

## SENIOR PASTOR'S PAGE

Sending...**Tending**...Extending

Sisters and Brothers in Christ (keep your Sabbatical Sentinels handy):

**TENDING JULY DAYS:** As fast moving as the summer always seems to go, so with these "Tending Days" flowing through this sabbatical. For Susan and me, the special activities in June will have already transpired: visit to Zion Lutheran Church, Rahway, New Jersey & Pastor Margay Whitlock; a family reunion in Traverse City, Michigan among the Ward clan; and my first Holy Cross extended five-day stay concluding on July 4.

**FLIGHT PLANS:** Please offer a special prayer for safe travel for us as we board the KLM flight to Tanzania on Monday evening, July 12 (20 hours in the air). Traveling through Amsterdam to Kilimanjaro airport north of Arusha will begin this spiritual chance-of-a-lifetime sojourn to meet the people of our companion synod, the North Western Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT). We are back on U.S. soil, August 2.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** I am looking forward to telephoning the children and adults on Tuesday, July 27 at 9:25 AM (5:25 PM in Arusha, Tanzania) who are participating in the Vacation Bible School program, **Baobab Blast: God's Great Get-Together!** on July 26-30. Tuesday's theme is "**Love never fails!**" based on Joseph and his brothers and a scripture passage from I Corinthians 13:8, with the "critter" Amy the Red Colobus Monkey. I am sure Amy Huber will get a kick out of this day's "critter focus." Deacon Rich tells us we will have more than enough chances to see monkeys on our visit to Bukoba.

**HOLY CROSS MONASTERY:** I pray at least fifteen of St. John's people will take advantage of a special day on **Saturday, July 10** (see if the registration is full), that will explore the monastic life of Holy Cross Episcopal Monastery across the Hudson River in West Park, NY. You will have a chance to meet and be led by my spiritual director, Brother James Dowd, who will open up avenues of deepening one's spiritual life in Christ.

**NEW WEBSITE:** During these sabbatical days, please check out the website / blog I have created on the Internet so that verbal and photographic experiences can be offered over the ninety-day sabbatical. Type in [www.prdbward.com](http://www.prdbward.com) and the connection is made to catch up on what has been happening since June 6, the Sending Sunday celebration.

**GATHERING AGAIN:** God's blessings to one and all until we return and gather together in the late summer days on early September after the Labor Day Weekend. Safe travels for all who will be traveling and the blessings of God's Holy Spirit to all who gather weekly for worship during these summer Saturdays and Sundays. Enjoy meeting the sabbatical supply pastors who are blessed to come to St. John's.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor (on sabbatical)



## DEACON'S CORNER

Well here we are in the middle of our Sabbatical experience and the middle of summer. I hope you are all taking advantage of the interesting things going on at St. John's. The different visiting Pastors are interesting to listen to and give us a different perspective on Preaching. Each one has a different style and delivery and I hope that all of you are enjoying this experience. I have the opportunity to hear these preachers as I go to different meetings throughout the Synod and it is intriguing to listen to them. You now have a chance to just come to St. John's and hear them instead of travelling to Long Island or New York City. We are blessed.

On Monday July 26 and Thursday July 29 Between 7:00 - 8:15 PM I will present my documentary on my trip to the ELCT in Bukoba Tanzania. I will have a picture show and a dialogue to go along with the pictures. It was an interesting time and a once in a lifetime journey. We will see the things in this program that Pastor Dan and Susan will be seeing as they motor about in Bukoba, in effect we will be there with them at the same time. I am glad to be able to do this as many people have asked when I would. It took some time to put this together just as I wanted to present it. I would also like to do the program at another time for the people who cannot come at this time.

