



VINE & BRANCHES

A Monthly Newsletter of Fish Lake Lutheran Church

November 2011

From the Cheering Section

The North Branch Vikings' 8th grade traveling football team met up with the Forest Lake Rangers on neutral ground at the Chisago Lakes Middle School field one recent evening under the lights. Both teams have had losing records and were hungry for a win as they fought their way up in the standings.

It was a cool October night, however that didn't seem to matter since the Vikings were playing probably their best football of the season which made for a very entertaining game to watch for North Branch fans. However, I noticed, as all the parents and grandparents and siblings and friends of the Vikings players cheered in continuous affirmation for their team, there stood a lone Forest Lake Ranger fan, *on the Viking side of the field*, within ten feet from me! This seemed to be a bad choice for the man as the Vikings roared on to an early lead and continued to play a solid remainder of the game for the win. I felt sorry for this man - who only occasionally cheered (softly) and clapped his hands when the Rangers had a good play or shook his head slightly when North Branch would get the upper hand.

As I think about it, this man deserves much credit. He was faithful to the end - and no end of contrary cheering (at least to his way of thinking) would force him to change his loyalty.

Sometimes Christians must feel like they are sitting in the wrong cheering section. Do you ever feel that way? There is so much evil in the world. It seems that we are called to cheer when the rest of the world is silent, and we are called to be silent, maybe even shaking our heads, when the rest of the world is cheering.

It is tough to be faithful in the face of that kind of pressure, isn't it? I know middle and high school students probably struggle the most with this. It's always been hard to stand out and be willing to be different. But that is the call of the Christian. You and I cannot be silent as the world closes its eyes to hunger, poverty, discrimination, racism, injustice, and abuse. Nor can we be stilled as we witness love, compassion, or caring for our neighbor.

I wish you well from the Fish Lake Lutheran cheering section. I know it isn't always easy.

Pr. Dale



F a l l S c h e d u l e

F5@5 HALLOWEEN PARTY

Sunday, October 30, 4:00-8:00 pm at the Kane Home

3rd GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION

Reformation Day- Sunday, October 30, during worship

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Sunday, November 6, 10:00 am

ANNUAL FALL PORK DINNER

CRAFT & BAKE SALE

SILENT AUCTION

Tuesday, November 8, 4:00-6:30 pm

Adults: \$8.00

Ages 6-12: \$4.00

F55

November 9, 11:00am—1:00pm

Faith4life—SR. HIGH BIBLE STUDY

November 13, 6:00pm—8:00pm

FLL KNITTERS

Thursday, November 17, 7:00pm

KID'S KLUB

Monday, November 21, 5:30pm—7:15pm

Thank you
LORD
for people • places • things

A SERVICE for THANKSGIVING

**Wednesday, November 23rd
7:00 p.m.**

| |
|--|
| Pastor Dale's 2012 Sabbatical UPDATE—The Wait is Over |
|--|

"Dear Reverend Stiles:

I regret to advise you that the application submitted by your congregation for the Lilly Endowment 2011 National Clergy Renewal Program was not among those accepted for funding. We received many fine proposals from all over the United States and, as in years past, we were able to fund only a portion of them."

That's how the letter began, that I opened and read with a cautious eagerness, hope, and anticipation on Tuesday, October 11.

I'll admit, I prayed, *"Surprise me, God!"* more than once that day! It turned out to be a surprise I hadn't hoped for. But as we learned during our 30-day *Surprise Me, God* prayer experiment in September, when we pray that simple, three-word prayer, we must be ready for anything that comes our way.

Since that day, I have discovered again, that sometimes it's a good thing God doesn't answer (or surprise) us in the way that we would like. Or in the words of Garth Brooks, *"Sometimes I thank God for unanswered prayers."*

I've since realized that maybe receiving the grant – although an incredible blessing it would have been – would have made things too easy for us a congregation.

The conversations that have been had at the church council, congregational, and one-on-one levels, since receiving this news, have been challenging, affirming, supportive, honest and practical, as we, together, have looked for ways to fund the interim pastoral care coverage during my three months away next fall. This has, in a sense, created more ownership of the sabbatical among the congregation – which is crucial since it will benefit the congregation as much as will benefit myself and my family.

Here's what I mean. Since opening that letter, funds have already been donated and re-allocated to help cover the necessary expense it will take to provide a full-time three-month interim pastor. To break it down *so far*, it looks like this:

| | |
|---|---------|
| Individual Member Donations: | \$2,500 |
| Fish Lake Women of ELCA: | \$2,000 |
| Carrie Stiles' unused third quarter salary: | \$2,000 |
| Gift from St. Paul Area Synod: | \$500 |

That's \$7,000 already toward our goal of \$15,000 needed by September of 2012!

