



# Hope Lutheran Church The Anchor

May 2008

## Happy Mother's Day

Mothers' day is not a holiday in the Church Year. It has no readings assigned to it, and it doesn't cause a change in the colors of the paraments. As an American, second-Sunday-in-May observance, Mother's Day first came about in the 1870 *Mother's Day Proclamation* written by Julia Ward Howe as an attempt for mothers (particularly those of soldiers) to unite on a day to oppose war. The first observance of Mother's Day was organized by Anna Jarvis in Grafton, West Virginia in 1908. By 1914, the observance had spread across the country so popularly that President Woodrow Wilson declared the day a national holiday on which to fly the flag to honor mothers whose sons had died in war. Just nine years later, Mother's Day would be so commercialized that Jarvis would protest that it had left it's intended purpose.

But the American Mother's Day does have its roots in an ecclesiastical tradition. The fourth Sunday in Lent, *Laetare*, was known as Mothering Sunday. On that day, young people returned to their home congregation and so were reunited with their mothers for the day. On this day, Christians were also reminded of their Holy Mother, the Church.

Even though Mother's Day is particularly overshadowed on the church's calendar this year by Pentecost (one of the highest feast days in the year), it is still good for Christians to remember their mothers and to give thanks to God for them.

For all of our faux-egalitarianism in America, we still have two separate holidays: Mother's Day and Father's Day. It is proper that we have two days instead of one combined "Parents' Day" because mothers and fathers are distinctly different. Neither is more important than the other, but they do play different roles in raising a child.

Particularly in teaching the faith to the next generation, mothers play an invaluable role. But this is not always an easy task. In fact, for any mother who has watched with heartbreak as her child has departed from the faith in which he was raised, this can be the most difficult job in the world.

Monica was such a mother. She raised her son in the Christian faith, but he soon departed from it. Her son, well-educated and a successful scholar, was drawn to a life of hedonism, indulging in pagan intellectualism, living with his mistress, and joining a false religion. Monica pleaded with her son to repent and return to the Church. With many tears and ceaseless prayers, she interceded for her son. One priest told Monica, "Surely the son of these tears cannot perish." And he did not.

Monica's son Augustine repented, was catechized, and baptized into the Christian Church at the Easter Vigil in 387, A.D. Shortly thereafter, he was made a bishop of the church in Hippo in North Africa. Today, St. Augustine is regarded by scholars as the preeminent Church Father in the Western church.

Mothers, yours is a holy work: teaching the faith to your children. In fact, there is no more holy work in the world that a person may aspire to do. If you have wayward children, take heart. Learn from St. Monica not to give up praying for them or calling them back to the faith. Happy Mother's Day.

In Christ's Service,



### In this issue....

Stewardship Corner..... p. 2  
News & Notes ..... p. 3  
News from All Around: Unity School Update... p. 4

Our Church Family..... p. 5  
Quarterly Voters' Mtg Minutes..... p. 6  
May Calendar..... p. 7

# Stewardship Corner

## April Attendance

	Divine Service/Lord's Supper	Sunday School	Adult Bible Class
3/30	96 / 68	15	21
6 <sup>th</sup>	128 / 95	18	19
13 <sup>th</sup>	120 / 94	22	21
20 <sup>th</sup>	111 / 82	17	21
27 <sup>th</sup>	85 / 70	14	19

“We give thanks to you, Almighty God, that you have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore you that of your mercy you would strengthen us through the same in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another...”

## April Financial Report

	3/30	4/6	4/13	4/20	4/27
Envlp	\$1613	\$1993	\$2338	\$1778	\$1112
Plate	\$141.07	\$76	\$110	\$54.3	\$108.3
SS	\$17	\$21	\$34	\$26.5	\$18.01
DebtFnd		\$100			
Missions					
Bibles					
Hymnals					
Flowers	\$8.50	\$15	\$10		
Imprvmt					
Memorls					
Rental				\$25	
Parking			\$50		
Other					\$150

## Serving in May

**Elders:** Lead: Larry Decker  
Asst.: Tim Butler

**Altar Guild:** Donna & Stephanie Straub & Jean Pinkard

### Greeters

May 4: Marilyn Rogers & Bev Schnieder  
May 11: Roy & Barb Young  
May 18: Martha & Ronnie Eberhardt  
May 25: Susan & Nathan Martin

### Ushers

May 4: Rick Angel, Len Straub, Marvin Frazer, Randy Margeson  
May 11: John & Steve Ficker, Nathan Martin, Bill Ivers  
May 18: John Lyming, Mike Roth, Jerry & Scott Summers  
May 25: Dave Roth, Don Carpenter, Eric Trisler, Kris McGuire

### Acolytes

May 4: Koty Rethorn  
May 11: Garret Blasa  
May 18: Taylor Eberhardt  
May 25: Nick Miller



# News & Notes

“After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ‘Men of Galilee,’ they said, ‘why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.’”

