



# VINE & BRANCHES

A Monthly Newsletter of Fish Lake Lutheran Church

July 2011

## Surprise Us, God! A 30-Day Faith Experiment

What would happen if, every morning for 30 days, you woke up and prayed this three-word prayer: *"Surprise me, God"* - without expectations, qualifiers, or strings attached? Not asking for *your* wishes, but *God's*. Intriguing idea isn't it? You'd likely be amazed at the variety of ways that God moves and acts in your life in response to such a prayer.

Now, what would happen if, every morning for 30 days, *everyone in our congregation* woke up and prayed the three-word prayer: *"Surprise Us, God"* - without expectations, qualifiers, or strings attached? Not asking for *our* wishes as a congregation, but *God's* wishes for our congregation. Well, this fall, we're going to find out. You and Fish Lake Lutheran, will likely be amazed at the variety of ways that God will move and act in your life and in the life our congregation in response to such a short, simple, and yet very powerful prayer.

On Rally Sunday, September 11, Terry Esau, the author of the book, *"Surprise Me, God: A 30-Day Faith Experiment"* will be at Fish Lake Lutheran to preach and invite us, as a congregation, to accept this challenge. So from Sunday, September 11 through Tuesday, October 11, all members of Fish Lake Lutheran will be asked to pray every morning, *"Surprise Us, God"*, while journaling and sharing throughout the experiment, the ways that God responds.

Esau describes this experiment like this:

"When I was a kid, I used to see how long I could hold my breath. I think I got up to two minutes and something, but I was always plenty happy to blow out that bad air and suck in some good. Sometimes we Christians seem like we're playing the same game - we're spiritual breath-holders. We take in and take in, holding onto it as.....long.....as....we....possibly.....can. But by midweek life has sufficiently battered us to the point where the spiritual oxygen in our lungs has been depleted - all the love gets used up - and turns into spiritual CO<sub>2</sub>. So we blow out that stale air and run back to church to gulp in more sanctified air.

Not only is this exhausting, but we also leave our culture turning away from us, as if we have bad breath, or *spiritual halitosis*. Spiritual air that has been held for too long loses its love, its grace, its mercy. It smells of judgmentalism, legalism, and self-righteousness. It's hard to "love our neighbors as ourselves" when years of shallow breathing have left us in spiritual-oxygen debt.

(cont'd on pg. 2)

## Surprise Us, God! A Thirty-Day Faith Experiment (cont'd)

The *Surprise Us, God* experiment was my attempt to consciously place myself in God's presence daily, to intentionally experience that organic relationship throughout all the moments of my days, to breathe in Jesus through the spigot of each moment – whether in church or not. And it was good, maybe even better than church air! In fact, it was so good that I no longer wanted to hold it in. I wanted to blow it out immediately so I could breathe it in again and again.

I found myself compelled to exhale that same love on others. I didn't have to blow them over with it because I hadn't "held it" for months; I wasn't short of spiritual breath. Now I exhaled that same life-giving love and forgiveness that I had inhaled, minus the agenda-driven, performance-based works. Just as God had Surprised Me, now I got to surprise others. I got to be His love. I got to *Be the Surprise*.

Once we have *been* surprised, we are ready to *become* the surprise. And when we have received that love, we no longer love out of obligation or duty. We love....*because*. We love *because He first loved us*. We love *naturally* – as naturally as breathing.

When we learn to breathe spiritually, everything changes. Everything. It leads to freedom, peace, authenticity, and genuine relationships where love is comfortably received and given – inhaled and exhaled."

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So with that understanding, this fall, we at Fish Lake Lutheran, are going to *learn to breathe again*. We are going to welcome the author, Terry Esau, to Fish Lake Lutheran on Rally Sunday, September 11. Terry will challenge us that day, as a congregation, to pray "*Surprise Us, God*" for 30 days while we engage in book study groups for those who want to read the book and share their experiences with others during their faith experiment. Then Terry will return on Sunday, October 9 to challenge us again to "*Be the Surprise*" as we again, will be invited to read and study his follow-up book, "*Be the Surprise: Experiments in Spontaneous Faith*".

It is my hope that, through this kind of congregation-wide effort, that *God will surprise us in amazing and unexpected ways*. And, that individually, we will each go beyond knowing *about* God, to more intimately, *knowing* God.

