

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

Newsletter September 2009

Make Room for Christ in your life!

Dear Friends and Members of St. John's,

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) recently met in convention. I wish to share with you some of the things that took place at their convention and the reply that the president of Missouri Synod gave. We are the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

Statement of the president of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in response to certain actions of the 2009 Church wide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ... August 24, 2009

The two largest Lutheran church bodies in the United States are the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) with 4.8 million members and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS) with 2.4 million members.

On Friday, Aug. 21, the Church wide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted to open the ministry of the ELCA to gay and lesbian pastors and other professional workers living in "committed relationships." In an earlier action, the assembly approved a resolution that commits the ELCA "to finding ways to allow congregations that choose to do so to recognize, support, and hold publicly accountable life-long, monogamous, same-gender relationships."

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod has repeatedly affirmed as its own position the historical understanding of the Christian church that the Bible condemns homosexual behavior as "intrinsically sinful." It is therefore contrary to the will of the Creator and constitutes sin against the commandments of God (Lev. 18:22, 24,20:13; I Cor. 6:9-20; I Tim. 1:9-10; and Rom. 1:26, 27).

Addressing the ELCA assembly on Saturday, Aug. 22, I responded to their aforementioned actions, stating: "The decisions by this assembly to grant non-celibate homosexual ministers the privilege of serving as rostered leaders in the ELCA and the affirmation of same-gender unions as pleasing to God will undoubtedly cause additional stress and disharmony within the ELCA. It will also negatively affect the relation-

ships between our two church bodies. The current division between our churches threatens to become a chasm. This grieves my heart and the hearts of all in the ELCA, the LCMS, and other Christian church bodies throughout the world who do not see these decisions as compatible with the Word of God, or in agreement with the consensus of 2,000 years of Christian theological affirmation regarding what Scripture teaches about human sexuality. Simply stated, this matter is fundamentally related to significant differences in how we [our two church bodies] understand the authority of Holy Scripture and the interpretation of God's revealed and infallible Word."

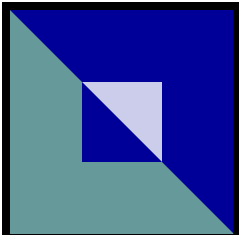
Doctrinal decisions adopted already in 2001 led the LCMS, in sincere humility and love, to declare that we could no longer consider the ELCA "to be an orthodox Lutheran church body" (2001 Res 3-21A). Sadly, the decisions of this past week to ignore biblical teaching on human sexuality have reinforced that conclusion. We respect the desire to follow conscience in moral decision making, but conscience may not overrule the Word of God.

We recognize that many brothers and sisters within the ELCA, both clergy and lay, are committed to remaining faithful to the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, are committed to the authority of Holy Scripture, and strongly oppose these actions. To them we offer our assurance of loving encouragement together with our willingness to provide appropriate support in their efforts to remain faithful to the Word of God and the historic teachings of the Lutheran church and all other Christian churches for the past 2,000 years.

Dr. Gerald B. Kieschnick, President
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

So often when the news cover makes their report, they just mention the Lutheran Church as if it includes all of us. We need to avoid the confusion and let others know that the ELCA does not represent us or the other Lutheran Synods.

Pastor Duane Fluechtling



St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church

September 2009

Are you Ready? Ready to Sing to the Lord?

September begins a new Choir year and we need more voices. It's so much easier to sing in a larger group because of all the support you feel from other voices. (And, no one will hardly notice a wrong note.) But, seriously, the Choir needs NEW voices. Most or all of the current members will return, but how about joining them?

As you know, we are a volunteer Choir and that means you don't have to read music, just listen to the per-

son next to you and be sure and watch the Director.

So far, no BIG work has been planned for Christmas, but there are many other services to fill with song.

Talk to any Choir member or to the Director. We want our enthusiasm to be contagious so you will join us on September 10, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Church balcony. (if it's really HOT, we'll meet in the basement.)



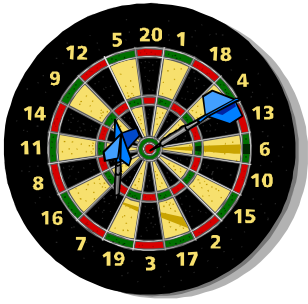
Looking forward to meeting new people who can commit to SINGING TO THE LORD!

Chime Choir has started

We thank them for sharing their gifts and talents as they extend the music ministry on September 8 to Our Lady of Knock (in Calumet City) Ladies Guild and to others.

