

THE SEED



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NO. 10

October 2009

REV. PAUL D. BALABAN, INTERIM PASTOR



Wedded Beginning

I start this interim with a wedding – surprised me to think that it's been about 2 years since I last officiated. It got me to thinking how similar the two events are. Both don't know what they are getting into or what will happen. I guess the biggest difference is that I'm on a term contract and they're not (hopefully!).

Hopefully by the end of the month we will have established a routine of sorts. I'm hoping to have a 5/2 division for my week (although sometimes that will need to be altered). I'm still meeting many of you and trying to get all your names straightened out. I'm also finding out that old habits (yours and mine) die hard. Sounds very much like a marriage.

It was fun to plan the wedding with this young couple. It was a potpourri of firsts. It was their first marriage (sadly some what abnormal for today) and my first wedding in our sanctuary. With the design of our sanctuary, there are so many options that had not been possible previously. There I had one center aisle and here we have five. Our chancel is wide and open, even with side and ramp access and all of the altar furniture is moveable.

The couple came to me with a new ceremony – Sand. Apparently this is in wide use, but I've never seen it before. Instead of the two families lighting the side candles of a Unity set, here you mix and pour your separate colors of sand. Each mother (there were 3) pours a portion of their color and then all poured together. It was done just after the mothers were seated and before the Bridal party entered. Nice new addition. Good to be open to new ideas and ways of doing things.

The wedding also taught me that while I knew some, there is much more I need to learn. How do we communicate to anyone who might be coming to the church on Saturday? Where are some of the bridal emergency needs kept/stored (safety pins, rubber bands, candles, etc.)? How and who opens and closes? Is there a seal for the certificate? Can we get some AC into the Bride's room?

Wow! Has it really been over 2 years? Good to celebrate at the beginning. Nice young couple; I hope they stay after I'm gone.

Pastor Paul in Qtown!



Council Highlights – September 8, 2009

Present at the September 8 meeting of the Council were: Bonnie Conover, Bruce Holderbaum, Joan Kammerlohr, Darrell Kruse, Stuart Peters, Trish Santos, Pastor Paul Balaban, Reth Stollberg, David Tooke, and Barbara Wilkinson. Excused: Sue Reeder and Pam Schuering

President Stuart Peters called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Pastor Balaban provided the opening devotions. Reth Stollberg will provide the October devotions.

Announcements: Stuart welcomed Pastor Paul Balaban to his first official Council meeting.

Minutes of the August 11 and the special Council Meeting on August 25 were approved as written. Jessica Meyers will be conducting a Tai Chi class starting September 17. The class was discussed in the last Seed.

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

President's Report: Stuart has sent a letter to Jackie Linden-Shade concerning the Mission to Ministry Study. About thirty people will be involved in the study which will take place on October 25, 2009. We will receive further information concerning the selection of participants.

Pastor's Report: Pastor shared an interesting and informative paper about his and our expectations. We filled out an information sheet about ourselves which will help Pastor get to know us better.

MINISTRY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Stewardship: No Report.

Service: No Report.

Property: The Property Ministry Team painted Virgene Gilkerson's fence.

Worship: Hymns have been selected through September 13. They will meet on September 9 at 5:30 p.m. to choose new hymns.

Witness: One hundred school bags have been prepared for Lutheran World Relief. We have collected 75 pounds of soap, but hope to get 50 more pounds. We also need more blankets. The soap and blankets should be returned to church by the first week in October. The Ministry Team will meet the second Tuesday of every month.

Learning/Youth: The children will be dismissed to Sunday School after the Children's Sermon. The Learning Ministry Team is meeting on September 9 to discuss candidates for working in the Nursery during the 10:30 service. They will be paid \$12.00 for one and a half hours of work. Pastor will meet with all the confirmation students and their parents either on September 20 or 27. They will be notified of the time.

