

August 2010
Glad Tidings



He said therefore, "What is the kingdom of God like?
And to what shall I compare it?
It is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in the garden;
it grew and became a tree,
and the birds of the air made nests in its branches."
Luke 13:18-19

ABOUT YOUR SYNOD: THE BISHOP'S CROZIER



You may have noticed that Bishop Stuck carries a beautiful shepherd's staff when presiding at ordinations. The name of this staff is crozier, also spelled crosier. The carved crozier carried by the bishop of the Indiana-Kentucky Synod was handmade by Sandra Mikel Essex in 1993. She writes, "Because a shepherd's staff must have been made from the wood at hand, it seemed appropriate to use walnut, a beautiful hardwood indigenous to both Indiana and Kentucky."

Ms. Essex incorporated the symbols of the Trinity into her crozier design. God is represented in the Hebrew words, fashioned out of sterling silver, "I am that I am" from the book of Exodus. For the Son, Ms. Essex used brass to form the Greek chi and rho, the oldest of the Christ symbols, in combination with the cross. The flame, made out of red, brown and yellow colors swirled together as enamel and baked on copper represent the Holy Spirit, God's presence in the world.

Since the crozier must be taken apart to fit in its case, the artist has used brass to conceal the joints of the staff. Sterling silver renditions of burning bushes and doves are laid on the top half of the brass ferrule and on the lower ferrule, sterling silver fish represent the faithful since the bishop, as clergy, is known as a "fisher of men."

Bishop Stuck has also used the crozier for children's sermons. He remarked that children seem to be intrigued by its shape and design. Also, since the crozier comes apart for storage and transportation, and fits into a rectangular case (pictured), Bishop Stuck has had to answer many questions about what could be in the case he carries: A musical instrument? A set of tools? A rifle? This always brought the opportunity to tell the story, to make Christ known!



The symbol for the office of bishop is the crozier, or shepherd's staff because a shepherd is expected to protect his flock from danger.

A LETTER FROM VICAR DAN

Greetings yall,

Well, this is my final letter to you good folks here at Gloria Dei (Glory to God). The year has just flown by and I think I woke-up a few weeks ago and was surprised that my time here will soon come to an end. This year has been an enriching experience for me in that I believe that I've had the opportunity to touch on virtually ever aspect of being a minister in the Lutheran church. I've enjoyed each of the things I've done with the only regret being that I didn't do enough of them. From feeding the homeless to visiting those of you who couldn't make it to church to presiding in church, I always come away more blessed than ever before. I'm still hoping that I can get each of you to respond with "blessed" someday.

There've been many challenges that I found from learning how a church service evolves to helping to teach our confirmation which, by the way, was the first time that I, myself, ever studied what our youth learned. The biggest challenge was in remembering all that was to happen from week to week. I'm one who learns mostly from doing and this church and you have helped me to learn as I go. However, I think I've gotten the hang of most of this although it still drives me crazy when I make a mistake. Jane says that I'm just being anal. I tend to go with her most of the time but, at the same time, feel that those that come to church deserve for everything to go just right. I guess it's the stuff that doesn't go perfectly as what makes for a memorable church experience.

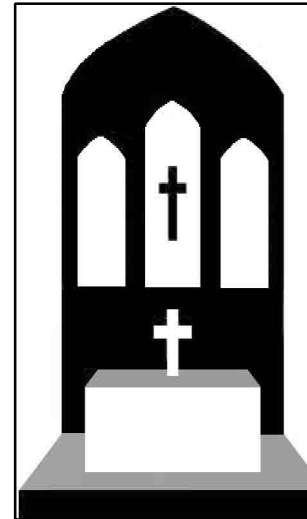
The lessons I take with me include, among many things, managing my time so that people come first rather than the task. I tend to get into whatever I'm doing and the time just flies by. Pretty soon, I look up and the day has gone and I still had so many other things to do. The people here, at this church, should take precedence over the tasks of doing church. I know that has been a part of my message anytime I have been in the pulpit. So much easier to talk about it but forget about it on a day to day basis.

Some of the best times I've had are in the one on one conversations with you, whether that was on Wednesdays, Saturdays, or Sundays or in the classes that I have led. Yall have opened your lives up to me in ways that have affected how I look at myself and others. Your stories of your own history have showed me that people are people after all and we are all searching for that something we need to fill us. I appreciate all the time spent with me and for your openness to include me and my family as a part of your family. Of course, I'll have to either come myself, covertly, or send one of my agents to grab a few more jars of the jams and jellies and the salsa when the time comes. The stuff sort of gets into you so that you count the days till it'll be on sale again at the church bazaar. I'll miss the taste testing though as I only got one so far. I guess the next Vicar will have the privilege of that honor.

I know it wasn't easy to welcome a new student (Vicar) into your midst. This congregation has shown only the most encouraging ways and has brought me in as a true member of your community. It'll be hard, as the month of August winds down, to have to let go but, another will take my place and I'm quite sure that he'll find the family here as inviting as I have. I've developed many relationships here that I'll always remember and have experienced the lives of many that I'll forever keep.

