

Grace News

Volume 9, Number 4

Fourth Quarter '10

*Psalm 103:1 (NIV) Praise the LORD, O my soul;
all my inmost being, praise his holy name.*

*2 Praise the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits--*

*3 who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases,*

*4 who redeems your life from the pit
and crowns you with love and compassion,*

*5 who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's...*

*8 The LORD is compassionate and gracious,
slow to anger, abounding in love.*

9 He will not always accuse,

nor will he harbor his anger forever;

*10 he does not treat us as our sins deserve
or repay us according to our iniquities.*

*11 For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his love for those who fear him;*

*12 as far as the east is from the west,
so far has he removed our transgressions from us.*

This Thanksgiving be sure to remember all the reasons you have to thank God. It's not just good food and warm shelter. The most important things are our spiritual blessings. Be sure to thank God for his love and compassion, his patience with your stubbornness, and most importantly, the fact that he has sent your sins and the punishment you deserve as far away from you as the east is from the west. He gave his one and only Son to save us.

Mark A. Haefner

Birthdays

11-3 Kristie Richert
11-6 Kali Fickel
11-10 Paul Goodrich
11-11 Luke Otte
11-24 Wendy Tibbetts
11-26 Teri Fickel
11-28 Bruce Burger

12-1 Kenyon Caldwell
12-6 Vada Schleusener
12-18 Anna Richert
12-27 Matthew Haefner

1-3 Abbey Kuhl
1-9 Kent Fickel
1-29 Brogan Dredge

Anniversaries

12-5 Clayton and Teresa Dredge
12-31 Kathleen & John Goodrich



Voters' Meeting Summary

Pastor's Report:

I have discontinued the Bible study at the Greene House for now due to lack of interest.

A few people returned the surveys about women's Bible study, alternate worship times and after school programs. We normally have Lenten worship on Thursday evenings. The plan is to continue having worship on Thursday evenings when Lent ends.

Our Seminary is looking for congregations who will support a Vicar for a year. This year's class is a fairly large one and at this point they have more Vicars than congregations requesting them.

Membership:

Our membership stands at 49 communicant members and 61 baptized members.

Elder/Trustees:

The Trustees met with members from Mighty Fortress Lutheran Church to discuss their interest in purchasing our current building.

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Treasurer's Report 2nd Quarter 2010

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Beginning Balance: | 28,800.10 |
| Offerings & Transfers: | <u>293,051.91</u> |
| Total | 321,852.11 |
| Expenses: | |
| Salary | 4,507 .00 |
| Ins & Tax | 1,152.39 |
| Maintenance | 8.58 |
| Misc. | 232.31 |
| Office | 963.08 |
| Utilities | 686.68 |
| Ministry | 636.06 |
| Worship | 401.97 |
| Insurance | 1,677.00 |
| Pension | 456.00 |
| To Building Fund | <u>273,971.92</u> |
| Total | 284,692.99 |

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Designated funds: | |
| WELS | 3,451.36 |
| NELHS | 2,034.80 |
| Trinity | <u>5,333.36</u> |
| Total | 10,819.52 |

Total Expense 295,512.51
Balance (less Building) **31,169.77**

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Building Fund balances | |
| In CD's | 118,050.92 |
| At NELHS | 104,297.29 |
| In Checking | -4,866.27 |
| In Savings | <u>132,151.43</u> |
| Total | 349,803.14 |

WELS 2010 Commitment:
8,000.00, given 10,325.54.

NELHS 2010 Commitment was
8,000.00 divided 75% to Operating
25% to BFC. Given: Operating
8,647.69, BFC 2,882.57, Tuition
1,600.00.

So far we have paid about
770,700.00 on the new building.
About 500,000.00 came from our
savings and about 278,000.00
from our construction loan.



Cleaning and Ushering Lists

Cleaning

Nov 14-21 , Nov 28-Dec 5 Ridpath
Dec 12-19 In the New Building??,
Dec 26-Jan 2 Armand Richert



Ushering



| | |
|----------|--------------------|
| November | Fickel |
| December | Nathan Schleusener |
| January | Volunteer Needed |

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They gave us earnest money and asked for an inspection of the roof as well as termite and structural inspections.

Since the voters meeting one of the their members died and we granted them the use of our building for the funeral.

Building Committee:

The committee reported that the pews have been ordered. Thanks to all who expressed their thoughts on the samples that we had in the back of the church.

There was some discussion about a church sign. It was suggested that the sign be capable of displaying Scripture passages as a witness to all who pass by.

Evangelism:

Forty-five visits were made in Seward during the quarter. Of those twenty-five households were churched and twenty were unchurched. Three visits were made in Utica and one of those households was unchurched.

Education:

Sunday school classes have resumed. We have three teachers and eight children in the congregation of Sunday school age.

Due to the fact that we will be moving to the new building during the time we normally have Christmas for Kids, we will not offer it this year. We may consider offering Easter for Kids instead.

