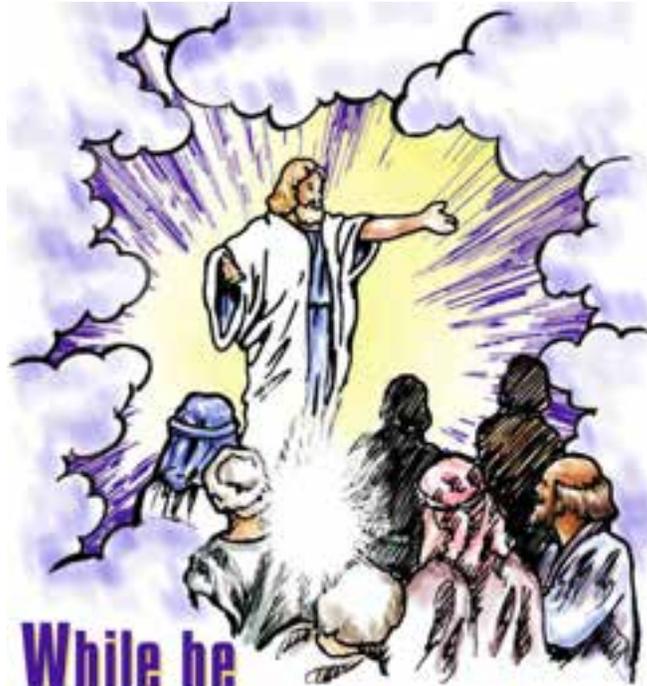




Bethany Lutheran Outlook
May 2007

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



**While he
was blessing them, he...
was taken up into heaven.**

Luke 24:51



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

It seems a bit odd to be writing a May newsletter article as I watch the snow continue to come down outside. It seems that we had April back in December so we're having December now. Who knows what May will bring? As the author Kurt Vonnegut (who died yesterday) often wrote when talking about something that you just couldn't do much about, "So it goes."

Having met with the councils of Bethany and Trinity after the first "Shared Ministry" meeting I would offer a couple of thoughts. Both churches are encouraged that an initial meeting has happened and look forward to continuing the conversation. Everyone seems to understand that we do not want to rush into anything, that a process like this will take time. The thinking on the part of both groups is that this is the time to move forward with conversations rather than wait until "the gun is at someone's head" so to speak. There are realities which strongly indicate that the best future for the ELCA ministry in Ishpeming is not to continue to have four individual churches essentially competing with each other in efforts to do the same thing. The number of Lutheran churches in Ishpeming has mostly to do with ethnic issues, primarily language issue as they existed over a hundred years ago. I'm pretty sure we're all doing services in English these days.

Another thing that both groups came up with independent of one another is the need to get to know each other better. A certain level of trust and comfort is needed if meaningful sharing is to take place and a number of ideas have been floated about how that trust and comfort can be developed, things that can begin happening very soon. You can expect to hear more about this before too long.

I think a significant first step has been taken. What's most important now is to keep the conversation going...not to rush, but not to wait so long that we lose our train of thought either. The bottom line is that we can more effectively be the church, doing what we are called to do, if we work together rather than in competition. The Resurrection is about new life and new possibilities. I look forward to continuing the conversation on the possibilities and vision for the Lutheran ministry here in Ishpeming.

In Christ,
Pastor Geier





The Birth of the Church

Fifty days after the Resurrection, the first Christians, most of them Jews, gathered to celebrate the Jewish harvest festival known as Pentecost.

At that gathering something happened that was so awesome and indescribable that when writing about it, St. Luke could only use metaphors. A sound like the rush of a violent wind seemed to fill the entire house where they were meeting. Something like tongues of fire appeared among them — a tongue rested on each of them.

It was then that they **“were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability”** (Acts 2:4, NRSV). The crowd that gathered outside was amazed and perplexed. They wanted to know what it meant. Some observers thought it was a gathering of drunks.

But Peter interpreted it all correctly to anyone who would listen. He told of Christ, his life, his mission, his death and his Resurrection. Most importantly, Peter explained that God had made Jesus both Lord and Messiah. The proof of that was the Resurrection.

Three thousand people were so moved by Peter’s words that they were baptized that day and **“devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers”** (Acts 2:42, NRSV).

“And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved” (Acts 2:47, NRSV). The Church was born that day.



Celebrate Church Music Month!

May is church music month. It is a time to celebrate the gift of music, recognize its contribution to the life of our parish, and make a commitment to securing the future of music in worship.

Each worship service here at Bethany is enhanced and highlighted by the talented voices of our choir. Our dedicated choral members bring their talents to a wide range of inspiring musical selections. They lead our liturgy and inspire our hymn singing. They spend many hours rehearsing to prepare for their leadership role in the Sunday morning service as well as the many other special worship services throughout the church year. Our choir performs at nights of music and will be singing together with the choir from Wesley Methodist on May 16 at the Marquette County Medical Care Facility.

