

THE SEED

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER



November 2009

The first _____

As most of you know, I became a grandpa for the first time last month. Hopefully at the end of this month I will get to see my granddaughter for the first time. This is but one in a lifetime of “firsts”. Parents and grandparents understand. Kids and grandkids do too (at least until they become teens and thus “uncool” to participate anymore).

This month (actually October 25) we begin a series of firsts. Our Assistant to the Bishop, the Rev. Dr. Jackie Linden/Schade, will help us take our first step toward getting a new pastor, our first study process. Eventually there will be many firsts: questionnaires, reports, task groups and Call Committee, etc. Some members will find this process and journey exciting and some will decide not to participate (or that it takes too long, or that we don't need to do all this, or some other complaint.)

Like the firsts of my granddaughter, the “law of Unintended Consequences” takes over. We anxiously await her first words – then wonder when she will stop talking! We look for her first steps – then worry where she is going.

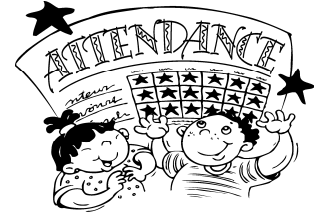
Our Call process is similar. If we say we want a pastor with certain talents and abilities – then we had better make sure what that means for our future. If we want a pastor with “experience” – then we'd better make sure that our gifts, pledges and offerings are increased to pay the added expenses, salary and benefits.

Firsts are tremendous beginnings – and ones that can last a lifetime.



TGBG – Pastor Paul

*AVERAGE SUNDAY
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE
for January through October 18*



40 Weeks 2009 104

42 Weeks 2008 101

Will You Come?

Being a transitional pastor, there are a number of aspects in which an interim minister differs from a called (or, as they are also called, the “settled”) pastor. One in particular is in the aspect of calling. In most cases I react to - rather than initiate – visits.

In hospital calling there is little difference between an interim or settled pastor. If you let me know, I will make every effort to be there. Hospitals do not call to inform me or the church that you have been admitted, have a surgery scheduled, or are to have a procedure preformed. If you want a visit, you have to let me know.

A side aspect of hospital calling is respecting a person’s privacy. I’m not talking HIPPA here, but being mindful of an individual right to involve – or not – others in times of their illness or distress. Some people are private. Some surgeries or procedures are sensitive subjects in which we do not want others involved. I respect those boundaries. I am not offended not being involved.

Probably the greatest area of difference between my role as your interim and that of your next called pastor is in the area of regular calling. As your interim, I seldom will initiate a visit but rather will wait to respond to your requests.

Make no mistake, I love being here, getting to know you and working with you as the called people gathered in this community is exciting and joyful. Too many of you are good cooks, fun loving, enjoyable people who love God and each other. If conditions were different I would gladly consider being your next called pastor. As that is not possible, my goal in these next few months is to transition from your previous pastor and to help prepare you for the different leadership and gifts of your next called pastor.

“Will you come?” - ask me and I will be glad to visit you.—Pastor Paul

NATIONAL LUTHERAN COLLEGE FRATERNITY—Beta Sigma Psi Alpha Alumni Scholarship

The Beta Sigma Psi Alumni will be awarding a Lutheran Scholarship for the fall of 2010. This \$1,000 scholarship award will be given to a confirmed Lutheran freshman male beginning his college studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign campus, in the fall of 2010. The recipient will be under no obligation to become a member of Beta Sigma Psi, but he will receive information about our chapter. If anyone is interested in more details concerning this scholarship, please speak with Pastor Paul. **The application deadline is February 1, 2010.**



Council Highlights – October 13, 2009

Present at the October 13 meeting of the Council were: Bonnie Conover, Bruce Holderbaum, Darrell Kruse, Stuart Peters, Sue Reeder, Trish Santos, Pam Schuering, Reth Stollberg, Dick Tabb, and Pastor Paul Balaban.

