



Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Newsletter July 2009

Inside this Issue

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| LCR July Schedule | Page 1 |
| VBS Schedule | Page 1 |
| Helping Hands Fund Raiser | Page 2 |
| Ladies Night Out | Page 2 |
| Sunday School Classes | Page 3 |
| Summer Bible Reading | Page 3 |
| Stewardship | Page 4 |
| Poem of Faith | Page 5 |
| July Birthdays/Anniversaries | Page 6 |
| Worship Assistant Schedule | Page 7 |

June 28 - New Members Welcomed

With joy and thanksgiving we welcomed new members into the fellowship of our congregation. We believe it is the Holy Spirit who has called them, nurtured them and prompted them to step forward. We pray that the Lord would renew and increase in each of them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Carrie Lynn Buckingham and her sons William and Marshall
Clara K. Harper
Kevin John and Lindsay Kieta Krauland and their son Nathan John
Christina "Tina" B. O'Leary

Earlier this year we received Mary Doe, Vanya Andrews and daughter Lakyn Noelle, Mike Miller, Lisa and Dana Oldfield, Rene "RC" and Melissa Castro, and son Michael, as new members.

If you have been worshipping with us, but haven't yet formally affiliated with our community of faith, you are invited to speak to Pastor Jeff. Joining a congregation is a visible expression of what you already are: a child of the heavenly Father and member of the family of God.

July 12 - Don't Miss the Ice Cream Social after Worship on Sunday

Bring your favorite ice cream and toppings, and then we'll set them out on tables so you can sample lots of different treats. It'll be fun for kids of all ages.

So be sure to be here on the second Sunday of July.

July 18 - Treasure Seekers Flea Market Saturday 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

Please spread the word about the flea market in our parking lot. All the information is on page 6 in this newsletter. We are still looking for more folks to have a table of items for sale. Is it time for you to clean out your garage? Just bring your treasures on July 18. (Please let Margie Christopher know so she can save a place for you.) Or do you know someone who was thinking of a garage sale, but felt they didn't have enough stuff for a sale of their own? Tell them to reserve a spot at our flea market. And tell your friends to drive over on the 18th for the treasure hunt.

July 27-31 - Vacation Bible School Son Rock Kids Camp Peter's Adventures with Jesus

The last week in July we'll review the highlights of the life of St. Peter. He met Jesus after he was baptized by John the Baptist, and was with Him all the way to Christ's death and resurrection. Then Peter's story continues in the Book of Acts. Peter was often the spokesman for the twelve disciples, and was a part of the inner group of Peter, James and John. During VBS we'll study five highpoints in Peter's life:

- Jesus calls Peter to follow Him
- Peter takes a leap of faith and steps from the boat
- Peter confesses that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God
- When challenged, Peter denies he knew Jesus
- In the name of Jesus, Peter heals a lame man

At VBS we'll learn what those events mean along with songs, crafts and games to get into the Bible stories.

July 27-31 Vacation Bible School Schedule Monday through Friday

- 6:30 pm – (Picnic) Supper on the terrace
- 7:00 pm – Opening – Songs & Bible story
- 7:15 pm – Activities: Games, Crafts, Bible story, Wilderness themes
- 8:45 pm – Closing & treat

Thank You for Your Generous Response to Our Appeal after the Air Conditioning Failure

Earlier this summer, the unit that cools the “office – nursery wing” of our building broke down. Since our building is 26 years old, we have an air conditioning failure about every other year. In the past, we have had to replace major components in the units that cool the church and fellowship hall, along with some minor repairs.

The replacement part was secured, installed and paid for promptly. Our council president placed the following appeal in the Sunday bulletin on two successive Sundays:

“We need your help! We lost the outside A/C unit that cools the wing with the church office and Pastor’s office, and had to replace it (\$2100). We are going into the summer with very little money in the bank to handle any other maintenance problems. Please prayerfully consider a donation of any amount to help our building make it through the hot summer months and, of course, Vacation Bible School. Kurt Weinelt, President.”

