

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church

2561 N. Victoria St. Roseville, MN 55113

651-484-4144

www.princeofpeace.tc



1957 2007

The Vine

September 2007

You are invited

to the 50th Anniversary Celebration

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
50th Anniversary
1957-2007

You are invited...
to join us for
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church's
50th Anniversary Dinner
...a time of remembrance and fun on
Saturday, October 13th, 2007 at 5:00 pm
at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
followed by a
Sunday Celebration Service
October 14, 2007 at 10:00 am
at Roseville Area High School Auditorium
(the original site of the first services).
...please come!
Please know that this invitation is extended to your entire family

RSVP by
September 24

Saturday, Oct. 13
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
50th Anniversary Dinner
5:00 pm Social Hour/Fellowship
6:00 pm Anniversary Dinner
7:00 pm Program

Sunday, Oct. 14
Roseville Area High School
Sunday Celebration Service
10:00 am Worship Celebration with
Guest speakers & Reunion Choir
Fellowship/Cookies & Coffee

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Congregational
President,
Barry Brahier
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Churchwide
Assembly
An e-mail from
Bishop Rogness
Pages 12 and 13

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Adult
Forums
Page 3

Thank you!
Page 11

Prince of Peace Council Corner

The Building Questionnaire results have revealed that a strong majority of our congregation does not prefer to take on a mortgage when it comes to a new building and this is even more pronounced in the age group above sixty. This is quite consistent given the fact that those who take on mortgages are mostly young and those who are older either have paid their mortgages or are at the last stages of doing so. A mortgage for me represents both the optimism about one's future financial ability as well as one's tolerance for risk and is clearly dependent on the time horizon. This made me wonder "What does it mean to take risks for the sake of the Lord?" or, extending that further, "How much risk should we as a church take for the sake of the Lord? And, can we really measure it?" Risk is an inescapable fact of life. We all take risks and some do more than others. As an employee in the financial world I am paid to take risk everyday. However, it is a prudent calculated level of risk. As a father who is constantly reminded to come up with a financial plan for my family that includes two toddlers, I ask myself what is the right level of risk for us? Professional financial planners would say young families with long time horizons should take on more risk and allocate more towards stocks while older retirees with shorter horizons should be more conservative and allocate more towards bonds. Perhaps the penchant for taking risks is higher for younger people than for older people. (Although, I am sure there are older people or, as some would say, 'young at heart' who would put me or someone twenty years younger than me to shame when it comes to taking risks.) Is this

(Continued on page 5)

Your Council invites active input from all members and friends of Prince of Peace. It is our preference that all written communication to the Council be signed and sent to the church via mail, e-mail, or the council mailboxes near the office.

A T T E N D A N C E	Date	Worship	Family Camp
	7/22	148	30
	7/29	170	
	8/5	159	
	8/12	165	

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, ELCA
2561 N. Victoria St., Roseville, MN 55113

Office Hours

8:30am to 5:00pm Monday-Friday
New Saturday hours will begin September 9—8:30-10:30am

Contact information

Office 651-484-4144
Fax 651-484-7028
Office e-mail office@princeofpeace.tc

Web Address

www.princeofpeace.tc

Staff

Andrew Rogness	Senior Pastor
andrew.rogness@princeofpeace.tc	
Anita Beste	Associate Pastor
anita.beste@princeofpeace.tc	
Carol Garbisch	Parish Administrator
carol.garbisch@princeofpeace.tc or office@princeofpeace.tc	
Audrey Fairchild-Ehm	Youth Minister
audrey.fairchild-ehm@princeofpeace.tc	
Milt Warkentien	Music Ministry Coordinator
Kathy Tunseth	Choral Director
Kristen Haakenson	Bells of Peace Director
Mark Hanson	Organist
Steve Andert	Custodian
Natalie Tungsvik	Weekend Custodian

The deadline for articles for the **Oct. Vine** is **Sept. 14**, **Nov. Vine** is **Oct. 12**. The deadline for bulletin announcements is Wednesday at noon of each week. Please e-mail your information to Carol at carol@princeofpeace.tc or drop off the info in the church office.

Financial Information

Income Year to Date

July 2007 = \$37,483

Expenses Year to Date

July 2007 = \$30,036

General Fund Bal = \$7,447

Building Fund Bal = \$321,341

Other Funds Balance = \$56,433

Includes—\$820 for new hymnals

Budget Benevolences paid in July

ELCA Benevolence \$2,424

Luther Seminary Student \$500

Prayer Chain Requests



If you have a prayer request please call the church office or e-mail the office.

office@princeofpeace.tc.

On the weekend call or e-mail Linda Olson 651-482-8543
lmolson66@hotmail.com

The Vine is available on our website! Check out www.princeofpeace.tc today!