(cont'd on pg. 4)

Pastor Dale's 2012 Sabbatical UPDATE—The Wait is Over (*cont'd*)

(*cont'd from pg. 3*)

Comments and suggestions made following worship on October 23 during an informal congregational meeting proved to be very helpful. So with those suggestions in mind, the *Fish Lake Lutheran Church Council* and the *Sabbatical Support Committee* would like to extend you the opportunity to make a one-time contribution/donation to this need. Proceeds from a specified fund-raising event could also be designated for this need. We'll keep you informed about what and when that might be.

In addition to these opportunities, there will be another on-going online opportunity to contribute on the Give Minnesota website at www.givemn.org. Fish Lake Lutheran will be listed there as one of thousands of Minnesota non-profits that people can choose to donate financially to online. You're invited to read more about how it works on their website, and thank you, in advance, for your generosity!

Vision & Mission at Fish Lake—Findings & Recommendations Report

Praise the Lord! Nearly *one-hundred* members of Fish Lake Lutheran participated in the *Mission, Ministry & Facilities Needs Study* facilitated by Pr. Dick Wehrs.

These individuals contributed their ideas, concerns, hopes and dreams for Fish Lake Lutheran through individual interviews, focus group interviews, via email, and at our town hall-style kick-off gathering on September 18.

Pr. Wehrs has been wonderful at getting to know our congregation, our elected leadership, and our staff. The interviews are now completed and he is working on compiling a *Final Report of Findings and Recommendations* for us as a congregation that will address both our *immediate* and *long-term* future needs.

It's been wonderful to see the energetic response to this study. It has definitely served as a means of getting us, collectively, to think about our future together as a congregation.

Pr. Wehrs and the Church Council would now like to extend the invitation to you to come and hear his *Final Report of Findings and Recommendations* for Fish Lake Lutheran, based on the input, ideas, suggestions, concerns, etc. shared throughout his time with us over the course of the past two months.

This Report will be shared immediately following worship, in the church basement, on Sunday, November 13. We hope you will make plans to attend that day.

SACREDSPACE

“All Will Be Made New”

Once again, this year, you’re invited to make sacred space in your days and weeks throughout the **Advent** and the **Christmas** Season.

Our Advent mid-week worship opportunities are always designed to help you prepare for the birth of Jesus in the midst of the usual busy and often hectic holiday season.

This year, these four mid-week worship opportunities will be *sacred space* for us as we reflect and contemplate on the theme, *“All Will Be Made New”*, based on the brand new, beautiful song, *Kingdom Come*, by Christian songwriter and recording artist, JJ Heller.

The services will be designed to be quiet and reflective in order to allow our hearts and minds to slow down and be silent while we wait for the light of the Christ Child to come again.

Again this year our confirmation students will be serving a soup supper prior to each mid-week service.

2011 Advent Mid-Week Service Schedule

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper; 7:00 p.m. Worship

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Wednesday, November 30 | <i>“All will be made new...in LOVE”</i> |
| Wednesday, December 7 | <i>“All will be made new...in MERCY”</i> |
| Wednesday, December 14 | <i>“All will be made new...in GRACE”</i> |
| Wednesday, December 21 | <i>“All will be made new...in HOPE”</i> |

*“Life is but a dream at best. Morning’s coming soon.
Kingdom come will bring us rest.
All will be made new.”*

Church Council Minutes—October 4, 2011

Members present: Nancy Bengston, Mary Crawford, Sue Kane, Jen Kroeschel, Tom Lofboom, Floyd Pinotti, Paula Rehder, Joel Santjer, Jason Wilking

Pr. Dick Wehrs gave us an update on the interviews he has conducted for the *Mission, Ministry & Facilities Needs Study*.

Devotions were led by Sue Kane – "Jesus in his youth" We discussed the question, "*How can we use the curiosity of our youth in the ministry of the congregation?*"

Affirmations – all who planned, organized, and participated in the *Joy for Jill Benefit* – Thank you! To the staff of Fish Lake Lutheran for all that you do! And for all of our Sunday School volunteers.

Pastor's Report – Confirmation and Sunday school began, seven new members, worship and music committee met, Quilt Bingo, Town hall congregational meeting, North Synod Conference rostered leaders meeting, wedding, Fish Lake 5k, F55 boat ride, Terry Esau returns Sunday – Terry's "100 buck club" idea was discussed and without full council support was decided against. Found out we did not receive the Lilly Endowment Grant for the sabbatical. Discussion followed and a motion to hire a full-time interim pastor during Pr. Dale's sabbatical was voted on and passed at a cost of no more than \$15,000. The question was asked regarding how to fund this. The executive committee will meet on October 11 to work on this as part of creating a preliminary draft of 2012 budget. (*At that meeting it was decided to invite congregational input/ideas at an informal meeting following worship on October 23, for how to fund interim pastoral care during sabbatical.*)

Committee Reports

Audit – Third quarter audit this month – equity accounts and WELCA.