We’re happy to report that as of June 21st we had received a little more than \$2,000 and were very close to our goal. We are grateful to all who went the extra mile by generously giving. Of course if any others would like to add their donation to our “air conditioning / emergency maintenance fund”, we’d be most grateful. There are some old components of the system that haven’t been replaced yet, so we’d like to be prepared.

Your generosity is most encouraging.

Helping Hands Fund Raiser

As most of you know Gary Faile was in the hospital for 82 days after his motorcycle accident at the end of March. He is now recovering at home, and still has challenges ahead. At our church picnic, the money raised at the bingo games was our first fund raiser to aid the Faile family. Margie Perales and her fellowship committee are planning a “plate sale” for our second fund raiser. The details had not been worked out at the time this newsletter went to press, so stay tuned for further developments.

Summer Vacations From Pastor Jeff

I know many of you will be away for part of the summer on well-deserved vacations. Marilyn and I went to New York for two weeks, where we stayed with my sister and brother-in-law. For me it’s going home since they live in the house where I grew up. The weather was unusually cool and rainy, even for New York. In spite of the weather, we managed to spend some time at the beach. And there were opportunities to see other family members. We also went to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, for four days to tour the battle fields. It was a relaxing and refreshing trip.

We hope that your vacations will be equally enjoyable – and maybe even a little more exciting. I look forward to seeing you in church on Sunday when you are in town. Unfortunately the amount of our offerings usually decreases during the summer, but our bills stay at the same level. Hence, we often have a deficit during the summer. Please remember your church and try to stay current with your offerings during the summer. Your faithfulness will make it possible for us to stay up-to-date with all our financial obligations. *Thank you for your support.*

Why Should You Come to Church Every Sunday?

It’s a definition: God’s people are those who are at God’s altar every Sunday. We come to get our spiritual batteries charged and to be enlightened by God’s word. But we are not just here for ourselves – we are here for our brothers and sisters. Your presence supports and encourages others on their spiritual journey. Just by being here you are helping to build up our community. The body of Christ is incomplete without you. So please make a commitment to be at worship every Sunday when you are in town.

Ladies Night Out

On July 20, we will ‘meet and eat’ at Marie Callender’s Restaurant and Bakery @ 4788 NW Loop 410. We will meet at 6:30 pm for an evening of great food and fellowship. And, perhaps, just a tiny piece of one of those wonderful pies! No need to be a member of LCR. Please join us! August will find us at Kim Wah on the corner of Bandera and Huebner.

The Beauty of a Small Church

Some members, when asked why they joined Resurrection, say “because it is a small church”. Carl Dudley, in his book *Making the Small Church Effective*, agrees with them.

“In a big world, the small church has remained intimate. In a fast world, the small church has remained steady. In an expensive world, the small church has remained plain. In a complex world, the small church has remained simple. In a rational world, the small church has kept feelings. In a mobile world, the small church has been an anchor. In an anonymous world, the small church calls us by name – by nick name.”

Or to quote another source, the small church is a “*place where everybody knows your name, and they’re always glad you came.*”

Both Adult Sunday School Classes Continue during the Summer and You’re Invited!

The “Friendship Class” led by Dana Oldfield meets in Fellowship Hall. It’s simply an informal conversation that begins with the sermon outline from the prior Sunday to get the discussion going. It’s an opportunity to ask questions and share insights.

Dean Winter’s class begins in the sanctuary by viewing a ten-minute, thought provoking video. They were produced by Pastor Rob Bell as part of the NOOMA series. Then the class moves to the large nursery to take up the questions raised by the video. A preview of the video is shown on the prior Sunday, immediately after worship.

Summer Bible Reading: St. Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians

In church we’ll begin reading from Ephesians on the second Sunday of July, and then work our way through this letter in July and August. Actually this book of the Bible is only about five pages long, so it will be an opportunity to study it in detail. Even if you can’t be in church every Sunday, you can still read along since we’ll be doing one chapter a week.

