

that the cans are for the “*St. John’s Lutheran Church Ecuador account.*” Total amount raised to date: \$195.

Love Packages Trip to Butler, IL to help sort Christian materials - Thursday, September 25, leave St. John’s west parking lot 7:00 AM and return by 5:30 PM. Bring a sack lunch and \$8 for gas, pending gas prices. Contact info: Jan Pritts, 665-0440, janpritts@aol.com. You can also help by donating Christian materials: gather up old devotionals, Bibles and other Christian materials and deposit them any time in the designated red-bowed “garbage cans” at Welcome Centers.

St. John’s Lutheran Church Congregational Council Notes August 25, 2008

- The Finance Ministry Team presented a proposed 2009 Operating Budget for St. John’s to the Congregational Council. The proposed budget, to be presented for approval at the 2009 Annual Meeting in January, is for \$1,825,000. This represents a 4 percent increase over the 2008 budget. It establishes a benevolence contribution through the Central/Southern Illinois Synod of 10 percent of our operating expenses, plus an additional amount for local benevolences and missionary support. Salaries and benefits represent the largest single expenditure, reflecting merit increases, filling the vacant Associate Pastor position, increasing a 60-percent associate pastor to full time and other staff changes, as well as increased benefit costs.
- The Facility Planning Leadership Team and the Capital Fund Campaign Committee met with Council members and their spouses to present the latest information on Phase I of *A Church Alive!* initiative and to discuss the leadership role of Council members in this endeavor.
- The Nominating Committee continues to develop a slate of candidates for the elections for congregational leadership positions. New people are still being sought to run for the Congregational Council to add new leadership; those who might be interested in running for a position may notify the church office. Elections will be conducted at a Congregational Meeting at 11:15 a.m., Sunday, October 19th, in the Parish Life Center.
- Pastor Wells reported on Festival of Faith, held at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts, saying that it was a very successful first event at this venue. He expressed thanks to the Festival of Faith Committee, chaired this year by Russ Higgins, and the many people who contributed to the Festival’s success. Attendance was 783 for the weekend. There was broad approval for the new venue and the many advantages it presents, especially for musical participation.

David Johnson, Secretary

Faith In Action Training, Wednesday, September 17, 9:30 AM, Faith in Action office, 410 N. Prairie Street, Bloomington. Faith in Action of Bloomington-Normal offers numerous community services, such as transportation to various types of appointments or to go grocery shopping. 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 Faith In Action office. For more info or to register call 827-7780. The St. John’s liason is Linda Brown, 287-4283, lsbrown2@ilstu.edu. *Next Training Date: Wednesday, October 29, 6:00 PM.*

ST. JOHN’S WEEKLY NEWS: August 30/31, 2008

CHURCH OFFICE: 309-827-6121 • www.stjohnsbloomington.org • info@stjohnsbloomington.org
Submission Deadline: due to tanja@stjohnsbloomington.org by Noon on Wednesdays of that same week

This Week

St. John’s offices will be closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 1.

Elizabeth Circle - Tuesday, September 2, 1:00 PM, Luther Oaks Reception Room. Hostesses: Nola Johnson and Marge Mehlberg.

Rachel Circle - Tuesday, September 2, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall. We will be working on health/school kits. Marilyn Garrett and Diana Patten are in charge of refreshments.

Attention All Moms: Moms’ Bible Study is calling all moms interested in fun, fellowship and developing their faith life to join our study group. Beginning September 4, we meet every Thursday morning from 9:00-11:00 AM in the Multipurpose Room. We do 3 to 4 studies per year depending on length; our first study is “Protecting Your Family: Standing Strong Against Today’s Challenges.” Child care is available upon request. Contact info: Debi Petrillo, 661-3252, debi.petrillo@verizon.net.

Sarah Circle - Thursday, September 4, 1:00 PM, Fellowship Hall. Hostesses: Joyce Niemi and Marge Swanberg. Program: LWR Project--School Bags, led by Linda Click.

NEXT Sunday

“Mission in Madagascar” Night - Sunday, September 7, 6:00-7:30 PM, Parish Life Center. Come and meet ELCA missionary Pat Bentsen and hear about the ministry she is doing and sharing with people in the Malagasy Lutheran Church in Madagascar. In addition to her PowerPoint presentation, there will be crafts, food, and music from Madagascar. This event is designed for the whole family.

