

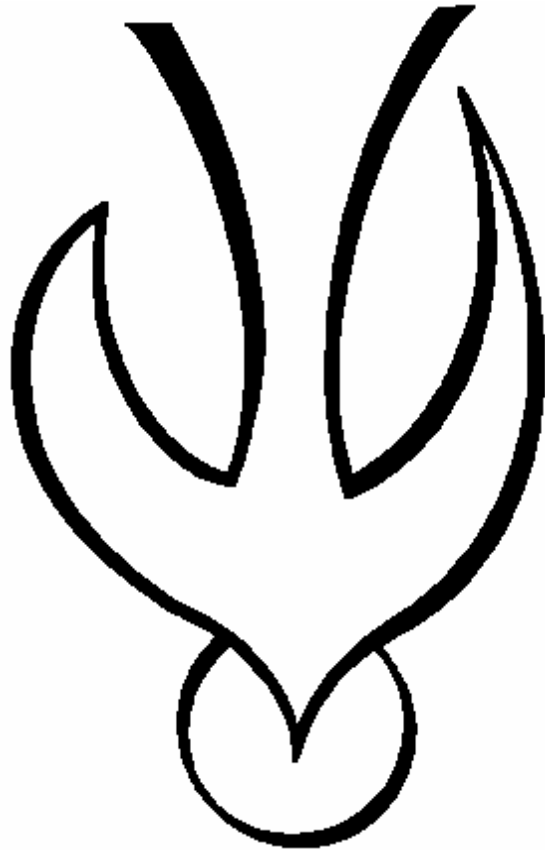
Vol. 67- 5

THRU THE WINDOWS

St. John's Lutheran Church  
Bennington, Nebraska

May 2007

**May 2007**



**PENTECOST**

**IS MAY 27**

## **ACOLYTES**

### **May 6**

8am Griffin Japp, Colton Loftus

9:30am Michaela Noble, Lizzie Noble

11am Molly Misfeldt

### **May 13**

8am Cody Bridgeford, Katy Bridgeford

9:30am Logan Wright, Beau Kinser

11am Colton Bourg

### **May 20**

8am Rebecca Kander, Katie Iltzsch

9:30am Colton Loftus, Connor Eurek

11am Erynn Westfall

### **May 27**

8am Ryan Baker, Colton Meador

9:30am David Bressman, Jordan Mohr

11am Ryan McFarland

## **GREETERS**

### **May 6**

8am Donna VanBuren

9:30am Bill & Verjean Bohn, Addie Backhuus

11am Lee & Kathy Bunz, Deb Fuchser

### **May 13**

8am Sue Hinton, Donna VanBuren

9:30am Bill & Verjean Bohn, Addie Backhuus

11am Lee & Kathy Bunz

### **May 20**

8am Donna VanBuren

9:30am Addie Backhuus

11am Helen Braesch

### **May 27**

8am Donna VanBuren

9:30am Bill & Verjean Bohn, Addie Backhuus

11am Ronda Logemann

## **ALTAR COMMITTEE**

**Early** Paula Mills, Kelly Witt

**Late** Erma Trisler, Bev Musel

## **COMMUNION HELPERS**

**8:00am** Paul Holtapp

**9:30am** Ebba Johnson

## **USHERS**

### **May 6**

8am Harry & Mary Carol Junker

9:30am Gary & Mary Pat Schmidt  
Amond Ohms

11am Ted & Suzanne Kirby

### **May 13**

8am Harry & Mary Carol Junker

9:30am Gary & Mary Pat Schmidt  
Amond Ohms

11am Ted & Suzanne Kirby

### **May 20**

8am Harry & Mary Carol Junker

9:30am Gary & Mary Pat Schmidt  
Amond Ohms

11am Ted & Suzanne Kirby

### **May 27**

8am Harry & Mary Carol Junker

9:30am Gary & Mary Pat Schmidt  
Amond Ohms

11am Ted & Suzanne Kirby

Greetings Members and Friends of St. John's:

He Is Risen! Alleluia! Let me encourage you to continue to celebrate our Lord's resurrection throughout the month of May. The Season of Easter lasts fifty days from Jesus' resurrection all the way to Pentecost. So, go ahead and celebrate what God has done for us through the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our Easter joy is just a foretaste of things to come. Because of Easter we are forever changed and we are enabled to follow our risen Jesus Christ as He leads us into mission and ministry.

The month of May is full of mission and ministry opportunities. The first opportunity is the **National Day of Prayer** which takes place on **Thursday May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. I urge everyone to set time aside that day to pray for your family & friends, for your Church and the church universal, pray for your local, State and Federal Government, pray for our troops and their families here and overseas, and pray for peace in our world.

Next comes **Mothers Day** on **Sunday, May 13**, when we will honor mother's everywhere. We will be honoring all the mother's in our congregation on that day.

