



FOCUS AT FIRST

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May 2008



Recognition of our 2008 high school graduates will be on **Sunday, May 18th** at the **8:30am service**. There will be a brunch for only the graduating seniors and their families following the service hosted by families of this year's junior class. Congratulations and best wishes to the graduating members of First Lutheran.



5TH GRADERS: Join us on Sunday, May 4th at the 8:30 service to receive the new Bibles that you'll use for your Confirmation studies in the fall!

It's SPRING CLEAN UP TIME and we've got just the workers to help you! The Youth and chaperones who will be going on the canoe trip this summer are raising funds for the trip and offering their "**Youth For Hire**" program. Contact Lissette Ritchie at 837-1446 for more information or to schedule a project.

IS YOUR COLLEGE STUDENT GRADUATING THIS SPRING? Please take a moment to let us know in the office so that we can update their information and congratulate them too!

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WE'RE LOOKING FOR a male attendee for the Synod Assembly! This year's theme is Book of Faith: Lutherans Read the Bible featuring Diane Jacobson as keynote speaker. Assembly dates are May 30-31 at UW –Eau Claire. If you're interested please contact the church office or speak with one of the pastors.

Afternoon Fellowship:
**HIS MASTER'S VOICE:
A K-9 OFFICER & HIS BEST FRIEND**

Wednesday, May 21st
See page 5 for more details!

**It's Time for the
Annual Youth-Sponsored
Garage Sale!**

Friday & Saturday,
May 16 & 17

Watch your bulletin and LutherGram emails for more details!



**SUMMER SCHEDULE
BEGINS MAY 25**

On Sunday, May 25, the summer schedule changes to one worship service at **9:00am**. Saturday worship continues each week at 5:30.

ANOTHER WAY TO HELP THE BARRON THRIFT STORE AND FOOD PANTRY! They appreciate your donations, but are in need of more space to expand their store. A request has been posted online through MyHomeTownHelper (<http://www.myhometownhelper.com/ViewProject.aspx?tell=1&id=43887>) to help with the purchase of a building to make this possible. Please post your request online too and help fulfill this need!



REFLECTIONS FROM Pastor Lisa

On Sunday, April 13, I attended a service for the closing of a church at Bethel Lutheran in North Minneapolis. Bethel is the church where I did my internship year and where I was ordained. It was somewhat like attending the funeral of a beloved family member who has had a long and successful life. It was sad, but it was also a celebration of a church that had, for over 95 years, faithfully followed God's will for them.

In 1912, the founding members and pastor broke off from a larger Lutheran congregation to begin a new church. They felt that God was calling them to reach out into their community more than they could in their old congregation. That mission of outreach shaped their entire history to the very end. I don't think I'm exaggerating when I say this – but hundreds, if not thousands, of people heard the gospel and felt the touch of God's love through Bethel. The word "bethel" means "house of God" and all people were welcome in God's house. They might even have been welcomed with a huge hug when they came in the door. Their theme song eventually became "Love Grows Here" and it was true. Over the years the congregation sponsored missionary groups to start Sunday schools in various areas of the outskirts of the city of Minneapolis. At least one of those Sunday schools resulted in a church being founded in that place. Amazingly, eleven sons and daughters of the congregation felt the call to ordained ministry. Unknowingly, I even took communion from one of them at a church in Jerusalem when I was there on a study trip years before my internship. Bethel's influence was, and is, worldwide.

Even at the very end, the legacy continues. With the passing of years, the community surrounding the church radically changed. With the aging of its membership and small numbers, they could no longer effectively reach out, so the decision was reluctantly made to close. Substantial gifts are planned to a number of ministries that reflect their history: Luther Park in Danbury, WI which they helped found as part of the old Augustana Synod years ago; Luther Seminary for a endowed scholarship since so many sons and daughters became pastors; the Minneapolis Synod for a program to start new ministries of outreach; and various local ministries like the food shelf. The congregation that is buying the church building reflects the changed community more closely, and they are considering the name "New Bethel" because of the significance of Bethel's history, and the desire to also be a "house of God."

I am amazed when I think about the history and the ministry of this little Swedish Lutheran church. They followed God's calling to reach out and faithfully did so even to the disbursement of the last pennies. None of them knew what the future held, but they knew that God walked with them every step of the way. Their faithfulness resulted in many hearing the Gospel and coming to faith. Their faithfulness brought food to the hungry and clothing to the naked. If a congregation as a whole would come before Jesus on the last day, they would most definitely hear, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Goodbye good friend. You will be missed, but never forgotten.

May we all be as faithful as Bethel!

Pastor Lisa

The Food Pantry & Thrift Store are always in need of your donations. With summer break soon upon us, the Food Pantry could use some additional resources. Please be as generous as you can!

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the formal communion liturgy of the ELCA the pastor sings or says, "It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God." We have learned that in a special way that happens when we assemble for

congregational worship. I believe those words capture so much of the meaning of worship in our life as God's people.

