

Saint Michael Lutheran Church

"Drawing people to God's love in Jesus, and empowering them to become fully devoted followers of Christ"

3595 Broadway, Fort Myers, Florida 33901

THE MESSENGER

(239) 939-4711

www.smlcs.org

DIAL-A-SERMON (239) 275-GROW

September 2009 (No. 93)

From the Pastor

Rev. Jon Zehnder, Senior Pastor - email jon.zehnder@smlcs.org

Pastor's Notes

"Living Beyond Yourself"

Last month we ended with an *invitation* and a *challenge* for you in this new ministry year:

- To come **one time** and check out a serving opportunity here at St. Michael – **no strings attached!**



Pastor Jon

And at a minimum, strive to **serve somewhere** for at least an hour each month.

So... how are you doing? We want this year to be the year of the Volunteer Revolution where we unleash the power of everybody!

And there's good reason for this - when we are involved in serving others not only are they blessed by God through us, not only is God glorified, but we are also blessed in the giving. Remember Acts 20:35? Paul says, "In everything I did, I showed you that by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words the Lord Jesus Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

When people extend themselves beyond their own concerns, their hearts always change! Now don't get this concept wrong – we serve out of our gratitude to Jesus, to further the purposes of His Kingdom of grace, and for the good of those we serve. But the fact remains – there are benefits to serving!

And again I want to be absolutely clear that that truth does not mean that serving is always pleasant or easy or immediately satisfying either. Sometimes our focusing on the needs of others and choosing to live beyond ourselves can be painful and demanding. But serving in response to God's love, and His grace, and His calling **always** ultimately changes our lives for the better.

People who serve say that they have been blessed in the following ways: it brought healing to a broken relationship; it provided an opportunity to "give back" in gratitude for service they had received; it gave a new perspective on their life. Statistics show that retired men who volunteer at least one day a week live 2 ½ times longer than those who don't volunteer at all.

That kind of news shouldn't surprise us. Even though we serve because we have been served and because we follow a Savior who modeled servanthood for us, we also know that God in His grace created us for a life of service. It is a lifestyle that will strengthen our body, clear our mind, and soothe our spirit as we are blessed in our serving. And so, we serve!

Sermon Series

Spiritual Gift Survey: www.woodburylutheran.org/resources/sg_inventory.php

We will wrap up our series on "Living Beyond Myself" and start a new series "Every Life".

- 09/06—"The Power of Doing Good" (LBM)
- 09/13—"Needs Encouragement" (EL)
- 09/20—"Needs Truth" (EL)
- 09/27—"Is Gifted" (EL)

Regular Worship Services

Saturday 5:30 p.m. ~ Informal

Sunday 8:00 a.m. ~ Traditional

10:45 a.m. ~ Blended

Way Station Sunday School & Bible Class, 9:15 a.m.

Classes for all ages, from 2 years old, youth & adult

Wednesday Illuminate Dinner & Studies RESUMES Sept. 2nd!

5:30 – 6:15 pm..... Dinner in Cafeteria (\$5)

6:15 – 7:30 pm..... Adult Bible Studies to choose from:

- **Pastor's Bible Study** – Pastor Jon, Cafeteria
- **Experiencing God** - Lou Conzelmann, Office Center
- **Reopening the Back Door – Caring for Inactive Members** - Mike Roach, ECALC, Rm. #22
- **Her Name is Woman** – Dorothy Smith, ECALC, Rm. #21
- **Nooma** – Beth Oliver, Pastor's Conference Rm.

6:15 – 7:30 pm..... Middle & High School FOCUS

"Because the Love of Jesus Compels Me"

Lately, Pastor Jon's sermons concentrated on being a servant. This summer, several St. Michael members responded to that call. They volunteered at the Salvation Army's summer feeding and food give-away program to children and their parents at five Lee County locations.

Taking part was a humbling experience.

First, it felt good just to be there and help. The families receiving the food were uniformly grateful, smiled, and thanked us.



