

## **Will Our Faith Have Children?**

Anyone who has been around Our Savior's for more than eight years will recognize that the title of this article is not original; it was coined by Dr. Roland Martinson of Luther Seminary. Rollie was with us for one of our "Summernary" lectures on a Wednesday evening back in July of 2001. Rollie's point was that children are slipping through the cracks of traditional congregational teaching. Note that the question is *not* "Will our children have faith?" but rather, "Will our faith have children?" Will *we* succeed in passing on our faith to them, or will *we* leave it up to someone else, or leave it undone altogether?

Rollie Martinson's words came back to me recently, while reading Newsweek magazine. In an article entitled *The End of Christian America* (April 4, 2009) was this startling statistic; "The number of Americans who claim no religious affiliation has nearly doubled since 1990, rising from 8 to 15 percent." Chart the trend: three generations from now, more than a third of all Americans could be faithless. If this was a disease, it would be labeled a pandemic! Researchers would be frantically seeking treatment, funding would be a government priority, and news organizations would lead with this story every day! Alas, it is just Christian faith.

I began to wonder what our congregation is doing to address this potential spiritual plague. What is our response to Rollie Martinson's question "Will our faith have children?"? Is there any evidence among us that suggests that we are endeavoring to pass faith on to our heirs? First the good news...then the not so good.

### **The Good...**

- In 2008-09, 555 children were enrolled in our Children's Ministry, ages 2-11 years old.
- 487 children participated in Vacation Bible School.
- 150 teenagers travelled with Missy Seekel in some form of adventure or mission trip last year.
- Nearly one-third of our budget is spent on ministry to those under the age of 18.
- On any given week, 20% of those in our worship services are visitors.
- In the same period of Newsweek's study of decreasing religious affiliation, Our Savior's worship attendance has increased 177%.

### **The Not-so good...**

- For the first time in ten years, we saw our worship attendance decrease in 2008.
- We are seeing fewer and fewer children coming forward for KidTalk at worship.
- The bulk of our operating budget is provided by those members 60 years and older.
- In the summer months, worship attendance and financial support take a dramatic dip.

I have come to this conclusion: If children observe in their parent's lives a vibrant faith, and a corresponding commitment to the local church, then our faith will indeed have children, and grandchildren, and great grandchildren! If they watch us worship, if they see our generosity, if they recognize our dependence upon Jesus Christ, and our willingness to tell others, they will adopt that living faith for themselves. Robert Kennedy's question comes to mind. "If not us, who? If not now, when?" Think about it.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**

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Marlene Lentz  
*Bell Choir Director*

Micki Henriksen, Lisa Lanz & Nichi Miller  
*Nursery Coordinators*

**“Celebrating Faces of Care”  
Thursday, May 7 Shoulder to Shoulder Benefit  
Supporting Health Care in Ilula, Tanzania**

The Shoulder to Shoulder Task Force invites you to their annual spring benefit. Your attendance at the May 7 event, “Celebrating Faces of Care,” will help provide life saving equipment, services, and medical personnel for a regional hospital and seven clinics in rural Tanzania. This partnership with the Iringa Diocese began in 2002, when it was initiated by Dr. Randy Hurley and Dr. Gary Moody. Please note these details, and help make a difference by purchasing your tickets for this year’s event:

**Thursday, May 7, 2009  
6 p.m. Wine and Hors D’oeuvres Reception  
7 p.m. Program**

**Humphrey Institute Conference Center  
U of M Campus  
301 19<sup>th</sup> Ave. S. in Minneapolis**

**Tickets: \$35 if purchased by May 4 (\$20 is tax-deductible)**

Purchase tickets online at [www.ilulahealth.org](http://www.ilulahealth.org), through a member of the Shoulder to Shoulder Task Force, or by contacting Ann Nelson at 651-308-9824. Tickets purchased after May 4 are \$40.

The 6 p.m. reception includes live music by the Standard Deviation Jazz Quartet, and opportunities to bid on a handful of carefully selected and irresistible silent auction items.

The 7 p.m. program features a presentation by recent travelers to Tanzania, including Peter Harrits, who spent this past summer studying and practicing pastoral care with the Ilula Hospital’s Chaplain and Spiritual Services team. His talk will bring to life the human faces and stories of care givers and recipients who are connected through Shoulder to Shoulder’s health care ministry.