And finally, at the end of our two-month "breathing lesson", we will confidently be able to say that we sincerely want what God wants for us at Fish Lake Lutheran – nothing more, nothing less – as He continues to use us as a brush in his hand – to reach out to and love others. Get ready to not only *be the surprise*, but to *be surprised!*

*P. Dale*



# FLL Summer Schedule



Don't miss all of the fun upcoming events happening  
at Fish Lake Lutheran church!

Mark the following dates on your calendar:

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## **AFRICA SUNDAY**

Sunday, July 10, 10:00 am

Africa Mission Trip Information Meeting following worship

## **LADIES NIGHT OUT**

Outdoor Movie Night at the home of Kris Fairbanks—Thursday, July 14, 7:00 pm

## **F55**

Munsinger & Clemens Gardens in St. Cloud, lunch at Ciatti's Italian Restaurant  
Wednesday, July 13, meet at the church at 9:00 am

## **BLOCK OF THE MONTH/CRAFT DAY**

BOM—Saturday, July 16, 8:30-9:30 am

Crafting—9:30-2:00 pm

## **PRIME TIME**

Tuesday, July 26, 11:00 am

## **OUTDOOR WORSHIP**

Sunday, July 31—Denver Youth Mission Trip Group,  
Congregational Potluck Picnic following worship  
Sunday, August 28—Dwayne Peterson & Family

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Sunday, August 7-11th, 5:30-8:00 pm

## **ANNUAL CORN FEED**

Friday, August 19, 5:30 pm

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## Pastor Dale's 2012 Sabbatical UPDATE—Theme, Purpose, Direction

*(This month I'd like to share another excerpt from our Lilly Endowment Clergy Renewal Grant Proposal. To reiterate, we will hear in late September whether or not we receive the grant. Keep praying we receive it!)*

### *"Overall theme, purpose, and direction of Pastor Dale's sabbatical"*

Two oft-quoted sayings continue to come to mind as plans for my sabbatical have taken shape. The first, articulated in various ways and by various people, "You can't feed others unless you feed yourself." And the second, credited to the famed Major League Baseball second baseman and later, team manager Gene Mauch, "You can't lead anyone else further than you have gone yourself." Both of these quotes are the foundation of the rationale on which I have planned a three-month sabbatical scheduled for fall of 2012 where I will be a pastor and teacher at University College of Tumaini University in Iringa, Tanzania.

My wife, Carrie, and I have served in different ministry settings for the past twenty years but only together in the same church for the past two years. We met at seminary – she obtaining a Master's Degree in Youth Ministry, and me, a Master's of Divinity which led to my ordination. We've fed the hearts, souls and minds of others for years; with lessons of love, grace and challenge. However, never have we stepped away for an extended period of time to feed our own hearts, souls and minds. Thus, my wife and three young children (ages 13, 9, 7) will join me on this journey of sabbatical and renewal. This sabbatical will provide the means necessary "to go further" and for "feeding ourselves in order to continue feeding others."

While I understand Gene Mauch's quote and sentiment was intended for a baseball team, it clearly applies to me and the context in which I and my family are serving. My wife and I are called to challenge others to *step out in faith* and *to be bold in their convictions* and to *listen for God's calling in their lives and to respond accordingly*. But how can we ask of others such obedience and faithfulness to God's will, if we, are not challenged in the *same way*?

This sabbatical is an opportunity for us to go to that place where we are calling others to go – a place of *faith* and *trust* and *adventure* – for the sake of Jesus Christ and His life-changing good news. Russian novelist, Leo Tolstoy said, "Everyone thinks of changing the world, but no one thinks of changing himself." The described sabbatical within this proposal intends to accomplish *both*.

*(cont'd on pg. 5)*

Sabbatical Update (cont'd from pg. 4)

Bishop Peter Rogness of the St. Paul Area Synod of the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America* has recommended and commended me to Bishop Owdenburg Mdgella of the Iringa Diocese of the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)*, and to Dr. Richard Lubawa and Pastor Peter Fue of *Iringa University College of Tumaini University* in Iringa, Tanzania. I will serve as a Pastor and Teacher for the first (three month) semester beginning in September 2012 among the Theology Faculty.

