

Pastoral Epistle
(Family Matters)

STRICT OR LENIENT?

In discussing child rearing (my mother says that one *raises* farm animals but *rears* children) with a couple preparing for marriage, they talked about the choice of strict or lenient, which got me thinking.

Actually, it reminded me of a theme I have been thinking of for some time with broad application. To their question, I said that I judged that a false choice. That is, neither option is good. Rather, what helps children to thrive as God intended is this. To give them a sound structure: rules and responsibilities and expectations and order and self-discipline even physical tidiness in the house—and of course the parents themselves being self-disciplined and reliable! It is easiest for children—and all of us at work or at church or wherever—if we know what to expect. Then, *upon that reliable order*, there is room for all kinds of wonderful spontaneity and creativity and grace and giving and dancing.

For if structure becomes a goal *in itself* then it becomes an oppressor, a tyranny. The rules and expectations themselves become the god. That was the spiritual error of the Pharisees and of rigorists of every stripe. Yuck! (A very wise man I knew once said, “We need standards, but we don’t have to rigid about our standards.”)

On the other hand, freedom and spontaneity and creativity without some structure under them become not of freedom but its opposite: chaos. Chaos, where there is no order, is a very difficult place to live or to accomplish anything, and so it *inhibits* freedom and creativity instead of enhancing it.

In truth, I got this idea from God. God is a very orderly God! Read Genesis 1! It is all about, as my mom said, “putting things away; everything in its place.” Sky here and earth here and water there, and apples from apple tress NOT from pear trees,

and the seasons in predictable order not at random, etc. And not only the natural world, but God *orders* human life: Worship me, use my name well, listen to my Word, obey your superiors, help and do not harm your neighbor’s life and marriage and goods and reputation. But then! *Upon the orderly plan* of life God is full of delightful surprises: he turns water into wine, feeds a crowd with manna from heaven or a boy’s lunch as the case may be; he raises the dead! He even forgives those who violate the order in his world: at least, he forgives them if they trust in the most free, creative, spontaneous gift of all—the Word enfleshed and crucified to save us. So, while this Gospel frees us the Law’s authority to threaten us, the Gospel does not make us willful or random, but the Spirit teaches us to live *freely* according to God’s good and everlasting will.

For that matter, that is why I am both conservative and liberal in social matters. We need order: *families* should be stable and loving with children living with their own parents until they are done with high school (crazy idea). The *business* world should be well-regulated to prevent the “creativity” that led to the well-deserved financial recession. Laws need to be *good* and respected by all and fairly enforced. But, on the basis of solid families and a responsible economy and orderly society, stands the exercise of charity and grace and the creative use of civic freedom, where those needy in money or love or health or discipline or education are helped, and our common life is enhanced.

Reformation Faire!

As you know, Reformation Faire (**Saturday October 2**) is a wonderful and ambitious parish project, led by the Evangelism Committee (Chris and Arnie Bliesner, Judy Foster, Kris Peterson and Pastor) of MM. By the time you read this, people will have promised their help in those ways that are most fun to them

- + Some will cook
- + Some play with children
- + Some tell stories
- + Some sew
- + Some make music
- + Some build things

- + Some teach
- + ALL play!

August now is the time for the work. Building and sewing and researching and writing. But it is also the time to begin to publicize. There will be letters and media publicity sent out, but this is already time to begin to get your friends, family and acquaintances interested in coming. Please begin to tell them:

My church is putting on a very fun and educational faire the first Saturday in October. Come and enjoy!

Common Cup

Request, History, Biology, Spirituality and Practical

This article begins from a request from a good Mt. Morris member that he might receive the Lord's blood from a shared, or common cup. He very much does not want to change anyone else's means of receiving, but would only like, himself, to have this available. So the council asked me to write an article introducing the subject with information. To consider the proposal, we should look at history, biology, spirituality and methods of serving.

It is clear from our Lord's own words that at the Last Supper the disciples all drank from one cup. It is clear from 1 Corinthians 10-11, that this practice spread abroad. (People sharing a drinking vessel was not unusual, either then or now.) In fact, it was the absolutely catholic (in all times and places) practice of the Church until about a century ago. In the middle ages, the Roman Church made the mistake of prohibiting church members from drinking from the cup, and reserved that privilege for priests—though the reasoning is not known. Vatican II corrected that practice, so today all Roman churches use a common cup. So do many Episcopalian and Lutheran. It was the usual practice at my seminary.

