

FROM OUR ELDERS (con't)

Parking lot – We put off doing repair and resurfacing last summer. Last year's after worship summer fellowship offering went to this. Together with any other building repair funds, we have a good start at whatever costs might be, but this will not be a cheap project, and there will be no budget monies to put toward it.

Duke Carstensen
Youth and Family Elder

I like to think of Brooklyn Ev. Lutheran Church as my church home. It's more than a few walls and a roof over my head, it's my extended family. It's a personal thing—it's the people in side those walls, young and old, male and female that should make our church home a special place for each of us. Thinking of our church home as a family might cause us to change how we relate to those around us at church. Here are some examples for you to think about:

How do you greet a visitor in your home? Do you ignore them, avoid them or do you make a special effort to talk to them and make them feel welcome in your home? So how do you greet visitors in our church home? Are there not a set of basic questions anyone can use to open up a discussion with someone you don't know? Hi, I'm _____, What's your name? Do you live close by? What do you do for a living? Showing an interest in them will make them feel welcome.

If someone in your family were gone from home for an extended period of time and now suddenly appears, how would you greet them? Would you shy away from them or welcome them with open arms? Wouldn't you seek them out to talk with them? Our church home isn't any different. Shouldn't we

lovingly welcome those who return to the flock? Seek them out. Let them know it's good to see them. Your encouragement might have a positive effect upon them and their desire to hear God's Word more frequently.

If a member of your family were in the hospital, wouldn't you visit them? If they were hospitalized a long way from home, wouldn't you send a card or call them? We often ask our Pastor to visit a member of our family in the hospital in addition to our own visits with them. Should it be any different if a member of our church family were hospitalized? A visit from the pastor isn't meant to take the place of our visits.

That member you haven't seen in weeks. Give them a friendly call to see how things are going. It's not someone else's job to seek them out—think about them as a member of your family you haven't heard from in weeks. Reach out and touch them as a member of your family you haven't heard from in weeks. Reach out and touch them as the commercial says, with a loving heart.

Our church is a part of our extended family and we should treat church members like they were our own family. **Galatians 6:10** says it pretty well—*"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers."* You present a picture of our church to members and visitors alike. How would you like them to view our family of believers?

Gene Wales

Outreach and Evangelism Elder:

✠ **Member Witness Team:** This team is responsible for encouraging and assisting members in their daily efforts to witness by arranging for training sessions, classes,

discussion groups, seminars, and by providing useful resources.

✠ **Community Outreach Team:** This team will manage efforts to make people in the neighborhood aware of your congregation's ministries through whatever means and media available, striving to create for your church a positive image in the community. He or she will seek appropriate partnerships with community service agencies, invite appropriate community programs to meet at Brooklyn Lutheran, and develop outreach projects that build bridges to neighbors – especially through cross-cultural understanding.

✠ **Prospect Nurture Team:** This team will develop strategies for scheduling and tracking contacts with prospects and will arrange for member training to ensure ongoing prospect nurture – centered on sin and grace – including mail, email, phone contacts, and visits from evangelism teams.

✠ **New Member Assimilation Team:** This person will design and launch a program which ensures that those joining the congregation are mentored by experienced and caring members who will help new members become assimilated.



Brooklyn Ev. Lutheran Church

5840 69th Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55429

Reverend Curtis J. Holub
Phone 763 560-5953



by Pastor Holub



God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky".....And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." Genesis 1:7-9

PRAISE THE GOD OF CREATION THIS SUMMER!

Summer is on the way! I hope you have many chances to get out and truly enjoy some summer night skies, beautiful blue lakes, and the lush foliage that covers our state. Man did not make those wonderful things. Man can't even control them. So far, this year has been hard on man's arrogance:

Man likes to think that he has completely conquered the sky, yet one little volcano in an out of the way place knocked a multi-billion dollar hole in international air traffic that is still threatened. Man likes to think that he can control the vast oceans. But a multi-million dollar drilling platform exploded, burned, and sunk into the sea during routine activities, leaving a great well of spewing oil into the "tiny section of the seas" we call the Gulf of Mexico. What a vast mess! Already this year, millions have been displaced and tens of thousands killed by earthquakes and

their resultant destruction.

