

## **September 2011**

### **2010 CHURCH COUNCIL**

#### **OFFICERS**

President	Michele Turbin	(586) 777-6085
Vice President	Kim Ostin	(586) 739-5599
Treasurer	Carolyn Hammar	(586) 731-0093
Council Secretary	Karen Van Hook	(586) 777-3862
Financial Offerings	Barb Klein	(586) 286-4575

#### **BOARD REPRESENTATIVES**

Fellowship	Krystal Ellis	(586) 703-2179
Finance & Budget	Al Todd	(586) 412-1264
Social Ministry	Cathy Huhn	(586) 286-3772
Evangelism	Rolf Schroeter	(586) 731-6209
Parish Education	Hayla Joneson	(586) 336-0331
Property Mgmt.	Richard Nank	(586) 286-3369
Staff Relations	Deirdre Kraemer	(586) 247-7623
Stewardship	Diane McIntyre	(586) 268-9223
Worship	Jan Carter	(586) 286-1884
Youth Ministry	Tim Lambitz	(586) 247-3598

#### **ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE**

Dave Anderson	(586) 286-4860
Mike Algie	(586) 979-6017
Randy Walainis	(248) 651-3056
Cathy Polselli	(586) 566-3457
Bob Hughes	(586) 739-9219

#### **NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Betsy Padden	(586) 226-0797
Tom Schwartz	(586) 997-2501
Hayla Joneson	(586) 336-0331
Katy Modrak	(586) 566-2564

## **E-MAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE CHURCH OFFICES**

*Please note the 'double' s t in the domain name*

Pastor, Bart Beebe:

[rev.bb@christsterling.org](mailto:rev.bb@christsterling.org)

Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministries, Beth Paulo:

[beth4youth@christsterling.org](mailto:beth4youth@christsterling.org)

Office Manager, Nancy Ellis:

[officemanager@christsterling.org](mailto:officemanager@christsterling.org)



**E-MAIL &  
WEBSITE**

**VISIT YOUR CHURCH'S WEBSITE**

[www.christsterling.org](http://www.christsterling.org)

## **From The Desk Of Pastor**

### **“From the Pastor’s Desk” – September 2011**

#### **Does Going to Church Matter?**

*But now thus says the Lord, ... Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (Isaiah 43:1-3a)*

I saw the letter in the September 2011 edition of *Reader’s Digest*. It is taken from *The Legacy Letters*, a compilation of 100 original notes from family and friends to victims of 9/11. The book is being published to commemorate the tenth anniversary of that tragedy.

The letter is from Lauren Charette, written to her father who was on the 100<sup>th</sup> floor of the World Trade Center’s North Tower when the plane hit. She writes, “Dad, Could you answer some of the questions I will never get to ask? I’m graduating in June. Will you clap for me? ... I passed my driver’s test – isn’t that scary? ... Do you think I’ve made good friends? ... Do you miss me as much as I miss you?” All her questions are thought provoking; many are emotional. But the one that most caught my attention was this one: “I stopped going to church. Does it matter?”

This month we come to the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001. As a nation, we still bear the scars of the tragedy of that day. For many of us as individuals, the shock of that day has left a lasting impression upon our minds and in our hearts. In the years since our lives have gotten back to normal, even as we realize that

normal will never be quite the same anymore. With September 11<sup>th</sup> falling on a Sunday this year, our worship liturgy will be adapted in order to acknowledge the anniversary of that life-changing day.

All of us, as people, live with the memory and experience of life-changing events. Some of those events are positive; others are negative. Some are public events that are shared across a culture; others are private events that we may share only with family members and a few close friends. Illness, the death of a loved-one, marriage, divorce, the loss of a job, moving into a new home – all of these and more are things that can change our lives as individuals, even as the terrorist attacks of ten years ago changed our life as a nation. As I prepare for the Sunday that is the tenth anniversary of that unforgettable day, Lauren Charette’s question continues to echo in my thoughts: “I stopped going to church. Does it matter?”

I do not know Lauren, and I have little idea of what her life is like on a day-to-day basis. I don’t know how often she and her family went to church before September 11, 2001, nor do I know the faith story of Lauren and her family. I would hope that there are still sources in her life where Lauren finds such things as comfort, strength, hope, meaning, purpose, community and the courage to face each day as a gift and not as a sentence of punishment.