Fellowship: Their next meeting will be September 16 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss a dinner on October 25. The team was thanked for the great dinner for the Schwartzkopf's. Joan was thanked for purchasing the gifts for Pastor and Ann.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Motion was made and approved to write a check for \$383.00 for the purchase of the new table in the narthex. The Dillman's and Conover's were thanked for the additional funds.
- B. The Council approved spending for a listing and advertisement in the Quincy Area Visitors Guide. Barb will check to see what kind we put in last year and then get the information to Robin.
- C. The Council approved spending \$316.00 for renewing the five advertising panels on BOC litter collection receptacles for the 2010 year.
- D. The keys to the bathroom dispensers are missing. If found, return to the office.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Pastor Balaban will attend the C/S Illinois Synods Professional Leaders Conference in Carlinville September 21-23.
- B. Jack Bousner has resigned from Council. Stuart will ask someone to be on the Council until elections in January.
- C. The Stewardship PowerPoint presentation will be presented on October 11. Commitment Sunday will be October 18.
- D. We each received a list of all the things that Pastor and Ann did at church. We will decide which Ministry Team does which jobs at the next meeting. Pastor and Robin are putting together a Master Planning Calendar. Each team needs to submit dates for the year.
- E. A volunteer with a truck is needed to transport the items to Lutheran World Relief in Carthage on October 30 between 9-11 a.m. Contact Bonnie Conover if you are able to do this.
- F. Trish volunteered to take minutes in October for Joan.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Kammerlohr, Secretary

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING—Tuesday, October 13, 2009, at 6:30 PM

1st Communion – by Request? - YES

If you or your child/children would like to receive the sacrament of Holy Communion during worship, please let Pastor Paul know and we will set up a time of instruction. Usually this is done informally and takes 1 or 2 sessions (either one at home and one at church or both can be done at church).

At one time receiving HC first occurred after being Confirmed. Then it was “moved” to 5th grade. Now it is done by agreement of the child, parents and Pastor. The first celebration can be done quietly or (hopefully) with full notice and celebration at worship.

Contact Pastor Paul if you are interested or would like to know more.

Distributing and printing the *Seed*

We are discussing the possibility of distributing the *Seed* differently. Much has changed since we began printing and distributing church newsletters. I remember helping my Mother crank out my home church’s newsletter on the old Gestettner (with all the mess and fuss of the stencils, ink, folding, stapling, stamping, and transporting that entailed – often a full day affair!) We are thinking of doing it differently, more efficiently and more economically.

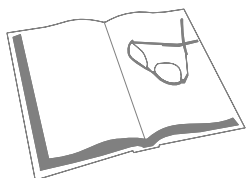
The newsletter serves an important communication function – if used and read. Laying on a table unopened or quickly tossed in the “round file” helps in no way with this communication. The newsletter is costly - aside from the secretary’s time to compile and compose. Mailing at our discounted bulk rate requires a run of 200+. Then those need to be presorted and bundled according to the USPS requirements and transported to the Post Office (to a special dock and with a special payment). To make our 200+ we send to all members, other churches, special “friends”, and others. There are, of course, the added expenses of paper and copying. Currently each copy of the *Seed* costs approximately \$.32, or a monthly issue cost of \$64.47.

Many churches have gone to a system of printing a limited number of “hard copies” and electronically or solely electronically. In this day of web access, electronic printing is quicker and instantly available. However, some people do not have web access and some people prefer a paper or “hard” copy.

One church I know printed family addressed copies by the last Sunday of the month and asked all who could if they would pick them up at church. Those who requested or had not been picked up were mailed 1st class when the secretary came next into the office. Their costs went down dramatically.

I would suggest that we eventually work toward the goal of printing electronically and hard printing only enough hard copies to send to those who request it and several to have on hand at church.

Thank you so much for your continued support of this worthy cause.



BOOKS 'N BREW

Let's join in "The Big Read 2009" sponsored by the Quincy Public Library and read "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee. We'll discuss this novel as we enjoy dinner at Paneram, Thursday, October 22, at 6 p.m.

AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE for January through September 20



37 Weeks 2009	104
37 Weeks 2009	99



WEDDING

James Wagy (home from Iraq) and Shannon Myers from Minnesota will be married at Christ Lutheran Church on Saturday, October 4, at 4:00 p.m.

Church members are invited to attend the wedding.

LEARNING MINISTRY TEAM

On October 11 at 5:00 p.m., we will have a fun-filled fall outing at Mill Creek Farms. We will have a hay ride, do the corn maze, and pick a pumpkin and gourd. Everyone is invited. You won't want to miss this fun fellowship time. The confirmands will even make it back in time for confirmation. Everyone will meet at Mill Creek Farms at 5:00 p.m. Friends are welcome. If you need a ride or directions call Patty Kruse, 223-4339. Also please RSVP so we know how many to expect.