Will the lack of humility before God be abated?! Will there be a softening toward God? A willingness to hear His Word? A looking for help outside of man's own feeble strength? One of man's great sins is his failure to recognize a Holy Creator. If man will not humble himself, God will do the humbling for him. God can do that through His creation, can't He? The greatest humbling will be on that dreadful day of humbling we call Judgment Day.

How humble are you and I – and understanding of our dependence upon God and His mercy? A grandson needs a hole in his heart fixed? No problem! Just take him to the heart surgeon for repair. The economy is rocky? No problem! I still have MY job. Friends are having problems with their kids? I don't have problems with mine! I'm a good parent.

The turmoil in creation already this year underscores Who alone is in

Quarterly Newsletter—Summer, 2010

control. Let all mankind repent of presumed self-sufficiency. But you – fellow Christian! – marvel this summer and always at the Creator's work and power. Worship Him faithfully week by week at Brooklyn Lutheran or at a sister congregation wherever you might be on a weekend. Make your Maker's praise the highlight of your trips out into His wonderful creation! And speak of your Creator/Savior God to all creation! May the Holy Spirit melt the hearts of many people to humbly fall before God in repentance and adoration!

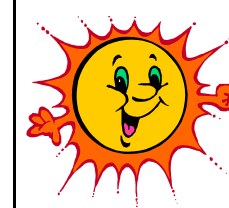
Lord, when things are going well, I too easily take You for granted, if not forget altogether Who's the Creator and who's the creature. My "Christian" life and worship become a charade, a going through the motions. Forgive my arrogance. Move me to humbly stand in awe at Your power and glory in the summer world that lies before me, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Attend your WELS or ELS churches while on summer vacation.

We can help you find a church to attend wherever you go on vacation.

- ◆ 7:00 - Redeemer, Maple Grove and Cross of Christ, Coon Rapids
- ◆ 7:00 - New Life, Shoreview.
- Monday Night Brooklyn Lutheran ball games.
- *Tu, June 8, Pastor/Teacher/Delegate Conference
- Friday, June 11, last day of school
- June 15-17 (Tu-Th)MN District Convention at
 - *Martin Luther College, New Ulm
 - *Duke Carstensen is our delegate this year.
- June 24-27 LWMS in St. Louis, MO
- August 9-13 (M-F) Vacation Bible School



SUMMER SCHEDULE

Our summer schedule begins **Sunday, May 30 with one Service at 9:00 am.** and continues through Labor Day Sunday, September 5th. Sunday School and Bible Classes will recess for the summer. A Fellowship will be held after each summer Sunday morning Service. If you can serve one of these Sundays, there is a sign up sheet by the bulletin board. Donations will be asked for towards parking lot improvement. The Friday morning Bible Class will continue through the summer at 9:30am.

LADIES GUILD

In the past months the Guild has also been discussing the church's restructuring process. We have worked to identify our role in the new structure and in our future as a guild. At our May guild meeting we voted to suspend Ladies Guild for a two year period. This puts us in line with the church council in combining our efforts to achieve the vision/mission of our church for our future. We will be contacting people to become part of the teams that have been created under each elder position. In this way we hope to involve everyone in the service of our Lord. We look forward to the new structure and the learning and growing together in God's Word.

We still will have the same working groups but now it will be under one of the Elder Groups:

- Christian Contact-Discipleship Elder
- Kitchen-Support Elder
- Worship Arts-Worship Elder
- Special Events-Worship Elder

The ladies enjoyed a special Spa-Bible Study Day this past week. We first had a pampering foot soak and then a Bible Study on "Time to Re-Focus". We took time to re-evaluate our hectic schedule and discover not only what the Lord wants for our life, but how to re-focus all that energy into building us up as we serve Jesus. It was presented by Valerie Johnson, Ministry Coordi-

nator True North WELS Campus Ministry. Look for more special projects in the future and join us. On June 6 following 9:00 Church Service, a Graduation Recognition is planned for our graduates. Amy Gabrielson graduated from college and Charlie Schimenz from high school. Congratulations to both of them! Everyone is invited to join us in this celebration.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We want to thank our Sunday School teachers and helpers for faithfully volunteering your time to help our children learn more about Jesus. Sunday School will resume on September 12. There still can be individual and family Bible Study. Remember feeding on the Word of God is just as essential to the Christian's spiritual growth as food is to physical growth for young and old. Vacation Bible School will be held Monday thru Friday, August 9-13. The theme is: "Circle J Ranch!" Get ready for a great ride at the **Circle J Ranch**, for a dude ranch vacation Bible school adventure. Please sign up anytime now and bring a friend.

