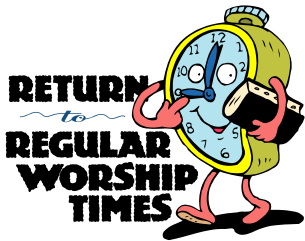


"So we are ambassadors
for Christ..." -

2 Corinthians 5:20

September 2011



Starting September 11

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

Inside this issue:

Music and Worship	2
Adult Bible Study	
Go and Tell	
Church Directory	3
Quilters	
Blessing of the Animals	4
News Youth Can Use	5
Sunday School News	6
Summer Bible Camp	7
Senior Excursion	
Elizabeth Circle News	8
Church Life	9
Skaalen Speaks	
Pig Roast	Back
Calendar	Insert

Christ Lutheran Ambassador



Worship Schedule changes begin September 11, **Rally Sunday**, with early worship at 8:00 a.m., family express at 9:10 a.m., Sunday School at 9:40 a.m. and worship at 10:30 a.m.. Parents can register their children for church school with the registration form on page 6 or print off a form from the church's website: www.clcstoughton.org.

Family Theme Week—Homecoming! Christ Lutheran Church will have a family "Homecoming Theme Week" starting on Sunday, September 18. "Homecoming" will be the theme of the family express worship service on Sunday, September 18, with some homecoming food and games occurring after Sunday School that day.

Confirmation Orientation for seventh graders and parent is September 21 at 6:30 p.m., in the sanctuary. Confirmation classes for both 7th and 8th grade begins the following week, September 28, with dinner at 6:00 p.m., and class at 6:30 p.m.

"God and Games" begins September 21, for youth in grades 4-8. Youth in grades 4-6 have the gym from 6:30-7:30 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. the 7th-8th graders will have the gym until 8:00 p.m. Sports include dodgeball, basketball, volleyball, and floor hockey.

Adult Bible Study begins September 22. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in the conference room. Participants will be using the book of faith series titled: *A Gardner, Two Travelers, and a Cheat!*

High School HOTT! returns September 25 at 6:00 p.m.

"35 Just 4 U" event on September 25 at 3:00 p.m. This event will be for youth in grades 3-5 **and** families.

Senior Excursion to Washington DC is being planned for October 6. A sign-up sheet is at the information desk.

Men in Mission Pig Roast is October 8 with dinner being served from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. The cost is \$8.00 per person with a maximum of \$32.00 per family. New this year, each ticket stub will be entered in a drawing for a quilt!

Skaalen Fall Festival is October 11 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Worship Schedule

September 3—5:30 p.m. Worship/Communion

September 4—9:00 a.m. Worship/Communion

Starting September 11: 8:00 a.m. Worship
9:10 a.m. Family Express
9:40 a.m. Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Voices in Praise Kids

VIP Kids will be starting again this fall on September 7. Rehearsal time will be **5:00-5:30 p.m.** VIP Kids will sing at the September 18 Family Express worship service! This group is for pre-school through 5th grade. We usually rehearse



two Wednesday evenings and then sing on a Sunday morning. All the music is fun and easy! Come and check us out. If you have questions, please contact Linda Kunz at lkunz@clcstoughton.org.

Handbell Choir

Calling all ringers—I will create as many handbell groups as needed to accommodate all who want to participate. Contact Linda Kunz at lkunz@clcstoughton.org, if you are interested or need more information.



A Gardner, Two Travelers, and a Cheat

The fall season ushers in the Good News of adult Bible study weekly at 9:00 a.m. each Thursday morning. The focus is about people and God's activity in their lives. It's a wonderful occasion to learn about Adam, Abraham, Sarah and Jacob but also—and most importantly—how God is active in our lives too!

This book of faith series has a clever title: *A Gardner, Two Travelers, and a Cheat*. Inviting us to open the Scripture and take a look at the lives of four wonderful characters, it promises that we will see ourselves in with a new light, too.