Peter is a member of Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley, and a student at the Yale Divinity School. He has been involved with the Bega Kwa Bega Companion Synod Relationship since 2002.

A dessert and coffee reception concludes the evening. Any questions? Please contact Ann Nelson at 651-308-9824.

**Financial Box Score**

March Giving	\$ 72,414
March Expenses	\$ (67,423)
<b>March Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,991</b>
YTD Giving	\$ 213,805
YTD Expenses	\$ (200,569)
<b>YTD Total</b>	<b>\$ 13,236</b>
March Bldg. Contributions	\$ 10,187
<b>YTD Bldg. Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 26,566</b>
Monthly Mortgage Amount	\$ 10,932
<b>Current Mortgage Amount</b>	<b>\$ 1,253,277</b>
<b>(as of 3/31/09)</b>	

# Children & Family Ministry

## Sunday School, CLUB 56 and WAVE wind down until fall!

Sunday, May 3 and Wednesday, May 6 are the last days for weekly programming in Children & Family Ministry until September. We will celebrate our children's offering ministry mission designation with the local food shelf – Valley Outreach. We've been collecting money and a specific non-perishable good that is *needed* that month. To date we've given \$2,191.97 and 2,914 pounds of food. Our goal is to send \$3,500 to the food shelf before our last day of class, May 6. Kid's offering does make a difference and together we are helping families in the St. Croix Valley! We can do it OSLC kids!

## Have Kids?: Watch for details via email or on the church website on how to place your kids for Sunday School, WAVE & Club 56 for 2009-2010.

- † All families will need to verify your child's spot. Current session spots will be held for families through June 1. After that date, requests will be honored to change sessions.
- † Priority placement is given to families who teach or serve on the team!
- † Placement will be confirmed via email the end of June.
- † Education options are open to children who will be 2 years of age on or before September 1, 2009 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- † New families and entering 2 year olds will need to follow the online registration procedures found on the church website at [www.oslcstillwater.org](http://www.oslcstillwater.org)

## Wapo Pizza Party: Are your 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade kids signed up for Camp Wapo this July?

Come Wednesday, May 6 from 6-7 p.m. for a WAPO Pizza Party in the Gathering Area. We want to connect with our WAPO campers before people take off on summer vacation. All campers and at least one parent should attend. Packing lists, transportation and other important details will be covered. **To help us plan for pizza, RSVP regrets only by May 4.** Otherwise, we'll plan on you attending. Sibling care is available and they can eat pizza too if you RSVP to [sharon@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:sharon@oslcstillwater.org).

## Joyful Noise and Cherub Choirs

Our last day to sing until fall is May 3 at the 10:30 service. Thanks for a great year of singing together!



**Love kids?** Serve as one of ten volunteers for our SportsLife Camp June 15-18 from 9 a.m. to noon. No experience necessary – just love kids! Adult volunteers and high school students will assist SportsLife staff coaches during the week of camp hanging out with 6-8 kids. Childcare is available for volunteers during the week and for the orientation. For more information or to join the team, contact [sharon@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:sharon@oslcstillwater.org) or call 439-5704, ext. 23.



## Join us for a family adventure at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual OSLC Family Camp on

**August 14-16, 2009  
Lake Carlos State Park  
Alexandria, Minnesota**

JUST SAY YES - and then be ready for a "robotic" adventure weekend of family fun for everyone! This year's theme focuses on the family friendly movie, **Robots**. Learn how to pursue your dreams and realize you can shine no matter what you're made of! Questions? See Pastor Linda or Sharon Stratmoen. Register online at [www.oslcstillwater.org](http://www.oslcstillwater.org), click on *Family Camp* on the *What's Happening Page*.

### Family Camp FAQ:

- Lake Carlos is 10 miles north of Alexandria, MN.
- Camp in a tent or camper; electrical hook-ups available.
- We have campsites reserved, will share worship and a potluck meal together on Saturday night, pancake breakfast Sunday morning and have opportunities to participate in organized activities. Rumor has it there is a golf course nearby ... and the beautiful outdoors ... swimming, biking, campfires, etc.
- Cost is camping fee & park permit.
- We have room for a few more families to join us! Register online ASAP!



## VBS Bayou Bites...

**Parents, register your kids for VBS online now!** Crocodile Dock is July 27-31 from 9-noon or 1:30-4:30 p.m. **for kids turning 3 year olds – 8<sup>th</sup> grades.** The morning sessions are full for all ages but there is still room in the afternoon sessions. Friends are welcome too! **To register:** Go to the church website [www.oslcstillwater.org](http://www.oslcstillwater.org), click on summer programs on the *What's Happening Page*.