WELCA – Making quilts for eighth graders and graduates.

Social ministry – Collecting old cell phones/laptops/printer cartridges for on-going *Mission of the Month*.

New Business

The cemetery Board asked the Council to discuss two questions:

1. "The county recorder has found that in 1948 the name of the church was changed from "SWEDISH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF FISH LAKE" to FISH LAKE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH. Your documents indicate that the name you use is Fish Lake Lutheran Church. **Council discussed the statement and decided to keep it formally as FISH LAKE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH.**

Church Council Minutes—(cont'd)

2. Church constitution should be amended to address the relationship between the Church Council and the Cemetery Board. **Council will ask Cemetery Board to provide a written proposal of what they are asking and the reasons for the request, and then meet with the Council to present and discuss.**

Executive Committee – will meet on Tuesday, October 11 to put together a preliminary draft of our 2012 annual budget. This will be presented to the congregation at our usual preliminary budget meeting following worship the first Sunday of December.

Property – Insulation will be added to some windows in the library. Pews in the balcony will be looked at and repaired as needed.

Corn Feed – Discussion on how much we should charge. Maybe start earlier next year. Parking will continue to be a problem. We'll have to address this next year.

Mission, Ministry & Facilities Needs Study – Date for final Report of Findings and Recommendations will be November 13th immediately following worship.

Ball Field – was discussed with Marcie Whitman and Judy Nelson. It was decided that it would not be necessary for the Linder/Fairbanks compound to mow it any more. It can be mowed/brush hogged as needed before events occur, for parking purposes.

Financial Report – was not available this month

Respectfully Submitted, *Tom Lofboom, Secretary*

A Word of Appreciation and Affirmation for our Church Council

We are deeply grateful for the current *church council* at Fish Lake: *Nancy Bengtson, Mary Crawford, Sue Kane, Jennifer Kroschel, Tom Lofboom, Floyd Pinotti, Paula Rehder, Joel Santjer, and Jason Wilking*. Their wisdom, coupled with their love for this church, is a gift to us all. This time of year especially, they have their plates full when it comes to fulfilling their elected responsibilities for our congregation. But they're up to the challenge, and we have the right people, the people God has selected, to wisely and prayerfully consider our congregation's needs. So thank them, will you, when you next see these council members at church?

“Only One Came Back”

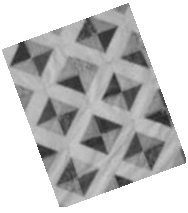
“Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice.” -Luke 17:15

In Sunday School, the lessons of scripture and Bible Stories are taught using a rotation model. This means that for each rotation or story, students will hear the story four different times in four different ways. It is my hope that with repetition and learning through a variety of learning styles that the children of Fish Lake will claim the stories of our faith as their own.

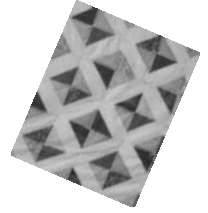
This year the stories will focus on the many ways that God has *surprised* his followers, all throughout scripture. We began learning in September and October from Luke 17, about how Jesus came across a colony of Lepers on the outside of town. In Jesus' time, leprosy was thought to be very communicable and was a painful skin disease that left sores on the skin and caused nerve damage. Since no one knew how to treat it, those who got sick were sent out of the town to live together away from others. When the lepers called to Jesus to have pity on them, he did not make a big show of healing them. Rather, he sent them to find the priests and show them that they had been made well.

At the end of this story, one of the lepers returned to Jesus to thank him. This one that came back didn't send Jesus a thank you card or a fruit basket. But rather, he returned praising God and throwing himself at Jesus feet. In the Creativity Center during this rotation, students got to take long stripes of white cloth, like the lepers might have used to wrap their sores. On the cloth they wrote things that they want to remember to praise and thank God for. They then added their stripes to a Praise banner that each group helped construct. This banner is now hanging on the Sunday School board in the basement. Take a minute some Sunday to check out the strips and see what our children are remembering to praise God for. Then take some time to praise and thank God for the blessings in your own life.

We can all learn a lot from that one Leper and the children of Fish Lake about always focusing on praising God for the daily blessings that fill our lives.



5th Annual Quilt Bingo Stories & Updates



“Our lives are like quilts – bits and pieces, joy and sorrow, stitched with love.”