We will also be honoring our high school graduates during the 9:30am service and handing out scholarships. Afterwards, we invite you to gather in the Fellowship Hall for a graduation reception.

**May 17<sup>th</sup> is Ascension Sunday**, the day we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven and the day Jesus gave His disciples the Great Commission. Jesus said to His disciples that if he went he would not leave them orphans but would send them the Holy Spirit. He told them to wait for it. Fifty days after Jesus' resurrection and ten days after His ascension, the Holy Spirit came and descended on the disciples on the **Day of Pentecost** which we will celebrate on **Sunday, May 27**.

So continue to celebrate what Jesus did for you and get ready for the Day of Pentecost and for the coming of the Holy Spirit that give us the power we need to go and share the Good News with our church and with the world. See you in church!

Blessings,  
Pastor Jim Price

## Did you Know ....

### **This year's vacation Bible School will be held June 11-15?**

Come join us at "Avalanche Ranch" to take a wild ride through God's word.

The fun is from 9am to 11am for 3 year olds through Kindergarten and 9am-12noon for 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade. Registration will start April 29. Cost is \$10.00. Volunteers are still needed. Registration forms are available in the church narthex. For more information, please contact: Chris Tomjack at 238-2220, Michelle Pierson at 333-6365, Sandra Kander at 478-5176, Mary Carol Junker at 238-2863

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### **Assistant to the Bishop coming to St. John's in May**

On **Sunday May 6, 2007** Jim Peterson, Assistant to the Bishop, is coming to preach at all three services. Jim's responsibilities at the Synod Office are in the area of the Mission and Outreach.

Please come and give Jim a "Big Bennington Welcome" on that day.

### **Kid's Kingdom Preschool now has a Director!**

The Preschool Task Group is excited to inform you that we have interviewed a number of candidates for the preschool director's position. We selected the top candidate and recommended her to our Church Council. They gave their approval and we then offered her the position which she has accepted. Her name is Diane Frizzell. She lives just ten minutes away near 108<sup>th</sup> and Fort.

Diane is a highly motivated career child care professional with almost 20 years of experience in her field. She is a warm and friendly person who loves working with little children. She has designed, created, coordinated and implemented the entire child care operations at three different licensed preschools in the area and we are so excited that the Lord has brought her to us to be our new Preschool Director. She will be working part-time for awhile until she finishes out the school year at her current location. Then she will be with us fulltime starting in early June.

We are working on plans to formally introduce her to the congregation in the near future. So please watch for more details to follow in the coming weeks. Until then please keep Diane and our new preschool and all the children we will share the Good News of God's love with in your prayers.

Sincerely,  
The Preschool Task Group

### **Attention all 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Students and their families**

The final “**Service Credit**” opportunity of the year is coming up on **Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup>**. All 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation students who need to complete their required service credit hours need to be at St. John’s Lutheran Church on **Saturday morning between 6:45 – 7:00am** to travel to **Camp Carol Joy Hollings** for the **Annual Camp Workday Event**. We start at the camp with a continental breakfast at 8am and afterwards be assigned to a work area to help get the camp ready to open for the summer camping season.

Lunch is provided by the Camp and will be hamburgers, hot dogs, cowboy beans, chips, and pop free –of- charge to all those that attend. Also, those who attend will be able to earn enough service credit to complete ALL their service credit requirements for the year. After lunch we will return to St. John’s arriving back between **1:30-2:00pm**. Confirmation Parent(s) are needed to help carpool and supervise that day. It’s lots of fun, so call the church office or sign up at the next confirmation class to attend. If your student cannot attend this event or if you have questions about it, please call Pastor Price in advance.

### **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Family Fun Night is coming**

The **6<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Class** will be finishing out the year with their **Family Fun Night** on **Wednesday, May 23**, by going to **Planet X Amusement Park**, 8433 West Center Rd, in Omaha. We will carpool from church leaving at **6:00pm** and returning by **9:00pm**. Confirmation student’s **entire family is invited** to attend this Family Fun Night. This is an excellent way to get the younger children excited about confirmation. (At least one parent is required to attend.) A sheet will be available for students to signup or call the church office. Discounted ticket prices will be available. If you have any questions or concerns, just contact Pastor Price.



### **Memorial Day Services at Flower Hill Cemetery and German Cemetery on May 28<sup>th</sup>.**

Memorial Day Services will be held at Flower Hill Cemetery at 10am and at German Cemetery at 11am on Monday May 28, Memorial Day.

### **The New Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal**

The *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* Hymnal is a new family of worship resources that has been prepared by the whole church, for the whole church.

