

"So we are ambassadors
for Christ..." -

2 Corinthians 5:20

October 2011



Sunday Worship

8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Family Express Worship

9:10-9:40 a.m.

with Sunday School
following

Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI

Christ Lutheran Ambassador

Homecoming at CLC
by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

On Sunday, September 18, we kicked off "Homecoming Week" in the schools and at Christ Lutheran. It caught the Youth Ministry Team a little off guard, coming so early in the season, but it turned out to be perfect timing. With the beginning of Sunday School, Adult Education classes, confirmation, "God and Games," choirs, senior luncheons and the Men in Mission Pig Roast, it is like homecoming at Christ Lutheran. During the summer we were busy during the weekends: playing softball and baseball, watching our children play softball or baseball, attending basketball tournaments, camping, boating, fishing—trying to pack as much fun as possible into a few short months. Summer comes and goes so quickly and is so busy, but when the weather cools off and fall arrives, it is time to come home and settle in for the winter.

Years back, and even on the football practice field, goalposts looked like a giant H. H—that is the first letter in "home." It is the goal of the eleven offensive players on the team to try their best to get that football "home" or into the end zone. On Homecoming Sunday at CLC, we were told that sometimes we are the football team, sometimes we are the football. Sometimes we help others make their way into God's end zone. Sometimes we are the football and need others to try their best to help us find our way home.

Inside this issue:

Work Day	
Milestone Ministries	2
Bible Study	
Confirmation	
Go and Tell	3
Skaalen Speaks	
Social Concerns	
Senior Luncheon	4
Dartball	
News Youth Can Use	5
Youth Trip to Noah's Ark	6
Elizabeth Circle	7
Church Life	
Men in Mission Pig Roast	Back
Calendar	Insert



Retention Pond Work Day—Saturday, October 1, at 8:00 a.m.

Please plan to help. We have invasive tree species growing around the pond that need to be cut and weeds to pull. We can't just spray these, as there are prairie species growing as well. Joe Weum will be here to help identify what is a weed. Bob Kluge also has some edging to install and a few other lighter jobs. Bring gloves and pruners. Wear shoes with hard soles. We will start on the ponds at 8:00 a.m., or come when you can; Bob will be at CLC all morning. If you have questions, call Merle Lebakken (873-4544) or Bob Kluge (873-6753).



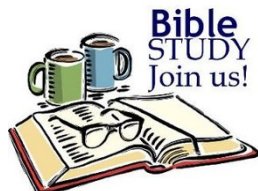
Milestone Ministries 3rd Graders Receive Bibles

On October 2 at 10:30 a.m., parents and child will meet with one of the pastors to learn how to use your Bible. On October 9 during the Family Express Service, 3rd graders will receive their Bibles.



A Different Kind of Bible Study Verses and Vino at Vincenzo's

Beginning October 13 at 7:30 p.m., a Bible study will be offered at Vincenzo's in downtown Stoughton. We are hoping that this Bible study will attract younger and older adults alike, anyone who is not currently involved in a monthly Bible study. Pastor Paula will lead the group.



Confirmation—October 30

The Rite of Confirmation will be October 30 at 1:00 p.m. All confirmation students should be present and ready for pictures at 12:30 p.m.

On October 16 and 23, students will meet at 5:00 p.m. in the youth room to make their stoles and be fitted for a white robe. The confirmation service will be reviewed so students know their parts in the service.



Go and Tell

by Roger Slack

September/October is really a busy time of year for our church. The Stewardship program is starting, Men in Mission are planning a retreat in Poynette and the annual Pig Roast dinner, and the December Lutefisk dinner is already being planned. Also, the second week of photo sessions for the 2011 pictorial directory will be scheduled. A lot of things going on, and I didn't even list any of the youth events.

Each of these events is very social in nature, because we are by necessity very social beings. Joy is very seldom the result of isolation: it is possible, but more often joy is the result of two or more people being together, talking and working toward a common goal. I think of the quilters (women and men). It must be a real, uplifting experience to see the all the pews draped with beautiful quilts on the Sunday before they box them all up to go to Lutheran World Relief. Piece by piece, they are sewn into all those beautiful and warm quilts that can make the difference in whether a young child lives or not. I hope someone on the receiving end of the gifts explains the love our quilters have in their hearts that they would work so diligently to make so many warm and beautiful gifts for them to have.

