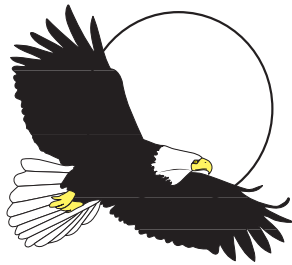


**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**
July-August 2008



Those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles.

Isaiah 40:31

T H E EAGLE

As Christians, I make the assumption that we all desire to know and follow God's will as our ultimate purpose in life. As we continually seek to follow God's will, we also open ourselves to God's guidance and direction.

However, our tools for discerning God's will are incomplete at best. Study alone, even of the Bible, is not enough. If it were we would not have had the Pharisees, who knew the Scriptures well. But Jesus had a problem with them. Despite the fact they knew the Scriptures inside and out, they had lost the essential meaning of what they studied. They knew the words, but their heart was far away! They understood the content, but they didn't get the intent!

The Psalmist tells us that God's Word "is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105) The Scriptures outline the path we are to follow, and they eliminate a huge amount of trial and error in the understanding of God's will. We are foolish to ignore that tremendous advantage.

However, the other important aspect in discernment is the open conversation between our spirit and God's spirit, as we meet in a living organic relationship. We call it prayer . . . conversation with God. But prayer is not one-way communication. It includes both listening as well as speaking. Prayer is contemplation and reflection as well as talking. Prayer is designed, at its best, to receive more than it transmits. Prayer does not direct God on what to do. Prayer allows God to direct us on what we should do. That is part of discernment!

During the past months of our collective work on our building remodeling and expansion plan, we have had many prayers, conversations, meetings, forums, e-mails, discussions and feedback. In the months ahead, we will continue to receive additional perspectives and suggestions. Our challenge is to take these thoughts, ideas, concepts and opinions and mold them into what we discern to be God's will for our ministry through St. John's Lutheran Church.

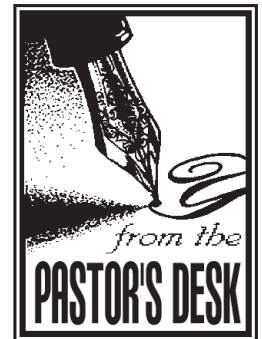
This process is not simple. It asks us to remove our own ideas and opinions from the forefront and allow the words of others to be heard. In the process of listening, discernment happens best. In the process of discernment, we begin to understand God's direction.

It is very easy to get our own ideas and visions confused with God's. That is why discernment always includes the voices of others, who may not necessarily see things the way I do. Only through prayer, through open discussion and a willingness to listen to one another, do we provide a climate for the Holy Spirit to live and work among us. In the spirit of love and unity, we strive to follow the will of God for this ministry!

As we move forward into the Capital Campaign this fall, I continue to pray for discernment, for patience, and for openness among all who are a part of the congregation of St. John's Lutheran Church. In the words of St. Paul, "And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment . . ." (Philippians 1:9)

Alive in Christ!

Pastor Knight Wells



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A Congregation of the ELCA

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday-Friday, 8:30AM-4:30PM

(309) 827-6121 • (309) 829-3866 FAX

SUNDAY MORNING EMERGENCIES:

(309) 531-1040

info@stjohnsbloomington.org

www.stjohnsbloomington.org

RADIO MINISTRY:

Sunday, 8:30AM, WLCN 96.3FM

Only through prayer, through open discussion and a willingness to listen to one another, do we provide a climate for the Holy Spirit to live and work among us.

Capital Campaign— Team Job Descriptions

The following is a summary list of Teams that are being formed to support our "A Church Alive" Capital Campaign for Fall 2008.

Your volunteer support, time and talents are needed to make this a successful campaign so we can continue with our facility upgrade.

If you have interest in helping, please contact the church office 827-6121.

Thank you for supporting this critical ministry.

Communications Team

Manages the Communication Plan for the Capital campaign. They oversee development of all printed pieces, creation of a video/DVD and campaign information on the web site. The team is responsible for generating or supervising the generation of all appeal materials.

Spiritual Life Team

Produces a daily devotional booklet, considers a prayer vigil and prayer partners. It is the task of the Spiritual Life Team to assure that all materials and events are grounded in prayer, scripture and personal spiritual growth to help make the capital campaign a success.

Messenger Team

Is the personal connection point of the Capital Campaign. They will consider calling all members two times during the campaign. Once prior to kick-off, and once before Commitment Sunday.

Tell The Story Events Team

This team sets up demographic-based fellowship events that includes 25 minutes to Tell the Story and show the DVD.

Young Disciples Team

Assumes responsibility for teaching younger members, pre-school and elementary age children, and Jr.–Sr. High, about stewardship, discipleship and the mission of St. John's.

Ongoing Support/ Follow-Up Team

Keep financial objects and the progress of the capital project and/or mission plan before the congregation with current and timely information.

New Baby Meals

To all expecting parents and new parents:

St. John's extends our best wishes on the birth of your little Lutheran. The Member Care Committee helps to ease the burden of such a hectic time by providing you a hearty, wholesome, home cooked dinner after your return home. To help us plan for the meal, please fill out the "New Baby Meal" sign up form available at the Welcome Centers. Once you are home and settled with the new arrival, notify the church office at 827-6121 and someone will be in touch within a few days to schedule delivery of a wonderful meal.

St. John's Legacy Society Annual Appreciation Dinner and an Opportunity to Leave a Legacy

The St. John's Legacy Society will be hosting its sixth annual recognition luncheon on September 20, 2008 at Noon in the Parish Life Center. We want to include all of our members who have remembered St. John's in their estate plan to be part of this special event!