Through the Renewing Worship process, the “whole church,” involving congregations and individuals from every corner of the Evangelical Lutheran church bodies in North America and the Caribbean, was invited to join in this preparation. They have been using and evaluating provisional resources that explore the many ways Lutherans worship and point in new directions. Feedback from across the church provided invaluable guidance in the development of the *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* resources. In-depth surveys of hundreds of congregations provided testimony about which existing materials were respected, enjoyed, and used in weekly worship. Many voices from all parts of the church were heard and included in the planning, so that these new resources would reflect the diverse riches of our church today.

The guiding principle at all times has been the desire to claim and reclaim the best of our past while celebrating the richness of the present and looking toward an exciting future. *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* is the result of an intensive and inclusive process in the development of worship resources for the church.

At this time the St. John's Lutheran Church Worship and Music Committee feels that we need to begin the process of changing over to the new ELW Hymnal developed by the ELCA and available through Augsburg Fortress Press. You can visit Augsburg’s website at [www.augsburgfortress.org](http://www.augsburgfortress.org) and check out the Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnal.

**Worship & Music Committee kicks off a campaign to purchase new ELW Hymnal.**

Beginning on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first Sunday in June, St. John's Lutheran Church Worship and Music Committee will begin a campaign to have our members purchase as many copies of the new ELW Hymnal as their family will use in worship. The cost of each hymnal is \$20. The family name that purchased each hymnal will be affixed inside the front cover and placed in the pew racks. This new ELW Hymnal will replace both the "Lutheran Book of Worship" and the "With One Voice" Hymnals that we currently use in worship. Our campaign will run throughout the summer and fall. This fall members of the Worship and Music Committee, along with the church choir, will begin the process of introducing parts of each setting until we all are ready to use it in worship. The Worship and Music Committee's goal is to have purchased enough new ELW Hymnals and be ready to begin using them in worship by December 2, 2007, the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Advent.

**WWW.STJOHNSBENNINGTON.ORG**

We're on the worldwide web!! You can now view our monthly newsletter "Thru the Windows" online. You can also check the monthly calendar; see pictures of events...even get directions to the church in case you're new to the area!

**Anyone who no longer desires to receive a mailed copy of the "Thru the Windows,"** please e-mail the church office at [STJOHNSOFFC@msn.com](mailto:STJOHNSOFFC@msn.com) or contact the church office at 238-2483, and we can remove you from the mailing list.

# GAMES ACROSS THE PEWS

**An Afternoon of fun for both Young & Young at Heart**

**May 20, 2007**

1pm – 2:30pm (Game Time)

2:30pm - 3:30pm (Ice Cream Social)

Fellowship Hall

Please join the St. John's Senior Youth for an afternoon of fun and games!

Board Games, Carpet Ball, Card Games and more.....

Bring your family – kids, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, nieces and nephews!!!!

.....

Immediately following the games, please join the

St. John's Senior Youth as they host an

**ICE CREAM SOCIAL FUNDRAISER**

The Senior Youth are raising funds for the group that is traveling to Mississippi this summer to help with the ongoing Hurricane Katrina rebuilding efforts.

Jeremy Hansen, Di Loptin, Connor Stichler, Matt Braden, Brandon Mahon, Samantha Japp, Holly Peterson, and Shannon Eggink are the individuals representing St. John's Lutheran Church on this mission trip.

### Volunteers needed in June!

At our Nebraska Synod Assembly & Festival 2007 at Midland College Event Center, Fremont on June 1-3, 2007. What we need is people-power for the Bible Village planned at our Assembly!

We would appreciate your help with the following:

- \* Volunteers, adults and teens, are needed for all the Village activities.
- \* All materials and instructions will be provided for the crafts and games,

We are asking volunteers to work these shifts:

**Friday June 1** 1:00 - 3:30pm  
3:30 -- 6:00pm

**Saturday, June 2** 10:00am - 12 noon  
1:00 - 3:00pm  
3:00 -- 5:00pm

**Sunday, June 3** 8:00 - 10:00am

### \* Special skills are needed for the following areas

Carpenter shop  
Macramé  
Calligraphy

### To volunteer please contact:

Mary Ann Johnson (Omaha) 402-734-1845  
Mary Lou Schmode (Omaha) 402-691-9865  
Karen Tjarks (Concord) 402-584-2467

[marj40\\_48@msn.com](mailto:marj40_48@msn.com)  
[mlschmode@cox.net](mailto:mlschmode@cox.net)

# 40 Days <sup>4</sup> of Purpose youth POINT MADE!

Thank you to all that participated in the Youth 40 Days Campaign. This was a great success and it would not have been possible without all the youth participants, adults and youth leaders, Mark and the youth musicians and singers. Any small group that would like to continue meeting or meet for another study are encouraged to do so. You can talk to me for ideas or info on other options.

Rock On,  
Jeremy

# Confirmation Corner

## Reminder!!!

7th & 8th Grade Confirmation has come to a completion for the year. Congrats to all that have completed the requirements!

