

*The Spirit*

**An update on the new Church Directory...** The new church directory will be published after the 2009 Church Council Election results. In order to be the most accurate and up to date, we have decided to wait until the announcement of the new, 2009 incoming Church Council members later this fall. This also gives everyone more time to update the church with any change of address, email address or phone number. In the new directory you will see two (2) names listed for four (4) of the Church Council positions. The second name will be the name of the new Council member taking office as of January 1, 2009. We appreciate your patience over the next couple of months. In the meantime, if you are trying to reach someone who is not in the current blue August 2007 directory, please do not hesitate to call the church office (630-584-8638), we will be more than happy to help you out with an address or phone number of a new member not currently listed.

*The Praise Service will be starting earlier this Sunday because it is Bob and Beckie's last official Sunday as Worship Leaders. Please come and sing songs of Praise to Our Lord and Savior! So for those who just want to sing "one more song" as Beckie said at The Beth Moore Simulcast, we will be starting around 10:45!*  
***Blessings to you our wonderful friends!***  
***The Praise Team***

**Loved Ones,**

This weekend marks ten years that Bob and Beckie Untiedt have brought beautiful music to St. Mark's. Along with the beautiful music they have brought hearts filled with love and honor and devotion for the Lord. On top of this, they have given rise to a new service of God-honoring praise and worship, birthed a wonderful praise team by the power of the Holy Spirit, and have shown a passion that God's kingdom would come.

We wish them well, and we praise God for their decade of devotion to the church. Because of the space limitations in this issue of the Spirit, I cannot elaborate further right here. In a subsequent issue of the Spirit I would like to amplify on their ministry at St. Mark's.

May God bless Beckie and Bob, and may God bless you.

Love, Pastor

***Staff office hours week of 9/8/08 – 9/12/08***

<b>Name</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
<b>Pastor Silber</b>	8:30am-10:30am	<b>Pastor by appointment 630-670-8638</b>			
<b>Adriane Nemeth</b>	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm	8:00am-4:00pm
<b>Sean McAdams</b>	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm	
<b>Dick Sonntag</b>				8:30am-12:00pm	
<b>Bob &amp; Beckie Untiedt</b>	8:45am-11:00am				
<b>Marilyn Cummins</b>		10:00am-12:00pm	10:00am-12:00pm		
<b>Lorilyn Thomas</b>		9:00am-4:30pm	9:00am-3:30pm	9:00am-4:30pm	
<b>Preschool</b>	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm	8:00am-3:00pm

Monday evening, August 4, was not a good evening for Judy and me. Following a "tornado warning" on our weather radio, we covered in the basement about 15 minutes until it was over. The next morning we looked out to the realization that we

had lost 29 trees around our home. In addition to those, although damaged, many seemed like they could be saved. Sadly, we were told that insurance does not cover any landscaping. Insurance does cover our entire roof, and the damage in the house caused by leakage and wind. On Friday evening and Saturday a group of people from St. Mark's cut up the brush and logs and piled it up at the street so the Township could pick it up. We want to give these people our deepest thanks. Linda Cox and Liz Davison brought baked goods to pep up the men who were working so hard. We want to thank all those who helped (and hope we have not forgotten any of them). In addition to Pastor Silber, there were the following: Bob Bauer, Paul Liberg, Alan Behnke, Chris Chinn, Dave Jeziorski, Gary Fox, Bradley Fox, Dalton Shimko, Justin Shimko, Tim Shimko, Gene Hemmann, Steve Moran, John Monkowski, Lance Christensen, and Brian Dziubinski. Many thanks again!

-Dr. David and Judith Bugh

Midweek Classes for Kindergarten thru 5th Graders ...

... will begin on Wed. Oct 1st (4:30-5:45pm). Registration forms will be available beginning this weekend. To keep the Midweek program available to all grades, we are in need of several adult volunteers! Please contact Karen Stout (630-443-3207 or [harry.karen.stout@prodigy.net](mailto:harry.karen.stout@prodigy.net)) if you are interested in helping or would like more information.

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### **OWLS Picnic – Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex**

The OWLS will meet for a picnic at the Art Fisher farm, 37W500 Keslinger Road, Geneva, on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. There will be a fellowship hour beginning at 11:00 a.m. and lunch at 12:00 noon. The committee will provide table service, beverages, meatballs, chicken wings and dessert. Anyone wishing to bring food could make an appetizer or side dish. Guests are welcome! For further information call at 630-232-0498.