The reason for the change a century ago was the

then recent discovery that microorganisms, first bacteria and then viruses, cause communicable diseases. (We don't get colds because we got cold!, but because we got the cold virus by contact with someone else.)

Infection is a valid concern, but to be mature we should look at it realistically. (For some people there is a "yuck factor." Like a fear of spiders, they will find it difficult realistically to consider the situation.) While it is *possible* for germs to be passed, we should find out if it is *likely*.

- + Our lives are filled with many ways of passing germs. Hand shakes are very common. In our worship we made hand sanitizer available during swine flu outbreak. But having many ways of passing germs does not mean we get sick.
- + Sharing of drinking vessels is not uncommon. Many families have a single glass in the bathroom. By the time a boy scout trip is over, everyone has drunk from every water bottle.
- + It is questionable whether our other means of distribution are more sanitary. Communicants take the individual glass with their fingertips, which have touched pews and hymnals and shaken hands. Intinction ought not, but sometimes does, get fingertips into the common wine.

Why, even with the small risk of infection, do so many churches continue to serve the wine in this way? One reason is already mentioned, the one from history: that is simply how the Lord, his apostles and the whole Church does it. The other reason explains why that is the usual practice. Read again 1 Corinthians 10:16-17. St. Paul in this paragraph is showing the Corinthian church why it is foolish to eat meals in the temples of Greek gods. To show them the danger, he pointed to their own sacred meal and says: "Look, by sharing one cup and one bread, we are *joined* to Christ and to each other." While one could speak of the symbolism of the church showing their unity by sharing one cup and loaf, Paul is saying much stronger than *showing* unity, it *makes* unity. (And

yes, this would be a reason to use one loaf of bread rather than separate wafers.)

How to serve Christians the sacrament? For those who have not used or seen a common cup used, this is how it is done. I was trained in seminary and at my internship, to hand the cup to the communicant, who takes it and sips and hands it back. Then I take a cloth, called a “purificator” and wipe the rim, and then turn the cup so the next person sips from a different part of the rim. While all this, and even the alcohol in the wine, does not remove all traces of germs, it is a helpful procedure. Remember that the proposal would be *to add the common cup*, for those who wish to receive this way, at times when we use separate glasses, and not to remove the separate glasses. In this way, though, would some of the purpose is defeated, since then there would be separate ways to receive the wine—which has us all making individual choices that distinguish us rather than uniting?

Intinction also has the virtue of a shared cup. A third option, used at Julie’s church and adopted for our wedding, was a pouring chalice. Such a chalice has a lip on it from which the minister pours into individual glasses. It has the virtue of a common cup, without possibility of infection. Yet perhaps it does not feel “shared.”

Perhaps most important of all, as pastor I hope that this subject does not occupy us too much. How it would sadden our Lord if this great gift of grace through his own body and blood became a focus of controversy or agitation.

**West Holden Church Council Meeting
May 18, 2010 6:30 PM**

The meeting was called to order by President Joanne Nelson at 6:37. Those attending were John Jenks, Kathy Norlin, Laura Araiza, Pastor Todd, Barry Osicka, and Terry Johannes. Opening prayer was led by Pastor.

Reports

a. Secretary—as written	
b. Treasurer—Beginning balance.....	\$6,645.97
Income.....	5,948.88
Expenses.....	7,418.12
Ending balance	5,176.73

- c. Pastor—as written
- MSC to approve all reports, and MSC to adopt the agenda and its additions under “Other Business” of WELCA, church hymns, communion, and Gary Thompson’s resignation.

Old Business

- a. Constitution review—chapters 16-end—
There was just a typographical error in this section. At some point, Kathy and Pastor will work on the Constitution update.
- b. Training for AED and CPR—John and Vicki Jenks, Barry and Bath Osicka, and Pastor may be interested in training. Laura is already certified. Joanne will find some dates and see what works. Others in the congregation may want the training as well.
- c. A gift certificate and thank you card were sent to Katie Heuer for her work with our church youth.
- d. Barry is still looking for our next treasurer, who will get some time to train with John.
- e. Asian beetle problem—Joanne will contact Allen Stea to set up the appointment to have it done in September. Barry made a motion that we accept the \$180.00 bid from Lakeside Pest Control. MSC to have this done with money first taken out of the Building Fund with the remainder to come from the General Fund, since there is very little money in the Building Fund.
- f. Council Retreat will be June 27 with a noon lunch and the retreat 1-3:00 with Council meetings (regular and joint) to follow. Since John won’t be able to come, he wanted to mention that we need to do something for our Building Fund so it gets built up for a future roofing project,

probably within two years. We need to get an estimate so we know what we have to work for. John also requested that Pastor be at Memorial Day services if it is possible to schedule vacation days elsewhere. He also would like to see us supporting local events in Wautoma and Wild Rose as best we can.