To serve in this way will not only be a cross-cultural experience for my family and I, but also for my students. We will learn from one another as we explore and make known the great mystery of the gospel in ways that will forever be remembered. This cross-cultural teaching opportunity is my way of *changing the world*. But in order to succeed at it, I understand I must also *change myself*. I will need to *step out in faith and be bold in my convictions while listening to God's call in my life and respond accordingly*.

Another important purpose of this sabbatical will be to strengthen the partnership our congregation has had for the past eight years with a little rural parish in the countryside outside of Iringa called Wasa. My presence in Iringa for three months will allow multiple opportunities for my family and I to visit Wasa. These visits, at times, will provide opportunity to simply attend worship, witness faith and experience trust through the eyes of another congregation. To experience such a seemingly ordinary thing will strengthen, renew, and inspire me as a person, a preacher, a teacher and leader. And still another important purpose of this time of renewal will be for my family and I to be fed spiritually. As we immerse ourselves in this experience we will be *renewed* in our callings to serve, *reassured* in our awareness of the Holy Spirit, and *restored* in the weariness that comes from remaining devoted and faithful to such callings. I personally look forward to this because having been the recipient of, and tasted the love, grace and warmth of the African culture before – if even for a short time – surely an *extended* time with them in their culture of grace, provides a life-changing experience for my whole family. “

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As always, I, and the *Sabbatical Support Committee* welcome any questions or need for clarification you might have. Don't hesitate to contact *myself*, Barb Sauer, Noel Petit, Paula Rehder, or Nancy Bengtson.

*P. Dale*

## Church Council Minutes—June 7, 2011

Members Present – Pastor Dale Stiles, Floyd Pinotti, Jen Kroschel, Paula Rehder, Sue Kane, Tom Lofboom, Nancy Bengtson: Members absent – Jason Wilking, Joel Santjer, Mary Crawford. Guest – Dick Wehrs, Pastor at Faith Lutheran Church, Coon Rapids and Development Consultant for Miller Architects & Builders

Meeting was called to order by President Nancy Bengtson.

**Devotions:** Led by Floyd Pinotti – "*The Road To Emmaus.*" Question was asked, "*Where are we seeing Jesus in our congregation?*"

Our guest, Pastor Dick Wehrs, spoke to us about the procedure he follows when addressing the congregation on its mission, ministry, and facility needs. 1. A "*Getting Started*" town hall-style meeting gets the process underway. Everyone in the church is invited to participate in identifying hopes, dreams, concerns and obstacles as the church's future is envisioned. 2. One-on-One, Professionally-Conducted Interviews, each about 45-50 minutes in length, are offered on a strictly confidential basis to a number of church members selected by the church council to match member profiles, and to others who are selected at random. 3. Focus Group discussions, also facilitated by Pastor Wehrs, allow members to talk with each other about what's important to them about their church. 4. E-mail Submitted Comments are treated with the same confidentiality as one-on-one interviews, sent directly to Pastor Wehrs' secure e-mail service. 5. The study concludes with a comprehensive written report of findings and recommendations directed to the church council and then passed on to the congregation. Total cost for this study is \$2200 (\$1600 donated so far). The "*Mission, Ministry and Facility Needs Study*" explores with people on a very personal level how they're feeling about their church and its future. The study discovers those things about which people are passionate, and, just as importantly, how to effectively communicate about potential challenges and obstacles. The church council will ask for references in regards to Pastor Wehrs and how the study has been conducted in other congregations. We will discuss and decide whether or not to conduct the study at our July meeting.

**Affirmations:** Terry Olson for grounds keeping, LaDonna Olson for covering for Pastor Dale during his vacation on May 29, and the WELCA at Fish Lake for all of their hard work on the memorial day ham dinner.

## Church Council Minutes– *continued*

**Pastor's Report:** Confirmation – confirmed 16 eighth graders this year. They gathered together on May 15 to celebrate with their families for rehearsal and dinner. On May 22 they celebrated the rite of confirmation, with 300 people in attendance! Other items included the up-coming window re-dedication; led music for the monthly birthday party at GracePointe in Cambridge; two Baptisms; Memorial Day service and ham dinner; Orville Anderson funeral; wedding for Sandy Satterlund and Bill Brown; Graduate Recognition Sunday. Sabbatical Update – Pastor Dale asked the council to formally vote to approve his Sabbatical. He has applied for a Lilly Grant that would fully fund the sabbatical for his family and the congregation. The question was asked if he would be getting paid his full salary during his leave. Synod sabbatical guidelines encourage this. Pastor Dale's salary for three months is roughly \$15,000. A full-time interim pastor for three months would be compensated this same amount, which the Lilly Grant would cover. Without the grant, *part-time* interim ministry for three months could be pursued for a significantly lesser amount. Motion passed 5-1.

