



Hope Lutheran Church

The Anchor

October 2008

Absent Fathers

When did church become something only for women and children? Why are there families in pews without husbands and fathers? Why are there so many absent fathers?

The countdown to the time of my own fatherhood is on. Weeks, days, hours remain before my testing by fire. It's a daunting task that lies before me, to be sure. And how a pastor is a father to his family matters so much that St. Paul told St. Timothy that if a man cannot manage his household, as husband and father, he is unfit to be a pastor (1 Tim. 3:4-5).

Why does Jesus call men to be disciples? And why does the Lord call men to be pastors? Not because women are inferior (they're not). Not because women lack the skills necessary (they don't). Simply because only men can be husbands and fathers.

Just as pastors are fathers to the congregation entrusted to their care (as Luther says in the Large Catechism), fathers are pastors to their families. That's a huge responsibility. And it's one for which men will be called to account. Raising God-fearing children will not happen if fathers are not presiding at the family altar: with daily prayer, Scripture reading, and devotions.

For the Feast of St. Michael, Luther preached, "The Lord is very angry, and it grieves him deeply when young people are not carefully trained. 'Whosoever shall offend one of these little ones,' he says, whoever teaches young people to curse, swear, lie, slander, to be unchaste, and so on, it would be better if he were dead. By this he indicates that such sin will be punished not merely with temporal death, but with eternal damnation. The world regards this punishment as wrong, and that is why all kinds of offenses flourish. It is the accursed devil's doing that the world's young people are now so depraved, wild, and undisciplined. They become the devil's children and are capable of nothing but cursing and swearing, slandering and lying; they live immorally, are disobedient, and guilty of all manner of malevolence. Woe to those who foster this in them. For the sentence has already been pronounced upon such people, as Christ says, 'It were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.'"

That's a serious warning. Luther took seriously the task of fathers to instruct their children in the faith, to raise them as pious Christians, so much that he wrote a manual for fathers to use in instructing their children: the Small Catechism. Nearly every section of the Catechism begins, "As the head of the family should teach it in a simple way to his household."

Men, stop abdicating your responsibility to teach your children the faith and to model the faith to them. Be a faithful father. Be a man.

In Christ's Service,

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Stewardship Corner

September Attendance

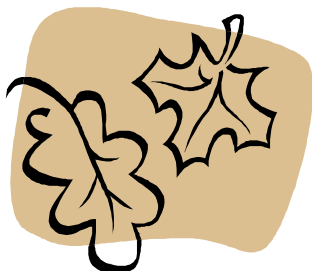
	Divine Service/Lord's Supper	Sunday School	Adult Bible Class
8/31	92 / 71	9	19
7 th	111 / 72	19	18
14 th	85 / 65	20	16
21 st	109 / 77	17	20
28 th	136 / 95	15	20

September Financial Report

	8/31	9/7	9/14	9/21	9/28
Envlp	\$1486	\$1252	\$1533	\$1333	\$1658
Plate	\$ 192.56	\$ 189.50	\$ 231.70	\$ 305.18	\$ 321.30
SS	\$17.25	\$20.50	\$17.25	\$17.25	\$47.25
Debt	\$100				
Parking		\$250		\$200	
Catechesis		\$15		\$30	\$10
Mission					
Flowers	\$15			\$25	
Rental				\$25	\$50
Other					

MARK YOUR CALENDARS
for these upcoming events
in the church year

- Reformation Day Service, October 31
- All Saints' Day Service, November 1
- Thanksgiving Service, Wednesday, November 26
- Advent begins November 30



Serving in October

Elders: Lead: Mark Kloempken
Asst.: Dennis Henneman

Altar Guild: Ruth Blattner, Debbie Basham,
and ONE MORE VOLUNTEER (please)

Greeters

October 5: Marvin Frazer & Chance Trisler
October 12: Bob & Bette Hall
October 19: Bob & Yvonne Hartmann
October 26: Bill & Rosemary Ivers

Ushers

October 5: Rick Angel, Len Straub, Marvin Frazer, Randy Margeson
October 12: John & Steve Ficker, Nathan Martin, Bill Ivers
October 19: Tony Purcell, Mike Roth, Jerry & Scott Summers
October 26: Dave Roth, Don Carpenter, Eric Trisler, Kris McGuire

Acolytes

October 5: Erin Smith
October 12: Koty Rethorn
October 19: TBD (come to training)
October 26: TBD

Call for Volunteers

Step up!