- g. Thrivent Choice Points Program—We need to find out more.
- h. Handicap-accessible door handles to be installed—MSC to purchase two exterior and one interior door handle right now, with 5 keys with larger heads. We may have a fund raiser for this entire project. Joanne will pick up these items, and Larry Johannes has offered to install them.
- i. Estimate on painting interior—Barry will talk to Building and Grounds to get a quote on doing the upstairs and getting a quote on paint for our congregation to do the downstairs.

New Business

- a. Reformation Faire at Mt. Morris on October 2. How will we be involved? Perhaps our confirmation class kids can help. We'll eventually have a sign-up sheet to send around for the congregation's help.
- b. Letter from Nathaniel Murken—Pastor's son will be participating in an ELCA young adults in global mission event this year, possibly in England, and requested that our congregation help him in this endeavor. After discussion, MSC to give him \$200 from our Evangelism Fund with our best wishes for an uplifting year!

Other Business

- a. WELCA requested that we get rid of the old big copy machine that never worked and the two computers in the basement before the rummage sale in July. Building and Grounds will be contacted to do this.
- b. Church hymns—A request has been made that once each week we sing more of the old-time hymns.
- c. Communion was discussed.
- d. Gary Thompson is resigning from Council. The Council will get a temporary fill-in until our next annual meeting. Barry will

be contacting people whose names came up during discussion.

MSC to adjourn at 8:33 and we closed with the Lord's Prayer. The June meeting will be at the retreat and the July meeting will be on the 13th at 6:30 PM.

Submitted by Kathy Norlin, WH Council Secretary

Holden Lutheran Parish *June, 2010 Joint Council Meeting* *Minutes*

Date: June 27, 2010

Call to Order: West Holden Council President Joanne Nelson called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

Present: Pastor, Laurie Jarvis, John Hassmann, Val Jarvis, Judy Foster, Dede Bastar, Craig Starkweather, Terry Johannes, Joanne Nelson, Barry Osicka, Kathy Norlin, and Laura Araiza

Pastor led us in prayer

Reports: No reports given

Motion made by Barry Osicka, seconded by Pastor, to adopt the agenda. Motion carried.

Old Business: *Picture Directory* – John Hassmann gave a report on the Committee's findings. West Holden is to join the Committee to make it a Parish Picture Directory.

New Business: *Reformation Faire* is scheduled for Saturday, October 2, 2010

Church Picnic is the Sunday after Labor Day. The Picnic Organizing Committee will be three people from each church.

Facebook was discussed as another media for all of us to use as a safe, Christian opportunity to interact.

Prayer List – It was decided, for safety reasons, not to publish the Prayer List on the website any longer.

Worship Times – Discussion was held as to the possibility of changing the early Worship Service to 8:30am. The 10:30 start time would remain the same. No decision was made.

By-laws – It was decided by both Councils to review the By-laws as well as the Constitution.

Financial Forecast/2011 – Since the Financial people were not present at the meeting,

the forecast was tabled until they could complete it. Pay changes for music were briefly discussed. No decision made at this time. Topic to be added to agenda for next joint meeting.

Adjournment: There being no other business, Dede Bastar made the motion, Pastor seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Foster

Mt. Morris Holden Council Secretary

*Mt. Morris Holden Lutheran Church
Council*

July, 2010 Council Meeting Minutes

(Meeting originally scheduled for June 27, 2010 – unanimously voted to move to July 6, 2010)

Date: July 6, 2010

Call to Order: President Laurie Jarvis called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

Present: Pastor, Laurie Jarvis, Curtis Nelson, John Hassmann, Val Jarvis, Judy Foster

Absent: Dede Bastar, Dawn Belfeuil

Pastor led us in devotions and prayer

Motion was made and seconded to welcome Craig Starkweather to Council. Motion carried

Reports: Building & Grounds:

Everything is going smoothly. Efforts are being made to turn the air conditioning on on Saturday evenings so that church is comfortable for Sunday worship. Martin Schultz is doing a great job taking care of the outside gardens.

WELCA: May 20, 2010 was the annual birthday party for the residents at Wild Rose Manor. Next meeting is July 5th. Approximately \$2,300 was raised from the rummage sale and will go to the window restoration fund. THANK YOU, LADIES

Secretary's Report: May's minutes as submitted with correction of date for the

Reformation Faire from October 1, 2010 to Saturday, October 2, 2010.