Our church is also fortunate to benefit from the melodious sound and synchronized ringing of our bell choir. This enthusiastic group practices faithfully every Sunday evening and performs during our Sunday morning worship services and at special worship services. They ring and sing at a local nursing home during the Advent season, participate in nights of music and ring for special meetings at Bethany.

We thank all of our church musicians for sharing their musical abilities here at Bethany. They are a dedicated group of individuals who give freely of their time and talent and share their love of God and his Son through their ministry of music. The heart and soul of Bethany's church life is worship, and through the hard work of every member of our music ministry we get better at worship every year.

Summer Music

Again this summer, we invite members of the congregation to share their musical abilities. Members of the choir are invited to sit in the balcony to help lead worship, and we also invite other member of the congregation to join us. The view is wonderful! If you have family members or other visiting relatives who would be willing to share in our music ministry, we welcome them as well. Just call me to schedule a Sunday. Last summer we were very fortunate to have a special musical number almost every week and we hope for the same this year.

Bob Bucan



Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

What Is This Place



What is this place where we are meeting?

Only a house, the earth its floor.

Walls and a roof sheltering people,

Windows for light, an open door.

Yet it becomes a body that lives when we are gathered
here,

And know our God is near.

Words from afar, stars that are falling.

Sparks that are sown in us like seed:

Names for our God, dreams, signs and wonders

Sent from the past are all we need.

We in this place remember and speak again what we have heard:

God's free redeeming word.

And we accept bread at this table,

Broken and shared, a living sign.

Here in this world, dying and living,

We are each other's bread and wine.

This is the place where we can receive what we need to
increase:

Our justice and God's peace.



Text: Huub Oosterhuis, b. 1933; tr. David Smith, b. 1933

Evangelical Lutheran Worship #524



Anne and Grandma Bernice

Grandmas Bring Richness to Life

When my Grandma Lois (Monahan) Gonyea died on March 16, 2002, I started dreading the day my maternal Grandma Bernice (Augustinas) Stapleton would leave this world. I dreaded it with every cell of my being.

My life had always included grandmas, and I could not, and frankly did not want to, imagine living without them.

Unlike many of my friends and acquaintances, I even remember my Great Grandma Bertha (Faust) Gonyea. I called her Nana. She was maybe 5 feet tall and I looked up at her in awe from my pre-school frame. I didn't know how to explain why she impressed me so much. I guess it was because even then I had some innate respect for the way grandmas provide a link to your past – stories about aunts and uncles, people from the old country and family tradition. They give you the gift of a glimpse into a life before love notes through MySpace, Sears via the Internet, six-minute dinner prep times, online banking, and juicers that transform nutritionally vacant carrots into Ponce De Leon-inspired concoctions.

Plus, grandmas love you like no one else, even on their worst days, not to mention your worst days.

So when the call came from Manistique recently with news that Grandma Stapleton had taken a turn for the worse and a priest had been called administer last rites, I froze up a little. The time I had been dreading was drawing close. But I pulled myself up by the boot straps – just like any of my grandmas would have done – and went to be with her.

“Grandmas love you like no one else, even on their worst days, not to mention your worst days.”

On January 24, 2007, my last living grandma left this life. My brother Chris and I were at her side. I called my sister Sarah to tell her Grandma had passed and as the words “No more grandmas,” were coming out of my mouth, I heard this sweet voice inside me say “But now *you* are a grandma.”

The birth of my first grandchild will always be more amazing and wonderful and joyful to me than almost anything else. But the true significance hadn't occurred to me until that very moment. All that time I was so worried about being a grandma-less soul someday, a miracle had taken place: I had become “Grannie Annie” to a beautiful little boy named Zeddicus James Alexander Ball.

It was one of those magnanimous life moments that carried me through those first days of grieving and one I will carry with me until it's my time leave this world. I am not grandma-less at all. I'm grandma-richer.

— Anne Gonyea

A Mother's Day Hymn

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God “mothers” each new child into
This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God's Comfort, Grace and Love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who “mothers” us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.

—Peggy Ferrell



*“Many women do
noble things, but you
surpass them all.”*

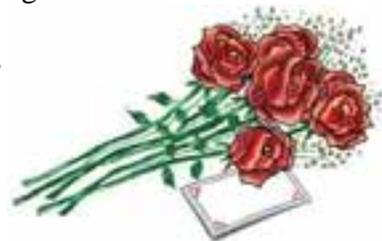
Proverbs 31:29, NIV



A Mother's Love

A mother's love is something
That no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
And of sacrifice and pain,
It is endless and unselfish
And enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
Or take that love away...
It is patient and forgiving
When all others are forsaking.
And it never fails or falters
Even though the heart is breaking...
It believes beyond believing
When the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
Of the rarest, brightest gems...
It is far beyond defining.
It defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
Like the mysteries of Creation...
A many splendored miracle
Man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand.

Anonymous



Second Graders Know All About Moms

How did God make mothers?

- He used dirt, just like for the rest of us.
- Magic plus super powers, and a lot of stirring.
- God made my Mom just the same like he made me. He just used bigger parts.

What ingredients are mothers made of?