- Organizer for Children's Christmas Program
- Altar Guild
- Also:
- Sunday School Teachers and Helpers
- Greeters & Ushers
- Trustees & Handymen
- Grounds & Landscaping

News & Notes

The Book of Revelation

Adult Bible Class begins a study of the book of Revelation on October 12. Join us every Sunday morning at 8:30 for an in-depth look at God's Word, as well as a chance for fellowship with other members of Hope.

Sunday School

The Fall Sunday School is now meeting in the recently renovated upstairs classrooms. There's something offered for everyone in the whole family before church. It begins at 8:30 every Sunday morning. For more information about classes and materials, call the church office, or just show up at 8:30 on Sunday morning!

Sunday School lessons:

- 10/5 – Rahab (Joshua 2:6-7)
- 10/12 – Deborah (Judges 4-5)
- 10/19 – Gideon (Judges 6-8)
- 10/26 – Samson (Judges 13-16)

Sunshine Circle

There's a new game in town. Well, no, but there is a new ladies' group that meets on Monday evenings. The next meeting will be October 13th. Join us!

Notes of Thanks

Thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards, and kindness during the recent loss of family member, Cindy Purcell.

--Charles & Judy White

Thank you so much for all your prayers and concerns. My daughter Jessica Hartley is now in remission and on her way to recovery. She is very weak and receives therapy 3 times a week at her house. She still can't be by herself, but it is only a matter of time until she can hopefully go back to work. Thank you again and may God bless us all.

Your friend at Hope,
Elke

New Members

Summer Catechesis wrapped up at the end of September. At the Divine Service on September 28, the Lord brought John George and Jamie Fester into His family through the waters of Holy Baptism. And John, Jamie, Sharon George, and Charlie & Laura Rodgers confessed the faith delivered to them in Baptism through the Rite of Confirmation. Welcome!

Catechesis

Junior Catechesis began September 24th. We'll be studying Old Testament stories. Anyone is welcome to join us.



Midweek Bible Class

What are you doing after the Wednesday Service of Prayer and Preaching? Stay for a Bible Study on the two voices of Holy Scripture: Law and Gospel. The class goes from 7:45-8:30 p.m. and is led by Mark Kloempken.

Our Church Family

Rise to arms! With Prayer employ you, O Christians lest the foe destroy you; For Satan has designed your fall. Wield God's word the weapon glorious; Against all foes be thus victorious, God will set you above them all....

Prayer Partners

This month, we pray particularly for these brothers and sisters in Christ:

October 5: Kelly Smith; Judy Stanley; Esther Stambaugh

October 12: Fred Starks; Leroy & Ruth Stiles & Sara; Len & Donna Straub

October 19: Stephanie & Amy Straub; Jennifer & Mike Strubberg & Emily

October 26: Jerry & Ethel Summers; Sarah Summers & Lucy; Pat Summers

October Anniversaries

05 – Butch & Sandy Purcell

07 – Leroy & Ruth Stiles

11 – Christi & Mike Perkinson

16 – Cary & Kim Roberts

16 - Braden & Christie Pinkard

20 - Doug & Ashley Carpenter

22 – Fred & Linda Blasa

Dennis & Patti Henneman

J.D. & Marie Lyming

26 – Martha & Ron Eberhardt

27 – Stacey & Tony DeWitt

31 – Ed & Ella Pointer

Tina & Alan Rapp

October Birthdays

10/3 Matthew Baecht

10/4 Sharon Butler
Steve LeBlanc

10/5 Lisa McKennon

10/7 Doug Carpenter
Dennis Henneman

10/11 Randy Margeson

10/12 Deb Basham
Carrie Carpenter

10/13 Sara Stiles

10/16 Martha Eberhardt
Matt McKennon
Joey McKennon

10/17 Donna Straub
Blake Fox

10/18 Brian White

10/20 Karen Brinkman

10/23 Jeff Blasa

10/24 Anita Assar

10/27 Kristin Rodriguez
Jordan Fox

10/28 Tim Butler
Ed Pointer

10/30 Kelsey Pyrtle



Every Family Needs One of These

Struggle with family devotions? Having a hard time knowing what parts of the Bible to read each day or what quality devotional material to pair with your Scripture readings? Want something that will make your personal prayer life easier?