SMLC parishioner, Betty Franceschini, at Salvation Army Food Giveaway

Second, we realized these families were in this situation from no fault of their own. Any of us could be there in line.

Third, we were grateful that the five contributing organizations worked so smoothly together: Harry Chapin Food Bank, Salvation Army, United Way, Community Cooperative Ministries, Inc., and Goodwill Industries.

Fourth, there will be an opportunity for you to serve at Salvation Army's Christmas Cheer. Look for future announcements. *Submitted by Jan Nieman*

The Principal's Principles!

Robert J Ziegler - email robert.ziegler@smlcs.org

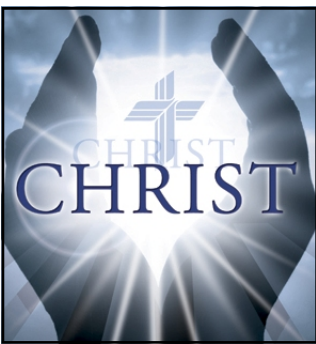


Shaped, Saved, Serve!

Have you looked closely at the theme banner and pins this year? The hands emanate from the Bible at the bottom of the banner. The Bible tells us that we are Shaped, Saved, and Serve! All of this is accomplished in Christ and the Cross!

Christ creatively shaped us with his hands! Job declared, "Your hands shaped me and made me. Will you now turn and destroy me? Remember that you molded me like clay. Will you now turn me to dust again?" Job 10:8-9 (NIV) Isaiah reminds us, "O LORD, you are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand." Isaiah 64:8 NIV

Christ saved us on the cross! His hands are the



proof. Thomas noted, "Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" ²⁹ Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have

believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:27-29 (NIV)

Christ calls us to serve with our hands! Peter who recognized Jesus as the Christ reminds us that, "Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

This year the dear children will be reminded again and again how they are Shaped, Saved, and Serve!

In Christ We Can,

October 24th

See www.smlcs.org for complete details or call Lee Berchtold at 239-872-8999. Early registration ends Oct. 1st. Sponsorship spots are now available. Don't miss the fun, great prizes and dinner!



From our Music Ministry

Accompanists Needed: Our Saint Michael 4th Grade, 5th Grade, and Middle School choirs are in need of a volunteer pianist to accompany for rehearsals and performances. If you would like to help in any way, and for more details, please call or email Mr. John Payne: 939-4711 ext. 238, john.payne@smlcs.org.

For those interested...

AN INVITATION: There is a TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) meeting held every Friday, 10 am-11:30 am at Zion Lutheran Church, 7401 Winkler Rd; phone 481-4040. You are invited to check us out. It's inexpensive and it works. Any questions? Contact Kathy Zehnder 239-267-1414.

Board of Missions

Larry Ryan, Director- LRyan 1941@aol.com or 540-8520

"Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these." (Mark 10:14)

Many wonderful things have occurred in the Dominican Republic (DR) over the last several months. Due to the support of our congregation members and that of others our children are progressing nicely in their spiritual and academic growth. Many of our youngsters in the Genesis School are learning English and computer skills and are showing remarkable progress as well. These skills will ultimately enable them to obtain gainful employment in the future and become contributing members of the churches that we are establishing there.

Sarah Willig, Ashby Greenly, Judy and Randell Hake and I returned from our trip to Santiago on May 23rd. It was a wonderful trip. Pastor Krey served as our host and guide for an entire day. We visited Lutherana Home and School, attended services and confirmation classes there and also visited a home for disabled children in Santiago run by the government agency, CONANI. Pastor Krey and our mission team are working with this agency in order to provide these disadvantaged youngsters with spiritual guidance. We also visited the Genesis, Lutherana Home and School, and New Hope School during our stay. We all had the opportunity to visit with our sponsored children as well. It was exciting to do so and to observe our beautiful children as they went about their daily routine.

On Palm Sunday a procession through the village of Palmar Arriba took place. For those of you who are not aware; this is where the Lutherana Home and School is located. This was led by Pastor Reis who rode on a donkey. A large crowd was in attendance for that event. Easter Sunday services in Palmar Arriba attracted an overflow crowd of over 150 people.

