Connecting people to God with the message of God's love!



Covenant Lutheran Church VOLUME 16, ISSUE #9 September 2013 Racing Against Hunger Saturday, October 5 9:45 am to 2:30 pm Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church Lakewood, CO

The Rocky Mountain Synod Hunger Network will be offering a training workshop for everyone who is concerned about hunger and poverty (pastors, congregational hunger leaders, anyone who is interested in hunger's causes and solutions). Two sets of practical workshops will be offered in addition to a selection of resources and time for networking and forward planning. Thanks to a leadership development grant from ELCA World Hunger, there is no charge for this workshop, and some funds are available to help defray travel costs. Our special guest speaker will be Jessica Fairfax, Coordinator for Volunteer Engagement, from ELCA World Hunger.

There will also be a WebEx meeting on World Hunger Appeal Basics 101 a few days prior to the workshop. Participants new (or fairly new) to the work of the hunger appeal can get all the basics and ask questions. If you are not able to participate at the time the webex is scheduled, a recording of the session will be available on the synod website.

I will be among the workshop leaders this year, so I will be headed to the workshop. If you would like to come with me, I'd be happy to have you come along, so we can find even better tools and methods to fight hunger here in Wheatland and throughout the world.

Pastor Joshua

Chrivent Financial for Lutherans™

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans sponsored their annual blood drive at Covenant Lutheran Church on Monday, August 19th from noon until 6:00. They wanted to draw at least 45 pints of blood and they were able to get 57, so it was a successful drive. It was a steady stream of donors giving this time.

There have been some changes in the process of donating blood. Donors are now able to go online on the day of the drive and do their own medical history which saves time at the interview. There have also been some new federal regulations in effect. People can't give any more than 6 pints in one calendar year or 3 of the 2Red Blood Cell units in one calendar year. That rule resulted in some people not being able to donate as they are regular donors and had reached their limit. They will be able to donate again next time.

In order to have enough help, we have people coming from both Casper and Cheyenne to do the local blood drive. Wheatland is consistently one of the best blood drives they have so they are always happy to do our drives. Thanks for all the help from donors and those helping with the registration. It went smoothly.

Arlene Robbins, Chairman





WOMEN'S BIRTHDAYS &

ANNIVERSARIES FOR

September

Thanks so much to my church family for all of your thoughts & prayers through my latest journey of cancer & chemotherapy. I am blessed to have such a wonderful family to be concerned & care about me. My life may not be going the way I planned it, but it is going exactly the way God planned it. Thanks again, I love you all so much.

Gwen Seidel



Birthdays this month are: 7th—Clare Hansen & Whitney Jenkins 13th—Sarah Miller 19th—Dorothy Stevenson 20th—Laura Lauck 22nd—Roberta Jo Cordingly 25th-Cindy Anderson 27th-Tiffani Dingman

Anniversaries this month are:

4th Red & Reno Taylor 5th Bob & Sharon Catchpole 18th Dallas & Christy Watkins 25th Bob & Marge Scholten





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COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES August 8, 2013

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm

Devotions:

Devotions were led by Pastor Joshua

Roll Call:

Melissa Garcia, Pastor Joshua, Nancy Lubeck, Red Taylor, Reno Taylor, Stu Hammersmark, Christy Watkins, Joel McKee, Sarah Rodocker

Absent: Thad Ehde, Jim Lockwood, Rick Robbins, Lee Morrison, C.A. Thomas, Connie Thomas, Cody Garcia

Additions to Agenda: None

Thrift Store: Took in \$9,000 in sales. \$11,500 in savings account. \$4500 in checking account. New store opened and did a decent amount of business on Saturday. Still looking to buy a lift van.

Correspondence: None

Reports:

Secretary: Christy moved, and Reno 2nd to accept the secretary's report as written. Motion passed. Financial Secretary: Reno moved and Red 2nd to accept the Financial Secretary's report as written. Motion passed. Treasurer: Some funds were moved from memorial savings to general fund to cover landscaping costs. Nancy moved, and Sarah 2nd to accept the Treasurer's report as written. Motion passed.

