



# Brooklyn Ev. Lutheran Church

5840 69th Avenue North  
Brooklyn Park, Minnesota 55429

Reverend Curtis J. Holub  
Phone 763 560-5953

Web

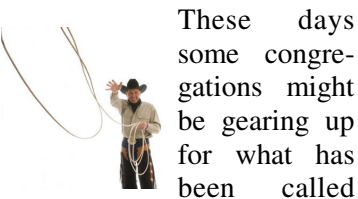


by Pastor Holub

Quarterly Newsletter—Fall, 2008

*“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to Me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” Rend your heart and not your garments. Return to the Lord your God, for He is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and He relents from sending calamity...Blow the trumpet in Zion, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly. Gather the people, consecrate the assembly; bring together the elders, gather the children...Joel 2:12-16.*

## TIME FOR A ROUNDUP?



These days some congregations might be gearing up for what has been called

“Roundup Sunday” – the first Sunday after Labor Day, when all the school year church programs and schedules kick back in. But Roundup is what our Building and Grounds Chairman successfully applied to the weeds and other undesirable vegetational growth on our property this summer.

The term “roundup” applied to church members should give each of us reason to pause and get the creeps. God’s sheep and lambs should not have to be

“rounded up” after a summer of wandering and straying from God. What does that say about our Christianity? And what does it suggest about those who may not hear or heed the call to return to the “fold?”

Ongoing, year round faithful participation in the Lord’s Church is more than good for the soul. It solidifies one (or a family) in a valuable habit. On the contrary, when a party becomes unfaithful during any season, it becomes a habitual faith bleeding for them and by example for any of their children – whether those children are in the home or grown up. We need to face the reality that this, more than succeeding generations moving to more distant suburbs, has been the major

wound to our congregational health.

Whether a sin is despising preaching and God’s Word (the Third Commandment) or any other commandment, repentance is called for. Renewal begins with repentance – renewal in our personal lives and renewal in our collective congregational life. This fall more than ever it is probably time to call for a roundup of those who are going to stand with God’s people at Brooklyn Lutheran. It is a time for pastor and congregation together to ask God’s forgiveness for not seeking the straying more aggressively and allowing the sheep to be finished off by Satan’s “Roundup” on the unfaithful. Do we care that our brothers and sisters in Christ at Brooklyn

Lutheran, some biologically related, are being poisoned off spiritually and are now on the road to hell?

It is a time to resolve as part of renewing Brooklyn Lutheran that we each will be faithful to our faithful God, Who died for us and now lives and reigns on high to one day return and judge this world. The welfare of Brooklyn Lutheran begins with taking seriously the eternal life or death of each individual soul. It starts with your own soul. It extends to church family members and the members of your own family. It goes on to concern for the lost souls of our community and the world.

**Let’s “round ‘em up!”**

## FALL SUNDAY MORNING STARTUPS.....

Our fall service and education schedule begins September 7th.

• **WORSHIP** 10:00am Sundays

*\*We allow God to speak to us from His Word and respond with our prayers and praises!*



• **SUNDAY SCHOOL** 8:45 - 9:45am

*\*Bible Stories, Singing, Memorizing God’s Word*

• **ADULT and TEEN BIBLE CLASS** 8:55—9:45 am

*\*Studying and learning God’s Word*

## Did You Know.....?

- We will change time of Service to 10:00 starting September 7
- Brooklyn Bridge School opens on September 2
- Blood Drive is on Sept. 25
- Mission Festival is on Sept. 28.

### MISSION FESTIVAL

Mission Festival will be observed on Sunday, September 28. Pastor Gary Wong, an adult convert from the San Francisco Bay area and current WELS campus pastor at Mankato State, will be our guest speaker. A potluck dinner will be held after the Service.

### BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Where has the summer gone? I guess we all ask ourselves this every year in August. Hopefully your summer has meant enjoying our weather, barbecues, outdoor activities and our Church fellowship. Summer also means keeping up with your lawn, flowers and to-do's outside and inside your home or apartment.

The Building and Grounds Crew has the same responsibilities regarding the care and upkeep of our Church. We have accomplished quite a bit this summer starting with the spring clean-up, the removal of shrubs in the front of the church, getting all the mowers ready and replacing some windows in the Church. We have also kept up with the lawn cutting, tree pruning, weed control, fixing speed bumps, watering flowers, removing graffiti from the garage and the many other tasks involved in keeping our Church nice.

I'd like to take a moment to sincerely thank all volunteers who have donated their special talents, time and energy to help out with the work. Without the teamwork and dedication I don't know what our grounds would look like, but I can assure you they would not be as pleasing to the eye as they currently are.

Thank you all, you are a great team to work with.