At the service 18 children and young adults were baptized. A VBS was attended by 50 children during Holy week as well. Also 23 youth and adults from Palmar Arriba visited and orphanage for developmentally disabled children in Santiago.

They shared with the children the story of Christ's death and resurrection. The visiting youngsters spoke of Jesus' love. At last count over 50 adults and youth were enrolled in confirmation classes. It is beautiful to witness God's hand at work knowing that we are playing our small part to bring souls to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

To date, through the efforts of our Missionary team, 5 centers of worship are in operation in the DR. Pastor Krey, the most recent addition to the team is an extraordinary leader and a noted theologian in our Lutheran faith. Praise God for Pastor Krey's presence and all of his hard work. Please keep Pastor Krey, Pastor Reis, their wives, Baby Esther Krey and Danelle Putman in your prayers.

How blessed we are to have such dedicated disciples of Christ spreading his word. Please also remember Diamela, Ellen, Hennedy and the staff of each of our schools in your prayers.

Pat and I will be traveling to the DR on August 28th. I will be representing our church at an important strategic planning meeting to discuss the further expansion of our faith in that country and other issues as well.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission.

Nurturing Notes from the Director of Christian Education (DCE)

Email lori.schwan@smlcs.org ~ Phone (239) 939 - 4711 x224

Lori Schwan

“He Knows My Voice”



Hearing is one of the first things to fully develop for newborns; in fact it even begins way before they are born. Recently we were in a rather loud restaurant with some friends. Andrew was overwhelmed by all the sights and sounds. But in the midst of all the distractions, a friend commented on how amazing it is that from all the noise around him, he picked out my voice, turned, and smiled.

Do we not pray for ears of a newborn? To know our Father's voice and focus on it alone among all the distractions that try to steel our attention is so vital as a Christian. Jesus described it this way, “The man who enters by the gate is the shepherd of his sheep. The watchman opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. But they will never follow a stranger; in fact, they will run away from him because they do not recognize a stranger's voice” (John 10:2-5).

May we study God's word so we can recognize His voice in every aspect of our lives and follow His voice wherever it leads. When we don't, may we remember that is exactly why His son came to die and rise to forgive us because we never have perfect hearing and the will to do what we are told!

Children's Ministry



In Christ we can, in Christ we can, in Christ we can . . . The Way Station Express pulled out of the Depot last week with a staff that is raring to go for an incredible year of sharing God's love. Students will gather at the Way Station Depot in the Art Room at 9:15 am before heading out on the

grade level cars to learn about the topics below. Bring a friend for this awesome adventure.

- † Parents and Twos - God Made the World
- † Preschool 3/4 – Joseph
- † K/1 – Looking at the Pieces: Creation-Joseph
- † 2/3 – Making it Connect: Bible Introduction
- † 4/5 – Teen Heroes of the Bible

We still have a few more spots on our Way Station team to touch kids' lives with Jesus' amazing love. Would you like to be a part of it? Adults with all different abilities and passions can be a part. Contact our Way Station Director, Kati Miser if you are interested (768-6971 kmiser@comcast.net).

Acolyte and Crucifer Training

5th-8th grade students, you can help lead worship by being an acolyte (5th-8th) and crucifer (7th-8th). We will be having training Wednesday, Sept. 2 and 9 from 6:15-7:30 in the sanctuary. Join us for Wednesday Illuminate dinner at 5:30 (\$5/person). We will have a commissioning for the new acolytes as well as recognizing our 9th graders on Sept. 27.

Faith Stepping Stones

Stone 4: My Bible: Parents and 2nd and 3rd Graders
Parents and kids will come together for our 4th Faith Stepping Stone during Way Station (9:15-10:30).

Together families will familiarize themselves with the components of the Bible, how it came to be, how to find a specific chapter and verse and begin adding a Bible verse each night to their home huddles. Join us at Way Station Sept. 6 and 13. Each child will receive their own Bible as a gift from St. Michael. The Stone will culminate with a special blessing during Sunday worship for the families who participate.