(Winners at the Quilt Bingo were asked to share how their quilt would be used and where it would end up. Here are some stories that have been sent back to us.)

Quilt #4- Denium Patches

“This quilt is BEAUTIFUL! This quilt will stay with my family in North Branch, MN. We just bought our first home, so it will be loved very much! My family will be using this quilt for when we sit downstairs – it is cold down there. We are downstairs a lot, so it will be used often! I used the quilt already during Quilt Bingo, it kept me very warm! ~ Rochelle Ingram

Annual Fall Pork Dinner Craft & Bake Sale Silent Auction

**Tuesday, November 8th
Serving from 4:00-6:30 p.m.**



Come for fabulous food, friendly fellowship, and fundraising! Support the local food shelves and the historical integrity of Fish Lake Lutheran by enjoying a delicious dinner, buying handmade craft items and baked goods, and placing a bid on a silent auction item.

We need baked items and handmade craft items. If possible, bring your craft items to the church by Sunday, November 6th. Please price your craft item for the sale. Baked goods can be brought to the church Sunday, Monday, or Tuesday by 1:00 pm; we will price each baked item on the day of the sale. Thank you!

Announcements, Events & Activities

Fish Lake Knitters are gathering Thursday, November 17th at 7:00 pm in the church library for knitting, fellowship, devotions, and for those interested in working on projects such as hats, buntings, blankets to donate to hospitals. If you're new to knitting, it's a great way to pick up new tricks and always have someone at the ready to help you through difficult parts of patterns or explain a new-to-you technique. If you are an experienced/expert knitter this is definitely the place for you! Please contact the church office at 651-674-4252 or email office@fishlakelutheran.org.

All Saints' Sunday, November 6th, 10:00am

We honor, recognize, and remember the saints in our lives who have gone before us. This year's dearly departed saints include: *Clarence Chapman, Clarence "Jr." Burda, Oroville Anderson, and Martha Reitzel*. All in worship this day will have the opportunity to light candles in memory/honor of their own loved ones.

Christmas Poinsettia Memorials

Poinsettia Memorial Order Forms are available in the narthex and the basement. You can order poinsettias this year in honor or in memory of a loved one, the plants will be delivered to church and displayed throughout the holiday worship services. Plants may be taken home after the services on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. The due date for these orders are December 11th. You may also call the church office or mail in an order request. The cost is \$12.00 with the choice of color: pink, white, red.

Holiday/Poinsettia fundraiser

It is that time of year again! These plants and some beautiful outdoor swags, wreaths, and mixed green deck plants will be available this year at *below suggested retail*. The proceeds will go to help fund the Africa Mission Trip. You can place your order at the table in the basement, or by contacting LaDonna Olson at 651-674-8526.

Attention Thrivent Members:

We have scheduled a Thrivent Meeting for **Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.** prior to the Worship Service. Take a minute to pick up a cup of coffee and then bring it to the meeting. We have been receiving "Choice Dollars" this past year and would like your input/ideas of how to best meet our Congregations/Building Needs in the upcoming year with these funds. We will also review our membership, Thrivent Choice Dollars, the Chisago Co. Thrivent Board information and any questions you may have about Thrivent Funding. Look forward to seeing many of you there.

Announcements, Events & Activities (cont'd)

Keep an eye out for the Giving Tree again this year!

We will be supporting 5 local families again this year. The gift tags will be put up on the tree for Sunday, November 27th and the gifts will be due on Dec 11th.

The Gift That Keeps On Giving

This is the best time ever to shop with scrip! Retailers are pulling out all the stops this season and are eager for your EARLY sale. Many of the retailers are offering BONUS contributions on their gift cards, in addition to never before seen sales events. Whether purchasing cards for gifts, or to buy items for yourself, help out the Companion Village Project in Iringa, Tanzania by purchasing cards after worship, downstairs, or through Sister LaDonna at 651-674-8526 or ladolson@msn.com. **Check out the order form inserted in this newsletter for great gift ideas & to see the percent that Fish Lake earns back!**

Are you a family in need of some financial assistance, or do know of a family that is?

Members of Fish Lake Lutheran volunteer their time at the *Shalom Thrift Store* in Cambridge; because of the generosity of their time, Fish Lake Lutheran receives funds each month to help families with financial struggles. Shalom also donates \$10 vouchers to Fish Lake Lutheran to give to families who are struggling financially to be used at the Shalom store. Please contact Pastor Dale or the church office if you, or someone you know, could benefit from either one or both of these services.

Bright Stars Backpack Drive UPDATE

Mom's Group is happy to announce that our *Smart Stars Backpack Drive* raised over \$350.00. Along with product donations we were capable of contributing 21 backpacks to local school children! Mom's Group would like to thank all of the people who helped us make this possible. We couldn't have done it without them!