Plan to join us in the church conference room Thursday mornings beginning September 22. Bring your Bible, or we will provide one for you. You don't have to be a scholar, just come as you are. All the materials will be available for you the morning of the lesson. Contact Pastor Scott if you have a question at 608-469-4946 or pastorscott@clcstoughton.org.



Senior Choir and Men's Choir

The Senior Choir and the Men's Choir of Christ Lutheran will begin their autumn schedule of rehearsals in September. The Men's Choir will have their first rehearsal at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 7 in the choir room. The Senior Choir will rehearse at 9:15 a.m. Sunday, September 11. The choirs will continue to sing a wide variety of sacred choral music to reflect the scriptures and the mission of the church. Singers of all abilities are welcome to participate in the choirs. Singing schedules are being formulated and will be available at the first rehearsal. If you have any questions, please call John Beutel, the director. All are welcome.





Go and Tell by Roger Slack

I know I'm not the only one to run into someone I know very well, but because I met them in an unexpected place or time or maybe they were in their work uniform, but as a result, I looked right past them as if they were a stranger. It is really funny when they do the same thing. Then when one of us speaks so that the other recognizes the voice or remembers the same experience the other is talking about, then the laughter flows. You wonder to yourself, "How did I not recognize him/her?"

This happened to Mary Magdalene when she went to Jesus' tomb only to find it empty. Her mind set was that Jesus was dead. Jesus appeared to her and she did not recognize him. She wasn't expecting him to be alive, so she looked right past him. When he said her name, it was then that she realized who he was.

There were two disciples on the road to Emmaus, probably going back home, that encountered Jesus. Again they were not expecting Jesus to be alive as they had seen him crucified. They listened to him explain once again how the Old Testament pointed to the Christ's sufferings and death, but did not recognize Jesus. Not until that night when Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread did they see who he was.

The disciples went fishing after Jesus' death and caught nothing. Jesus stood on the shore and told them to cast their net on the right side of the boat. They did not recognize Jesus either, as they had seen him die as well. When they hauled in the great catch of fish, it must have been déjà vu as it hit them that the man on the shore was Jesus.

All three instances resulted in joy that no doubt took their breath away and left them needing to tell someone that Jesus was alive. They did not fully understand right away what Jesus had just done, but they knew not even death could beat Jesus and he had kept telling them to just "follow me."

Church Directory Photo Scheduling

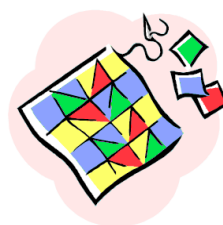
You will still be able to schedule appointments for the October 10-15 session here at CLC with the paper sign-up sheets **or** you can call Olan Mills directly at **1-800-866-2263** to: 1) Initially schedule a time and day or 2) reschedule your appointment if something happens that you won't be able to keep the original time scheduled. If you are unable to keep the appointment time, please call Olan Mills as that will open up the time slot for someone else to use. The contract number for Christ Lutheran in Stoughton, WI is **59841**.

If you want to be in the directory (and we hope you do), but are not able to find a time that works for your schedule, please contact Roger Slack (873-4455) or Gloria in the church office (873-9353) and we will try to find an alternative solution for all those on that list. Thank you to all those who have already had your pictures taken for the directory and to those of you who have already signed up for the October 10-15 session.



Quilters

The quilters will meet Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m. starting September 7! See you there!



Blessing of the Animals

All kinds of creatures worshipped at Christ Lutheran's "Blessing of the Animals." Ushers identified 171 humans—including three infants, fifty-one dogs, three cats, two mice, two sand crabs, hamsters and one gerbil. Sitting on the patio surrounded by sunshine and flowers, the community gathered waiting for the special event of the day, the blessing of the animals. Carefully, and with good order, the creatures filed forward and Pastor Scott enjoyed blessing both creature and caregiver. The worship service was a great success, and thanks to the kids who suggested this idea to Pastor Scott. Christ Lutheran will celebrate the "Blessing of the Animals" again in August 2012.