If you have remembered St. John's ministries in your will or estate planning (and have not become a Legacy Society member), please contact Pastor Wells or Terry Stombaugh.

St. John's Legacy Society is comprised of individuals who have included the ministries of St. John's Lutheran Church in their will or estate plan.

Scholarship Requests for St. John's Members at Lutheran Colleges

The Charitable Trust of St. John's Lutheran Church has historically made funds available to assist members attending Lutheran colleges. Any St. John's member who is attending a Lutheran college for the 2008–09 academic year is encouraged to request and complete a Scholarship Request Form. Returning students must complete a new form for each academic year. Please contact the church office to obtain a request form.

Staff Announcements

SANDY STEWART started as our new receptionist on May 21st. Sandy and her family recently relocated to our community from Kansas.

GUDRUN DUNT began as our new Membership & Member Care Coordinator on June 2nd. Gudrun comes to us from Morningstar United Methodist Church where she served for ten years as their Administrative Assistant.

Your encouragement and support will mean a great deal to our new employees and will better prepare them to help serve our ministry. Please take the time to introduce yourself and welcome them to the St. John's family.

• *Congregational Announcement* •

The Eagle Has Landed . . .

You may have noticed that the most recent issue of *The Eagle* was in a different format, including photos, more graphics, an easy-to-read display as well as some color. This was a "trial issue" designed to give a new look to our bi-monthly congregational publication. We have received feedback and comments from you, most of which were very positive. However, the cost of this kind of publication was also dramatically higher.

Communication in a congregation like St. John's is always challenging. With 6 worship services each weekend, our major vehicles of sharing information are the St. John's *Weekly News*, *The Eagle*, The Friday Blessings (weekly e-mail) and other periodic mailings from Children's, Junior High and Senior High Ministries.

Rising mailing costs, rising paper and ink costs, and other factors require that we as good stewards consider alternate methods and means of communication.

In an attempt to provide the very best possible dissemination of information for the least amount of cost, St. John's will systematically move to a process of sharing *The Eagle* via our website: www.stjohnsbloomington.org. **Beginning with the September issue, *The Eagle* will not be sent through regular mail.** Instead, you will be able to access it directly from our website and either read it online, or download a PDF file to print out from your home computer.

For many of our St. John's members, the Internet is a very easy and accessible format in which to receive *The Eagle*. For those who do not have computer access, we will continue to print hard copies of *The Eagle*, which will always be available at the Welcome Centers and the Church Office, to be picked up at your convenience. For our shut-ins, *The Eagle* will either be delivered by our visitors to the home-bound or mailed directly to them, per their wishes.

In addition, The Friday Blessings will have links to directly access our website, so you can read St. John's *Weekly News* and *The Eagle*, as well as other timely information about various ministries occurring throughout our congregation as you read The Friday Blessings.

Also, **beginning with our September 2008 issue, *The Eagle* will adopt a monthly publication frequency.** Please watch the *Weekly News* and check the St. John's website for a revised list of submission dates to be announced soon.

Hopefully, this change will help *The Eagle* to "land" on a delivery method that will be both cost-effective as well as accessible for all.

You too can help

Here is what you can do to immediately assist in this transition.

- If you do not receive The Friday Blessings each week and would like to be added to this e-mail list, please contact the church office or send your e-mail address to: news@stjohnsbloomington.org.
- If you truly need *The Eagle* mailed to you, please call or write the church office to register for this option.
- Make www.stjohnsbloomington.org your home page, so it is always the first page you see when you log on to the Internet.

Again, our informational email address is: info@stjohnsbloomington.org. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tom Roberts or Lee Hulsether in the church office.

• *Music* •

Bell Choir Opportunity

Perhaps the St. John's Bell Choir has enhanced your worship experience through the years, but have you ever considered being a part of creating this beautiful and unique music?

The Bell choir is extending an open invitation to the members of the congregation join us on Thursday evenings from 6–7PM, as we prepare anthems for Sunday morning services. The choir participates on the second Sunday of each month at the Traditional Service, alternating between the 8:00 and 10:15AM services.

Please consider this opportunity to enjoy the music and fellowship of your fellow members at St. John's, and as another way to serve your Lord!

Questions? Please contact Jackie Remmers at 662-1751 or e-mail jacq4840@aol.com.

Festival of Faith Choir Rehearsal

All are welcome to join the Festival of Faith choir. The choir will offer two anthems popular in years past and, along with bands, lead congregational singing of worship songs and hymns. The choir will be seated on the stage for the duration of the worship service. There will be one rehearsal on Thursday, August 21st, from 5:30 to 7:00PM in the Choir Room. Please join us!

• *Travel* •

Oberamergau and the Passion Play in 2010

A number of St. John's members have already sent in their registrations for this exciting international journey, to one of the most beautiful and picturesque destinations in all the world! Although the trip is 2 still years away, early registration will insure your ticket to the Passion Play as well as your place on the tour.

This trip is by far one of the most popular, and sells out quickly, because it occurs only once every 10 years. Brochures describing the itinerary and registration forms are available at the church office or from Pastor Knight Wells. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Knight or Susan Wells at (663-8880), or pastorkwells@stjohnsbloomington.org

Worship at St. John's

Saturday, 5:00PM — Saturday Evening Service

A contemporary liturgy in a relaxed atmosphere with music that includes gospel and folk as well as older traditional hymns and songs accompanied by piano, flutes and guitar. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. It is held in the Parish Life Center.

