

Central States Synod - ELCA

Area Ministry One Newsletter

May 2008

CONGREGATION REACHES OUT

The Swedish Meatball Dinner held April 6 at the Oakley School Cafeteria raised a total of \$1706 for the Logan County Substance Abuse Council. The members of **Bethesda Lutheran Church, Page City**, would like to thank everyone who attended. It was a fun project for a worthy cause. It was also a chance to try some unique foods including ostkaka with lingonberries. A few brave souls even tried the pickled herring on knackebrod!

IS YOUR CONGREGATIONAL REPORT IN?

The majority are already in. Please go to <http://www.elca.org/ScriptLib/OS/FormAC/facLogIn.asp> and report. It doesn't take much time at all. These reports need to be in soon so accurate information about your congregation will appear in the 2009 ELCA Yearbook. If you need help, please call Sandy Van Tuyl 816-861-6584 or email svantuyl@css-elca.org

IS YOUR CORPORATE REPORT IN?

The State of Kansas Requires a corporate report every year to maintain congregational status as a corporation. It is due June 15 for the previous year. If congregations do not keep this up to date, they risk personal liability instead of a corporate liability. Go to www.kssos.org to file. If you are not up to date, instructions for becoming so are on the web-site.

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WELCOME TO THE CHURCH

We welcome Jake Solomon Palmgren to the Body of Christ. Jake was baptized at **Our Savior Lutheran Church** on April 27.

VBS PLANS AT FAITH

Faith Lutheran Church, Oberlin, participates in an Oberlin Community Vacation Bible School. This year it will be out at Sappa Park (east of town) and it will be "MarketPlace 29 AD." It will be held on 3 evenings, Tues – Thurs, June 3-5, 5-8:30 p.m. This is a really fun VBS, and they do it every 5 years.

VBS PLANS AT EMMANUEL

Mark your calendars for the week of July 14. "Friendship Trek" is coming to **Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Goodland**, with VBS for all ages. A light supper will be served at 5:30 PM and the program begins at 6:00 PM MT. Load up you car with kids and adults and join the party Monday through Friday that week.

PRAYER FOR MOTHERS

Dear Lord, we come to you in thanksgiving for those in our lives who have nurtured us, fed us, clothed us, schooled us, and loved us. Help us to care for others as you have taught us through their example. Be with those who mother that they may rejoice in the vocations you have given them. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

PENTECOST IS MAY 11

Pentecost is one of the two major "red" festivals in our church. Red is the color for the Holy Spirit. Wear something red on May 11 and make a statement for the Spirit! After all, you wear school colors to show your support, don't you?

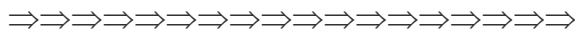
BLESSED TO BE A BLESSING: REBATE 2008

The last time they met, the Conference of Bishops undertook an initiative to encourage Lutherans to tithe their economic stimulus rebate checks to ministries among people living in poverty. The 65 ELCA synod bishops unanimously decided to tithe their economic stimulus rebates.

As God's people, we remember that everything we are and have comes from God. The economic stimulus rebate is an unexpected windfall for us to be a blessing. By giving it to ministries among people living in poverty, it will benefit them and the economy as we place dollars into the hands of those best positioned to spend money in their communities. As you decide what you will do, "do all to the glory of God."

BAPTIZED-BLESSED-BELIEVERS

You are cordially invited to attend the 21st annual convention of the Central States Synodical Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, July 25-27, 2008 at the Clarion Hotel in Springfield, Mo. For more information and registration materials visit the synod web page <http://css-elca.org/WELCA.html>. And be sure to register before June 1 when the rates go up!



LIFE CHANGES

Please send me names and schools of graduates from secondary and post-secondary schools in AM1 and next month we will recognize those who have achieved a milestone in their lives.

REGISTRATION OPEN FOR LUTHERAN MEN'S GATHERING

Lutheran Men in Mission (LMM), the men's ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), opened online registration for its triennial gathering. On August 1-3, 2008, men of all ages will gather in Omaha to celebrate 20 years of ministry and launch the next great step. Save those dates so you can attend *Coming of Age*. Or better yet, get online and register today! For more information and a link to register, visit the Men's Ministry page on the synod web site, <http://css-elca.org/lmm.html>.

ATTENTION YOUTH

It is time to start planning for the national ELCA Youth Gathering, July 22-26, 2009 in New Orleans. The theme is *Jesus Justice Jazz* and it draws from the rich faith history, diverse cultures, and arts of New Orleans. It will stretch your understanding of what it means to live in relationship and service with each other in the manner of Christ -- for life! For more info go to <http://www.elca.org/youth/gathering.html>

SUMMER CAMPS AVAILABLE AT BETHANY COLLEGE

Bethany College hosts a wide variety of summer camps for many ages and interests. Camps currently scheduled for 2008 include:

- Tennis Camp, June 2-6
- Boys Commuter Basketball Camp, June 2-5
- Girls Commuter Basketball Camp, June 9-12
- Youth Crime Scene Investigation Camp, June 22-26
- Commuter Youth Football Camp, July 21-24
- Yearbook and Newspaper Workshop, July 28-31
- Crime Scene Investigation Adult Workshop, August 1-3

For more information, contact Roxie Sjogren at 785-227-3380, ext. 8158, or sjogrenr@bethanylb.edu.

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