We will be sending out progress forms this month to update you on your status. For those that are still in the process of completing their requirements, you have until July 31 to complete your work. For any memory work you will need to complete, call Jeremy and set a time to complete your work.

Continue to watch the youth bulletin board for updates and service opportunities.

# REVIVE...

Sr. High Events and Retreats...

SR. High Youth Group,  
REVIVE, will Resume

MAY 2

7:30-9:00pm

## 2007 Mission Trip



He saved...

I serve. ?

**UPDATE!**

Registration is now closed and we are registered. 6 youth along with 2 advisors will be traveling with over 250 fellow Nebraskans to Mississippi to help serve from June 16-23. We ask that you place this group in your prayers as we begin to prepare for the upcoming trip. Thanks for your support thus far and please join us for our fundraiser May 20. The event is called GAP Games Across the Pews. This is for all ages with fun for all.

**CCJH CLEAN Up Day, May 19**  
**Check Bulletin Board for details**

## MAY PRAYER CIRCLE

### MAY 6

The Rev. Mary Jensen and Prince of Peace/Lincoln  
The Rev. Jonathan Jensen and Zion/Carlton  
The Rev. Kenneth Jensen, retired in Blair  
The Rev. Marcille Jensen and Our Savior's/Plainview  
*And for those in their ministry who are hospice care providers*

### MAY 13

Mr. Les Jensen, Nebraska Synod Council/Bloomfield  
The Rev. Richard Jessen, retired in AZ  
Associate in Ministry Bonita Johnsen and First/Lincoln  
The Rev. Charles Johnson and Good Samaritan Village/Hastings  
*And for those in their ministry who are pediatricians*

### MAY 20

The Rev. Renee Johnson and St. Paul's/Glenvil and Immanuel/Hastings  
Associate in Ministry Jean Johnson and Trinity/Omaha  
The Rev. Renae Johnson and Tabitha/Lincoln  
The Rev. Robert Johnson, retired in Omaha  
*And for those in their ministry who are interior decorators*

### MAY 27

Mrs. Martha Prassé Jones, Nebraska Synod Staff/Omaha  
The Rev. Milana Joseph and Zion/Creighton  
Parish Ministry Associate Kathie Julifs/Syracuse  
The Rev. William Jurgens, retired in Beatrice  
*And for those in their ministry who are factory workers*



## Prayers 2 Christ-Weekly Prayer Schedule

**May 6:** Pray for all mothers

**May 13:** Pray for all graduates

**May 20:** Pray for all farmers

**May 27:** Pray for all military families

# Youth Notes...

Have you ever been in a good news mood? There are two kinds of this good news moods. One is when you just can't wait to share the news that you have, to let everyone know what it is that is so grand. The good news mood I'm talking about is just needing to hear good news. Between the wake of Virginia Tech shootings and the turmoil in the Middle East it is hard to find good news these days. With the world we live in it is tough to find that good news, as you search the newspaper, watch the TV, or search the web. But there is good news, even in the mists of darkness. A prayer vigil at the campus of Virginia Tech following the events lit up the campus as candles shined the light into the darkness of the night. Good news is found in the world and good news is found in Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:14, reminds us that "one died for all, and therefore all died".

We can find the good news and the kind of news that you just can't wait to share. So brothers and sisters, rejoice in this good news together and stand strong in the Lord your God.

**Rock On! Jeremy**

## **M.O.A. Traveling Lock-In**

School is out and you don't know what to do!!! Well we have a wonderful opportunity for all current 8th thru 12th graders. On May 29-30 we will team up with First Lutheran in Blair to travel on lock-in. We will be staying touring Gustavus Adolphus College for those of you that are now thinking about where to attend college. Also, we will hit the Mall Of America for some time to share the good news and shop. Looks to be like a great time. Watch for detailed forms on the bulletin board or talk to Jeremy ASAP if you would like to go.

## Honor our Graduates

**Congratulations to Brandon Book, Christine Freyer, Racine Hadan, Grant Lurvey, Kristi Johnson, Megan McClure, Tara Meador, Brandi Purdy, Deena Slechta, Jacob Smith, and Connor Stichler for all of your hard work and accomplishments.**

**Join us as we will recognize our graduates at the 9:30am service on May 13, 2007. Following the service we will gather in the fellowship hall for a reception to celebrate.**

## National Health Observances May 2007

Arthritis Month, National, & Annual Arthritis Walk	1-31
Asthma & Allergy Awareness Month	1-31
Better Hearing & Speech Month	1-31
Better Sleep Month	1-31
Bike Month, National	1-31
Clean Air Month	1-31
Healthy Vision Month	1-31
Hepatitis Awareness Month	1-31
High Blood Pressure Month, National	1-31
Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection & Prevention Month	1-31
Mental Health Month, National	1-31
Older Americans Month	1-31
Osteoporosis Awareness & Prevention Month, National	1-31
Physical Fitness & Sports Medicine Month, National	1-31
Skin Cancer Awareness Month	1-31
Stroke Awareness Month, National	1-31
Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month, National	1-31
Trauma Awareness Month, National	1-31

*St. John's Women  
in Action*



*News and Information for **all** Women of St. John's  
May, 2007*

### Coming Events

#### Fair Trade Sales

May 6

9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. in Narthex  
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Hot Chocolate, and  
Chocolate Bars.