Sunday, 8:00 & 10:15AM — Traditional

A service of traditional and contemporary formal liturgy with traditional and some newer hymns with organ accompaniment. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. Worship is held in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, 9:00 & 10:15AM — Contemporary

Worship with a semi-structured liturgy and contemporary Christian praise songs accompanied and led by the Community of Joy praise band and singers. Holy Communion is celebrated weekly. Worship is held in the Parish Life Center.

Sunday, 6:00PM — L.I.G.H.T. (2nd Sunday of each month)

A liturgy that fuses together the musical enthusiasm of our contemporary services, the depth of our traditional services, the relaxed nature of our Saturday Evening Service and the creative energy of high school, college and young adults. Worship is held in the Parish Life Center.

"Our dear fathers and prophets did not desire without reason that music be always used in the churches. Hence, we have so many songs and psalms."

Martin Luther

• *Worship* •

Festival of Faith—A Church Alive!

Sunday, August 24, 2008 — 10:00AM

Bloomington Center For The Performing Arts

What an exciting focus we have this year, as we come together on Sunday, August 24 as a whole congregation, to celebrate our annual Festival of Faith. We are truly "A Church Alive!" This year **the site for the worship service has changed** from our church grounds (under the tent) . . . **to the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts (107 East Chestnut Street)**. The time of worship remains the same . . . 10:00AM.

This service will highlight all of our ensembles as they lead and offer music that represents the best of our worship styles here at St. John's. The COJ, LIGHT, and SES bands will play; St. John's Choir will sing; and Carol Churukian will accompany on organ. We will sing well-known hymns and songs, welcome children to participate in fun ways in the service, hear the word proclaimed and preached, and share in our Lord's meal. (Nursery care will also be provided for young children in a special area of the BCPA.)

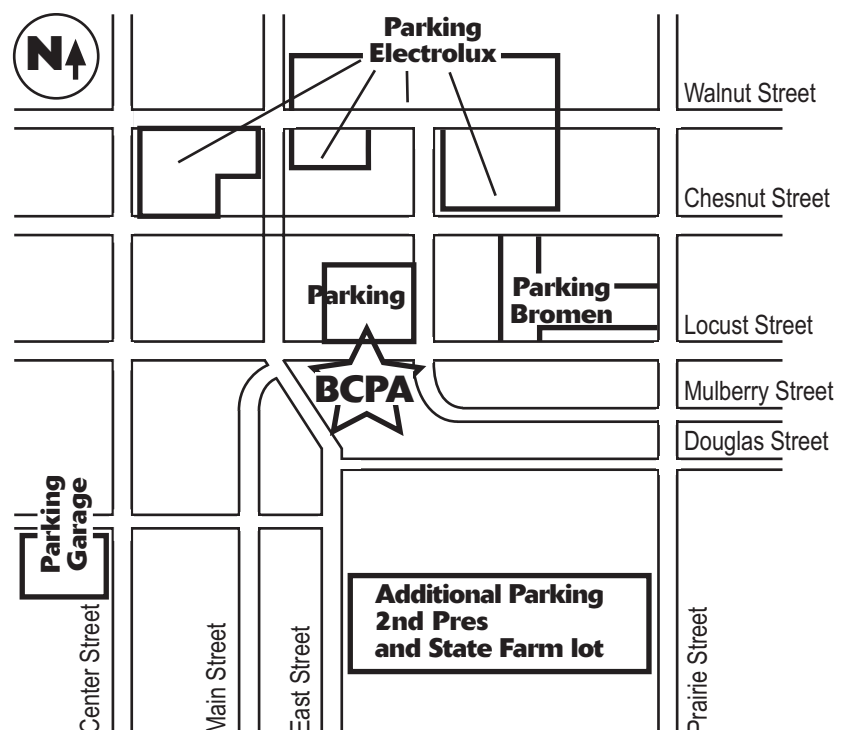
The new location provides an excellent facility (great acoustics and sound), a larger seating capacity (the auditorium can seat 1,200 people), and an excellent space for a fellowship meal following the service, as well as a place for wonderful new children's activities (children's face-painting, games, etc.). Most importantly, the weather is no longer an issue, since we will be inside.

Parking is very accessible (see map and locations). In fact, it is quite easy to drop off passengers in front or on the east side of the building and then drive to the parking lots within 2-4 blocks. On-street parking is also a possibility since this is a Sunday morning, providing greater availability.

Our new location for Festival of Faith provides us with some exciting opportunities:

- Since we have more seating in our worship area, why not **invite a friend or neighbor** to worship with you!
- **If you plan to stay for the fellowship meal, please sign up and register** your name and the names of your guests. Sign-ups will be available from July 6-August 17 at regular worship services; or by calling the church office. **This pre-registration is extremely important for adequate food preparation.**

Following worship, all are invited to eat lunch together in the ballroom of the BCPA where there will also be children's games, including the beloved "Cake Walk!"



• *Worship* •

Anyone who is to find Christ must first find the church. How could anyone know where Christ is and what faith is in him unless he knew where his believers are?

Martin Luther

Volunteers needed

Festival of Faith needs many volunteers for a wide variety of tasks including worship participation, as well as in children's activities, set-up, and serving meals. Opportunities to volunteer will be available at regular worship services during the month of July (check the Welcome Centers), as well as online, www.stjohnsbloomington.org, and by calling the Church Office (827-6121).

Friday Night Faith Club:

A Gathering for St. John's Women

At our June gathering, thirty St. John's women from their 20s on up gathered for good conversation about balance and wholeness; simple refreshments; time for prayer; and sharing our Lord's meal. We aim to do the same in July and August and welcome women at all stages and ages! Pr. Elyse and others will facilitate conversation and communion.