**Help us get ready for a Bayou Blast by gathering our VBS supplies!** Grab a Vacation Bible School *firefly* in the Gathering Area. Return supplies with the donation tag taped to it to the Welcome Desk or leave outside of Terri's office by July 1. If you have questions on a supply, please don't hesitate to contact Terri Green at [terri@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:terri@oslcstillwater.org) or by cell 247-4362.

**Let your light shine by joining the VBS Team.** We have many opportunities to serve; see options on the church website ([www.oslcstillwater.org](http://www.oslcstillwater.org)) click on *volunteer* on the *What's Happening Page*. Connect with Sharon if you have questions. Childcare is available during VBS week for infants, toddlers and twos! For every 5 kids who attend VBS we need 1 Bayou Crew Leader for preschoolers or 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders! **That means we need almost 100 Bayou Crew Leaders.** Bayou Crew Leaders have no daily prep and we can even work out a job-share! Leaders must attend a 1-hour training in July! You choose what works best for you: July 9 @ 6:30-7:30 p.m., July 15 @ 10-11 a.m., or July 15 @ 6:30-7:30 p.m. Childcare will be available during training. If you have any questions about volunteering, please email [sharon@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:sharon@oslcstillwater.org).

**Training for Station Leaders** will be Wednesday, May 20 @ 6:45-7:45 p.m. Childcare will be available.

**Did you order a VBS music CD or DVD?** Please pick it up in the church office.

**Help rock the VBS dock for all kids; consider sponsoring a child!** No child is turned away from VBS due to financial reasons. Each year several scholarships are needed. Ensure that all our kids have the opportunity to attend and drop a check in the Welcome Desk slot or at the church office with *VBS Sponsor* in the memo. The cost per child is \$40.

**Decorating Team** digs in to get their job done in May until set-up week in July! Join us Wednesdays, May 6, 13, 20, and 27 from 9 am to noon in the Children & Family Ministry Work Room. Contact Terri Green at [terri@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:terri@oslcstillwater.org).

### Spring Into Summer: We Still Have Room for Your Kids in our Summer Ministries!

Check out our fun faith-filled options for kids age 3 through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, plus Family Camp! For program details and to register, go to the church website: [www.oslcstillwater.org](http://www.oslcstillwater.org), click on Children & Family, and click on Summer Ministries 2009. Lake Wapo is registering by paper copy only; Wapo brochures are available outside of Sharon's office. Need help or online access? Stop in the church office.

- ✓ **SportLife Camp: Shine09!**  
(1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade) June 15-18
- ✓ **Sonshine Club: Kids of the Kingdom!**  
(3-6 year olds) June 15-18
- ✓ **Lake Wapo Bible Camp**  
(2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> graders) July 17-19 or July 19-24
- ✓ **VBS: Crocodile Dock: Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light!** (3 year olds-8<sup>th</sup> grade)  
July 27-31 ~ 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or 1:30-4:30 p.m. Infant, toddler and twos program for children of volunteers!
- ✓ **Camp LADC: Super Science BLAST!**  
(3-5 year olds) August 10-14
- ✓ **4<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Camp: Lake Carlos State Park** – (birth to ...) August 14-16



### Our Savior's: Lake Area Discovery Center

- **LADC Teacher appreciation Week** is May 4-8.
- **Field Trip to Horse Farm** May 14 & 15.
- **Last week for Lunch Bunch Buddies** May 26-29.

# JUST 4 YOUTH!

## Year-End Celebrations

Sunday, May 3 and Wednesday, May 6 are the last days of First Light Confirmation, Sunday Morning Live, and Wednesday Night Live. Don't miss out on the grand finale celebrating a wonderful year! Come see and be the celebration!

## Summer Stretch Registrations Due Wednesday May 13!

All 6<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> Graders (and Sr. High Leaders too) get your registrations in to be a part of a summer event that you don't want to miss! After May 13, cost goes up by \$25.00. Grab a registration form and sign up today! (Friends are invited too!)

## First Light – Last Day

You won't want to miss it! The First Light Year Finale will be Wednesday, May 6. This is our last day of class. Come and celebrate an unforgettable year! Be there!