In Response to the Backpack Drive, Cambridge Primary School says "Thank you!"

Dear Christine Meager and MOM's Group at Fish Lake Lutheran Church, The staff & families of Cambridge Primary School would like to thank you for your donation of school supplies for our students. We appreciate your generous donation as well as your kindness for students & families who need some support at this time. The staff appreciates your support for our school. Thank you!

~Denise Steinberg, School Social Worker & Chris Grote, Principal

November 2011

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| | | 1 | 2 WELCA 9:00 am Play & Pray – 9:15-11 am God's Chimers 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir 7:15pm | 3 |
| 6 <i>All Saint's Sunday</i> Holy Communion Daylight Saving Time Ends | 7 | 8 Annual Pork Dinner 4-6:30 pm | 9 Play & Pray – 9:15-11 am F55 11:00am God's Chimers 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir 7:15pm | 10 Church Cou Meeting 7:00 |
| 13 <i>Twenty-second Sunday After Pentecost</i> 9:00am Thrivent Meeting 1st Grade Faith Morsels during worship Mission, Ministry & Facility Needs Finding & Recommendation Report following worship Faith4Life 6-8pm | 14 | 15 | 16 Play & Pray – 9:15-11 am God's Chimers 6:30pm Confirmation 6:30pm Choir 7:15pm | 17 Knitters 7:00 |
| 20 <i>Christ the King</i> Holy Communion T.I.M. Team planning meeting & pizza 11:00am | 21 Kids Klub 5:30- 7:15pm | 22 Prime Time 11:00 am | 23 <i>No Confirmation</i> 7:00 pm Thanksgiving Eve Worship | 24 Thanksgiving <i>Church Office</i> |
| 27 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> WELCA Food Shelf Sunday-bring donations! | 28 | 29 | 30 Play & Pray –9:15-11 am 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper 7:00 p.m. Advent Wor- ship | Snow It is that ti to help sho ceive snow soul! Plea informatio |

| Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| | 4 | 5 |
| Council 7pm | 11 Veterans Day Temple Visit 6:00-10:30pm | 12 Scrapbooking 8:30-6:00pm 1st grade Faith Morsels 10:00am |
| 10:00pm | 18 | 19 Block of the Month 8:30 am |
| Prayer Day <i>Closed</i> | 25 <i>Church Office Closed</i> | 26 Decorate Christmas Tree 9:00 am <i>(all are welcome!)</i> |

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult Ed
 9:00 a.m. Sunday School
 10:00 a.m. Worship
 Refreshments and fellowship

Ushers

6th
13th Joe & Stephanie Hughes
20th
27th

Acolytes

6th Erica Rothmeyer & Tina Nelson
13th
20th Nick Solberg & Michael Pilz
27th Tess Gustafson & Alexia Hilber

Offering Counters

6th Cindy Blesener, Rick & Deb Lofboom
13th Joel & Katie Santjer, Mary Kay Linder, Candy Twingstrom
20th Julie Osborne, Diane Solberg, and Wendy Norling
27th Mary Street, Bill/Michelle Young

Coffee Hosts

6th
13th Sunday School- Trent & Jennifer Kroschel, Julie Pilz, Deb Robinson
20th Leap of Faith- Mark & Paula Rehder, Rick & Amy Johnson, Cory & Lisa Nephew
27th WELCA

Shovel Volunteers Needed!

It's snowed for the first time of year already- we need volunteers to shovel the sidewalks and steps after we receive snow. It is great exercise for the body and helps to clear the driveway. Please contact the church office for more information and to put your name on the "shoveler list."



FAMILY · FRIENDS · FOOD · FUN · FAITH

A HALLOWEEN PARTY!

at the home of Sue, Tim, & Gunnar Kane

Come in Costume!

Sunday, October 30th, 4-7pm

We will enjoy the fire, corn maze, a hayride, Trick-or-treating (from car trunks!) and games.

We will worship together outdoors. Dinner will be provided.

Bring a bag of candy to share for the trick or treating!

A Reminder...

There is **NO F5** in November!

SAVE THE DATE!

Sunday, December 4th 5-7pm

Christmas Games and Advent Reflections



A Good Old Fashioned

Game Day!

F55

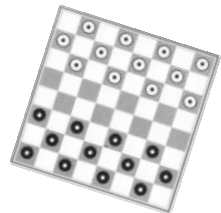
Wednesday, November 9

11:00am—Games

12:00pm—Potluck Lunch

Bring your games!