- Acts 1: 9-11

## Adult Bible Class

Here’s a sampling of some of the questions that have been discussed in Bible class in recent weeks:

- How are we saved?
- Why are some saved and not others?
- Why do we do good works?
- What makes a good sermon?
- How does the Old Testament fit with the New Testament?
- What about the Jews?

If you would like to discuss these, or have some of your own, please bring them. Even if you’ve never been to a bible class since you were a child in Sunday School, you will gain something from studying the Word of God. And if you think you know it all already, you especially ought to come!

## Sunday School

If you’re going, you know how much fun it is. The kids are learning fundamental life lessons, and they just think it’s fun. Come and bring friends or make new ones.

## WEDNESDAYS: Morning Prayer & Men’s Bible Study

Morning Prayer, for everyone, continues on Wednesdays from 6:45-7 a.m. Men’s Bible study follows on Wednesday mornings. All men are welcome to join—and for that matter women are too. If you can handle the testosterone, we’re glad to have you there.

## Youth Report

The youth and their fearless leaders pulled off another very successful yard sale on April 19<sup>th</sup>. In addition to the usual sale at the church, the youth also cleaned out Deloris Burnett’s house in preparation for her move and simultaneously conducted a yard sale at her house as well. Through all this hard work, they earned \$1020 for youth activities.

Next up is a Mother / Daughter Brunch on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11am. There will be a sign up sheet at church, and the cost will be about \$5. What a nice way to honor your mother and support the kids at the same time.

Some of the high school youth will be making a trek to St. Louis University at the beginning of July for the “Higher Things” conference. Higher Things is a magazine and organization for Lutheran high school and college youth. They’ll probably have some good stories to tell when they get back, and hopefully some they’ll be willing to share.

Youth catechesis wrapped up at the end of April. The catechumens have worked very hard this year at studying the catechism and learning about what it means to be a Christian. As an end of the year finale, they’re retreating the first weekend in May to Camp Wartburg, to learn about what it means to live a sacramental life. Thanks to all who donated to make this opportunity possible for the kids. Continue to encourage them and pray for them.

Confirmation will be held on May 18<sup>th</sup>. During the season of Pentecost, the season of the Church, we will remember how we are all members of One Body.



4200 Caseyville Road • East St. Louis, IL 62204  
Office (618) 874-6605 • Fax (618) 874-7564 • Email: pm7951@yahoo.com

#### IT'S GREAT TO BE LUTHERAN

Recently, the students in Grade Four, their teacher Ms. Oberdeck, and three parents, accompanied me to lead chapel at Zion Lutheran School in Bethalto. The students prepared in advance to lead the chapel service, and they did a great job.

While watching the students from both schools, it occurred to me that our Lutheran traditions are something to treasure. Although the two groups of students come from very different backgrounds, and very different communities, we were all able to join together in speaking the Apostle's Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Easter response "He is risen indeed! Alleluia!" We also sang the doxology together to close the service.

That's what Lutherans do. We all repeat the same liturgy week after week. At Unity, we repeat it day after day! We know the words of worship down to the depths of our spirits. When we meet other Lutherans, we can worship as one body. Worshipping Jesus together as Lutheran Christians is a wonderful blessing, and an exciting experience.

After the service, the students from both schools spent some time together on the playground. The boys immediately picked up teams for football. The girls organized two lines for running races. Being able to play together so happily is another sign of the Unity we have in Jesus!

#### SPEAKING OF THE APOSTLE'S CREED

No doubt you've heard versions of the Apostle's Creed or Lord's Prayer with the children's interpretation. I know you haven't heard this one, though.

Cameron, Grade One, came into my office, and approached my desk. "Mr. Miller, can I say the Apostle's Creed to you?"

"Sure, and I'll give you a cross award if you can say the whole thing," I replied.

Cameron took a deep breath, and then commenced. "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, *the only one I love*, born of the Virgin Mary..."

I smiled. That kind of sounds like "*His only Son, our Lord*" doesn't it? It's not exactly what they wrote, Cameron, but that works for me. Take your cross award. Thanks for visiting my office for a mission moment.