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Come join the fun at the Lutheran Home's 111<sup>th</sup> Annual Family Fall Festival on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> on the Lutheran Home campus at 800 West Oakton Street in Arlington Heights. The day begins with a worship service in the Chapel of St. John the Beloved at 10:00 a.m. The festivities follow from 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and admission is free. Enjoy a variety of food, live music, crafter booths, TV Sports Tent, Bingo, a children's book sale, vintage car show, and activities for all ages. Free parking is available at St. Peter Lutheran Church with free shuttle throughout the festival. Call 847-368-7400 for more information.

Do you enjoy counted cross stitching? It is time to stitch verses on more Baptism Banners. All materials are supplied, including the chart, fabric, and floss. There is no due date – just return the completed banners to the church office when you finish them. Banners are available for pick-up in the church office or by contacting Margaret Studer at [mrstuder@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mrstuder@sbcglobal.net) or leave a message at 630-513-8289. Thank you!

***Babies are truly a gift from heaven.***

**Mike Lewis, the JesusPainter, will be a special guest during the Northern Illinois District LCMS Rally on Sunday, Sept. 28. His ministry began when his close friend asked him to accompany a new song he had written by painting a portrait of Christ large enough for the entire audience to see - in seven minutes! Mike has been painting at Christian events ever since. The Ablaze! Rally will be held at NIU Convocation Center in DeKalb. A great Mission Fair begins at 12 noon and the Rally begins at 3 p.m. Get information and free tickets at the NID websites, [www.ni.lcms.org](http://www.ni.lcms.org) or [www.peopleablaze.org](http://www.peopleablaze.org), or call the district office at 888-708-5267, ext. 3114.**

# **Jesus, Mommy, and Me Playgroup**

Come join the fun! *Jesus, Mommy and Me* meets the third Thursday of each month from 9:30-11am in the lower level Sunday School meeting area at St. Marks and at some off-site locations for field trips and outdoor fun! Most gatherings include a tasty snack, a child friendly devotion, a toddler friendly art project and of course lots of time for free play and fellowship! This is the perfect outing for moms/dads/caretakers with infant – preschool age children. All are welcome...hope to see you there! If you have any questions or would like to get on our playgroup reminder e-mail list, please contact Julie Zimmermann at (630) 584-6625 or at [jjomzimm@juno.com](mailto:jjomzimm@juno.com).

## ***Mark your Calendars for 2008!***

**Thursday, 9/ 18:** *Meet at Mount St. Mary's Park in Saint Charles. Bring your own snack and we'll have some playground fun!*

**Thursday, 10/16:** *Field Trip to Sonny Acre Farm in West Chicago including hayride, pumpkins, kiddie rides and more! Details to come in October.*

**Thursday, 11/20:** *Playgroup at St. Mark's in lower level Sunday school area. Join us for a Thanksgiving devotion and craft.*

**Thursday, 12/18:** *Playgroup at St. Mark's in lower level Sunday school area. Join us for a wonderful Christmas celebration!*

## **The Thermometer is Rising!**

by Sylvia Hemmann

As the time for our **Mission Team's departure** for Liberia gets nearer, so also is the encouragement and support of our loving St. Mark's members increasing for our team members. The total in our special LIBERIAN MISSION FUND #017-99-01-30 is now at \$1,175.00. Let's keep it growing! Keep an eye on the beautiful thermometer poster in the narthex.

The **Taste of Africa** fundraising dinner, **Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 12:15 in the Fellowship Hall**, will give us an opportunity to experience the sounds, tastes and stories of Liberia. There is still time to **sign up** to bring a food dish - either Liberian or American. Invite your family and friends. The dinner is free. An opportunity will be given to help fund the mission trip.

**Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** has just approved our request for matching funds for the dinner, up to \$1,500.00 with \$.50 on each \$1.00 given. Thank you Thrivent! **Thrivent members**, please sign in at the Taste of Africa dinner.

**Together we can help send the team to bring God's love to the children of Liberia  
Praise God from whom all blessings flow!**

## ***Youth Events***

## **Kane County Cougars**

Thanks to everyone who came out for the Kane County Cougars Game on Saturday night! It was a great time. If anyone has not turned in money yet for the tickets, please get it to Sean as soon as possible.

### **Back To School Get Together:**

Come on out to church at 6:00 pm on Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup> for a relaxing night of food, fun and Bible Study. With the school year in full swing, it's time for some good ol' youth group fun!

### **Bible Class**

Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup> marks the beginning of Bible Class and Sunday School. Remember Sr. High meets in the youth room from 9:30 – 10:30 am. Junior High students meet in the Sunday school area.

