



The GLC Voice

July 2010

God's Work, Gethsemane's Hands.

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'ALMOST CHRISTIAN'....

(a book that awakens one to the challenge of faith formation today)

Almost Christian....What the faith of our teenagers is telling us is the topic of a book I am reading. This and another book I am co-reading has almost the same topic as backdrop. Their message is captivating and revealing about something we have noticed for some time but for most have been unable to really put our finger on. Its author was a member of the first wave of the National Study of Youth and Religion.

As the book begins this thought is shared. *Let me save you some trouble. Here is the gist of what you are about to read: American young people are, theoretically, fine with religious faith — but it does not concern them very much, and it is not durable enough to survive long after they graduate from high school. One more thing: we're responsible.*

The book then begins to lay the format that tending to the faith of our young might be the ticket to reclaiming our own faith, for the religiosity of American teenagers, and those generations that have gone before, must be interpreted primarily as a reflection of the parent's faith and devotion or lack thereof. In fact and principle then, our youth tell us about ourselves. The National Study of Youth and Religion reveals a theological fault line running underneath American churches; which is an adherence to a do-good, feel-good spirituality that has little to do with

the true gospel tradition from the time of Christ and even less with loving Christ enough to follow him in the world. The book goes on to suggest that at the end of the day, the love of God and the things of God, have taken back seat to a love of the market and the secular world and its many flavors. After two and a half centuries, since the time of Christ walking this earth, the American gospel is now challenged with heightened clarity in an Americanized version of the gospel which lifts up self-actualization and self-fulfillment as its main teaching and not the gospel themes of love and service to God and neighbor.

One of the main themes in the book is stated in many ways is that American youth are unknowingly being formed into an imposter faith that threatens the true faith. It is suggesting that we have a Trojan horse within our midst. The true reality of the seriousness of the moment has not yet awakened us. A theologian, John Hall, is quoted in the book to remind us all: *One of the great themes in the twentieth century has been chronicling Christianity's fall from faith to religion.* Deism, believing in the fact that there is a supreme God, but what happens after that statement of faith is secondary; has increasingly marked the movement of faith through most certainly the last half of the last century and continuing into the present one. Have we fed consistently the

next generation of believers a comfortable stew which makes us feel good about the importance of being nice, feeling good about ourselves, and saving the things of God for emergencies? For the most part our youth have followed our example.

Some guiding beliefs that have generated and sustained this movement among us now for some time are the following as shared in the book.

1. *A god exists who created and orders the world and watches over life on earth.*
2. *God wants people to be good, nice, and fair to each other.*
3. *The central goal of life is to be happy and to feel good about oneself.*
4. *God is not involved in my life except when I need God to solve a problem.*
5. *Good people go to heaven when they die.*

These are all heresies, of course, teachings, beliefs and understandings that would have been declared false truths by the church of earlier centuries. Yet the belief among many is that they remain present and prominent among our current and developing church and culture.

For those of you that follow this interest as well, I would be happy to talk with you further and guide perhaps to further reading

(Continued on page 4)



TUESDAY COMMUNITY SUPPER NEEDS FINANCIAL HELP

Since the Tuesday Community Supper started in 2004, it has gone real well. WE serve around 200-225 people every month – sometimes more, sometimes less. Financially we have done really well, but now gifts have been fewer and we are gradually using our excess funds. We are asking if any of you might want to make a donation so we can continue to keep serving these suppers every month on the first Tuesday. There are envelopes on the worship center for you to use.

OFFERING OF LETTERS

Thanks to all who wrote letters to our Congressmen during our Offering of Letters (OL) on June 6. Forty-Nine letters were sent to Representative Ron Kind, Senator Russ Feingold and Senator Herb Kohl. Julie McNaughton, our speaker, who is from Menomonie and is Bread for the World (BFW) Representative in the Menomonie area said something like this after the service. “That went well. If anyone asks me to come and help with their OL, I always try to come. If I can get just one more person interested in helping poor and hungry people, it is worth it.”

