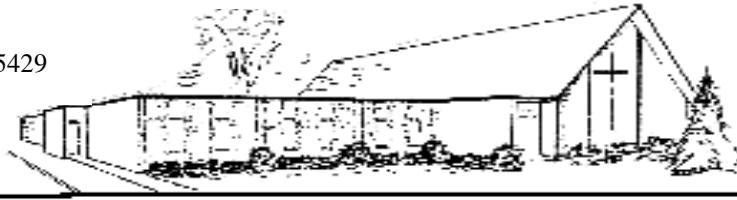




Brooklyn Ev. Lutheran Church

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ALWAYS SOMETHING TO LEARN!

by Pastor Holub

Quarterly Newsletter—Spring, 2008



When I was a child going to midweek Lenten

services, I remember being impressed by the fact that nearly every elderly member of my congregation came to those services. To me that seemed strange in a way. After all, they surely knew all the facts of the Passion History, having heard it solemnly read over and over again for so many years. Likewise, it seemed to me that there was probably nothing all that new that the preacher could say to them about what Jesus had done for them on the cross. After all, they had heard that message hundreds of times before. And, besides all that, I knew it had to be difficult for many of them to come to those evening services. Some of them had trouble getting around. Some of them had to arrange for rides since they couldn't drive at night. Often the weather was cold and damp. And, yet, they would not dream of missing even one of those Lenten services. Why?

I think I understand now why those services meant so much to them. It was not so much a matter of learning

some new facts about what Jesus had done; rather, they were there for comfort. They loved to hear again and again the most beautiful message in the world—the message that Jesus loved them so much that He died for each of them. The facts of the Gospel message may have been familiar, but they realized that there was always something new to learn.

There is a parallel here for all of us. In Services, Bible Class, and Sunday School, it is probably true that most of what we hear and learn is not really new to us. After all, most of us have already been instructed carefully in our homes and churches; we have been confirmed. And yet, just like the elderly people who attended Lenten services in my home church years ago, we all need to be reminded of Jesus' dying love and what

it means for us more than anything else in the world. We too desperately need that comfort, that sweet assurance of the Gospel that can only come to us through contact with the Word of God. Like those people in my home church, there is always something new to learn, some new way to apply the Scriptures to our daily lives, some precious encouragement to take with us as we lead our daily lives. For you and your families, it isn't always easy to attend midweek services. For all of us, it takes special effort and commitment. But what a treasure awaits those who make this effort to be where God's Word is being taught! Remember, for all of us there is always something new to learn each and every Sunday. Now also on Wednesday nights during Lent, as well as in Bible Classes year around.

SEDER DINNER



Come and celebrate the Passover with us! The Ladies Guild would

like to invite you (confirmed members only) to a Passover Seder Dinner to be held on Saturday, March 15th at 6:30 pm. You will hear the story of the Exodus and learn how Israel's redemption from bondage in ancient Egypt is linked to the redemption we have in Jesus. *"The Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world."* The Passover dinner culminates in Communion as Jesus celebrated it with His disciples in the upper room. There is a sign-up sheet in the commons by the bulletin board. Or you can RSVP by calling 763 560-5953 or e-mail us at brooklynlutheran church@yahoo.com. Please reply by March 9. There will be a freewill offering.



Crossroads
Traveling with Our Savior

LENTEN SCHEDULE

- Ash Wednesday, February 6: *Crossroad* — From Galilee to Judea - Pastor Holub
- February 13: *Crossroad* — From Upper Room to Gethsemane — Pastor Kurtzahn
- February 20: *Crossroad* — From Bethany to Jerusalem — Pastor Boettcher
- February 27: *Crossroad* — From Gethsemane to the Sanhedrin — Pastor Bentz
- March 5: *Crossroad* — From Pilate to Herod and Back — Pastor Schmeichel
- March 12: *Crossroad* — From the Sanhedrin to Pilate — Pastor Schultz

Did You Know.....?

- Seder Dinner at Brooklyn Lutheran on Saturday, March 15 at 6:30
- Sacred Concert at West Lutheran on Monday, March 17 at 7:30
- Easter Breakfast served from 8:45 to 9:30 am on Easter Sunday.

HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE

This season gives us another wonderful opportunity to worship our Lord and Savior Who gives us new life.

Just as Ash Wednesday begins Lent, so Maundy Thursday marks the end of Lent proper and the beginning of the Three Holy Days of Christendom.

On **Maundy Thursday, March 20 at 7:00**, we receive our Lord's instructions and celebrate His Holy Supper.

On **Good Friday, March 21 at 7:00**, we are touched by our Savior's sacrifice for us in our somber, yet comforting **service of darkness**. Communion will be celebrated.

Easter Sunday, March 23, bursts with joy in our Easter Services at **7:30 and 10:00 am** with Easter breakfast served from 8:45 to 9:30 am.

Do you know someone who is wondering where to go? Wouldn't it be great to invite them and bring them with you to worship our **Risen Lord**?

WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW)

The Women of the Word have continued to meet twice monthly (second and fourth Mondays of the month). We have started a new study titled: *Facets ofThe Beauty of Balance: Living an Integrated Life*. "This Christian Women's Bible Study from Concordia Publishing House is designed to lead God's daughters into a fuller recognition of who we have become in Christ Who has redeemed us and Who empowers us to use our time for Him in joy."

The six lessons include:

1. Falling Apart, Coming Together
2. My Time, My Life, My Purpose
3. A Wise Walk

4. People and Priorities
5. Designing New Directions
6. Time to Change

Each topic is completed in a single night. We enjoy this hour long Bible study together sharing common issues as women.

DEVOTE YOURSELF TO PRAYER

10 Ways to Pray

1. A deeper understanding of our value and worth before God.

Eph. 1:4 "He chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight."

2. Caring Christian friendships and involvement in Christian community.

Heb. 10:25 "Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another"

3. Opportunities to share Christ through my words and actions.

Matt. 25:40 "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

4. Strength to stand firm in the face of temptation.

I Cor. 10:13 "God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear....he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."

5. Greater understanding of what it means to be loved by God and to love others.

Romans 8:39 "neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

6. Integrity and honesty.

Prov. 12:22 "The LORD detests lying lips but he delights in men who are truthful."

7. Humility to admit my sins and ask for forgiveness.

Prov. 28:13 "He who conceals his sins does not prosper, but whoever confesses and renounces them finds mercy."

8. Wisdom in my daily life and actions.

James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom he should ask God, who

gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him."

9. A sense of God's calling and purpose in my life.

Eph. 1:11 "In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything...."

10. Gratitude in all things.

Col 3:15 "Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts....And be thankful."

The above was taken from "Today's Christian Woman"

Talk to our heavenly Father. Tell Him what you need and be sure to thank Him for all He has done in your life. *The Prayer Chain is there for you. If you would like the Prayer Chain to pray for you, a family member or friend, please contact or call Bonnie Johnson, 763-427-0448*

WEST LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

"Warrior for a Day" is a day reserved for all upper grade elementary school students to visit West Lutheran High School. This opportunity is intended for all students of our area congregations, both those currently attending a Lutheran elementary school and those attending an area public school.


During the course of the day, these students will get a personal glimpse of the educational atmosphere and the full range of classes and activities offered here at West. What a great opportunity for you students to become acquainted with facility, the faculty, the daily schedule, other students, and the nature of the various classes in the curriculum.

Begin planning now for your student to attend "Warrior for a Day!" on Monday, February 25th.

Also on Monday, February 25, **Parents Information Night** will be from 7-8:30 pm. Parents of prospective students for the 08/09 school year are welcome to attend. Parents will have an opportunity to meet the faculty, learn more about the details of the

There's a Reason
 For every pain that we must bear,
 For every burden, every care.
 There's a reason.
 For every grief that bows the head,
 For every teardrop that is shed,
 There's a reason.
 For every hurt, for every plight,
 For every lonely pain-racked night.
 There's a reason
 But if we trust God as we should,
 It all will work out for our good.
 He knows the reason.

“...We know
 that in all
 things God
 works for the
 good of those
 who love
 Him...”
Romans 8:28



curriculum, and discover the various extracurricular activities that West offers your son or daughter. Information regarding student registration, forms, and fees, as well as details about tuition, tuition assistance and enrollment procedures will also be provided.

On March 17th at 7:30 pm, West Lutheran choirs and band will have their sacred concert **“RELIGIOSO”**. It will be held in the gym at 3350 Harbor Lane North in Plymouth. You are all invited to attend.

The **annual Wise Penny Garage/Bake Sale** is scheduled for May 2-3. Can you help? We are looking for volunteers to help sort, price, supervise, and sell items at the sale. If you can help out the week of April 28-May 3, anytime between the hours of 9 am and 9 pm, please notify Patty Lindgren by calling the school office or e-mailing plindgren@wlhs.net.

Those wishing to donate items may drop off usable, clean items at the school gym April 28-May 2. Baked goods may be brought in May 2nd.

Garage/Bake Sale hours are:

- Friday, May 2, 4:00-8:00 pm with a pre-sale entry fee of \$2 per family.
- Saturday, May 3, 8:00 am-4:00 pm.

**Volunteer at
 Wise Penny**

As many of you know, Wise Penny Thrift Shop, located in Buffalo helps to support West Lutheran High School, LIMA and Christian Life Ministries. The 2007 goal was reached and exceeded! Through the efforts of the valuable volunteers they were able to give \$144,350 to WLHS, \$39,222 to LIMA and \$12,303 to Christian Life Ministries. Our church has two different opportunities for members to volunteer. Scheduled days are the second Monday of each month along with one Sunday a month. Check your monthly church calendar for the dates. Wise Penny can always use more volunteers. As you can tell by the monies donated above Wise Penny processes a lot of articles and can always use more help. Please consider becoming a member of the valuable volunteers at Wise Penny. You will not regret it, but rather will enjoy the time spend with other members. If interested, contact Arlou Lorenzen, Cindy Boyd, Julie Death or Bonnie Johnson.