### Committee Reports

**Christian Education/Youth** – Two more spring spruce ups on June 11th and June 13th.

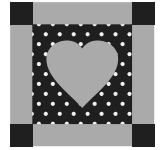
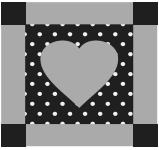
**WELCA** – Made \$736.00 from Ham dinner. 56 people signed up for "Block of the Month." Purchased new frying pan. Ceiling fan was discussed.

### Old Business:

**Bernice's house** – a July 5 deadline was set for the two interested parties to purchase. After that the home will advertised for sale among our members and communities. We should all try and promote the sale. Summer Stretch youth will clean the home and tend to the lawn. **Repairs** – *Borderline* bid the parking lot, sealing and lining for \$6,999.00. This will be discussed at our July council meeting. If any congregation member has an alternative company that would like to bid the parking lot improvements contact Tom Lofboom at 651-439-6342 or tom\_lofboom@hotmail.com **Corn feed** – August 19th. Assignments will be given at July 5th meeting. **LaDonna's request to be "Called"** as Minister of Worship and Music. Congregation must vote to "Call" her. We will pursue this if, through our mission, ministry and facility needs study (if Pastor Wehrs is hired) it comes up as a need. **Kitchen and Catering** was discussed by council. We will discuss in detail at our next meeting.

**Financial report** – Approved  
Meeting Adjourned at 9:35pm

Respectfully Submitted, *Tom Lofboom*



# Join us at the 5th Annual Quilt Bingo at Fish Lake Lutheran Church

*"Our lives are like quilts—bits and pieces,  
joy and sorrow, stitched with love."*

Saturday, September 17, 2011  
11:30 Lunch and 1:00 Bingo

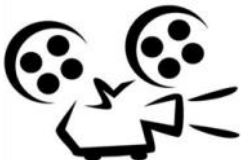
In addition to playing Quilt Bingo,  
there will be several door prize drawings through the afternoon,  
all handcrafted items.

**Sponsored by the Women of Fish Lake WELCA**

## **Hand crafted American Girl Doll sized beds with storage for sale!**

Our WELCA ladies have been busy making doll beds, one of which will be given away by raffle. Raffle tickets will continue to be sold at **\$5 for one, \$10 for three**; the drawing to be held at the Corn Feed in August.

We are going to offer to our congregation the opportunity to purchase the other 3 that will be on display downstairs. This storage/doll bed comes with a storage area, and *hand made* bedding, to include a *beautiful quilt*. We are asking **\$75 each**, the *entire* proceeds of which will be donated to one of WELCA's missions



## **Ladies Night Out! Outdoor Movie Night**

Last year's event was such a success that Ladies Group has decided to have another '**OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT**' **Thursday, July 14th at 7:00 p.m.** at the home of Kris Fairbanks. So come join in the laughter with the Ladies of Fish Lake Lutheran. Rain or Shine. We look forward to seeing you there! There is no cost to attend, just bring your girl friends and get ready to relax. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Meagher or the church office.

## A Message From Sister LaDonna

Anyone who has been to my house will know that I love books. This can be explained by two of my StrengthsFinder themes, Learner and Input. I love to learn and I love to collect. I have one entire shelf of books that are guides for daily devotions. I have often used these as recommendations to people that come for spiritual direction. I also like being able to change my own daily discipline by switching the book I use for daily devotions.

To a lot of us, finding the time and the discipline for doing a daily devotion is a monumental task. We all struggle with this at various times of our lives. Yet I think we all believe that we should find a way to **daily connect with God**. That connection gives us a clearer, calmer perspective on life and its struggles.

So is there a book that I would recommend as a place to start or restart the discipline of daily devotion? Absolutely! And you already have that book as part of your Bible. There is one book that is considered the *prayerbook of the Bible*. That is the Psalms!

The Psalms are that collection of writings that tell us about both God's character and our own struggles, joys and yearnings. In the Psalms we can find every human emotion. There are cries of anguish and shouts of joy and praise. You can read an entire chapter a day, or spend several days on one verse. There are no rules, just the invitation from God to meet you each day.