Stone 3 Entry into School: Parents of Kindergartners and First Graders

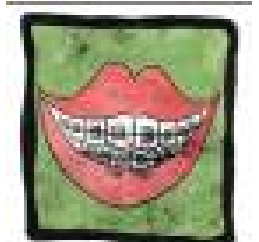


If you have a kindergartner or 1st grader, join other parents as you explore the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of kindergartners. Learn to share “Highs & Lows” with your children, and add it to your nightly prayers and blessing. The three classes start on Sept. 27 from 9:15-10:30 in the Spanish Classroom #26 (right across the hall from their Way Station class). The Stone will culminate with a special blessing during Sunday worship for the families who participate.

Youth Ministry

Middle School Confirmation

If you missed the Confirmation Open House, you can still join us each Sunday from 9:15-10:30 as we explore Martin Luther's early years. Parents, please join us on Sept. 20 as we start the Faith Stepping Stone: Surviving Adolescence.



High School Sunday School

Connect up with friends each Sunday morning in the newly renovated youth room from 9:15-10:30. Sue Clark and the rest of the high school students welcome the incoming 9th graders each Sunday morning to figure out God's answers to life questions.

Middle and High School FOCUS – New Time!

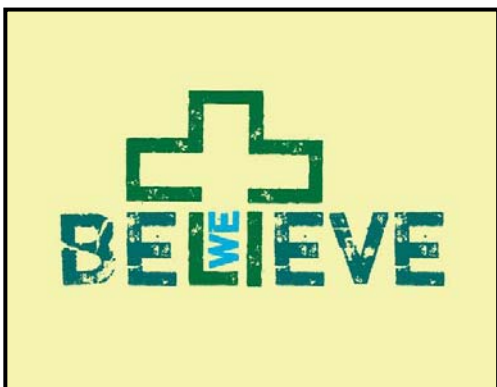
6-12th Grade Students we are shifting our youth time to make it easier to reconnect with friends in the middle of the week. Join us on Wednesday nights for a great dinner (\$5) from 5:30-6:15 and then youth FOCUS from 6:15-7:30 in the youth room for games and a devotion.

Rock the Universe

We have over 110 students and adults rockin' at Universal's Rock the Universe on Sat. Sept. 12. Please be in the cafeteria at 10:30 AM (not before since the adults need to meet at 10:00). We will pull out at 11:30 and be home around 4:30 AM on Sunday. See Lori for a list of what to bring.



Nurturing Notes continued...



National Youth Gathering

The LC-MS is celebrating over 30 years of Lutheran youth from around the country and even from around the world gathering together for an amazing week of praising God, fun, learning, and so much more. If you are in **8th-12th grade**, you don't want to miss this once in a lifetime opportunity coming next summer July 17-22. Those who are 19-25 years old are welcome to apply to be part of the volunteer youth corp. Parents and youth come to an informational meeting on **Sept. 16 at 6:15** in the band room. Deadline for sign up is Sept. 30.



RED Christian Leadership Conference

R.E.D. Conference will describe what it means to be a **Radical** leader for Jesus Christ, to **Engage** 6-12th grade students to move in the direction of campus ministry, and finally to encourage and equip you to be **Disciples** to carry out the Great Commission. R.E.D. Conference takes place at South Fort Myers High School on Saturday, September 19th from 9 AM to 3 PM and will feature **Dr. Jay Strack and Brent Crowe of Student Leadership University**. Sponsored by Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) Tickets are only \$5 in advance and \$8 at the door. Sign up with Lori if you are interested.



See You At The Pole

Middle and High School Students, on Wed. Sept. 23, go 30 minutes early to your flag pole and gather with other Christian students to pray for your school, classmates, teachers, and the world. Then later that night we will go to First Assembly of God at 7 PM for the post rally with students from all over Lee County.

Youth Calendar What's Happening in September 2009!