As I watch each of these events take place, I realize we have a very loving congregation, with people of all ages pitching in and helping to make a wonderful experience for those in attendance. The fact that so many people are willing to help is a big part of the joy that we feel as we carry out our appointed tasks. We may be working, but there is a lot of talking and laughing going on as well. The old saying, "Many hands make light work," is still true today, and it is amazing what can be accomplished when we come together and work as one body, united in Christ.



Skaalen Speaks

by Diane Matson

Auxiliary. The dictionary defines it as "a person or thing providing supplementary help and support." Imagine where we, the people of Christ Lutheran, would be without her auxiliary members. Those potato peelers and rollers at lefse time. The faithful coffee servers on Sunday mornings. The ushers, the choir members, the members of the altar guild. The list is endless.

But do you know anything about the Skaalen auxiliary? Did you know that the Skaalen auxiliary was chartered on May 7, 1971, as a part of the team that enables Skaalen to provide a caring environment for the residents? Did you know that those auxiliary members provide a vital link with area corporate congregations, of which Christ Lutheran is one?

The Skaalen auxiliary is guided by eight individuals, representing area churches, who make up the executive board. There are currently 23 Lutheran churches and one Methodist church (United Methodist in Stoughton) who provide that supplementary help and support. Dawn Zaemisch, the Director of Church and Community Relations at Skaalen, serves as the staff liaison to the auxiliary.

Lutheran churches from Brodhead, Brooklyn, Edgerton, Oregon, Deerfield, Cambridge, Janesville, Whitewater, Milton, Clinton, Orfordville, McFarland, Evansville, Beloit,...and even Caledonia, Illinois, band together as members in Christ to support Skaalen as a way to offer the ministry of Christian love and service in a home-like atmosphere to mature adults.

If you would like to learn more about membership in the Skaalen auxiliary, you are cordially invited to the auxiliary fall meeting to be held at Skaalen, 400 North Morris Street, on Tuesday, October 25, beginning at 1:30 p.m. The program host is East Koshkonong Lutheran, with dessert provided by Trinity Lutheran of Madison. After all, what meeting of Lutherans would be complete without dessert??



Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade Coffee *Pour Justice to the Brim*

“Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink?” (Matthew 25:37)

Christ Lutheran is now selling Fair Trade Coffee and may, very soon, branch out to cocoa and olive oil. What is Fair Trade Coffee?

Fair Trade is a simple solution that can mean the difference between surviving and not surviving for small-scale farmers.

The LWR Coffee Project intimately connects our church to the communities where LWR works. When you purchase coffee, tea, olive oil, cocoa or any other of their products, more of the money you spend reaches the farmers who actually grow it.

That simple action makes a direct impact on the hard-working women and men whose dreams look a lot like yours. They want to feed their families, educate their children, get medical care and improve their communities. You make that possible with your purchases.

Quilt Sunday—October 2

Our quilters have been busy all year sewing quilts for Lutheran World Relief. On October 2, you will get a chance to admire their handiwork. The quilts will be spread out on the backs of the sanctuary pews. They are also hoping to sell a number of their quilts to help Lutheran World Relief pay to ship these quilts all over the world. LWR quilts are one of the first items to reach disaster areas. Quilts will be on sell for \$40 apiece.

This is also the last Sunday for us to bring items for the sewing, school, health and layette kits. The following Saturday they will be sent up to Madison, and from there to the warehouse in St. Paul where they will be packed and placed in containers, ready to go where they are needed.



Senior Luncheons Are Back

The first fall senior luncheon will be on Monday, October 3, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The program will be Tom Dowling and Pastor Scott's recent trip to Maine and their experience aboard the 100-foot schooner American Eagle. The menu will be clam chowder, a great salad, fresh bread and a delicious blueberry crisp. The cost is



The Dartball Team Needs You!