I really don’t know if it matters that Lauren has stopped going to church. But as I look back on my life and the tragedies – both public and private – that I have experienced, I know it matters to me that I am still going to church.

That’s not to say that going to church provides me with all the answers to my questions, because it doesn’t. That’s also not to say that going to church always touches me in exactly the way I

want to be touched, because it doesn't do that either. But going to church continues – sometimes in unexpected ways and sometimes in spite of myself – to connect me to God.

It is at church that I hear the message of God's love for me and for all people. It is at church that I hear how that divine love is expressed as forgiveness, grace, and a power of life that is stronger even than death. It is at church that I can build relationships with other people – relationships that are shaped not by appearance, nor by age, nor by economic status nor education achieved, but by a shared experience of God's love for all people made known in Jesus. It is at church where Jesus meets me in the bread and wine of a Holy Communion, planting in me a greater awareness of how my Lord is present also at other times and places in my life.

It is at church where seeds are planted that give meaning and purpose to my life. Certainly it is not the case that I find meaning and purpose in life only at church! But the seeds of meaning and purpose planted at church are nurtured by the Holy Spirit so that they grow into other aspects of my life, connecting everything to the grace and love of God revealed in Jesus.

So going to church still matters to me. Not because it makes life perfect, because it doesn't. Not because it makes me perfect, because I'm not. Not because the church is perfect, because it isn't. And not because God is found only at church, for "the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof." But in this imperfect world and in my imperfect life, it is at church where I can hear the Word, and share in the Supper. That makes a difference in my life. I pray it does in your life, too.

See you in worship,

Pastor Bart Beebe

## **FROM THE DESK OF OUR COORDINATOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY**



# **People, Praises, Programs, Prayers**

*Coordinator of Youth and Family Ministries*

Please note our Fall start dates for our Youth Programs!

- Beth Paulo

### **2011 Dates @ a Glance thru October**

#### **CLC Activities and Ministries Involving Our Youth**

**2011-2012 K.L.I.C.K. Year Begins** – September 14<sup>th</sup>

**2011-2012 Catechism Year Begins** – September 15<sup>th</sup>

**2011 – 2012 J.O.L.T. Year Begins** – September 18<sup>th</sup>

**J.O.L.T. Breakfast** – September 18<sup>th</sup>

**Gathering 2012 Registration Deposits and Commitment Forms due** – October 1st

**CROP Walk** – October 2<sup>nd</sup>

**Summer Sharing Service** – October 9<sup>th</sup>

**Confirmation Fall Retreat** – October 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>

**AGAPE Concert** – October 20<sup>th</sup>

## **W.E.L.C.A.**

**W**omen of the **E**vangelical **L**utheran **C**hurch in **A**merica  
meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month in the church library for  
Bible study, discussion & fellowship! Bring a sack lunch ☺



Our next Bible Study meeting is Tuesday, September 20, 2011

NOTE CHANGE IN TIME SCHEDULE:

11:00 am LUNCH AND SOCIAL HOUR

Bring bag lunch -- group meets in church library

NOON to 1 pm: PLANNING OF FUTURE EVENTS

1 pm to 2 pm: BIBLE STUDY BEGINNING A STUDY OF THE  
GOSPEL OF MARK

MONTHLY MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 2nd TUESDAY  
EXCEPT DURING THE HOLIDAYS

ALL WOMEN ARE WELCOME !!

## **S.L.I.C.K!**

*Seniors Living In Christ's Kingdom! - ages 55+*

### **Upcoming Events**

### Upcoming Events:

September 22

#### **PARADE COMPANY TOUR**

Lunch following

\$10.00 (does not include lunch)

First 20 to pay

Deadline for paying: September 11<sup>th</sup>

Meet at church at 9:00 a.m. to carpool

Hosts: Jeanne and J.R. Whitford

October 1  
**CEMETERY**

#### **CEMETERY WALK AT CLINTON GROVE**

Crocker House Museum Tour

Dinner at Luigi's in Mt. Clemens

\$15.00 (does not include dinner)

First 18 to pay

Deadline for paying: September 18<sup>th</sup>

Meet at Crocker House **at 3:00 p.m.**  
(parking next door)

Hosts: David and Jean Boone

November

Lunch

Host: Barbara Klein

Details to be announced

Please check the SLICK! bulletin board in the narthex for signup sheets and further details.