The folks at Concordia Publishing house have been working for years on such a resource that will gather Scripture readings, prayer, psalms, hymns, and readings from Church fathers into one easy-to-use volume. This is the long awaited *Treasury of Daily Prayer*, set to be released later this month.

Concordia's *Treasury of Daily Prayer* is a comprehensive uniquely Lutheran resource for daily devotions, unlike anything else before, or presently available. The heart of *Treasury of Daily Prayer* is the Daily Lectionary developed for *Lutheran Service Book*. Each day's section will contain: (1) the full text of the two Scripture readings. Using this plan nearly all of the New Testament, and about a third of the Old Testament, is read each year. (2) Psalmody and (3) Hymnody that captures the content, subject or theme of the appointed readings. (4) A devotional writing from a church father or the Lutheran Confessions; (5) on the days where a feast, festival, or commemoration falls, a brief biography of the person (or event) being commemorated will be included. (6) Finally, a brief prayer will be included that collects the thoughts and themes that are seen in the day, especially the New Testament Reading.

Treasury of Daily Prayer is designed to be equally useful for individuals, families, and small groups with the inclusion of the four brief orders of Daily Prayer for Families and Individuals. The orders of Matins, Vespers and Compline are included in the center of the volume. The book will also contain a section of daily and occasional prayers, the Litany, the common canticles of the Church, Luther's Small Catechism, all 150 Psalms, and several other resources for daily prayer and piety.

CPH is offering a discounted, pre-publication price. Leather bound versions, usually \$80, are on sale for \$56. The paperback edition, regularly \$50, is on sale for \$35.

To see samples or to order your own, go to www.cph.org/prayer. Or, you can order through the church office. See Steph in the church office for details.

Here is what pastors and theologians are saying.

"The Treasury of Daily Prayer promises to be both instructive and devotional, encouraging a richer daily life of prayer. It is by no means a "clergy" book, but will be accessible to all, including youth as a devotional book they can grow into."

—**Pastor William Cwirla**, Vice-President, *Higher Things*

"Daily individual and family devotions are not an alternative to the worship of the church, but a part of it. Treasury of Daily Prayer integrates daily devotional life into the pattern of the church year, and will offer the discipline of structured daily offices to carry Sunday's worship through the week."

—**Pastor Reg Quirk**, Chairman, The Evangelical Lutheran Church of England (ELCE)

"In my library there is a shelf filled with precious and regularly used reference books. Although the Treasury of Daily Prayer could sit amongst those volumes, instead it occupies a permanent place of prominence upon my desk. Why? A quick scan will show the Treasury of Daily Prayer is more than its simple name implies. Treasury of Daily Prayer is nothing less than a spiritual pacemaker which can bring a steady rhythm to an irregular devotional life."

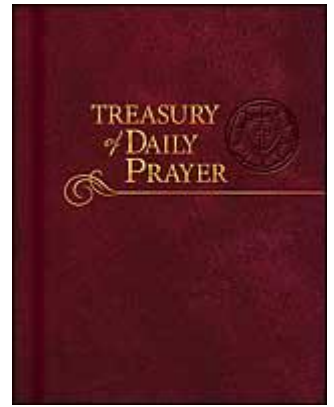
—**Rev. Kenneth R. Klaus**, Speaker, The Lutheran Hour

"Simply put Treasury of Daily Prayer is without parallel! Indeed it is a treasury of Scripture, Catechism, prayers, hymnody and devotional readings cast within the calendar of the church year to assist the Christian to pray without ceasing. I know of no resource that comes close to Treasury of Daily Prayer in terms of providing both pastors and laity a richly Lutheran book for reading, reflection and intercession. No doubt that it will become a devotional classic the likes of which American Lutheranism has not yet seen."

—**John T. Pless**, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry and Missions/Director of Field Education, Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, IN

"'Just as I am without one plea' is how God receives us, completely with His saving grace apart from our works, but God loves us too much to leave us just as we are. His grace to us in justification continues in His grace that grows us in holiness. To that end, the Treasury is a good resource for the discipline required on our part. 'Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure' (Philippians 2:12-13)."