Time: 6:30 to 8:30PM

Where: Fellowship Hall and Chapel

When: July 11th: Act Boldly in Crisis

August 15th: Act Boldly Toward the Goal

Save the date: "Breathe" Women's Retreat on Saturday, September 27th. More info will follow in the September *Eagle*.

Letter from Bishop Hanson on current domestic disasters

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ:

With a swiftness that we could not have imagined only weeks ago, the waters have brought chaos to a large area of the central United States. The flooding follows unusually destructive tornadoes in several states.

I write to ask you to join me in prayer and action. Please pray for all who are facing adversity, including the hidden challenges that seep in after media attention leaves.

An ELCA Disaster Alert with information about how you can help in recovery is being sent to you as I write. Please join me in an outpouring of love that is equal not only to the depth of the waters, but even more to the fullness of Jesus' life in us and to the Spirit's renewing work in the world.

Mark S. Hanson

Presiding Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

(The entire letter may be read at: http://archive.elca.org/bishop/messages/m_080620.html)

Summer Worship Series: Fearless Living

July 13–August 17

"Take hold of the life that really is life." (1 Timothy 6:19)

You've heard this gag: "Life is a test. It is only a test. If this were an actual life, you'd have been given instructions."

Guess what? This is your real life. How you live it tells everyone what you think is important—and it tells God what you think is important. This series dares you to really live your life instead of just going along. Jesus dares us to live a fearless life, one that loves beyond reason, trusts beyond expectation, hopes beyond the here-and-now, and gives beyond common sense; one that is lived fully open to what is possible to bring the Kingdom of God to our real lives, in our real world.

Our real world is a place where real fears abound: the economy and gas prices; war and violence at home and abroad; food crises and environmental destruction. How does our faith help us to name and respond to these fears? In the midst of fear, how are we called to live a fearless life? Each week we'll focus on one part of "fearless living:"

July 13 Fearless Living with Yourself

July 20 Fearless Living as a Family

July 27 Fearless Living at Work

August 3 Fearless Living with your Neighbor

August 10 Fearless Living with your Money

August 17 Fearless Living in Church

Sunday Night L.I.G.H.T. is changing!

Starting in July the Sunday Night L.I.G.H.T. worship service will be going to a once a month schedule and changing its focus to become a Youth Worship Service. The L.I.G.H.T. YOUTH WORSHIP will be held the second Sunday of every month. It is for all youth, their families as well as the entire congregation. Our first service is Sunday, July 13th at 6PM.

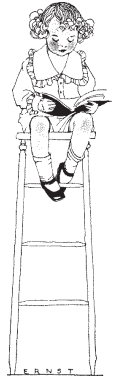
Storybook Donations

Thank you for the wonderful response to our Barney II drive in May. We were able to send about \$400 to be doubled for postage use. What a blessing. We also received donations for books.

Pontiac prison is now allowing Lutheran Social Services into their facility with the Storybook program, so all donations are very much appreciated. If anyone wishes to visit the Pontiac prison or has questions about the Storybook program please call Laura Veal, 661-7802.

NEXT BUNDLE DAYS—AUGUST 16-17

Storybook Prison Ministry 1 book + 1 tape = Keeping one family connected



Ecuador 2008

Then I heard the Lord asking, "Whom should I send as a messenger to my people? Who will go for us?" and I said, "Lord, I will go! Send me."

Isaiah 6:8

In less than two weeks, the fifteen-member E-Team '08 will be winging south to Quito, Ecuador and then on by bus to the town of Aluasi, high in the Andes Mountains where the air is thin and the evenings are chilly.

Each day the Team will go to the village of Aypud to conduct Bible School and help with the final construction of their small Lutheran church. The medical team will help provide primary health care in Aypud and other area villages.

Because of the generosity of St. John's members and friends the necessary funds were raised by means of the Buy a Brick, Build a Church campaign to construct the little New Life in Jesus Christ Evangelical Church in that village. Over the past several months \$11,500 has been sent to purchase building materials. Yet there in the Andes, just as here in the U.S., material costs have continued to increase. However, with labor provided by volunteers, some walking up to three hours to reach the village, the church is now nearly finished. Our E-Team's goal is to help with the completion of the building and participate with Pastor Manuel Bravo and his members in praise and worship for what our Lord has done through our two congregations!

The Bible School Team has prepared programming and materials to reach as many as 100 children. Each day a different Jesus theme will be taught by means of Bible stories, drama, songs and crafts and every child will receive a bag with hygiene and school supplies, a Spanish children's book and a Beanie Baby.

Dr. Manuel Avila, our in-country trip organizer, and our four nurses will visit a different village each day. They will assist the Doctor with health checks and dispense medication to the hundreds of local people who generally may be seen by a doctor only once a year.

Donated supplies and monetary gifts along with a Thrivent Care Abounds grant have provided the pharmaceuticals, Spanish Bibles and Christian materials and all other necessary supplies. These will be hand carried by the Team in 30 suitcases donated by the Baby Fold.



The Team (listed below) has been preparing for this mission for the past four months and asks for your prayers. If you would like to receive e-mail updates and prayer requests during the trip, please share your e-mail address with Laurie Helms our E-Team Communicator (opendoormissions@stjohnsbloomington.org).

Team Ecuador 2008

Andy Bettendorf	Rachael Ingalsbe
Dixie Brandenburg	Marilyn Irmeger
Jeanette Douglass	Jan Pritts, Team Co-coordinator
Sam Douglass	Jackie Remmers
Sara Haney	Sandy Schrof
Bob Hinshaw	Ann Stemm
Heather Hoke	Ron Timmerman, Team Co-coordinator
Karrie Ingalsbe	

Ecuador Celebration!