Notices

Thank you to everyone who helped with and attended Festival of Faith this past weekend and helped make it a successful worship and fellowship event!

Copies of the September Eagle are available at Welcome Centers.

Children, Youth & Young Adults

L.I.G.H.T. Worship – Sunday, September 14, 6:00 PM, Parish Life Center. All youth, college, high school, junior high and their families are invited to join us for a spirited worship experience. If you are interested in playing an instrument or singing in the LIGHT band, then come at 4:30 PM for rehearsal.

Work Camp Sponsor Appreciation Dinner - Sunday, September 14, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall. We would like to thank all of this year’s Work Camp sponsors for their prayer and financial support of our mission. We invite you to attend LIGHT Worship at 6:00 PM in the Parish Life Center, followed immediately by dinner afterwards in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us and see and hear what the kids did this summer.

CHAOS returns to the Fellowship Hall beginning THIS Wednesday, September 3. This weekly Senior High youth ministry program meets on Wednesday nights from 6:45 to 8:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. All high school youth are invited to participate in this engaging and fun evening of faith exploration. There are refreshments, activities, and real issues of faith for teens.

Sunday morning Joy Zone programs start up on Rally Day, September 7. Postcards have been sent indicating the classroom assignments. Parents should sign in their child in their small group classroom and then proceed to the Fellowship Hall for the Parent Rally Meeting. We would like to encourage families to attend

Preparing for Next Week: *Sunday, September 6/7 - 17th Sunday after Pentecost*
Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20

worship together; there will be a special blessing for all the children at each church service.

Extreme Faith begins again on Sunday, September 7 in the Youth Room at 9:15 AM. This is our Sr High Video Bible program led by Wendy Wise, Cindy Musick and Ellen Rehn. This semester we will be looking at teen issues such as friendships, tough times, and forgiveness as seen through the lives of Joseph, Joshua, Nehemiah and Noah. Come week to week, with no worries if you miss one; each week is independent.

Faith 101 - Sunday, September 21, 2:00-5:00 PM, Fellowship Hall. All 9th graders wanting to participate in the fall Rite of Confirmation must attend. Make sure you have done your Faith Share. This is for the youth and their parents. Contact Steve in the church office if you have questions.

Prayers & Blessings

To submit a name for the Prayers and Blessings section of St. John's Weekly News, contact the church office.

Prayer requests for health and healing...

Logan Abeling, Chuck Krause, Cecile Denney, Janet Klinzing, Janet Erickson, George Stuart, Lanette Tommerdahl, Bill Barker

Altar flowers are given...

In memory of Carl and Emma Louise Junker, given by Laurie, Larry, Jaime and Stacey Turilli.

Looking Ahead

Blood Pressure Screening - Sunday, September 7 (every 1st Sunday of the month), 9:00 AM, Balcony. The next screening will be on Saturday, September 27 (every 4th Saturday of the month) at 4:30 PM in the Atrium, with screenings continuing after the Saturday Evening Service as needed.

Abigail Circle - Monday, September 8, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall.

St. John's Quilters - Tuesday, September 9, 9:30 AM, Fellowship Hall. If you can tie a knot or straight pin the edge of a quilt, we can use your help. Come any time between 9:30 and 11:30

AM. Contact info: Florence Conway, 663-6058. Next Quilters date: September 16. St. John's quilters is also in need of **new or good used bed sheets** to use as liners for the quilts. Please drop off in the church office or quilters closet in the Fellowship Hall.

The October Eagle Deadline is *Wednesday, September 10*. Turn in hard copies to Tom Roberts in the church office, or email unformatted text to tom@stjohnsbloomington.org. Keep articles brief and to the point. Include a contact name and phone #. All Ministry Team articles must be submitted through your Team Leader. **Lunch Bunch** - Sunday, September 14, 11:30 AM, Dutch treat lunch and fellowship at CJ's Restaurant, 2901 E. Empire Street, Bloomington (at the old airport). Lunch Bunch meets every 2nd Sunday of the month and is for St. John's singles 60 and over who enjoy meeting new people, making new friends and dining out. *Reservations are due to Irene Niccum, 888-4530, by Noon, Saturday, September 13.*

St. John's Music Series Presents Scott Montgomery - Sunday, September 14, 3:00 PM, Sanctuary. Scott is a recent graduate of University of Illinois and was the winner of the American Guild of Organists National Young Artists Competition in 2006. The concert is free and open to the public.