Reserve a room for your meetings. Prince of Peace is used by many of our members and committees as well as a few outside groups. Contact the church office to reserve a room as soon as possible. See the calendar on page 14 or go to the website to view the up-to-date calendar.

Meals on Wheels
September 17

Food for Friends
at Salvation Army
3rd Thursday of each month.

Prayer Shawl Knitting
September 5 at 10:00am in the library.

Library Cleaning day
3rd Tuesday of each month at 1:00pm

Computer Class provided by Harris Mallory
3rd Wed. each month at 9:30

Message from Pastor Anita Beste

We have five 3-year-olds who will be starting Sunday School this month – the next step in their life-long journey of growing and sharing in the faith, delighting and struggling in the faith.

One of the joys for me this time of year is visiting each of these children in their home and delivering *The Beginner's Bible* to them. With colorful illustrations and easy text, it's perfect for parents to read with their child for a bedtime story.

And during Sunday worship September 9th, we'll give a Bible to each of our 3rd graders, thus the congregation partners with parents in fulfilling the promise at each child's baptism "to place in their hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for their instruction in the Christian faith."

Back from sabbatical and refreshed and ready to dig in, I have offered and am excited to be putting some energy towards Children and Family Ministry as we look how to best restaff following Ginger Ryan's departure as Coordinator of that ministry. So in the near term, I will be shepherding the Sunday School program and working with the committee to lift up the congregational joys and responsibilities of having children in our midst.

But our faith formation and engagement with the Bible doesn't end with Sunday School or confirmation. The Bible speaks a wonderful and foundational, puzzling and challenging word for our adult lives as well – so foundational and challenging in fact, that it helps to read the Bible and study it together – in community. So there are several opportunities for adults this fall too: Sunday morning Adult Forums, Women's Bible Study groups (new members always welcome), and starting in October I invite you to join me for 6 Monday sessions on the Gospel of Luke. Both morning and evening sessions are offered; child care is available.

September Adult Forums Sundays 9:30 a.m.

September 9 - *Living in Peace* – an introduction to our fall theme with a Bible study and Hymn Sing focusing on the theme of peace and the Prince of Peace.

September 16 – Council President Barry Brahier leads a congregational conversation.

September 23 - For the Peace of Jerusalem: Pray & Work with Hope.

We will look at the ministries of Lutherans and other Christians amid the Holy Land conflict, as well as God's call to US Christians to be more engaged in seeking a just peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Chuck Lutz, Coordinator of Minnesota Churches for Middle East Peace.

September 30 – David Sherer, a nationally known ELCA resource, leading youth in "Hip-Hop" worship, leads both worship and education.

Message from the Congregation President

Greetings!

Next month we celebrate 50 years as the body of Christ known as Prince of Peace Lutheran Church. What an occasion! 50 years of spreading the word of God's grace through Jesus Christ! 50 years of shared joys and shared burdens! 50 years of fellowship and bearing witness to all the wonderful things God has done for us! As you read this, please stop for a moment and say a prayer of thanksgiving for all He has done here. OK, said your prayer? Great! On with the message!

It is the president's privilege to get to know the congregation in a way different than most members. I have sat across the kitchen table from some of you, attended meetings where thoughts, dreams, and concerns have been shared, received letters and emails, chatted after worship, and taken members' phone calls. I have asked questions of staff and volunteers and read survey responses. Even though I've been a member since 1987, I've been president only since January and even after just a few months, I'm amazed by this vantage point.

From this vantage point, I can honestly say it is our congregation's future, not its past, which is on my mind as we celebrate our 50th anniversary. This occasion is perfect timing: Much like 50 years ago, the future of Prince of Peace is again an open question.

I want to share with you a few of the things I wonder about when I contemplate the future of Prince of Peace. I draw considerable inspiration from what happened 50 years ago, so I'll include parallels between what happened then and what I wonder about now. I present a series of questions, organized around three aspects of who we are: Our ministries, our members, and our campus. There are no answers here, we must create those together.

First, I wonder about our ministries. Are we preparing this body of Christ to be as important to the lives of tomorrow's faithful as it has been in the past? Are our ministries truly aimed at meeting the needs of God's people now and in the future? What portion of our worship and ministries truly meet young adults where they are? Of course meeting the needs of our members today is a big reason why we are here, but our charter

members did not build a church solely for their day. They built it to live, grow, and alter over time. They built Prince of Peace to be a manifestation of the living God who is with us in today's world and will be with us in tomorrow's world. It is up to current and future members to make His message in Jesus Christ one that is precious now and in the future.