President: None

Elders: Everything going well

Trustees: None

Pastor: Written report available on bulletin board. Everyone seems happy with newsletter but suggested hardcopies of calendar be available at church. So there is a stack by the mailboxes. Pastor will be gone on 8/25/13; Karen Matuska will be supply pastor.

Committee Reports:

Education: Found a curriculum that is good for all levels. Looking for a youth teacher that is a non-teacher, as well as subs for the younger kids classes. Blessing of the backpacks will be 8/18. Looking to do a Bible bestowment to the 3rd graders as well as 1st communion for them at the end of Sept. or early Oct. On Aug. 11th there will be training for new acolytes. Sunday school will start Sept 8th.

Youth: Working with other churches to do work with junior high kids; meet once a month to do activities possibly. Stewardship: None, have not met this month.

Worship: Setting two through remainder of Aug. St. Michael's Sunday is coming up in Sept. still looking for people to share a messenger from God experience.

Women of ELCA: Women of Faith tickets are available for an upcoming event in Denver; more information will be made available.

Hospitality: Baby shower for Hunzakers was hosted.

Men of Covenant: Not scheduled in August due to fair.

Outreach: Prayers for Dorothy and committee will move forward as best they can.

Altar Guild: Things are going OK.

Landscape: Project is moving forward, need to schedule another work day to finish it off.

Old Business: PCFC, Christy is the new signatory person in place of Deana. Flag is up in the sanctuary.

New Business: Food schedule for Dorothy and family.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer Next Council Meeting 9/12/13 Devotions for next Meeting: Jim Lockwood

Respectfully Submitted, Jim Lockwood, Secretary

ELCA NEWS SERVICE August 16, 2013 ELCA assembly adopts social statement on criminal justice 13-58-MRC

PITTSBURGH (ELCA) -- Voting members of the 2013 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) adopted "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries" -- a social statement on criminal justice -- Aug. 16 with a 882 to 25 vote.

The 952 voting members and others of the 4-million-member ELCA are gathering Aug. 12-17 in assembly at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center here under the theme, "Always being made new." The churchwide assembly is the highest legislative authority of the ELCA. The denomination is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year.

The call for a statement on criminal justice emerged from concern among ELCA members over the "massive levels of incarceration in the United States," said Cynthia Osbourne, chair of the ELCA task force charged with leading this church in a study about criminal justice and the development of a proposed social statement for the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly to consider. She introduced the social statement to the assembly earlier this week.

While commending positive aspects of the system, the statement conveys dissatisfaction with many areas about the criminal justice system that urgently need reform.

"The task force was formed in response to concerns expressed from ELCA synods about the alarmingly high incarceration rates in the United States," said Osborne.

She said the United States ranks among the top two or three countries in the world in percentage of people under control of a criminal justice system -- one out of 31 adults and, for people of color, as high as one out of 11.

The statement affirms the fundamental principles of the U.S. criminal justice system, such as due process of law and the presumption of legal innocence, and it also recognizes serious deficiencies -- overly harsh sentencing and persistent inequalities based on race and class. It calls ELCA members to ministry and compassion through some practices: hearing the cries of those affected, accompaniment, hospitality and advocacy. It asks members of this church to recommit themselves to visiting the prisoner; correct the flawed criminal justice system; participate in God's work with hands and hearts and to hear the cries of people affected.

In its deliberation, the assembly made two amendments to the statement -- the first was to substitute a paragraph that now begins: "Confession is one 'mark of the church'" and the second amendment was adopted to correct what appeared to provide an editorial comment in the text.

ELCA social statements are teaching documents that assist members in forming judgments on social issues. They set policy for this church and guide its advocacy and work as a public church.

The 2007 ELCA Churchwide Assembly authorized the development of a social statement on criminal justice. The task force has been studying the issues and providing resource material for members since 2008.