Worship is a joy. Gathered together by the Holy Spirit we are given weekly opportunity to sing God's praises. We are empowered and comforted by the readings from the Bible. Through those same readings we are challenged to change our sinful ways and experience the new life God wants us to have. In the preaching of God's word we are given guidance and inspiration to live as disciples of Jesus. In Holy Communion we are forgiven our failures and strengthened to follow where our Lord Jesus leads the way.

Yes, worship is a joy, but it is also our duty as God's people.

It is a central and crucial part of the work we are called to do as members of the body of Christ. We may choose not to be a quilter or a member of the Altar Guild. We may determine that belonging to a circle or singing in the choir isn't for us, but worship isn't optional. It is at the very heart of our identity. Because we are baptized in the name of the Triune God, we are expected regularly to hear God's word and to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We all made that commitment on the day of our confirmation.

We are called and expected to worship God all year round, the summer included. This summer the congregation has voted to try a different worship schedule. **The Saturday evening service will remain at its regular 5:30 p.m. time. On Sundays there will be only one service beginning at 9:00. This summer schedule begins on Memorial Day Weekend (May 25) and ends on Labor Day Weekend (August 31.)**

I plead with you to take seriously the joy and the duty of worship. When we prayerfully hold the two together, we are more complete in our walk with God. See you at worship!

Pastor Bruce Beyer

P.S. As we head toward summer, we have traditionally experienced a cash flow problem that isn't resolved until the end of the year. Last summer we did a better job of keeping current in our giving to the church. **Let's have a repeat performance!** It will be greatly appreciated.

EVERY WEEK bulletins are delivered to the nursing homes and to many of our members who are home-bound. This has become a very meaningful experience and is so much more personal than mailing the bulletins. We need a new coordinator for this ministry. If you can help, please call the church office at 537-3575.



**Minutes of the Congregational Council
March 17, 2008**

Members Present: Clarice Fall, Jason Erb, Judy Amundson, Pastor Lisa Shank, Barb Swant, Paul Amundson, Terry Jergenson, Joe Johnson, Marvin Organ, Pastor Bruce Beyer, Michelle Davis, Carla Nordby, George Unteriner, Ardis Ress, Gayle Larson, Cathy Anderson. Excused Absence: Rod Wieneri, Lissette Ritchie

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm by the council president, Clarice Fall. Devotions were given by Cathy Anderson.

The secretary's report was approved with corrections by a motion from Ardis Ress and a second by Michelle Davis. The motion carried.

The treasurer's report was reviewed. Offerings YTD are ahead of budget. Expenses are in line and our current cash position is very good. Discussion as held regarding the payment for the furnace for the Edgewood parsonage. The cost of the furnace was \$2,200.00. Jason Erb made a motion that we pay for the furnace out of the maintenance account. Gayle Larson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Joe Johnson is requesting communication from the Turkey Dinner Trust Fund regarding expenses for remodeling the Edgewood parsonage. The bills are currently being paid from the general fund. Expenses need to be confirmed prior to being properly paid from the trust fund. Clarice Fall will accumulate the information and provide it to Joe. He also needs the same information from the Radio Broadcast trust fund.

A motion as made by Marvin Organ to accept the treasurer's report and it was seconded by Jason Erb. The motion carried unanimously.

Old Business: Michelle Davis checked on our insurance position regarding the purchase of a van or other vehicle. The premium on a 10 year old 15 passenger van would be about \$600.00 annually. If we were to rent and not own the vehicle would be covered by the current insurance. If borrowed and used sporadically we would also be covered.

After discussion it was proposed that the Youth committee determine if they want to continue pursuing the purchase of a vehicle. The council supports the rental option until cost would justify the actual purchase of a vehicle.

New business: The Synod Assembly will be held in Eau Claire, May 30 & 31. We can send 3 delegates. Registration is due April 4th. Please check your calendars to determine if you are available to attend.

Committee Reports:

- Vision Team - will be meeting soon. It has been one year and a new set of 30 congregational members will be surveyed to determine concerns and progress.
- Be-Frienders training is continuing. There are 2 sessions left.
- Multi-medical: Audio Architects has submitted two proposals. One with 2 projectors with screens above the organ pipes (\$22,715) and one less expensive (\$13,150) with one projector above the organ. The projectors would have 2 inputs, one in the front of the Sanctuary and one in the back. There was long discussion regarding the "look" of the church. The screen is 5' x 7' wide. We currently have \$10,000 towards this project. It was suggested that we ask for churches of reference to determine if quality, use and expectations were met when their systems were installed.
- Discussion was held regarding the telephone ministry and the availability of lines. People have been getting the busy signal when they dial in. For a \$100.00 fee and \$30.00 per month 24 more lines could be added. Checking to see if there are memorials available to cover this cost.
- W/ELCA has a new group starting with 11 members.
- Youth Group—has questions regarding the Trust Fund payment for the Canoe Trip. There are 17 youth signed up and 4 adults. SHYG Fest has received positive response from those that attended.