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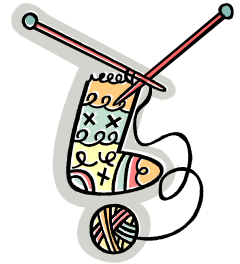
Dartball

Anyone interested in playing dartball, both men and women, please come to practice Tuesday September 1 and Tuesday September 8. First September 15. Any questions call Hal Gronewold 708-895-3387

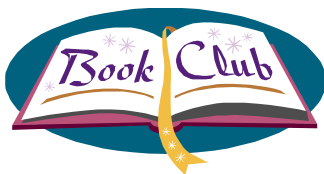


Luther East 6th Annual Harvest Art and Craft Show

Crafters are wanted for the Sixth Annual Harvest Art and Craft Show to be held at Luther East High School on October 3rd. Please call Bonnie for an application (708) 798-4022



Church Book Group



The church book group has chosen *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd as their book for September. Amazon.com says, "The search for a mother, and the need to mother oneself, are

crucial elements in this well-written coming-of-age story set in the early 1960's against a background of racial violence and unrest." The group will meet at Debbie Albrecht's house on Thursday

September 24th at 7:00 p.m. Just give Debbie a call at 708-895-0144 if you would like to join them. The more the merrier. The book is available at the library or your local book store.

Another Mission Project – September 6 – 13, 2009 Bible Sticks for our Military Personnel.

Pastor Fluechtling once again has more MP3 discs and would like to give you one if you have lost your first one, or if you were a part of our church back in December 2007 or if you gave it to some one. Once again it is draw your attention to another opportunity to share God's Word.

The New Testament has been put on what is called a "Bible Stick." The Bible Sticks were passed out to the children of our school last year. They are about the size of a flash drive. The Bible Sticks for the Military has been done in approved coloring for the military. Initially nine thousand Bible Sticks were sent to our military personnel over seas. The Chaplains have passed out the Bible sticks to the troops on the front lines and in military hospitals. The Chaplains are now requesting another 12,000. The cost runs about \$25.00 per Bible Stick. As we did for the Bible Translation of the New Testament into the Madura language, this Mission Project will be to place the New Testament Bible Stick into the hands of our military personnel over seas.

The introduction date will be September 6, 2009, five days before 9/11. We will receive offerings and donations on the 13th. I would like for you to consider contributing to this project and sharing the idea with others. The cost is \$25.00 per soldier and they receive a card for which they can request a New Testament MP3 disc for their family and an audio Children's Bible for their children.. Therefore one Bible Stick can impact a whole family.

Whether you need another MP3 discs or not, please consider this mission project of sharing God's Word with our soldiers.

Remember for Yourself

Listening to the New Testament MP3 disc for 28 minutes a day, you can listen/read through the entire New Testament in 40 days. If you want to change your life, if you want to come closer to your Lord Jesus, you must be into His Word. His Word is power. His Word is a lamp unto your feet and a light unto your path.

Adult Membership Class is Forming

- A new Adult Membership/Information Class is forming for this Fall. Classes will meet on Sunday afternoons from 2-4 PM starting September 13, 2009. We will meet for ten sessions and allowing for the need to skip some Sundays, we will have Adult Confirmation on December 20th. Anyone wishing to join the church should call the church office and signup with Jessica or Pastor Fluechtling.
- If you know of someone that would be interested in join the church or wishing more information, please talk to them and let church office know. Together we can make the church grow.

Rev. Dr. William Diekelman

First Vice President

The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod Visits St. John's Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. William Diekelman will be visiting our church and participating in our Worship Service on October 4th, 2009. It is not very often that we have the privilege to have one of our high ranking officers of the LCMS come and visit us. Let us make every effort to be here that Sunday and give him a great St. John's welcome.

He will be here for his third cousin's wedding ceremony Ashley (and James) Fluechtling. Since James and Ashley are already married (June 7, 2008) they are having a church wedding service and military honors on October 2nd. You can come to the wedding service but the numbers for the reception are limited. Special invitation is required by the couple to attend the reception.

Rev. Dr. William Diekelman was invited to stay over for our Sunday services and it will also give him time to visit with some of his relatives. St. Paul Lutheran Church in Thornton is his home congregation.

The 2009-2010 school year started on Wednesday, August 19, with 143 eager children and 100 Families excited to begin a new chapter in their young lives. I noticed that the parents also seemed more excited.



Our staff considers it a privilege to serve the many families who have entrusted their children to our care. Please continue to support and pray daily for St. Johns Ministry. May the Lord Bless and Guide us as we teach the Little Lambs whom we all love dearly.



St. John's P.T.L. is currently selling the 2010 Entertainment Coupon Books. The books are available in the office and cost \$20.



God's Blessings to Nick as he fulfills his position as a Called Teacher for the 7th and 8th Grades along with Assistant Principal.

St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church & School
Faculty and Staff
2009-2010

PRINCIPAL/ATHLETIC DIR.

Mr. David Swanson

PASTOR/CONFIRMATION

Rev. Duane Fleuchtling

ORGANIST/CHURCH CHOIR DIR.