**Woof...Woof
Meow...Meow**





**Family Theme Week—
Homecoming!**

The Stoughton High School Homecoming is Friday September 23. Christ Lutheran Church will have a family “Homecoming Theme Week” starting on Sunday, September 18. “Homecoming” will be the theme of the family express worship service on Sunday, September 18, with some homecoming food and games occurring after Sunday School that day. Other special homecoming events for Christ Lutheran Church will occur that week (September 19-23). More details will follow!

Go Vikings Go!



High School HOTT!

The monthly High School HOTT returns on Sunday September 25 at 6:00 p.m. (note slightly earlier start time). This is open to all high school youth and their friends for some hanging out time together. After we talk about goals for the upcoming year, we will embark on a mystery trip and hope everyone returns to the church by 9:00 p.m. Please join us!



35 Just 4 U

The first “**35 Just 4 U**” event for youth in grades 3-5 will be September 25 at 3:00 p.m. This event will be for youth **and** families, and will involve some “kick-off” games between youth and parents. Save the date and time. Remember—35 is Just 4 U!

Adopted Highway

Just to give everyone enough time to plan—we are looking to clean up our adopted highway on Sunday, October 2. Mark your calendars!

“God and Games” Returns!

“God and Games” will start up on Wednesday, September 21. We had an amazing number of youth participate last year and look forward to another year of fun, with God! 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 7th-8th also starts at 6:30 p.m., with open gym time occurring for that group from 7:30-8:00 p.m. September 21 is during homecoming week—please wear your football jersey or football shirts to open gym on that night!!



**Parent Help Needed
“God and Games”**

On September 21 we will have a sign-up sheet for parent help at “God and Games.” We are looking for two adults to help from 7:15-8:00 p.m. with open gym and hallways. This generally will be the time 7th-8th graders will have open gym. Parents are invited to participate in the open gym for the 5th-6th graders at any time. We have a great group of high school youth that lead the games.

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!

Sunday School/Family Express Worship Starts September 11

Family Express begins at 9:10 a.m. and ends roughly at 9:40 a.m.. Sunday School begins promptly at conclusion of Family Express and runs until 10:20 a.m. Sunday School is open to all children who are three-years-old as of September 1, 2011 through 8th grade. Registration forms for Sunday School are available at the information desk or on the church website under Christian Education. We would appreciate it if families would pre-register or have forms filled out when they come on Sunday, September 11.



Sunday School Teacher Meeting



Teachers, there will be a orientation meeting on Tuesday, September 6 at 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars!

Student and Parent

Confirmation Orientation September 21

Confirmation orientation for 7th graders will be held September 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. The event will take about one hour, and will provide you with the resources and a schedule for the upcoming year. Parents will be asked to sign up for meal service, small group guides, and chaperones for the gym time following the Wednesday night class. Please mark your calendars now for this up coming meeting. The confirmation calendar is on the church website under Christian Education.

2011-12 Sunday School Registration Form

Child's Name: _____

2011-12 Grade: _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Address: _____

Is this address *different* than last year?: YES _____ NO _____

Home Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Applicable Allergies: _____

Names and Ages of Siblings under 14: _____

Member of CLC: YES _____ NO _____

Fee: \$20/child or \$40/family; write checks to *Christ Lutheran Church*.

Summer Bible Camp 2011

Thanks to all families that sent youth to summer Bible camp this past month. The total number of youth attending camp from Christ Lutheran Church was 42; just a couple shy of last year's record. Thanks also to the various adults that helped drive youth to and/or from Bible camp. We've already been asked about next year; information will be available in late January 2012.



Changed Your Phone Number?

Many people have given up their telephone land line. If you have gone to cell phone only, would you please contact Gloria at the church office (873-9353) with your cell phone number. We want to update our records!



From the Library....

What's Your Take?