#### Saved to Serve Opportunities

May 31-June 3 –Fremont, NE

Create a Bible Village at NE Synod Festival.

August 3-5 – Sullivan Hills Camp in Lodgepole  
Spruce up the camp for the retreat season.

#### A Festival of Tables

September 8<sup>th</sup>

#### Nebraska Synod Women of ELCA Convention

September 20-23 in Kearney

## The Lutheran Course- Bible Study

Starts April 29

9:30 AM

The Lutheran Course-Great for **new Lutherans, old Lutherans and anyone in between!**

An enlightening approach to our faith in 7 weeks, complete with a handbook.  
Sign up today in the narthex so handbooks can be ordered.

**Join in Bible Study**  
**All Women are welcome!**

Faith Bible Study – May 8, at 1:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
Lesson Leader – Addie Backhuus  
Refreshments – Mary Poulsen

Rejoice Bible Study – May 21, at 7:00 p.m.  
Conference Room  
Lesson/Refreshments – Debbie Almquist

Executive Board Meeting  
Monday, May 1, at 6:00 p.m.  
Conference Room

The Nebraska Synod Women of the ELCA will be holding their convention in Kearney September 20-23<sup>rd</sup>. Registration information will be coming soon! All women are invited to attend.

**A Festival of Tables**  
**September 8<sup>th</sup>**

If you have a set of dishes or china that you would like to share at the Festival of Tables, please contact Debbie Almquist at 238-2801. Last year wedding china, heritage china, Swedish dishes, Japanese dishes, children's dishes, and more were displayed and it was great fun. Join in!

**The Quilting Frame:** I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. Psalm 37:25

God is our Provider. Whether it is ham biscuits, cozy quilts, or a timely hug, God uses his power to bring his children what they most need. Sometimes we don't recognize that it was God who supplied, and sometimes we wait longer than we want for his provision. But if we continue to align ourselves with his righteousness, we will experience his deliverance. Our gracious God also enjoys supplying those who follow him with many of their desires in addition to meeting their needs.

On April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> the following ladies met: Present were Betty Deardoff, Delores Thorell, Suzanne Kirby, Gloria Jacobsen, Norman Collins, Addie Backhuus, Doris Hoier, Lorene Andersen, Emily Laaker, and Doris Gottsch. We have had quite a productive 2 days. We sorted out quilts for the Prayer Ministry to go the Ronald McDonald House and Camp Carol Joy Holling for the auction in July. We were able to tie 9 baby quilts and 1 full size quilt, Norma brought 10 sock monkeys she completed and 11 blankets and caps for preemie babies. These were delivered to the Children's Hospital. Several ladies also worked on rolling bandages. They so far to date have filled 7 boxes of bandages. These will be given to the Lutheran World Relief. Lorene A. and Delores T. worked on getting our "Blue Starbursts" quilt ready for hand quilting. It is now in the frame ready for all volunteers to hand quilt. Doris G. brought her camera and now we have pictures of the quilts for the auction and for the prayer ministry records.

We have several patterns available for use by any who request them. They are: knitting preemie blankets and caps, knitting and crocheting Prayer shawls, book bags for L.W.R., and fleece caps for those in need. Please contact Betty Deardoff –289-4306 for the instructions.

We would like to invite any and all persons interested in joining us for quilting. We meet the second Tuesday of each month and the Monday that precedes it.

Lord, help me recognize that you are my Provider. Thank you for your unfailing care, which so often goes beyond needs to include many of my wants.

**Opportunities for Giving!**

## STEPHEN MINISTRY



### **Vitamins are still needed!**

Vitamins are needed to be given to pregnant and nursing mothers in Tanzania to help stave off effects of HIV/AIDS.

Assistant to the Bishop Martin Russell can take an extra suitcase full of vitamins when he travels there in July. For more info, call Karen Anderson at 238-2374.

**You may place the vitamins in the basket in the narthex.**

### **Stuffed Animals for Ronald MacDonald House**

We are gathering new stuffed animals to be given to patients and young family members who are staying at the Ronald MacDonald House. If you would like to contribute, place them in the basket in the narthex.. Thank you!