Second, I wonder about who we are as members today. Our charter members took enormous risks when they committed to bringing a congregation into existence from nothing. Are we ready to take similar risks for those who follow us? To what extent are we willing to act now to create a future we may not see in our lifetime? Or are we afraid that in creating something new, we may lose what we have so instead we get stuck not taking any action?

Third, I wonder about our property and buildings. Our charter members and those who came after gave us many blessings; chief among the material gifts is our church structure and its setting. I'll never forget sitting at Emy Jacobsen's kitchen table this past spring looking at a photograph of the land that was to become Prince of Peace's campus. Now, with the help of all who gave of themselves over the years, our expanded church stands on one of the most beautiful campuses in the northern suburbs. What vision those who went before us had! Have we truly been good stewards of these tremendous assets? Have we fully leveraged them to do Christ's work here in Roseville and throughout the world?

So there you have them, the questions I ask myself when I wonder about Prince of Peace. But please know wondering is not doubting. I am convinced that God's work with us is not done. The body of Christ known as Prince of Peace can continue for 150 years or longer. All it will take is what it took 50 years ago: Trust in God in Jesus Christ, extraordinary energy, and a vision for the future.

Yours in Christ,

Barry Brahier
Congregation President

PS: I invite you to attend the Adult Education hour on Sunday, September 16 where we will engage further with these questions.

Prince of Peace Council Corner (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

also true when it comes to The Lord's Calling? Twenty odd years ago, when I discovered God's Greatest Gift, I would share Him with others at every opportunity I got and to anyone who would listen. Now, when I look back, I think "I cannot believe I did that" given the popularity of that course of action. While an active member of the youth group I had little tolerance (and a lot more disdain) toward anything that had little to do with Bible study, bringing people to Christ, community service, or contemporary worship- especially congregational meetings or capital campaigns (Oh! the irony.) Over time that enthusiasm has waned. At thirty seven, I have gotten more conservative, although I still feel I take some risks when it comes to the Lord. My wife would say no person in their right mind would have taken on the building project six months into one's membership, given the popularity of the job unless that person prefers some pain and suffering. I feel that it was the nominating committee that took the greater risk. So what does the Bible say about risk? While I did not focus on any particular verse, risk is everywhere in the Bible, especially among those whom Jesus had called. I am amazed and humbled by the risks early followers took for the sake of Jesus—many of whom are now attached to body parts of fossilized lions. The greatest risk-taking for me undoubtedly is the one our Lord Jesus took for our salvation. Wow! How do you respond to something like that? I am convinced there is one key element that is required for taking risks for the sake of the Lord that is different to other types of risks - FAITH. The latter requires some faith in your abilities to calculate the risk or willingness to tolerate it while the former requires much more faith in the Lord Himself. And when it comes to Church-faith in your fellow members is also required. This is true especially when it comes to accepting changes that are beyond our comfort zones. I am not sure if there is one metric that you can use to measure the willingness to take risk for the Lord as a church. I believe it is a personal measure that varies from person to person that may manifest as a group. As a congregation, however, I believe the Lord challenges us to take bold steps for His sake and that following Him is the greatest risk one can take in one's life. Effecting lasting change for the Lord's sake requires a high level of tolerance for risk. As we celebrate the last

fifty years as a congregation and look forward to the future regardless of one's time horizon, I hope that all of us will spend some time reflecting on the above questions. I am convinced that the Lord has great things in store for us in the future if we let Him. And as we look at the needs of our community, God never stops asking "Whom shall I send?" and I pray we risk an answer and continue to answer, "Here I am Lord, send me."

Asitha P. Sandanayake

Properties Council Representative

Evangelism Corner



SUNDAY SCHOOL

The beginning of the Sunday School year is just around the corner! This is a great opportunity to spread the word about an important Prince of Peace ministry with your friends, family and neighbors. Kids can be great disciples by inviting their friends to join them at Sunday School to learn more about God's love for all of us!

Children and Family Ministry

Children of All Ages are always welcome in worship!

For those times when another space is helpful for your child ages birth – 4 yrs, **The Nursery** is staffed from 8:15 – 11:45 a.m. starting Sun., Sept. 9.

Sunday School starts up Sunday, September 9 9:30 a.m.

- 3 & 4 year-olds and Grades K-1 meet for **Godly Play** and **Alleluia Choir**.
- Grades 2 – 6 meet for **Seasons of the Spirit**.
- Junior High Sunday School meets downstairs.
- Senior High (aka Breakfast Club) meets upstairs in the Youth Room.

Invite your friends and neighbors to join you at **Sunday School!**

Sunday School Teachers

As of press time (August 14), we have 15 people who find their ministry in helping with the Sunday School program as a Teacher, Music Leader, substitute teacher or Parent Helper. I am sure that they will be a blessing to the children – and will find that they are blessed in their own growth and joy in faith too!