## Sr. High National Youth Gathering New Orleans Trip

If you are signed up for the summer Sr. High Trip, there will be a meeting on Sunday, May 31 at 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary. Parents and students should plan on attending.

## Hey 12<sup>th</sup> Graders...Important Information for You! Senior Sunday is May 17

May 17 is Senior Sunday to recognize you! We would like to honor and recognize you in a special way on Sunday, May 17 at the 10:30 a.m. service. Check to make sure your name is on the "Graduating" list located on the Welcome Desk. If not, please write it on the list or contact Missy Seekel or the church office, 439-5704.

## Last Diggin' Deeper Breakfast Club

Join us for one last breakfast and study on Friday, May 1. Meet at Perkins at 6:30 a.m. ... Breakfast is free for you!

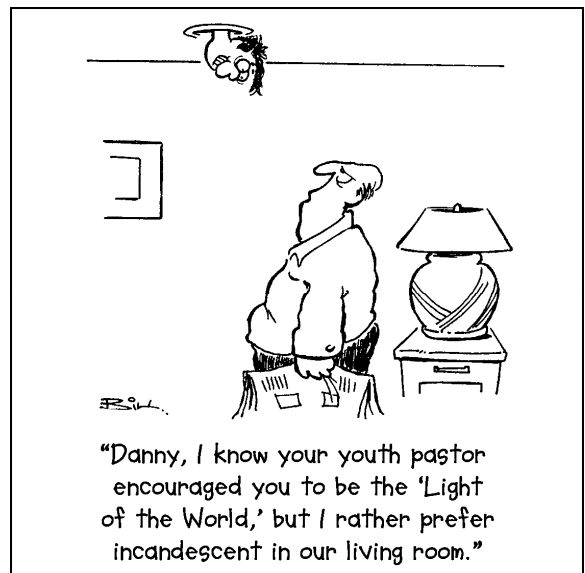
## Jamaica Trip Information Meeting

Interested in going to Jamaica in the fall with the youth? Plan to attend a Jamaica Trip informational meeting at 11:30 a.m. (after the last worship) on Sunday, May 17. Get all the information for this year's trip!

## Celebration Twins Game

### (A family affair...or not...you choose!)

All families of youth, (or just youth if families can not attend) are invited to celebrate our year together by attending the Minnesota Twins Baseball game on Sunday, May 3. We will leave right after the 10:30 a.m. worship. Cost is \$21 for a single person, or bring your family! Two kids 14 and under receive FREE admission in the Home Run Porch (where we'll be sitting) with the purchase of one adult ticket. Sign up soon, as spots will fill fast! Sign up for this by giving Missy your money and turning in your Twins form (found online or outside the youth room door).



# Adult Education & Life Long Learning

## Transformed by the Word (Sunday Adult Learning)

- Sunday mornings in the Sanctuary at 9:15 a.m.
- Bible based studies to enrich understanding of God's word for daily life.

### Going GREEN is more than Reduce/Reuse/Recycle it's about survival!

**May 3:** Going green at home and in the world! Adult Education will return in the Fall of 2009. If you have any ideas or suggestions for our next program year, contact Pastor Linda at [linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:linda@oslcstillwater.org).



Women@theEDGE - a ministry for women who are living at the edge - you decide what that means for you! How does your

faith inform your life? We meet once a month on the first Monday and then sustain our community through a virtual world using posted discussion questions. Questions? Contact Pastor Linda at [linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:linda@oslcstillwater.org). In May we will look at Mary of Bethany - looking to her for wisdom in our own journey of spiritual growth as we enter the summer months of growth and renewal.

- Monday, May 4 at 8 p.m.

**LOCATION: Caribou across from Target/CubFoods!** Invite a friend!!

## Baptism Class – Walking Wet!

Are you planning a baptism at Our Savior's Lutheran Church? Plan to attend our Faith Marker Class entitled: "Baptism - Walking Wet!" This class is for those who are planning to be baptized, their parents, godparents, sponsors, or other important people in the life of the one receiving the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Learn what the Sacrament of Holy Baptism means in the Lutheran Church. The next class is offered on **Tuesday, May 12 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.** Childcare is available. Call the church office at 439-5704 to sign up for this class. Questions? Contact Pastor Linda at [linda@oslcstillwater.org](mailto:linda@oslcstillwater.org).