Sept. 2	5:30-6:15 PM	Illuminate Dinner
	6:15-7:30 PM	MS and HS FOCUS
	6:15-7:30 PM	Acolyte/Crucifer Training (5-8 th)
Sept. 6	9:15-10:30 AM	Confirmation and Sunday School
Sept. 8	5:30 PM	Youth Board
Sept. 9	5:30-6:15 PM	Illuminate Dinner
	6:15-7:30 PM	MS and HS FOCUS
	6:15-7:30 PM	Acolyte/Crucifer Training (5-8 th)
Sept. 12-13	10:30AM-4:30 PM	Rock the Universe
Sept. 13	9:15-10:30 AM	Confirmation and Sunday School
Sept. 16	5:30-6:15 PM	Illuminate Dinner
	6:15-7:30 PM	MS and HS FOCUS
	6:15-7:30	<u>National Youth Gathering Meeting</u>
Sept. 19	8:30-3:00	RED Leadership Conference @ SFMHS
Sept. 20	9:15-10:30 AM	Confirmation and Sunday School
Sept. 23	30 Min. before School	See You At The Pole
	5:30-6:15 PM	Illuminate Dinner
	6:15 PM	MS and HS FOCUS –SYATP Post Rally – First Assembly
Sept. 27	8:00 & 10:45	Acolyte/Crucifer Recognition & Commissioning
	9:15-10:30 AM	Confirmation and Sunday School
Sept. 30		<u>National Youth Gathering Registration Due</u>
	5:30-6:15 PM	Illuminate Dinner
	6:15-7:30 PM	MS and HS FOCUS

Coming Soon!

The Fifth Wheels...

An organization created exclusively for widows, widowers, and mature divorced. This will be a group gathered for relaxation and fun away from the couples scene. And we would like your ideas! Please fill out the following questions. *Please rate the following with: 1 for Very Likely — 2 for Somewhat Likely — 3 for Not Likely.*

1. How likely would you want to go with a group to:

- Movies?
- Dinner out in a medium priced restaurant?
- Potluck dinners at church for \$6?
- Boat trips up the river or on the Gulf?
- Theme parks, like those in Orlando, as an overnight trip?
- Theme parks, like those in Orlando, as a single day trip?
- Plays, Symphony, Dinner Theater?
- Board games, like Monopoly etc.?

2. What day would you like to have the group meet?

- Friday
- Saturday
- Sunday

3. What time of day works best for you?

- Day time
- Early Evening
- Or Either

Please return this form to the church office or drop in the collection plate. Any additional suggestions or questions, please contact Edna Shilling 239-334-3241. **Thank you!**

CARING MINISTRIES

by Julie Berchtold email julie.berchtold@smlcs.org



I Asked God

I asked God to take away my pain. **God said, No. It is not for me to take away, but for you to give it up.**

I asked God to make my handicapped child whole. **God said, No. Her spirit was whole, her body was only temporary.**

I asked God to grant me patience. **God said, No. Patience is a by-product of tribulations, it isn't granted, it is earned.**

I asked God to give me happiness. **God said, No. I give you blessings. Happiness is up to you.**

I asked God to spare me pain. God said, **No. Suffering draws you apart from worldly cares and brings you closer to me.**

I asked God to make my spirit grow. **God said, No. You must grow on your own, but I will prune you to make you fruitful.**

I asked for all things that I might enjoy life. **God said, No. I will give you life so that you may enjoy all things.**

I asked God to help me LOVE others, as much as He loves me. **God said...Ahhh, finally you have the idea.**

Author Unknown

Hurry, Hurry!

The most serious sign of hurry sickness is a diminished capacity to love. Love and hurry are fundamentally incompatible. Love always takes time, and time is the one thing hurried people don't have.

John Ortberg

Danger?

Notice that anger is one letter short of danger. A little anger is helpful; too much anger is hurtful. Judy Ford, Getting Over Getting Mad, Conari Press

Reprinted from *Marriage*, P.O. Box #387, South St. Paul, MN 55-75-0387. 1-800-MARRIAGE (800-627-7424), www.marraigemagazine.org. Subscriptions are \$19.95. Summer 2009.

