



The Messenger

AUGUST 2008

Our Mission

Statement

Responding to God's love in Christ poured out upon us through Word and Sacrament and empowered by the Holy Spirit we shall serve God through worshipping, learning and sharing.

Where are We?

Some of you may be wondering where we are in paying off the debt for the new office and classrooms, gathering area, new restrooms, along with the new heating and air conditioning systems. Last winter we reported that we were 33.7 miles east of the Nevada border. We owed \$236,700 as of December 31, 2007.

As of July 10, 2008, we have crossed the Nevada border and are 102.5 miles into Nevada. We still owe \$188,096.

Thanks to everyone who has contributed to this worthwhile campaign. Progress has slowed, but we are still moving ahead.

- The Continuity Committee



Let's Go Camping

Let's get together to go camping for an end of the summer camping trip to Long Lake Campground in the Mohican Valley. Long Lake is located 6 miles east of Loudenville, OH and has some really nice features. A spring fed 60-acre lake loaded with bass and crappie fish (no fishing license required)... swim in the lake or in their brand new pool. Check out their website at www.longlakeparkcampground.com.

We are also arranging for a time to go horseback riding and canoeing for those interested. So get your tents and campers and come on out. We have an area reserved to our church for tent campers and for those that have trailers, we have a spot near the tent sites for you too.

The weekend is August 15-17th. Cost for tent camping is \$7/night per person. Trailer camping is \$10/night per person.

Contact Bob Olds at (440) 522-2615 or e-mail olds109@gmail.com if you are interested in going. We need a number for the campground by August 10th... so call me soon!

Thank you,
Bob Olds, Fellowship Committee Chair

Inside this issue:

Camping	front
Council Minutes	2
Pastor's Article	3
Member News	3
Just for the Girls!	Back
RALLY DAY	Insert
Calendar & Volunteers	insert

The Evangelism Committee would like to thank everyone who welcomed our members and visitors each Sunday over the past year. Those who volunteer to be greeters enjoy meeting everyone who comes to share the morning. It would be appreciated if everyone would use the glass doors into the gathering area so you may say hello to our greeters also. Thank you.



Summary of Church Council Meeting July 2, 2008

Treasurer's Report – Chuck Heindrichs

The parking lot has been fully paid off. The Benevolence payment to the Synod will soon be complete as we owe \$5,904. Vacation Bible School was a success; they donated their offering to the Lutheran Disaster Relief Fund (for flood relief). Our year-to-date budget shortfall still stands at \$14,478. Anna Circle has asked if there is any money in the Memorial Fund, which could be applied to the purchase of a matching flower stand. Council will act on this at the August meeting.

President's Report – Tom Reiner

Celeste Baker will head a Building Task Force that will organize building rental costs when rented by members and non-members. They will meet soon and present the recommended to council. Tom Reiner and Chuck Heindrichs will also be on this committee and there are two openings to members who are not on council.

Property – Tom Ballintine (reported by Chuck Heindrichs)

New carpeting may be installed the week of August 11 in the sanctuary. The pews in the choir loft will be removed and given to members first and then non-members etc. before the carpet installation.

Worship & Music – Ryan Smarsh (by Tom Reiner)

This committee will now meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month beginning in July. They are developing a congregation questionnaire regarding our current worship services.

Stewardship – Mike Muir

Mike would like to find 5 people to give testimonials on what the church means to them. This will begin in September.

Christian Education –

There is a current need; to chair this committee, Sunday School teachers, and a new Jr. Choir director due to the recent resignation of Kendra Cristiano.

Outreach Ministry – Cathy Mohney

Letters have been sent to our current benevolence groups so they can attend Rally Day.

Fellowship – Bob Olds

A camping weekend is being planned for August 15,16,17 at Long Lake Campground, a family oriented Christian campground near Mohican.

Evangelism – Roberta Ekelberry

The Council Retreat is set for the weekend of November 14th OR 21st.

Old Business

Job descriptions need to be written up for each of the council positions. Each council member should start writing job duties to help with this process.

New Business

There are 4 churches in Avon Lake involved in the Family Promise program: Lakeshore United Methodist, Avon Lake Presbyterian, Christ Lutheran, and the United Church Of Christ.

Anne Paine has begun Deaconess training. There will be a special prayer service on July 27 supporting Anne in this pursuit.

The big table in the library is being donated to Redeemer Lutheran Church in Elyria.

Russ Roth is going to have another 13-week course entitled "Financial Peace University" at the church. This course helps with financial decisions regarding investments, debts, etc. It will begin September 7. OPEN TO ALL!

To the congregation:

The Welcome Ontario event was a great success. Friday night's barbeque was fun. It was nice having so many people show up to welcome the Canadians and share food and games. We also had a good turnout for Saturday's service project. The people at Maximum Accessible Housing-Meadow Vista were very thankful of the work we accomplished. The money they saved will help them continue to provide specialized housing for the physically disabled.