Excused: Joan Kammerlohr, David Tooke, Barbara Wilkinson

Announcements: Dick Tabb has accepted the position as Stewardship Liaison on Council.

Minutes from September 8 Council Meeting were approved as written.

Reports of the Financial Secretary and Treasurer: The reports were discussed. Motion was passed to approve the reports.

President's Report – Jackie Linden-Shade will be coming to the Church on October 25 to conduct the Mission to Ministry Study. 15 to 30 members are needed. It was decided to ask for volunteers and then call upon the rest if we do not have enough volunteers. It will be a 2-½ hour commitment so a lunch will be provided and coffee hour will be canceled for that Sunday.

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared information about expectations and leadership.

Ministry Ream and Committee Reports:

Stewardship – Thanks to Bruce and Bonnie for the pie charts in the gathering area. Commitment Sunday is October 18, at this time, Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Sheets will be turned in. We plan to send Thank You's for those that turn sheets in and to follow up with those that don't.

Service – No Report

Property – Thank you to Nick Kruse (with some family help) for weatherproofing the playground and fixing the playground picnic table. This was done as a Scout project. Property committee has worked on fixing some windows and polishing sanctuary chairs – as always THANK YOU. Mark Haubrich has been hired for snow removal.

Worship – Hymns are selected through November 21. We are planning something for Veteran's Day; Pastor has not decided what he is going to do yet.

Witness – Ploughman's Lunch is November 11. Bonnie Scranton is going to sell tickets. We will not receive Thrivent Matching Funds this year so PLEASE sell tickets. CASA is going to be the recipient of the funds. Campbell's is donating the broth for the soup. LWR is packed and ready to go – we still need a truck to transport to Carthage on October 30. Please contact Bonnie Conover if you can help.

Learning/Youth – Had a nice time at the Pumpkin Patch. Going to start planning for VBS and work on a Sunday School calendar. Nursery has hired some high school students and is going well. Thanks to Misty Coyle and Patty Kruse and Joan for cleaning out the supply closet and blue room.

Fellowship – Having to combine Coffee Hour Groups some. Made a separate group for the Morning. Also asking Coffee Hour Group to take on the responsibility to make sure the church is closed up on Sundays and locked.

New Business

- **Snow Removal** – Mark Haubrich was approved for snow removal for this year.
- **Recovery Resources** – They are using the church for Snowball (a high school group that works towards drug prevention in the younger schools) and it is going well. Meetings are 2-3 times a month.
- **Nominating Committee**- will start to get together over the next month

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectively submitted, Trish Santos

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING—Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at 6:30 PM



PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
November 11, 2009

We will donate proceeds to **Advocacy Network for Children** this year. We are asking for volunteers to help that day as well as volunteers to donate pies for serving with the lunch. There are sign up sheets for all of this.

The Ploughman's Lunch consists of a soup (chicken noodle, vegetable, or Chili), bread, cheese, pie, and drink. Tickets are \$6.00 and carry outs are available. Proceeds from the event will be donated to **Advocacy Network for Children**. The public is invited to attend.

Tickets are available at church to sell before the event. See Linda Dillman or Bonnie Conover for tickets. Let's make this a great event for **Advocacy Network for Children**.

THANK YOU

Thank You—Thank You to Ruth and Randy Osterbur for the wonderful trays for our kitchen! We know that these attending the Ploughman's Lunch this year will find carrying their food much easier. Thanks to Ruth and Randy!

COMING UP **REVERSE OFFERING**

We'll do our traditional "Reverse Offering" again this year. Please bring back your items by November 22. We hope to supply 3 families baskets for Thanksgiving. If you know of a family that would need a basket, please let Wendy Maas (224-6794) know by November 1.

PROPERTY MINISTRY TEAM

The Property Ministry Team is working on their 2010 Budget for Property and they are needing your help. If anyone sees any property concerns, please contact Darrell Kruse (223-4339) or Stu Bell (593-7309).

