will be remodeled. Shelves will be added for the quilters.

Worship and Music: The organ will be tuned May 13th. Hymns were chosen. Several suggestions for worship attendance were: feedback from inactive members, hymn sing, suggestion box, quiet time for meditation, prayer concerns during announcements.

Christian Education: As Sunday school winds down, there will be an evaluation of the progress this last 5 months. The students will sing at the nursing home on May 2nd. The last day of class will be May 23rd. Attendance may be enhanced by more youth participation in the services.

Evangelism and Social Ministry: The committee will host the graduates Sunday on May 16th. Blood pressure assignments were mailed out. Busy bags were restocked.

Stewardship and Finance: Reviewed the financial situation.

Youth and Family Ministry: Rosemary is on vacation, but Pastor reviewed some of the up coming youth activities. The Rummage Sale was a huge success gathering in almost \$1000. Thanks to all who contributed.

Old Business: Donna Roland will step in along with Dave Meyer to be our representatives at the Synod Convention on June 18 & 19. We also have at least one youth who will attend the LYO convention with Rosemary.

New Business: We continued the discussion on worship attendance. Other suggestions were: Every member visit, organize small groups, mentoring of new members, and more communication with members. These suggestions will be passed on to the respective committees for follow through.

The Council Meeting ended with prayer.

April Financial Report

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Building</u>
Beginning	\$ 6,571.88	\$ 8,835.50
Income	14,939.15	863.50
Expenses	16,053.20	95.00
Balance	\$ 5,457.83	\$ 9,604.00

Next Council & Committee Meetings

Tuesday, June 8th
Committee Meetings @ 7:00 p.m.
Council Meeting @ 8:00 p.m.

Men in Mission Breakfast Mtg June 6th

All men of the church are invited to join us on June 6th at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast, served by Pastor Olson. Pastor will lead a Bible Study on Acts 2. We ask that you RSVP. Bring a friend.

Adult Catechism

Following church-June 13th

Tuesday, June 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Tune up those theology skills with a review of our Lutheran theology on June 13th and 21st. We begin each of these

sessions with your questions. Try to stump the pastor.

On the 13th after church we will discuss the sacraments. What is a sacrament? How many do we have? Why do we have them at all?

On the 21st at 7:00 p.m. we will discuss the nature of the word of God. Is the word of God only the Bible? How do we use the Bible? How does the Bible relate to daily problems today? What do we mean that the Bible is a "living word of God"? Especially if you have concerns about how the church gets at problems today, this may be a chance to discuss your concerns.

More of these catechism classes for adults will come in the Fall.

Sign up for Summer Fellowship

We thank FLAG and the youth groups for sponsoring the fellowship times during the year. We now need others to help out with the fellowship times. We ask for three people per Sunday (the second and fourth Sundays of the month). A sign-up sheet is on the narthex table.

WELCA

The general meeting will be held at church on Wednesday, June 30th at 1:00 p.m. Hostesses will be Glenda Sampson and JoAnne Cocking.

Lydia-Miriam Circle Meeting

The circle meeting will be held on Monday, June 14th at 7:00 p.m. at the home of JoAnne Cocking.

Youth Trips

Jr. League will be going to the Quad Cities at the end of June for a week long servant trip in the "hood". They will be working at the homeless shelter, soup

kitchen, food pantry, and Salvation Army serving others as Jesus taught us to do. Please keep everyone in your prayers. Bob Bohms and Rosemary Sibley will be accompanying the youth.

FLY: Pastor Olson and Drew Emery will be helping FLY members experience God and the beauty he created as they portage and canoe in upper Minnesota. The group will work together as a team, have self reflection time, Bible study, and worship each day in an outdoor setting. Please keep everyone in your prayers.

We also thank the FLAG and WELCA groups for giving financial assistance to the groups this summer.

Youth Trip Meetings: June 6th

Youth and parents are encouraged to attend the meeting for the youth trips this summer after worship on June 6th. Bob Bohms and Rosemary Sibley will meet with the Jr. League group going to Davenport. Pastor Greg and Drew Emery will meet with the FLY group going to Minnesota. We will share the financial news, what to bring and what to expect from these experiences.

Jr. League will have another meeting on Friday, June 25th at 6:00 p.m. for the youth only. Dinner will be served.

More Than a Garage Sale

With the help of the congregation Jr. League raised \$1,000 at their annual garage sale fundraiser this year. The money will be used for Jr. Leaguers to attend a weekend retreat with Peder Eide in October. Thank you to all who donated items; the basement was filled to the brim, shoppers were abundant, and the day presented many blessings. Only donations were accepted, giving everyone a chance to buy what they needed at a price they could afford, (a blessing for many families). Because of track meets and family conflicts many Jr.

