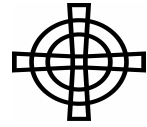


June, 2009



The Voice



This was intended for the May, Voice but E-mail failed us and it never arrived. We can't explain what happened in Cyberspace!

WOW!! Thanks to you our annual Easter brunch was a huge success! We estimate that 150 were served - 50 more than last year! After expenses, which were minimal due to your generous donations, we collected \$641 and will receive matching funds from Thrivent of \$600. Half will go to the Tanzania Well project. The other half will be divided between Project Comfort and the ULC Youth. Thanks, too, for the food donations that kept our cost down and those who just pitched in and helped us. You are all just great.

Much earlier than anticipated, the youth have completed their quest to raise \$3,000 towards purchasing an "Ark" for Heifer International. When we were first approached with this idea, the youth leaders were concerned that it might be too big a task to complete in one year. We are delighted and *so thankful* to this wonderful congregation to announce that our goal has been reached! Thank you for supporting the Lenten suppers, Easter brunch, and the "Can You Spare a Quarter" campaign. The youth plan to travel to Little Rock this summer to present the gift to Heifer. Thanks, too, to our anonymous donor who will be contributing \$2000.

Join us on Sunday, June 7th, between services as we honor our young members who are being confirmed with a reception serving cake and coffee. They are Holly Rendon, Otto Troutner, Nathan Troutner, and Maygan Frederick.



The Empty House



The sun's rays penetrated the shades covering the bedroom windows and moved across the sleeping child's face. Suddenly she awoke. Sitting upright, she was aware that something was not right. Then she remembered it was a school day and her mother had not come into her room to awaken her and help her select the clothes she was to wear that day.

"Mother, Mother," she called.

There was no answer. A feeling of unease began crawling through her young body. The covers were flung to the floor as she raced down the stairs calling for her mother. All that answered her were the echoes of her own voice and then the silence of the house that surrounded her. Into the kitchen she ran. Her mother was not there. She was not in the dining room...or the living room...or the playroom. As the child turned to go through a hallway that led back to the kitchen, she saw her mother sprawled across the floor.

She bent over her mother, asking "Mother, what's wrong? Mother, please wake up. Please talk to me."

Her mother did mumble something - words that made no sense, words that did not go together. "Mother, Mother, please do not talk like that. Wake up, Mother, wake up."

But her mother did not wake up. The child had to get help. Her mother needed help. Out the back door she raced. In her pajamas and bare feet she ran across the snow, across the alley to the home of her mother's best friend.

"Mimi!" she screamed, as she pounded on the door. The door opened and between sobs the child managed to convey to Mimi her mother's condition.

Soon an ambulance came and took her Mother to the hospital. That was the beginning of many changes in the child's life. Her Mother did not die that day. But for the next two and a half years the child could only watch as her Mother, the woman who had brought joy and color into her life, like a flower slowly wilted until life was snuffed out by death.

Forty-one years have elapsed since my mother passed away. Yet I find these memories vividly invading my consciousness again as I mourn the loss of my father. As a child I was so I was so very afraid of losing him, but he was always there providing my life with roots, stability and continuity.

As a young child I learned that one survives hurt, disappointment and even the death of a very special loved one. One adapts, makes changes and miraculously survives. For me 1991 has been a time for remembering, reflecting and relearning.

This story may not sound like a miracle, but for me my mother's death led me to believe and trust in God. For several months before her death, I had prayed for a miracle. Overnight my mother would become whole and well again. When she died my father carefully explained to me that overnight God had answered my prayers. He had taken her to be with him where she would be well and happy living in his kingdom, and that God would help the two of us to take care of each other - which is what we did.

Marilyn F. Cornwell



GREETINGS!

The most important dimension to health is the spiritual. Medical science is beginning to affirm that one's beliefs and feelings are the tools and power for healing. People who attend services weekly were more likely than those attending less or not at all, to stop smoking, start exercising, increase friendships and improve mental health..

United Lutheran has a special Team of Ministries, Pastor, Visitation Coordinator, Stephen Ministry, Phobes, and several parishioners serve the Lord with home, hospital, and nursing home visitations. Spiritual intervention includes prayers, listening and God's guidance.