I would love to hear your experiences with Psalms. How has your life been enriched because of a chapter or verse from Psalms? You can connect with me at [ladolson@msn.com](mailto:ladolson@msn.com).

## Outdoor Worship & Potluck Picnic

Led by the Denver, Colorado  
Youth Mission Trippers.

**Sunday, July 31**

*Watch the bulletin announcements &  
website for more details!*



# July 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>3</b> <i>Third Sunday After Pentecost</i> Holy Communion	<b>4 Independence Day</b> <i>Church Office Closed</i>	<b>5</b> Church Council Meeting 7:00 pm	<b>6</b> WELCA 9:00 am Play & Pray – 9:15-11 am Summer Stretch 9-4:30	<b>7</b>
<b>10</b> <i>Fourth Sunday After Pentecost</i> <b>Africa Sunday</b> <i>Africa Mission Trip Informational Meeting following worship</i>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <b>F55 11:00 am</b> Play & Pray – 9:15-11 am Summer Stretch 9-4:30	<b>14</b> <b>Ladies Night</b> <b>home of K</b> <b>banks 7:00</b>
<b>17</b> <i>Fifth Sunday After Pentecost</i> Holy Communion  <i>Vine &amp; Branches items due</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>  Play & Pray –9:15-11 am Summer Stretch 9-4:30	<b>21</b>
<b>24</b> <i>Sixth Sunday After Pentecost</i> WELCA Food Shelf Sunday	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  11:00 am Prime Time	<b>27</b>  Play & Pray –9:15-11 am	<b>28</b>
<b>31</b> <i>Seventh Sunday After Pentecost</i> <b>Outdoor Worship &amp; Potluck Picnic</b>				

## Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m. Adult Ed

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Worship

Refreshments and fellowship

### Ushers

Ushers are needed for the summer months. Please contact the church office to sign up. Thank you!

### Offering Counters

**3rd** Rick & Debbie Lofboom, and  
Cindy Blesener

**10th** Joel & Katie Santjer, Mary Kay Linder

**17th** Julie Osborne, Jami Wilking,  
and Wendy Norling

**24th** Nancy Bengtson, Nicci Elmer, and  
Mary Crawford

**31st** Sue Kane, Jennifer Kroschel, and  
Paula Rehder

### Coffee Hosts

**3rd** Joel & Katie Santjer

**10th** Dennis & Kathy Elmstrand, Tony &  
Marilyn Wicklund

**17th** Leap of Faith

**24th** WELCA

**31st** Mom's Group

### Summer Coffee Servers Needed

Treats are provided!

Hosts need to set up, serve, and clean up. People interested can either sign up on the bulletin board downstairs or contact Julie Osborne 763-689-2222, Marilyn Wicklund 651-674-2085, or the church office.

Thank you!

Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2
	8	9
Light Out at Kris Fair- 10 pm	15	16 <b>Block of the Month</b> 8:30 am Craft Day 9-2:00 pm
	22  Denver, Colorado Youth Mission Trip	23
	29	30

## July Mission of the Month— “Bright Stars Backpack” Drive

The Mom’s Group at Fish Lake Lutheran is starting the “Bright Stars Backpack” drive. We are stepping out into our local community to help the school children get ‘geared up’ for classes this fall.

*Help us to fill backpacks and bring smiles to the many children in our local schools who cannot afford to purchase all the supplies needed to start the school year.* We will have a donation box in the basement of the church for school supplies.



We are collecting these sorts of items: **Backpacks, paper notebooks, 3-ring binders, #2 pencils, markers, glue sticks, crayons, Kleenex, pencil boxes (pouches), scissors, and Ziploc bags.** Money donated to the Bright Stars Backpack drive is one of the most effective ways to contribute. This can be done by using the Special Giving Envelopes in the pew and writing – “Backpack Drive” on the envelope. Thank you for your donations. Please know they will go to serve our local community and help our local families.

### Got Thrivent?

If you have financial products through the fraternal organization, *Thrivent Financial for Lutherans*, you have the opportunity to direct additional financial support to Fish Lake Lutheran. Through a pro-gram called “Choice Dollars” you can indicate that you would like to see Fish Lake Lutheran receive a portion of what would otherwise be given to other organizations. Find out more at [www.thrivent.org](http://www.thrivent.org).