Leaguers were out of town but FLY members, Stephanie Emery and Gabe Larson stepped into help. Great job Stephanie and Gabe, you were a real blessing. Thank you to parents: Deb Ackerman, Pam Strike, Nora Kelly, Judi Breitbach, and sponsor Amanda Schanze. Thank you to all the Jr. Leaguers who worked so hard: Breanna Sandrock, Kylie Ackerman, Brett Emery, Erin Heflin, and Heather Strike. Thank you to the congregation for their generosity and support.

Saturday Night Worship July 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

We will offer worship with communion on Saturday night, July 3rd at 5:00 p.m., due to the community Fourth of July events on Sunday. Worship on Sunday will be held at the normal time of 9:00 a.m.

Worship in the Park: July 18th

Put this date on your calendar: July 18th for worship in the state park. We have reserved the shelter and picnic area. Worship will tentatively be at 10:00 a.m. and a pot luck picnic of some sort will follow. Details will follow in the newsletter next month. There is also a rumor that a certain council member will sponsor a “Corn Hole” tournament.

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be held at the Advent Christian Church July 25th - 30th at 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. nightly. We are in charge of the preschool this year and in need of some help. We need adults to be teacher's aides - everything will be done, we just need some extra hands - and the great thing is we only need – a one night commitment. Please contact Rosemary Sibley or Rhonda Bohms if you can help for one night.

June Birthday Celebrations

We wish to send a “Birthday Greeting” to all of our members celebrating this month. A special greeting is extended to our members who are 80 or over.

Phyllis Larson – 2nd

June Swanson – 19th

Please refer to your church directory for the entire birthday list of our members.



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

2010 N. IL Synod Assembly In-Kind Offering

This year’s In-Kind Offering will benefit Lutheran Social Services of Illinois programs, including the Intouch Adult Day Center in the Quad Cities. LSSI provides services throughout Illinois to children, families, adults, seniors, persons with mental health concerns, substance abuse issues, and developmental disabilities. LSSI has faced funding issues in the past years related to the state budget crisis. If you are interested in working with programming in your area to support the services provided go to www.LSSI.org to locate programs in your area. Bring donations to the alcove across from the registration tables in Centennial Hall at the Synod Assembly.

Needed items include:

- Copier Paper
- 3 Ring Binders
- Window Cleaner
- Paper Plates
- Disposable Cups
- Ink Pens
- Baby or Hygiene Wipes
- Klennex
- Napkins
- Baggies/Storage Bags
- Art Supplies: Markers, Crayons,
- Paints/Brushes, Construction Paper

Thank You....

Thanks to the people at I H Mississippi Credit Union and Nancy Arians for the generous contribution of pulled pork, hamburger buns, and chips that were used on the May 23rd brunch after church. The proceeds from this went toward the Sunday School and FLUBBER programs.

Thanks to the property committee for redoing the narthex bathroom. Thanks to Mark Melton, Jason Robshaw, Steve Kuelper, Gary Hinrichs and Dave Strike.

Thanks to all the Sunday School teachers who helped out this year. Special thanks to Kim Purvis for being our superintendent. The teachers for this last half of the year were: Amanda Schanze, Rhonda & Bob Bohms, Ellen Hanrahan, Traci Sandrock, Kim Larson, Tara Johnson, Connie Johnson, Marcia Erickson, Kim Purvis, Stephanie Skromme, Karyn Buck, and Luanne Urban, worship leader.

Thanks to our Sunday School children who sang at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in May. Many good returns were heard on this.

Assisting in June

Ushers: Gary & Cathy Hinrichs, Patrick Hinrichs, Mark & Kathy Sandrock

Greeters: Amanda and Hannah Schanze Burnell & Illene Howlett

Altar Committee: Gwen Gardner, Jeanne Frank, Marlene Scott

Assisting Minister: 20 – Judy Johnson

Blood Pressure: 27 – Connie Johnson

Communion Bread: 6 – Marilyn Melton

Cantor: Aaron Johnson

Readers

6 – Kathy Kelly
13 – Mark Melton
20 – Marcia Erickson
27 – Maggie Linden

Acolytes

6 – Patrick Kelly
13 – Breanna Sandrock
20 – Mary Chapman
27 – Erin Heflin

Nursery

6 – Vicki Ottens
13 – Heather Rangel
20 – Sue Skelton
27 – Amanda Schanze

Pastor & Staff

Pastor Greg Olson . . Home: 815-537-2363
Cell: 815-535-3181
Youth & Family Ministry–Rosemary Sibley
Home: 815-537-5326

Sunday Worship . . . 9:00 a.m.

Parish Secretary's Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

How to Reach Us

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