## Talent of the Month- COMMUNICATION:

*Jesus spoke all these things to the crowds in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable. (Matthew 13.34)*

You generally find it easy to put your thoughts into words. You are a good conversationalist and presenter. You feel a need to bring your stories, ideas and events to life by enlivening them with metaphor, examples and images. People like to listen to you. Your word pictures pique their interest, sharpen their world, and inspires them to act. Choose iSERVE items where you will be the presenter: small group leader, adult education presenter, share a "Story of the Heart" or Temple Talk in worship. By doing this you will thrive and shine in your service!

*"Speech is power: Speech is to persuade, to convert, to compel."*

*Ralph Waldo Emerson, poet and philosopher*



## May Worship Music Schedule

- May 3: Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
Kingdom Choir at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.  
Cherub & Joyful Noise Choirs  
at 10:30 a.m.
- May 10: Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
JuBellate at 8:00 & 9:15
- May 17: Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
Kingdom Choir at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.
- May 24: Ascension of Our Lord**  
PEP Choir at 8:00 a.m.
- May 31: Day of Pentecost**  
The Four Collars at 8:00 a.m.



## **African Ministries**

### **Mlafu Companion Congregation, Sudan – and More**

As part of the St. Paul Area Synod *Companion Congregation* program, congregations are linked with churches in the ELCT located in the area of Iringa, Tanzania, East Africa. Our companion congregation is located in Mlafu, Tanzania. Our congregation also provides support for activities in other parts of Africa as well. The following is a summary of these measures.

**We now have a new pastor in Mlafu.** Pastor Daison Mpesa began his duties at Mlafu in October of 2008. He is a graduate of Tumaini University in Iringa, and was ordained in January 2009. We offer blessings for his work at Mlafu and the five preaching points associated with this congregation.

**Companion Village Plot at Mlafu.** The Institute of Agriculture was formed in 2003 as a department of Tumaini University-Iringa, Tanzania. The primary rationale in forming the Institute was to help address the Iringa Region's food production shortages. Last year we authorized funds to provide assistance for our congregation in Mlafu, and fortunately, they were one of the first to be chosen. The first meeting at Mlafu was held on March 10, 2009. Pastor Mpesa said that they appreciate the opportunity to implement a village plot at Mlafu since there isn't enough food produced for their families to eat. He hopes that this program will teach his parishioners how to grow more food. The average yield in the area is between 2-3 bags of corn per acre. They were excited to learn that by using the new techniques of the Companion Village Plot program, they could expect a yield of over 15 bags per acre. The plot is located right at the church and the soil looks to be very good.

**Mlafu Education Program.** Currently, 41 students are attending "high school" due to the sponsorship of members of our congregation. Six of these students are supported by all members of Our Saviors through Mission and Outreach activities. These students would not have had the opportunity to attend school without this support.

**Well Drilling.** Our congregation continues to support the efforts of St. Paul Partners as they provide wells and safe water for congregations in the region of Iringa, Tanzania. In addition, we are providing a deep well for the Anuak people in the area of Pochella, Sudan. Our own Gillo Madho will travel to be involved with the group *Water for Sudan, Inc.* as they dig the well. It is intended to provide the foundation for a stable and healthy community allowing these people to stay in their home area.

**Travelers Welcome** As part of our ongoing relationship with the congregation of Mlafu, Tanzania, the exchange of visitors is highly encouraged! If you have ever considered a visit to our companion congregation, it is probably easier than you might think. During the next six months, over twelve groups from St. Paul Area Synod will visit companion congregations in Tanzania. A process is in place to assist all visitors – in both directions. You will be warmly welcomed by the people of Mlafu.

**The African Anuak members of our church**

**invite you to come on**

**Monday, May 4**

**from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**for**

**Light Meal – including some Anuak foods**

**and delightful Anuak music**

**and to meet and hear**

**Speaker Pastor Gilo Gora**

**from Gambella, Ethiopia**

**(Uncle of our member Gillo Madho)**

**Please come and support them with your  
presence and enjoy an informative evening**

**Sign up in the Gathering Area**

# Lay Ministry

## Adult Ministry: Women

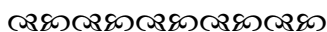
### Sisterhood

*Our Savior's Women: Sisters in Christ*



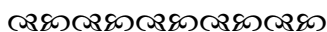
### Mother/Daughter Banquet Thursday, May 7 at 6:15 p.m.