Yahtzee—Cribbage—Scrabble—Rummikub—Cards—Checkers



FAMILY · FRIENDS · FOOD · FUN · FAITH

A Message From Sister LaDonna

I recently attended the annual gathering of the Deaconess Community in Chicago. It was a significant year for the community and I was asked to plan the worship services (4) that would be held over the 4 days of the gathering.

As the deadline for printing neared, I was a wreck as I agonized over the liturgies and hymns, instrumental parts and interactive scriptures and poems. There were a lot of other things going on in my family's life at the time and I told myself that I would never agree to do their worship planning again.

But, similar to giving birth to a child, after the worship services were held and turned out beautifully, I changed my mind about the agony and decided that I would love to plan the services again for next year.

I believe that many times in our life, God allows us to go through the pain and anxiety of something so that a new thing might be born in us. The new thing is probably what God had in mind all along, but as the philosopher said, *"Nothing that's worthwhile is ever easy."* For me, that new thing was a renewed sense of confidence in my abilities and an affirmation of my gifts and creativity. Who knows where God will use those abilities?

*What are the possibilities for new birth going on in your life right now?
Is there a pain or anxiety that you could let go of because you can trust God with the result?*

Whether you consider them *"growing pains"* or *"birth pains,"* the Spirit is at work within each of us to draw us nearer to the heart of God.

If you would like to share your story you can connect with me at ladolson@msn.com or 651-67-8526.

"Nothing that's worthwhile is ever easy."



November Mission of the Month— *Cambridge & North Branch Family Pathway's Food Pantry*

The winter and holiday's adds extra expenses to already struggling families. Fish Lake Lutheran Church has decided to love and care for our neighbors by supporting our local food pantry.

Food for thought: *Holiday meal items*



Always Welcome...

Monetary Donations: No amount is too small; due to bulk buying opportunities, your donated dollars can stretch a long way!

Food items: canned foods and boxed foods (such as hamburger helper, tuna helper, beef stew and soup), cereal, peanut butter, jelly, spaghetti sauce, juice, rice, pasta, potatoes, sugar, flour, baking mixes.

Personal items: toilet paper, bar soap, deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo/conditioner

Household items: dish soap, paper towels, laundry soap and cleaning supplies of all kinds.

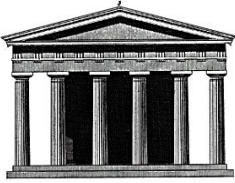


FLL Food Shelf Garden Update

End of year total: 1,239 pounds!!!

of FRESH, NUTRITIOUS vegetables has been donated this summer & fall!

In July, **44 pounds**, and in August, **703 pounds**, and in September, **462 pounds**, and in October, **33 pounds** of produce was picked and donated to our local food pantries in Cambridge & North Branch. Yea God! *Thank you so much to everyone that has helped! What a wonderful way to serve and care for our surrounding community! Yea God!!!*



A JEWISH TEMPLE VISIT

Members of Fish Lake Lutheran are invited to accompany the confirmation class as they visit the Jewish Synagogue, *Temple of Aaron*, in St. Paul on,

Friday, November 11th

We will be meeting at church to carpool at 6:00 pm

We will return to church around 10:30 pm

Please eat before you come.

Dress nicely, out of respect for their worship.

Parents are encouraged to attend with their son or daughter.

The visit will include an introduction to Judaism from a member of the *Temple of Aaron* before attending their Shabat (Sabbath) service.

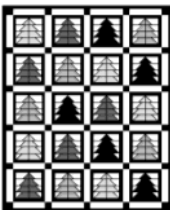
Please contact Carrie Stiles or the church office if you plan to attend.

Tanzania, Africa – A Mission Trip Opportunity

Fish Lake Lutheran will be sending its fourth delegation of its members to Tanzania to visit our partner congregation, Wasa, the beginning of October, 2012. Pastor Dale and his family will also be there on their sabbatical! Contact Pr. Dale or LaDonna Olson if you are interested in participating in this life-changing mission opportunity!



FLL Block of the Month HOLIDAY QUILT drawing!



Tickets are being sold for \$5 each. They may be purchased from any *Block of the Month* participant, or downstairs after worship.

All proceeds will benefit equally the North Branch Crisis Nursery & the North Branch Senior Center. The goal is to raise \$500 for each of these missions.

The drawing will be held on December 17 during Block of the Month (*need not be present to win.*) The quilt is on display in the Fish Lake Lutheran basement or online at www.fishlakelutheran.org

NEWS4YOUTH

CONFIRMATIONNEWS4U

Wednesday, November 2 Fellowship Event—**GAME NITE**

Bring your favorite board game and a snack to share!