As a Parish Nurse, assessment and documentation includes wellness, wholeness, and spiritual interventions of listening and prayer. Remember, the Bible tells us that our bodies are the temple of God; we need to help our parishioners and others.

Confidentiality is essential with records in a safe place. The Parishioners Confidentiality Bill of Rights states:

- *Considerate and respectful care*
- *Consideration of privacy concerning the communication, records and recommendations of the Parish Nurse*
- *Expect that reasonable services and needs in the area of education, advocacy, and referral will be met.*

O God, give us sensitivity in working with people who have a variety of health problems, perception in assisting them to sort out major and minor concerns, and wisdom to distinguish the one from the other.

*Your Parish Nurse,
Pat Kugler*

[Notes/from/the/Music/Dept.]

Our Thanks to Cathleen Robinson for playing the violin part in the accompaniment for the choir anthem, “I Come With Joy, A Child of God” for both the Chancel and Sanctuary Choirs Sunday, May 10th.

During June the Chancel and Sanctuary Choirs will follow the regular rehearsal schedules and will sing as usual for the Sunday morning Worship Services with the exception of June 14th when they will have a “vacation day”. There will be NO choir rehearsals on Wednesday, June 10, and Thursday, June 11. As has become the custom in June the choirs will not wear robes.

We are planning a “PATRIOTIC SUNDAY” July 5th. As a Congregation we will gather around the Flag Pole before each Worship Service for the Pledge of Allegiance, the National Anthem, and then process into the Sanctuary as we sing Patriotic Hymns. The Orchestra will play and Combined Choirs will sing at BOTH SERVICES.

There WILL BE CHOIR REHEARSALS on Wednesday, July 1st and Thursday, July 2nd in preparation for Sunday, July 5th. After July 5th Chancel and Sanctuary Choirs will be on “summer break” until after Labor Day in September.

Beginning July 12th special music for Sunday morning Worship Services will be provided by vocal and instrumental soloists, ensembles, and guest musicians. Any of you who have “musically talented family or friends” coming to Bella Vista during the summer months PLEASE CONTACT Lois Carlson as soon as possible so I can put them on the Summer schedule.

Orchestra will continue to rehearse at 5 PM each Wednesday during the summer months, and will play during both the 8:15 and 10:30 Sunday morning Worship Services one Sunday each month all summer. Any “visiting instrumentalists” are welcome to attend our rehearsals and play with us during the summer.

PLEASE WRITE DOWN THE TITLES OF YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS and put them in the red “FAVORITE HYMN” box in the Narthex. During July and August we will use as many as possible of these hymns in our worship services.

The Diamond Jubilee group of United Lutheran Church will meet Tuesday, June 23 at 4:15 p.m. for a bus tour of the facilities at Concordia, followed by a complimentary dinner there. RSVP to Jim Schultz or Chuck Vail by June 15. Please bring a copy of your wedding picture.

Thrivent News
We are planning a potluck supper for Tuesday, June 23, 5:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Please bring a covered dish, salad, or dessert. Hope all members can come!
Thanks .
Harold Peterson

SHEPHERD GROUP NEWS



Judah Shepherd Group meets for brunch Saturday, June 6 at 9:30 a.m. for food and entertainment at Highland Park Village Clubhouse. Contacts: Bergstroms, Bloomquist/Smiley, Grasmicks.

Bethany Shepherd Group will meet Friday, June 12 at the Highlands Park clubhouse at 5:00 p.m. Hamburgers will be served and please bring a dish to be shared by all. Call Skreis or Adens.

Ninevah Shepherd group is planning an outing to the Naturals baseball game in Springdale on Tuesday June 16th. If you would be interested in going with us - please call Carol Kimpfbeck. Tickets will be ONLY \$7.00 ea if we can get a group of 20.

ZION SG picnic. Saturday, June 20th at Kingsdale pavilion, 12 noon. Hamburger, Brots & fixins at 1:00 PM. Bring your own refreshments. Plates, cups, utensils & ice provided. Bring White Elephant gift for game prizes. \$4 per person. Carl Rumsey .