- God makes mothers out of clouds and angel hair and everything nice in the world and one dab of mean.
- They had to get their start from men's bones. Then they mostly use string, I think.

What kind of little girl was your Mom?

- My Mom has always been my Mom and none of that other stuff.
- I don't know because I wasn't there, but my guess would be pretty bossy.
- They say she used to be nice.

What did Mom need to know about Dad before she married him?

- His last name.
- Does he make at least \$800 a year? Did he say NO to drugs and YES to chores?

Why did your Mom marry your Dad?

- My Dad makes the best spaghetti in the world. And my Mom eats a lot.
- My grandma says that Mom didn't have her thinking cap on.

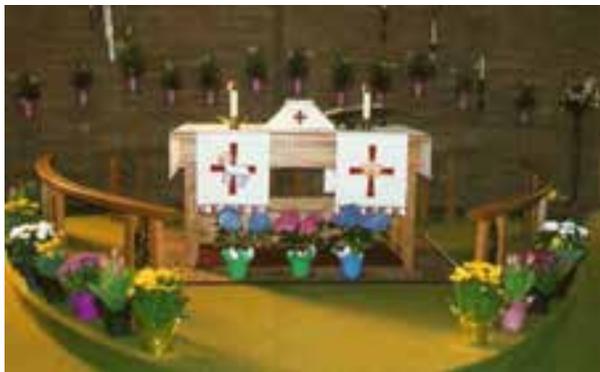
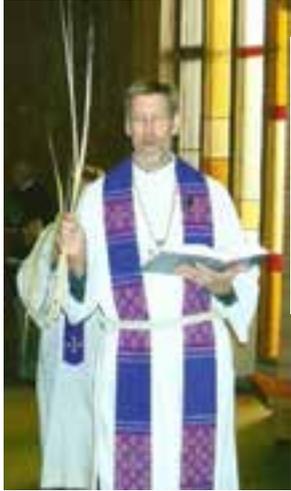
What would it take to make your Mom perfect?

- On the inside she's already perfect. Outside, I think some kind of plastic surgery.
- Diet. You know, her hair. I'd diet, maybe blue.

If you could change one thing about your Mom, what would it be?

- She has this weird thing about me keeping my room clean. I'd get rid of that.
- I would like for her to get rid of those invisible eyes on the back of her head.







**Is it time for spring cleaning?
Is it time to clean out your closets?**

There comes a time when we must clean out the closets of our life so that we may have room for items that will enhance our life. Let's search the closets of our lives and make a trip to the wastebasket.

Throw away any hatred that may be lurking there and be sure to toss our jealousy, bad attitudes, dishonesty, complaints, sin and hypocrisy.

Before you finish, throw away that grudge you've been carrying against someone. Make room to add love, honesty, forgiveness and kindness—not to mention thankfulness for all God's blessings. Go on and make room for reverence and respect for God from whom all good gifts come.

Stand back and look: Your life's closet is looking better, isn't it? Take a moment today to spring clean your heart. Ask God to come in and if He finds anything else that should not be there, to take it out so that you can live holy and right!



**SUMMER WORSHIP
10:00 A.M.**

**Beginning May 27 and continuing
through September 2, Sunday
morning worship will begin at
10:00 A.M.**

ELCA Presiding Bishop's Statement on Virginia Tech Tragedy

April 16, 2007



With the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech) community and the nation, we mourn, we pray, and with the Psalmist we plead: "Out of the depths, I cry to you, O Lord. Lord, hear my voice!" (Psalm 130:1) As family and friends grieve the deaths and injuries of loved ones, we claim the promise of Christ's Resurrection.

Campus ministries, congregations and leaders of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America are offering support and spiritual care to the local community. Through the deep wounds of this tragedy, let us renew our resolve to live together in peace.

"Holy One, you do not distance yourself from the pain of your people, but in Jesus you bear that pain with all who suffer at others' hands. With your cleansing love bring healing and strength to the Virginia Tech community; and by your justice, lift them up, that in body, mind, and spirit, they may again rejoice. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen." (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 84)



The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Chicago



**Pray for the Victims
and their Families**

We're shocked by the events of Monday, April 16, 2007, in Blacksburg, Virginia. Our hearts and prayers go out to the victims, their families and friends.

Rachel's Day: Women boldly speaking up for children



Many children today fear they will not grow up to be adults. They also fear drugs, guns, gangs, going home to an empty house, poor education, illness, hunger, unsafe streets, that friends will kill themselves, being unloved, and being alone. If these fears "speak" to you, a Rachel's Day observance in our congregation may be something important for us to do the first Sunday in May.



In 2007, Rachel's Day will be observed on Sunday, May 6. The blue ribbon is a symbol of hope — a symbol that may be made and given to congregation members and visitors on Rachel's Day.

Rachel's Day is an observance that started in one congregation — Bethel West in Chicago — and spread to a synod and synodical women's organization.

In 1996, the first Sunday in May was observed as Rachel's Day in the Metropolitan Chicago Synod. The day took its name from Jeremiah 31:15–17. In those verses Rachel grieves for her children. Rachel's Day is a time to mourn the loss of our children and to renounce the forces of evil and fear that plague our nation.