May God forever bless this church family and their future lives. You are blessed!
And remember to keep the front porch light on and the dogs on the leash. You never know!

Vicar Dan Kerr



Serving in Worship Schedule

Aug	Liturgist	Reader	Greeter
1	Doug Riddell	Don Pahr	The Adams
8	David Adams	Lauri Novak	The Talabays
15	Donna Antal	Greg Reed	The Abaties
22	Doug Riddell	Sandy Trexler	The Trexlers
29	Becky Tutto	Mathew Tutto	Carole and Olga
Sep	Liturgist	Reader	Greeter
5	Sandy Trexler	Bev Arnold	The Schillers



Grace Notes

Grace Notes Bazaar Workshops:
Tuesday, Aug. 3, Aug. 17 and Aug. 31 at 6:30 pm

Last year we had a great time getting together making items for the Fall Bazaar. The Bazaar was truly a success! Once again we need your help! This year again, we'll be getting together to make jams, salsa, apple butter, pierogis, noodles, mixes, nut roll and any other ideas we come up with! It is not all work! We have fun and fellowship too! Join us!

If you have any questions contact Sandy Trexler or Elaine Von Almen.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: gloriadeiluth.com

Dial A Story: (219) 838-2576

Note: This years Council Meeting and Special Congregation Meetings minutes are all archived including all financial and committee reports. They are all available for view on our church Web site.

Gloria Dei August 2010 Events Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	2	3 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm Foster Parent Training 6:30 pm Grace Notes Fall Bazaar Workshop	4 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship	5 6:30 pm - 9:00 pm Foster Parent Training	6	7 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
8 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	9 7:30 pm AA Meeting Computer Class 7:00 pm	10 7:00 pm Council Meeting	11 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship	12	13	14 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
15 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	16 7:30 pm AA Meeting	17 6:30 pm Grace Notes Fall Bazaar Workshop	18 10:30 am Lady's Birthday Club 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship	19 10:00 am Prayer Ministry	20	21 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
22 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	23 7:30 pm AA Meeting Computer Class 7:00 pm	24	25 7:00 pm Bible Study / Worship	26	27	28 5:00 pm Worship Service with Communion
29 9:00 am Vicar Dan study class 10:00 am Sunday Worship with Communion 11:00 am Coffee Hour 7:30 pm N/A Meeting	30 7:30 pm AA Meeting	31 6:30 pm Grace Notes Fall Bazaar Workshop				



PRAYER MINISTRY

The Prayer Ministry meets the third Thursday of every month at 10:00 am. All are welcome to join.

For further information contact Elaine Von Almen.



AUGUST birthdays

Day	Name	Day	Name
1	Arnold Beverly	14	Ella Novak
2	Sophia Pollalis	18	Mark Holtan
2	Britney Mauldin	18	Patricia Pavnica
4	Janel Polster	19	James VanProyen
7	Ralph Biederman	21	Terry Mauldin
7	Jeanette Misicko	21	Krisann Armstrong
7	Kyle Polster	27	Ronald Dickerhoff
12	Joshua Novak	29	Janice Hansen
12	Brooke Mauldin	29	Joseph Hamilton
13	Whalen Arnold	31	Mary Anne Nuss
13	William Pollalis		

SERVICE COMMITTEE NEWS



SCHOOL KITS AND HEALTH KITS

A table has been placed in the glass hallway for donations needed for Health Kits and School Kits.

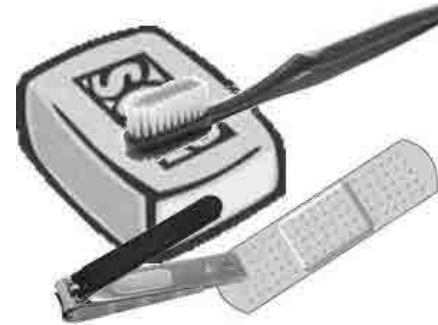
These kits will be given to Lutheran World Relief for distribution.

Volunteers are needed for sew school bags using a simple pattern. See me (Nancy Talabay) if you need a pattern.

Please refer to the lists below as to items requested due by October 10th. There are more copies of item lists on the glass hallway table.

NEEDED HEALTH KIT ITEMS

- Hand Towels (dark color preferred)
- Washcloths (dark color preferred)
- Bath-Size Bar Soap (wrapped)
- Toothbrushes (individually wrapped)
- Combs (wide-tooth preferred; no packaging)
- Metal Nail Files or Nail clippers (with file attached)
- Band-Aids (preferably 1/2 in. or 3/4 in.)



NEEDED SCHOOL SUPPLIES ITEMS

- Notebooks of Ruled Paper
- Blunt Tip Scissors
- Rulers (centimeters and inches)
- Pencil Sharpeners
- Erasers (approx. 2 1/2 in.)
- No.2 Pencils (unsharpened)
- Colored Construction Paper (9 x 12 assorted)
- School Bags (made from provided pattern)



CROP WALK

The annual Crop Walk will be held on Sunday, September 26 The route will be similar to last year. You will be able to sign up to walk or sponsor a walker beginning in middle August. Watch for further details in the service bulletins. If you are interested in helping with walker recruitment at Gloria Dei, please contact Nancy Talabay at phone number [REDACTED]



THE BLOOD DRIVE IS COMING!