Wednesday, August 6, 2008 at 7PM in the Parish Life Center

Don't miss this exciting celebration of what our Lord has done in connecting our St. John's congregation and the Iglesia Evangelica Nueva Vida en Jesucristo (New Life in Jesus Christ Evangelical Church) in the village of Aypud, Ecuador!

Our very special guest will be Dr. Manuel Avila from Cuenca, Ecuador. Dr. Manuel, whose life is dedicated to the spiritual and physical health of the poor in his country, plans and organizes all of our in-country logistics. His people are his heart and he works tirelessly for their health and salvation.

This will be an evening filled with how the Lord works through us, shared in sight, sound and shared experiences. Don't miss it!

Mission: Madagascar

You won't want to miss this! Open Door Missions is pleased to bring Madagascar missionary and nurse Patricia Bentsen to St. John's for an inspirational evening that will be fun for the whole family.

When: Sunday, September 7th

Time: 7:00PM

Where: Parish Life Center

Patricia assists the Malagasy Lutheran Church Health Department (SALFA) with many projects and ministries, visiting as many SALFA health centers as possible every year. She will share with us wonderful stories over her 25-year career as a missionary in the remote country of Madagascar. The Malagasy Lutheran Church has a strong presence in Madagascar and is a companion synod of St. John's. St. John's, along with Open Door Missions, is working toward entering a covenant agreement with a long-term missionary in 2009.

Love Packages

Summer trip dates: July 30, August 26

Are you looking for a fun and rewarding service project you can do with your kids or grandkids this summer? Or maybe you have a friend outside the church you would like to spend the day with, while helping to bring the message of Christ to thousands of people across the world. Last month several kids (10 and older) and friends from other churches traveled to Butler, IL to sort and pack Christian materials for shipment around the world. Here is what one participant had to say:

"Wow, that was fun! I am going to go every month."

Caleb (age 10)

The cost is \$8 for gas, plus bring your own sack lunch. Meet in church parking lot at 7AM and return by 5:30PM. Questions? Please contact Jan Pritts at 665-0440, or janpritts@aol.com.



Dr. Manuel Avila, our in-country trip organizer, with a patient.



Aluminum Cans Recycling

You CAN make a difference just by saving all your aluminum cans and bringing them to church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Please place your bag of cans in the designated container by the church garage. All proceeds from the collection will benefit the projects of Open Door Missions.

ELCA Global Mission Event

At the ELCA Global Mission Event, July 17-20, 2008 in LaCrosse, WI, people of all ages from all over the world celebrate God's mission and encourage and strengthen one another for global ministry. Please contact Deanne Eytalis 378-4608 or deytalis@msn.com if you would like to participate in this event.



ABOVE: Workers digging the foundation.

BELOW: Team Ecuador 2008 BACK ROW (left to right): Ron Timmerman, Jackie Remmers, Marilyn Irmeger, Jan Pritts, Ann Stemm, Jeanette and Sam Douglass, Sandy Schrof. FRONT ROW: Heather Hoke, Dixie Brandenburg, Rachael and Carrie Ingalsbe. NOT PICTURED: Andy Bettendorf, Sara Haney, Bob Hinshaw.

• *Adult Education* •

I'm burned out. It happens each year at this time. I don't need another meeting, sermon to write, Bible study to prepare or article to write for the Eagle. I'm ready for a break.

By the time you get this Eagle, I'll be into a 3-week vacation in July. Most of our time will be spent with family and friends. I'm especially looking forward to taking our grandson for a stroller ride.

I also know from experience that I will be revived in the fall. That happens every year with the cool, crisp fall air.

I hope you'll have vacation time this summer. Be good to yourself. Give yourself a break. Take time to be renewed, restored, re-created, relate to family and friends, repent, relax, read, etc. If you do physical work, read a book or go fishing. If you sit behind a desk, go golfing. God needs us renewed and refreshed rather than burned out.

The Seniors Bible study will meet with members of the class leading on July 3, 10 and 17. We'll take a vacation on July 24 and 31.

Thank you to Pastor Harold Skillrud for classes on "The Joint Declaration on the Doctrine of Justification."

We have some great adult education classes planned for the fall on faith and politics.

Have a blessed summer.

Pastor Reents
Visitation Pastor

Wow!

Great adult education opportunities in the fall.

Ever ask the question—to what extent does religion affect politics?

Faith and Politics: American Religious History

This **9:10am Sunday morning** class is beginning **September 7th and will run through October 12th in Room 421.** It is being lead by Greg Shaw and Stewart Winger.

- Lisa Banasek will be returning in the fall!
- Check your *Weekly News* for topic, dates, and times.

Enjoy summer!

• *Youth & Jr. High* •



We Prayed Our Way Through Camp45

14 children and 7 adults spent a weekend at LOMC (www.lomc.org) canoeing, hiking, playing games, swimming, and learning about God. Despite a hot, humid, and rainy weekend, the group packed each minute full of fun and spent time learning about ways to talk to God. Wild turkeys, turkey vultures, Gilbert the dog and many more creatures were seen throughout the weekend. Camp45 is for children entering 4th and 5th grades in the fall and we look forward to perhaps having you join us next summer!

JUMP! Music Festival-AUGUST 23

LOMC and Lutherdale Bible Camp are sponsoring a special music festival on Saturday, August 23 from 10am–10:00pm. Bands/acts include: Agape (hip hop), Peder Eide and Band, Lightswitch, 2nd Half Comeback and Two Cent Offering. For more info on the entire lineup visit www.jumpmusicfest.org. Contact Rob in the church office if you are interested in riding the bus to the event. Tickets (\$10 a piece) can be purchased online, through the camp office or at the gate (\$15) on the day of the event. All profits from the festival go toward the Widening the Circle Campaign to bring under-served youth to camp!