Wednesday, November 9 "Intro to Sacraments"

Friday, November 11 Temple of Aaron Visit

Meet at church at 6pm to carpool to the Temple

Wednesday, November 16 "Baptism-Washed in the Water"

Wednesday, November 23 THANKSGIVING BREAK

Wednesday, November 30 Advent Worship at 7pm

Joel and Amy's Classes will serve the Soup Supper



For All in
Grades
6th-12th

Come watch movie clips and talk about how they tie into our faith.

Sundays 9-9:45am

- Nov. 6 *13 Going on 30*
- Nov. 13 *Spiderman II*
- Nov. 20 *Lion King*
- Nov. 27 *Jerry Maguire*

Faith4life

It's on
Sunday Night!
It's Just for
Senior High!
It's Sunday,
November 13th
6pm-8pm

Bring a friend and a snack to share

We will hang out, play games, dig into God's word and worship together.

News4Kids

KID'S KLUB

Now on Mondays!!!

FOR: K to 5th Grade

WHEN: MON. Nov. 21st
5:30-7:15pm

Supper, Games, Songs,
Crafts, Bring a Friend!



1st Grade
Milestone

God's Chimers

Join the Chimers practicing
Wednesday nights at 6:30pm

For all 3rd-5th Graders

Saturday, Nov. 12, 10:00am

Gather at church with your parents to make a Faith Mug and talk about how asking questions is an important way to learn about God.

Sunday, Nov. 13th

During worship you will presented your Faith Mug and be blessed by the congregation.

sundayschool

Sunday, November 6th

"Moses and the Burning Bush"

Sunday, November 13th CELEBRATION SUNDAY

We will be beginning to get ready for the Christmas Program.
All Sunday School Students will be singing in worship!

Sunday, November 20th

Work on the Christmas Program

Sunday, November 27th

Work on the Christmas Program

SUNDAY SCHOOL is from 9:00-9:45 Sunday mornings



Thank You! Thank You!



- ◇ Our deepest and most heartfelt thanks and gratitude to our Fish Lake family. You have continued to bless us with your unfailing love, prayers and generosity and with them made miracles for us – big and small. You have given us Grace, Peace and *Joy* in more ways than we would have ever thought possible. Our love and prayers for God's riches blessings to you. ~*Jill, Eric, Emma and Tess*
- ◇ Thank you Pastor Dale and the Fish Lake Lutheran congregation for all the prayers, cards and calls I received both for my brother, Bob, and for my surgeries and recovery. I praise God for our church, it is so full of love and caring. We are so blessed! ~*Luella Pinotti*
- ◇ My grandson, Cody Anderson, was one of the fortunate high school graduates who attend Fish Lake Lutheran Church. I was at the service where each graduate was given a quilt made by the Quilters of the church. What a wonderful gift! I am aware of how much time and planning go into each quilt. It is a project I would never even know how to start.

So you can imagine my thrill when I won two (2) quilts at Quilt Bingo! The first I gave to my daughter Kari who is decorating a room for her new granddaughter. The second quilt, "Squares in the Air," I kept for myself. The quilt will be added to a small collection I have of special quilts. One is made from a quilt top which survived our house fire and was made by my grandmother. Another is a retirement gift from close friends and now I am able to add the quilt made by your talented quilters, Jane Chapman and Barb Peterson.

I am enclosing a photo of the beautiful quilts from the Baccalaureate Service for the Fish Lake graduates. Thank you for sharing your time and talent with all of the people who appreciate and benefit from your skill. ~*Sara Morawski*

- ◇ Thank you so much to everyone who donated their time, resources, services and support to the "Joy for Jill" event. It was nothing short of miraculous to watch the body of Christ move and work with an entire community, driven solely by LOVE! Words cannot describe how amazing it was to be part of something so much larger than ourselves. Thank you also to our sister church, Trinity Lutheran Church in North Branch, for their support and love, too! ~*Team Jill*

WELCA Meeting Minutes—October 5, 2011

The meeting was opened by our president, Barb Sauer.

I. Reports

- A. The secretary's report was read and accepted.
- B. The treasurer's report was read and accepted.
- C. Thank you notes were read from Cambridge & North Branch Food Shelves and from Scott, Sarah, Sauger and Sadler for the baptism baby quilt.

On October 23, WELCA will serve something pumpkin for coffee hour.

Old Business

Baptismal, Wedding, and Graduation quilts will need to be started for supply purposes.

Bread for Visitors program still on hold.

The Fall Cluster Meeting will be held on October 8, at Almelund at 8:30am.

Nicci Elmer will pick up the kitchen ceiling fan at Menards and Chris Yelle is ready to do the installation.

Quilt Bingo Report:

Proceeds distributed: Food Shelf \$100.00, Refuge \$1,000.00, Habitat for Humanity \$300.00

A suggestion was made to close the kitchen while we play bingo.