### Wasa 2012 Mission Trip

Plans continue to fall into place for a *fourth* visit to our Companion Congregation in Wasa, Tanzania during fall of 2012. Eight members of our congregation have already expressed interest in the journey. Pastor Dale and his family will be there on sabbatical during our visit. Please join us for an unforgettable and life-changing experience as we visit our brothers and sisters in Christ at Wasa and the Iringa area in Tanzania, East Africa. **An informational meeting will follow our Africa Celebration Service on Sunday, July 10.** For more information, please contact Pastor Dale or Sister LaDonna Olson.



## IN MEMORIAL

*Fish Lake Lutheran Church sincerely appreciates gifts received from:*

David Schaaf and Katie Schaaf in memory of *Mindi Schaaf*, to be used toward the improvement of the playground.

Alan Soderberg, Terry Olson, Delores Olson in memory of *Orville Anderson*.

Wally & Marilyn Truh in memory of *loved ones*.

## IN HONOR OF

*Fish Lake Lutheran gives sincere thanks for the gift received from:*

Rick & Amy Johnson in honor of *Brandon Johnson's Confirmation*.

## FUNERAL

We share in the sorrow of the family of *Orville Everett Anderson* whose funeral was on June 3. May the support and care of family and friends, and the promise of the resurrection to eternal life, be a source of comfort and hope in this time of grief.

## WEDDING

*Sandra Kay Satterlund* and *William Richard Brown* were married on Saturday, June 4th. May God bless their life together!

## BAPTISM

We celebrated the baptism of *Patricia L. Nygaard* on June 21st. We welcome her into the Lord's family!

To God Be the Glory!

# F55

## **A Visit to Munsinger and Clemens Gardens in St. Cloud followed by a lunch at Ciatti's Italian Restaurant.**

**Meet at Church Wednesday, July 13, at 9:00am**

**A bus will be rented to allow us to travel together.**

**Please RSVP by Wednesday, July 6 to reserve a spot on the bus!**

**FAMILY · FRIENDS · FOOD · FUN · FAITH**

## *“Surprise Us, God!”*

*A 30-Day Faith Experiment for Fish Lake Lutheran Church*

*September 11 – October 11, 2011*

What if we, as members of Fish Lake Lutheran Church, started each day with those three words? No agendas, no plans other than waiting on God with eager anticipation of what is about to happen next in our lives and for our congregation.

Terry Esau, author of *Surprise Me, God* and *Be the Surprise*, will be at Fish Lake Lutheran on Rally Sunday, September 11, to invite us pray that prayer every day for 30 days.

Esau likens this invitation to a *Spiritual Breath-Freshener*, asking questions like:

*Does your church have bad breath?*

*What would happen if we, the church, learned how to breathe spiritually?*

*What would happen if we regularly inhaled the love of God?*

*What would happen if we began to exhale that same love?*

*What would our church look like and how would it impact our community if we lived out those “breathing” patterns?*

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*As always on Rally Day, we'll celebrate the Reception of New Members, share in pot-luck lunch, and invite our children and youth to play at our outdoor carnival of games and activities.*



## ***Fish Lake Bible Campers***

Please pray for our youth who will be at  
Lake Wapogasset Bible Camp, Amery, WI, this month.  
They are:

### **Seeds Camp (July 8-10)**

*Annalise Schaaf, Annica Stiles, Clay Wilking,  
Kristina Gerard, Kristi Pilz*

### **Youth Camp (July 10-15)**

*Charlie Rehder, Lydia Rehder, Tyler Nelson, Tina Nelson, Caleb Stiles, Zack Douglas, Sophie  
Linder, Gretta Kordosky, Jacob Neria, Taylor Mlinar, Tess Gustafson*

### **T.I.M. (Teens In Ministry) Team (July 8-15)**

*Brandon Johnson, Brandon Elmer, Jacob Pauna, Kenzie Niedzielski, Michael Nelson, Maranda  
Nelson, Kelly Nelson, Will Young, Mikayla Carlson, Valerie Kordosky, Gunnar Kane, Charlie  
Linder, Newell Fisk, Kendra Lovin, Emma Gustafson, Megan Strohecker, Sami Klein,  
Austen Wek, Riley Karpen*

*Pastor Dale and Carrie will also be spending time at camp with our campers, especially with our  
T.I.M. Team as they covenant for a year of service and mission at FLLC.*

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## ***Fish Lake Denver Colorado Mission Trip***

Please pray for our youth and leaders that are taking part in  
the Denver, Colorado Youth Mission Trip on July 22-30.