—**Dale A. Meyer**, President, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO





Enews From Unity October 2008

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A HOLY PLACE

At our August Day of Spiritual Growth Conference, the keynote speaker shared thoughts about creating a "holy place" in the classroom. He was referring to a small worship center that could be used to focus the students' attention during classroom devotions. A covered table, a cross, a candle, all could be gathered to make a special area in the room. The students would honor this "holy place" throughout the day and especially during devotion.

A week after the conference, Ms. Bahrns, our First Grade teacher, proudly invited me to look at the "holy place" she put together. Ms. Bahrns had visited a Goodwill store where she purchased second-hand items for her altar. She found a quilt rack, a piece of cloth, a cross candle, and a picture of Jesus. She spent \$12 on the whole arrangement, and constructed a very appropriate altar. She was proud of her creativity. I was proud and pleased, as well.

When I left Ms. Bahrns' room, I thought about God's work in my life. Without Jesus, I'm like those second-hand goods – not much use for anything special. But when Jesus forgives you, when Jesus saves you, then something special can happen. God can use you for a very special task.

I'm grateful for God's forgiveness and salvation. I'm also grateful that He has allowed me to be involved in His special mission at Unity. He is doing something special for our students and their families, and someday they will do something special, too.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Under the direction of District President Mueller, a "Unity Working Group" has been formed to continue the exploration for more classroom space. The group of fifteen people is comprised of representatives from Unity Church, from the District Board of Directors, and from the school.

Assignments have been made and follow-up work is being done. Three directions are being investigated:

- Addition to the existing facility.
- Purchase property and construct a new building.
- Purchase or lease an existing building from the public schools.

Two priorities have been established:

- The situation is urgent and must be addressed as soon as possible.
- Unity Church and School must be in the same location.

Information will be shared as progress is made.

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE

For each of the past four years, we have conducted an Annual Fund Drive. A packet of information is mailed to our supporters, and individuals and businesses have the opportunity to make donations to our Belong To Jesus Scholarship Fund. This fund makes it possible for families to send their children to Unity. During those four years, \$400,000 has been contributed. Praise god, and thank you!

This year, our Annual Fund goal is \$250,000! That's a very large amount. We know that we will not reach that goal without much prayer.

The Annual Fund mailing will be sent out in mid-October. When you receive this mailing, please pray about your contribution to God's mission at Unity. Your financial support will directly make it possible for more students to receive a Christian education. Thank you!

(Perhaps you can share the information with a friend, so they can be involved, too.)

ENROLLMENT

Our enrollment has stabilized at 88 students. Our smallest class is the Fifth Grade, with ten students. The largest class is the First or Second Grade, with fourteen students each. Of our 88 students:

- Three belong to Unity Lutheran Church
- 53 are boys; 35 are girls
- 81 come from low-income homes
- 30 come from un-churched families
- Many others come from families that are not active in their churches.
- Every one is a special gift and opportunity to teach about Jesus.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- For Unity Lutheran Church as they reach out to the school community.
- For guidance and direction for the Unity Working Group as they search for more classroom space.
- For our Annual Fund Drive, that God would move Christian people to generously support our Belong To Jesus Scholarship Fund.

WISH LIST

Hand Sanitizer
Air Freshener
Playground Balls
Staples
Breakfast Cereal
Plain White Copier Paper
First Aid Kit
Box Tops For Education

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
28 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	29	30	1 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Midweek Service 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Class	2 6:00-7:00p Youth Group	3	4
5 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service 10:30a Acolyte Training	6	7	8 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Midweek Service 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Class	9	10	11
12 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	13 7:00p Evening Ladies' Aid	14 6:00-7:00p Elders' Mtg 7:00-8:00p Council Mtg. 8:00-8:15p Compline	15 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Midweek Service 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Class	16	17	18
19 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service 10:30a Voters' Meeting	20	21	22 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Midweek Service 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Class	23	24	25
26 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	27	28	29 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Midweek Service 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Class	30	31 7:00p Reformation Divine Service	<i>Nov 1</i> 7:00p All Saints Divine Service