By Mary Onsager, CLC Librarian

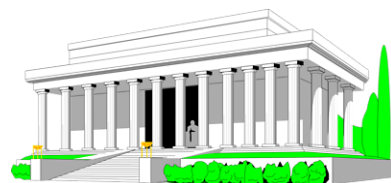
I am looking for church members: seniors, adults, teenagers and children, to review books from the church library. There are many good books to choose from and I have a list of reviewer questions to help you get started. You fill out the questions and I'll write the review. Your reviews will get more people to use our wonderful library. If you have a suggestion of a book or DVD you think the library should have or are interested in reviewing books please email me at gokomo@charter.net.

Senior Excursion to Washington DC

Would you like to visit Washington DC, tour the Smithsonian Museums, the National Mall, and other sites? Gen Wilberg and Pastor Scott have put together a trip that will help you enjoy our Nation's Capitol city and travel in comfort within a budget of \$500 for three nights and four days of travel and lodging **excluding** meals.

Our planned departure is October 6 at noon, flying non-stop from Milwaukee airport to Baltimore, Washington DC. Our accommodations provide for the three nights at a Washington DC hotel with two people to a room each with their own bed. Museums, National Mall, Monuments and Capitol Hill are a short walk, metro or taxi drive away. The non-stop flight home on Sunday, October 9, would get us into Milwaukee around 8:30 p.m.

If you are interested in participating with us, sign up at the information desk, and plan to join us for a meeting Monday, September 5, at noon at church in our conference room.



Elizabeth Circle News



Friends:

In December of this past year I asked for a collection of thoughts and prayers for our son, Khaya, who entered into surgery on January 4 in order to have his cleft lip repaired. As many would already recognize, the prayers were answered and his procedure was a success, and after a great deal of patience (...and far too many sleepless nights) surrounding his after-care, Khaya has continued to grow as a happy, handsome, and healthy boy. Kristen and I thank God for the outpouring of love and support over these past months, as this has been an incredible time in our journey of life and faith.

For those who may be hearing this news for the first time, a few months before Khaya was born, Kristen and I discovered during a routine scan that he possessed a cleft lip and palate, which occurs in roughly one out of every 700 children worldwide. While the condition is in no way life-threatening in our case, Khaya was diagnosed with a significant “right unilateral complete cleft lip and palate,” which makes it difficult to swallow and digest, and thus he was unable to breast feed. While most pictures online show children with conditions much more serious than Khaya, the following link provides a general idea: <http://www.chw.org/display/>. With such images in mind, one can more fully appreciate the awesome progress that Khaya has already made, for he has grown considerably in both weight and length, his lip and nose look fantastic, and he will continue to improve as time passes by.

Over the past months Kristen and I chose to keep our situation relatively private, yet over the recent span of time—especially during our ELCA Global Mission Home Assignment period in North America from April to June—we have felt increasingly comfortable in regards to sharing the details of our journey, and at this point in time we decided to be even more open, as Khaya will experience his next surgical procedure on Saturday, August 13. During the upcoming procedure (which will take place at Netcare Umhlanga Hospital in Durban) Khaya will have his cleft palate repaired, and after a few days of intensive recovery in the hospital, we will need to provide extra home-based care for Khaya in the weeks and months ahead. We are incredibly fortunate that Kristen’s mother, Sharon Tews, will be joining us to assist during these upcoming weeks. All in all, the immediate future will have a number of challenges, as this procedure will be far more difficult on Khaya than the last, yet we are taking it all one day at a time, and trusting that God will provide guidance and strength each step of the way.

With all the above in mind, I ask for your ongoing thoughts and prayers for Khaya, and of course, I pray that you would accompany Kristen and I as we try to be strong and patient as we consider how to be most faithful in our divine calling as parents. When Khaya entered into surgery back in January we were carried by the profound spiritual, emotional, and physical solidarity expressed by so many from around the world, and as we prepare for the operation in August, once again we hope for more of the same, as we fully recognize the considerable challenges ahead. Through it all, it is during times of adversity like these that we truly feel your presence, and we thank God for the awesome ways in which people can support one another from many miles away.