In July 1996, the Metropolitan Chicago Synodical Women's Organization brought to the Women of the ELCA Third Triennial Convention a memorial asking all women to encourage their congregations to recognize the first Sunday in May each year as "Rachel's Day." The memorial was adopted.

What a wonderful way to build community and relationships by connecting adults (who may or may not be parents or grandparents) with children at risk. It is another way to remind us that, as the African proverb says, "It takes a village to raise a child." We are all responsible for all children.

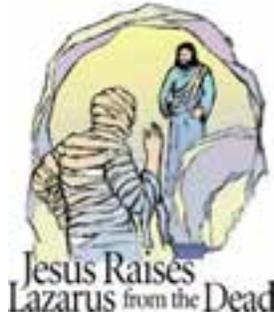


New Books for May
By Keenan Tunnell



Calderhead, Christopher. **One Hundred Miracles**

231.7 CAL



From Jesus' dramatic raising of Lazarus to St. Francis' courageous taming of the wolf of Gubbio, miracle stories pepper the pages of our greatest and oldest religious texts. These tales blend history and legend to express a deep human desire: to see the eternal break into the world of the everyday....Drawing on the spiritual classics, each miracle story in this collection is briefly retold and illustrated by a masterpiece of religious art, ranging from intimate paintings by anonymous icon painters to celebrated works by artists down the centuries. Author Christopher Calderhead's commentaries on both the narratives and the art works deepens and expands the readers' understanding of each.

Great People of the Bible and How They Lived

220.9 GRE

This look at the Bible presents a different way of understanding and enjoying the greatest story ever told. An invaluable family reference work as well as fascinating history, it brings new insights into the great ages of the Old and New Testaments. In its pages Abraham, Moses, Jesus and all of the other great figures of the Bible are seen in the context of their own times. Both text and illustrations link the timeless stories of the Bible with recent archaeological discoveries.

Porter, J.R. **New Illustrated Companion to the Bible**

220.6 POR

This text attempts to distil the essence of the Bible in beautifully illustrated commentaries on its major stories, places, characters, and events, from the Garden of Eden and the suffering of Job to the Last Supper and the book of Revelation. In addition, it provides an informative and detailed treatment of the life of Jesus, his teaching, his importance in history, and the early years of the Church. The substantial introduction brings together scholarship on how the Bible was written, compiled, and handed down from generation to generation, and discusses its far-reaching influence throughout history. Porter addresses many of the myths and mysteries surrounding the life of the historical Jesus and looks at the changing interpretations of him through the years, from revolutionary to mystic and prophet.



May Worship Assistants

May 6

Assisting Minister - Greg Stahlmann
Acolytes - Michael Carriere & Matt Leverton
Altar Guild - Marian Medlyn
Greeters - Tom & Pat Varda
Flowers - In memory of Cathy Swanson by the Swanson family
Coffee Hosts - Evangelism
Nursery - Kaitlyn Warner



May 13 - MOTHER'S DAY

Assisting Minister - Chris Hough
Acolytes - Max Alexander & John Leverton
Altar Guild - Marilyn Pontti
Greeters -
Flowers - In memory of Don Tyni by Shirley Tyni and John & Sheryl
Coffee Hosts -
Nursery - Maria Mariani

May 20

Assisting Minister - Robert Clark
Acolytes - Kate Clark & Katie Johns
Altar Guild - Sue Ryan
Greeters - Emilie and Tom Brown
Flowers - In memory of Vendla Larson by Lorraine Haack
Coffee Hosts -
Nursery - Katelyn Hough

May Ushers:

Jaak Liivoja
Mike Richards
Tom Ryan
Ted Swanson
John Waters
Paul Waters



May 27 - PENTECOST (10:00 A.M. Service)

Assisting Minister - Robert Nadeau
Acolytes - Alex Goldsworthy & Victoria Mattson
Altar Guild - Clara Carlson & Diana Sandstrom
Greeters - Pat & Jaak Liivoja
Flowers - In memory of Lowell Holmgren by Doreen Brown
Coffee -
Nursery - Katie Kitchen

June Ushers:

John Beerling
Jerry Hager
Bill Heavyside
Robert Maki
Donald Meyer
John Pontti
Dan Sleeman



May 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 9:00 Quilters 6:30 Worship & Music 7:00 Property	2 10:00 Men's coffee 6:30 Choir	3 6:30 Bible Study	4	5
6 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Evangelism 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 6:00 Confirmation (Faith)	7 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship	8 9:00 Quilters	9 4:00 Social Ministry 6:30 Choir	10 6:30 Bible Study	11	12
13 MOTHER'S DAY 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship (Children will sing.)	14 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:30 Council Meeting	15 9:00 Quilters	16 10:00 Men's coffee Bethany/Wesley choirs sing at Valente Center	17 ASCENSION 6:30 Bible Study	18	19
20 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Finance 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship	21 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship	22 9:00 Quilters	23 1:30 Mary Circle 6:30 Choir 7:00 Martha Circle	24 6:30 Bible Study	25	26
27 PENTECOST 9:00 Choir 10:00 Worship **New Time**	28 MEMORIAL DAY 6:30 Worship	29 9:00 Quilters	30 10:00 Men's coffee 5:30 Joy Circle—Meet at church / carpool to Casa Calabria 6:30 Choir	31 6:30 Bible Study	<div style="border: 1px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Check kiosk for times & places of the Seed Sowers concert "Open Your Eyes" </div>	Deadline for June Newsletter is Tuesday, May 22.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY May 18—20

Happy Birthday!