### **Confirmation Class:**

Attention all youth and parents of youth in grades 6-8, Confirmation is just around the corner, stay on the look out in your mail for more information. The Parent's Meeting for this year will be on Wednesday, September 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. This meeting is mandatory for parents of all youth participating in the program this year. The meeting should last no longer than an hour and should answer all of your questions concerning Confirmation. Some changes have been made in policies from previous years, so it is important to come. This will also be an opportunity to meet the teachers and the Elder liaison to the youth group. The first day of classes will be Wednesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:30 pm.

If you have any questions, or know anyone who would be interested in joining our program, please give Sean a call at 630.740.3098.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Senior High Youth Group Get Together: Sunday September 7<sup>th</sup> 6:00pm  
Senior High Bible Class/ Sunday School Begins : Sunday September 14<sup>th</sup>  
**Confirmation Parents Meeting: Wednesday September 24<sup>th</sup> 7:00pm**  
**First Day of Confirmation Class: Wednesday October 1<sup>st</sup> 4:30pm-5:45pm**  
Planet Wisdom: Friday October 17<sup>th</sup> -Saturday October 18<sup>th</sup>  
**Oktoberfest: Sunday October 26<sup>th</sup> 1:00pm**

### **FROM THE DESK OF THE PARISH NURSE ADULT VACCINATION**

Annual flu vaccines are a great way to prevent the flu. However, there are other vaccines that are also recommended for adults to maintain health and prevent disease. These include:

- Pneumococcal Vaccine: This vaccine protects against pneumococcal diseases which can cause infection in the lungs (pneumonia) or in the bloodstream or brain. This vaccine is recommended for those over 65 years of age. Check with your doctor to determine if re-vaccination is necessary.

- Tetanus-Diphtheria (TD) Vaccine: Tetanus, also known as “lockjaw” can be fatal and can occur when a wound, such as a cut, becomes contaminated by the tetanus bacteria. Diphtheria remains a threat because many people are inadequately immunized. All adults should have a booster TD vaccine every ten years. If it has been ten years since your last TD vaccine and you have a wound or burn that is very dirty or contaminated, get a TD booster.
- Varicella Vaccine: This vaccine, which targets the chickenpox virus, is now recommended for all adults who haven’t had chicken pox.
- Herpes Zoster Vaccine: Recommended for everyone aged 60 and older. This vaccine helps prevent shingles and lessens pain from shingles. *Source: WebMD and Pacific Medical Centers*

At your next office visit, check with your provider to see if you believe you should have any of these and/or other adult immunizations .

October and November are the recommended months for the pneumonia and flu vaccine immunizations.

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:**

**The annual Flu/Pneumonia and Tetanus-Diphtheria clinic sponsored by the V.N.A .will be held at St. Mark’s, in the Fellowship Hall, Thursday October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1:00-3:00 P.M.**

*The mind of a man plans his way, but the Lord shows him what to do. Proverbs 16:9*

*Blessings, Marilyn Cummins, Parish Nurse*

**It’s ALL Because of JESUS, I’m Alive!!**

On Thursday, August 23, 2008, God took TOTAL control of my life! I say that because I headed into open heart surgery, knowing that my heart would be STOPPED, but NOT KNOWING FOR CERTAIN, that God would choose to restart it after Dr. Bakhos had repaired it.

I don’t know about you, but on a DAILY basis, it’s pretty easy to say, “Ok yes, I have a strong faith”. Here in America we aren’t even persecuted for our faith! And because God has given me some talents I can “accomplish things” and help people – often times feeling like “Im in control” – not God!

So, when I was faced with the diagnosis that open heart surgery was needed the “Roller coaster ride” with God and Satan began. “I’m on the team headed for Liberia in November – what is this all about?”, I asked God. And His clear response came, “Still plan to go”.

The Tuesday before my original surgery date I awoke at 2:30 a.m. when Angel, my cat, came to meow and rest on my chest as if telling me she knew something was very wrong with my heart. For the next 10 hours Satan had free reign in me. Talking to family and friends, I was using every excuse I could think of not to have surgery. But, while talking to my brother, he asked if Pastor knew what I was thinking that day. I remember how angrily I responded “No” and in that one word – God hit me between the eyes and in my heart! I realize I was trying to take control of all the details of the surgery – events – EVERYTHING and that’s what Satan wanted me to do!

Once I realized what was happening I prayed and asked God to forgive me, turned all the details back over to Him and totally surrendered to His will again! I also asked God to restrain Satan from me. *continued*  
 Then came Wednesday eve at 6pm the phone rang. I answered it and it was Dr. Bakhos’ nurse saying my surgery for the next morning was postponed. My family, Liz’s family, my goddaughter and family were all on the way to my house to pray with me before surgery! As people began arriving and the news spread we all sat stunned for quite awhile. Eventually I ask that we pray for the mult: transplant patient who took my place and that family and for Dr. Bakhos as he performed this difficult surgery. We all visited awhile and eventually went home.