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Matt. 22:37-40)



DivorceCare (for separated or divorced) currently

meets **Thursdays, 7-8:30 p.m., thru 12/03/09**, St. Michael Lutheran Church, 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, ECALC, located southeast of school building. Join any session. Donation: \$12.00. Call Julie 939-4711 x 227.



GriefShare is a special video seminar & support group for people

who are grieving the death of someone close. **Group meets Thursdays, 4-5:30 p.m., 9/10/09 -12/03/09**, St. Michael Lutheran Church, 3595 Broadway, Ft. Myers, ECALC. Call Julie 939-4711 x 227.

How to Talk With Your Doctor

by Clair Bradshaw

They speak in words we can't even pronounce and seem to understand our bodies better than we do. We know they've gone to school for a long, long time. Sometimes, they appear to be in too much of a hurry to take time to explain things we don't understand. We feel embarrassed, helpless, vulnerable. It's no wonder most people are a little scared of doctors.

Maybe you have a chronic physical condition that needs constant medical supervision, or maybe you haven't seen a doctor in over a decade. Either way, if you feel nervous or intimidated at the thought of talking to your doctor, you are not alone.

But like it or not, the days of the friendly country doctor are over. We all need to become more savvy medical consumers. In today's climate of highly sophisticated technologies, medical specialties, and health insurance limitations, establishing good rapport with your health care provider has never been more important. A few pointers can help you feel more at ease with your doctor and get the most from your visit.

To continue this topic, look for the leaflet in the CareNote display located in the narthex.

CareNotes

Everyone's Job, Everyone's Joy

When was the last time you heard someone say, "That's the pastor's job," when referring to some aspect of ministry? Ministry is not just the job (or, better yet, the opportunity) of the clergy. The opportunity and responsibility for doing ministry has been given to all Christians.

The upcoming Stephen Ministry training class (January 2010) is a chance to be trained and equipped for doing ministry. Talk to any of our Stephen Ministers; they will tell you that it is a joyous privilege to share Christ's love with others. **Is this chance for ministry the one for you?** Think about it. Call Julie Berchtold, 939-4711 x 227 or contact any of our Stephen leaders: Janet Marderness, Maggie Fiorini, or Lee Berchtold.

Dear friends in Christ,

Our music groups are starting up soon. I am praying that God will send us a full consort of **bell ringers**, and will bless the **choir** with four strong sections – *basses, tenors, altos, and sopranos* – that will echo the angels of God in bringing glorious praise to Him! But I know God will not send angels from heaven to do this worthy work. No, you are the Body of Christ whom God empowers with His Spirit to do the works of God. **So I challenge you – is this something you can do?** "Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you." Romans 12:3 I am confident that in a congregation the size of St. Michael there is a good number blessed with musical ability. Come serve and share our joy! Start-up is the second week of September, choir on Tuesday 9/8, 6:00 – 7:30 pm, and bells Wednesday 9/9, 6:00 – 7:30 pm. Blessings in Christ! John Payne 939-4711 x 238 or john.payne@smlcs.org.

From China! (excerpts of early summer letter)

Dear Friends,

Now that I am back in America for 2 months I can disclose a little bit more about what is happening in China because I don't have to worry about government censorship hooray! Living in China has been wonderful so far, however it does prohibit me from even contacting the LCMS in St. Louis, hence my updates on fundraising are usually delayed until I can come home for a little while. Having said that, I am pleased to announce that I have about 60% of my funds raised! Thank you everyone; your thoughts, prayers, and donations have helped me survive this year. I know that "survive" is an extreme word, but dealing with sickness, language barriers, a new job, government hassles, and cultural differences, leads me to feel that it is an appropriate verb.