Pastors' Reports:

- Pastor Beyer - a motion was made by Jason Erb and seconded by Marvin Organ to accept Katherine Funk and Jim Sedarski as new members of the congregation. The motion carried unanimously. We have received a request from Luther Park Bible Camp to visit and present information on stewardship. They are looking for support for the camp. Gayle Larson made a motion to invite them to our church, the timing to be prior to our own stewardship drive. This motion as seconded by Judy Amundson. A request was made for the council to make an effort to attend the Holy Week services as leaders of the church.
- Pastor Shank - Completed the adult membership training with Katherine and Jim.

The meeting was concluded with the Lord's Prayer



OUR TELEPHONE MINISTRY is becoming more popular every month. By dialing 837-4122 it is possible to listen to all worship services, weddings, and funerals. Recently we have been informed that some people have received a busy signal when they dialed the number. This means that our twenty-four lines are being used. If you have had this happen to you, please call the church office at 537-3575 and tell us about your experience. The church council is determining if we should be spending an additional \$30 per month to have twenty-four more lines available.

Afternoon Fellowship: **HIS MASTER'S VOICE:
A K-9 OFFICER & HIS BEST FRIEND**

Ever wondered what life was like for a K-9 dog? Here's your chance to find out.

On Wednesday, May 21, our guest will be Ure, a 5-year-old K-9 dog born and raised in France. He will be accompanied by his master, Tony Tasch. Ure is the possession of the Brown County Sheriff's Department and the daily companion of Tony, who has been with the Brown County department since 1995.

Tasch has 18 years experience in law enforcement. His career began in 1990 as a patrolman in narcotics detection for the Wisconsin Rapids police force. He remained there as a patrolman for five years. In 1995 he transferred to Brown County and for the past six years has been in its K-9 unit. That unit presently has four dogs, two of which are Tony's personally, including Ure.

Tony is at all Packer games, generally accompanied by Ure. Together they attend many Badger games. Tony and his companions have been at the scene for about forty visits to keep our Presidents safe.

Ure is a dual-purpose dog, which means he has a "bomb nose" for detecting explosives. And, contrary to Madison, Milwaukee and Appleton K-9 dogs, Ure bites! Or at least knows how! Single-purpose dogs don't. Like others like him, dual-purpose dogs are trained to track wind scents and do building searches. (Maybe he'll tell us about the time it looked like someone in the high school band was up to no good!)

Tony is a very interesting guy in his own right and will keep us on the edges of our chairs with stories. (The writer of this article can attest to that.) He will bring his "swat stuff" for show and tell, consisting of his sub gun, tactical vest, helmet, etc. And he will appear fully uniformed.

Tasch, who does presentations such as this frequently, said his demonstrations begin with autobiographical information, followed by the dog's bio. Then audience participation for K-9 demonstrations.

The program will be in the morning, beginning at 9:00 with a reception and a chance to meet "them." His formal presentation will begin at 10:00. There will be ample chance to hear his stories and ask him questions. There will be a free-will offering which is being designated for the Brown County Sheriff's Department's K-9 unit.



Second Annual Congregational Survey

In May of 2007 the Vision Team administered a survey, developed by the Natural Church Development process, to a focus group of 30 congregational members. Feedback from this instrument yielded the advice and direction that our Team's work and focus should be in the area of passionate spirituality. In keeping with the NCD process, a second annual survey will be administered on May 18, 2008 to another (new) congregational focus group (once again consisting of 30 individuals). Potential participants will be contacted during the first two weeks of May. It is hoped that they all say "Yes!" when asked to lend their opinion. We thank those who will be participants, in advance, for their contributions to this valuable process. The work that began a year ago has resulted in effective new strategies by several committees and groups in the church. We look forward to what will arise out of this ongoing work. The Vision Team (Rob Davis, Carolyn Verhulst, Terry Miller, Sally Ellison, Len Meysembourg, Terry Jergensen, Sharon Nelsen)

Sunday School, Vacation Bible School & Youth Activities

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS FROM BONNIE:

Fifth Graders: Join us on Sunday, May 4th at the 8:30 service to receive your new Bibles!

Sunday School is drawing to a close with the **last day being May 18th**. We thank the following teachers for everything that they have done for our children!

Alaethea LaLiberty
Sandra Cecka-Kraft
Kayla Stoeklen
Chris Malone
Jacob Sinclair
Valeri Scheps
Lynne Kolpack

Emma Babler
Sheila Erb
Brenda Haag
Terry Jergenson
Bill Koser
Judy Folstad
Sara Kolpack

Kendra & Kevin Wettig
Alanna Hanson
Michelle Boe
Blaine Sinclair
Susan Babler
Lorri Hinde

And all the others who have helped by providing snacks, substituting, helping in the office, and many other projects. YOU are greatly appreciated by the Sunday School and the children you teach!

With the end of Sunday School we begin looking at summer activities for our students....

