

St. John Lutheran Church

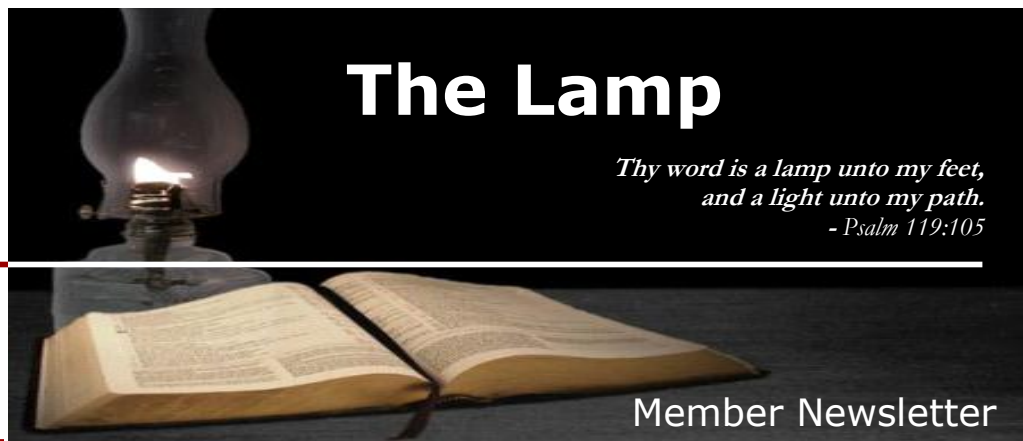
Random Lake, WI

May, 2010

Volume 2010 Issue 5

2010 Theme

"Every Soul A Treasure"



From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

During this month we celebrate a feast that marks the departure of Christ into heaven. We call this special day in the Church year, the Ascension. It is so special that the Apostles' Creed includes the event as part of the exaltation of Christ in the second article: "He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty." But because it is always celebrated mid week, many of you have rarely heard much about this event and its relevance to our Christian doctrine. It is my desire to use this letter to teach about the Ascension.

Scriptures declare that 40 days after His resurrection, Christ, in the presence of His disciples, ascended bodily into the glory of His Father, to prepare a place for us in heaven. Luke's Gospel records it this way: "While He was blessing them, He left them and was taken up into heaven." (Luke 24:51 NIV) As He arrived in heaven it is our sure and certain belief that He now sits at the right hand of God the Father. With this expression, Scripture teaches that Christ, as true man, is not only present everywhere, but also now fully exercises His divine power over the whole universe.

We are comforted by this belief because we know that Jesus is the exalted True Man and True God. As our Prophet, He sends people to proclaim the saving Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit. Paul described it this way in one of his epistles: "He ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe. It was He who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." (Eph. 4:10-12 NIV)

The Ascended Christ also serves as our Priest as He pleads and prays for us before the Father. The Apostle John wrote that: "If anybody does sin, we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense, Jesus Christ, the Righteous One." (1 John 2:1 NIV) Every single need that we have, both physical and spiritual, is presented on our behalf, by Christ, to the Father.

The third office of the Risen and Ascended Christ is that as our King, He rules and protects His church and governs over all the world especially for the benefit of His church. The psalmist prophesied this role: "The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at My right hand until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet. " (Ps. 110:1 NIV) This is critical as we understand how we are under daily attack from the evil one and our own sinful flesh.

It is from His throne in heaven that He will return visibly and with great glory on the Last Day “to judge the living and the dead.” “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.” (Matthew 25:31-32 NIV) That specific day is known by God alone and before He returns there will be increasing turmoil and distress for the church and for the world. But we are to be comforted because His return is a source of great joy for the Christian that we will be living with glorified and resurrected bodies with Christ for all eternity!

In service to Christ,

Pastor Greg Laska



Come Join the 2010 VBS Team

- Snack Coordinator**
- Teacher or teacher helper**
- Taking photos of VBS activities**
- Prepare crafts by cutting, sorting, tracing, etc.**

The planning has begun for the “ALL MY SENSES” VBS. The date will be July 26-30 and the time will be 8:30-11:30 a.m. Whether you are able to help before or during this week, we need you. Please consider sharing some of your time, talents, and ideas. Contact Kris Vojnovich at (920)838-2855 for more information. We hope that you will be able to join us as we plan for and host this memorable and fun event with the children.



Time: 7pm
 Location: School Gym
 Cost: Advanced Tickets \$8 At the Door \$10

Looking for a night out? Love to laugh?
 Want to do something fun with the whole family?
 Invite your friends and neighbors

Fish Sticks is squeaky-clean, side-splittingly funny improv comedy. Each of the Sticks is a current or former player/comedian from ComedySportz in Milwaukee.

On site child care will be provided by the youth group for a monetary donation toward their youth gathering. If you would like child care, please indicate at the time of ticket purchase. Tickets will be available for purchase at the Welcome Center after the Worship Services. You may also purchase them in the school or church office.