**Tickets** can be purchased at the Welcome Desk following each worship service. Mothers, Daughters, Grandmothers, Granddaughters, Aunts, Nieces, Sisters and Friends gather together for an evening of delicious food, delightful conversations and lively entertainment performed by the **Chang Mi Korean Dancers** (Young people age 4 to 14 who take pride in their heritage and developing friendships, and sharing their enthusiasm with others)! Tickets are \$15.00 for Adults and \$8.00 for children 12 and under.



### Rachel' Day Sunday, May 3

Designated as a day to remind us that every child is a gift from God and their safety and well-being is essential to the health of our society. Unfortunately, there are still children being abused, left homeless and starving in our communities today. Although this is only one day set aside as a recommitment to children everywhere, may we remember to pray for the safety of children throughout the world every day.



### May Devotion of Gratitude – Unity in Diversity

*For this devotion, gather together with women of your family or friends, you'll need three differently shaped vessels, a pitcher of water, and a table.*

**First Person states:** Dear God, we gather as one (*pouring water into one vessel*), washed in the waters of baptism, yet we are not the same . . .

**All:** We rejoice in our forgiveness!

**Second Person:** We gather as one (*pouring water into second vessel*), filled with God's Holy Spirit, yet we are not the same . . .

**All:** We rejoice in our diversity!

**Third Person:** We gather as one (*pouring water into third vessel*), vessels for your grace and your service, yet we are not the same . . .

**All:** We rejoice in the gift of community!

**First Person:** Just as these vessels hold water, yet each has its unique purpose . . .

**All:** Rejoicing in our diversity, we serve our God.

**Second Person:** Just as these vessels hold water, yet do not look the same . . .

**All:** Rejoicing in our diversity, we accept each other in Christ's love.

**Third Person:** *Dip a fingertip into one vessel, and turn to the woman to your left.*

*Make the sign of the cross on her forehead (or on the palm of her hand) and say:*

In you I see my sister, sealed with the cross of Christ forever, possessing gifts needed to build the body of Christ. *Repeat around the circle and close with the Lord's Prayer.*

**As we reflect on Daily Blessings for our Gratitude Boxes** may we accept and rejoice in our diversity. *Excerpt from Inez Torres Davis, an associate for programs in the areas of anti-racism, cross-cultural awareness, and commercial sexual exploitation for Women of the ELCA.*

During 2009, each month, an excerpt of a dedicated Devotion<sup>1</sup> to Gratitude will be published in the Lamp as a resource for women to use to inspire their own thoughts for spiritual growth and gratefulness. The entire 2009 Monthly Devotions can be found on the Women at the ELCA website:  
[www.womenoftheelca.org](http://www.womenoftheelca.org)

<sup>1</sup> 2009 Monthly Offering Devotions ©2008 Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Contents may be freely reproduced for use by Women of the ELCA congregational units and synodical organizations provided all copies carry this copyright notice.

## **2009 Schedule of Events**

### **Our Savior's Women – Sisters in Christ**

- May 3** Rachel's Day  
**May 7** Mother/Daughter Banquet  
**July 9** Bible Study in the Park  
**Aug. 13** Bible Study in the Park  
**Aug. 13** Salad Supper  
**Nov. 29-** OSLC Women's Advent Event  
**Dec. 5**

*For more info, check out the "Our Savior's Women" bulletin board in the hallway by the nursery!*

### **Deborah/Naomi Circle**

Next Mtg: May 14 at 7:00 p.m.  
at Betty Rem's home  
Contact: Donna Peterson (439-5903)

### **Lydia Circle**

Next Mtg: May 14 at 6:00 p.m.  
Heather Swanson's home  
Contact: Heather Swanson (439-0463)

### **Hannah Circle**

Next Mtg: May 5 at 9:30 a.m.  
at Carol Whitcomb's home  
Contact: Becky Maier (439-4459)

### **Ruth Circle**

Next Mtg: May 1 at 9:30 a.m.  
at Gisela Ordahl's home  
Contacts: Jean Stenseng (439-5913) and  
Barb Loudon (644-7240)

### **Sarah Circle**

Next Mtg: May 14 at 1:00 p.m.  
Marian Konobeck hostess  
Contact: Donna Carlson (351-5052)

### **Morning Quilters**

Next Mtg: May 7, 14 & 28 at 9:00 a.m.  
Contact: Audrey Reed (430-2744)

### **Mission Quilters**

Next Mtg: May 21 at 9:00 a.m.  
Contact: Audrey Reed (430-2744)