This was one of Paul’s last letters, probably written while he was in prison. Like Colossians, which comes from the same period, it is more poetic and philosophical than his earlier letters. (Maybe being in prison gave him a lot of time to think.) Another significant difference is that it does not address specific problems in a particular congregation, as do Galatians, Corinthians, etc. In other words, it is written for every Christian congregation.

It is said that Paul wrote this letter to expand his readers’ horizons, so that they might better understand the dimensions of God’s eternal purpose and grace. (He looks at the big picture.) We have been saved not only for our personal benefit, but also to bring praise and glory to God. He has reconciled us to Himself as an act of grace. Then He would reconcile those He saved to one another, breaking down any barriers that divide. He unites us in one body, the church, under the headship of Christ, foreshadowing the “uniting of all things in heaven and on earth”.

If you accept this invitation to read Ephesians this summer, then a word of advice: Take it slowly, maybe just one paragraph at a time. Read it, ponder it, and read it again. It’s not easy, but rewarding.

What Happened to John the Baptist?

Last December, as we prepared for Christmas, the gospels for two Sundays were devoted to St. John the Baptist. He and Jesus were about the same age, and may have even been cousins. As an adult, John’s role was to prepare the way for Jesus. As a preacher John gathered great crowds and preached a baptism for the forgiveness of sins. He’s mentioned in all four gospels. In John the Evangelists’ gospel, we learn that it was John the Baptist who sent two of his followers to Jesus to become his first disciples. One of them was Andrew, who in turn brought his brother Simon Peter to Jesus.

While John has a big role at the beginning of Jesus ministry, he soon drops out of sight. By the way, from sources outside the Bible, we know that John initially had many followers – and was almost as famous as Jesus. So what happened to him? If you don’t know the “bloody story”, then come to church on July 12 and hear it. If you need to know right now, you can turn to Mark’s gospel, chapter 6, beginning at verse 14.

Stewardship

By Bob Schoonover

When I was young my father invited me to go along with him to trade in the family car. While talking to the salesman I heard him say "I have had absolutely no problem with my car". Realizing he wasn't telling the truth I spoke up and said "That's not true, Dad" Needless to say it was a long time before I was invited to help him sell something again.

Why is it that when money speaks, truth is silent? In a recently survey reported in Money magazine, 1001 people were asked a series of questions:

Have you ever told your spouse you paid less for something than you really did?

Have you ever overstated a charitable tax deduction?

 Padded your expense account?

Almost all who were surveyed admitted to money deceptions. Twenty five per cent admitted lying to others for personal gain. They acknowledged that they underestimated their income for the IRS, inflated charitable contributions and padded expense reports. The study concluded that this behavior "had less to do with greed than with simple insecurity. We want people to see us as we wish we were rather than as who we fear we are--Our efforts to control our image can spur us to spend too much, save too little, invest recklessly and generally not plan for the future."

Why is it that when money speaks truth is silent? The problem is idolatry. We see our images as things that can be molded by money. We forget our image has already been cast in the reflection of our creator. We use money to help us feel secure. The truth is our security rests in God. God calls us to be stewards and entrusts us with the privilege and the responsibility of acting on God's behalf in all aspects of our lives.

Think about how you regard your money. How can you cultivate an attitude of gratitude and trust rather than entitlement, anxiety and greed? GIVING TO GOD is the answer.

Summer Adult Class on Sunday Videos on Questions Christians are Asking Today

Pastor Rob Bell describes the first video in his series like this: "Things don't always work out the way we want them to, or the way we think they will. Sometimes we don't even see it coming...That's

the way life is. Still, it makes us wonder how God can let these things happen to us. How God can just stand by and watch us suffer. Where is God when it really hurts?"

Bell explores these questions with candor, common sense and faith. We'll show a ten minute video on various topics about which Christians are asking questions today – in fact, questions that have been asked for centuries, but take on an immediacy when they are OUR questions.