Pastor's Report: Window restoration fund is coming in as "one time" donations instead of three year pledges. We have to consider this when planning on the repair schedule.

Treasurers Report: Beginning balance as of 5/1/10 was \$11,990.62; income-\$6,155.81; disbursements-\$8,599.40; leaving an ending balance as of 5/31/10 of \$9,547.03. Beginning balance as of 6/1/10 was \$9,547.03; income-\$14,339.10; disbursements - \$14,854.44; leaving an ending balance as of 6/26/10 of \$9,031.69.

Motion made and seconded to approve reports as presented. Motion carried.

Old Business: **Windows:** Cheryl Weekly is to be informed that we are ready to go for the Good Shepherd window repair so that the window can be scheduled for work.

Picture Directory: At the Joint Council meeting held June 27, 2010, it was decided to do a Parish Picture Directory and West Holden was to send their rep for input.

Constitution Review: Chapters 14 through 18 were reviewed in their entirety. Next month, By-laws will be reviewed.

Confirmation: Pastor is working on a plan to insure our children have proper knowledge of the Bible.

Stewardship Committee: Committee is being formed.

New Business: We are checking the possibility of "adopting" a school. More details to follow.

Request was made for Myrna and Dick Martin to use the church on October 16, 2010 for their anniversary celebration. Approval given.

Next Council Meeting: August 3, 2010 at 6:00pm

Adjournment: Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Foster

Mt. Morris Holden Council Secretary

West Holden Rummage Sale Report

God blessed us with wonderful weather and willing workers to make our rummage sale a great success.

Because the Argus generously donated a free ad we had no overhead so our proceeds were \$1177.30

Left over rummage was donated to the Habitat for Humanity rummage sale so nothing went to waste.

Well done good and faithful servants!

Book of Faith for August: Joshua (completed), Judges

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The first part of the OT in English Bibles, Genesis through Nehemiah, is offered as a long, somewhat continuous story of the history of the people of God. The wonderful aspect of this is that what the Bible confesses about God does not derive from theories or imagination, but from history! The OT answers the most basic theological (and life!) question, "Who is God?", by saying, "God is the One who called Abraham, freed Israel, and gave them the Law and the land." God acts, and that is how we know him.

Of course this history is not written as a history textbook: with exact times and dates and all accurate numbers. This is a confession of faith! The history is told to praise the Lord and to inspire faith in him. For the writers—and therefore for us readers—what actually happened is the necessary historical foundation, but historical details are slighted for the higher purpose of confessing the great goodness of the Lord. (This also explains why the story is interrupted by sets of laws, folk tales and songs, why numbers are exaggerated, and why many stories are told twice.)

Deuteronomy, which we have completed, was written in the 600's BC, and so naturally is concerned with issues of that time. But it is written

as farewell speeches of Moses warning Israel against the grave dangers of idolatry. Then in the following books, Joshua (we began before Lent) and Judges, which we read this month, we see how faithful the Israelites were or weren't.

**August 1 assignment. Read by (8/8):
Joshua 18-24**

**August 8 assignment. Read by (8/15):
Judges 1-5 (Deborah!)**

**August 15 assignment. Read by (8/22):
Judges 6-12 (Gideon!)**

**August 22 assignment. Read by (8/29):
Judges 13-16 (Samson!)**

**August 29 assignment. Read by (9/6):
Judges 17-21**

In September and October we will read the long, dramatic narrative of Kings Saul and David and the prophets Samuel and Nathan in 1-2 Samuel.

August Worship

Since there are five Sundays, we will celebrate Christ's Supper also on August 29, so that there is no three week gap without receiving Him bodily.

One Sunday the service will be a funeral—or a mock funeral. Last year one service was a mock wedding. Weddings themselves are not the place for a lot of teaching *about* the nuptial liturgy, so we had a mock wedding to afford us that opportunity. Likewise, a funeral is not the time for talking about funerals—but a mock funeral is. Perhaps you have questions about funeral traditions or worship—or even about death and theology about it? Let me know; I would like to incorporate them into the day.

Also, in June we did a "walk through the liturgy." As we worshipped, we also learned about how we worship, and why, and how *to* worship using our order of service. But we got only through the first half. The second half will be this month.