CHOIR

Both vocal and instrumental music are an important part of worship at Brooklyn Lutheran. We love to not only sing praises to God as a congregation, but enjoy listening to the music of the Adult Choir, the Sunday School and Brooklyn Bridge Preschool children, as well as individual members. We would like to continue the addition of this special music during the summer months and would like to offer the opportunity to participate to any member who might be interested. For more information contact Brenda Glodowski. She will be happy to include your name in an email list so you can be notified of future musical opportunities.

DEVOTE YOURSELF TO PRAYER

- A Is for the attitude of my heart and mind when approaching the altar of God.
- B Is for the burdens and sins brought to Him in prayer.
- C Is for the concern and care for others that they may learn to come to Him in prayer.
- D Is for the desire to dedicate ourselves to Him.
- E Is for everything I talk to Him about, confess to Him and confide to Him.
- F Is for forgiveness needed every single day.
- G Is for His Glory and grace received.
- H Is for heaven.
- I Is just for I, a sinful soul. Because of His grace I have eternal salvation.
- J Is for Jesus in Whose name I pray.
- K Is for His Kingdom.
- L Is for His love, the agape love that comes only from Him Who is the light of life.
- M Is for the Master's mercy which He freely gives.
- N Is for my needs and for my neighbor's needs. Who is our neighbor? All people everywhere.
- O Is for the One Who listens and answers our prayers.
- P Is for His peace that passes all understanding.
- Q Is for the questions that I ask.
- R Is for repentance. It's also for requests and He said that everyone who asks, receives.
- S Is for the Savior Who came to be a servant. He came to serve so I must be willing to serve in His Name.
- T Is for thanks, we often forget to thank Him.
- U Is for unworthy. Unworthy as we are, He hears us and loves us.
- V Is for us to be vigilant in prayer.
- W Is for the witness that I must be so that others may learn to walk with Him.
- X Is for the unknown. Think of it as the Chi (in Greek) which is the first letter in Christ's name.

FROM OUR ELDERS

groups above, you are more than welcome. Please contact Dan Gabrielson or the particular Coordinator of the group you'd like to be a part of.

Goals of the Worship Committee/Group as outlined in the "Vision Document" are as follows:

Goal Already Implemented

- Project the entire service on the wall and incorporate a variety of multimedia as appropriate.

1st Year - 2010 Goals

- Approach each worship service from the standpoint of a visitor. Provide adequate signage outside as well as inside. Have greeters at both front and back doors. Use all means possible to make sure people easily follow and understand the service.
- Implement a consistent and appropriate length for the overall service.
- Focus on messages that are relevant, to the point, and easy to understand for both children and adults, in addition to exploring alternate ways of presenting the sermon.

2nd Year - 2011 Goals

- Provide more opportunities for members to enhance the worship service.
- Use a wider variety of music styles and streamlined liturgies.
- Create a means of attendance taking to provide care and follow-up to guests and absent members.
- Incorporate a topical sermon series several times a year.

3rd Year - 2012 Goal

- Consider adding services utilizing different groups to take responsibility for a service.

4th Year - 2013 Goal

- Vary method used to usher people out of church.

5th Year - 2014 Goal

Designate and staff an area to be used

for child care and as a nursery during worship.

Glen Lieder Support Elder

While we transition to a new organizational structure some things remain the same.

- Treasurer to pay bills and keep financial records
- Financial Secretary to count and record member contributions.
- Building and Grounds Leader to maintain facilities.
- Technology Leader to maintain existing needs and evaluate ever changing opportunities.

We encourage everyone to take the opportunity to join a team to accomplish various projects.

Building and Grounds

A landscaping committee has been formed to look into redoing the plantings in front of the church and commons area. The committee is comprised of: Jerry Steinbach, Renee Graen, Jean Holub, Mavis Kuensting and Duke Carstensen. They have been working with Fair's Nursery and their landscape designer. A formal plan has just recently been drawn up and will be reviewed by the landscaping committee at their next meeting. If this plan were to be implemented it would cost around \$1,000 just for the plantings. There is no formal budget for this project but the committee would gratefully accept contributions toward this project.