For the next 7 days – all the reasons I had tried to use as excuses not to have the surgery began being showered on me as blessings from God. For example, I got to see and hold my precious great niece who many of you prayed for when she was born in China this past year. Liz & I also had fun times with her oldest son Steve and family instead of seeing them in a hospital waiting room. I also got to attend the Sunday Night Songfest for Beckie and Bob. And with each thing that happened it was as if I could see God smiling!

On Sunday Pastor asked if there was anything else he could do for me or my family as I awaited the “new” surgery date. I replied that really everything had been done. But on Wednesday eve, Pastor and my families did gather once again to pray with and for me. I shared with them the image I was going into surgery with. I visualized God holding my heart for Dr. Bakhos while he repaired it and then deciding to restart it or not. If God hadn’t restarted it, I would be in heaven now instead of writing this account. But God chose His will to be restarting my heart for me to continue to do His will DAILY HERE for at least awhile longer! (And YES I am VERY HAPPY God started my heart again!)

So, recovery began and my focus became that – recovery! On Thursday eve, when I woke up and saw Liz and my brother standing beside me and I finger spelled “God Won” on their hands my focus was still in the correct spot. When the tube came out and I said, “I guess God wants me to do my “100 fold” for Him here”, I was still in the correct spot, focusing on God’s will for my life.

But by Tuesday I was consumed with getting stronger so I could go home and “get on with my life”. One step I had to do was take a shower. It was at this point that God took over again. I almost passed out in the shower and spent the rest of the day in bed. When I woke up from a nap who was there? Kathy and Pastor! And once again God said to me through Pastor’s prayer for me – this is not about you – it’s about My will for your life.

So once again I totally surrendered my will, my recovery, my future plans to Him! And while I was at Loyola, God used me many time’s to share His love with others.

I thought I had a strong faith all these years, but it was too easy! God “took me to the wall” – faced me with life and death, and then I found out what faith is really all about. It’s about totally surrendering our wills, agendas, plans and dreams to God for each and every day He gives us!

Liz, my family and I want to say a Huge THANK YOU for ALL your prayers (group and individual) cards, phone calls, visits and other ways of encouragement many of you have given to us before, during and now in the recovery phase of this journey.

With each new day I realize my recovery has only begun. But God is in control of each and every detail and His Will will be done in my life! God is using many of you to carry out His will in my life and I am very grateful! God bless all of you as we seek to serve our Precious Lord!

I miss everyone so much and can’t wait to sit in “my” pew again!

Hugs, prayers and special thoughts,  
*Linda Cox or Coxie*

## **Contributions &**

### **Attendance August 30 & August 31**

Saturday, August 30, 5:30 p.m. – 31 (est.)

Sunday, August 31:

8:00 – 72 9:30 – 83 11:00 – 107

Weekend total: 293 (est.)

General Fund: \$ 9,104.58

Specials: \$ 1,600.00

Debt Retirement: \$ 840.00

Grand Total: \$ 11,544.58

## **Worship Assistants This Weekend Are:**

Gerry Stevens, Laura Anthony, Diane Bartlett, Altar Guild

### **Saturday, September 6 – 5:30 p.m.**

Susan Brown, Organist

Harry Stout, Elder

Rhonda Wasinger, Lector

Cassie Bieberstein, Acolyte

Maja Christensen, Usher

The Elke Family, Greeters

### **Sunday, September 7 — 8:00 a.m.**

Susan Brown, Organist

Bud Bremer, Elder

Henry Weber, Deacon

Bob Ulrich, Lector

Zach Kirby, Acolyte

John & Sara Monkowski, Ushers

Bob & Joan Bauer, Greeters ("B")

Art & Gloria Eichmann, Greeters ("E")

### **Sunday, September 7 — 9:30 a.m.**

Susan Brown, Organist

Not yet staffed, Nursery

Jim Burger, Elder

Tim Baumann, Deacon

Ian Douglas, Acolyte

Kristen Ferrigan, Lector

Mark Cannon & Steph Olson, Ushers

Tom & Diane Bartlett, Greeters ("B")

Werner & Mary Ann Schagunn, Greeters ("E")

### **Sunday, September 7 — 11:00 a.m.**

Praise Band and Singers

Not yet staffed, Nursery

Jim Guzzaldo, Elder

Jim Neidlinger, Deacon

Deanna Ferrigan, Acolyte

Randy & Chad Oetting, Ushers

Randy & Betty Oetting, Greeters ("B")

Fred Olesuk, Greeter ("E")

Danielle Engel, Amanda Engel, Jordan Hayes & Dave Jeziorski, Tech Team