And there is always room for more! With team teaching, the commitment is for roughly half the Sundays. If you would like to join this Sunday School team or get more information, please contact Pastor Anita Beste.

Wednesday Programming – Beginning Sept 12

- **Bring the family for supper; served 5:30 – 6:30**
- **Children's Activity or Choir: 6:15 – 7:00** (planning still in process at press time)



cHiLdReN's pLaY dAtE
Preschool Playgroup

Preschool Playgroup will be meeting at the church on the first and third **Friday** (day change) each

month. Contact Renee for more details or just come to play. Renee Anderson 651-228-7042 or anderson.renee@comcast.net.



Family Camp July 20-22, 2007

The whole congregation is invited to **Wednesday Suppers** served 5:30 - 6:30 every Wed. beginning Sept. 12. Michele Pederson is coordinating teams for cooking, set-up and clean-up. If you are willing to help with any one of these, please contact Michele or the office.



Lakeridge Child Care Center A ministry to our families and neighbors.

Lakeridge Childcare (located in Prince of Peace) has openings for children from newborns to 5 years old. If you have any questions or would like to enroll your child give Katie or Melissa a call at 651-483-6141.

Thoughts from Audrey

I spent last week in Chicago at the ELCA Church wide Assembly. Every two years our church convenes to do our business—to make decisions about our constitution, by laws, policy, action and mission of our church. We debated all of these items. We agreed on much and we disagreed about much.

I love this church. For as long as I can remember the church has been important to me. I care deeply for this church. I am proud to be a Lutheran, particularly an ELCA Lutheran. I remember when The American Lutheran Church (ALC) struggled with whether or not a non ALC Lutheran could commune at our communion rail. Today we do not even think about having anything but ‘open’ communion.

When I was in high school, I preached from the pulpit in our congregation. There was much disagreement as to whether or not it was ‘proper’ for women to be in the pulpit. Today we ordain women and welcome them into our pulpits. Last week I was reminded that the vote in the ALC to change our policy to ordain women passed by three votes.

The church has been debating long before Lutherans were around. There was debate over the Nicene Creed, over the canon—which books would be Scripture. Debate and disagreement have been a large part of our Lutheran heritage—we came into being when a monk named Martin Luther named 95 points

of disagreement with the church.

Luther lifted up the priesthood of all believers—that each believer should have the scripture in their common language (German for him). One of the greatest gifts he gave the church was to translate the scriptures into German so the common person could read it for themselves and not depend on the priest for understanding the Scriptures. He taught and we believe that the Holy Spirit ‘calls us through the Gospel and enlightens us with his gifts in the one true faith’ and, as each of us reads the Scriptures, God speaks to us.

Just as the theologians debated whether or not it is ‘proper’ for the Scriptures to be translated into German, we debate what is ‘proper’ for our church policy and mission. One of the things I value so much about our church is that we can disagree and still be God’s church.

It is great that we can be of differing viewpoints, but so clearly of one spirit. Never did I question whether God’s Spirit filled that Assembly—from worship, to meals shared, to informational sessions, to the assembly floor. God was in that place. We are God’s church, a sent church, a church in mission. With the assembly over, it is time for us to turn now to the mission at hand: God’s Work—Our Hands!

Jr. High Youth Events

Fall Festival

(Jr. High Youth and Parents)

Sunday, Sept. 23 12:30—3:00 PM

At Audrey’s House. We will:

- ◇ Make Apple Cider
- ◇ Play games
- ◇ Bob for apples
- ◇ Make caramel apples
- ◇ Review events for the fall

Bring:

- ◇ Your favorite dish to share
- ◇ Apple-ply yourself to meeting new friends and enjoying old friends.

Please Sign-up so we can figure food. Hamburgers, Brats, and Hot dogs will be provided.

Breakfast Club & FEAST

Breakfast Club

We meet on Sunday mornings @ 9:30 AM in the youth room All Sr. High Youth are invited to join us. Yes, we will have breakfast! Our first gathering will be on September 9. See you all there!

FEAST

(Friends Eating and Sharing Together) “The Simpsons” will be focusing our discussions. Each week we will watch an episode and discuss it. We gather in the Youth Room on Wednesdays @ 6:15—7:15 PM Pick up your dinner and bring it in.

Come join us!

Sr. High Youth Events

Tuesday, Sept 11 @ 7:00 PM

Meeting with Sr. High Youth and Parents. We will be talking about leadership development.

Opportunities, including Prince of Peace Responders and the trip to Tanzania summer of 2008.