*Marjace & Jared Crawford; Brandon & Jeff Elmer; Kris & Allison Fairbanks; Emma Gustafson;  
Brandon & Marissa Johnson; Gunnar & Sue Kane; Austin & Riley Karpen; Sami Klein;  
Charles LeTourneau; Charlie & Eric Linder; Kendra Lovin; Holly Maeckelbergh;  
Gavin & Devon Mlinar; Bailey Murawski; Jonelle, Maranda, Michael, Kelly, Tina, & Tyler  
Nelson; Kenzie Niedzielski; Jacob Pauna; Jake, Michael, & Nick Pilz; Paula & Charlie Rehder;  
Zoe Reider; Ashley Richter; Matt & Nick Solberg; Carley Sterbentz; Bethany Stiles;  
Carrie, Dale, & Caleb Stiles; Megan Strohecker; Austen Wek; Courtney & Will Young*

## **SAFARI into AFRICA**



**Trek to Africa!**

**Play with animals!**

**Go on a Safari!**

**Discover God's love on  
the journey!**

### **At Fish Lake Lutheran's 2011 Vacation Bible School!**

*Know God! Talk to God! Tell about God! Love God! Work for  
God! Live for God!*

Children age 3 and up join us from 5:30-8:00 pm.  
Supper will be served at 5:30pm.

**Sunday, August 7th -Thursday, August 11th**  
**Cost: \$8 per child or \$15 per family**

Registration begins Sunday, June 26th.

Listen to God call you to come and play with the kids at  
Fish Lake this summer.

**Volunteers needed to:** Help with crafts, serve meals, publicity,  
decorating, helping with games, songs, drama team to tell, shop-  
keepers, or travel with a group as a shepherd. **Sign up on the  
board in the basement!**

*Questions? Ask Carrie (763-689-5711)*

# carrie's

*We have prepared and prayed, we have planned and prayed, fundraised together and prayed, we have played together and prayed. On July 22nd, 39 youth and 11 adults from Fish Lake will head west to the mountains to find out what God will do in their lives and do through them in the lives of others. Despite all the planning and preparation that goes into a Mission Trip, the most exciting part is experiencing the amazing ways that God works in our lives and through us.*

**DENVER:** Denver sits almost at the exact center of the country. Thirty-two percent of residents are Hispanic and Latino descent and 11 percent are African-American. "Colorado" is a Spanish word that means 'colored red' and was commonly used to describe the mountains of this region. Like many urban areas, there are pockets of Denver that struggle with affordable housing and poverty. There are 4,600 homeless individuals in the city, 43 % that are women and children and living in motels, shelters, or other temporary housing.

Some of the site we will be serving at are:

**Brothers Redevelopment, Inc.**-house repair and painting, **Food Bank of the Rockies**, **Salvation Army Children's Programs**, **COMPA Food Ministries**, **Denver Metro Ministries**-donation distribution, **Extreme Community Makeover**-community service and neighborhood projects

*We ask that you pray for us. For the work God can do through us, and thus the congregation of Fish Lake that sends us. Also, for the ways that God can work in the lives of all in our group. Lives will be changed and we are excited to see how!*

# corner

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## FLL Food Shelf Garden Update

Our second Food Shelf Garden is off to a good start. On Thursday, May 26 a group of hard working gardeners planted a new garden site that Rick Lofboom had prepared for us. It is back by the cemetery shed and is a very nice plot. On Sunday June 12, several adults and children joined me in the garden to hoe around the plants and set up the sprinkler. Noel Petit and Brandon Elmer got the tiller going and tilled on Monday, June 13th. We were all excited to have the Summer Stretch kids pick weeds and rocks out of the garden on Wednesday, June 15th but God sent much needed rain instead. The kids in Summer Stretch will have a few more opportunities to weed the garden this summer and we are very thankful for their help. Thanks to everyone who has helped in the garden so far and if you would like to join in just give me a call and I'll let you know what's happening.



God Bless our garden, *Sharon Petit*

## WELCA Meeting—June 1, 2011

The meeting was opened by our president, Barb Sauer.