We all need to understand that when God calls you, you need to answer. Just like Samuel when God called him he didn't know that it was God he just thought that it was Eli. You see that we cannot assume anything; we need to ponder these things when they happen. There are some people who think they hear God but it is just their own self talking to them. Doing what they think is right in their eyes. When you go it alone the road is hard and sometimes you lose your way and cannot your way back. But when God is your co pilot it seems that the going is easy and you cannot understand why. You see it is not you but it is God who is leading and making the way. We need to follow with open eyes and hearts to

God and we will find out that God will never let us down or get lost. He is our Shepherd and does not want any harm to come to us. So in conclusion I am a sheep who follows God where ever he leads me and I know that I will be safe, His rod and his staff they will comfort me and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Amen

Your Servant in Christ  
Deacon Rich

## ELCA NEWS

### ELCA Ministries Benefit from Thrivent Financial Member Vote 10-152-JB

CHICAGO (ELCA) -- Three ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) will receive financial benefits thanks to members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, a not-for-profit financial services membership organization based in Minneapolis.

## Metro New York Synod



### BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE 2010 METROPOLITAN NEW YORK SYNOD ASSEMBLY, MAY 14-15

Deacon Rich and Carol Ferolito, Pastor and I attended the Synod Assembly on May 14-15 as voting members from St. John's.

In the Bishop's report to the assembly, Bishop Rimbo summarized our present reality and pledged to be honest. He fully expects that within seven to 10 years we will have more like 150 congregations as compared to the 208 we have now. But many of these congregations will be much stronger centers for God's mission because they will

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have wisely planned the use of abilities, time and resources. The kind of efforts being carried on in Brooklyn, Queens, Dutchess County and Sullivan County are difficult and painful but will strengthen us for mission. He reminded us that we serve a Savior who invited and urged us to engage in pruning so that there might be new growth. We also look forward to 2017 and the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of

Lutheranism and encouraged assembly participants to discuss why they were Lutherans. When he dreams of 2017, he sees all of our synod's rostered leaders and baptized members deeply-rooted in our Christian and Lutheran Faith as we live in a more pluralistic and post-modern culture. We have been called to hold on to the best of our past and let go of those things in our habits and our structures that do not serve the Gospel or are not sustainable.



The Synod's Finances: Emphasizing the need for transparency and accountability, Kathy Schmidt, Assist. to the Bishop for Administration and Finance, gave a presentation on the synod's financial situation, noting the recent cash flow crisis wherein the synod expended nearly \$5 million in loans to congregations and payments made on behalf of congregations under synodical administrations and how these funds will be repaid. The other focus on her presentation was how money received from congregations is spent.

During the plenary sessions, a presentation of our companion synod in Romania was given as was a 3-minute video on the KEMPS school in Tanzania, which was produced by our very own Pastor Ward, using footage from the Deacon Rich's trip in February.

partners; The Rev. Dr. Jon Norton, executive minister of the Reformed Church in America's Synod of New York, highlighted "in unity there is strength". And Bishop Catherine Roskam of the Episcopal Diocese of New York, compared being full communion partners to ice cream....there are different flavors but we are all ice cream....we keep our flavors, and Bishop Jeremiah Park, of the New York Area United Methodist Church, led everyone in singing "I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy down in my Heart and encouraged the assembly "to be known as a joyful church".

The Memorial resolutions adopted:

A resolution on Energy Stewardship, A memorial to Encourage Full Implementation of Actions on Ministry Policies and a Memorial to Encourage Full Implementation of the Social Statement "Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust". You can read more about these resolutions on the Synod website.

The general resolutions that were adopted:

A resolution for a Year of Forgiveness and Healing, A resolution Regarding the Board of Pensions and the ELCA Participating Annuity and Bridge Fund and A Resolution Supporting People with Autism Spectrum Disorders and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

Two new officers were chosen: Maria Del Toro as Vice President and Pastor Robert Schoepflin as Secretary. Elections were also completed for Synod Council, Consultation Committee, Discipline Committee and Church wide Assembly.

The Rev Butiku was installed as the Assistant to the Bishop for Ministries of African Descent and the first annual multicultural festival took place on Friday evening.

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The assembly ended with anniversary recognitions of pastor's and churches.