Christ Lutheran has had a dartball team for over 50 years now! We want this tradition to continue. The season starts in early October and games are played on Monday nights. The team competes with six other area church dartball teams. Games start at 7:00 p.m. and finish up around 9:30 p.m. Refreshments are served when the night's games are complete. In March there is a banquet for all the players and their wives. Please contact Gloria in the church office (873-9353) or Morris Trow (873-9163) to sign up for Christ Lutheran's team!



So, what is dartball? The game is played like baseball and there are nine players on a team. The evening is a lot of fun. Come on, all you father and sons...sign up and try it!



Adopt-A-Highway

Let's plan to clean-up our adopted highway starting at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, October 2. If we have enough youth and adults, this should only take an hour to complete. Any money you find is yours to keep!



"God and Games" is Back!

"God and Games" is back—all 4-6 graders (and friends) and all confirmation students are invited to join the games! In short, everybody is invited for a meal at 6:00 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., games will start for youth in grades 4-6 (of course friends are invited!). Confirmation for youth in grades 7-8 also starts at 6:30 p.m., with open gym time occurring for that group from 7:30-8:00 p.m.



**Do You Babysit?
Do You Need a
Babysitter?**

In October there will be a sign-up sheet in the narthex at the information desk for youth in 7th grade and above who are looking for babysitting jobs. In November that list will be published, along with their age, grade and phone, as a resource for parents looking for a babysitter.

High School HOTT!

The monthly High School HOTT will be Sunday, October 30 at 7:00 p.m. This is open to all high school youth and their friends for some hanging out time together. Please join us!

**Family Express
Looking for More Musicians**

The Family Express worship service is looking for more musicians for the band. Our attitude is the more the merrier, so if you have a musical talent that you would like to share with the congregation, please talk to Pastor Paula or e-mail her at pastorPaula@clcstoughton.org.



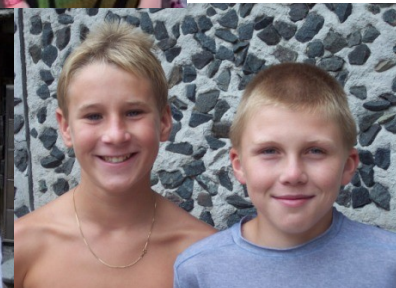
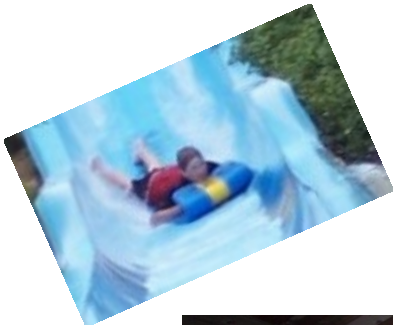
Youth Ministry 2011-12

Successful Youth Ministry programs need many volunteers to be successful and leave a mark with our youth. Additional help is always needed at youth events—parents (and any interested adults) are always encouraged to help with the scheduled youth events **and** to contact the Youth Ministry Team with any ideas or suggestions. Thanks!



A Day at Noah's Ark

The youth took their annual trip to Noah's Ark at the end of August. (One of these years it will be warm.) Despite the cool day, we had our largest group yet—51. A special thanks to our chaperones, Barley Teigen and Regina Hinrichs. We couldn't do it without you!





News from Pastor Brian Konkol...

It is with deep appreciation that I wish to make known our resignation as Young Adults in Global Mission Country Coordinators in South Africa with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—Global Mission. Due to a variety of personal and professional factors that Kristen and I have discerned over the past months, we believe the time has come for us to pursue new opportunities and transition into a new stage in our lives.