We will be having **Vacation Bible School** for 3 year olds through Fifth Grade (any one that has finished Fifth can come) **July 7th through 11th**. The registration form is available on pages 7 and 8.

We need your help! The Education Dept. is asking for help with the Vacation Bible School program. Please talk to Heidi Verhulst at 637-5130 or Bonnie Hilbert at 637-9339 if you can help. Be on the lookout for a posting of items that you can bring, too!

Thanks for a great school year - we're looking forward to a fun-filled summer!

LUTHER PARK BIBLE CAMP: We have selected the week of July 20-25 for Confirmation Camp, but Elementary and Middle School programming is available for other weeks. Brochures are available in Luther Hall. First Lutheran will pay one half of the cost for any camper up to \$150. Each confirmation student is required to attend a week-long camp at least one time while in confirmation. Any questions, please speak to one of the pastors.

SWYG

SWYG WILL BE MEETING here at the church at 5:30pm on Wednesday, May 14th to perform some outdoor clean-up. Please bring rakes and work gloves, and wear comfortable clothes. After our chores we're having uptown pizza.



Senior High Graduation Recognition Sunday is May 18th!

We ask that the Seniors join us for worship at the 8:30 service.

You and your family are also invited to a brunch in your honor hosted by your friends in the Junior Class!

Seniors and Juniors both be on the look out for more information.

FIRST LUTHERAN VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

**JULY 7-11, 2008
8:30 TO 12:00**



DEAR PARENTS,

WE'RE HOSTING OUR OWN VBS PROGRAM THIS YEAR! CHILDREN AGES 3 THROUGH 5TH GRADES ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A FUN-FILLED MORNING (FROM 8:30 TO 12:00) OF SONGS, CRAFTS, SNACKS AND LEARNING ABOUT JESUS! BRING A FRIEND! THERE IS NO FEE - WE JUST ASK THAT ON THE FIRST DAY YOU BRING AN ITEM FOR THEIR SNACK. A LIST OF ITEMS NEEDED FOR THE WEEK WILL BE ON THE BOARD IN LUTHER HALL IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP DONATE THINGS FOR THE CRAFTS. WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR HELPERS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP PLEASE CONTACT HIEDI VERHULST AT 637-5130 OR BONNIE HILBERT AT 637-9339 FOR MORE INFORMATION. THANKS FOR SHARING YOUR CHILD AND YOUR TALENTS!

ON THE BACK OF THIS LETTER IS A GROUP REGISTRATION FORM - ONLY ONE FORM PER FAMILY IS NECESSARY. PLEASE FILL IT OUT AND RETURN IT TO THE CHURCH A.S.A.P.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN THE MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION BELOW

MY CHILDREN, LISTED HERE _____

HAVE PERMISSION TO TAKE PART IN VBS DAY CAMP ON _____

LED BY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF FIRST LUTHERAN.

IN THE EVENT I CANNOT BE REACHED IN AN EMERGENCY, I GIVE THE VBS PERSONNEL PERMISSION TO SEEK MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR MY CHILD(REN).

(PARENT'S SIGN)

(DOCTOR'S NAME)

(INSURANCE CARRIER)



FAMILY REGISTRATION
July 7 – 11, 2008
8:30 to 12:00

Please fill out one form per family This will ensure we get all the correct information. Thank You

FAMILY INFORMATION

Family Lastname _____
Parent's firstname(s) _____
Address _____
City _____
Zip _____
Phone _____ Alt. _____
Congregation _____
Date of VBS _____

CHILD 1

=====

First name _____
Last name _____
Grade _____
Birthdate _____
Sex _____

CHILD 2

=====

First name _____
Last name _____
Grade _____
Birthdate _____
Sex _____

CHILD 3

=====

First name _____
Last name _____
Grade _____
Birthdate _____
Sex _____

CHILD 4

=====

First name _____
Last name _____
Grade _____
Birthdate _____
Sex _____

CHILD 5

=====

First name _____
Last name _____
Grade _____
Birthdate _____
Sex _____

Hello Everyone!

April has been a busy month! We started this spring month with a Day of Renewal at Trinity in Birchwood on the 5th. Those in attendance said the program was refreshing and revitalizing.

We also thank Barb Swant, Ruth Anderson and Bjorn Anderson for sharing with us their thoughts and songs centered around the 23rd Psalm. A beautiful program.

The Circle of Friends met for the first time this Month. What a great time we had getting to know each other and sharing our thoughts on the surprise of God's grace. Anyone (and everyone) is still welcome to join us the third Wednesday of every month as we continue our book study. If you'd like to see our study there's an extra copy in the library for you to look at.

Finally there is a group of ladies attending the W/ELCA Synodical meeting in Eau Claire on the 25th & 26th. I can't wait to hear what they discovered there!

Next month we ask you to join us for our May program on the 7th at 1:30 when we'll hear about God's Garden. Join us!
Spring blessings to you!