Stained Glass Window Restoration Fund

Thanks to all who have responded so promptly with one-time gifts or a pledge in answer to our plea for assistance in funding the window restoration. WELCA has given so generously from their treasury, their funeral fund, and all proceeds from the Rummage Sale and Ice Cream Social. We truly appreciate all the hard work put into these events for the sake of our precious windows.

We have made great progress in reaching our goal of \$39,000 and the figures are as follows:

Three-Year Pledges - \$12,405.00

One Time Gifts - \$11,415.00 (\$3,815.00 of this total to be spread out for three yrs/\$1,272 per yr.)

Total to date - \$23,820.00 (Includes pledges and gifts through June)

As you can see, we are better than half way there! SO PLEASE, if you want to help the church preserve our glorious Christ-promoting windows and have not pledged yet, please consider doing so right away. The council needs to know that we have a sound basis for going forward with the entire project.

Lutheran Malaria Initiative

(A collaborative effort of the ELCA, LCA-Missouri Synod, and Lutheran World Relief)

In the poorest part of the world, window screens are lacking, anti-malarial drugs are expensive, and so far an effective malaria vaccine does not exist. Insecticide-treated bed nets in these areas are a cost effective way to prevent malaria transmission.

Bed nets use a simple but effective prevention approach: limit contact with mosquitoes, eliminate malaria.

The entire process of purchasing and distributing insecticide-treated nets to the most vulnerable people, as well as providing education and follow-up surveying on their use, is accomplished for just \$10 per bed net.

Simply put, malaria kills. Nets can save lives.

Mt. Morris will have LMI bulletin inserts and a bed-net display as well as donation envelopes available in the coming weeks.



Office of the Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

July 13, 2010

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

The time has come for immigration reform in the United States. Yes, the issues are complex and not easily resolved. It is understandable that people are wary of engaging this politically and emotionally charged issue.

Yet it would be tragic if we withdrew as people of faith and our voices fell silent. We have an opportunity for evangelical witness to our faith in God who is present in the stranger and calls us to extend hospitality. "Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God" (Romans 15:7 NRSV).

The biblical witness is clear. The distinctions that so often divide humankind are overcome in Christ. By grace through faith on account of Christ we are joined together in a radically inclusive community. "For in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:26-28).

Because God mercifully extends gracious hospitality in restoring us to community, we have a clear calling. That call is heard in God's command to the people of Israel, "You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. ... Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house" (Deuteronomy 10:19; 26:11).

Most, but not all, Lutherans in the United States are the descendants of immigrants or are recent immigrants. Others are descendants of slaves brought to this country or people who lived here before the arrival of the first Europeans and Africans. Our personal histories and faith stories are of an immigrant people moving in search of freedom, opportunity and safety.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America is being renewed by the faith and witness of new and recent immigrants. This year 23 of 41 new ELCA ministry starts will be in immigrant communities, and more than 100 African national ministries have begun in the past three years.

We cannot welcome people into the ELCA, however, without caring about their lives, their concerns and their experiences as newcomers in this country. For that reason the ELCA repeatedly has affirmed the biblical witness and our shared experience, culminating in an [affirmation by the 2009 Churchwide Assembly](#) "that the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) are committed to work toward comprehensive [immigration] reform that balances respect for the law with the recognition of due process and respect for humanitarian principles." Stating that "the nation's immigration system is broken, and Congress and the administration must work together to find a just and humane solution while assuring orderly migration," LIRS identifies four foundational values for immigration reform:

- keeping families together
- maintaining basic human and worker rights

- helping our new neighbors come out of the shadows
- seeking a path to permanence for our new neighbors

As you serve in your communities, I commend to you resources for study and action ([Toward Compassionate, Just, and Wise Immigration Reform](#) [2009] and [other resources](#)), the voices of immigrant families and believers, and the witness of the Scriptures.

The concluding words of the [Message on Immigration](#) (1998) remind us "that all of us in the Church of Jesus Christ are sojourners, 'For here we have no lasting city, but we are looking for the city that is to come' (Hebrews 13:14). As we journey together through the time God has given us, may God give us the grace of a welcoming heart and an overflowing love for the new neighbors among us."

In God's grace,
The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

June 28, 2010

Sisters and brothers in Christ,

The oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is both heartbreaking and infuriating. It causes deep sorrow, both for the initial loss of human life and for the deep and lasting damage to an ecology that provides life and livelihoods for so many of God's creatures. At the same time we grieve that the natural beauty of this region, a sign of God's marvelous creativity, has been defiled.