We handed out some paper plates after the service to children to write a short message like “Please help hungry children” and sign their name. One little girl stood by the Welcome Center, wrote hers, folded it , put it in the envelope and addressed it to Ron Kind. Some of the other children wrote them also.

If you didn't get a packet to write letters, there are some left on the Welcome Center. Help yourself and if you send your own letters, let us know as BFW wants to know how many letters were sent to our Congressmen.

Thanks, in Jesus' name, The Mission Committee

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK DAY AGAIN IN JULY

We worked with Peace Lutheran before at a Habitat home here in Baldwin last year. This year **we are asked to work with Peace Lutheran** again at a home going up **in New Richmond**. The workday would be **Saturday, July 10th**. We are looking for workers again to help with this. A sign up sheet will be in the office or call and let us know. We will see that you get the necessary information. We also need people who could help with the lunch for the workers also if that is something that you would like to do.

8TH ANNUAL LUTHER POINT GOLF TOURNAMENT - Wed. August 4th

Wed. August 4th, Luther Point will again hold now its 8th annual Golf Tournament to raise funds to assist families in the camps campership fund. Each year the camp supports families who otherwise would not be able to provide an experience at Luther Point for their kids, either in the summer camp opportunities or in retreats and such throughout the year.

This is limited to the first 36 teams that register. \$70 fee covers green fees and cart rental with ½ of the fee going to Luther Point to support the campership fund of the camp. There will be a \$10,000 hole-in-one prize, among lots of other prizes. Call 715-689-2347 or register online at www.lutherpoint.org. Check in time for practice putting and the driving range will be at 9 a.m. and the 'shotgun start' of the tournament will be at 10 a.m. The site is at the Frederic Golf Course, one mile south of the junction of WI State Highway 35 and WI State Highway 48 West. Check it out at www.FredericGolfCourse.com.

Get together a foursome and enjoy the day knowing that you are helping kids attend camp who otherwise might not be able. A BBQ and awarding of prizes and certificates will follow the Golf Scramble. You must be present at the dinner to win or receive a prize.

ABOUT PEOPLE WE KNOW . . .

- ◆ On June 11 Zach Staples and Natalee Tetzlaff were married here at Gethsemane. We hope you will keep them in your prayers as they begin their journey together as husband and wife.
- ◆ On June 13 the missionaries were sponsored by Keith & Marvel Greger-son in honor of their 67th wedding anniversary which was June 12.

DOLLARS & CENSUS		
June 2010		
	Attendance	Offering
6/6	142	\$4,490
6/13	158	\$3,219
6/20	129	\$2,572
6/27	—	—
Total	—	—



Greetings from Luther Point!

Consider Family Camp: We still have openings for Family Camp. This year our guest resource pastor is Rev. Carl Heidel from Siren, Wisconsin. Pastor Carl is serving

11525 Luther Point Rd
Grantsburg, Wisconsin 54840
www.LutherPoint.org
(715)689-2347

Trinity Lutheran in rural Siren. He will be leading the adults through the Prayer of St. Francis in relation to our summer theme, "Connected We Live". Families come in all shapes and sizes these days. Come as you are and spend some quality time with your family. We will take care of the cooking and cleaning. Your job is to relax, refresh, and retreat.

Still Time to Register for Camp: Several program offerings available for most ages. Register online at LutherPoint.org.

Camperships Available: Campership request forms are available online at www.LutherPoint.org on the front page, lower middle section. We want to see every child who has a desire to attend camp, to have the ability to do so. We want to see those happy camper smiles at camp. Between the financial assistance that is available at your local congregation and what Luther Point can provide, we will make it happen.

Annual Golf Scramble: Mark your calendars for Wednesday, August 4, 2010 at the Frederic Golf Course, Frederic, Wisconsin. Start talking

with your friends and get your team registration in. Registrations are available upon request at 715-689-2347. Hole Sponsors being sought. Consider sponsoring a hole for \$100. More information will be available soon online at www.LutherPoint.org.