Thank you from the Youth Committee to all who helped and donated in various ways. It was really nice making friends and serving in fellowship with the Canadian youth group. They hope we can come visit them in Canada in the near future.

— Youth Committee



As I sit down to write this in mid-July my mind is on September. Since May I have had conversations with a number of people about the possibility of moving a number of activities to Sunday evening. Specifically discussions have centered on moving confirmation instruction to Sunday evening, and Junior Choir, and also Senior High Youth activities. This would mean that some families with children spanning a number of age groups would all be able to come to church at once. Add to that opportunities for parents to meet and talk about the joys and challenges they face, arrange for food and Sunday evenings could become a special time at Christ Lutheran.

Why Sunday evening? Increasingly school and sports activities are moving into every other time slot. Wednesday used to be a time when church activities did not encounter much competition but in recent years; soccer, band concerts, middle school athletic events have made it more difficult for students to attend confirmation.

Some obstacles to a gathering time on Sunday evenings would be that families are finding this time to be one of the few times they can count on together, students may have delayed doing homework that is due Monday, families that are out of town or attending events on Sunday afternoon may not be home as yet.

What I am asking is for you to let me know what you think about this possible change. Will it work for you and for your family? Are there ideas that you have to expand the activities and offerings on Sunday evenings? If you would be willing to assume leadership with the arranging for meals or for activities for parents or students or even a senior citizen group please let me know.

Peace be with you.
Pastor Lynn Schlessman

Thank you to all those who made the "Welcome Ontario" event possible and a huge success. Thank you to all those that participated and greeted our visitors with friendly faces and kind words. It was a fun event and one that will be remembered for a long time. - Joanne Polacok

Please pray for:

Barney Klement—at home
Milan Kral—at home
Al Rehker – Avon Lake Towne Center
Cheryl Higley—at home
Martha Bodach—in hospital

Dear Church Family,

There are no words to say except "thank you" for all the support given to us during Dale's final days and his passing.

Thank you Pastor Schlessman, for your visits and participation at the funeral home. I take courage from all for the fortitude you have shown me in the passing of my spouse.

Thanks for being there for my family and me and I in turn will be privileged to be there for all of you.

Sincerely,
Arline Walters and Family

FEED MY SHEEP

You too can help during our Family Promise Hosting week, which is the week of August 3. In the Gathering Area will be a sign-up for food items that you may donate. Please REMOVE the item list you will purchasing and please sign your name next to the box. Please bring your items to church on Saturday, AUGUST 2nd or 3rd. Place the items in the refrigerator (if needed) otherwise place the items on the kitchen counter. PLEASE LABEL THE ITEMS "FAMILY PROMISE".

Thank you for caring,
Shirley Mitchell & Carol Meiners

Address Change

Irene Vukemire
33687 Lake Road Apt. 500
Avon Lake, OH
440-930-5250 (Same phone number)

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

32747 Lake Road
Avon Lake, OH 44012

Phone: (440) 933-6263
Fax: (440) 933-4549
Email: celc@centurytel.net

Lynn R. Schlessman, Pastor
Sue Schlessman, Christian Ed. Director
Diana C. Pierson, Secretary
Marilyn Pressnell, Editor

Worship Opportunities:
Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.
Sundays at 9 a.m. The Nursery
is available during the 9 a.m.
worship service.

We're on the web!
www.celcal.org



Place
first class
stamp
here.



For the girls...

5th Annual Women's Picnic: All women of Christ Lutheran Church are cordially invited to the annual picnic hosted by Martha Circle. It will be held in the Bleser Field Pavilion on Tuesday, August 5, from 6-9 p.m. Beverages, rolls, and all table service will be provided. Please bring a casserole, salad, appetizer or dessert to share. Bring card games or board games to share. We hope to see you there!

Anita Hlava, Martha Circle

A Women's Day Away to Rest and Renew My Soul: All women are invited to this special one-day event on Saturday, September 6, 2008 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ashland. The day will begin at 9:30 a.m. with a continental breakfast, followed by a morning filled with music. Lunch will be served and a special speaker will round out the afternoon. The day will end with a peaceful walk through the prayer garden and grounds of Ashland Theological Seminary. Cost is \$18/person. However if 3 women attend, the 4th is free! Pick up a flyer from the bulletin board and call the church office at (440) 933-6263 if you would like to attend. Carpooling can be arranged for this event.

The Annual Rummage Sale... will be held in September. Start sorting and collecting your 'stuff' now! More information will be in the next issue of *The Messenger*. Volunteers will also be needed to help with the sale. Call Quella Columbaro for info. at 933-2131.