- Michelle Davis, W/ELCA President

**WOMEN OF THE ELCA
BIBLE STUDY PREPARATION:
"EXPLORING BIBLICAL WISDOM STORIES:
RUTH, DANIEL 1-6 AND ESTHER"**

*A prep class being offered at the Luther Seminary
Monday, June 2 from 1-8:30pm
and Tuesday, June 3 from 8:30am-12:30pm
Cost is \$60*

*Pastor Lisa is interested in attending -
would you like to go with her?
Please let her know by Sunday, May 11th
so that registration can be taken care of.*

Duties this month:

Mission Correspondence: Pledge Circle

Communion Assistants: Faith Circle

Kitchen Maintenance: Cindy Kucko & Joan Kuehndorf

Care of Altar: *Donna Jones, Ardis Ress, Tamy Severude

LutheranWoman Bible Study "Blessings in the Midst of Suffering." This is our last study and is based on Matthew 5:10-12.

Suggested opener for the study is the hymn "Blest be the tie that Binds. This hymn was often sung around the car when a Cameroun Missionary was leaving on home leave to U.S. or Canada. It was sun in Gbaya not English! It was translated "We Rest With One Heart." Please read Psalm 27 and claim verse 13 "I believe that I Shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living." Other short chapters are on:

"The One blessing becomes the one blessed."

"The Ones blessed become the ones blessing."

"Works of mercy, Responses to blessing"

Please read Matthew 25:31-46.

This summer we have a 3 session Bible Study, "Come to the Waters."



MISSION GLOBAL:

\$1750 has arrived in Cameroun from Barron and will be used for malnourished children and orphans. I'll be sending money again the first of May so Mr. James Noss can put it to use in the Hunger Fund before he leaves to retire. He and his wife Karen will be traveling with their youngest son, Paul, and also Mr. Phil Nelson.

- Lorraine Haugen



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The food pantry needs our help re-stocking their shelves! Various canned and dry goods, and personal items are all needed. Cash donations are always welcomed. Simply make your check payable to the Barron Area Food Pantry and drop in the collection plate or leave in the church office.

- Heidi Verhulst, Mission Community



MISSION ACTION:

Let's fill the soap barrel!

The soap is sent to Lutheran World Relief. When you are shopping please pick some soap to donate.

There are bags by the stairs to collect items for Health Kits. Items needed are listed on the bags. If you would like to donate extra items it is much appreciated.

Please continue to save Campbell Soup labels.
Thank you for your help with these projects!

THRIVENT TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

All matinees. All buses 56 passengers.

Thrivent subsidy to be determined.

Our chapter consists of three counties: Barron, Rusk & Taylor.

Until further notice, pre-registrations can be changed or cancelled at any time.



CHURCH BASEMENT LADIES II – A Second Helping

Play at the Plymouth Playhouse.

Dinner at adjacent Green Mill Restaurant.

Three buses have been reserved:

Saturday, October 11. At present only 11 pre-registrations.

This could be subject to cancellation.

Wednesday, October 15. Only 6 seats remain. A waitlist will be developed.

Thursday, October 16. Pre-registrations number 29 at this point.

THE CHRISTMAS WINDOW

Play at North Heights Lutheran Church.

Matinees. Probably 1:00p.

Play at North Heights Lutheran Church.

If available, lunch at NHLC new fast-food restaurant.

Two buses have been reserved:

Saturday, December 6. Pre-registrations number 7 at this point.

Saturday, December 13. Pre-registrations number 27 at this point.



* * * * *

You need not be either a Thrivent member or a Lutheran to get on the bus. The price will be less, of course, for Thrivent members. But it's easy to get a family associate membership for \$10.00 a year – whether Lutheran or not.



Are you a fan of the Mitford series by Jan Karon? She now has written the first of the Father Tim series, Home to Holly Springs. Father Tim Kavaagh left his home town in Holly

Springs, Mississippi 38 years ago and never planned on going back. One day he receives a handwritten, unsigned note from Holly Springs with the message "Come Home". These two words started him on a very disturbing journey. "In this first of Father Tim novels, Jan Karon takes her celebrated Mitford character to territory he has long avoided, the uncharted territory of family, giving us a spellbinding narrative laced with wisdom and forgiveness only a trip back home can inspire". This journey leads him to a truth that will change his life forever.

We invite you to visit our library - we have many interesting books!



Free Blood Pressure

Checks! Some of the medical providers in our congregation are volunteering their time between services on the

second Sunday of each month to provide this service and Pastor Beyer has offered the use of his office for your privacy. Mark it on your calendar today!



EARLY DETECTION SAVES LIVES. Pink Ribbon Advocacy, Inc. will pay the out-of-pocket cost of mammograms of Barron County Residents.

Call 537-1400. Pink Ribbon Advocacy, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing funds to Barron County residents for uninsured expenses relating to breast cancer diagnosis and treatment.

More information can be found at www.pinkribbonadvocacy.org.