### **Food Pantry**

Don't forget to **support the Western Douglas County Pantry** with food items. You can place them in the shopping carts located in the entry to the lower level and to the fellowship hall. Also, **Campbell's Soup labels** may be left in the box below the mailboxes.

### **Sometimes It's Hard to Ask for Help**

We're brought up to be strong, self-sufficient, independent people. We tend to think that if we ask for help, it is a sign of weakness. So we try to keep our struggles hidden, stuffed deep inside. However, that's not God's plan. Galatians 6:2 says "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." God wants us to care for others--and allow others to care for us in our time of need.

If you're sad or struggling inside, don't suffer alone. Ask for help. We've got a team of Stephen Ministers who are ready to listen, care, encourage, pray, and help you through a tough time. (It's confidential too!) Find out more about Stephen Ministry by talking with our Stephen Leader: Julie Dunn.

**Our Stephen Ministers are here to care!** To learn how to connect someone you know with a Stephen Minister, talk with our Stephen Ministry Leader: Julie Dunn @238-2659

### **Stephen Ministers training to begin this fall!**

Are you a caring person that can be available for an hour a week to walk beside a hurting individual in our community?

Can you empathize with people?

Can you maintain total confidentiality?

Do you know what not to say to a grieving person?

Can you recognize signs of depression?

Come be a part of this training!!!!

Contact Julie for possible dates and times for this spiritual uplifting training.



**COOKS 4 CHRIST**  
**Coldwater Creek Fashion**  
**Show and Tea**

**May 4 at 5:30PM**  
**Fellowship Hall**

Souvenir Intergenerational Photos will be taken

Everyone is encouraged to wear their  
Easter attire for the "Easter Parade"

All models wearing Coldwater Creek fashions are local

Come and have fun!!!!

Sandwiches & refreshments furnished

**NO COST**

RSVP's appreciated but not required

238-2109 or 238-2659

**Calendar for May**

May 4 5:30PM Fashion Show & Tea

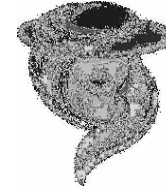
5 Cook-A-Thon LL 9AM

8 Benn View Noon

21 Keenagers Noon

24 Benn View Noon

**OCTOBER 6 HARVEST FESTIVAL**



**Benn Town Gals**

Time passes.

Life happens.

Distance separates.

Children grow up.

Jobs come and go.

Love waxes and wanes.

Men don't do what they're supposed to do.

Hearts break.

Parents die.

Colleagues forget favors.

Careers end.

BUT - Sisters are there, no matter how much time and how many miles are between you. A girlfriend is never farther away than needing her. When you have to walk that lonesome valley and you have to walk it by yourself, the women in your life will be on the valley's rim, cheering you on, praying for you, pulling for you, intervening on your behalf, and waiting with open arms at the valley's end. Sometimes, they will even break the rules and walk beside you, or come in and carry you out.

Girlfriends, daughters, granddaughters, daughters-in-law, sisters, sisters-in-law, mothers, grandmothers, aunties, nieces, cousins and extended family all bless our life.

When we began this adventure called womanhood, we had no idea of the incredible joys or sorrows that lay ahead, nor did we know how much we would need each other.

Every day, we need each other still.

***Meeting and events for women of all ages***

***Contact Joyce Baldwin 238-2802***

***or Emily Laaker @ 238-2583***



The new National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Obesity Guidelines say that whether or not you're trying to lose weight, you can eat healthy when dining out, if you know how. So, if you're treating yourself to a meal out, here are some tips to help make it a dining experience that is both tasty and good for you.

### **ASK!**

#### **Will the restaurant:**

- Serve margarine rather than butter with the meal?
- Serve fat free (skim) milk rather than whole milk or cream?
- Trim visible fat from poultry or meat?
- Leave all butter, gravy or sauces off a dish?
- Serve salad dressing on the side?
- Accommodate special requests?
- Use less cooking oil when cooking?

### **ACT!**

#### **Select foods which are:**

- Steamed
- Garden fresh
- Broiled
- Baked
- Roasted
- Poached
- Lightly sautéed or stir-fried



## Volunteers recognized

- On Friday April 20, two dedicated volunteers were surprised with the President's Life Time Volunteer Service Award.
- **Dee and Dave Clark** were nominated by individuals representing the city, school, library and the church. The awards were presented by Bennington Mayor Skip Wolff.
- Also honored were the Mark Carl family, the Mike Tomjack family, Kingdom Quest Supply Team (Donna VanBuren, Sandra Kander, Deb Sass & Cindy Gibelhausen), Carol Iltzsch, Bill Dunn, Jodi Pooley, Doris Ostronic, Emily Laaker, Heather Goertz, Gloria Jacobsen, Andy Frahm, Janie Frahm, Wendy Christensen, Vicki Japp, Betty Deardoff, Mark Wichelt, Wendy Andersen, Denise Klaus, Di Loptin, Angie Menard, Grace Baty, Virginia Willats, Mark Reimers, Julie Dunn and Cooks 4 Christ



To everyone who made 40 Days a SUCCESS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!  
Your efforts are greatly appreciated. All things are possible when people share their skills and talents and work for God.