Summer Pictures in the Atrium

Throughout the summer picture books from Camp45, Cave Camp and SALT will be out in the Parish Life Center Atrium and Balcony for members to look through. We invite you to take a brief look at what goes on during our camping events: whether it's canoeing at Camp45, crawling underground with Cave Camp, or serving others at SALT. The Camp45 book is available for viewing now with other books coming out in mid-July and early August.

ADVANCE NOTICE—Peder Eide Retreat (6-8th Grades)

We have secured a limited number of spots for the Fall LOMC Jr. High Retreat, November 14-16, 2008. Registration forms will be sent out in August for this unique retreat featuring the HUGELY popular Peder Eide. Peder led a terrific worship event for families at St. John's in March that was featured in the last *Eagle*. Now you can spend an entire weekend with him. Continue to check www.stjohnsjrhigh.org for more information as it becomes available, including registration forms and much more.

• *Joy Zone / Vacation Bible School* •

VBS Donation Tree - July 6–July 20.

Would you love to help make Power Lab Vacation Bible School a HUGE success? Please stop by the Donation Trees in the Narthex and in the Atrium to see what items you can donate to help us give our children a new enthusiasm for God's Word—and for Jesus! As we engage kids with fun, science-themed surprises, amazing things will happen. The delighted smiles...the memorable Bible points...they all add up to make a life-long difference in the lives of our children! Thank you St. John's for making this the greatest VBS ever!



DSJ – Discovering St. John's for Fall 2008

Fall Series Begins September 21st!

Discovering St. John's (DSJ) enables prospective members and interested visitors alike to discover more about this congregation including its history, its relationship to the Lutheran Church, its core values and mission, as well as new ways to become engaged in ministry through this church.

If you are interested in being a part of Discovering St. John's this Fall or if you know someone who might respond favorably to a personal invitation, please pass their name and address to Gudrun Dunt (gudrun@stjohnsbloomington.org) in the church office. We would love to issue a formal invitation to them!

Discovering St. John's includes 4 sessions, a special dinner and a new member reception on Sunday, October 19th for those who are joining the congregation.

Fall DSJ Schedule

Week 1: Sunday, Sept. 21, 2008, 10:15–11:45AM

Multi-Purpose Room
St. John's History

Week 2: Sunday, Sept. 28, 2008, 10:15–11:45AM

Multi-Purpose Room
Lutheran Beliefs

Week 3: Sunday, Oct. 5, 2008, 10:15–11:45AM

Multi-Purpose Room
Stewardship and Core Values

Week 4: Sunday, Oct. 12, 2008, 5:30–8:30PM

Fellowship Hall
Dinner and Conversations Around the Tables

Week 5: Sunday, Oct. 19, 2008

9:00AM – New Member Reception on the Balcony

New Members received into the church

All are welcome to join the celebration!

Committees

An old legend says that when God created the world, the angels were in awe. As he created the animals, the angels asked to give it a try. God agreed, so the animal-creation committee designed the platypus . . . a creature with the bill of a duck, the fur of a dog, the tail of a beaver, and the feet of a frog. Since that day, there have been no committees in heaven.

— from *The Leadership Journal*

Lutheran World Relief School and Health Kits

Back to school sale flyers will soon be out and it's not too early to be shopping for School and Health Kit supplies. Please remember those less fortunate and pick up any of the following items that are needed to complete the kits:

Health kits:

Hand towel, bath-size bar of soap (any brand), toothbrush w/cover or packaged individual, comb (wide tooth), nail clippers with file attached, band-aids, 1/2" or 3/4"

NO TOOTHPASTE is needed.

HAND TOWELS are especially needed (*note: we have many, many washcloths left from 2007).

School kits:

Notebook paper (wide-rule pkgs., no spiral bound), ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other, pencil sharpener, six new pencils w/erasers, construction paper in assorted colors, crayons (box of 16 or 24), blunt scissors (safety scissors for children), eraser (approx. 2 1/2").

Items may be dropped off in the church office.

Thank you so much to those of you picking up school bags and sewing them. Please continue—there are still many to sew. We hope to have all the bags ready for packing beginning the first of September.

Assembling Kits

St. John's Circle groups & Moms' Bible Study will again be assembling kits at their fall meetings in the Fellowship Hall. Schedule follows:

- Rachel Circle – Tuesday, September 2, 7:00PM
- Sarah Circle – Thursday, September 4, 1:00PM
- Abigail Circle – Monday, September 8, 7:00PM
- Elizabeth Circle – Tuesday, October 7, 1:00PM
- Mom's Bible Study – Thursday, September 11, 9:00AM (Multi-Purpose Room)

New Chairmen for LWR Health and School Kits

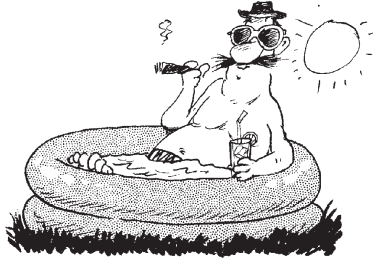
We are pleased to announce new chairmen for the LWR Health and School Kits. Thanks to Doris Robertson (451-3541), Laurie Dennis (452-4515) and Jill Schulz (662-1284) for agreeing to oversee this project. Please call Doris if you have any questions. Please continue to support the Health and School Kits.

Linda Click and Jean Kueth

• *Body, Mind & Spirit* •

"Slip! Slop! Slap!"