With the exception of any unexpected circumstances, we plan to remain in South Africa until July of 2012 in order to fulfill our commitment of accompanying the current group of Young Adults in Global Mission participant learners and hosts within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Southern Africa, after which we plan to return to North America and serve God through new ventures. At this point in time there are a variety of excellent ministry possibilities worthy of consideration for our future, but we also recognize that many additional roles may become known in the months ahead. As a result, while we feel heartache when faced with the upcoming prospect of departing South Africa, we recognize that God is walking alongside us, and the Holy Spirit will show a path forward that includes fulfillment and exciting ministry environments. In the midst of it all, we recognize that a significant amount of time in South Africa remains; thus we seek to be faithfully present, serve to the best of our collective abilities, and when the time to depart is finally upon us, we plan to offer God our thanks and leave with no regrets.

In reflection on the various events of the past years, I wish to express my deepest appreciation for the outpouring of love and solidarity received, especially since Khaya's birth in October of 2010, for it is another profound reminder of how fortunate we are to be called, equipped, and sent out into God's global mission through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The support displayed by family and friends from around the world has been remarkable. In addition, I am proud to share that we have received an outstanding level of personal and professional support from Global Mission staff on various levels, and local hosts within South Africa have been tremendous, which has made this process of discernment less painful, but of course, it also makes the decision to resign far more difficult. While we trust that God will lead us to fresh and fulfilling opportunities in the period ahead, we recognize that the Global Mission community has been a joy to serve with. We feel deeply connected to the amazing people of South Africa, and we will dearly miss our current roles within the Churchwide expression.

As we consider more specific plans surrounding methods of departure, leadership transition, and potential future opportunities for our family within North America, I humbly ask for your continued prayers of compassion and togetherness during this important time in our lives. In addition, I pray that whatever it is that God brings next will provide Kristen and me with various means to continue honoring the confidence and trust that ELCA Global Mission has bestowed upon us throughout the years, and I strongly believe that we will continue to accompany one another within God's mission of reconciliation, transformation, and empowerment around the world.

I thank God for all that you do, and I praise God for all that you are.

With peace and love,
Brian E. Konkol

Baptism:

September 11—Jackson Paul Kojo, son of Paul and Kari Kojo

Funeral:

September 6—John A. Krehl

Endowment Foundation

In Memory of:

Elaine Halverson
Chris Hull
Karen Holte
Karen Holte

From:

Lorraine J. Johnson
Frank and Mildred Gardner
Betty Hull
Gary and Caroline Flood



NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT #119
STOUGHTON, WI

**Christ Lutheran Church
700 County Highway B
Stoughton, WI 53589**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

"So we are ambassadors for Christ..." -

2 Corinthians 5:20

**Pastor Paula Geister-Jones
Pastor Scott Geister-Jones
Phone: 608.873.9353
Fax: 608.873.3949
Email: pastorscott@clcstoughton.org
pastorpaula@clcstoughton.org
office@clcstoughton.org
CLC Website: www.clcstoughton.org
Staff:
Gloria Hayne, Church Secretary
Eileen Klinzing, Financial Secretary**

Christ Lutheran Men in Mission Pig Roast Saturday, October 8, 4:00-6:30 p.m.

Roast pork, vegetables, potatoes, rolls,
dessert and beverage

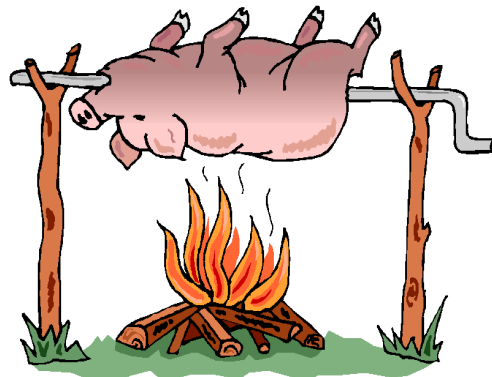
Tickets \$9.00 Each

Maximum family price \$32.00

Children age 5 and under free

New This Year!

Each dinner ticket stub will be placed in a
drawing for a quilt!



You won't want to miss this fun event for the family—featuring delicious pork prepared by the famous CLC chefs and live music for all ages.

Note that the men need help with this. Please consider bringing desserts (bars or cookies). Also, servers and clean-up volunteers will be needed. Look for a sign-up sheet in the narthex. If you have questions, call Merle Lebakken at 873-4544.