

St. Mark Lutheran Church

The Messenger

From Pastor James Irwin, Senior Pastor



St. Mark Lutheran Church
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2011 Issue No. 6

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THE ATTITUDE OF PARTNERSHIP

Have you ever driven through the Amana Colonies, eastern Ohio or western Pennsylvania? If you have, you're familiar with the Amish community. The people there seem starkly different from the rest of us. They dress different (simple dark colors, no buttons or buckles), travel different (horse and buggies—no cars, talk about gas savings), and even live and eat differently (separate schools, home-grown crops—no McDonalds or PepperJax). It's a much simpler life than what we're accustomed to with our cell phones, IPODS, Facebook and fast foods.

Many of these differences only touch the surface. To see the more significant differences, you need to see how they interact

GOD THE FATHER

Father's Day has been celebrated in the United States since 1910 as a way of honoring dads. Celebrating Father's Day we, as God's baptized children, are naturally drawn to the Biblical image of our heavenly Father who cares deeply for us and ex-

under pressure.

Like the true story about which Christian author Pastor John Maxwell writes. One day after a powerful thunderstorm swept across the countryside. The winds were fierce, knocking trees over like straws, flinging object miles away, even large buildings were demolished.

When people ventured outside the next morning they were shocked to find the largest barn in the Amish community in ruins, one that had stood for nearly a century, flattened.

What happened the next day really highlights the heart of the Amish community. People from all over the area converged on the site with lumber, tools, and food. Entire walls were

presses His love for us daily in both the small and humongous blessings.

Martin Luther said it so well in his explanation of the First Article of the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God, the Father

framed and hoisted by lines of men. And in less than one day, the barn was completely restored—all because of the spirit of partnership that is the core of the Amish community.

In Romans 12:4-5 Paul writes: "Just as there are many parts to our bodies, so it is with Christ's body . . . For we each have a different work to do . . . Each needs all the others" (TLB).

The Amish community and Paul's words exemplify the truth that partnership is an attitude before it becomes an action. May this same attitude guide our actions together in the mission and ministry at St. Mark. And may this especially be true of our partnership with Concordia Academy.

Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?
I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul;

(continued on next page)

From Pastor James Irwin, Senior Pastor

GOD THE FATHER

eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses and still takes care of them.

He has also given me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I need. He daily and richly provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil.

All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank

and praise, serve and obey Him.

All that we do as children of the Heavenly Father is our a response to His amazing grace and extravagant love.

THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE!



**“We have not
come together to
compete with one
another—but to
complete one
another.”**

**- Bill McCartney Founder
of Promise Keepers**

A GOOD AND GODLY FATHER

In June we celebrate Father’s Day. A good and godly father is one of the best earthly gifts that anyone can have. Those of us who have had good and godly fathers know this to be true. A good and godly father loves his children and shows that love by giving good things to them. In His Sermon on the Mount Jesus pointed out that that even evil fathers know how to give good gifts to their children, like giving bread instead of a stone or giving a fish instead of a snake (Matthew 7:9-10 NIV). Jesus went on to say that if earthly fathers know how to give good gifts to their children, then how much more will our Father in heaven give good gifts to those

who ask Him!

We are children of the Heavenly Father because of what Jesus has done for us through His suffering, death and resurrection. Our sins are taken away because Jesus took upon Himself the punishment that we deserved and paid our debt in full! What this means, among other things, is that we are now able to freely and joyfully live as God’s redeemed stewards.

A steward is not a slave who has to do the master’s bidding; but is instead a steward who has the privilege and responsibility to manage of all that our Heavenly Father entrusts to each of us. We call that by the title

of “all of life and life’s resources.” We confess with the Scriptures that “*The earth is the Lord’s and everything in it, the world and all who live in it.*” (Psalm 24:1 NIV) When we acknowledge this truth then we can grow in our understanding of the difference between being an owner or a manager.

Choir Room and Storage Area to be Reorganized

Concordia Academy will be sharing our Choir Room for some of their music classes. Because the school has quite a bit of music equipment and some books and files, we are working on cleaning up and organizing the room. We are also considering a project which would put some of the equipment into a new storage area in the coat rack area at the bottom of the SW staircase. The St Mark Music Director proposed using this coat rack area because it is rarely needed for coats and would provide a good storage area for things used in the Choir Room. The choir room already contains much of the St.

Mark Music Collection, our Handbells, quite a bit of Handbell equipment, a piano, and choir robes. Concordia Academy's program includes music classes, band instruction, strings instruction, and 2 choirs. They have their own music books, and all kinds of percussion instruments including a bass drum. Some of this equipment may not arrive here at St. Mark until school starts in August.

If you would like to assist with this project please inform Director of Music Michael Kesar or Properties Team Chair Steve Waller.



June 2011 *Hymn of the Month* Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus

Text: Sigismund von Birken 1626-1681

Tune: Georg Gottfried Boltze born before 1750, died sometime after 1789

The Lutheran Hymnal 409
Lutheran Worship 381
Lutheran Service Book 685

This is one of those hymns that one will rarely find outside of Lutheran hymnals. And I did find this hymn in all five of the Lutheran hymnals I checked. The text comes from a Nurnberg hymnal of 1652. The tune was not composed until 1788, and was published in 1790 with the text of a different hymn.