Celebrating 50 years in the ordained ministry are: The Rev. Raymond Birkel, The Rev. Eugene Brand, The Rev. LeRoy Ness and The Rev. James Sudbrock. Three congregations also are celebrating significant anniversaries.

Among all of the work of the church, fellowships were renewed and once again the Holy Spirit was present in all that we said and did. Please consider participating as a voting member from St. John's at next year's Synod Assembly – May 13 and 14 at Melville Marriott on Long Island. You will be happy you did!

May God continue to bless our bishop and the work New York Metropolitan Synod of the ELCA.

Submitted by Susan Ward

**Where does the church stand on immigration?**

Immigration reform is in the news lately. Where does the church stand? The ELCA has a [social message on immigration](#) (adopted in 1998), and the Church Council adopted a social policy resolution on immigration in 2009. "[Toward Compassionate, Just, and Wise Immigration Reform](#)" calls for U.S. government action on several immigration matters, such as family reunification, reforming the U.S. refugee resettlement system, and addressing root causes of forced migration.

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## COORDINATOR'S NEWS

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**Future St. John's Events for July/August –  
Calendar Information**

July 2 & 5 - Office Closed

July 10 - Retreat at Holy Cross Monastery, West Park starting at 9AM

July 18 - Renegades Game starting at 5:05PM

July 25 - Forum and discussion with Brother Jim in the Blue Room at 11:15AM

July 26 - 30 - Vacation Bible School for ages 3 year olds through completed 6th grade, 9AM - 12PM. Register your child now.

July 26 - 30 - Adult Bible Study in the Blue Room 9-10AM (VBS Theme Material)

July 26 & 29 - Journey to Tanzania by Deacon Rich at 7PM

July 27 - Reading Group Potluck Supper and Book Discussion in the Courtyard at 6:30PM. The Group will be discussing "The Poisonwood Bible".

July 28 - VBS Tour by Mary Anne Deik beginning in the Nave at 7PM

July 30 - VBS Closing Program in the Nave at 11:30AM

August 1 - Forum, discussion and luncheon with Pastor Jonathan Linman in the blue Room at 11:15AM

August 8 - Youth - LYO Splish Splash Day



August 18 - 25 - Lantern Hill Mission Trip (Youth)

August 21 - Adopt-a-Highway Service Project, meet in the Church Parking Lot at 9AM

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Ginny Haun, Karl Huber and Rich Redl were elected to serve a two year term (2011-2012) on the Congregation Council.

Thanks to the Nominating Committee - Rich Errickson – chairman, Dick Becker, Mady Christie, and Diane Betz. Doris Schafer and Jonathan Heller.

There are 6 Mission Team Chair positions that need to be filled for 2011-2012. - Thanks to Joan Cohen for agreeing to serve as Chair of Parish Care MT and to Chris Redl and Phyllis Szymanski for agreeing to serve as co-chairs of Hospitality MT. The following remain open at this time, Stewardship, Evangelism, Finance and Social Ministry. The Nominating Committee is actively recruiting members to fill these positions. Please prayerfully considering serving in one of these areas and speak with one of the Nominating Committee members.

The Constitution amendments previously mailed to each member were approved. They will need to be ratified at the January 2011 meeting.

The CJK Budget for 2010-2011 was approved. Thanks to Alison Schlack for her 10 years of service on the CJK board and for preparing the budget.

Susan Ward presented a summary from the Metro New York Synod Assembly which is included elsewhere in the Journal. - Thanks to Pastor and Susan Ward and Deacon Rich and Carol Ferolito for being our representatives to the Synod Assembly.

Walt Reynolds presented an update on the Sabbatical Plans. All plans are in place for Pastor and Susan Ward and the St John's congregation Sabbatical beginning on

Sunday June 6 with one service at 9:30 and a sending celebration for the Ward's.

All expenses for the Sabbatical are covered by the \$46, 000 Lilly Grant.