The Learning Ministry Team needs your help. We need more Sunday School teachers. It is both very easy and fun. We have two different groups you could work with that need your help. The lessons are already prepared for you and you can pick which Sunday will work for you. You may teach just one Sunday a month or more than that. Let the Learning Ministry Team know if you're interested. Contact Kathy Wolters or Joan Kammerlohr.

Backup Quarterback

The NFL, college teams and even JFL, realize that they need more than a single quarterback. There needs to be a backup in case something happens to #1. We need that at church as well. Who can clean if Karn can't? (Brenda). Who can lead worship if I can't? (Lay Assistants). Who can run the church office if Robin can't? (_____) Ann used to fill this function. We need someone (or several someones) who would be willing to be trained to help and assist (and run) the office either when Robin can't or just needs some assistance.

If you are willing to try, please contact me (309-267-1653) or Robin (224-1624).

HELLO, HELLO, PLEASE GIVE A CALL -----

Pastor Paul Balaban enjoys visiting with people, plus being there for them if they need help. Being new on the scene he could use your help. If you would like a visit please call him and let him know that. You do not have to be a shut-in or in the hospital (but if you "fall" into those categories, be sure and call him). You might just want to welcome him to Christ Lutheran and visit for a while (now that's a great idea, isn't it?). So the "Ball is in your Court". He does want to get to know all the members and visitors to the church, but he would appreciate a phone call inviting him to get to know you – and for you to get to know him.

In other words – "Hello, hello, please give (him) a call! Thank you!

P.S.

If you cannot talk with Pastor Paul, leave a message with Robin at the church office or with Bruce &/or Barbara Holderbaum, and although he never talked about it, I think he wouldn't mind coffee or tea and some cookies or even a meal.

Barbara Holderbaum

FLOWER CHART

There will be a new Flower Chart posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall area with each month of the year starting the first week in Advent. Please use the Chart if you would like to have flowers in the Sanctuary on a specific or special Sunday.

Please mark the following on your calendars

Stewardship presentation - October 11, 2009

Commitment Sunday - October 18, 2009

Please watch your mail regarding our Stewardship campaign.

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR OCTOBER

	October 4	October 11	October 18	October 25
ASSISTING MINISTER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bonnie Scranton Sue McLennan	Sue Reeder Barb Wilkinson	Joan Lerner Crystal Bernett	Bonnie Scranton Sue McLennan
USHER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Virgene Gilkerson David Tooke	Jerry Shackelford Joe Brinkman	Ron Lerner Nona Miller	Jerry Shackelford Ashley Stollberg
READER 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Kathy Wolters Bill Shuler	Marilyn Shackelford Bruce Holderbaum	Sue Reeder Kim Glasgow	Dick Tabb Stuart Peters
NURSERY	Kara Wolf	Mallory Cobern	Kara Wolf	Mallory Cobern
ACOLYTE 10:30 AM	Savannah Santos	Erika Stollberg	Reed Haubrich	Kara Wolf
GREETERS 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Dick & Sue Tabb Reth & Jennifer Stollberg	Bonnie Scranton Jim & Peggy Bailey	Bill & Kathy Wolters David & Charlotte Tooke	Virgene Gilkerson Nona Miller and Anita Wall
DEACON 10:30AM	Wayne McLennan	Cheryl Brinkman	Jim Bailey	Barb Rhinberger
SOUND SYSTEM 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill Wolters Stuart Peters	Bonnie Scranton Bruce Holderbaum	Kathy Wolters Olin Shuler	Bruce Holderbaum Stuart Peters
COFFEE HOUR	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6	Group 7

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 October and your name does not appear on the following list, we would appreciate it if you would notify us so that we can complete our records.

October	2 Mitch Krenz Andrew Maas Kayla McCabe	17 Don Burner Brett Wolters
	4 Jill Mathes	18 Sara Brinkman
	6 Mary Hesse	19 Alec Rettenmeier
	7 Stu Bell Anna Schuering	21 Cheryl Brinkman
	14 Kara Durcan	22 Austin Rettenmeier
	16 Pat Glore Jeff Mathes	23 Lauren Conover
		26 Beverly Ward
		27 Stephanie Bolte
		28 James Leenerts



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

October	10 Azad and Rita Tayyab	19 James and Megan Leenerts
	13 Jeff and Amy Stollberg	21 David and Rose Probert