Greetings from the Music Ministry Coordinator—Milt Warkentien

In the book of Ecclesiastes the “philosopher” points out how useless life can feel. This can make Ecclesiastes a challenging book to read. But if we use this book to reflect on, one can also see that if Christ is in our life, uselessness can not be an issue. God has given us all talents to share. We are all called to a COMMUNITY of faith. We are all important parts in this community of faith. Take the time to share your faith with the people of Prince of Peace and in the world around you.

September brings change to Prince of Peace. Sept. 2nd is the last outdoor service for the year. Our service times starting Sept. 9th go back to 8:30 and 10:45, allowing for our all ages education hour. Last year’s 6th and 8th graders are now in the junior and senior high programs respectively. (Unfortunately this means some of our graduated youth will be heading off to school.) Our choirs start rehearsing. Mark, our new organist, is on board. The excitement of the 50th anniversary celebration and service is now becoming a reality and we’re also getting a new hymnal.

I know that there’s no stopping change, but that

doesn’t mean change is bad. Change can also make life exciting. Did you ever want to sing in a choir or be a handbell ringer? Now’s your chance! (Training is available every Wednesday night. See the various directors for more information.) Did you ever want to learn how to run a sound system? Now’s your chance! (See Tom Frantz for more details). Did you ever want to be a reader, usher, communion assistant, Sunday School teacher, etc.....? NOW’S YOUR CHANCE!

I’m very excited about the year ahead. In Ecclesiastes 3, the “philosopher” writes that there is a time for everything. Well, as I see it, the time is now. God has given us gifts to share. What are we waiting for? Think you’re too old or too young? Wrong ! AGE DOESN’T MATTER! There is always something for someone to do. Sing if you want to sing! Dance if you want to dance! Ring if you want to ring! Help behind the scenes or with social ministry, etc..... What ever you do, DO SOMETHING!!!! Take the time to get involved.

May God bless us all, Milt

Jr. and Sr. High Music

Hi! It’s time to get those voices and instruments ready. This year I hope to use a wide variety of your musical talents. I think the easiest way to do this is to have rehearsals for a particular Sunday service. By doing this I hope to make the best use of everyone’s time. For each Sunday service there will be 2 or 3 rehearsals. I again hope to do all age string groups, too. I will be sending out more information and posting it on the youth bulletin board. Please let me know any instruments you play or if you like to sing. If you have any questions please call me. I’m looking forward to working with you all.

Milt

Bell Choir

Bell Choir practice begins September 5 at 6:15-7:30pm. New members are always welcome.

Chancel Choir Opportunity

Again this year Chancel Choir offers you a service opportunity at Prince of Peace. Adult singers in all sections are invited to join and are especially welcome in our bass section. If you have participated in Chancel Choir in the past, we hope you will consider sharing your time and talents again. If Chancel Choir is new to you, we think you will find the experience provides fellowship and fun as well as a chance to help lead worship while learning music of depth and quality. And--the Chancel Choir includes one Sunday off a month, which may be helpful as you plan your own personal or family schedules. Rehearsals are from 7:30 to 9:00 pm on Wednesdays, beginning September 5. Please consider making a commitment to Chancel Choir in 2007-2008! If you would like more information contact Kathy Tunseth through the church office.

Older Kids

OK's Thursday, September 13 **OK's**
Lunch at 11:30 a.m.
Hey! We're having a party—A birthday party!
There will be games to play and Maureen Dudley
will be joining us on the piano.
Each person is asked to bring a
WHITE ELEPHANT gift, wrapped.
Men should label their gift "man" and the women
labeled "woman." Please come. It'll be a blast!

Food Shelf Reminder

Remember our ethnic groups when providing food for the Food Shelf. Prince of Peace provides food to our community food shelf located at Fairview Community Center and managed by the Golden Kiwanis Organization. More and more immigrants and refugees are sent to this food shelf and these new residents have different diets than we do.

Please consider donating some of the following items when bringing your contribution of food for the food shelf: variety of kinds of rice, beans of all kinds, guilin rice noodles, soy milk or beverages, corn meal, corn flour and corn oil, fish sauce, plantains, and fruits and vegetables.

Food will be taken from Prince of Peace to the Food Shelf by Gary Peterson. Thank you for thinking of others when you grocery shop.

Ministry Wish List

Digital Camera for use by all Ministries—\$350
Kitchen freezer (frost free and energy efficient)—talk to Dee Nelson
AV Equipment for Adult Education—talk to Cindy Olson
Bulletin Boards for Children's Ministry—talk to Cindy
Candelabras for Weddings—talk to Jane Luger
Pastors' Discretionary Fund—funds used to assist individuals and families in need (see thank you on page 11)

Attention Young Adults



YOUNG ADULTS

Attention all young adults!
Would you like to get to know others your age at Prince of Peace?