Guy Schimenz  
Building and Grounds

### WOMEN OF THE WORD

We start up again on Monday, August 25th at 7pm and will meet the second and fourth Mondays of each month. At the first meeting we will decide what subjects we will study for this year.

### LADIES GUILD

The first meeting of the Ladies Guild for this season is Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00pm. This group is a study/fellowship/service organization. Starting in October we will have our meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. All women are welcome.

### DEVOTE YOURSELF TO PRAYER

Do you pray according to God's will?

Remember what Jesus said in John 15:7 *"If you remain in Me and My words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you."* Then again in 1 John 5:14 *This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us.* Prayer requires a willingness to do His will. In order to learn how to discern His will we must sit at His feet. In other words, stay in His Word. Maintain a relationship with God. Stay in communication with Him. It is impossible to pray correctly if we don't know and believe the teachings of Jesus Christ. From these words of Jesus we can know that He will hear and answer believers' (our) prayers. Prayer is a privilege that is reserved for believers, children of God. How special and precious are we Christians that we can say we talk with God (pray) anywhere, any time and any place. Thank You, Lord! So far this year we have had 20 prayer requests. To utilize the Prayer Chain please contact Bonnie Johnson at 763-427-0448.

### BROOKLYN LUTHERAN CHOIR

Do you like to sing? Would you like to be part of a fun group? If your answer is "yes", then the Brooklyn Lutheran Church Choir is the place for you. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 10 at 7:00. We always have a great time and the more the merrier. Come and see what it's all about!

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins September 7! All children four to fourteen are welcome. We meet weekly at 8:45am, and go one hour to 9:45am.

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School was held at Brooklyn Lutheran Church Monday through Friday, August 11-15, with the theme **"Quest for Truth."** We had an average of 26 students. We would like to thank our helpers: Shirley Aleckson, Duke Carstensen, Kelli DeShaw, Debra Freeman, Heather Holub, Jean Holub, Pastor Holub, Zandra Johnson, Katie Koch, Mavis Kuensting, Colleen Larson, and Jessica McCoy. Thanks to the DeShaws for the donation of cookies.

### ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

The Annual Blood Drive will be held on **Thursday, September 25 from 3:30-6:30 pm.** Anyone over the age of 16 who has not given blood after **July 31**, may donate at this drive. We need 31 volunteers in order to have a successful blood drive. **Signup forms are on a table** in the commons area.

### WELS RADIO BROADCAST!

In addition to **"Time of Grace"** TV telecast, 6:30am, channel 9—now add **"Reason for Hope"** - Sundays, 11-11:30am, on KKMS—980am. Pastor Don Patterson, Holy Word Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas, leads this radio Service which first aired in March, 2005. More later!

## From our President - Mike Boyd

### 50 YEARS OF MEMORIES

With the announcement of the events for next year's observance of Brooklyn Lutheran's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary I have been having some fun with Cindy. She is among the group of folks who will be recognized on three of the four Sundays that have events planned. Many of you will remember that Cindy is one of the first children to be baptized at BELC. Add in that she was confirmed and married here, she will be busy next year. Then today I spoke with Bridget and realized that she too has the same thing going for her in that she has three of the four accomplished at BELC. And there are many others who can point to the same. We hope that all of them come next year for the observances. How wonderful is it that all of these children of God have a place that they are able to say 'This is my church!' They can know that the church they were born into and grew up continues fully rooted in the Word of God.

As I look back over the time that I have been here, many events come to mind that make me proud to have been a part of the history here. I remember back to the Children's Christmas Services for which we practiced weeks on end to make sure that we all knew what to do and when—how to march in and sit on your bench that had been placed on the platform built in the chancel to hold all of the kids who were up

there. We would rise and say our parts for the Service in place because there was no room to move. I remember being so excited for VBS to start so that we could play softball everyday at the breaks, with Pastor Dorn pitching to both teams and having enough kids for four and even five in the outfield. OK, maybe that is not the reason you were supposed to be excited for VBS but we were kids.

Remember the choir concerts that have been done here? Not just the Christmas concerts but other productions that the choir has done here. Or think back to the children's choir and their play productions. Also, who could forget all of the soloists who have lifted songs of praise during a regular or special service? There have been so many very memorable tributes to God by people using the abilities with which He blessed them.

Looking back, we ARE blessed. This is why I was so encouraged during the Town Meeting when I asked who wanted to let the church die. Not a hand went up. And when I asked who was willing to work on a Parish Assistance undertaking, many hands went up. I for one am looking forward to having them come in and help us do the Lord's work on this little corner of Brooklyn Park.

**Believe there is  
nothing too big  
or too small to  
do well.**

**Pictures will be taken of our members for our church's 50 anniversary pictorial directory** by Life-Touch Studios. The dates are **October 21 and 22** in the evening. **Signup forms are on a table** in the commons area.