**From our President -
 Mike Boyd**

2008 is upon us and with the New Year comes new members for the church council and I am excited this year to have new members join the rest of us on the council to help do the Lord's work. Joining Glen, Roger, Booker, Doug and me are Guy Schimenz and Brian Larson. Both bring with them the talents that God has bestowed upon them and the experience of being on the council in the past.

Many opportunities await the congregation this year and I am sure that all of us at BELC are ready to take them on. First and foremost is the budget. For the first time in my memory we have a working budget with no “extras” in there that we can trim in order to meet the budget. (See my article in the last newsletter about how we meet our goal without having the money.) The budget was created using actual numbers from gifts and income and then after paying the bills what did we have left for missions such as Synod, WEST and LIMA. All very good causes, but we must make a budget that is reflective of what we are really going to spend. The practice of promising these groups a large number and then not meeting that number is unfair to both them and us.

In the late fall of this year our note with the bank

comes due. We will need to either pay it off or refinance the principle. Our financial gurus have already begun working on this problem to see if today's lower interest rates would not be beneficial to have that process now instead of later this year.

Add these items with the building and grounds repairs that will need to be made this year, the continuing work that is there for the Brooklyn Bridge School and the ever present need for us to increase the flock-and you can see that we are a little church with many opportunities. But even with these items laid out in front of us, I continue to remain optimistic about BELC. For two reasons, the first is the truth that is given to us in Matthew 19; 26 - Jesus looked at them and said, **“With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.”** The second reason I remain optimistic is that we have great people all through BELC. It is the people of BELC that make the church what it is so the new council again asks that you prayerfully consider helping out at church and lending a hand.

**March-Food Shelf
 Month**

Every year in March we take collections of canned goods, and dry goods which are taken to C.E.A.P. for distribution to the needy of our community. There will be a table in the commons where you can bring your donation. Please show your Christian love to our community.



BROOKLYN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Quarterly Newsletter—Spring, 2008

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
brooklynlutheran.com

S	H	Q	W	E	P	E	N	R	T
O	S	A	P	O	E	A	I	U	Y
C	I	S	D	F	N	G	P	H	J
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<u>Topic</u>	<u>Word List</u>	English	Gym
School	Social Studies	Pencil	Books
	Science	Pen	Paper
	Calculator	Technology	Math



These winter months make us thankful for lots of things. Most importantly, we are thankful for the chance to share Jesus with these little children. Here's what we've been up to...

November – Thank you to everyone who came to our annual Harvest Party. I hope you all had a great time. I know I did. Seeing the children in their costumes and playing all those games was so much fun! We love one of our new songs called, “I Like To Count It, Count It.” We count by 1’s, 5’s, 10’s and 2’s in this song. If you look on our bulletin board you will find many new words the children can read. A new addition to our day is “game time.” We now play “Memory” all the time. The children are great at this game.

December – We had Christmas trees, Christmas ornaments and Christmas

lights. But best of all, we had Christ in our Christmas and faithfully counted down the days until our Savior’s birthday. We ate ice cream cones to celebrate the letter I and discovered both the Pre-K and Kindergarten love vanilla flavored ice cream. Strawberry came in second and surprisingly chocolate was last. Because this month is all about germs, we learned how to scrub our hands with soap and water. This is very important when people around us are sick. We also read a book I wrote called Sick, Sick, Sick!. Then the children illustrated their own pages to make a class book.

January – It seems as though January just came and went in a blur of cold, colder, and really, really cold weather! We had a wonderful time in the snow, although most of the time the snow was too hard for making a snowman. But, we hiked, climbed mountains and went crunch, crunch, crunch in the snow. We are learning what is cold and what is hot. The snow and ice are definitely cold.

February – Finally, February was a month of par-

ties! The Kindergarten celebrated 100 days of school. They made projects that you can see displayed on the tables in the fellowship area, and even had 100 candles on a special cake! We also celebrated Valentine’s Day! This is actually the most exciting holiday during the school year! Many of the children brought cards and candy for all of their friends. This year, we decided to send valentines to a unit of soldiers stationed overseas and away from their families. We would like to give a big THANK YOU to the members of Brooklyn Bridge and Cross of Christ who helped contribute items for our care packages to the soldiers. We spent weeks making Valentines in the classroom. The children had so many questions to ask, and so many things to tell about themselves. We sent the packages to 2nd Lieutenant John Watrin. He is our contact person for this unit. He will make sure that the items are passed out to all the soldiers stationed with him. The unit is a National Guard group of 50 men and 20 women. They are based at Camp Ripley, MN and are currently stationed in Iraq until early July. The four boxes weighed about 67 lbs!

Katie Koch