Block of the Month: October 15, at 8:30a.m. Speaker Ginny Thorn. Two new members joined the group.

Bundles of Love: The knitting group will participate. We will offer yarn from our supply. Sharon is working on our display. We are doing this for Mission of the Month.

New Business

Pork Dinner: November 8th, Tuesday. Crafts and Bake Sale Volunteers will be needed for crafts, Bake Sale, desserts, servers and people to clean up. Sign up sheets are hanging in the basement.



Balance brought Forward-
\$2,284.56

Income:

LCW Offering-27.85
Doll Bed Drawing-50.00
Food Shelf-107.12
Block of the Month-31.00
Quilt Bingo lunch-480.00
Quilt Bingo- 4,020.05
Total: \$4,715.07

Expenses:

Camb/North Branch Food Shelf-207.12
Vine & Branches postage-180.00
Dishwasher Repair-417.00
Quilt Bingo Beg. Cash-500.00
Equal Exchange-226.50
The Refuge-1,000.00
Bingo Card Rental/
Applebees Gift Card-138.02
Tablecloth Fabric/frames for tables-71.94
Seed Cash for "Joy for Jill"-300.00
FDIC charge- .50
Total: \$3,041.08

Balance on Hand- \$3,959.50

WELCA Meeting Minutes—*cont'd*

"Joy for Jill": A motion was made and seconded to donate \$300.00. (This was the amount given for the change at the event.)

Tapestry/Dignity quilt for Comfort Homes. Fabric was selected today for this quilt.

Donation Thank You Notes: Barb will send thank you notes for all the donations for Quilt Bingo.

A motion was made and seconded to pay the balance of the Swedish Men's Choir.

Thank you to Marcie Whitman for taking notes today in Sharon's absence.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Petit, Secretary



It's that time of year already...

Saturday, November 26, 9:00am

All families are invited to help decorate the church Christmas Tree and Sanctuary!

...Time to decorate the tree!

Attention Thrivent Members! We have scheduled a Thrivent Meeting for **Sunday, November 13, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.** prior to the Worship Service. Take a minute to pick up a cup of coffee and then bring it to the meeting. We have been receiving "Choice Dollars" this past year and would like your input/ideas of how to best meet our Congregations/Building Needs in the upcoming year with these funds. We will also review our membership, Thrivent Choice Dollars, the Chisago Co. Thrivent Board information and any questions you may have about Thrivent Funding. Look forward to seeing many of you there.



**Thrivent
Financial**
for Lutherans

2011 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP AT FISH LAKE LUTHERAN

| Date | Actual Offering | Budgeted Offering | Percent | Above/Below Budget | Worship Attendance |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| September 4 | \$5,623.00 | \$3,375.00 | 167% | \$2,248.00 | 113 |
| September 11 | \$3,305.00 | \$3,375.00 | 98% | -\$70.00 | 193 |
| September 18 | \$2,062.00 | \$3,375.00 | 61% | -\$1,313.00 | 161 |
| September 25 | \$2,778.00 | \$3,375.00 | 82% | -\$597.00 | 138 |
| YEAR TO DATE | \$120,815.35 | \$131,625.00 | 92% | -\$10,809.65 | |

We give God thanks and praise for such faithful worship attendance and financial stewardship at Fish Lake Lutheran! Praise the Lord!

MEMORIALS

Fish Lake Lutheran gives many thanks for gifts received:

- ◇ In memory of *Orville Anderson*, from Pastor Walter & Mary Beth Leitze to be used for Building Restoration.
- ◇ In memory of *Olaf & Martha Reitzel* from Al & Kelly Reitzel and Paul & Cynthia Reitzel (sons & daughters-in-law) to help maintain the historical integrity of Fish Lake Lutheran Church.



Join with one another during worship on Sunday, November 6th to remember the following Saints who have gone before us since last All Saint's Sunday:

Clarence Chapman

Clarence "Jr." Burda

Orville Anderson

Martha Reitzel

A candle will be lit in their memory and the church bell will toll one time for each of them.

GROW

At Fish Lake Lutheran Church

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Harris, MN 55032

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Online: www.fishlakelutheran.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 8:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.

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Dale Stiles

Director of Youth and Family Ministry

Carrie Stiles

Administrative Assistant

Nicole Linder

Financial Administrator

Lorrie Bauer

Director of Music Ministry

Sister LaDonna Olson

Pianist

Cindy Blesener

WELCA

Barb Sauer

Custodians

Robin Graham &

Tom Anderson

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Nancy Bengtson—President

Mary Crawford

Sue Kane

Jennifer Kroschel

Tom Lofboom—Secretary

Floyd Pinotti

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Joel Santjer—Vice President

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