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LWR DRIVE

We were very happy to have 19 boxes of goods to send to LWR this year. We had 100 school kits (5 more than last year), 17 blankets, and 113 pounds of soap, money and made bags for the kits! They will be delivered on October 30. Thank You.

Bonnie Conover

Trusting God's grace in Christ Jesus to take care of me (us), I (we) plan to give the following to support the mission of Christ:

Operating Budget
\$ _____ each week in 2010
or
\$ _____ each month in 2010
or
\$ _____ total contribution in 2010

Building Fund (Mortgage)
\$ _____ each month in 2010
or
\$ _____ total contribution in 2010

This plan can be revised as necessary. Keep this portion for your records.

As a member of the body of Christ, and to share the faith that Christ cares, I (we) plan to give the following to support the mission of Christ:

Operating Budget
\$ _____ each week in 2010
or
\$ _____ each month in 2010
or
\$ _____ total contribution in 2010

Building Fund (Mortgage)
\$ _____ each month in 2010
or
\$ _____ total contribution in 2010

These forms are very important for our budget planning for 2010, to estimate how much ministry we can do.

Return this portion of the card

CHRIST CARES



Name(s) _____
Address _____
Phone _____

STEWARDSHIP REMINDER

Dear members, if you have not yet had the opportunity to turn in your Pledges and Time & Talent sheets for next year, the church council asks that you please do so as soon as possible. We'll need to begin preparing the 2010 Budget soon and your commitments guide us in completing that task. We're confident that you will give as God guides you and appreciate your support as we strive to fulfill our congregational mission – "Christ Cares, Share the Faith". And please don't forget the Building Fund! Those dollars are needed for us to meet our monthly mortgage payment of \$2,700.

Thank you!

PLEDGE FORM

On the left side of this page is a Pledge Form on which you can indicate the amount of money that you intend to contribute to the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church in 2010. Please fill out a form and put it in the offering plate or return it to the church office, so that our church council can use the total amount pledged to prepare the budget for 2010.

TIME AND TALENT Sheet

Please fill out a Time and Talent Sheet to inform our council and ministry teams about the areas of ministry that you'd like to do next year. Put your Time and Talent Sheet in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

Time and Talent

Christ Lutheran Church

We offer our lives for the work of our Lord
Through our congregation, we offer the following time and talent.

Last Name: _____ Phone: _____

I offer to help do the ministry of Christ in the following ways:

Put first name or initial on your choices.

Fellowship Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Wednesday soup suppers in Lent
- Provide food/serve after funerals
- Women of the ELCA
- Sunday morning fellowship (coffee hour)
- Other fellowship gatherings
- Lutheran Men
- Dogwood Block Party

Stewardship Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Fall stewardship campaign
- Coordinate volunteers
- Time and Talent sheets
- Count Offering
- Assist New Member Orientation

Learning Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Teach or help in Sunday School
- Wednesday Akaloo
- Adult Forum Sundays 9:15
- Bible Study for adults
- Vacation Bible School
- Jr. or Sr. High School Youth Ministry
- Special Activities for kids

Property Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Outside work days
- Inside work days
- December decorate for Christmas
- Do repairs as needed

Service Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Angel Tree (Christmas gifts for children of prisoners)
- Thanksgiving/Christmas/Easter Food Baskets-reverse offering
- Prayer Warrior
- Blood Pressure screening

Witness Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Identify and welcome visitors to worship
- Deliver gift to visitors
- Books 'n Brew book discussion
- LWR Collection
- Web page
- Dogwood Festival Float
- November Ploughman's Lunch

Worship Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Usher
- Acolyte
- Reader
- Assisting Minister
- Deacon (Communion Assistant)
- Altar Guild
- Prepare Communion
- Choir / soloist
- Instrumental Music
- Greeter
- Flowers
- Sound / video technician
- Readers theatre
- Seasonal decorating

OTHER MINISTRY ACTIVITIES I WOULD LIKE TO DO:

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE



The Fellowship Ministry Team is in the process of revising the Coffee Hour schedule. The new schedule will be available soon and you can pick up a copy of the schedule in the Secretary's Office and there will be a new schedule posted in the kitchen. The new schedule will have the members who attend the 10:30 service in a Group and those who attend the 8:00 service will provide their own agreements.