Moving to indignation and anger over the neglect and carelessness that led to this disaster, both in private industry and in government regulation, is understandable. However, to do so without recognizing the responsibility we all share -- as

consumers of petroleum products, as investors in an economy that makes intensive and insistent energy demands, and as citizens responsible for the care of creation -- lacks credibility and integrity. An honest accounting of what happened (and what failed to happen) must include our own repentance.

Nonetheless, God remains faithful in restoring the creation and human community. Among the voices that despair and condemn, we have a witness of hope to proclaim.

First, God, who made the creation and made it good, has not abandoned it. Day after day God sustains life in this world, and the powerful vitality of God's creation, though defiled, is not destroyed. The life-giving power of God's creative goodness remains at work, even in the Gulf of Mexico. The Spirit will continue to renew the face of the earth (Psalm 104:30, as we just sang at Pentecost). All who care for the earth and work for the restoration of its vitality can be confident that they are not pursuing a lost cause. They serve in concert with God's own creative and renewing power.

Moreover, the human family need not drown in a flood of suspicion and recrimination that is more toxic and more lasting than the oil that floods the Gulf can ever be. The cleansing waters of baptism in Christ -- who died not for the righteous, but for the unrighteous -- bring forgiveness and reconciliation with God. In this reconciled life with God we have the freedom to move beyond mutual condemnations and hostility to give a powerful witness of a reconciled community that lives in service of the creation and the neighbor. By refusing to surrender to the toxicity of recrimination, we can convince others that they can join us safely in the life and service of this community.

Responding to a challenge of this size and complexity will call upon countless insights and skills, embodied in hundreds of occupations and trades, and upon the collective strength and will of us all. God's Holy Spirit has abundantly blessed the human community with the gifts needed to do this work. We can do it with sober confidence, good will and even joy.

There are times for mourning and for repentance, as well as for reconciliation and commitment to the creation's care. They come at different moments for different people. As you serve in your communities, I commend to you resources for [worship](#), [study](#) and [action](#) that express the hope of Christians who see God's creative goodness, Jesus' forgiving reconciliation and the Spirit's abundant gifts for service. This is a moment when the human community needs to hear a word of true hope, and we have one to speak.

*The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.*
- Psalm 145:8-9

In God's grace,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Contacting Pastor Todd

You will have quickest success by trying in this order:

Church office: 787-3187

(If I am not here, Lona usually knows where)

Home: 920-830-0264 (Appleton)

Cell: 920-268-3097

Parents you may get information or contact **Crossways Camp** on the web

www.CrosswaysCamps.org

also see their link on our website

www.holdenlutheranparish.org

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY

DAILY FOR THESE REQUESTS:

Prayers for Comfort to a Peaceful End:

Benjamin Chase, Joe Gomez, Kristy Nicholson

**Prayers of comfort and support for the friends
and family of:**

Robert Niemuth (Larry & Lona Atkinson's uncle)
Jarvis family – loss of unborn twin nieces
Irene Lee, long time member of West Holden

Prayers for Healing:

James Bauer – head injury, Gary Clark, Diane
Lehman – cancer, Wayne Niemuth – complications
after knee replacement, Edie Paugels – lung
cancer, Cheryl Sorenson- smashed heel, Misty
Wienandt & baby Donovan

Prayers of Thanksgiving that:

Jenna Luft, Julie Cook's daughter's surgery to
remove thyroid went well, appears to be cancer
free!!

Elaine Nelson's daughter Julie had had a near
complete recovery from severe injuries sustained
in a car accident,

Gary Kirschke is doing well after heart procedure
Please pray for our camps for the rest of the
summer.

Prayers for Newlywed Couple:

Christin Bowman & Andrew Komzka

Long term prayer support:

Keith Adams leg nerve damage, can't work
Evelyn Agne multiple health issues
Tom Agne many complications w/Diabetes
Brenda Arellano inoperable malignant skull tumor
Neil Baxter – cancer – treatment is working
Gail Bourdo Lymphoma recovery
Bunny Christie – cancer
Jonathan Clark surgery in future
Roxanne Clark poor heart health
Karen Daniels Multiple sclerosis
Rose Fink
Father Dan - St. Maximilian, Lou Gehrig's
Ardell Heuer Alzheimer's
Tracy Holick breast cancer
Ray & Arlene Jarvis
Lonnie Jelinski Kidney transplant list