May God bless you this day and always with strength and guidance, and I will look forward to being in touch in the time ahead.

With peace and love,
Brian Konkol

Deaths:

August 4 – Elaine B. Halverson
August 8—Chris Hull
August 9—Donald Leikness
August 17—Karen (Hull) Holte

Baptisms:

July 31—Addalyn June Swain, daughter of Brian and Beth Swain
July 31—Adelaide Rose Borchert, daughter of Joshua and Meredith Borchert
August 6—Charles Robert Brabender, son of Jason and Crystal Brabender
August 21—Philip Hoops III and Paityn Alivia Hoops, daughter of Philip Hoops III and Alicia Johnson

Wedding:

August 11—Mark Theodore Wilberg and Renee Denise Sutkay

Memorials:In Memory of:

Elaine Halverson
Chris Hull

From:

Louis & Darlene Halverson
Verlyn and Evelyn Kahl

**SKAALEN SPEAKS**

by Diane Matson

You're feeling guilty. You read the last issue of the *Ambassador* and you read this column. You saw the bulletin insert on August 14. You heard the announcements in church about the Skaalen Ice Cream Social, and you saw the poster in the narthex. You really intended to stop at Skaalen for a piece of pie made in the Lutheran kitchens of Jill Guenther, Gloria Hayne, Pastor Paula, Lynn Posick and Gen Wilberg (thank you ladies!) but you (A) got busy (B) had another commitment (C) forgot (D) all of the above. You meant to buy a raffle ticket because you knew that the money raised from this event went to benefit the residents of Skaalen Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, but you left your wallet in your other purse/pants. You skipped church on the Sunday that the raffle tickets were available. You didn't buy a ticket because you never win anything anyway.

Fret no more, good people of Christ Lutheran Church! Another opportunity is on the horizon! The Skaalen Fall Festival is right around the corner (gotcha!). Mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 11, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The festival promises something for everyone. There is a resident bazaar in the Friendship Room featuring hand-crafted items and seasonal crafts, a pie and sweet bread sale will offer fresh-baked apple, pecan and pumpkin pies as well as all kinds of sweet breads. If a craft fair is more to your liking, you can indulge yourself courtesy of area crafters and artisans offering seasonal crafts, wearable art, etc. to be found in the Skaalen Chapel. Cinnamon rolls will be on sale from 10 a.m.-11:15 a.m. or until all are sold, and you can enjoy Skaalen's famous nine bean soup and a roll in the Coffee Stue from 11 a.m.-1:00 p.m. From 1:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m. the Skaalen dining room will be serving home-baked pie with ice cream and a beverage for \$3.00, and a raffle drawing will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the Friendship Room. All proceeds from this event benefit Skaalen residents.

Do some early Christmas shopping, warm your tummy with delicious food, and warm your heart by sharing your time, knowing that our Skaalen friends and neighbors benefit from your participation. October 11, don't forget, be there!

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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

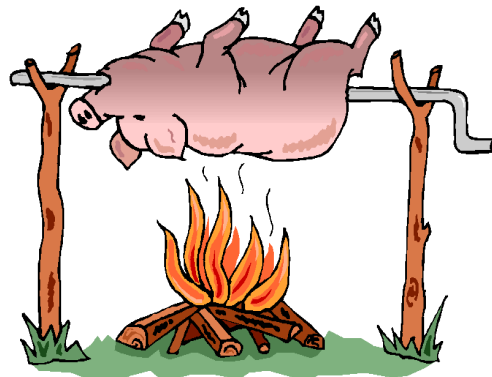
Saturday, October 8, 4-6 p.m.

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

Tickets \$8.00 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 games for children of all ages to 85.

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. Questions, call Merle Lebakken 873-4544.