The American Red Cross blood drive mobile unit is coming to Gloria Dei on Wednesday September 1st from 4:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Watch the service bulletins for information on making an appointment to be a donor. Give the gift of Life!

MEETINGS AND EVENTS



RETREAT Aug 28th at 9:00 am ✓

Red Mill Park
0185 S. Holmesville Rd.
Michigan City, IN
Registration: \$10.00
RSVP: Wilma at [REDACTED] or Virginia at [REDACTED]

FALL GATHERING Oct 2nd at GLORIA DEI ✓

Yes, we have been asked to host the Fall Gathering on Oct 2nd. More information to follow with later announcements and bulletins. We will be asking for much needed help. This is another way of doing God's work. Call Nancy Talabay at [REDACTED] or Elaine Van Proyen at [REDACTED]

GARAGE SALE MEETING ✓

We are holding a meeting on August 12 at 6:30 pm to discuss how the funds will be distributed. Please be sure to put this important date on your calendar. We will also need nominations for conveners to serve two years for Gloria Dei W/ELCA. All women of Gloria Dei are invited and considered members of W/ELCA.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF WORKSHOP ✓

North West Cluster of I/K Synodical invites you to the Lutheran World Relief workshop on August 14 at 9:00 am to 2:30 pm. We are meeting at the First United Lutheran Church, 6705 Hohman Ave in Hammond IN. Included in the workshop program experiences will be the list of following:

- 1) Learn the history of LWR.
- 2) Learn how Lutherans join to be the face of God all over the earth.
- 3) Learn everything you need to know about assembling and packing kits quilts and soap; why it is done; and where it goes.
- 4) Learn the many ways you can get involved.

Register by Saturday August 7th by calling [REDACTED]
Salad bar; Each congregation is asked to bring a salad.

Your Sister in Christ
Elaine Van Proyen

A LETTER FROM JOYCE PARTYKA

To My Church Family:

Greetings from Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus, Ohio! I am now back in Ohio, but this time I am located in Columbus instead of Springfield. This summer I have opted to take a Summer Intensive Biblical Greek language course! It has most definitely been an intensive course but it has also been a couple weeks of a great transition!

So far, I have been in class for two weeks and it has gone by quickly. The professor that is teaching the class is Wray Bryant. He is a professor at Capital University, an ELCA college in Columbus. He also teaches Hebrew. The passion that exudes for both languages is very apparent in the way that he teaches, but it also something that makes the class more interesting and enjoyable.

Class begins at 9:00 A.M. and ends at 12:30 P.M every day Monday thru Friday. Dr. Bryant opens every class with prayer and at 10:30 A.M. every day we break for chapel. Monday morning is always the Morning Prayer service. On Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday we participate in some other form of a prayer service and on Wednesday we celebrate Holy Communion.

On Thursday of each week we have something called a vocabulary experience (a.k.a. a vocabulary quiz) and on Friday of each week we have a grammar experience (a.k.a. a grammar quiz). For this Friday's grammar experience we were not only expected to fill out a couple charts and answer a few questions about how words are formed, but we were asked to read the Lord's Prayer in Greek. The Lord's Prayer is something that we had been repeating in class and something that we were also given a recording of, but it was a different experience to have to read it on our own. For next week's experience we will be reciting the first article of the Nicene Creed, in Greek. Thus far, the experiences have turned out well for me, but prayers for that to continue are always appreciated! I have learned a lot more about English in this class than I think I ever knew before but am also learning about how important it is that we choose our words carefully. Each word has several definitions and each definition could drastically change the meaning of the sentence. It's also interesting to learn about why the author would have chosen the specific words that they did to portray each meaning!

I also have a study group that I meet with each week immediately following class. We all pack our lunches and then after eating head upstairs to the library and work on that evening's assignment together. This makes doing the work both more bearable and understandable and is also highly encouraged by the professor. The class has been an incredible bonding experience for all of us. We have been living by the phrase "We're all in this together!" We are here to support each other in prayer and discussions, through frustrations and joys and it has been so much fun getting to know these new classmates! I have grown incredibly close to these people in just two weeks; it's almost like having new family members. We are learning about each other's quirks and laughing along the way. I spend a lot of time with two of these students. We have become the three musketeers. We eat meals and study together and have tried to find some relaxation time to keep each other sane in between!

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

I have a new address, but will keep the same e-mail and have posted pictures on Facebook of what I have been up to! My address is:

Joyce Partyka
Trinity Lutheran Seminary
Box 158
2199 E. Main Street
Columbus, OH 43209

And my e-mail address is [REDACTED]

I miss you all very much and continue to keep you in my prayers!
God Bless!

Love,
Joyce Partyka



A Picture of Joyce taken at our 50th Anniversary Celebration

Gloria Dei

GLORY TO GOD

A New Kind of Church With an Old Message!
A Loving Congregation That Welcomes All People.

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