"Slip! Slop! Slap!" is the slogan for an American Cancer Society skin cancer prevention program. Initially introduced in Australia, which has the world's highest incidence of skin cancer, "Slip on a Shirt! Slop on Sunscreen! Slap on a Hat!" has helped reduce their rates of basal cell and squamous cell carcinoma. Their persistent high incidence of melanoma correlates with delayed acceptance of using sunscreen, not depletion of the ozone layer. In the United States, skin cancer (basal cell, squamous cell, and melanoma) is the most common type of cancer. Annually the number of new skin cancers diagnosed in the U.S. nearly equals the number of all other newly diagnosed cancers.



Although the body needs some sunlight to produce Vitamin D, overexposure to UV radiation from sunlight and tanning beds can cause skin cancer. It is especially important for parents to protect babies and children from overexposure to sun. Even a single severe sunburn in childhood doubles the risk of later developing skin cancer. In fact, by age 18 most Americans have received 80% of their lifetime exposure to UV rays.

According to the American Cancer Society, skin cancer is preventable. To reduce the risks of UV radiation overexposure, they recommend these Sun Safe Behaviors:

- **Slip On a Shirt!**
Cover as much skin area as possible and protect exposed skin with sunscreen.
- **Slop On Sunscreen!**
Use SPF 15 or greater, apply at least 30 minutes before sunning, use at least 1 oz. every 2 hours, and apply again after swimming or perspiring. Be aware that getting a "base tan" offers only the protection of about SPF 4. Artificial tans from a bottle offer no skin protection. (www.cancer.org.au/cancersmartlifestyle).
- **Slap On A Hat!**
Wear a 3–4" wide-brimmed hat or apply sunscreen to ears and neck if wearing a smaller hat.
- **Wrap On Sunglasses!**
Choose sunglasses that completely block UVA and UBA radiation. Sunglasses protect the skin around the eyes and the eyes themselves. Wearing sunglasses is strongly recommended to reduce the risk of age-related macular degeneration.
- **Seek Shade Between 10AM and 4PM!**
During these hours the sun's rays are most intense. Overexposure to UV rays can occur even when the sky is overcast.
- **Say No to Artificial Rays**
Avoiding indoor tanning. Devices such as tanning beds emit harmful UV radiation.

• *Gratitudes* •

- ✠ Thank you to all who have given me love and support upon John's admission to Meadows Retirement home. Your words of love, cards, phone calls and many other acts of kindness were truly appreciated.

Shirley Moriarity

- ✠ Thank you for your recent gifts to Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. You have helped bring happiness to the lives of children, mothers, fathers, grandparents and all those whose lives are affected by incarceration.

Pastor Frederick Aigner
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

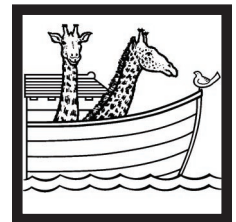
- ✠ As the commanding officer of The Salvation Army in this community, I want to personally thank you for your outstanding support of The Salvation Army. It is my great privilege to present you with the honor of becoming a Charter Member of the Army of Champions. *[certificate enclosed]*

Captain Scott Shelbourn,
The Salvation Army

• *Noah's Ark* •

More Than Just Raising Children

Noah's Ark Preschool has been very busy up to the last minutes of the school year, with teachers saying good-bye to wonderful families and children, cleaning, and storing items to be ready for another exciting new school year. Throughout the summer Mrs. Iverson will be fielding phone calls about the preschool with a few available openings for new students. If you have a new neighbor or co-worker or even someone you met in the park, please let them know about Noah's Ark Preschool and our outstanding reputation for great experiences and education.



This year has been an especially active year with our Project: Playground and Trike-a-thon. We razed our old beloved wooden playground and replaced it with a maintenance free playground, and we raised over \$3850 for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

Many thanks to a great Preschool Board: Deb Petrillo (retiring after second term of volunteering on our board), Mindy Leverton (retiring), Kimberly Behl (retiring), Tim Heier (retiring), Nate Poehlman, Dan Marshall, Heather Degenhart, Carmen Sampson, Carolyn LaFond (retiring), Kari Hazen, Brandon Tate, and Eric Corbly who help to oversee the operations of Noah's Ark and dedicated hours of volunteer time to meet, hold fundraisers, clean up the playground, help with special activities at the school, and support the staff in their efforts to provide a wonderful environment in which young children can thrive.

Faith In Action of Bloomington-Normal has expanded its services

In addition to offering transportation to various types of appointments or to go grocery shopping, Faith In Action of Bloomington-Normal (F.I.A.) now also provides minor home repairs. If anyone in our St. John's family is in need of these types of services, please contact the F.I.A. office at 827-7780.

The only requirements for using Faith In Action services are: being at least 60 years of age, living in Bloomington-Normal, and having registered in advance with the F.I.A. office. To register with F.I.A., call 827-7780 and set up a time for a short home visit with someone to discuss your needs and possibly give you other ideas on how Faith In Action can be of service to you.

Anyone interested in volunteering with F.I.A. must attend one two-hour training session at the F.I.A. office located at 410 N. Prairie St. in Bloomington. The summer training sessions will take place on June 25, July 22, and August 16 at 9:30am.

At present there are 21 members of St. John's who volunteer their time. Linda Brown is the St. John's liaison for Faith In Action. Questions? Contact Linda at 287-4283 or e-mail lsbrown2@ilstu.edu.

Secrets To A Long Term Marriage ...

Aunt Harriet once explained the secret of a lasting marriage: "Your Uncle Albert and I have managed to be happy together for 40 years. I guess this is because we're both in love with the same man!"