Watch for upcoming meetings and events. Contact Liz Lauterbach, ljlauterbach@yahoo.com or 651-491-0223 if you have any questions or ideas.

Women's Bible Study Introduction

The new 2007-2008 Women's Bible Study will be introduced on Saturday, Sept. 22, at Resurrection Lutheran Church. This coming Bible Study is entitled "Blessed to Follow: The Beatitudes as a Compass for Christian Discipleship" (Matthew 5). Registration forms are on the rack by the office.

All women are invited to be participants in the women's bible study. Monthly lessons are printed in THE LUTHERAN WOMAN TODAY magazine. For subscription information or to be in a bible study group contact Deanna Rowe at 483-2238 or Anne Haugan, 484-3856. An additional circle is forming in September. Consider being a part of this new circle group (see page 12).

PoP Befrienders

**Kick-off Supper Meeting
Tuesday, Sept. 25 at 6:30pm**

Help the church staff and the Prince of Peace family. If you or someone you know from Prince of Peace is ill and/or is in the hospital or struggling with a personal challenge and would like a Pastoral visit or would like a visit from a Befriender, please call the church office.

YogaDevotion



YogaDevotion combines the fitness of yoga with the spiritual practice of Christian devotions.

Mondays 6-7 pm in the gym.
8-week session Sept 10 - Oct 29. Cost: \$50
New Instructor: Jessica Ostendorf
More info at www.yogadevotion.com

Women's Bible Study

Martha Circle

2nd Monday at 1:00pm

September 10

Meet in the church library

Hostess: Kay M. Johnson 766-6796

Bible Study Leader: Kay Johnson

Rebecca Circle

2nd Monday at 7:30pm

September 10

Hostess: Audrey Henningson

651-642-1080

Bible Study Leader: Carol Ryden

Rachel Circle has divided into two circles to be named at the Sept. meeting. Both circles will meet at the same date and time each month.

2nd Tuesday at 9:30am

September 11

1) Hostess: Deanna Rowe 483-2238
Bible Study Leader:
Ardella Norenberg

2) Hostess: Janelle Lande 484-1319
Bible Study Leader:

Betchen Oberdorfer

Ruth Circle

2nd Tuesday at 7:30pm

September 11

Hostess: Jean Knack 483-9261

Bible Study Leader: Gail Meir.

Please join any of the bible studies at any time. Everyone is welcome. Martha Circle meets at the church all other circles meet in the home of the hostess.

Tanzania Update

Bega kwa Bega

7th ANNUAL
TANZANIAN
DINNER

Mark your calendar
for the 7th Annual
Tanzanian Dinner at
Prince of Peace
sponsored by the
Tanzanian Mission
Partners on
Sunday, Nov. 11,
2007 at 5:30 p.m.

Water at Boma La Ng'ombe Secondary School "The impossible is possible"

The following email was received from Pastor Michael, Headmaster at Boma La Ng'ombe Secondary School:

Dear babu & Bibi Sandi,

Greetings and good news from Bomalang'ombe secondary.

"Maji salama ya shule" This is what my students and staff are singing right now after good work which took 5days to digga a trench about 1600m long distance from factory to school. Now water is flowing to every corner of the school. The "Impossible is possible!!" Something is going to happen real it has happened! This is miracle to very one who get this. Ton and Michele from Trinity and from NY visited us in the school. They helped us to connect water system to school! Glory to God!! We are thinking now to have electricity to school at the end of this year! This is possible!! Why? Because we are crazy for Jesus!! It cost about Tsh 36,500,000.00 (\$ 36,500.00). We hope God is good all the time.

Pass our love to all.

Pastor Michael

Growing Thru Loss

A 6-week series providing an opportunity for individuals to obtain information and support for a variety of loss and grief issues. Each session offers an educational presentation by a professional from the community, followed by peer support groups facilitated by trained leaders who understand the grieving process. Registration takes place the night of the program at the host church. Each session is complete in itself; attend any or all sessions. Call 763-755-5335 or visit www.growingthroughloss.org for more information. The next series will be held at:

Nativity Lutheran Church,

3312 Silver Lake Rd, St. Anthony, MN 55418

Thursdays, Sept. 13 – Oct. 18; 6:45 – 9:00 pm

Sept. 13 Understanding Grief and Loss

Judy Connolly, D.Min.

Chaplain, University of Minnesota
Medical Center, Fairview

Sept. 20 Why Do I Feel So Mixed up and Crazy

Rev. Valerie Brown-Greenly, M.Div.

Pastor, Faith Lutheran Church, Isanti

Sept. 27 Care of Self: Emotionally,

Psychologically, Physically

Sr. Claren Selner, OSF

Parish Minister with Seniors and Home
bound, Church of the Epiphany

Thank you!