These next 13 weeks offer us a very unique opportunity to hear from 13 different Pastors. Take this opportunity to learn from them, a former Synod Bishop, 3 current Synod staff members, a college chaplain, a college professor, two Executive Directors of Seafarers and International House, one now retired, a missionary from Tanzania,.



In addition six of our lay members will be preaching at the Saturday evening services.

Several lay members will provide Children's sermons at the 8:15 and 9:30 services.

Steve Jones presented an update on the 7 ChristCare groups currently meeting. The report is included elsewhere in the Journal.

Report of the Audit Committee was accepted. - Thanks to Jack Feldborg – Chairman, Chris Rigby and Fred Oberender.

Comments and suggestions have been forwarded to the Finance MT and actions are in process.

Andy Huber, treasurer, presented a financial update and outlook. His report is included elsewhere in the Journal.

Project Team for Gemmel/Tompkins bequest

We are grateful to these faithful servants to Christ, to St John's and to our community for their gifts of time and

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talents for many years, now remembering St John's with their treasures. The Council is in the process of appointing a Project Team to make recommendations to the Council on how these monies should be used to improve and expand St. John's ministries. Alton's request is that the monies be used to install a video recording system with the ability to broadcast from the Nave and for the enhancement of the building/property. We'll expect a report by the end of the year.

**Summary of activities for first five months of the year**

Receipt of \$400,000 bequest from the estate of Alton Gemmel..

Generous gift of the T-Coil hearing assistance system provided by Al and Julie Rosenblatt in loving memory of Julie's parents Anabel and Harold Carlson



Deacon Rich's trip to the Northwest Diocese of Tanzania with fellow Deacon's and staff of the Metro New York Synod.

Abby Triebel's return trip to help the people of Haiti rebuild their country and their lives. Erin Turowski joined her on this trip.

Initial meetings of interested members for a St. John's Mission Trip in 2011.

We have awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Norma Malfati, who is completing her intern year in Nebraska and will return to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg for her senior year. Since we have no one from St. John's planning to go to seminary in the near future the Council decided to offer a scholarship in

accordance with St. John's Seminary fund to someone from the Metro NY Synod and hopefully someone from the Hudson Conference. Norma's father served Third Rhinebeck for several years before moving to Florida. We hope to have Norma come to St. John's sometime this fall.

Initial request to start Mercy Mowers to provide lawn mowing assistance to members in emergency situations.

Thanks to Jack Feldborg for the design and installation of the new pass through door, countertop, base cabinets that he built, and 3 roller carts for dishes in the kitchen. I helped Jack do the demolition. Thanks to Art Upright for helping with the installation. Thanks to Linda Upright and Ginny Haun for cleaning the kitchen during the upgrade. Funds provided from the FMBR account.

We are in the process of receiving bids to replace the shingled roof and flashing on the Nave and steeple. Bids are due June 4, to be reviewed and contractor selected at the Property meeting June 14 and final approval from the Congregation Council on June 15. Work to be completed by August 31. Funds to come from the FMBR account.

Bob Deik

Congregation and Council President

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## THANK YOU

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Thanks to the Hospitality Mission Team for the wonderful reception under the "big top" for Pastor and Susan's sending celebration.

Wasn't the Worship Service wonderful as well? Could someone from Hospitality please put the recipe for the cold cucumber soup in the St John's Journal? It was delicious!  
Thanks everyone-Diane Betz

## YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER

### What Abby thinks....

Personally, I did a dance of joy now that Pastor Ward & Susan are finally gone!!! Let the party begin!! I'm totally not kidding on this. I had A LOT of sugar on June 6<sup>th</sup>, there is even a picture on Facebook of the pile of icing I ate. I will miss him, but I am also very excited about the opportunities that the sabbatical has for all of us. Welcome to a summer filled with opportunity for St. John's, forget the opportunities for Pastor Ward.