Lawn mowing teams are in place for this summer. Thanks to all those who volunteered! A team or two could use one additional crew member. Could that be you? To start the mowing season out, we have and will continue to have a pair of community service workers carrying the bulk of the mowing.

Dave Glodowski, Discipleship Elder

As the Elder of the Discipleship team, I first want everyone to know the meaning of the word "Disciple". This word comes from a Latin word that means "pupil". This makes sense, since Jesus' Disciples were actually His pupils, or His students. As a Bible based church, we all need to be Disciples (pupils) of the Bible. This is where our team will come in. We will be reaching out to you asking you your thoughts on personal Bible study, small group Bible study, and of course Sunday and Friday morning Bible study. The goal is to have each one of you immersed in your Bible.

Dan Gabrielson Worship Elder

Objective of the Worship Committee/Group: Provide both reverent and relevant worship services that give glory to God and offer meaningful worship for His people.

Within the Worship group we are fortunate to already have members who have stepped up to be coordinators for all of the "subgroups" that are part of the Worship Group. These groups with coordinators are as follows:

Music & Services Coordinator -
Brenda Glodowski

Usher & Greeter Coordinator -
Steve Deuth

Nursery Coordinator - Julie Deuth

Worship Arts Coordinator -
Renee Graen

Special Services Coordinator -
Shirley Aleckson

Worship Elder -Dan Gabrielson

Note: Though there are coordinators for each group it certainly doesn't mean that our groups are full. If you have a desire to be a part of any of the



BROOKLYN LUTHERAN

Quarterly Newsletter—Summer, 2010

5840 69th Avenue North
Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55429
Phone: 763 560-5953
Email: brooklynlutheranchurch@yahoo.com

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
brooklynlutheran.com

WEST LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

2010-2011 Student Enrollment

April is the time of the year where final preparations for the next school year begin to take shape. In April, the Board of Regents presented the proposed budget for the 2010-11 school year to the members of the General Board from our association congregations for their approval. Tuition figures and fees are set according to the budgetary needs, anticipated income, and enrollment. A five percent increase is expected. It is hoped that West will maintain 160+ students. Currently, there are 35 students enrolled in the class of 2014. With 42 seniors scheduled to graduate, we are hopeful to gain more registrations over the next few months. The ninth, tenth, and eleventh graders are currently meeting with their advisors and are in the process of registering for next year.

Martin Luther College Graduation & Assignments (Saturday, May 15)
Three past students of West graduated: **Jeremy Wosje** – to continue at the Seminary, also **Phil Strong** and **Elise Wordell** who are both opting to serve in China for a year. It was a very proud moment to see West graduates cross the stage at MLC.

In the afternoon call service **West** was assigned **Miss Rachel Kionka** (Key-on-ka). Rachel is a graduate of Luther Prep in Watertown Wisconsin. Her mother is a teacher at St. Paul's in Ixonia, WI (just east of Watertown), where Rachel attended elementary school. Ra-

Mission Statement



*We exist to use the Gospel of
Christ to win the lost and to
nurture believers, all to the
glory of God.*

chel is an elementary/ secondary education graduate (5year, double major student) who opted to serve a year in Malawi, Africa after graduating. She was assigned a year later to Luther Prep in Watertown as a tutor, where she has been these past two years – teaching classes and supervising dorm students. She is a very polished, experienced young lady. God has answered our prayers. May He continue to bless our work as an association of congregations educating our young people and providing numerous young people of other faiths, along with ours, an opportunity to feed richly on God's Word in a Christian environment.

Saturday, May 29 2:00 —Graduation at West Lutheran. 42 seniors will graduate.



Does it seem that a whole school year has passed us by already? It has been busy with ups and downs, but with God's grace we are full in all of our classes. The children who attend are happy, healthy, and always excited to learn.

The children sang for the midweek Lenten service on March 10. Fifteen attended with parents and other relatives. We would like to thank everyone who helped welcome these families.

Parent/Teacher Conferences were held and the end of April. I had a chance to visit with twenty four families. These conferences have become excellent times to, not only talk about the child, but also get to know them in a more personal way. It opens the door to direct their questions to Pastor Holub, search out our other WELS schools as they look towards elementary school, or to just be a listening ear to the struggles they are currently facing. What a blessing we have in operating such a wonderful school!