Steve Johannes – continuing health concerns
Eleanor Kracjik nursing home, severe MS
Jeff Manske recurring cancer
Doria Martin breast cancer treatments
Greg Pfaller cancer
Ken & Carol Sawotka multiple health issues
Myrna Schultz – Kidney failure
Jenny Smith – moral support
Mike Sroka
John Steinbrecher - kidney transplant list
Travis Stormoen healing
Beverly Testin cancer has returned
Sue Wendlandt battling leukemia
Chase Edgren Lynne Wichmann – multiple
sclerosis.
Bob Williams multiple health issues
Rick Willie lung cancer returned
Stacy Wright paralyzed has 2 small children

Prayers for our Missionaries:

Brian & Kristen Konkol – in South Africa

**Prayers the countries& people following natural
disasters:**

Haiti & Chili, oil spill in Gulf of Mexico

**Pray daily for our members and friends in the
Military:**

Netherlands: Michael Walker, **USA:** Brandon
Allen, Shane Bastar, Devin Barkalow, Josh
Benbo, David Bredesen, Matt Detaege, Chase
Edgren, Tony Kosco, Tina Stott, Mario Tomlin,
Jerry Townsend, David Wilson, Kelly Jo Wilson.

Prayers for those seeking employment:

Thankful that Dawn Belfeuil has full time
employment at King Veteran's Home!

Thank You!!

Dear Lois & Mt. Morris Holden WELCA,

It was such a delight yesterday, June 5th, to
perform for the matriarchs and Patriarchs of Mt.
Morris Holden. Thank you for asking me! The
lunch was delicious, the discussion on fun and
Kelly's passionate talk of her mission work in
Ghana educational and eye-opening.

Once again-----Thank You :>}

Vicki

(10)

Mt. Morris Holden thanks Hope Ladewig for visiting Sunday, July 18th and playing her violin for the prelude and during the liturgy. Hope added much to the worship experience that day. Her dedication is shown by bringing her violin on vacation and practicing the new music for Sunday. May her talent be rewarded as she continues her development.

Thank you Hope!!!

A note from a Friend

My late wife Dorothy and I worshipped there (Mt. Morris) for many years. Some of those years were when we were summer folks and then faithfully for 10 years that we lived on Porters Lake and dearly loved the church and the folks within the Congregation.

I fondly remember the building of the Narthex, of which I was very much a part and thoroughly enjoyed the task. At that time, when the narthex windows were redone, they said that the sanctuary windows were in bad shape would need to be done sometime in the future and evidently that time has come.

Blessings to you folks for restoring those beautiful windows, for the future generations of Mt. Morris to also enjoy.

My best regards to the many friends that we made, while worshipping there and especially, one dear friend, Hulda.

Wayne Hinkel
2501 Summit Ave. Apt. 106
Waukesha, WI 53188

Malaria – Special Offering

A special offering will be taken August 8th & 15th. Please feel free to use donation envelope that will be handed out from the magazine you will receive August 1st at church, so the financial secretary can give us a report of the total bed nets purchased! Thank you!!

(11)

Ecumenical Vacation Bible School

August 3, 4, 5

9 – 11:30 a.m.

**at the Wild Rose United Methodist
Church**

**Any children ages 4 – 11
Children 12 and up are invited and
encouraged to attend and be
helpers**

**THEME: Galactic Blast – A
Cosmic Adventure Praising God!**

**to register: Please call Pam Paugels
at 787-3523 or get a registration
form from the narthex off each
church or the church office and
mail to Pat at the address on the
form.**

Attend and have a Galactic Blast!

The newsletter is a monthly publication for members and friends of Holden Lutheran Parish.

Questions, change of address, or articles may be submitted until the **15th of each month**

Everyone is encouraged to turn the articles in Prior to the deadline date.

If you are mailing the articles please send to:

**Holden Lutheran Parish
N3388 State Road 152
Wautoma, WI 54982**

or e-mail them to:

holdenparish@centurytel.net

Thank You.

Lona Atkinson, Editor

Parish Office: (920)787-3187

Happy Birthday!!!

Mt. Morris

- 1
- 2 Arlene Jarvis
Rodney Lungwitz
- 3
- 4
- 7
- 11 Dede Bastar
- 16 Keegan Krueger
- 17
- 18
- 19 Kaycee Johnston
- 20
- 23
- 24
- 26 Wayne Adams
- 27 Barb Brownlow
- 28
- 29 Amber Brownlow
- 31 Sarah Jarvis

West Holden

- Betty Johannes
- Joanne Nelson
- Dennis Testin
- Gary Thompson
- George Thompson
- Elaine Waldahl
- Krystal Taylor
- Annette Taylor
- William Holick
- Will Heuer
- Erin Jenks
- Terry Johannes
- Julie Johannes
- Deb Johannes
- Julie Cook
- Sami Hall
- Barry Osicka
- Todd Wilson

Happy Anniversary!