# FLOWERS/BULLETINS

## March 25

**The plant on the altar** was given in celebration of Helen Goldberg's life in honor of her Birthday by Bob Goldberg, Curt and Janie Frost and Family, Randy and Judy Hokamp and Family and Jeff and Julie Hayden and Family.

**Rose on the altar** was in celebration of the February 20 birth of Grayson Jeffrey Thomas Rice, son of Tom and Jennifer Rice of Beresford, SD. Grayson weighed 6 lbs. and 11oz . He is welcomed home by sister, Meghan- 2 years old and brother, Grant-8 years old. He is the grandson of Pat and George Taylor. Congratulations!

## April 1

**Rosebud on the altar** was given in celebration of the birth of Paige Madison Teller on March 25. Paige is the daughter of Brian & Brenda Teller. Paige weighed 9 lbs and 1oz and was 20 ½ inches long. She is also welcomed home by big sister, Hailey-3 years old. Congratulations!

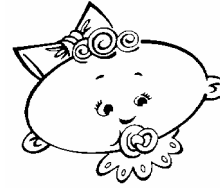
**Palms** were given by Mike and Deb Almquist in celebration of their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on April 2. Congratulations!

## April 8

**The altar bouquet** was given by the Rev. John and Joan Pierson families to celebrate the Risen Christ, in memory of Roma Hickey and Bernice Kramer and to thank God for his gift of healing for all those in need.

## April 22

**Altar flowers** were given by Jerry and Doris Gottsch in honor of their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on April 27.



**Congratulations** to Brian & Brenda Teller in the birth of their daughter, Paige Madison Teller on March 25.

**Congratulations** to Lucas and Heather Roth in the birth of their daughter, Lucy Marie Roth on March 31. She weighed 6 lbs, 7 ounces and was 20 inches long!!

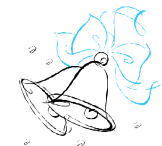


**Stacy Brown and her son, Nicholas Brown** were received into God's Holy Kingdom through the washing of Holy Baptism on April 22. Their sponsors are Jeanne Brown, Madonna Ritter, Diane Farrell, and Kristin Brown.

**Michaela, Elizabeth, and Cassidy Noble** were received into God's Holy Kingdom through the washing of Holy Baptism April 22. They are the children of John and Stacey Noble. Their sponsors are Brett and Chris Glenn.



**We extend our sympathy** to Tom and Cindy Koziol in the recent passing of their sister-in-law, Maria Guy, of Blair, NE.



**Congratulations** to Shannon and Elizabeth (Bridgeford) Benson who were united in marriage at St. John's Lutheran Church on April 21.

**APRIL  
CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES HIGHLIGHTS**

**The Church Council met on April 10, 2007.**

Members present: Caryn Stichler, Bill Dunn, Sandra Kander, Jim Peterson, Mark Misfeldt, Jim Pinegar, Ted Kirby, Jan Braden, Mark Backhuus, Mert Opfer, Heath Johnson, Pastor Price    Absent: Jenny Hansen, Jeremy Hansen

Devotions given by Jan Braden. Next month devotions will be led by Jenny Hansen

**Correspondence:** Thank You from David Mills and Hunter Safety Attendees for the use of our building for class. Request from the Synod for a "Mission Interpreter" from our congregation

**Guests:** Pastor Lou Forney, who led the Council/Staff retreat. He returned to assist the council with their "SWOT" analysis of our congregation assignment. He will return on May 7 for our council meeting to assist us as we come up with three main focus goals for our congregation

**New Business:** Discussed items for May Thru the Windows.

**Committee reports**

Worship and Music: Weekly communion at the 9:30am service. The 8am/11am service will remain as scheduled.

Christian Education: Vacation Bible School June 11-15.

Evangelism: Jim Peterson reported.

Social Ministry: Mission and Ministry Fair Feedback discussed

Finance: March Current Fund Beginning Balance: -\$6,287.73

Ending Balance: -\$5,716.38, Mission Share for March \$3,610.29.

March Memorials Balance: \$ 7,783.00

Total Special Funds: \$48,182.57

Endowment Committee: May 1 meeting to review scholarship applications .

Property Committee: Property Team meeting scheduled for April 23

Pastor's report: Written report.