... One of the students from my University was baptized this year during a study abroad trip to Texas. It was fantastic to be able to talk to him about his faith and convictions. He had grown up with a grandmother who was a Christian and as a young child he had gone to church with her. ... When he enrolled in his University he met some of my teammates and they encouraged him and helped him to study and learn more about the Bible. Finally, this past term, he went to study in America and lived with Christian host families. They took him to an all Chinese church where he was able to have more of his questions answered and then decided to become baptized. When he came back to China he was exhilarated and ready to learn more. My teammates and I showed him where the church was in our city and helped him to get in touch with another missionary who could help answer more of his questions. Please keep him in your prayers and praise God for his renewed faith!

... With prayer, love, and cultural awareness though, relationships can be formed and Christ's love can be shared. ... Let me leave you with a very encouraging verse from the Bible: Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. (Proverbs 3:5) Love, Aurora Sandell

Internship! (excerpts— Rose Sprosty)

New Address: St. Johns Lutheran, Attn: Rose Sprosty
300 Jefferson Street, Algonquin, IL 60102

My Dear Friends and Family,

...My journey as a Concordia student is over! I am going on INTERNSHIP! ...I am so blessed to have made it to this point. I could not have done it without you, without your prayers and support. For that I am so grateful.

I feel that God has called me to be a Director of Christian Education, D.C.E. I have felt this way since high school. It all started on my first mission trip to the Dominican Republic....This is something I have wanted to do since I was 13, words cannot describe how happy I am!

In April, I was called to serve as an intern at St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church in Algonquin, Illinois. While serving in this congregation, I will be working with Jr & Sr. High youth and young adults....My official start date is July 19, 2009.

I hope you are all doing well and are blessed. Please keep me in your thoughts and prayers as I'm sure this is going to be an intense year for me. I look forward to hearing from you soon! Love, Rose Sprosty

Board of Outreach

"Jesus replied, 'Anyone who loves Me will obey My teaching. My Father will love them, and We will come to them and make Our home with them.'" John 14:23



God wants to be your dwelling place. He has no interest in being a weekend getaway. Don't consider using God as a vacation cabin or an eventual retirement home.

For many this may be a new thought. There is this tendency to think of God as a deity to discuss rather than a place to dwell. We think of God as a mysterious miracle-worker rather than a "home" for us to live in. We think of God as the Creator that we call on but not as the One that we abide in. But our Heavenly Father wants to be much more!

He wants to be the One in whom "we live and breathe and move and have our very being... for we are His offspring." (Acts 17:28) We are God's children! And God loves His children and wants the best for us. I feel honored to be one of God's offspring. God does love you very much and so do I...
— Elaine

Seniors On The Go



Our monthly Senior Sunday Dinner will be held September 13, 2009 at 12:00 Noon. Nanette Seaville will discuss the function of the Lifeline Family Center which is located in Cape Coral, Florida. We also plan to tour the Lifeline Family Center on Wednesday, September 23rd with Nanette as our guide.

Our monthly movie which will be held in the Joy Room on Tuesday, September 15, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. will be *NONE GO WITH ME* starring Cheryl Ladd. This movie tells the story of a young woman growing up in the 50's who devotes her life to the service of God. All of the hardships and sorrows that befall her test her and cause her to question her faith.

Contact **Marilyn Lehman** at 239-242-0635 if you have questions.

New Member Classes Coming in October!

If you are interested in our adult information sessions, the next weekend event is scheduled for:

Saturday, October 10th (9:00 am— Noon)

Sunday, October 11th (2:00 pm—5:00 pm).

Please contact Pastor Zehnder if you have questions or are interested in attending, 239-939-4711 x 244.

Saint Michael Fall Bazaar Opportunities

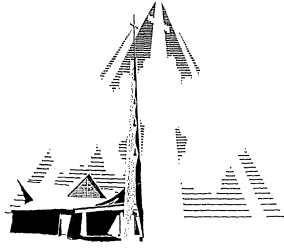
VENDORS WANTED

FALL BAZAAR

Register now to be a vendor at the 2-day Saints Fall Bazaar November 12 & 13, 2009 in our school gymnasium. Priority registration for SMLS families ends Sept. 15 at which time we will open registration to outside vendors. This is THE EVENT to showcase what you have to sell. Open to the public and advertised in the News-Press, over \$40,000 in products were sold last year. Vendor booth fees are reasonable. To register or for more information contact:

Leah Fuscardo

fuscardo@embarqmail.com or (239) 482-3613.