NELHS:

The enrollment at NELHS is at 76 students. Of those, fifteen are international students. A few of the international students are from our ELS church in Seoul, South Korea, some of the other international students have had little, if any, contact with a Christian church.

Due to the increase enrollment and the international students staying on campus on the weekends the board authorized 8,000.00 to hire more kitchen help.

Trinity:

There are five kindergarteners at Trinity this year and the enrollment is at 28. Miss Alyssa Ruprecht will coming from MLC to student teach in the second quarter. The annual Trinity bonfire was October 15. Offerings have been meeting expenses.

WELS:

Three excellent papers presented at the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Symposium on Worship and Outreach are available for down-

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load at <http://wlsce.net/idea/357/2010-symposium-worship-and-outreach-papers-are-now-available>

Other Business

Volunteers are being sought for a committee to plan the dedication of our new building. Considering the great amount of interest in the community it was suggested that we might have an open house for the community offering cookies, cider and tours of the building with handouts and invitations to worship. A possible date is December 19. It was suggested that it might be wise to use the building for a little while before we invite guests for dedication. The 41st anniversary of the congregation is January 19th. It is possible that something could be planned near that date.

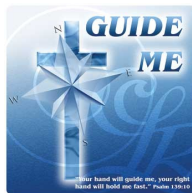
The cost of Pastor's health insurance will be increasing in January. Our choice of the plan offered will not change.

Church Council

President: Keith Richert
Secretary: Nathan Schleusener
Treasurer: Bruce Burger
Fin. Sec: Thomas Otte
Elder/Trustees:
Gordon Schlechte
Martin Otte
Clint Ridpath

Building Committee:
Armand Richert
Keith Richert
Allen Plautz

Evangelists:
Keith Schleusener
Gordon Schlechte



Christian Life Resources National Convention

November 13, 2010

Conference Site:
St. Paul Lutheran Church
799 St. Paul Drive
Slinger, WI

Slinger is located about 30 miles north of Milwaukee and is easily accessible from Highway 41.

"Guide Me" is the theme for the 2010 CLR National Convention. The agenda is filled with topics and speakers who will provide guidance through God's Word and will share experiences from their own lives.

This special event is going to inform and motivate you! We are also making this an affordable event by charging only \$20 for the entire day. That very low registration fee will cover all your materials, all the presentations, and also a wonderful catered lunch! This is truly a deal that is too good to ignore!

More information is available at this website to look over the agenda, learn more about the special Teen Convention, get registration information, and more.

Mark your calendars and plan now to attend the CLR "Guide Me" Convention in Slinger, Wisconsin, on Saturday, November 13. You won't be disappointed!

For more information or to register go to <http://clrevents.com/?nationalconvention.php>

The WELS in Nepal

Three WELS members traveled to Nepal in late September and early October to provide support for Christians there who are using WELS materials translated into Nepali to learn more about God and his Word. For security reasons, these WELS members must remain anonymous, as their work in Nepal could be compromised if they are identified.

More than 100 people attended an eight-day Bible teaching workshop on the Reformation. The workshop included translated lectures given by WELS members, lectures given by national leaders, and the singing of Nepali Christian songs to reflect the themes taught during the lessons.

After the general workshop, Christian leaders of the national church in Nepal met with WELS leaders to discuss the strategy for building and strengthening the church there. Nepali church leaders also worked on their English-language skills, which help them as they

Dates to Remember

- 11-24 Thanksgiving worship at Bethel 7:00 PM
- 11-25 Thanksgiving Worship at Grace, 8:45 AM
- 12-1 Advent worship at Bethel, 7:00 PM
- 12-8 Advent worship at Bethel, 7:00 PM
- 12-15 Advent worship at Bethel, 7:00 PM
- 12-19 Possible date for Open House at the new building
- 12-20 Trinity School Christmas service at Bethel
- 12-24 Christmas Eve Worship
- 12-25 Christmas Day Worship
- 12-31 New Year's Eve Worship at Grace



translate WELS materials into their native language.

It is estimated that about 11,000 people are participating in 100 Christian groups that have formed in the villages and towns of western Nepal since WELS began a Scripture learning program there in 2005. The primary resource material comes from the Bible Teachings Series, which is being translated into the Nepali language by WELS Multi-Language Publications.

One tangible result of the most recent workshop was that a Maoist attended at the invitation of evangelists in his area. Maoism is a Chinese form of Communism that believes "political power comes from the barrel of the gun," a saying attributed to Chinese political leader Mao Zedong. On the third day of the workshop, this man turned in his gun to his Maoist leader and said he would not need it anymore. He, his wife, and their two children attended church that Saturday.

New Building

God continues to bless us with offerings, good weather, safety for workers, and very important, unity. This is truly something for which we will want to give him thanks! May the Lord make clear to us how we may use this new building as an opportunity to spread the good news about Jesus.

As we begin to use our new facility we are sure to have visitors. We need to make sure we make a good first impression so that we can have more opportunities to share God's word with those who visit. That means we have to be ready to greet people warmly and let them know they are welcome and that we are glad to see them.

Keep this project in your daily prayers.