- 1 - Sheri Wooden
- 3 - Alan Johns
- 4 - Donna Champion
- 5 - Mia Chilman
- 7 - Carol Holmgren
- 8 - Michael Carriere
- 8 - Eric Martin
- 9 - Paul Waters
- 10 - James F. Sodergren
- 11 -- Kate Clark
- 11 - Dwayne Kaukola
- 13 - Carrie DuBord
- 14 - Ray Sundblad
- 15 - Sherry Lusardi
- 16 - Kathryn Chapman
- 17 - Natalee Dobson
- 17 - Jaak Liivoja
- 18 - Allen Beauchamp
- 19 - Duane King
- 22 - Philip Argall
- 22 - Sandra Sundquist
- 23 - Judy Kitchen
- 24 - Tim Nault
- 24 - Perry Wooden
- 28 - Mary Toivonen
- 29 - Janet Olgren
- 31 - Michael Waters



Happy Anniversary!

Jaak & Pat Liivoja
5/1/76 31 yrs.

Thomas & Pat Varda
5/5/73 34 yrs

John & Clara Carlson
5/6/61 46 yrs.

Perry & Sheri Wooden
5/14/83 24 yrs.

Alan & Janine Johns
5/28/83 24 yrs.

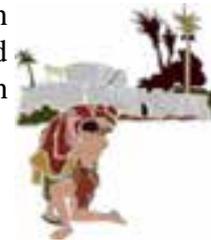


Reader's Digest Atlas of the Bible**220.9 REA**

The world's most enduring work of faith and wisdom, the Bible also tells the story of great people moving through a land starkly, awesomely beautiful. To provide a deeper understanding of the Bible's immortal stories, Reader's Digest has sought to place them in their proper geographical and historical context. The result is a unique reference work and a fascinating reading experience, with more than 300 specially commissioned maps and illustrations, color photographs, reproductions of works of art and artifacts of ancient civilizations, full-spread reconstructions of biblical cities and buildings, plus a 32-page gazetteer of 900 place-names found in the Bible.

FOR CHILDREN:De Paola, Tomie. **The Parables of Jesus****JUV 226.8 DEP**

When Jesus taught his disciples, he often spoke to them in simple stories called parables. From "The Sower" to "The Good Samaritan" to "The Prodigal Son," De Paola presents seventeen well-known parables to children.

Graves, Sue. **What is the Bible?****JUV 220 GRA**

Here is a clear introduction to a book whose beginnings date back to the Bronze Age and whose wisdom has shaped the way many people around the world think and act today. The book addresses such questions as: What is the Bible? Who wrote it? When did they live? What does it say? Why is it important?





Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp
138 Fortune Lake Camp Rd
Crystal Falls, MI 49920



**FORTUNE LAKE
WORKBEE**

A Place of Grace to Experience and Grow in Faith

906-875-1687 FAX 906-875-4829 info@camp@flc.org www.fortunelake.org

April 16, 2007

Dear FLAME:

Saturday, June 2, 2007 has been designated as a **WORK BEE DAY** at Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp beginning at 8:00 am Central Time. The "Bee" includes two separate activities ~ **Spring Cleaning** and **Maintenance Projects**.

First, we are asking you to organize a carload of folks who are willing to volunteer to come and give a "Spring Cleaning" to one or more of our buildings (one of the duplexes, half of Emanuel Village, or two of the cabins, for example). **Please bring cleaning cloths, paper towels, mops, buckets etc.** and we will provide the cleaning agents.

Second, we are asking volunteers to do carpentry, painting, trail maintenance projects and yard work. **We need people to bring their own rakes, carpentry tools, gloves, bow saws, rollers, brushes, etc.** Camp has very limited equipment to supply to workers, but we will provide the necessary materials.

It has been a while since we had a real Spring Cleaning effort and your help is greatly appreciated. Further, there are always maintenance projects that need doing for the health and safety of our campers. Coffee, rolls and lunch will be provided. Summer camp begins Sunday, June 17, so the timing for our WORK BEE is perfect.

Please contact our Property Manager, Jeff Clark or J Marie Freis at 906-875-3697 by **May 29** and let us know how many will be coming from your congregation so we can food available for you and your group. We really need your help so please prayerfully consider bringing a group from your congregation.

This request comes from your "Place of Grace to Experience and Grow in Faith", Fortune Lake Lutheran Camp; and in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.