St. Michael Lutheran Church
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Usher Schedule

8:00 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

September 6

Richard Rybak...567-0149	Elaine Everhart...543-8527
Nancy Rybak	Dee Lemke
Bill Truax	Ted Booth
Kathy Royston	Joyce Booth
Justin Gehringer	Diane Hendry
Jack Pohlman	Roy Hendry

September 13

Charles Cook...936-5969	Frank Most...274-7789
Sharon Harrington	Teena St. Dennis
Dale Mast	Mary St. Dennis
Bob Richardson	Tom Kosteno
Jack Pohlman	Edna Shilling
Kathy Royston	John Snell

September 20

John Hoffmann...936-8362	Dee Lemke...731-3727
Nancy Rybak	Ken Fritsch
Richard Rybak	Darlene Fritsch
Kathy Royston	Tenna St. Dennis
Don Zehnder	Breezy St. Dennis
Elaine Everhart	Leroy Waldren

September 27

Bill Truax...482-8411	Tom Kosteno-489-4398
Bob Stockley	Mary St. Dennis
Charles Cook	Chuck Oliver
Elaine Everhart	Debbie Hake
Bob Richardson	John Snell
Sharon Harrington	Breezy St. Dennis

October 4

Bob Stockley...936-2348	Leroy Waldren...939-5701
Don Zehnder	Frank Most
Jack Pohlman	Roy Hendry
Elaine Everhart	Diane Hendry
Dale Mast	Ken Fritsch
John Hoffmann	Darlene Fritsch

Please contact the head usher if you are unable to serve as scheduled, or secure your own replacement. If YOU would like to serve as an usher, please contact the church office at 939-4711, and let us know which service you prefer.

Greeters

Sep 06	08:00 a.m.	Deborah & Loraine Singh
	10:45 a.m.	Will & Marlene Jones
Sep 13	08:00 a.m.	Conrad & Karin Weyer
	10:45 a.m.	Martin Natter
Sep 20	08:00 a.m.	Betty & Bob Franceschini
	10:45 a.m.	Gene & Carol Heiwig
Sep 27	08:00 a.m.	John & Ellie MacKenzie
	10:45 a.m.	Carol Williams

Acolyte's Schedule

8:00 A.M.

10:45 A.M.

September 06

A—Troy Hasty	C—Zeke Michael
A—Max Sickels	A—Ben Engstrom
	A—Zoe Michael

September 13

C—Hannah Wherry	A—Kyle Collins
A—Justin Ecelbarger	A—Christian Bottorff
A—Kayla Wherry	

September 20

A—Sarah Tice	C—Chase Kollmann
A—Christopher Zinn	A—Mary Katherine Boring
	A—Lauren Abbott

September 27

C—Jonas Schlotterbeck	A—Dustin Blair
A—Joshua Denison	A—Isaac Michael
A—Allison Dennison	

If you cannot serve when scheduled, PLEASE find your own replacement AND also notify the office at 939-4711 by MONDAY of the change to Sunday Service and by Friday for a mid-week service. Names are printed in the bulletin according to this schedule.

Board of Human Care

This month we are collecting items for *LifeLine*. You can place donations in the Narthex for pickup. They are in need of diapers, nail clippers, baby wipes, thermometers, baby oil, crib sheets, baby food, 0-3 month pacifiers, and regular formula. THANKS in advance for any items you can provide.

Ladies's Bible Study

Tuesday morning Ladies Bible Study resumes October 6th at 9:30 AM in the ECALC Building, Boardroom. Contact Carol Heiwig, 239-826-8044, for books *"In Walks Jesus"*. We welcome you to join us!

No September Council Meeting

Next SMLC Council Meeting to be held October 5th.