After 5 years of marriage Amber and Ed began having problems. They argued so bitterly that Ed decided to seek out a divorce attorney. At their first session, the lawyer asked Ed, "What first attracted you to this woman?" Ed replied, "Her forthrightness, straightforwardness and frankness." The counselor asked, "Then why are you now telling me you want to end the relationship?" Ed answered, "Her forthrightness, straightforwardness and frankness."

Uncle Marty explains his long-term marriage in this way: "My wife and I have very little in common. I'm a big city boy; she's a small town girl. I like spicy food; she doesn't. I enjoy action and suspense movies; she goes for romance and comedy. Nothing in common . . . yet we are deeply in love. It just goes to show that you don't get harmony when everybody sings the same note!"

— *Encyclopedia of Humor*

• *Activities / Group Events / Happenings* •

Book Clubs

Morning Group—3rd Tuesday at 9:00AM

- July 15 *Loving Frank* by Nancy Horan
 - Aug. 19 *Glass Castle* by Jeanette Walls
 - Sept. 16 *90 Minutes in Heaven* by Dan Piper and Cecil Murphy
- Watch the Weekly News for leader and location information.

Evening Group—2nd Monday at 7:00PM

- July we will not meet
- Sept. 8 *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortensen
- Oct. 13 *Plain Truth* by Jodi Picoult
- Nov. 10 *Kabul Beauty School* by Katie Patrick
- Dec. 8 Any children's Christmas book - bring to share.
- Jan. 12 *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini (author of *The Kite Runner*)

St. John's Quilters

Will meet the following dates in July: 1st, 15th, and 22nd. August dates are: 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th. Feel free to come anytime between 9:30-11:30AM to the Fellowship Hall. If you can tie a knot, pin material, we need your help! These are easy quilts/blankets to make—please come and help. Volunteers are needed to zigzag the edges of the pinned quilts on sewing machines at home. Call Florence Conway, 663-6058.

Abigail Circle

Will have their summer outing on Sunday, August 17. Reservations have been made at The Barn II Dinner Theater and payment has been collected. Please meet at the west doors (Fellowship Hall) at 11:15AM (after 10:15 services) to ride the St. John's Bus to the theater. Those attending will receive a reminder call. Linda Click (663-2536)

St. John's Women Board

will meet Monday, August 18, at 6:30PM in Room 421. Agenda items should be sent to Marilyn Myers (663-8371; mcmymyers2@aol.com) no later than Friday, August 16.



NEXT
EAGLE
DEADLINE
Wed., Aug. 15, 2008
for the September issue



Submissions may be delivered to the church office, or e-mailed without formatting to: tom@stjohnsbloomington.org

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Senior Pastor, x.213
pastorkwells@stjohnsbloomington.org

Rev. James E. Reents

Adult Education, Member Care, x.211
pastorjreents@stjohnsbloomington.org

Rev. Elyse Nelson Winger

Worship & Music, x.212
pastorenelsonwinger@stjohnsbloomington.org

Rev. Harold Skillrud

Pastor Emeritus

*Invite and connect people to God
and one another through Christ's love*

YOUR ST. JOHN'S STAFF — 827-6121

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x.231, lisa@stjohnsbloomington.org

Myron Adams **Building & Grounds**
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Susan Brown **Finance**
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Fran Crownhart **Contributions**
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Gudrun Dunt **Membership & Member Care**
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Cheryl Park **DinnerTime & Thrive**
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Michelle Paul **Nursery**
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Tom Roberts **Media, Publications & Eagle**
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Sandy Stewart **Reception**
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Terry Stombaugh **Church Operations**
x.203, terry@stjohnsbloomington.org

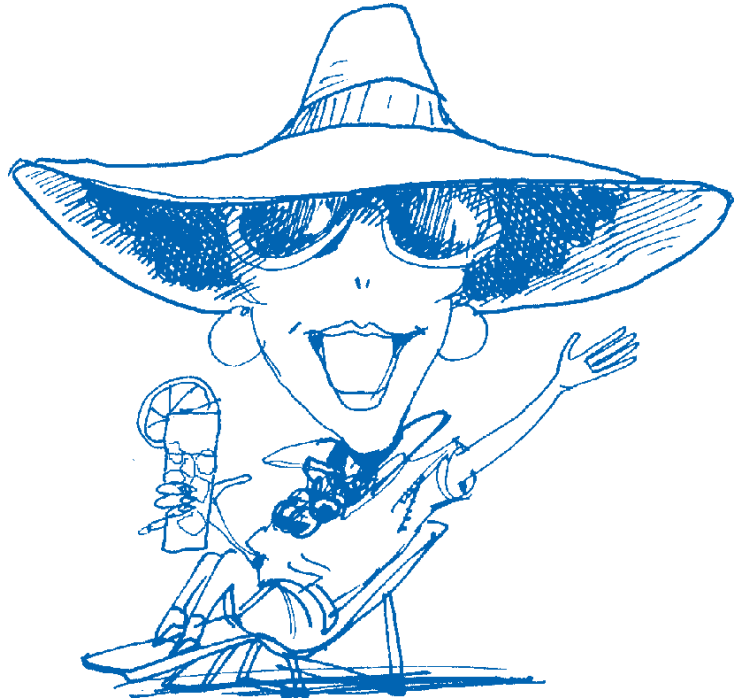
Roger Swaner **Building & Grounds**
x.229, roger@stjohnsbloomington.org

Steve Terry **Young Adult & Sr. High**
x.215, steve@stjohnsbloomington.org

NOAH'S ARK CONTACT

Wendy Iverson **Director**
x.220, wendy@stjohnsbloomington.org

Enjoy your summer!



 **ST. JOHN'S**
Evangelical Lutheran
Church
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July / August 2008 Eagle

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