First, I am excited to hear all the different Pastors and lay people preach. I always tell the youth that I enjoy the sermons I hear on the road the most. There is something special about connecting with someone solely on the basis of your common beliefs on a Sunday morning. This summer, I don't even have to leave St. John's for the experience; it's coming to me.

Secondly, many of the pastors are coming from the Metro New York Synod Office. This is the office of the wider ELCA church body that we work with most closely. I am excited to grow in relationship with the staff there; for them to get to know us better, for them to be able to picture the people of St. John's, and for them to see our joy, our faith, our community, and our hope. I also think that the Sabbatical will give us the opportunity to "see and feel and live" with our spiritual lens. Some of us are simply not comfortable with Pastor being gone for these three months, but we certainly have enough people working to see us through, and now, we just need to know that God is really the one who is ALWAYS in control. In truth, it never was Pastor Ward. Maybe our faith needs this. Maybe our church needs this.

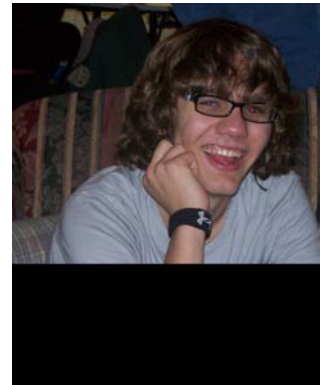
Lastly, I am excited to grow in relationship with the people of the North-Western Diocese of Tanzania. To me, these companion synod relationships are such an awesome thing, and to be able to have both Deacon Rich and Pastor Ward there within a few months of each other is simply exhilarating to me.

In March, I had the task of picking Deacon Rich up from the Airport, and I loved being the first one to hear the stories and the experiences and see the expressions on his face as he talked about it. I am looking forward to Pastor Ward and Susan coming back with the same enthusiasm and with even stronger ties to the people there on behalf of the entire congregation. It is going to be a great summer, and our congregation will grow and stretch in ways we cannot even imagine because of it. Make this Sabbatical your Sabbatical. Read the books, deepen your spiritual life, think in Swahili, do what you have to to make it become part of your summer experience. Put on your seat belts, because we are going for a ride!!!

Submitted By Abby Triebel

### Now...About one of our youth...

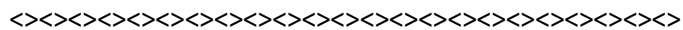
Joe Cox was nominated, applied, and was accepted to attend the Crossroad Summer Program at Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary this summer. The Crossroads program takes only twenty-five 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade from regions 7-8 of the ELCA (essentially the North East). So, we are pretty proud of Joe. The event is from July 31<sup>st</sup>-August 7<sup>th</sup>. During that time, the chosen students will explore their faith and how it intersects with the world. They will have the opportunity to work with many different organizations such as Bread for the World and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services. We are all excited about the opportunities Joe will have at Crossroads and are excited to hear about it.



## GRADUATES

Congratulations to our young people who reached significant milestones in their lives this past spring. The congregation of St. John's wishes you the best in your future endeavors.

Caitlyn Hopkins	Mount Saint Mary College
Kaitlyn Feldweg	John Jay High School
Brendan McGuckin	Millbrook High School
Lauren Von Dehsen	Carnegie Mellon University
Diane Von Dehsen	Spackenkill High School
Erin Potter	SUNY Albany Graduate Degree
Sara Heller	Spackenkill High School
Jessica Jones	Arlington High School
Kaleigh Jones	Dutchess Community College
Clinton Keeley	Dutchess County BOCES
Christopher vanOss	Arlington High School
Andy Thompson	Arlington High School
David Martinson	Ketcham High School
Kyle Raymo	Mount Saint Mary College
Roger Cornell	Arlington High School
Lyle Pelton	SUNY Cobleskill
Megan Hurlburt	Spackenkill High School
Danielle Albertson	Spackenkill High School
Nicole Brunetti	Spackenkill High School
Rebecca Seto	Dutchess County BOCES



### Why the GREEN border?

According to the church calendar the time of year has been designated as green, thus the border has been changed to reflect the calendar. The church color for the last two months was WHITE.