Dave Blomquist, Interim Di


Jeff Clark, Property Manager



Women & Kids Week

June 17-22

This intergenerational event, planned and conducted jointly by the Synod WELCA (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and Fortune Lake, is a fun blend of age graded and intergenerational activities.

Fellowship, spiritual growth, and recreation with other women and your children make this a unique personal and parental experience that brings campers back year after year! Camp staff lead daily Bible study sessions with children while adults gather with the WELCA chaplain for the week.

Women have the opportunity to be part of interesting and stimulating workshops while the young campers attend sessions patterned after our highly successful Day Camp. Afternoons provide a great chance to spend quality time enjoying your camp's wonderful recreational facilities and bonding with your children.

While staff provide child care in late afternoon and evening, mom's have the rare gift of adult fellowship which includes swim time, sauna, games, and lots of laughter!!

One of the truly appreciated benefits of Women and Kid's week to a mother is great food and no dishes to wash! Registration 3-5pm (Central) on Sunday and ends with lunch on Friday.



2007 Summer Schedule

“God is Calling”
is our 2007 summer theme

Women & Kids

June 17-22

Victory Camp

July 1-6; July 15-20

Mini Camp (completed grade 2)

July 1-3; July 5-7

Villager (completed grades 3-4)

June 24-29; July 8-13; July 15-20;

July 22-27

Vagabond (completed grades 5-6)

June 24-29; July 1-6; July 8-13;

July 15-20; July 22-27; July 29-

Aug 3

Valiant (completed grades 7-12)

July 8-13

Staff in Training (age 16 and up)

June 17-29

& optional July 1-6 or July 15-20

Family Camp

Aug 12-17

Day Watch

Monday-Friday; June 18-Aug 3

Inclusion Camp

Sunday-Wednesday

Call our office for details.

Special Weeks at Camp

Christmas in July

July 22-27

GraceJam: Trinity

Aug 3

Weeks are beginning to fill so call our office today for a registration form at 906-875-3697 or 877-569-4968.

MOTHER/CHILD/FRIEND DESSERT
Tuesday May 8th at 6:30 p.m.



Ashley Ormson, a NMU student, will be giving a power point presentation on her trip to Nicaragua. Ashley and MTU's Rachel Larson joined a Lutheran World Relief Project traveling to Central America for a look at fair-trade coffee issues.

Delicious desserts will be served by Martha and Mary circles. So come and join us for food and fellowship and don't forget to bring a friend. See you there!!

A WELCA MEMORY

"I think often about the women who are no longer with us who were such shining examples- Pearl Arola, Theresa Beerling, Catherine Lemin, Judy Bogren, Genevieve Moyle, Elsie Lundin, Willie Sodergren, Evelyn Blewett, Alice Boase, Jennie Goethe, Theone Strand, Evelyn Hammar, Hilda Holmgren, Ruth Hager, Helga Carlson, Bernice Hampton, Ruth Heavyside, Myrtle Holm, Dorothy Hosking, Vendla Larson, Marie Mayry, Virginia Martin, Shirley Niemela, June Pontti, Inez Simons, Ann Rex, Clara Seem, Marion Sundberg, Mildred Sundblad, Cathy Swanson, Ruby Vernquist, Ruth Berquist, Lillie Ball, Mabel Vivian, Ruth Carlson, Fannie Holmgren, Grace Jensen, Leona and Mable Nelson, Ruth Stolen, Dora Swanson and the list goes on. I can't forget my mom, Mildred Stone. All of these women helped me in my faith journey. Just recalling their names makes me feel good."

-Jean Johns

Looking ahead: Strawberry Social after church on July 15th



Women's Circles




Elizabeth Circle: standing: R. Drake, A. Spink, E. Carlson, N. Thomson, I. Brunson, M. Jacobstad; seated: V. Vandusen, M. Blass, M. Sandegren, J. Nelson.



How many have you seen? I. Brunson, E. Jacobstad, I. Nelson, I. Brunson.



Diocese Circle: standing: F. Rørd, E. Erickson, A. Basse, M. Virlan, A. Gordon, M. Carlson; seated: S. Carlson, S. Thorsen, E. Ball, L. Ball, S. Peterson, A. Drake, C. Lemlin, I. Brunson.



Paul and Barbara Circle: C. Wynn, C. Bakkef, B. Peterson, C. Amundsen, N. Olsen, seated: B. Sandegren.



Sam Circle: standing: J. Prett, J. August, B. Brown, M. Sandegren; seated: L. Holten, C. Spurr, A. Brunson.



General Membership: Front row: R. Skjott, L. Christensen, J. Gjerde, K.M. Ball; second row: G. Cox, C. Oja, N. Skjott; back row: F. Skjott, M. Skjott, J. Frølich, E. Skjott.



Low Circle: J. Skjott, B. Skjott, B. Skjott, B. Skjott, B. Skjott, B. Skjott, C. Skjott, F. Skjott, E. Skjott, B. Skjott, V. Skjott, A. Skjott.