Luther Point Summer Celebration: A Fundraiser to Celebrate and Support Luther Point's Ministry:

Mark your calendars now for Saturday, August 14 for our annual end of summer event and fundraiser to celebrate the ministry of Luther Point. Consider donating artisan craft items such as artwork, pottery, wood-crafted items and quilts as well as produce for the Farmers' Market! For more information, contact Becky at 715-689-2347 or Becky@LutherPoint.org. We look forward to seeing you there!

Introducing New Year Round Ministry:

"Daybreak" is a music ministry team that provides meaningful youth ministry experiences for area congregations. Focused on building relationships, the team will engage the members of your congregation by bringing camp to you. Events being scheduled now for the 2010-2011 fall-spring season. Events are on a contractual basis for a fee to support the Daybreak team. Contact Jesse: 715-689-2347 or Jesse@LutherPoint.org

Together in Ministry
Rev. Craig M. Corbin, Executive Director

(Continued from page 2)

on your own. This still remains the challenge of every generation since the first generations who walked this earth — to pass on the faith to the next generation. An old proverb says: *In rowing someone across the river, you get there yourself.* In pursuing this endeavor we move toward strengthening and solidifying the faith within us as well. We can do better than we have done and are doing. We are each called and challenged at the baptisms of our young to teach and lead them in the ways of God. We must take up the challenge individually and together as Christ's church.

Pastor Paul

Special Gifts and Memorials

- ✚ **Music** in memory of Bee Peterson from Don & Delores Lind
- ✚ **Choir** in memory of Earl Heunink from Margaret Wolske
- ✚ **Ketch-up Fund** in memory of Earl Huenink from Bob & Barb Ketchum
- ✚ **Scholarship Fund** in memory of Earl Huenink from Cliff & Lila Schneider
- ✚ **Undesignated** in memory of Earl Huenink from Len & Margaret Litzner, Ed & Phyllis Hanson and Richard & Elaine Quinn
- ✚ **Fixed Asset Capital Account** in memory of Earl Huenink from Ken & Pat Nygaard
- ✚ **Missions** in memory of Earl Huenink from Russ & Lucille Lund

The office will be open from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the rest of June, July and the first two weeks of August.



JULY BIRTHDAYS AND . . .

1 Don Somsen Micki Place Chloe Hendrickson Leroy Esanbock Anissa Peterson Linda Zevenbergen	10 Lloyd Eggen Lester Halstead 12 Alexandra Eggen 13 Daniel Peterson Lucy Beck 14 JoAnn Johnson April Peterson Monica McNamara 15 Ann Palus Gary Hoffman Mary Russett 16 Ken Peterson 17 Hannah Smith Anthony Zevenbergen Lisa Kaiser	18 Charlene Merritt Dan Bensen 19 Hope Brue 21 Derek Peterson 23 Patrice Helgeson 25 Mervil Heins 26 Ken Afdahl Jean Nelson Matthew Hunt Shari Waters 27 Adam Reich Jim Spradley 28 Betty Johnson Wayne Helgeson Isaac Lindquist	30 Claire Stein Vicky Lovestrand Grant Halstead
ANNIVERSARIES			
1 Shirley Stone Kathy Larson	1 Howard & Margee Ott	3 Allison Fennern Joshua Spradley	3 Bob & Cindy Campbell
6 Cade Nygaard	11 Greg & Evelyn Birdwell	7 Sam Waters	13 Laurie & Matt Malyuk
8 Kathy LaFavor Mark Perry III Mike Mattison	15 Ed & Phyllis Hanson	9 Mark Vobejda	16 Troy & Annette Peterson
	17 Verlyn & Inez Newton		18 Mervil & Ann Heins
	31 Duane & Ann Russett		