## KNOWING OUR SAINTS

On the church calendar there are many days dedicated to the memory of Saints and religious figures that have made a significant impact on our Faith. Beginning with this issue, we are going to share some of their stories.

### Remembering St. Mary, the Mother of Jesus: August 15

Lutheran history and practice honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus, by observing her traditional commemoration day of August 15.

Scripture portrays Mary as a woman of faith, strength, and humility. When she learns that she is God's choice to be mother to the Messiah, her response, "let it be with me according to your word," shows her complete confidence in God in the face of life-changing consequences. She would confront skepticism and rejection, be made to leave her home, live as a refugee, stand by Jesus through the challenges of his ministry, and endure heartbreak at the Cross. In times of joy, she gives God all the credit and glory, claiming none for herself. In times of trial, she defers to God's will.

Mary's last recorded words in Scripture are, "Do whatever he tells you," at Cana. Her advice is equally pertinent to us. Mary stands as a wonderful model of willing, loving openness to God's call, one that we can imitate in our lives.

Submitted by Gloria Taylor

## MISSION TEAM NEWS

### ADULT FORUM

#### HOLY CONVERSATION:

#### Praying More Deeply in the Liturgy

An Adult Forum presented by

Pastor Jonathan Linman  
Assistant to the Bishop for Formation

SUNDAY AUGUST 1, 2010

10:45am in the Blue Room  
Followed by Lunch

RSVP by July 25

This is free but not a potluck so food needs to be ordered

SIGN UP in the Church office or Call Diane Betz  
845-485-7394

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ # attending \_\_\_\_\_

### THRIVENT FINANCIAL EVENT

#### Hold the Date

November 6 for a congregation social event being organized by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. It will involve Army Football!

Submitted by Steve Jones

### PARISH CARE

#### "Mercy Mowers"

In the May and June "St. John's Journal" I wrote about my hope of beginning the "Mercy Mowers" project. I am disappointed to report that we will not be able to offer this program in 2010. This is because no members have volunteered to do the mowing. - Mary Anne Deik

### BOOK GROUP

#### POTLUCK SUPPER AND DISCUSSION OF

#### The Poisonwood Bible

A Fictional Novel by  
Barbara Kingsolver

Tuesday July 27, 2010  
6:30pm in the Blue Room

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

I will bring      \_\_\_Appetizer      \_\_\_Salad

                 \_\_\_Main dish      \_\_\_Dessert

RSVP by July 25th Questions? Call Diane 485-7394

## MISSION TEAM NEWS

### CHRISTIAN JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN

In keeping with a tradition going back more than forty years, the Christian Jr.

Kindergarten program at St. John's held a graduation ceremony for the four year old class on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010.



Our program is held in the church. Parents and families are invited to attend. The children do a fingerplay enactment of the Creation Story, and several other songs and recitations. They wear the traditional mortar board cap and tassel and receive a preschool diploma.

Following the program everyone shares in refreshments in our classroom. Adults and children alike look forward to some summer fun and then returning to a new school year in September.

Submitted by Jean Moorehouse

### JOURNAL DEADLINES

The deadlines for submitting articles for St. John's Journal are below. When submitting, please forward in Microsoft Word format. If you do not have Word, a pdf file will work. Please send submissions to both Steve Koch ([stevenpkoch@aol.com](mailto:stevenpkoch@aol.com)) and Carol Versace ([carolav\\_nd@yahoo.com](mailto:carolav_nd@yahoo.com)) Please include name and phone number in case of questions.

August 1<sup>st</sup> is the September Journal Deadline.

### FINANCIAL

It's looking like times are real tough  
St. John's budget is looking quite rough  
We're right on the edge  
Please keep up with your pledge  
With faith we'll have more than enough

All kidding aside... at St. John's we are blessed with a caring and generous congregation that has time and again, through the work of the Holy Spirit, given to support the work of the Lord through our church. We thank all of St. John's stewards who have faithfully and consistently given over the years.