May 7

- Pray for mothers.
- Give thanks for playgrounds, play dates, and play opportunities for individuals and families.
- Pray for all who care for children, advocate on their behalf, and monitor social services for those who need them.



May 14

- Pray for nurses, doctors, and all who provide health care services.
- Give thanks for daily bread, bread-winners, and those who grow the grains for bread.
- Pray for the presenter and participants in the [Bible study introduction](#) event at Wartburg Seminary.

May 21

- Pray for growth in your prayer life.
- Give thanks for the wisdom of experience and for those who have shared their wisdom with you.
- Pray for the presenter and participants in the [Bible study introduction](#) event at Luther Seminary.

May 28

- Pray for peace in our world.
- Give thanks for all who have served their country through military service.
 - Pray for government officials, policy makers, and all who determine the course of wars and military actions.



May 6 – Philip Wogaman – *No More Violence*

Luke 22:35-38

Have you ever wondered about the really complex question: “Why is it that the United States is both the most religious nation in the Western World and yet the most violent?” This edition of Grace Matters takes on the topic of our easy drift toward accepting lethal violence as a way of life. It is both a personal and national dilemma. [Philip Wogaman](#), ethicist and pastor to the Clinton family during their White House years, is guest on the program.



May 13 – Rick Steves – *Expanding Your World*

Luke 3:22

The best way to get to know other people is to meet them where they live their lives. We know this to be true from our local experience. [Rick Steves](#), popular travel host for Public Television, reminds us that it is also true globally. Inspired by the personal belief that “this planet is full of equally precious people,” Steves knows well how to connect his two vocations of being a Christian believer and a travel teacher. It’s a winning combination, as you’ll discover from his passion for being a thoughtful traveler.

May 20 – Rob Owen – *The Limits of Celebrity Worship*

Matthew 20:20-23

[Rob Owen](#) is the president of the National Association of Television Critics, a group of journalists who regularly size up the state of television programming, from the appropriateness of individual show ratings to awards for those shows deemed excellent. Owen also sees his fair share of celebrity gossip and celebrity worship. In a world where most of us have a tendency to want to associate with others whose lives appear more exciting and glamorous than our own, celebrity worship has its limits. Life in Christ has its reasons why. That’s all in this edition of Grace Matters.

May 27 – Don Saliers/Emily Saliers – *Saturday Night & Sunday Morning*

1 Corinthians 2:9

In a day when many people don’t know how to make sense of Saturday night folk, pop, or rock music alongside of Sunday morning sacred music, it helps to hear how one family weaves the two realms together. Both secular and sacred music can have a meaningful place in our lives. One doesn’t have to love one genre of music and hate the other. [Emily Saliers](#), lead singer with the Indigo Girls, and her father, [Don Saliers](#), a church musician and professor of Christian worship, do a masterful job of connecting music and spirituality

Grace Matters airs on Sunny 101.9 at 7:30 Sunday mornings.

Kids - Did you know?



- Christ is with you always.
- Jesus went to heaven 40 days after Easter on a day called Ascension Day.
- Christ's body is not with us, but his spirit is with us everywhere.



Bible Verse to memorize

“Remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20 NRSV).

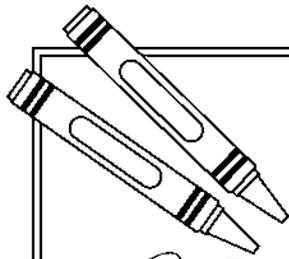
These were Christ's last words to his friends

Bring your quarters on May 6 & 13 to help end World Hunger.



Kids in Sunday School will have a special musical presentation on May 13 during the 10:30 worship service in honor of Mother's Day.





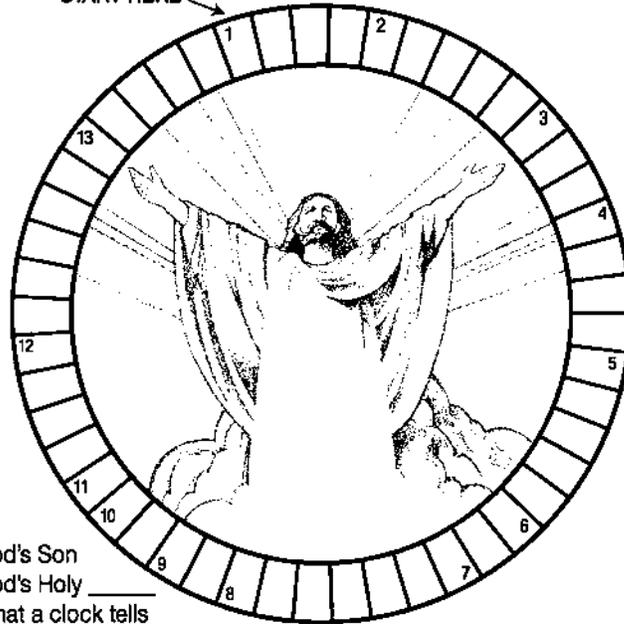
Just for **KIDS**

Ascension of the Lord

On the day Jesus left his disciples and went up in a cloud to heaven, he said to them, "I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you." (John 14:18, KJV).