**GATHERED TOGETHER
BY THE SPIRIT**

GENERAL FUND OFFERING

2008 Budget	\$326,800.00
Received This Week	
Needed Year to Date	68,890.00
Received Year to Date	
	+

REPAIR AND DEBT FUND

Received Year to Date	
Needed Year to Date	

The numbers were not available at print time

MEMORIAL & HONOR GIFTS

- In memory of Hazel Blihovde
For the "Undesignated Fund" \$25

- In memory of Goldie Newman
For the Telephone Ministry Fund..... \$5

- In memory of Cora Heil
For the Repair & Debt Fund \$10
For the Undesignated Fund..... \$50

- In memory of Ruth Berg
For the Telephone Ministry Fund..... \$20

- In memory of Helen Larson
For the ELW Hymnal Fund \$70
For the Debt Retirement Fund \$70
For the Altar Guild \$30

- In memory of Richard Degerman
For the Debt Retirement Fund \$10
For the ELW Hymnal Fund \$95

RADIO BROADCASTS

- May 4: In memory of George & Audrey Miller
By their daughters.

- May 11: A gift from Arnold and Gladys Ellison

- May 18: by Clifton & Gladys Hansen
In Honor of Their 32nd Wedding Anniversary

- May 25: In memory of Alf Rasmussen On What
Would Have Been His 90th Birthday.

FUNERALS

- Helen Larson.....04.07.08
- Iver Cross Funeral04.14.08

THANKS GO A GENEROUS "START-UP GIFT" there is now a First Lutheran ELCA Scholarship Fund. It is designed to encourage our members to attend ELCA Colleges, Universities, and Seminaries. Soon there will be more information about how students can apply for financial aid. If others wish to contribute to this fund, please talk to Pastor Beyer.

Thank you notes to W/ELCA.....

- Thank you for your memorial for Richard Degerman, given to world mission. - The family of Richard
- ... Thank you for remembering my mother. It was appreciated. - Tony Slagstad
- ... Thank you kindly for the memorial you gave on our Mom's behalf. She would've enjoyed that immensely. - The family of Hazel Blihovde.

Thank you notes to our congregation.....

- ... Thanks for the prayers, cards and concerns during my time of illness. Also, special thanks to Pastor Lisa for hospital visits and prayers. - Gladys Ellison
- ... We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for remembering Helen at this time. We have many fond memories of Helen and have thoroughly enjoyed hearing a few stories about her over the past couple of weeks. I think we know where Tony got his sense of humor! We received many beautiful flowers, cards, memorials and food in her honor. Please be aware that the memorial funds will be shared with First Lutheran Church of Barron, Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek and with the local Barron Food Pantry. Again, thank you very much for taking the time to remember Helen. Sincerely, Tony & Deb Slagstad and Family

First Lutheran Tornado Response Plan

When a tornado or severe weather is approaching, people have only a short time to make very important decisions. The danger signs of a tornado include:

1. An approaching cloud of debris can mark the location of a tornado even if a funnel is not visible.
2. Before a tornado hits, winds may die down and air become very still.
3. Tornadoes generally occur near the trailing edge of a thunderstorm. It is not uncommon to see clear, sunlit skies behind a tornado.

Know the difference between a **Tornado Watch** and **Warning**:

1. A tornado watch is issued by the National Weather Service when tornadoes are possible in your area. Stay alert for approaching storms.
2. A tornado warning is issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar.

TORNADO RESPONSE PROCEDURES

During a **Tornado Warning** (or Severe Storm) in the Barron area, please follow these procedures:

- ◇ If time permits: close all doors and windows
- ◇ Go immediately to the sub-basement. Those who are unable to go to the basement should go to the Celebration (Red Carpet) Room.
- ◇ If cell phones or cordless phones are available, please bring to the basement.
- ◇ Teachers need to account for all the children in their class.
- ◇ Children need to stay with their teachers until a parent/guardian is present.
- ◇ The Director of Education, or her substitute needs to check the bathrooms are empty.
- ◇ During a tornado, get in a crouched position, using your arms to protect your head.
- ◇ First Aid supplies, battery powered radio, and flashlights, bottles of water and snacks are stored in the sub-basement.

After the tornado:

- ◇ First Lutheran's Volunteer Disaster Response/First Aid Team will offer first aid attention to injured people until help arrives. If needed, call 9-1-1 for help.
- ◇ Listen to the radio for follow-up information to help determine when it is safe to return home.
- ◇ Use the telephone only for emergency calls.
- ◇ First Lutheran's Disaster Response Team will assess the church for damage.

Training:

All Sunday School Teachers will receive training on 1st Lutheran's Tornado Response Plan and Procedures at the beginning of each Sunday School year. Parents and guardians will receive a copy of this procedure.

Plan Review:

The Social Concerns Committee and the Church Council have reviewed this plan. They will review the plan annually and will convey any changes to the Sunday School Teachers and Congregation. Please contact a Church Council member for questions.