However, from time to time, we have hit some "road bumps" along the way where we've fallen behind in our giving. At the time of this writing (early June) we are running a deficit of \$12,623.10. While our expenses are pretty much in line with what we expect at this time of year, our contributions have fallen behind significantly when compared to contributions through the end of May for previous years.

With summer coming we face a "traditional" drop in giving due to people being away on vacation, long weekend plans, and other things that take us away from regular worship attendance. Just a \$1.00 drop in giving each week of the summer by each giver in St. John's congregation would result in about \$4500 less in total giving to St. John's over the summer months.

Please prayerfully consider keeping up your faithful stewardship over the upcoming summer months. The Lord loves a cheerful giver, and there is certainly a joy that comes from giving what God has first given us.

Submitted By Andy Huber

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## EVANGELISM

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**Adopt-a-Highway** - Saturday August 21, 2010. Meet at church at 9:00 AM. Bring gloves. Please sign up on poster in Narthex by Sunday August 15. We need 8 people to help, can we count on you? Contact Bob Deik 462-4118.

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## SABBATICAL

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### Sabbatical Sentinel Update

Please update your Sabbatical Sentinel to reflect the following changes:

Saturday June 26 – Dr Hartwig will not be with us, Deacon Rich Ferolito will preach.

Sunday June 27 – No Meet and Greet, a brunch in the Fellowship Hall will follow the 9:30 service hosted by the Social Ministry Mission Team. Greet the Hartwigs, our missionaries in Tanzania.

Sunday August 15 Pastor Stephen Hultgren will be presiding and preaching.

Sunday August 22 Pastor Kathleen Koran will be presiding and preaching

Bob Deik

Sabbatical Manager

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## BAPTISMS

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**May 16, 2010**

**Makayla Averil Pierson.** Makayla Averil, who is the daughter of **Seth and Sandi Pierson**, born on October 22, 2009 at Vassar Hospital.

**Tyler Christopher Hippauf.** Tyler Christopher, who is the son of **Steve and Christine Hippauf**, born on October 7, 2009 at Vassar Hospital.

**Mara Jade Hocutt.** Mara Jade, who is the daughter of **Doug and Nicole Hocutt**, born on March 26, 2010 at Vassar Hospital.

**Karadyn Alexis Jaycox.** Karadyn Alexis, who is the daughter of **Steve Walberg and Lesley Jaycox**, was born on April 3, 2004 at Vassar Hospital.

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## SYMPATHY

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*We extend our prayers of sympathy and concern to the family and friends of:*

**Linda Timmons**, family member of Lois McGloin who died in Tennessee on Saturday, April 24, 2010.

**Charles (Chuck) Zieg** who died on April 29, 2010. Funeral services were held at St. John's on May 4, 2010.

**Marshall Thomas**, family friend of the Hayes Family who died on Friday, May 7, 2010

**Kevin Gower**, friend of Mark & Misty Decker who died on Thursday, May 13, 2010.



## CHRISTCARE

Report to May 30, 2010 Congregation Meeting

Following are the highlights since our last report in January, 2010:

New members class (Nov – Feb)

- o Six people from four households

- o 12 sessions, four more than the Beginnings experience

- o Extremely positive experience as evidenced by the survey. None have joined a group yet. Looking at ways to ensure this is more natural.

In early February we had another continuing education session for group leaders, second part of "Assertiveness Skills for ChristCare Group Leaders"

- o Another is scheduled for early November. We are averaging two sessions per year to support our group leaders growth.

Some of the Missional Service activities (in addition to the other three activities, of Care & Fellowship, Biblical Equipping, Prayer & Worship) by the approx 55 people in seven groups:

- o One group assembled a care package for multiple service personnel serving in Afghanistan

- o One group planned and led the first communion breakfast

- o Two groups wrote and led mid-week Lenten devotions

- o One group continues to minister once a month at LCC.