#### TIME TO BUILD DINNER A HUGE SUCCESS

Thanks to the blessing of God, the hard work of our Campaign Committee, and the generosity of our friends, the Time To Build Leadership Dinner on April 17 was very successful.

220 guests attended the dinner. Rich Herman did a masterful job as MC. Mayor Alvin Parks shared his commitment to education in East St. Louis. President Mueller brought greetings from the District. Rev. Dr. John Nunes gave an inspiring message. As usual, the highlight of the evening was the performance of the Unity Angelic Voices.

As a result of this one event, \$66,000 was raised for our Time To Build Capital Campaign. The total will be matched by the Lutheran Foundation. Praise the Lord!

For those unable to attend, you can contact the school to receive a copy of our new Unity DVD (produced by Rev. William Engfehr) that was given out that night. Also, watch for a Share In The Miracle dinner which will be hosted in your area in the future. We'd like you to join us, and bring a friend, to learn about the miracles of God at Unity.

#### ST. PATRICK'S UPDATE

There is nothing new to report at this time. The engineers have inspected the property, and we are waiting for the results of their assessment. Soon we will have the estimates on the cost of upgrading the buildings for our use. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit will guide our decision-making, and that God will always provide for His mission.

#### FAMILY READING NIGHT

On Tuesday, May 20, in the evening, we will host our first Family Reading Night. We have lots of books to give away, and we would like our Unity families to come for an evening of fun and reading.

Would you like to help? We need people to read stories to small groups, people to help with a small craft project, people to share snacks, and people to supervise the book give-away. The Family Reading night will last from 7:00-8:00pm.

If you are available, and would like to help, please call or email Mr. Miller. You'll enjoy our students!

#### PRAYER REQUESTS

- That God will direct us to our new Fifth Grade Teacher.
- That the right students will enroll for next year.
- That our \$150,000 Annual Fund goal will be reached by June 30. (\$25,000 to go)

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

May 20	Family Reading Night
May 27	Kindergarten Crossing Over Ceremony
May 28	Awards Ceremony
May 29	Last Day of Class
	<i>Please join us!</i>

# Our Church Family

*“Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. The commandments, ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not covet,’ and whatever other commandment there may be are summed up in this one rule: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.” –Romans 13: 8-10*

## Prayer Partners

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

### *Week of May 4:*

Jennifer & Matt Jolly; Garry and J Kallal; Mark & Lynne Kloempken, William & Jared

### *Week of May 11:*

Steve & Kelli LeBlanc, Christopher, Andrew & Patrick; Erinn & Josh Hilemann, & Jovee

### *Week of May 18:*

Kelly & Jim Little, Zander & Dane; John & Tina Lyming; J.D. & Marie Lyming

### *Week of May 25:*

David Lyming, Dain & Corinna Rose; Jim & Noreen Manns; Nick & Robin Manns, Josh, Aileen

## May Anniversaries

- 5/13 Bob & Bev Schneider
- 5/21 John & Ruth Ficker
- 5/30 Matt & Jennifer Jolly
- 5/31 Randy & Judy Margeson

## May Birthdays

- 5/1 Jean Pinkard
- 5/3 Brandi Bozarth
- 5/4 Judy White
- 5/6 Cassandra Kelly
- 5/7 Terri White  
Eunice Hinson
- 5/8 Marcus Neal
- 5/11 Yvonne Mitkos  
Kimberly Roberts  
Owen Roberts
- 5/12 Charles Walters
- 5/13 Mitchell Summers
- 5/14 Christopher Pinkard  
Corrina Rose Lyming
- 5/15 Bev Schneider  
Antony Purcell
- 5/18 Carrie Funk
- 5/19 Makenzi Summers
- 5/21 Kevin Margeson
- 5/23 John Ficker  
Tina Trisler  
Robin Manns
- 5/24 Jared Kloempken
- 5/25 Adam Butler
- 5/27 Maggie Frazer  
Emma Sharich
- 5/29 Shani McKennon
- 5/31 Judy Margeson

### **GEARING UP FOR VBS!!!**

Mark your calendars now for Vacation Bible School: July 28-August 1 from 6-8pm. The theme this year is Friendship Trek and the kids will be hiking with Jesus. Keep a lookout for registration forms and donation sheets to come out next month. Everyone can be involved in VBS.

## QUARTERLY VOTER'S MEETING

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH  
JERSEYVILLE, IL 62052

April 20, 2008

The Quarterly Voter's Meeting was called to order by President Ed Pointer at 10:40 after worship. There were 46 members in attendance. The list is attached.