May 4, 2008

Bruce Campbell – Letter-Writing from the Heart

2 Corinthians 3:3

Otolaryngology is an important word, but a mouthful to pronounce. It happens to be shorthand for that branch of medicine that deals with ear, nose, and throat. Dr. Bruce Campbell, head and neck surgeon at the Medical College of Wisconsin, “sees it all” on the cancer ward where he works and in the classrooms where he teaches. Campbell practices a particular kind of medicine that includes a thoughtful inclusion of his own personal faith. His patients are the direct beneficiaries.

May 11, 2008

Jules and Gedeon Naudet – Terror and Faith

1 John 4:18

Jules and Gedeon are a pair of French-born brothers who enjoy working together. They also happen to be award-winning filmmakers. Not only did they produce the acclaimed documentary “9/11,” containing the only known footage of the first plane striking the first tower of the World Trade Center, they followed that up with a documentary on faith, entitled: “In God’s Name.” This edition of Grace Matters explores the place of terror in American public and private life, and the role of the Christian faith as a response.

May 18, 2008

Wayne Muller – The Rhythm of the Christian Life

Deuteronomy 5:12

According to Holy Scripture, God built rhythm into the universe. Work and rest were meant to be fair players with one another. Something happened to this rhythm along the way, however. Rest got bumped to the periphery and work assumed center stage. Author and minister Wayne Muller reflects on how effectively we keep – and do not keep – the Sabbath commandment. Host Peter Marty looks at the distinctive rhythm of the Christian life.

May 25, 2008

Stephen Prothero – Religious Illiteracy

John 13:17

Stephen Prothero has conducted an interesting study of religious literacy in America. What he has found is that while many people have a deep faith and a gut sense of spirituality, their Biblical and religious knowledge is very scant. In other words, their faith is formed more on feeling and sentiment than accurate knowledge of valued sources. Prothero is chair of the religion department at Boston University and author of the book Religious Literacy.

Is yours an evangelizing congregation? Are you adept at reaching out to your neighborhood and community with the Good News of Jesus Christ? Augsburg Fortress has a good assessment tool to help measure your congregation's effectiveness in evangelism and to determine which areas might be enhanced or strengthened. This tool takes into consideration four areas of effective congregational evangelism to determine where your congregation can grow in its mission emphasis right outside of your front door:

Hospitality and Response: *I was a stranger and you welcomed me. Matthew 25:35*

- † Preparing the congregation to receive and welcome
- † Providing hospitality in worship and congregational life
- † Providing intentional follow-up and response

Discipleship and Incorporation Evangelism: *As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him. Colossians 2:6-7*

- † Integrating and discipling new members
- † Deepening faith and commitment with present and new members
- † Closing the side and back doors

Intentional Community Outreach: *For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all. 2 Corinthians 5:14*

- † Embracing the Great Commission
- † Providing programmatic outreach through various models
- † Providing children, youth, family and social ministries

Communication and Evangelism: *Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16*

- † Strengthening the public face of the congregation
- † Creating communication strategies appropriate to the gospel of Christ
- † Shining as a bright, attractive light to the world around you

The assessment tool is aimed at helping you dream the possibilities for your congregation to determine whether you need to make improvements. For more information, contact Augsburg Fortress and ask for “Making Christ Known: A Guide to Evangelism for Congregations” ISBN #0-8066-3334-4, or log into the evangelism website of the ELCA at <http://www.elca.org/evangelism/assessments/evanessen.html>.

By Pastor Amy Odgren, assistant to the bishop, Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

First Lutheran Church

4 W. LaSalle Ave.
Barron, WI 54812-1307

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First Lutheran Church

4 W. La Salle Ave. · Barron, WI 54812

Church Phone: 715-537-3575
Telephone Ministry: 715-837-4122

e-mail: office@firstlutheran-barron.org
www.firstlutheran-barron.org

Pastors:

Bruce Beyer home: 537-3480
Lisa Shank home: 637-7916

Parish Secretary & Newsletter Editor:

Michelle Davis church: 537-3575

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday: 8:30-11:00 & 12:00-4:00
Friday: 8:00-12:00

President:

Clarice Fall

Vice-President:

Rod Wieneri

Treasurer:

Johnson, Agen, Kupferschmidt
& Associates

Financial Sec.:

Mary McDonough

Acting Senior Choir Directors:

Brad & Jennifer Werner

Dir. of Education:

Bonnie Hilbert

Custodians:

Ron & Brenda Kahl

Summer Schedule:
(Memorial Day - Labor Day)
Saturday Worship,* 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship,* 9:30a.m.

Winter Schedule:
Saturday Worship,* 5:30 p.m.
Sunday Worship,* 8:30 & 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:40 a.m.