**Complete Church Council Meeting Minutes are posted on the bulletin board.**

**The next church council meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 7 at 6pm.**

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

	<u>8:00am</u>	<u>9:30am</u>	<u>11:00am</u>
Mar 25	54	131	49
Apr 1	50	114	151
Apr 8	144	241	121 (Easter)
Apr 15	67	114	50
Apr 22	53	100	46

***St. John's Women  
in Action***



*News and Information for **all Women of St. John's**  
May, 2007*

**Coming Events**

Fair Trade Sales

May 6

9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. in Narthex  
Coffee, Tea, Cocoa, Hot Chocolate, and  
Chocolate Bars.

Saved to Serve Opportunities

May 31-June 3 –Fremont, NE

Create a Bible Village at NE Synod Festival.

August 3-5 – Sullivan Hills Camp in Lodgepole  
Spruce up the camp for the retreat season.

A Festival of Tables

September 8<sup>th</sup>

Nebraska Synod Women of ELCA Convention

September 20-23 in Kearney

**Join in Bible Study**  
**All Women are welcome!**

Faith Bible Study – May 8, at 1:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Hall  
Lesson Leader – Addie Backhuus  
Refreshments – Mary Poulsen

Rejoice Bible Study – May 21, at 7:00 p.m.  
Conference Room  
Lesson/Refreshments – Debbie Almquist

Executive Board Meeting  
Monday, May 1, at 6:00 p.m.  
Conference Room

The Nebraska Synod Women of the ELCA will be holding their convention in Kearney September 20-23<sup>rd</sup>. Registration information will be coming soon! All women are invited to attend.

**A Festival of Tables**  
**September 8<sup>th</sup>**

If you have a set of dishes or china that you would like to share at the Festival of Tables, please contact Debbie Almquist at 238-2801. Last year wedding china, heritage china, Swedish dishes, Japanese dishes, children's dishes, and more were displayed and it was great fun. Join in!

**The Quilting Frame:** I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. Psalm 37:25

God is our Provider. Whether it is ham biscuits, cozy quilts, or a timely hug, God uses his power to bring his children what they most need. Sometimes we don't recognize that it was God who supplied, and sometimes we wait longer than we want for his provision. But if we continue to align ourselves with his righteousness, we will experience his deliverance. Our gracious God also enjoys supplying those who follow him with many of their desires in addition to meeting their needs.

On April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> the following ladies met: Present were Betty Deardoff, Delores Thorell, Suzanne Kirby, Gloria Jacobsen, Norman Collins, Addie Backhuus, Doris Hoier, Lorene Andersen, Emily Laaker, and Doris Gottsch. We have had quite a productive 2 days. We sorted out quilts for the Prayer Ministry to go the Ronald McDonald House and Camp Carol Joy Holling for the auction in July. We were able to tie 9 baby quilts and 1 full size quilt, Norma brought 10 sock monkeys she completed and 11 blankets and caps for preemie babies. These were delivered to the Children's Hospital. Several ladies also worked on rolling bandages. They so far to date have filled 7 boxes of bandages. These will be given to the Lutheran World Relief. Lorene A. and Delores T. worked on getting our "Blue Starbursts" quilt ready for hand quilting. It is now in the frame ready for all volunteers to hand quilt. Doris G. brought her camera and now we have pictures of the quilts for the auction and for the prayer ministry records.

We have several patterns available for use by any who request them. They are: knitting preemie blankets and caps, knitting and crocheting Prayer shawls, book bags for L.W.R., and fleece caps for those in need. Please contact Betty Deardoff –289-4306 for the instructions.

We would like to invite any and all persons interested in joining us for quilting. We meet the second Tuesday of each month and the Monday that precedes it.

Lord, help me recognize that you are my Provider. Thank you for your unfailing care, which so often goes beyond needs to include many of my wants.

**Opportunities for Giving!**

### **Vitamins are still needed!**

Vitamins are needed to be given to pregnant and nursing mothers in Tanzania to help stave off effects of HIV/AIDS.

Assistant to the Bishop Martin Russell can take an extra suitcase full of vitamins when he travels there in July. For more info, call Karen Anderson at 238-2374.

**You may place the vitamins in the basket in the narthex.**

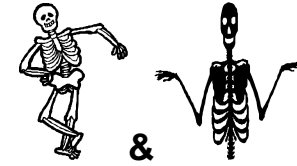
### **Stuffed Animals**

#### **for Ronald MacDonald House**

We are gathering new stuffed animals to be given to patients and young family members who are staying at the Ronald MacDonald House. If you would like to contribute, place them in the basket in the narthex.. Thank you!

### **Food Pantry**

Don't forget to **support the Western Douglas County Pantry** with food items. You can place them in the shopping carts located in the entry to the lower level and to the fellowship hall. Also, **Campbell's Soup labels** may be left in the box below the mailboxes.



### **Benders & Stretchers**

Tuesdays & Thursdays

9-9:30AM

Benn View Community Room



Free Yoga

Call Emily for days and times

238-2543