### MEN'S SOFTBALL

I have just finished writing about the 50 years of memories at BELC and talked about playing softball when we would take breaks at VBS. In particular, I remember it being me and my brother Mark, Brian and Brent Tommerdahl and Brian and Kevin Salzwedel most gungho about ball. It got me to thinking that I have been playing ball for over 30 years as a part of this church.

While I have very fond memories of playing WAY BACK then, I have even better memories of the past 27 years that we have had an adult team. I will never forget the day Keith Mammon approached me and asked if I thought we could get a team together. Loving the game the way I do, I might have been more enthusiastic than I should have been. Those first years we played at Fair Oaks School for most of our games and we did quite well. Then about 20 or so years ago we moved to Brooklyn Center and have been playing there ever since.

Over the years many guys have come and gone on the team, but one thing has been consistent and something that we all can be proud of. This is very much a family event and a church event. Many of the kids of players will tell you that they had fun on softball nights. They will tell you about hanging out at games with friends

that they knew from church, running the bases after the game and so on. And even today it is a family event. My son Andrew and Tom Gabrielson are now playing with their fathers, on the same team that they watched as a kids. Also playing with their Dad are Wes and Sam Trebesch playing with Guy. (We have been playing a "combined WELS" team for a few years due to low numbers.)

And the fans have made it a fun time as well. We have THE MOST FAITHFUL fans I have ever seen! Win or lose, good season or bad, we always have the most fans in the stands. Many have been with us since the start. I have often felt sorry for some of the teams that we have played who do not have one fan show up to watch. I would not know what to do if we did not have fans show up, it would not be a game for us.

As many of us come to the twilight of our careers, I look back on the years and thank God for this blessing He has given me over the years. Most of all, I will remember the fellowship that has been in this activity. Many thanks to all of you who have supported the team and a huge thanks to Lutheran Brotherhood, AAL and Thrivent for all of their financial support over the years.

Thanks to these guys for giving us fun entertainment this summer. They did well during the regular season and placed second in the season end tournament. Wow! Good for you!

~From a long time Fan~



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Quarterly Newsletter—Fall, 2008

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

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
brooklynlutheran.com

## New Mission Statement?

The board of Elders is proposing for adoption by the congregation the following shorter mission statement:



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

### WEST LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

Pack your lunch and sharpen your pencils! The first day of school is just around the corner. Enrollment is slightly down but school spirit remains high. Stop by for a visit. Here is a list of upcoming events for the first semester. Mark the dates on your calendar. We hope to see you there!

- Tuesday, August 26 – Opening Service – 8:15am
- Friday, September 19 – Homecoming Football Game
- Saturday, October 11 – Auction
- Tuesday, October 14 – Spaghetti Supper Concert – 6:00pm
- Sunday, November 2 – Reformation Service – 4:00pm
- Friday, November 7 – Fall Play “The Princess and the Pea” – 7:00
- Saturday, November 8 – Fall Play “The Princess and the Pea” – 7:00
- Tuesday, December 16 – Christmas Concert

Interested in going to a football, soccer, or volleyball game? Visit our website at [www.wlhs.net](http://www.wlhs.net) for dates, times, and travel directions. Go, Warriors!

### FUND RAISERS TO BENEFIT BROOKLYN BRIDGE SCHOOL

#### Scrip

You can purchase prepaid certificates or cards (at face value) to pay for services and products from the merchants that you already use like Cub, Holiday, Applebee’s, Sears, Borders, Subway, Macy’s and many more.

A percentage of the purchase price goes directly to our school.

There are some certificates available now for purchase. See Cindy Boyd or Dawn Heeb.

You can get more information about the Scrip program at [www.scrip.com](http://www.scrip.com)

#### United Way

Remember Brooklyn Bridge School when you make your United Way pledge at work.

#### Thrivent Matching Funds

Policy holders can make a gift of up to \$600 that will be matched 50% (\$300) by the insurance company.



Can you believe it? Summer has simply flown by and here we are again at another school year.

School starts this year on September 2nd. Did you know this is our seventh preschool year? We currently have over 30 students enrolled for the next school year. 15 of those students were enrolled before the end of June.

We are still looking into hiring an aide to help with large classes. We currently have one student on our waiting list for the Monday-Wednesday-Friday morning class.

Thank you to every one that has contributed special gifts and given a free will offering during Sunday Fellowship time. Your gifts are greatly appreciated as they help to continue our mission to these children and their families.

We would also like to thank those people that are helping to get the SCRIP program running. This will be one of the ways we will raise funds to help cover the operating cost of our mission. Another fund raising opportunity is the annual Harvest Party on Friday, October 24th. It has been a great success the past two years and we will be looking for volunteers to run games, donate prizes, and hand out snacks.

Watch for our weekly newsletters and other notes in the bulletin in the coming weeks! ~Katie Koch~