- o One has been organizing and supporting fundraising activities with Love, Inc. along with the support of another group.

- o One group again organized a Progressive Dinner for group members, their partners, and new members. Approximately 35 people participated.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

During Vacation Bible School, July 26th - 30th, as part of our Sabbatical Tending Time, I will be meeting daily with each group of children in the Fellowship Hall following their Snack Time. We will be talking about Africa, about Tanzania in particular.

We will be talking about the journey that Pastor and Mrs. Ward are on at that time, about the schools, churches, homes and hospitals in Tanzania, and about the safari.

I am asking you to help us by lending any Africa-related objects to help make this a hands-on, fun experience for us. In the interest of having such items returned to you, please be certain that they are clearly labeled with your name, and that they are unbreakable items. Here is a list of items we would enjoy having in this learning center:

Fabrics, baskets, objects of art, toys, games, puzzles, musical instruments, and stuffed or carved animals. The animals in the "Baobab Blast" program are zebra, monkey, elephant, giraffe and meerkat; a meerkat is a small desert animal belonging to the mongoose family. Other animals that live specifically in Tanzania are baboon, cheetah, crocodile, eland, flamingo, gazelle, gecko, heron, hippo, hyena, impala, jackal, leopard, lion, ostrich, pelican, rhino, stork, stork, and wildebeest.

You may begin bringing your items to the Church Office as soon as you read this.

Bring them in a bag or box with my name on them. You may pick your items up in the office following the last day of VBS.

If you have questions, you may contact me at 845-462-4118, bookperson329@yahoo.com

Thank you - Mary Anne Deik



Vacation Bible School - Registration Form

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

55 Wilbur Boulevard, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

July 26-30 2010 9AM - 12:00PM

845-452-1550

Please put your completed form in a sealed envelope with a check or cash for the exact amount labeled VBS.

Put it in the VBS folder in the church office.

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ (Child must be 3 by 12/1/2009) Grade Completed \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check \_\_\_ I am a member of St. John's \_\_\_ I am not a member of St. John's

In case of emergency (when the parent/guardian cannot be reached) please contact

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill out the information below if someone besides a parent will be picking up your child. (ID may be asked for)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list any allergies the VBS staff should be aware of: \_\_\_\_\_

Fee \$15.00 per child (\$10.00 for children of volunteers) Make checks payable to St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church Please call me. I would like to volunteer.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent/guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

## **“We Are Marching in the Light of God!” Special Sabbatical Activities during Vacation Bible School Week**

Monday thru Friday, July 26th - July 30th, 9:00 - 10:00 AM in the Blue Room  
Betty Smith will lead an Adult Bible study from the VBS “Baobab Blast” themes.

Monday July 26th and Thursday July 29th, 7:00 - 8:15 PM  
Deacon Rich Ferolito will speak and share photographs of his Journey to Tanzania.



Tuesday July 27th, 6:30 PM in the courtyard - St. John's Book Group invites all members to share a pot-luck picnic and discussion of “The Poisonwood Bible.” (See separate article in this “Journal” for reservations.)

Wednesday July 28th - 7:00 - 8:15 PM - Mary Anne Deik will lead a VBS Tour for adults, beginning in the Nave.

Friday July 30th - 11:30 AM in the nave - All are welcome to the “Boabab Blast” closing program. No reservation necessary.

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Reservation Form for VBS Week Activities  
Please place in folder in the Church Office

Name and telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Adult Bible Study:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday- “Abraham to Canaan” - Trust

\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday - “Joseph and his Brothers” - Love

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday - “ Jesus Calling the Disciples” - Follow

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday - “The Good Samaritan” - Care

\_\_\_\_\_ Friday - “Phillip and the Ethiopian” - Share

**Deacon Rich's Journey to Tanzania:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday                      \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday

\_\_\_\_\_ Wednesday VBS Tour