The Fellowship Committee

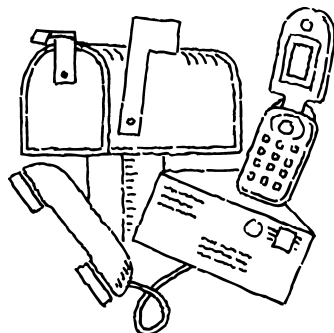
Flower Chart

This year we are using a new sign-up format for the flower chart. On Sunday, Advent 1 (November 29), the 2010 chart will be posted on the bulletin board outside the secretary's office. The new chart should give you ample space to add your name and the dedication(s).



Scheduling Calendar

Outside the secretary's office will soon be posted a new scheduling calendar. This will (hopefully) be easier to list your proposed events. Below the calendar (and in the office) will be a sheet to detail your event. Most events have no other needs than space (sanctuary, Blue room, lounge, etc.) some will need equipment (sanctuary with projector and sound system, or, Fellowship Hall and meal service). Please fill out the reservation form and put it in the secretary's mailbox.



Mailbox

Please use the mailboxes to leave notes for Pastor Paul or our secretary, Robin. Especially, Robin's office is used by many people and notes get shoved aside or buried.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR NOVEMBER

	November 1	November 8	November 14	November 22	November 29
ASSISTING MINISTER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Pat Bell Barb Wilkinson	Sue Reeder Jim Bailey	Bonnie Scranton Misty Coyle	Ron Lerner Crystal Bernett	Joan Lerner Sue McLennan
USHER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Stu Bell Butch Kuras	Bill Wolters Joe Brinkman	Dick Tabb Wayne McLennan	Joan Lerner David Maas	Virgene Gilkerson David Tooke
READER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Joan Lerner Ashley Stollberg	Virgene Gilkerson Summer Santos	Phil Conover Richard Klusmeyer	Pat Bell Duane McCulloch	Kathy Wolters Mary Reeve
NURSERY	Emily Stolberg	Mallory Cobern	Kara Wolf	Kara Wolf	Mallory Cobern
ACOLYTE 10:30 AM	Ian Jones	Dylan Probert	Emily Stollberg	Nick Kruse	Savana Santos
GREETERS 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Mel & Linda Dillman Bruce Holderbaum	Jerry & Marilyn Shackelford Dave & Wendy Maas	Joanne Brubaker Stuart & Kris Peters	Phil & Bonnie Conover Nelson & Bernice Colgrove	Bill & Kathy Wolters Judy Kauffman
DEACON 10:30AM	Missy Kuras	Cheryl Brinkman	Crystal Bernett	Barb Rhinberger	Wayne McLennan
SOUND SYSTEM 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bonnie Scranton Bonnie Scranton	Kathy Wolters Olin Shuler	Bruce Holderbaum Stuart Peters	Bruce Holderbaum Olin Shuler	Bill Wolters Stuart Peters
COFFEE HOUR	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5

If you cannot help on your assigned Sunday, please find a replacement and call the office as soon as possible with any changes. Many Thanks!



If you have a birthday in November and your name does not appear on the following list, we would appreciate it if you

November	5 Kathy Wolters	18 Nick Kruse
	6 Bill Shuler	21 Mark Wolters
	Kolby Glasgow	23 Kurtis McCabe
	13 Kara Mikkelson	25 Norma Tofall



If you have a wedding anniversary in November and it does not appear below, please notify the church office.

November	4 Scott and Anne Alford	24 Jerry and Marilyn Shackelford
	12 Jim and Peggy Bailey	25 Tony and Karn Haubrich
		29 Buford and Beverly Ward