MUFFINS FOR MISSIONS

Next Sunday, May 2nd will be our last “Muffins for Missions”. We will not be baking during the summer months, but we will be back on Sunday, September 5th. We would like to thank you for your continued support. Whether you baked or purchased our “goodies”, we thank you. Your generous donations have enabled us to give to various mission projects.

St. John LWML

COOKBOOKS FOR SALE

Our new cookbook has arrived. You can see a copy in the school office or in the church narthex. The book contains a variety of recipes and it only costs \$10. This would make a great Mother’s Day gift. All profits from the sale will be going toward the operating budget of our church and school



Attendance — March

Sunday 8:00 AM Worship	408
Sunday 10:30 AM Worship	322
Wednesday Evening	362
Contemporary	150
TOTAL for March	1092

May Adult Bible Study Opportunities

Sunday Morning

Pastor Laska is teaching a study that is entitled: “The Big Picture”. The class meets each Sunday from 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. in the Friendship Room. This is a basic study of the major stories in the Old Testament. Those who are long time students of God’s Word will appreciate how this study puts together the basic story line of Bible History. Those who have never been in a Bible study will appreciate that this class will help to answer many questions that may have been on their minds. Bring a friend or spouse or neighbor and join us! Please note that our class will conclude for the season on May 23.

Thursday Morning Men’s Bible Breakfast

This study and format enables men to feed on the Word of God while they are being fed breakfast. Men of all ages are invited to meet in the back dining room at Midway Restaurant on Highway 57 from 6:30 A.M. to 7:30 A.M. on Thursdays with Pastor Laska as the leader. After ordering breakfast off the menu we will have a 45 minute study while we eat. Our current study that is just starting is called “The Fruit of the Spirit”. It is based upon Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.” Bring a friend and let’s have a good time of fellowship as we study God’s Word!

Thursday Morning Mid Week

Pastor Seifferlein is leading this ongoing joint study this month with members of St. John and Emmanuel. This month the class will meet in the Memorial Hall at Adell on Thursdays from 9:15 A.M. to 10:15 A.M. We will be studying the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday. This is a refreshing way to prepare for worship. Men and women of all ages are welcome to attend.

Women’s Bible Study

To be determined. Watch the bulletin for more information.

New Life Groups

Throughout this past year we have had two New Life Groups established that meet in the homes of our members so that not only can we study God’s Word but also we can have opportunity for informal fellowship. Both groups have been studying the same topic so that attending one of the sessions each month would keep them up with the overall study for the year. We have been studying how prayer can change our lives and our daily walk with the Lord. The two groups will meet together for the last session of the series on Tuesday, May 11 at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Jason and Connie Vorpahl, at W6239 County Road SS. Call them if you need directions. Pastor Laska will be leading the session.

Birthdays

The members of St. John Lutheran Congregation pray that all those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries during the month of May will continue to be blessed by the Lord in all ways. He is the source of all that we need and has richly supplied us with the gifts of family, friends and faith. May each of you celebrating in May enjoy your special day in good health and by giving honor and glory to God.

May 3 - Lindsay Scholz, Kevin Zimmermann

May 4 - Jonathan Robertson

May 6 - Melissa Sommer, Connie Mallmann

May 8 - Brian Maas, Carmen Schallock

May 10 - Karen Pfeifer, Rebecca Boehlke

May 12 - James Goetsch, Dennis Hartmann, Beverly Liermann,
Aislin Fitzgerald

May 13 - Joe Peters, Anika Preder

May 14 - Joshua Vorpahl, Karen Vorpahl,
Maxwell Broetzmann

May 15 - Katelynn Villarreal

May 17 - Allen Zimmer, Savanna Brooks

May 20 - Barbara Schallock

May 21 - Vicki Blecher

May 22 - Pamela Staaben

May 23 - Cody Preder, Samantha Rosso, Dave Mielke

May 24 - Catherine Port

May 25 - David Guidinger, Oliver Trice, Cassandra Sveom

May 26 - Rosalie Klug

May 27 - Aspen Boehlke, Braxton Boehlke, Colton Boehlke

May 28 - Elroy Herms

May 30 - Jeremy Horn

May 31 - Julie Ney, Kim Johnson

Anniversaries

May 1 - M/M Rocky Risse

May 4 - M/M Joe Peters, M/M Barry Boehlke

May 5 - M/M Jerod Wollner

May 11 - M/M Jason Vorpahl

May 17 - M/M David Horn

May 18 - M/M Dowaine Koepp

May 21 - M/M Eddie Krause, M/M John Richter,
M/M Michael Czysb

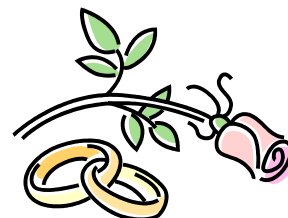
May 22 - M/M Eugene Raess

May 26 - M/M Don Pfeifer, M/M Dan Hartmann

May 27 - M/M Ryan Noll

May 28 - M/M Gary Jentsch

May 30 - M/M Raymond Habeck



Stewardship and Missions

Mission of the Month - The May Mom is our St. John Youth Group. We did not budget anything for them this year and they have been busy with fundraisers to help finance their trip to the LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Show your support for our youth by using your Mission envelope from your offering box and please give generously. They have a group of 11 going to the gathering in July. The cost to attend is about \$1000 each including travel expenses there and back.