JULY AT GETHSEMANE

<p>Thurs., July 1 9 a.m. Quilting 8 p.m. AA Mtg.</p> <p>Sun., July 4 — Communion 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Coffee</p> <p>Mon., July 5 5 p.m. Mission Comm. 7 p.m. Worship Comm.</p> <p>Tues., July 6 5 p.m. Community Supper</p> <p>Wed. July 7 7 p.m. Ed. Committee</p>	<p>Thurs., July 8 8 p.m. AA</p> <p>Sun., July 11 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Coffee</p> <p>Tues., July 13 7 p.m. Council</p> <p>Thurs., July 16 9 a.m. Quilting 8 p.m. AA</p> <p>Sun., July 18 — Communion 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Coffee 12 p.m. Cong. Meeting</p>	<p>Tues., July 20 12 p.m. Bloodmobile</p> <p>Thurs., July 22 8 p.m. AA</p> <p>Sun., July 25 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 Coffee</p> <p>Mon., July 26 9 a.m. Quilt Club</p> <p>Thurs., July 29 9:30 a.m. Newsletter Assembly 8 p.m. AA</p>
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VOLUNTEERS

	July 4	July 11	July 18	July 25
Altar Guild	Jodi Peterson Nicole Borgeson-Burge Evelyn Birdwell		Merna Graf Ruth Cheney	
Coffee	Faith Circle	Sarah Circle	Sarah Circle	Lydia Circle
Counters	Ruth Johnson/Joan Vobejda			
Worship	Linda & Cornie Zevenbergen	Greg Birdwell	Jody Olson	Greg Birdwell Jody Olson
Welcome Ministry	Troy & Annette Peterson	Gordy & Micki Place	Jim & Cindy Wall	Jackie Bensen
Video Tape	David Burge	Cody Berends	Shirley Stone	Brent Nelson



Dear Sisters in Christ,
 The longest day of the year, the Fourth of July — wow, where did the summer go? It seems we have had warm weather for a long time and, of course, all the needed rain. We are so lucky we didn't get the big storms, even though we lost a big branch on our church shade tree.

Dates to Remember:		
July 1	9 a.m.	Quilting
July 15	9 a.m.	Quilting

Summer is slow for circles, but a few have had picnics in June. I know ours had a good time and our husbands did too. On August 4 we will have a potluck brunch at 9 and Pastor Paul will have the Bible Study. Everyone is invited, (men also!)

We are also still quilting on the first and third Thursday mornings. We welcome help, if you can tie a knot, you can help.
 Enjoy your summer

Love in Christ
 ouse

Mission Committee — June 2, 2010

Present: Sherry Phernetton, Pastor Paul, Gloria Fern, Ruth Cheney, Barbara Thompson, Gary Hoffman

Pastor Paul had devotions. The minutes were approved and passed.

Committee area of responsibility:

1. Missionaries – got letter
2. Food Pantry – more people are using
3. Community meals – going well. Free potatoes
4. Sunday Coffee -- circles are in charge for the summer months

Old Business:

1. Pastor's report
 - a. Miles for Malawi – no interest

- b. "The Source" help people in need.
- c. Haiti Committee – lots of churches involved. Collected \$109,000 from area churches around River Falls.
2. Offering of Letters – Handled by Worship Committee and Julie from Menomonie
3. Habitat for Humanity – Nine people to go June 5 & July 10.

Old Business – None

*Next meeting, July 5, 5 p.m.
 Gloria will have devotions.*

Unapproved Minutes

Worship Committee — June 7, 2010

Members Present: Cornie & Linda Zevenbergen, Greg Birdwell, Mervil Heins, Jody Olson, Micki Place and Roger Evans.

Greg had devotions. Linda will have devotions for July. The minutes from the last meeting were approved, motion by Mervil, second by Cornie.

Areas of responsibilities – were same as last month.

Old Business

- ◆ The June 6 service -- was good except for the microphone problems. We need better instructions next time and knowing more of what the speaker is actually going to do will help.
- ◆ Children's sermon – right now we would like to keep the children sermon the way it is and discuss it more at the July meeting.

- ◆ Digital Camera – we would like to recommend to the Council to buy a digital camera and that the Council should provide training to whomever runs the camera.

Assignments for July:

July 4	9:30	Linda & Cornie Zevenbergen
July 11	9:30	Greg Birdwell
July 18	9:30	Jody Olson
July 25	9:30	Greg & Jody

Inventory: Wine – 1 gallon, Grape juice – 2 small, Wafers – 2 ½ boxes, Cups – 4 boxes

Next meeting, July 6, 7 p.m.

Unapproved Minutes