Mrs. Marilyn Schultz

7/8 GRADE

Mr. Nick Muench

5/6 GRADE

Mr. Jared Griesemer

4 Grade

Ms. Allison Bubness

3 GRADE

Mrs. Dana Krieger

2 GRADE/ SCHOOL CHOIRS

Mrs. Lori Costenaro

1 GRADE

Mrs. Lynn Erke

KINDERGARTEN

Ms. Susan Olson

PRE-K & BEFORE CARE

Mrs. Mary Anderson

3 YEAR OLDS

Mrs. Carol Joza

COMPUTERS

Ms. Sara Erke

ART

Mrs. Karyn Mascio

AFTER CARE

Ms. Diana Maanum

Vivian Aurelio

Diane Peters

AIDES

Nancy Pieper

Cynthia McMillan

Mary Beth Witulski

Lisa Burleson

CHURCH SECRETARY

Jessica Stromberg

SCHOOL SECRETARY

Kathy Maanum

Lector	DATE	1ST	EPISTLE
8:00 am Jerry James 10:30 am Art Cain	Sept. 6 (Prop. 18)	Is. 35:4-7a	James 2:1-10, 14-18
8:00 am Jack Costenaro 10:30 am Sue Olson	Sept. 13 (Prop. 19)	Is. 50:4-10	James 3:1-12
8:00 am Dave Banas 10:30 am Dawn Mayerak	Sept. 20 (Prop. 20)	Jer. 11:18-20	James 3:13-4:10
8:00 am Goldie Malueg-Lattimore 10:30 am Sally Klitzke	Sept. 27 (Prop. 21)	Num. 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	James 5:13-20



Greeter Schedule

	<u>8:00 a.m.</u>	<u>10:30 a.m.</u>
Sept 6	Kolarczyk	Gribnitz/Cox
Sept 13	Kreger	Malueg-Lattimore
Sept 20	Maanum	Schultz
Sept 27	Douma/Grambo	Tsolakos

Altar Guild
Sally Klitzke & Mike Solberg

Day	Date	Time	Acolyte
Wednesday	9/2/09	7:30 pm	Andrew Voss
Sunday	9/6/09	8:00 am	Nick Melia
Sunday	9/6/09	10:30 am	Samantha Genovese
Wednesday	9/9/09	7:30 pm	Abigayle Morgan
Sunday	9/13/09	8:00 am	Bliss Like
Sunday	9/13/09	10:30 am	Nick Jobbe
Wednesday	9/16/09	7:30 pm	Jaide Martinez
Sunday	9/20/09	8:00 am	Kat Witting
Sunday	9/20/09	10:30 am	Robert Melia
Wednesday	9/23/09	7:30 pm	Andrew Voss
Sunday	9/27/09	8:00 am	Dedrick Dixon
Sunday	9/27/09	10:30 am	Samantha Genovese
Wednesday	9/30/09	7:30 pm	Abigayle Morgan

402-240-6050



September Birthdays

2. Bill Albrecht	12. Adria Bartley	18. Nicholas Kroll
2. Heather Embrey	12. Karen Martinez	19. Manny Martinez Jr.
4. Sarah Witak	12. Brian Winters	19. Megan Scanlon
5. Anita Anderson	13. David Krause	20. James Fluechtling
5. Beverly DeLao	13. David Swanson	20. Michael Kroll
5. Kathleen Waddy	14. Victor Chrisbens	22. Christina Aguilar
6. Devin Pieper	14. Deborah Doe	22. Elsie Walker
6. Michael Quinlan	15. Christian Anselmini	23. Ashley Doe
6. Darryl Warburton	15. Justin Ostrowski	27. Daniel Albrecht
8. Lillie Eicke	16. Paul Ruebe	27. Stephanie Fowler
9. David Banas	16. Janice Warburton	27. Sherman Mayerak
9. Greg Stagner	17. Reneé Erickson	27. Heather Young
10. Megan Witting	17. Ronald Lorenz	30. Arthur Blohm
11. Lisa Burleson	18. Herman Eicke	30. Christin Scanlon

September Anniversaries

1. Raymond & Cynthia Biederstadt	16. Arnold & Carol Joza
2. Robert & Dana Melia	17. Michael & Kathleen Maanum
3. Michael & Corrine Marwitz Sr.	18. Herman & Lillie Eicke
7. Kurt & Sally Klitzke	22. James & Mary Ann Vierk
10. Bill & Debbie Lecki	27. Michael & Kerri Kuzmar, Jr.
11. John & Jeanne Tsolakos	27. John & Lorine Szymanski
15. Stephen & Marianne Mayerak Jr.	

**St. John's Ev. Lutheran
Church and School
18100 Wentworth Avenue
Lansing, IL 60438
Address Service Requested**

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**September 2009
Church and School Newsletter
Published Monthly**

Senior Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Mondays
Junior Youth Group 6:30 p.m. Sundays
Sunday School 9:15 a.m.
Adult Bible Class Sunday 9:15 a.m.

WE LEARN GOD'S WORD

First and Third Sunday's of the Month
And the Wednesday following

COMMUNION

WE CELEBRATE

Sunday Mornings 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday Evenings 7:30 a.m.

WE WORSHIP

**St. John's Web Address is:
www.stjlansing.org**

Fax: 708.895.9303

Office: 708.895.9240

Rev. Duane Fluechtling

Lansing, IL 60438

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