A  of Thanks from Cheryl Broostin

I truly appreciate how you have ministered to me during my recovery from surgery. I received many cards and supportive phone calls, as well as comfort foods and beautiful yellow roses from the Chancel Choir. Thank you all so much!

Jerry and I have enjoyed being with you and getting to know you these past eight months while I've been filling in as your interim organist. We promise we won't be strangers if you promise to call me when you need a "sub."

Cheryl Broostin, Prince of Peace interim organist

Thank you to a number of members who have responded to the ministry wish list for Pastors' discretionary funds. The Pastors appreciate the opportunity to help those in need that we may not be able to help without your gifts.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have been a part of Food for Friends for the past 6 years. Special thank you to Maria Larson for being the coordinator for this ministry.

Thank you to all my very dear friends at Prince of Peace for being so supportive and loving to my husband Raymond and I during his illness and funeral.

There were countless visits and comforting prayers during this time, especially from Pastors Rogness, Beste and Befrienders.

A special thank you to Cheryl, Milt and the wonderful ladies quartet (Anne, Kay, Peggy and Ruth) for the beautiful music, also to everyone who sent memorials, cards, baked bars and served refreshments in the fellowship hall. I have been so blessed by you all.

God loves you and so do I.

Kathleen Tempel

Thank you!

I am back in my room, set to write a reflection piece on this assembly which I hope— technology cooperating—some of you may see before you gather in your churches for worship in the morning. I'm half amused, half dismayed, and half perplexed by what I already see posted as news reports from this assembly. I'll try to do some sorting out for you.

What happened at the assembly in a nutshell

First, contrary to some news postings, sexuality and ministry wasn't the only thing we talked about by any means. Former bishop of the Saint Paul Area Synod, Mark Hanson, was re-elected on the second ballot to a second term, with a resounding 86 percent vote! And in the far more dramatic election, attorney David Swartling of Seattle was elected to succeed the only secretary the ELCA has had in its 20 years, the Rev. Lowell Almen. David Swartling is a delightful, warm, intelligent, deeply spiritual, and deeply involved person of faith. In addition, voting members worshiped; we committed ourselves to a far-reaching emphasis on deepening our church's immersion in Scripture; we deliberated Iraq and the Middle East; we adopted a social statement on education; and we took on new resolve in fighting the HIV-AIDS pandemic. We celebrated rapid growth in responding to world hunger and disasters and pledged to do even more. In short, we celebrated the vast array of ministries we do together as a church, and it's a wonderful sight! It was a fine assembly.

The sexuality discussion

Now to unpack the sexuality discussion. I said I was amused, dismayed, and perplexed by news reports. Beth Helgen sent me the collection of headlines already posted online. Here are two headlines that were listed:

“Lutherans to Allow Pastors in Gay Relationships”

“Lutherans Don't Change on Gays”

Any wonder people might be confused? Let me set the background, and quickly walk you through what unfolded and what, sound bytes aside, we actually did.

The Background

In 2001 the Churchwide Assembly (CWA) set in place a task force to bring back recommendations to the 2005 CWA regarding blessing same-gender relationships and ordaining faithfully partnered gay

clergy and to bring a social statement on human sexuality to the 2009 CWA. The 2005 CWA received three recommendations on these issues, and in response (1) voted to “continue to find ways to live together faithfully in the face of our differences,” (might be a paraphrase, but close); (2) let the matter of blessings be a matter of local pastoral care and did not establish such a rite for the whole church; and (3) decided against allowing partnered gay and lesbian clergy to be ordained and serve in the church.

The general expectation was that these matters would again be discussed in 2009 in connection with the social statement. However, last winter a discipline committee in Atlanta, in acting to remove a partnered gay pastor, recommended that synods memorialize this assembly to change policy. So it was before us again. Twenty-one synods (including both the Saint Paul Area and Minneapolis Area Synods) took actions asking that the process for such change be set in motion.

What Happened

The memorials committee bundled these resolutions together and recommended that they simply be referred as information to the task force in their deliberations leading up to 2009. Not surprisingly, a substitute motion was made on the floor reflecting the 21-synod request to set in motion a change in policy. (Now here's where you should pay attention if you're trying to sort out what news sound bytes are saying in different directions!)

After lengthy debate, both in a non-legislative “committee of the whole” and formal parliamentary proceedings, the assembly *defeated* the motion to change policy, and instead supported the recommendation to simply refer all this to the task force working on the social statement. The motion to change the policy failed 450-581.

Then a motion was made to allow a process of exceptions to the policy for the sake of mission in local situations, patterned after the exception process to the requirement of ordination by a bishop. This exception proposal was also rejected, 472-520.