### **Secretary's Report:**

The minutes of the Jan. 20th Voter's Meeting, and the Special Voter's meeting of April 6 were read. Janet Gorecki made a motion to accept the minutes, Nathan Martin seconded, and the motion carried. The minutes will be filed in the Permanent File.

### **Treasurer's Report:** (Linda Blasa)

The balance in the checking account is \$59.07. Balance in savings is \$76,794.62. \$5000 has been withdrawn from savings to pay for the balance due on the new organ. Mary Ann Husmann made a motion to accept the treasurer's report, Len Straub seconded, and motion carried. Copy attached.

### **Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Hemmer reported that 10 people had been baptized in 2007 and 5 had been confirmed. The next mid week service will be on May 1<sup>st</sup> when the Ascension of Our Lord will be celebrated. He also indicated that a new adult catechesis class is about to be started and anyone interested should contact the Pastor..

### **Education Report:** (Brandy Purcell)

VBS will be the last week of July from 6-8pm. She is also starting a youth Luther League in the fall.

### **Youth Report:** (Kim Frazer)

The Easter breakfast took in \$247.50. Randy Trisler is the new treasurer for the youth group. The yard sale (4/19/08) raised \$1020. The youth are hosting a Mother's Day brunch on Sat., 5/10/08 at 11AM. They are planning a Chili Cook-off on Father's Day. Pastor Hemmer is planning a Bible study with the youth.

### **Old Business:**

1. Since the congregation voted at its April 6<sup>th</sup> meeting to contract S.T. Turman to pave the parking lot, a vote was needed to rescind the motion to contract with Georgewitz to do the parking lot. A motion was made by Janet Gorecki to rescind the motion to hire Georgewitz Contracting to pave the parking lot. Second was by Dennis Henneman. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.
2. President Pointer announced a meeting of the Building Committee on Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. They will be discussing obtaining bids for the painting of the interior of the church, carpeting, etc. All members are invited.

### **New Business:**

1. Mr. Turman told President Pointer that he will install new drainpipes around the building at no extra cost, if the church will purchase the pipe. A motion was made by Len Straub and seconded by Rick Angel to purchase the pipe for installation. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried.
2. Mr. Turman and President Pointer discussed the striping of the parking spaces after the paving is completed. The cost to the church will be approximately \$860. Discussion was held on the possibility the church members could do the work themselves. A motion was made by Dennis Henneman and seconded by Dave Roth to have S.T. Turman do the striping. Voice Vote: All ayes. Motion carried. The members could possibly do re-marking in subsequent years.

There being no further business, Mary Ann Husmann made a motion to adjourn, Bob Hall seconded, and motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvonne Hartmann, Secretary Pro-Tem

# May 2008

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			<b>6:45a</b> Morning Prayer <b>7:00-8:00a</b> Men's Bible Study <b>9:30a</b> Ladies' Bible Study <b>6:00-6:45p</b> Private Confession	<b>1</b> <b>The Ascension of Our Lord</b> <b>7pm Divn Svc</b>	<b>2</b> <b>3</b> Catechesis Retreat – Camp Wartburg	
<b>4</b> <b>8:30a</b> Bible Class & Sunday School <b>9:30a</b> Divine Service	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> <b>6:45a</b> Morning Prayer <b>7:00-8:00a</b> Men's Bible Study <b>9:30a</b> Sunshine Circle <b>6:00-6:45p</b> Private Confession	<b>8</b> <b>6:00-7:00p</b> Youth Group	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 11am Mother / Daughter Brunch
<b>11 Pentecost</b> <b>8:30a</b> Bible Class & Sunday School <b>9:30a</b> Divine Service	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>6:00-7:00p</b> Elders' Mtg <b>7:00-8:00p</b> Council Mtg. <b>8:00-8:15p</b> Compline	<b>14</b> <b>6:45a</b> Morning Prayer <b>7:00-8:00a</b> Men's Bible Study <b>9:30a</b> Ladies' Bible Study <b>6:00-6:45p</b> Private Confession	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b> <b>8:30a</b> Bible Class & Sunday School <b>9:30a</b> Divine Service	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> <b>6:45a</b> Morning Prayer <b>7:00-8:00a</b> Men's Bible Study  <b>6:00-6:45p</b> Private Confession	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b> <b>8:30a</b> Bible Class & Sunday School <b>9:30a</b> Divine Service	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> <b>6:45a</b> Morning Prayer <b>7:00-8:00a</b> Men's Bible Study <b>9:30a</b> Sunshine Circle  <b>6:00-6:45p</b> Private Confession	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>