"Breathe" St. John's Women's Retreat - Saturday, September 27, 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM, East Bay Camp Tea Room. Take a moment, take a breath, and connect with other women. \$30 registration. *Registration deadline is Monday, September 15.* Brochures with registration form are available at Welcome Centers and online at St. John's web site on the "News / Special Events" page. Space is VERY limited, so don't delay in returning your completed registration form! Contact info: Wendy Wise, 662-2145 or dwwiseguy@comcast.net.

St. John's Painting Day - Saturday, September 27, 8:30 AM - Noon. If you like to paint, you will enjoy this time of work and fellowship. Please bring your own brush and tools. Please RSVP to Roger in the church office or 531-1040, or email

him at roger@stjohnsbloomington.org.

Red Cross Blood Drive--mark your calendars now! - Saturday, October 4, 7:30-11:30 AM, Fellowship Hall. To make an appointment, call Lynn Carpenter (663-9345) or the church office, or sign up beginning in September at Welcome Centers or at <http://www2.givebloodgivelife.org>. Choose "Schedule Appointment" and include phone # and email address. Be sure to bring a photo ID to the drive. Direct any blood donation questions ("Am I eligible to give?") to 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (1-800-448-3543).

Servant Opportunities

To help with any of the opportunities below, please mark the corresponding letter on the pew pad or contact the person directly.

A. Beginning in September, the Eagle will be issued on a monthly basis. Help is needed to collate and get the Eagle ready for distribution each month; this takes about 2 hours a month. Come and join a terrific group of people to help prepare the Eagle for mailing. It is a great time for fellowship and is a good way to serve your church. Please contact Sherri Frederick, 663-7846, if you are interested.

B. Do you have a heart for sharing the good news of Jesus with children? We are still looking for volunteers to teach in the Joy Zone at the 9:00 and 10:15 AM sessions. Early Childhood classrooms meet for 1 hour with a fantastic, fun curriculum. Elementary classes (1st grade - 5th grade) meet first in a large group setting and then move to small groups for the last 25 minutes. Our elementary curriculum is fun, easy and guaranteed to help you build great relationships with the children.

C. Faith Walkers, St. John's ministry to first-time visitors, is in need of a coordinator. As part of the Outreach Team, this volunteer position provides a great opportunity to meet new people and to support the church's overall hospitality efforts. Please contact Joan Higgins at 452-4595 for more information.

D. Lutheran World Relief (LWR) School and Health Kits Items Needed - Thank you to all who are faithfully adding to the supplies each week. We are nearing the end of collections for this year and will begin packing up the materials soon.

Supplies still needed:

- adult-sized toothbrushes (individual or multi-packs)
- school bags
- #2 lead pencils

If you have questions, contact Doris Robertson (452-3541) or Linda Click (663-2536). Kits need to be packed up and ready to go by October 11. Items may be dropped off at the church office. If you prefer, cash donations may be given and the shopping will be done for you. Jean Kuethe is our experienced shopper this fall.

School bag sewers are also still needed. This is an ongoing project. The fabric is cut and ready to be sewn. If you can help, please contact Doris Robertson or check with the church office for packs of material and instructions.

More Opportunities...

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. (Romans 12:12) Have you been thinking of becoming more active in the church? If so, the St. John's Prayer Chain would like to invite you to join them in praying for our members and friends. Please call Margene Taylor, 454-5466, if you would like to explore these ideas.

Open Door Mission Opportunities:

Check out the bulletin board in the upper Welcome Center area featuring Open Door Missions and Ecuador church construction photos.

Open Door Missions - You can help by recycling your used soda cans in two ways: 1) Gather crushed cans in plastic grocery bags and place them in the designated bin (southwest parking lot by the garage) on 1st and 3rd Sundays (September 7 and 21), or 2) take your crushed cans directly to Morris Tick--you MUST mention