So it was clear the assembly was staying with the process to come forward with a social statement in 2009, and not to consider any change in policy until such a statement is adopted and policy is made consistent with that statement. So the study process contin-

ues. (An amending action was taken to specifically ask the social statement to address these matters.) Then, on a later set of memorials, the assembly passed a motion which is the basis for the news reports suggesting ELCA policy has changed. An action was taken in which the assembly “prays, urges, and encourages synods, synodical bishops, and the presiding bishop to refrain from or demonstrate restraint in disciplining those” congregations and pastors that are out of compliance with the existing policy. Bishop Hanson was asked if this was in conflict with existing governing documents, and Secretary Almen explained that it was not. This is, frankly, where reporters not familiar with the nuances of ELCA governing documents got it all wrong. Our documents regarding discipline have within them a number of possibilities of response to policy non-compliance, including personal consultation, admonition, formal charges, and suspension, with few timelines and no “sentencing guidelines” (to use the secular image). The effect of this action is not to give permission to defy policy, but to ask that as bishops and others ponder responses to these situations, that they lean in the direction of a less harsh rather than a more harsh response.

So What Does This Mean?

My sound byte, were someone to ask, would be this: This assembly chose to stay with the process we’ve put in place that will lead us to a far reaching (i.e., much broader than simply homosexuality) discussion of human sexuality in 2009, and in that light we will

consider these policy matters. Until that time, the assembly said, let’s stay with current policy, and let’s walk gently with each other. It was an action, I believe, that honored the most strongly supported action of two years ago: our commitment to find ways to live together faithfully in the midst of our disagreements. It was a respectful expression of our commitment to continue to find ways to be a church together. Which brings me to the final image I want to share. The image comes from the “committee of the whole” open discussion, where long lines of people stood at the microphones waiting to express their views. Since CWA rules indicate we alternate speaking pro-and-con, a set of two microphones stands at each station—one green, one red. I looked at the microphones closest to me and saw Saint Paul Area Synod voting members standing in both lines. I was proud of that. We’ve been together enough to enjoy and respect each other, and we went to different lines. And then we worshiped together, ate together, did other work together. This synod—and this church—is not simply a red line synod or a green line. We are church together. We can commit ourselves to living together, faithfully. I hope these comments are helpful. You would be proud of the people you sent, for their hard work and good spirit. I am grateful for our ministry together.

PETER ROGNESS

Thoughts from Social Concerns

As Christians, how are we called to respond to a bridge collapsing, miners trapped, or tornadoes in Brooklyn? At our Social Concerns meetings this summer, we have continued our discussions regarding what it means to care for God’s creation. This charge includes thoughtful management of the materials that we have gathered to design, construct, and maintain our communities. It includes an understanding of our organization of food sources and its distribution. Are the conditions under which metals are mined, trees are harvested, and animals are raised consistent with

God’s nature? In order to examine this question and our responsibilities together, we chose an annual theme of “Healthy Communities”. We agreed that we need to encourage choices that support personal, community, and global well-being—physical as well as mental.

New committee members are most welcome to join us in this venture. Our next Social Concerns meeting will be on Wednesday, September 12th at 7:00 P.M. We will meet in the library.



Prince of Peace Lutheran Church—View current and updated calendar on the website www.princeofpeace.tc

Go to
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**50th Anniversary Celebration—October 13 and 14, 2007
 and New ELCA Hymnals**

Save the Date!

The committee continues to meet to plan the Oct. 13 and 14 event.

Reunion choir—contact Mazie Niebeling 651-484-6477

The committee will need some funds for the 50th Anniversary celebration. Please consider donating to the celebration. Gifts will not be used for the cost of the dinner on October 13. There will be a charge for the dinner for those who are able to attend.

In addition, the council approved requesting gifts in honor of the 50th Anniversary to purchase 220 copies of the new ELCA hymnal.

Complete the form below and attach to your gift. Any gifts made to the 50th Anniversary celebration in excess of the celebration expenses will be used to purchase the new ELCA hymnals.

As of August 15, we have received gifts for 104 hymnals. We still need 116

220 Hymnals

Cost per hymnal is \$20.

Name: _____ Circle one: Member/Past Member or Staff/PoP Friend

Address: _____ E-mail address: _____

Gift for the 50th Anniversary celebration Amount: _____

Hymnal Gift amount: _____

A bookplate will be placed in the front cover of the new ELCA cranberry hymnal.

Hymnal bookplate wording (attach a separate page if you would like more than one inscription)

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Other words _____

Do you or someone you know want to be included on the invitation list to the 50th Anniversary? Please e-mail the office or mail the information to the church office to assure everyone has the opportunity to attend the celebration. office@princeofpeace.tc Please give name, address, phone and e-mail address.