Financial Report

We have added \$25,000 to our Line-of-Credit leaving only \$18,000 left on the balance. We will not make another month at this rate. The bill tree is up in the Narthex and Catch-up envelopes will be placed in your church mailbox. We must each pray where the Lord is leading us in our giving. Is it "first fruits" or leftovers? Are there other ideas I can utilize to enable the ministries of this congregation? Am I able to increase my weekly offering? Do I make it up if I miss a weekly service? Can I use at least part of my tax refund? Please prayerfully consider these and other opportunities to discern where the Lord is leading you.

Finance Committee - We are still looking for more members interested in serving on this committee you would be involved in all aspects of the congregation's finances including budgeting. This committee would work closely with the Treasurer. Contact Don Pfeifer at 994-4983.

Fundraising Committee - We need to look at increasing our outside income, while we continue to do faith raising in our regular giving. We are looking at a core group of 8-10 members, with many more willing to serve as needed. They will look at building on current fundraisers and developing new opportunities. We now have a new group of five ladies who will be taking over, with the Elders blessing, the silent auction the Elders have held the past two years at our church picnic. Watch for developments as they expand on this event. If you have an idea for a fundraiser for the church/school please contact Don Pfeifer at 994-4983.

Food Drive - The May emphasis is **Cereal**. Boxed, bagged, all kinds are needed. As always, any and all food donations are desperately needed and greatly appreciated.

Blood Drive - the annual St. John Blood Drive will be held on Monday, May 3rd from 2:30pm - 6:30pm. This drive is with the Blood Center of Wisconsin, which supplies **all** blood to hospitals in southeast Wisconsin. Sign up after church or call the office at 994-2228 for an appointment. Walk-ins are also welcome.

**Christian Stewardship is the FREE and JOYOUS activity
of the child of God and God's family, the Church,
In managing all of life and life's resources
For God's purposes**

Treasurer's Report as of 3/31/10

3/12 Current Budget	\$126,538.11
3 mo. Current Receipts	\$ 93,685.45
Bill Tree (included in numbers above)	\$50.00
Matching Funds (included in numbers above)	\$1,525.00
3 mo. Disbursements	\$129,823.42
Unpaid Bills as of 4/12/10	\$12,402.45
Line of Credit Balance as of 3/31/10	\$57,000.00
Mortgage Balance	\$176,387.30
Private Loans Balance	\$100,000.00
Budget through 6/10	\$253,076.22

\$ Bill Tree \$

The current economy has affected the weekly giving at St. John Lutheran.

In the narthex, we have, once again, placed a tree filled with envelopes. Each envelope represents a different bill that must be paid. Please prayerfully consider helping us meet our financial obligations. Your gift is tax deductible and you will be given a receipt for your gift.

If you cannot afford at this time to sponsor the entire amount listed on the envelope, please consider giving what you can and note that on the outside of the envelope.

Envelopes can be placed in the offering plate, or given to the church office. Please continue to pray for our current and future ministry and financial needs.



The 8th Annual St. John Sherman Center (Random Lake) Golf Outing



Saturday, September 18, 2010 at West Bend Lakes Golf Course

NEW STARTING TIME

1:00 PM Shotgun Start (We ALL Tee off on different holes at 1:00 PM)

Teams of FOUR—SCRAMBLE

There are TWO Divisions: 1) Men's
2) Women's/Couples

\$52.00 includes:

18 holes of golf with a cart, drink of your choice with lunch (burger, cheeseburger, or brat), two additional drink tickets to use while on the course
Prizes for all golfers

SILENT AUCTION held before and after the golf outing

HOLE SPONSORSHIPS available

MONETARY DONATIONS accepted along with your golf entry fee

Cut and return the registration form along with your cash or check to Greg Kohler by **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2010**,
Make Golf checks out to Greg Kohler.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact:

Greg Kohler
W 5415 Cty Rd SS
Random Lake, WI 53075

920-994-9190—School
920-447-2086—Home
gp.kohler@hotmail.com

REGISTRATION FORM

Player 1 _____ \$52.00+ donation _____
Player 2 _____ \$52.00 + donation _____
Player 3 _____ \$52.00+ donation _____
Player 4 _____ \$52.00+ donation _____

TEAM DONATION \$208.00 (Golf) _____

TOTAL AMOUNT _____
(golf + donation)

Team Captain's Name _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail Address _____

Make GOLF checks out to Greg Kohler.

HOLE SPONSOR FORM

Company name will be advertised at each hole you sponsor.

Company Name _____ \$100.00 per hole

Please make all **HOLE SPONSOR** checks out to **ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL.**