The social statement on criminal justice is available at <u>www.ELCA.org/</u> <u>criminaljustice</u>. Bishop Jim Gonia Rocky Mountain Synod, ELCA

Tuesday, July 30, 2013

Madagascar: let me tell you three things

On our recent RMS Companion Synod journey to Madagascar, each one of the twenty participants was encouraged to think about how he or she would answer those who would invariably ask, "So, how was your trip?" Knowing how challenging it can be to summarize something as transformational as a visit to a companion church halfway around the world, everyone was invited to think about three specific things they could share in a brief way with those who asked. Below are three of my key learnings.

1. I gained additional insight into what it means for us to be church today

Visiting the Malagasy Lutheran Church is like holding up a church mirror: you get to see new things about yourself. One of the things I learned on this trip is the extent to which we in the ELCA must continue to move out of an institutional church model as we seek to be faithful to our calling to the gospel in the North American context.

We are used to measuring our vitality in much the same ways as our Malagasy colleagues:

- How many members do we have? How many people are worshipping? Are we growing?
- Do we have all the expected congregational groups and programs: Sunday School, youth ministry, Women's Ministry, choir, etc?
- Is our church building adequate enough to accommodate our activities?

I am convinced that we in ELCA must ask ourselves questions of vitality like these:

- What is the depth of our spiritual and communal life? Is there a place for everyone among us?
- Are we living from a theological center informed by God's radical grace? Is that center embodied in the ways we worship, learn, witness and serve?
- What is our engagement with our local community and with our world?

2. Our youth and young adults are central to our companion relationship

Amid our many commitments with our Malagasy colleagues, we must place a priority on fostering meaningful connectivity between our respective youth and young adults. The high level of youth participation on this trip was extremely significant given the very high percentage of youth in the Malagasy Lutheran Church. To the extent that the young leaders from each of our churches are engaged with one another and are given the chance to set the agenda, not only does our mutual understanding grow in new ways, but the path our relationship takes is shaped in life-giving ways.

3. Personal integration is a lifelong exercise

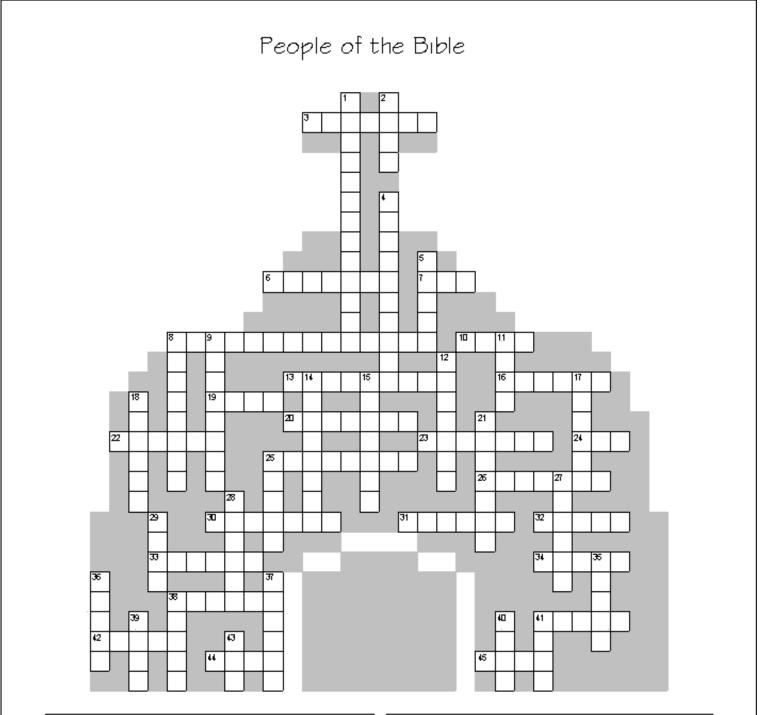
Every time I go to Madagascar, it's both a fresh experience and an opportunity to integrate two distinct parts of my identity. This trip helped me realize that my role as a bishop in the ELCA will always be connected to the variety of roles I have played within the Malagasy Lutheran Church. My understanding of mission, church, spiritual life, and community have all been deeply informed by my time in Madagascar—and my life in the RMS determines how I engage our ongoing relationship with our brothers and sisters in Madagascar. I'm not always sure how to integrate these two realities, these two ways of being in the world. But that I must be attentive to that task—for the sake of my personal and professional life—is one of my takeaways from this journey.