NOTE: All payments are to be made to the person in charge for each event.  
Do not make checks out to the church or place checks or money in the SLICK! mailbox.

- Please remember to contribute gas money to your driver!
- If the group is meeting somewhere other than church and you need directions or a ride, please call the person in charge of the event or Carol Mociulewski.

### **Please Keep in Your Prayers...**



Barb Anderson, Lester Brauer,  
Felix Grabowski, Tom  
Grunewald, Bob Hughes,  
Robert Monks.

### **Please Remember Our Shut-Ins...**



June Bartz, Kay Doggett, Cecil & Virginia Gilbert,  
Luella Hayes, Barb Kelly, Emma Kochajda, Marge  
White.

*We all pray for each other and ourselves, together each and every Sunday, but if you are currently in need of specific prayers, and would like your name written here in the 'Christ Connection', please contact the Church Office, Monday - Friday, 9am - 5pm.*

## **Social Ministry**

Social Ministry Meeting – **Please come and join us! We welcome new ideas and new hands. Wednesday, September 7 at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend.**

**Clintonaire Bingo** – Every September our schedules fill up with many things to do. Make Monday your night to set some time aside to help the residents of Clintonaire fill the long hours. The residents look forward to every bingo evening, which makes you, the volunteer, very important. Please remember to make a Monday night at Clintonaire part of your plans. We couldn't do it without YOU! Please contact Mona Palmer at 586-286-8631 if you would like to participate.

#### **Upcoming Bingo Dates:**

September 12 and 26 October 10 and 24

#### **Bingo Quarters**

A piggy bank is available in the east Information Alcove below the Social Ministry bulletin board to receive donations of quarters for the Clintonaire bingo prizes. This will provide a consistent place for your donations and keep this activity for the residents fully funded. Thanks!

**OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE – Church Ambassador for Lutheran Social Services of Michigan** – Christ Lutheran needs YOU to be our Ambassador to Lutheran Social Services, to be an advocate for its programs and to keep our congregation informed. *“The Church Ambassador is a person within a Lutheran congregation that serves as a point of contact for the distribution of information about Lutheran Social Services of Michigan (LSSM) and its programs, as well as serving as a liaison for assisting LSSM with community outreach in their church’s community.”*

The Ambassador's Duties:

- Serves as the primary contact within his/her church for LSSM staff
- Will be the person in his/her church that receives LSSM materials and information and insures that they are accessible for the rest of the congregation (i.e. – bulletin board, in CLC newsletter, in Sunday bulletin)
- Refers questions about LSSM services and programs to LSSM staff contacts
- Helps secure opportunities for LSSM representative to speak to the congregation
- Communicates opportunities of LSSM involvement in congregation and local community events, projects and programs

The Requirements: The Ambassador should be a member of a Lutheran congregation who:

- Is an advocate for LSSM programs
- Is willing to commit 1-3 hours a month to serve as the primary contact within his/her congregation for LSSM
- Has access to electronic mail

“Ambassadors will have direct interaction with LSSM’s Community Relations and Church Relations departments on a consistent basis. This interaction may include phone and electronic mail communications and infrequent group and/or individual meetings.”

If this sounds like the opportunity you have been looking for, contact Pastor Beebe or Eleanor Stolzenfeld for an application form. You can learn more about the programs of LSSM at <http://www.lssm.org>.

**CROP Walk – Be a Walker! Sponsor a Walker! Bake Some Cookies!** This year CROP Walk will take place on Sunday, October 2 beginning at 1:30 pm. The walk starts at Utica United Methodist Church, 8650 Canal Road. This year the walk will again be 5 km (5 km = 3.10685 mi. OR 3 mi. plus 188 yds). The route goes from the Methodist church, into Riverland Park, and back. Please give serious consideration to becoming part of the walk. Let’s have a big turn-out from CLC!. Bring your family. Invite a friend. This is an activity that people of all ages can do together. Get some good exercise and help feed hungry people. If you are not able to walk, consider sponsoring a walker. Donations of any amount are welcome. We are also seeking volunteers to bake or donate cookies for the walkers. For more information, contact Eleanor Stolzenfeld.

**Habitat for Humanity Report** - On Saturday, August 13, our CLC crew served lunch to about 25 volunteers at the Habitat build. Thank you all who planned, cooked and served.