Read the clues below. The last letter of each word is the beginning of the next word.

START HERE →



- | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. God's Son | 9. Modern word for thee |
| 2. God's Holy _____ | 10. Opposite of down |
| 3. What a clock tells | 11. Authority or strength |
| 4. Our planet | 12. Comes back |
| 5. Where Jesus is now | 13. Searches for |
| 6. Opposite of Old Testament | |
| 7. An onlooker | |
| 8. Place to see clouds | |

Answers:
(1) Jesus; (2) Spirit; (3) time; (4) Earth; (5) heaven; (6) new; (7) witness; (8) sky;
(9) you; (10) up; (11) power; (12) returns; (13) seeks



Council Highlights

- Received Thank you's from Campus Ministry, Fortune Lake and from the Synod
- Pastor and Dan Argall will form an Intern Committee that will have a diverse representation of the congregation
- Pastor reported Trinity is enthused about shared ministry in Ishpeming. Discussion about inviting other churches to outdoor picnic which is 2nd Sunday in July.
- Pastor will be on vacation April 23 to May 2.
- Pastor, Kathy Geier, and Bob Nadeau will be delegates to Synod Assembly May 18, 19, and 20.
- Bethany will be the host church for the ecumenical Hunger Walk which will take place the weekend of Sept. 29 or Oct. 13. Peter Johnson from Trinity is in charge.
- Money from the Lenten Soup Suppers was designated for the Pastor's Discretionary fund.



Pastor Geier recently received word that Bethany's new intern will be Luke Smetters from Lake Forest, Illinois.

Congratulations!!!

- Mindy Harrington was selected as the Student of the Quarter at Aspen Ridge.
- Honor Roll Students: Kellie Clark, Tori Nault, Samantha Pellonpaa, Erick Pohlman, Sara Ombrello, Seth Bjerne



World Hunger



Bring Your Quarters to Help End World Hunger

The World Hunger Subcommittee of the Northern Great Lakes Synod is asking all congregations to save quarters for World Hunger! A basket will be available in the narthex for the first two Sundays in May for us to fill with our donations. Pastor Geier will bring Bethany's contributions to the Synod Assembly and the total amount collected will be announced.



Bring your quarters May 6 & 13.

The **Memorial Committee** would like to thank all those who contributed to the Memorial Fund in honor of:



Robert "Pinky" Anderson

www.bethanyishpeming.org





It's Time to Order Geraniums for Pentecost Sunday

I will be ordering geraniums for Pentecost Sunday which is May 27. Please check the bulletin for the next three weeks to place your order. The cost is \$3.00 per plant. The deadline to order plants is Monday, May 14. Please consider leaving your geranium/s to be planted outside. Thanks so much!! - Sue Holmgren

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!

Allen and I want to thank everyone for helping us celebrate his 80th birthday. We thank the ladies of the Church for their hard work and everyone who helped make Allen's party so great.

May God bless all of you!
Allen & Gerry Maki

The Old Family Bible

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he held in his hand was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

"Mama, look what I found!" the boy called out.

"What have you got there, dear?" asked his mother.

The young boy answered in a voice hushed with awe, "I think it's Adam's underwear."



Keep In Your Prayers

- Nick Chartre
- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents: June Bjorne, Teckla Holmgren, Barbara Crabb, Marvin Nadeau, Clyde Jago (Jacobetti), Pearl Forchini (Mather), and Martha Ulrickson (Mather)
- Loreth Johnson
- Family and friends of Robert “Pinky” Anderson
- Family and friends of Harold Kellan
- Delegates to Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly
- Family and friends of the victims of the Virginia Tech shooting
- Pastor Geier and Kathy for their safe travel
- Those in the military



Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate Are Available at Bethany

Café Salvador Coffee \$4.75 / box
Organic Decaf Coffee \$5.25 / box
All teas \$2.50 / box
Hot cocoa \$4.00 / container
Organic chocolate bar \$2.00 / bar

From Small Farmers With Love

Planning Ahead...

June 17-22 Women & Kids Week @Fortune Lake
July - Church picnic
July - Strawberry Social
August/Sept. - Arrival of intern



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

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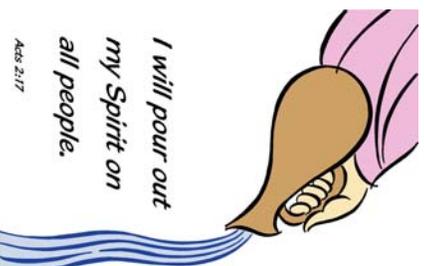
Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
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Asst. Exec. Director, Ted Swanson
Christian Education, Brent Clark
Evangelism, Paul Sandstrom
Finance, Cheryl Sleeman
Personnel, Sandee Sundquist
Property, Jerry Plaisier
Social Ministry, Marian Medlyn
Stewardship, Kathy Harrington
Worship & Music, Dan Argall
Council Youth Member, Sarah Kinnunen

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*I will pour out
my Spirit on
all people.*

Acts 2:17