Steadfast in the Lord



The following testimony was published in a Stephen Ministry congregation's newsletter. It was written by a care receiver in his 50s, who has been wheelchair-bound after a stroke left him partially paralyzed 10 years ago. He is divorced and estranged from his family, and he was discharged by the hospital to a nursing home where "people are

My Stephen Minister was first assigned to me after I had been coming to church for more than a year. Since I had already been living in a nursing home for five years, my first thought was, "I wonder how long he will last? Will he be like everybody else and fade away after a few weeks?"

He began visiting with me in August. When November rolled around, he was still coming! December marked the start of a new church year, and he began telling me about the church seasons. After a while, I started asking him questions. I was amazed that an ordinary lay person could know so much about the church. While he did not know all the answers, he continued to impress me because, if he did not know, he would find out and bring me the answer the following week.

One of the best ways to learn is by example, and I have learned a great deal since I began watching my Stephen Minister three years ago. And I am still learning today as he faithfully visits me week after week. Through my Stephen Minister I have learned to be patient. I have learned to love and to trust. I have learned to pray, and I have learned how to worship our God. I have learned the importance of Holy Communion. Most of all, my Stephen Minister has given me the confidence to be close to our Lord. (It makes it a little easier to be a Christian when a caring Christian comes to see you every week.)

Through Stephen Ministry, I have learned the meaning of Christian love and Christian virtue. After years of thinking that nobody cared about me, I know what it means to have somebody who really does care--and keeps on caring, without growing weary of it. And my Stephen Minister was always there for me when I needed him! He was there for me when my mother became ill, and he was still there after she died. He was there when I moved to a new home. In fact, I cannot really recall what life was like when he wasn't there. And I can count on the fact that he'll be there at our visit next Tuesday!

I now am truly beginning to understand what Paul meant when he told the people of the Church at Corinth, "Be ye steadfast in the Lord." That's what Stephen Ministers are--steadfast in the Lord. And with the help of my Stephen Minister, I can be steadfast too.

For More information, contact:

- Jerry or Lin da Sha w • Jan e Nelson •
- Donna ParisBluml • Richard Solberg •

**Stephen Ministers to Meet: June 8, 2009 (One meeting in June)
6:00 PM Small Group Supervision – 7:00 PM Continuing Education
(Kristine Weaver will present a brief outline of "Grief Share")**



Morning Circles

June 3rd – 9:30 a.m.

- DeborahNo Meeting
- Elizabeth Ruth Dronen
- MaryNo Meeting
- NaomiLaVerne Eisert
- Rachel Jane Nelson

Afternoon Circles

June 2nd - 1:00 p.m.

- Hannah.....Faith Schroeder

June 16th - 1:00 p.m.

- Esther..... Margaret Seba

Evening Circle

June 1st – 7:00 p.m.

- Priscilla Ellen Gifford at church

Piece Makers – Thursdays 9:00 a.m.

The Piece Makers continue to meet throughout the summer. Any one who wants to share in the joy of helping others is welcome to join the group. No sewing skills are required.



Don't forget to make your nomination for the Mary Magdalene Award which is presented to a Woman of United who in her service to our Lord carries out His command to "go and tell." Our recipient's name will be forwarded to the Synod for consideration for the Conference award. Our winner will be announced at the October meeting. Forms are at the Women's Podium.

June 7



Cookies
Elizabeth Circle

June 14

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea and Chocolate

June 17 9:00 a.m. Visiting Phoebes

No Board or General Meeting in June

AR/OK Synodical Women's Convention
October 2-4



Biltmore Hotel Oklahoma
401 South Meridian Avenue
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

The entire convention will be held at the Biltmore. Cost is \$70 for the convention. Rooms are \$73 + tax for 1-4 people with breakfast included. Mark your calendars now! The Convention is always fun and inspirational. If you haven't attended before, this is a great time to start! Details will be available at the Women's Podium on June 6.

Women of United
2009-2010 Officers

The following officers for the coming year were elected at the May meeting:

- Presidents Pat Dobbe/Glenda Heist
- Vice President Ellen Gifford
- SecretaryHelen Eidem
- TreasurerJudy Kloss

Ellen Gifford was elected as our delegate to the Synod Convention in Oklahoma City..