We'll preview the next week's video after each Sunday service and then show it again at 9:45am (sharp) the following Sunday. The discussion following is guaranteed to be lively, thought-provoking, and, we hope, helpful in our daily lives.

Each video is independent from the others, so if you miss one, you won't be left out of the next week's discussion. Perfect for a summer study.

A Fourth of July Prayer

By Ed Hayes

From A Pilgrim's Almanac

We lift up our hearts, O God, on this day of celebration in gratitude for the gift of being Americans.

We rejoice with all those who share in the great dream of freedom and dignity for all.

With flags and feasting, with family and friends, we salute those who have sacrificed that we might have the opportunity to bring to fulfillment our many God-given gifts.

As we deny all prejudice a place in our hearts, may we also clearly declare our intention to work for the time when all people, regardless of race, religion or sex, will be granted equal dignity and worth.

Come, O gracious God, who led your children Israel from slavery, keep us free from all that might hold us in bondage.

Bless our country and join our simple celebration that we may praise you, our Source of freedom, the One in whom we place our trust.



A Poem about Faith

Minister passing through his church,
in the middle of the day.
Decided to pause by the altar
and see who had come to pray.

Just then the back door opened,
a man came down the aisle.
The minister frowned as he saw,
the man hadn't shaved in a while.

His shirt was kinda shabby
and his coat was worn and frayed.
The man knelt, he bowed his head,
then rose and walked away.

In the days that followed,
each noon time came this chap.
Each time he knelt just for a moment,
a lunch pail in his lap.

Well, the minister's suspicions grew,
with robbery a main fear.
He decided to stop the man and ask him,
'What are you doing here?'

The old man said, he worked down the road,
lunch was half an hour.
Lunchtime was his prayer time,
for finding strength and power.

'I stay only moments, see,
cause the factory's so far away.
As I kneel here talking to the Lord,
this is kinda what I say.'

***'I just came again to tell you, Lord,
how happy I've been.
Since we found each other's friendship
and you took away my sin.
Don't know much of how to pray,
But I think about you every day.
So, Jesus, this is Jim,
Checking in today.'***

The minister, feeling foolish,
told Jim, that was fine.
He told the man that he was welcome
to come and pray just anytime.

'Time to go', Jim smiled, said 'Thanks.'
He hurried to the door.
The minister knelt at the altar,
he'd never done it before.

His cold heart melted, warmed with love,
and met with Jesus there.
And as the tears flowed, in his heart,

he repeated old Jim's prayer:

***'I just came again to tell you, Lord,
How happy I've been, since we found each
Others friendship and you took away my
Sin. I don't know much of how to pray,
But I think about you everyday.
So, Jesus, this is me checking in today.'***

Past noon one day, the minister noticed
that old Jim hadn't come.
As more days passed without Jim,
he began to worry some.

At the factory, he asked about him,
learning he was ill.
The hospital staff was worried,
But he'd given them a thrill.

The week that Jim was with them,
Brought changes in the ward.
His smiles, a joy contagious.
Changed people, were his reward.

The head nurse couldn't understand
why Jim was so glad,
when no flowers, calls or cards came,
Not a visitor he had.

The minister stayed by his bed,
He voiced the nurse's concern.
No friends came to show they cared.
He had nowhere to turn.

Looking surprised, old Jim spoke up
and with a winsome smile said,
'the nurse is wrong, she couldn't know,
that he's in here all the while.'

'Everyday at noon He's here,
a dear friend of mine you see.
He sits right down, takes my hand,
leans over and says to me:'

***'I just came again to tell you, Jim,
How happy I have been,
Since we found this friendship,
And I took away your sin.
Always love to hear you pray,
I think about you each day
And so Jim, This is Jesus,
Checking in today.'***



It's Almost Here!

Treasure Seekers Flea Market

**Saturday, July 18, 2009
8:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

LCR will be open to the public for our first annual "Treasure Seekers Flea Market" fundraiser. Vendors/Sellers will be invited to bring their new and old treasures to sell.

RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW

Who:

- Individuals (LCR and Joe Q. Public) are invited to rent a 10' x 10' space to sell their new items or "garage sale" items from home;
- Invite your family, neighbors and/or friends to join your space or rent their own;

Excellent opportunity for Church Committee fundraisers. Talk with your members and coordinate a Committee table for your own fundraising effort.

Price:

\$10.00 per 10' x 10' space

Date:

Saturday, July 18, 2009

Time:

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM Set up
8:00 AM – 1:00 PM Open to the public for sales.

Specifics:

Bring your treasures --- sell your treasures – and take your rewards and your left-over treasures back home or to the nearest charity box.

(Nothing stays at the church).

Contacts:

Margie Christopher: 681-9189
Joyce Swartz: 623-2288
Judi Schroeder: 684-7782

July Birthdays Anniversaries

| | | | |
|----|---|----|---|
| 3 | Mark McKeighan | 3 | |
| 4 | Sarah Hood | 4 | |
| 5 | | 5 | Rod & Marge Chisholm |
| 6 | Ashley Hemenway | 6 | |
| 7 | | 7 | Sean & Marie McMaughan |
| 8 | | 8 | Kory & Belinda McKeighan |
| 9 | Sandra Cichonsky | 9 | |
| 10 | | 10 | Bill & Laurie Grace |
| 12 | Juanita Talamantes | 12 | |
| 13 | Helen Aude Bob Curtis | 13 | |
| 17 | | 17 | Bernard & Jennifer Arulanandam |
| 18 | Ellen Nystrom Nickolas Hernandez | 18 | Samuel A. & Kristi Garcia |
| 22 | | 22 | Bernie & Delores Schurade Bill & Laura Craig |
| 23 | Charles Teas | 23 | |
| 26 | Allison Hemenway | 26 | |
| 27 | Jennifer Arulanandam Heather Chambers | 27 | |
| 28 | Tom Robinson | 28 | |
| 30 | Raul Martinez | 30 | |
| 31 | Erik Nystrom John Schwab Pastor Marilyn Lange | 31 | |



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Worship Assistant Schedule July 5 to Aug 2



| Date | Ushers | Greeters | Altar Guild | Sunday Church Cleaner | Saturday Church Cleaner |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|
| July 5 | Bill & John Craig | The Bakers | Margie Perales Karen Woodruff | 1 st Sunday Margie Perales | 1 st Sat. 7/4 Jerry McCarty |
| July 12 | Jim & Suanne Oliver | Ken & Janice Doxtad | Janie Saenz | 2 nd Sunday Mark Laneman | 2 nd Sat. 7/11 Tonia Faile Joyce Swartz |
| July 19 | Bob Schoonover Tom Robinson | Janie Saenz Valda Towles | Joyce Swartz Mary Doe | 3 rd Sunday Lorena Guerrero | 3 rd Sat. 7/18 the Schwab's |
| July 26 | Bernie & B. W. Schurade | John Craig Monica Ramsower | Diane & Juanita Talamantes | 4 th Sunday Juanita Talamantes | 4 th Sat. 7/25 Bill & Laurie Grace |
| Aug. 2 | Roy Ronnfeldt Ted Berquam | Margie Perales Joyce Swartz | Margie Perales Karen Woodruff | 1 st Sunday Pat Jenkins | 1 st Sat. 8/1 Bob Schoonover |

| Date | Deacon | Lector | Communion Assistants |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| July 5 | Erik Nystrom | Molly Cude | Mark Laneman Tom Robinson |
| July 12 | Tonia Faile | Bill Grace | Erik and Ellen Nystrom |
| July 19 | Bob Schoonover | Joyce Swartz | Tonia Faile Ken Doxted |
| July 26 | Dean Winter | Jenny Winter | Bob Schoonover Mark Laneman |
| August 2 | Tom Robinson | Jenny Britt | Dean Winter Erik Nystrom |

***If you can not serve when you are scheduled, please find a replacement;
for example, trade with the person serving the following week;
OR call the church office and leave a message.
Thank you.***