There will be more opportunities coming up to help with other Habitat projects on foreclosed homes, to repair and spruce them up to provide more housing for those in need. Watch for our notices in the Sunday bulletin as information becomes available.

**Food Pantry** – Watch the weekly bulletin announcements for the latest needs for the food pantry.

**Prayer Shawls** – Do you know someone to whom you can offer the love and comfort of being wrapped in the care and prayers that these shawls represent? The shawls are located in the east information alcove on the new display rack. Please sign the yellow spiral notebook when taking a shawl. Please contact Violet Morley at 586-489-2020 if you have any questions.

**Teddy Bear Ministry** – Our bears are available for those in need of comfort and cheering up. They have been to church with us and are now anxious to go out and serve. Look around the narthex and sanctuary to find the perfect companion for someone who needs a hug! Contributions to this ministry are always welcome. Donations of bears are always welcome. This project is coordinated by “den mother” Barb Klein.

**Campbell’s Labels for Education UPDATE 2011**

Pick up a new products list at the collection bins. There are many new products now eligible. **New this year:** Glad Food Storage products, Emerald Nuts, Dannon yogurts for kids, Magazines (*PEOPLE, Real Simple, TIME, Cooking Light, Southern Living, Health*, and *ALL YOU*, when bought at stores), and Post cereals. Also, please be sure to save the correct part. For most products, save the UPC from the label. There are a few products for which the cap is saved, notably juices and sauces. The front of the label is NOT collected any more and cannot be used. Look for the “Labels for Education” notation. (Note: this does NOT include General Foods “Box Tops for Education”. We do NOT collect those.

**Odds and Ends**

- **Can Tabs, Eyeglasses, Hearing Aids and Ink Cartridges**

Don’t forget to bring in your aluminum can tabs, eyeglasses, hearing aids, and ink jet cartridges for recycling. Funds raised support several charities.

**Looking Ahead**

Here is the schedule for the rest of the year for those who like to keep an eye out for bargains and sales while shopping.

September - Newborn diapers  
 October - Maternity clothes, diaper bags, and Newborn - 24-month infant clothing  
 November - Thanksgiving Food Drive  
 December - Annual Cookie Walk, December 18  
 December - Adopt-A-Family Giving Tree for Christmas  
 January - Blanket Drive, new, twin-size blankets

**Greeters**

**September 4<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 AM Larry, Peggy & Kelly Woodruff**  
**9:30 AM Karen Spicuzza**  
**11:00 AM Diane McIntyre**

**September 11<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 AM Richard & Joyce Seefeldt**  
**9:30 AM Monika Deluca**  
**11:00 AM Carrie Killoren**

**September 18<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 AM Jeanne Whitford**  
**9:30 AM Michelle Turbin**  
**11:00 AM Sharon Schmidt and Janice Cowger**

**September 25<sup>th</sup>**

**8:00 AM Pam King**  
**9:30 AM Tom & Joan Scott**  
**11:00 AM Carrie Killoren**

*Greeting Contact Person: Pam King at (586) 764-4650  
 Please contact Pam if you are interested in greeting prior to a worship service.*



**Love to sing?? Come join us on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 7:30 in the sanctuary.**

**First rehearsal will be on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. All four thru twelve year olds are welcome.**

**Contact Lisa Stoen @ 739-4906 with any questions. See you then!**

## ALTAR DUTY

September 4 <sup>th</sup>	Shirley Klug
September 11 <sup>th</sup>	Carolyn Hammar
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Virginia Vogel
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sue Frank

*Altar Duty Contact Person: Shirley Klug at (586) 739-9074  
Please contact Shirley if you have any questions regarding Altar Duty.*

*If you think you are interested in serving Christ through this very important ministry Shirley will be able to provide you with the information you may need to make your decision.*

## ACOLYTE DUTY

September 4 <sup>th</sup>	Lucy Kraemer	Reilly Carrigan
September 11 <sup>th</sup>	Megan Modrak	Moira Carrigan
September 18 <sup>th</sup>	Justin Taylor	Josh Smolinski
September 25 <sup>th</sup>	Sofia Paulo	Brooke Kangas

*Acolyting Contact Person: Julie Taylor at (586) 263-7842*

*Please contact Julie if you are interested in acolyting for a 9:30am worship service. Volunteers are always needed for 8:00am, 11:00am, and special services.*