Coming up is the Summer Pot-luck and Children's Program. We'll be holding it on **Thursday, June 10**. Pot-luck will be at **6:00 PM** with the program to follow. I hope everyone can attend.

Watch for more news in upcoming bulletins! God's Blessings!

- Miss Koch

BROOKLYN BRIDGE BUCKS

We are excited to announce that we have raised enough money to buy a few new items for our playground. Thank you so much for all your support. See Cindy Boyd or Dawn Heebl if you have any questions, or check out www.scrip.com.

Y Is to yield ourselves to the Lord.
Z Is for the zero hour that approaches for all of us. May it find us waiting, watching and praying.
From January until May we had 22 prayer requests plus updates on those requests. Please feel free to make use of the prayer chain. Contact Bonnie Johnson, 763-427-0448. After May 28, the number will be 612 789-2130.

MEN'S SOFTBALL SCHEDULE

Our church's softball team plays all its games on Monday evenings. The following schedule will be in effect:

- May 24—vs. Peace Lutheran 7:20 at West Palmer W.
- May 31—No games
- June 7—vs. Spiritual Life 6:20 at West Palmer W.
- June 14—Position Night
- June 21—Second Round starts

We invite everyone to come and cheer for our team.

We thank our retiring members of the team for their years of entertaining us with softball every summer.

Mike Boyd who was on the team since it started in 1982.

Brian Larson, Larry Heebl and the many people who played for our Brooklyn Lutheran Softball Team. They won quite a few trophies through the years.

Dan Gabrielson retired last season. Andrew Boyd, the new manager and Tom Gabrielson started playing with the team a couple years ago, but have been with the team since the 1986 season. They both were born in September, 1985 and probably haven't missed very many games since then.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, MIKE BOYD

THE MORE THINGS CHANGE THE MORE THEY STAY THE SAME!!
How many times have you either

said or heard those words?? I know that I have heard them many times in my life. In fact I will never forget walking into a classroom at WEST Lutheran once and on the board was written, "Those who fail to learn history, are destined to retake it." History repeats time and time again. Where am I going with this??

We are embarking on a big "change" at the church in how we are administered, how we reach out to the community and other ways as well. The question that I have been getting is, how much of a change is this really? My answer is, some and none. Are we changing the word of God? NO! Are we abandoning the Bible? Again, NO! We are not even changing some of the administrative ways that we do things. Those things work, why change them.

What we are changing is the way that we present ourselves to others. For many years I and all of the rest of us have known that we are a fun group of people at BELC. We have a fantastic choir, fun social gatherings, a great softball team and other fun and exciting things to do. One other thing that we have that some churches don't have is the true word of God. (So come for the fun, stay for the word.) But what we want to do now is tell people that we are good people and that you can be saved through Christ and we will show you Christ in all His Glory. What is so different about this from the way we have done things before? One big thing, we are going to seek them out instead of expecting them to come to us and learn it. That is the change that we are looking at. A big but subtle change non the less.

Change is scary, I know that. And as some have told me, change does not come easy. I know that as well. But how many of us pick

and choose the change we like? I know that I do, How many of you, like me, have cursed and said that they have no time for those stupid video games that kids play?? My kids will tell you that we never had a video game console in our house when they were growing up. But how many of us play solitary on the computer or some game that we are comfortable with? It is still a game, but one we know, so that is different. How many of you remember the first computer we got at the church? I know that I do, because my then new mother-in-law was not shy about telling us that she could take care of the things she had to do just as easy the way she always had done them, why did we need this machine. Fast forward to this past weekend and she was talking to me about how the software should be upgraded to Windows 2007 because some of the things that she is getting she can not open. Comfort is a good thing and a bad thing. Change is stepping outside of your comfort area and doing something a little different. We can all do it, it takes a little effort but that is why God gave us each other. We are in this together, you are not stepping out there by yourself and you are not all on your own. You have a family of believers behind and beside you helping and encouraging you along the way.

Take the step! Tell one of the Elders that you can do that job! They have a few open and need your help. Over the last few weeks the Elders have been telling you about the changes and the help that they need from you to make those changes work. Some have said, "Send me send me." We need everyone to join in, work with us to show the rest of the world what a Love we have here at BELC and how they can share in God's love now and forever!!!!