*Holy Communion,
each Saturday and 1st and 3rd Sunday

First Lutheran Church

4 W. LaSalle Ave. , Barron, WI 54812 • Phone: 715-537-3575
 website: www.firstlutheran-barron.org • E-mail: office@firstlutheran-barron.org



2008

The 8:30 service is broadcast live over radio station 1090 AM.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Schedules subject to change: A current full month calendar and worship volunteer schedule are also available online at www.firstlutheran-barron.org</p>				1 9:30a AA Mtg	2 9a Bulletins Assembled	3 9:30a AA Mtg 5:30p Worship & Holy Communion
4 8:30 Worship & Holy Communion 9:40a Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:45a Worship,	5 6p Cub Scouts Pack Mtg	6 7a Men's Bible Study 9:30a AA Mtg 6:30p Jail Ministry	7 1:30p W/ELCA Program 6p Confirmation 7p Sr Choir	8 9:30a AA Mtg 7p BeFriender's 	9 9a Bulletins Assembled	10 9:30a AA Mtg 5:30p Worship & Holy Communion
11 Mother's Day 8:30 Worship 9:40a Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10:45a Worship  Pentecost Sunday	12 6p W&M Cmte 9:30a AA Mtg 7p Most Committees	13 7a Men's Bible Study 9:30a AA Mtg 6:30p Jail Ministry 7p Faith Circle - Hosted by Donna Jones	14 1:30p Harmony Circle 5:30p SWYG 7p Sr Choir	15 9a Library Mtg 9:30a AA Mtg	16 9a Bulletins Assembled	17 9:30a AA Mtg 5:30p Worship & Holy Communion
18 8:30 Worship & Holy Communion 8:30 Graduates Recognition 9:40a Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 9:40a Vision Team Survey 10:45a Worship, Holy Communion	19 7p Council Mtg 11a W/ELCA Bd Communion @ 12:30p Monroe 1:30p Maplecroft 1:30p Berger-Woodland 2:30p Barron Care & Rehab 3:30p Extended	20 Newsletter Due Date 7a Men's Bible Study 9:30a AA Mtg 6:30p Jail Ministry	21 TBD Afternoon Fellowship - K9 Dogs 6p Circle of Friends 7p Sr Choir	22 9:30a AA Mtg 5:30p Meal from the Heart	23 9a Bulletins Assembled	24 9:30a AA Mtg 5:30p Worship & Holy Communion
25  9a Worship	26 Memorial Day - Office Closed 	27 9:30a AA Mtg 6:30p Jail Ministry	28 6p Multiple Blessings	29 9:30a AA Mtg 4p W/ELCA Bible Study Briefing	30 8a Newsletters Assembled 9a Bulletins Assembled	31 9:30a AA Mtg 5:30p Worship & Holy Communion
					← Synod Assembly →	



Worship Volunteers

If you would like to help in any of these areas, please call the church office at 537-3575.

USHERS

May 3 & 4:
5:30
8:30 Lynn & Barbara Peterson
10:45 Ron & Jan Barrett

May 10 & 11:
5:30
8:30 Dan & Kelly Stephens
Family
10:45 Wayne & Robin Hanson
Family

May 17 & 18:
5:30
8:30 Dale & Ardis Thorsbakken
10:45 Harold & Reda Thorson

May 24 & 25:
5:30
9:00 Virgil & Paula Edson

May 31:
5:30

GREETERS

May 3 & 4:
5:30
8:30 Lynn & Barbara Peterson
10:45 Ron & Jan Barrett

May 10 & 11:
5:30
8:30 Gayle & Gail Larson
10:45 Wayne & Robin Hanson
Family

May 17 & 18:
5:30
8:30 Rod, Carla & Katie Nordby
10:45 Harold & Reda Thorson

May 24 & 25:
5:30
9:00 Virgil & Paula Edson

May 31:
5:30

LECTORS

May 3 & 4:
5:30
8:30 Lynn Peterson
10:45 Jan Kienbaum

May 10 & 11:
5:30
8:30 Roger or Donna Jones
10:45 Jackson Unteriner

May 17 & 18:
5:30
8:30 Graduates
10:45 Lori Wells

May 24 & 25:
5:30
9:00 Linda Beyer

May 31:
5:30

ACOLYTES

May 4:
8:30 Kiersten & Karia
Severude
10:45 Lauren Zappitello &
Amanda Hinde

May 11:
8:30 Helen Goosby
10:45 Joel Sinclair

May 18:
8:30 Helen Goosby
10:45 Tyler Campbell

May 25:
8:30 Sierra Freid
10:45

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

May 3 & 4:
5:30
8:30
10:45

May 10:
5:30

May 17 & 18:
5:30
8:30
10:45

May 24:
5:30

May 31:
5:30

COFFEE SERVICE

May 4: Lynne Hanse

May 11: Carolyn & Terry Miller

May 18: High School Youth

May 25:

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

May 4:
8:30 Carla Nordby
10:45 Valeri Scheps

May 11:
8:30
10:45

May 18:
8:30 Sheri Nevin
10:45

May 25:
9:00 Lynne Hanse



**Please Note:
The Sunday Morning Service Time Changes
On May 25th (Memorial Day Weekend)
From Two Services to One Service at 9:00am!**