- 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 Madi Handt, Family Pathways, & Charlotte Hawkinson. Charlotte enclosed \$25 to help with the Vine & Branches postage.

### Old Business

- A. WELCA Sunday, June 26. We will serve breads.
- B. Quilt/Needs
  1. Baptismal Quilts - Next month we will need to tie for girls.
  2. Wedding Quilts - A quilt was selected for Sandy Satterlund.
  3. Graduation Quilts - Will be ready for Sunday, June 5th presentation.
  4. Veterans are not accepting quilts at this time.
  5. It was decided to ask Habitat for Humanity if they would like a few quilts donated per year.
- C. Updates
  1. Mary Kay Linder will discuss the Bread for Visitors program with Pastor Dale.
  2. Kitchen Supplies- Jane Chapman purchased a new fry pan.
  3. BOM- June 18 at 8:30 a.m., 56 people have registered at this time for the 2011-2012 season. Marcie & Marilyn are cutting for July.
  4. Still waiting for ceiling fan.
  5. Quilt Bingo 2011- 25 quilts in various stages of completion.
  6. Doll Beds- Tickets went on sale at the Ham Dinner. We will draw the winner at the Corn Feed August 19. Clark Street took pictures for Craig's List and will be meeting with Pastor Dale regarding posting the bed. The price will be listed at \$80.
  7. Memorial Day Ham Dinner very successful. Served 127 adults & 10 children. A lot of good help from both new members & younger women. Thanks to all who prepared, served and cleaned up.
  8. June 5th is graduation quilt presentation. Volunteers from WELCA will wrap each graduate in their quilt. BOM Quilts for Children's Health Facilities will also be blessed at the same service.

**Balance brought Forward-**  
\$3,576.39

### Income:

Coffee-8.00  
 LCW Offering-53.00  
 Food Shelf-91.86  
 Block of the Month-375.75  
 New BOM- 1,948.00  
 Sewing Machine-50.00  
 Vine & Branches-25.00  
 Ornament Block-580.00  
 Quilt Bingo Donation-100.00  
 Total: \$3,241.61

### Expenses:

Food Shelf-91.86  
 Flowers- 41.30  
 BOM Breakfast- 67.61  
 BOM-1,811.57  
 Synod Offering-100.00  
 Machine Quilting-22.60  
 Post Master-180.00  
 Cake/Fry Pan-41.97  
 Ham Dinner Cash-300.00  
 Ham Dinner-311.83  
 FDIC charge- .50  
 Total: \$2,979.24

**Balance on Hand-** \$3,838.76

## WELCA — *continued*

9. Ornament Quilt Ticket sales \$590 so far. Drawing at the June 18th BOM.
10. The sewing machine donated by Jim Saari works beautifully. A thank you note will be sent.
11. Sharon Petit volunteered to paint the batting rack.

### New Business

- A. The charge account paperwork for County Market was presented and completed.
- B. A Baptismal Quilt will be given to Luther Point bible Camp for their Summer celebration, fund raiser, Aug. 7.

Next Meeting Date - Wednesday, July 6, 2011. Meet at church for sewing at 9 a.m. The pot-luck will be held at Barb Sauer's home for review of Bingo Quilts and prizes.

~Sharon Petit, Secretary



2011 FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP AT FISH LAKE LUTHERAN					
Date	Actual Offering	Budgeted Offering	Percent	Above/Below Budget	Worship Attendance
May 1	\$4,313.20	\$3,375.00	128%	\$938.20	157
May 8	\$2,317.25	\$3,375.00	69%	-\$1,057.75	142
May 15	\$2,685.00	\$3,375.00	80%	-\$690.00	150
May 22	\$3,000.75	\$3,375.00	89%	-\$374.25	140
May 29	\$2,985.37	\$3,375.00	88%	-\$389.63	104
<b>YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>\$71,390.21</b>	<b>\$74,250.00</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>-\$2,859.79</b>	

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

# GROW

At Fish Lake Lutheran Church

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Online: [www.fishlakelutheran.org](http://www.fishlakelutheran.org)

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

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Pastor

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

### Church Council Members

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Mary Crawford

Sue Kane

Jennifer Kroschel

Tom Lofboom—Secretary

Floyd Pinotti

Paula Rehder

Joel Santjer—Vice President

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