Our thanks to President Louise Wobig and Secretary Barbara Hollrah their faithful service.

The News from United (The Little Brick Church in the Ozarks)

*It was certainly **not** a quiet week at United when the Luther Hall Ladies presented an Ozark Home Companion to a sold out crowd of more than 150 on May 18. With the smell of tuna hot dish wafting up the stairs, music lovers gathered for the world premiere of the musical comedy penned, pilfered and plagiarized by Louise Wobig and starring Bel Canto, featuring Pastor Nelson, and introducing the Basement Boys. The serving table was overloaded with lots of hot dishes, including a genuine funeral hot dish, a nice variety of jell-o and even some of that “lazagknee” the pastor’s wife supposedly has a recipe for. Bel Canto had a busy evening as they provided, among other things, a brief history of the alphabet soup that has produced the ELCA, a recipe for tuna hot dish, instructions on eating lefse and help to the Basement Boys who needed a solution for the tough crust on their apple strudel. The Basement Boys fought back against the strong Scandinavian bias of the evening by providing their own recipe for Weiner Schnitzel. Pastor Nelson revealed a startling weakness for lutefisk (which he is suspected of sometimes keeping in the ice maker in the basement and which seems to be effective in warding off skunks). He reminded us of what a brave man Martin Luther was, encouraged us (no surprise) to clap our hands if we like the “Gospel” setting on Sunday morning, and reminded us that some of us sing “Standing on the Promises” when we’re just sitting on the premises. Bad jokes with no music were provided by Jean Mosby, Judy Kloss, Jane Nelson, Kay Anderson and Louise Wobig. While a good time seemed to be had by all, one misunderstanding that resulted from the evening needs to be cleared up: **THE WOMEN OF UNITED ARE NOT PUBLISHING A COOKBOOK!** On a serious note, we want to extend our thanks to everyone who made the evening such a whopping success: Bel Canto, Pastor Nelson, the Basement Boys, the actors, the author, all of you who attended, brought such amazingly good food and contributed to the offerings for Bel Canto(\$179.00) and for the Women of United. And especially, we thank Jeff Peleaux for all the extra setting up he had to do, Rachel Circle for the desserts and **all** their hard work, and **THE HEROIC HUSBANDS OF RACHEL CIRCLE** without whose help we might still be in the kitchen cleaning up.*



OAKS INDIAN MISSION NEWS

First off, thanks for the monetary donations to buy a smoker grill and to the donations of gently used gas grills. I asked one of the Oaks boys if he would cook

a burger for me when we came over next - his answer, “No, I’m in charge of grilling vegetables.” Now for the current request, garage salers take notice: 4 vacuum cleaners, one for each cottage. Again, gently used are fine. Also life jackets, sizes child medium through adult large. Any monetary donations toward these items should be turned into the

UNITED LUTHERAN STAFF
Office: 855-1325
Email - office@unitedlutheranbv.org
web site - unitedlutheranbv.org

Pastor: Fred Nelson
Secretaries: Karen Anderson & Kay Anderson
Custodian: Jeff Peleaux
Parish Nurse: Pat Kugler
Grief Share Coordinator: Pat Kugler
Stephen Ministry Coordinator: Jerry & Linda Shaw
Visitation Coordinator: Fred Schaap
Youth Director: Sally Ball & Janelle Redlasyk
Financial Secretary: Mable Eckert
Worship & Music Coordinator: Lois Carlson
Choir Directors: Lois Carlson, Peg Ehm, Shiela Jones
Bell Choir Director: Margaret Seba
Orchestra Director: Lois Carlson
Youth Choir Director: Holly Jones
Organists: Margaret Seba, Lois Carlson, Peg Ehm
Pianist: Phyllis Bergstrom, Marilyn Denniston



UNITED LUTHERAN
CHURCH
100 Cooper Road
Bella Vista, AR 72715

**July VOICE deadline:
June 20, 2009**

The church office may
edit submissions for clarity
and brevity.



Sunday Worship
8:15 a.m.
10:30 a.m.
Sunday School
for all ages
9:15 a.m.