### **Piecemakers (Evening Quilters)**

Next Mtg: May 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 7:30 p.m.  
Contact: Valerie Kubal (998-3973)

### **Card Recyclers**

Next Mtg: May 26 at 9:00 a.m. at church  
Contact: Doris Freeman (439-7876)

### **Prayer Shawl Knitters**

Next Mtg: May 19 at 6:30 p.m.  
Contacts: Sherry Yahner (430-9863)  
Kitty Roettger (777-4192)

## **Adult Ministry: Men**

### **Men's Bible Study**

Next Mtg: May 7, 14, 21 & 28 at 6:00 a.m.  
at church  
Contact: John Rock (747-0311)

### **Friday Guys**

Next Mtg: May 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29 at 6:30 a.m.  
at Joseph's  
Contact: Pastor Steve (439-5704, ext. 14)



### **People Enjoying People (PEP)**

**May 18:** Members of PEP will join together to serve at "Feed My Starving Children." We will meet at the church at 8:30 a.m. Please sign up on the PEP bulletin board in the Gathering Area.

**May 20 & 24:** The PEP choir meets on Wednesday, May 20 at 6:30 p.m. and sing on Sunday, May 24. Let us join together in song!

**Coming in June:** The members of PEP will assist in spearheading the OSLC Family Picnic on Sunday, June 28. Put the date on your calendars NOW!





# Abundant Life in Christ

## *Summer Water Safety*

Contact: Shelly Rock (439-5704, ext. 19)

As summer approaches and hopefully warmer weather, many of us will find ourselves around some type of water, such as pools, lakes, ponds, and oceans. This can be a great time for children and adults alike, unfortunately as much fun and excitement as water can be, it also presents dangers. The number one cause of death for children under the age of 4 is drowning. Sadly the last two years our community has felt the pain and anguish associated with childhood drowning. Following is a personal account of the sudden loss of Elliot Barbier as told by his parents.

On June 14, 2008 we lost our fourth child, Elliot, to an accidental drowning in our backyard pool. It happened in a moment under the watchful eyes of his parents. This horrific day has left us with the worst heartache and pain that a parent can ever feel. Elliot was two and was our little “moose” who always made us smile, had great determination and an amazing personality. We found ourselves fighting over who got to get him up from his nap. He entertained us with his funny mannerisms and his bold determination. He had an amazing smile and unforgettable hair that would always bring a smile to everyone around him. He loved his siblings dearly, along with his “lovie” and “nukie”. Now we’re left with wonderful memories of him, but also a horribly huge hole in our hearts and lives, always wishing for one more moment with him, just one more big “moose” hug and kiss. How does this happen when we’re right there? That is what astonishes us, and that is why we know we must make this our mission to help spread the knowledge and prevent these tragedies from happening to other families. It is our mission to get Elliot’s story heard, to bring awareness that this can happen to anybody in any body of water. Knowledge is power and we need to empower people. We will save lives and prevent these tragedies from happening to others.

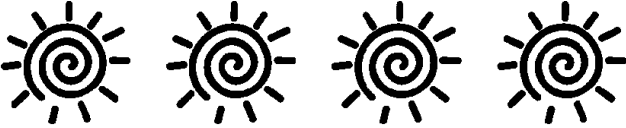
The Elliot Barbier Little Prince Foundation was set up to help others learn about water safety and drowning prevention. If you would like to help the foundation or learn more please contact us at [www.littleprincefoundation.org](http://www.littleprincefoundation.org).

If you do anything with this information, please visit our website and take a moment to click on the ISR (infant safety resource ) link, which shows some amazing videos on how a child can be saved.

### **What Can You Do?**

1. Know the dangers of water and make sure your child understands the seriousness of your rules around water.
2. **ALWAYS** have constant, direct adult supervision. It can take as little as 10 seconds for a child to silently drown.
3. Make sure you have physical barriers in place to help prevent entrance to water areas.
4. Install alarms in your pool or on your children.
5. Your children need to know how to swim or float in case of emergency.
6. Have an emergency plan when all of the above fail.

God’s Peace ~ Marita Metcalf



**SUMMER**  
WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Wednesday SummerSong Worship Services begin  
May 20 at 6:00 pm**

**Sunday Summer Worship services begin  
May 24 at 8:00 & 9:30 am**

**Summer schedule runs through Labor Day, September 6**