- John & Pat Hassmann – Aug. 14, 1960
- Craig & Gayle Berkoben – Aug. 17, 1976
- Arnie & Chris Bliesner – Aug. 30, 2003
- Arnie & Beulah Dickson – Aug. 30, 1947

MT. MORRIS QUILTS FOR SALE

Various quilts are for sale for \$20 or \$25. They are on the quilt rack in the north narthex of the church. The proceeds are used for quilting supplies. Each year we make a donation to LWR to help defray shipping costs.

When you purchase a quilt, please make your check payable to: Mt. Morris WELCA.

Thank you for helping others!
Mt. Morris Quilters

Weddings in July!

Christin Bowman & Andrew Komassa – July 24th

Please.....

If your birthday or anniversary is missing or wrong please call, write or e-mail the Parish Office with the correct date. It can then be corrected in the software and I will greatly appreciate having the correct dates in the records!!!

Thank you so much – Lona Atkinson

MT. MORRIS COINS FOR CAMP

THERE IS A GALLON JUG ON THE TABLE IN THE NARTHEX.

PLEASE TAKE AND FILL EMPTY PILL CONTAINERS WITH QUARTERS, NICKELS, DIMES or BILLS. PUT ANY MONIES AND CONTAINERS IN THE JUG.

The opportunity to attend Bible Camp is one of the best gifts parents and congregations can give. Life-long friendships, growth in self confidence, closer family relationships, increased faith, and under-standing of God’s call for each of us to love our neighbor through service are just a few of the benefits of camp.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO CROSSWAYS CAMPING MINISTRIES.

MT. MORRIS RUMMAGE SALE REPORT

A huge “**THANK YOU**” to **EVERYONE** who helped by donating, pricing and organizing items along with several days of setting up the tables with all the great treasures displayed. A big “**THANK YOU**” to **ALL** of you that worked in any way during our two-day sale on June 11th and 12th. **THANK YOU** to **EVERYONE** who helped box up the unsold items at the close of the sale and deliver them to Hope Lutheran Church for Orphan Grain Train. We **THANK YOU SHOPPERS** as well. We could not have done this without all of your help.

A new feature this year was a food tent managed by Fran Perry. His assistant was Craig Starkweather. Through wind and rain on Friday, and after expenses and donated items, they showed a grand profit of \$273.37. A job well done. **THANK YOU!**

And we can't forget the men who worked the sales in “the men's store” (parsonage garage). **THANK YOU!**

Our two-day sale total including the food was **\$2324,57**. **THANK YOU ALL VERY, VERY MUCH!** The monies have been given to the stained glass window restoration fund at Mt. Morris Holden Lutheran Church.

MT. MORRIS WELCA

Pat Hassmann
Linda Perry

MM WELCA

August – No circle meeting

September 2 – Circle Meeting 1:30 p.m.

Prayers meet at 1:00 p.m.

Bible Study: Lois Wohlfeil / Pastor Murken

Devotions and Hostess – Lois Wohlfeil

On June 5th, we celebrated our annual honorary member's day with a picnic lunch at the church. A special thank-you to Kelly Jarvis for her very well done presentation of her Africa Mission trip. We appreciate you sharing your travels and experiences with us. Vicki Jenks entertained on the key-board and demonstrated her African drum she purchased while traveling in Africa. Thank-you so much, Vicki, for your excellent entertainment.

MT. MORRIS MEMBERS

ITEMS ARE NEEDED FOR LUTHERAN
WORLD RELIEF KITS!!!

WATCH FOR SALES.

HEALTH KIT ITEMS NEEDED ARE:

25--- COMBS, STURDY, WIDE TOOTH
43----HAND TOWELS (DARK COLORS)
19----WASH CLOTHS (DARK COLORS)

SCHOOL KIT ITEMS NEEDED ARE:

15---100-150 SHEETS RULED
NOTEBOOKS (8 ½” X 11”)
5-----12” (30 cm) RULERS
4-----BLUNT SCISSORS
20----CRAYONS (BOXES OF 16 or 24)
20--- PENCIL SHARPENERS

ITEMS WILL BE COLLECTED UNTIL
OCTOBER 10.

PLEASE PUT ALL ITEMS IN THE BOX IN
THE NARTHEX.

THANK YOU FOR CARING FOR
OTHERS!!!

MT. MORRIS WELCA