Feel free to ask me more. Better yet, ask one of our other trip participants about their three learnings. You'll be glad you did!

Yours in Faith, Bishop Jim Gonia



"Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org"



- З. Title of the kings of Egypt
- Deceives Samson 6.
- First woman 7.
- 8. Builder of Babylon; takes Jerusalem captive
- 10. First man
- 13. Father of John the Baptist 16. Queen who helped
- Mordecal save the Jews 19. Brother of Jesus
- 20. A prophetess and judge of Israel
- 22. Aaron's sister who leads a victory song
- 23. Called out of his tomb
- 24. Afflicted by Satan
- 25. Saul's son; loved by David
- 26. Paul's young "son in the faith"
- 30. A king known for his wisdom

- Across t 31. Thrown into the lion's den
 - 32. Swallowed up by a great
 - fish
 - 33. Jacob's eldest son
 - 34. A shepherd boy who God chooses to be King
 - 38. Destroys Jericho
 - 41. Betrays the Christ
 - 42. Led the Israelites out of Egypt
 - 44. Built an ark
 - 45. Marries Boaz

- 15. Father of the faith 17. Was transported into heaven in a chariot of fire

Killed Abel

his wall

on water

1.

2.

4.

9.

- 18. Brought Nathanael to Christ 21. A tax collecter who
 - became an apostle and an author of the gospel

First to see the risen Christ

The handwriting was on

5. A fisherman who walked

8. Cupbearer to Artaxerxes I;

Jacob's youngest son

11. First murder victim

14. One of the three who

rebuilds Jerusalem's wall

12. Son of Abraham and Hagar

survived the fiery furnace

25. Wrestles with an angel

- Down t 27. A doubtful one 28. Mary's husband
 - 28. Had a coat of many colors
 - 29. Mother of Jesus
 - 35. The promised son of Abraham
 - 36. Ruth's mother-in-law
 - 37. Lazarus' busy sister
 - 38. The Christ; the Son of God and Savior of the world
 - 39. Hairy hunter who sold his birthright
 - 40. First king of Israel 41. Wrote the Book of
 - Revelations
 - 43. Abraham's nephew; his wife turned to a pillar of salt

ELCA NEWS SERVICE August 14, 2013 Elizabeth Eaton elected ELCA presiding bishop 13-56-MRC

PITTSBURGH (ELCA) - The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, bishop of the Evangelical

Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Northeastern Ohio Synod, was elected Aug. 14 presiding bishop of the ELCA at the 2013 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. She was elected on the fifth ballot. There were 889 votes cast, and 445 votes were needed for an election. Eaton received 600 votes and the Rev. Mark S. Hanson, ELCA presiding bishop, received 287. Eaton is the ELCA's first woman presiding bishop-elect.

The churchwide assembly, the chief legislative authority of the ELCA, is meeting here Aug. 12-17 at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center. The theme for the

triennial assembly is "Always being made new." This year marks the 25th anniversary of this church.

"We are a church that is overwhelmingly European in a culture that is increasingly pluralistic. We need to welcome the gifts of those who come from different places, that is a conversation we need to have as a church," Eaton told the assembly shortly after the election.

Prior to becoming synod bishop, Eaton served as pastor for ELCA congregations in Ohio. She earned a Master's of divinity degree from Harvard Divinity School in

Cambridge, Mass., and a Bachelor's degree in music education from the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio.

An assembly schedule is available at <u>www.ELCA.org/</u> assembly and up-to-the

minute news entries at http://blogs.ELCA.org/assemblynews.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Dave Wood
- 2nd Curtis Nickle
- 8th Bill Windmeier
- 10th Erik Larson
- 18th Mike Hahn
- 20th Bryan Seim
- 24th Peter Jesse
- 28th Richard Dingman
- 17th Quinn Zimmerman
- 30th Sean Larson

MISSION STATEMENT

We covenant ourselves to gather around Word and Sacrament for mutual support and strength in Christ, that by God's grace we:

- Proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom
- Nurture the community through Christian Education
- Provide settings for Christian fellowship, and
- Equip the membership to be Christ's servant people

GODFATHERS

MEET AT 7:30 AM SATURDAY, September 7th AT



Tasty Treats

ALL MEN ARE INVITED TO COME !



PRAYER CHAIN 2013

Would you like to be added to the Church Email Prayer Chain? Let us know at

CLCWheatland@gmail.com and we'll add you to the list. Don't have an email address? We can add you to a separate telephone list and give you a call when prayer requests are added. Just contact Sarah at the church office (307-322-9423).

Sunday School 2013

Sunday School starts Sunday, September 8th after Sunday service. Preschool through high school ages are welcome. See you all there!



If you are interested in helping with Sunday School in any capacity please speak with Sarah R., Dawn, or Teresa. Thank you!

SEPTEMBER SERVERS

ELDERS

9-1	Christy Watkins

- 9-8 Joel McKee9-15 Rick Robbins
- 9-22 Connie Thomas
- 9-22 Colline Thomas 0.20 P: 1 P 11.
- 9-29 Rick Robbins

ACOLYTES

- 9-1 Jamison Brown
- 9-8 Cody Garcia
- 9-15 Sam Jesse
- 9-22 Reagan Ehde
- 9-29 Gage Brown

READERS

- 9-1 Rich Bohm
- 9-8 Mary Seim
- 9-15 Rich Bohm
- 9-22 Jim Lockwood
- 9-29 Reno Taylor

MUSICIAN

- 9-1 Mary Seim9-8 Nancy Schumann
- 9-15 Sarah Rodocker
- 9-13 Salai 9-22 TBA
- 9-22 TBA 9-29 TBA

VISITATION

- 9-1 Rich Bohm9-8 Nadine Morris
- 9-15 Cheryl Meier
- 9-22 Bill Windmeier
- 9-29 Rich Bohm

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 9-1 Connie Thomas
- 9-8 Christy Watkins
- 9-15 Joel McKee
- 9-22 Rick Robbins
- 9-29 Joel McKee

<u>USHERS</u>

- 9-1 Rich Bohm & Terry Meier
- 9-8 Stu Hammersmark & Terry Meier
- 9-15 Rich Bohm & Dave Miller
- 9-22 Terry & Nancy Lubeck
- 9-29 Rich Bohm & Terry Meier

GREETERS

- 9-1 Cindy Kahrs
- 9-8 Ehde Family
- 9-15 Garcia Family
- 9-22 Terry & Nancy Lubeck
- 9-29 Bitterman Family

ALTAR CARE

- 9-1 Marge Scholten9-8 Hollee Bosch
- 9-15 Judy Windmeier
- 9-22 Barb Larson
- 9-29 Christy Watkins

FELLOWSHIP/TREATS

- 9-1 Meier Family
- 9-8 Seim Family
- 9-15 Garcia Family
- 9-22 Meier Family
- 9-29 Bitterman Family

September 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 LABOR DAY!	3 NO PRAISE BAND PRAC- TICE TODAY!	4	5 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	6	7 MEN'S GROUP 7:30 AM @ TASTY TREATS
8 SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS	9	10 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	11	12 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM COUNCIL MEETING 7:00 PM	13	14
15	16	17 DIAPER DAY WELCA BIRTHDAY LUNCH 11:30 PRAISE BAND 5:30 PM WORSHIP COMMITTEE 6:30 PM	18 THRIVENT MEETING 8:00 PM	19 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	20	21
22 SERVICE AT NURSING HOME 2:00 PM	23	24 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	25	26 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	27	28
29	30					

Covenant Lutheran Church 1863 South Road Wheatland, WY 82201 Office: (307)322-9423 Fax: (307)322-4577 Office: CLCWheatland@gmail.com Pastor: pastorjoshua@wyomingwireless.com

Office Hours:

Pastor Bruns—Mon—Thurs.: 9am—12 pm Office: Mon.– Fri: 9:00 am—12: pm Sunday Worship: 9:00 am—Sunday Sunday School: 10:30 am - Sunday Adult Bible Study: 10:15 am—Sunday 1