Little is known about the composer of the tune, other than the fact that he was a cantor and school teacher at an orphanage in Potsdam. The author of the text was a pastor's son who began to study law and theology at the University of Jena in Germany. Finances forced him to drop out. He dabbled in many careers and activities after that. He was recognized as a poet and often worked as a tutor. He also wrote 47 other hymns. Only this one and *Jesus, I Will Ponder Now* are included in our hymnals.

The four stanzas we use for this hymn are the only four that were in the original German version. They invite believers to walk with Jesus, suffer with Jesus, die with Jesus and live with Jesus. The text also has a nice mix of themes. It tells what Jesus did for us. In it we also pray for strength and courage on the road of discipleship.

The following links will take you to some performances of this hymn.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x-aBUXgp10E>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q0q40VuakMQ&feature=related>

Have you ever been to <http://www.lcms.org> ?

This is our LCMS website. It has just received a major overhaul. In terms of worship and music, one thing you can do there is listen to recordings of the liturgies from our Lutheran Service Book. You can also see the entire texts of the Lutheran Confessions or log on to kfuo, the LCMS St. Louis radio station, and listen to various programs via the website or even pod cast. To find out more about the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, this is a great website.



Anniversaries

LOUIE & SANDRA JAMES	6/1	20	RICK & JANET KYLE	6/15	26
RALPH & EVELYN BRUEGGEMANN	6/3	60	MARVIN & LOUISE SCHLESIGER	6/15	64
CHAD & RILEY MEYER	6/3	11	RICHARD & BEVERLY HILBURN	6/16	32
CARLA & [JAMES] NICHOLS	6/4	17	ALAN & KAREN MEYER	6/17	44
ROBERT & SHARON SCHMIDT	6/4	50	JOHN & RACHEL PAPERA	6/17	11
ROBERT & MARTHA RASMUSSEN	6/5	56	ANDY & SARA RYGOL	6/17	11
GLEN & DEANNA DAHLKOETTER	6/7	36	HOSEA & PHYLLIS AUSTIN	6/18	17
MICHAEL & CATHERINE MUNDERLOH	6/7	25	JAMES & NANCY DAVIDSON	6/22	38
TODD & KRISTIE BOCKELMANN	6/8	15	TRUDY & [JEFF] JOHNSON	6/22	20
DAN & EILEEN SANFILIPPO	6/9	43	CLYDE & JANET HILL	6/27	41
MELVIN & HELEN GELSTER	6/10	60	JAMES & CARLEEN IRWIN	6/27	19
EVELYN & [BERNARD] AINSWORTH	6/11	44	MICHAEL & MICHELE ROY	6/27	24
JASON & KRISTIN MERRILL	6/11	17	PAM & [CURTIS] SCHULTE	6/27	3
JOHN L & CAROL JOHNSON	6/12	29	CARLA & [CHRISTIAN] BEATY	6/28	14
GARY & MISTY KUDRNA	6/12	12	PAUL & BECKY MEYER	6/28	31
WILLIAM & CAROL LIEBSACK	6/13	46	DONALD & [MARY] LOEFFELBEIN	6/29	54
MARK & LINDSEY RENTSCHLER	6/14	8	WESLEY & PAULINE PEYTON	6/29	37
JOSEPH & BETTY SCHUSTER	6/14	70	ROBERT & DEBRA SALES	6/29	30
			TIMOTHY & GLENDA HALLBERG	6/30	37

Birthdays

SWALE, [MARY KAY]	1-Jun	MCPHEETERS, JUDITH	15-Jun
SWERCZEK, BRADLEY	1-Jun	MEYER, KAREN	15-Jun
LANDEN, DANIELLE	2-Jun	PFLUG, GLADYS	15-Jun
LAUTRUP, KATRINA*	2-Jun	SCHUSTER, JOSEPH	15-Jun
MUGANYIZI, SAMUEL*	2-Jun	PARKER, PHILIP	16-Jun
ADAMS, DEANNA	3-Jun	ADAMS, ABIGAIL*	17-Jun
BARRY, CINDY	3-Jun	LOVETT, BRIANNA	17-Jun
MERRILL, CODY*	3-Jun	MOYER, GREGORY	17-Jun
OETTER, [TINA]	3-Jun	PITTMAN, CIARA	17-Jun
BAKER, SHARI	4-Jun	THONEN, SUSAN	17-Jun
DECKARD, MCKENZIE	4-Jun	CHAPMAN, ROBERT	18-Jun
RUSIE, CLEONE	4-Jun	KEELING, KENDRA	18-Jun
STECKELBERG, DENISE	4-Jun	MONTER, LISA	18-Jun
BEENE, SHARON	5-Jun	TILFORD, MATTHEW	18-Jun
FENSTER, STEPHANIE	5-Jun	HARTLINE, DARLENE	19-Jun
KLEPSEK, DONALD	5-Jun	MAAS, AVARY*	19-Jun
SOLIS, KAI*	5-Jun	VANDERLOO II, MARK	19-Jun
BLATTERT, [REGAN]	6-Jun	ZEBOLSKY, JUSTIN	19-Jun
DUIS, LESTER	6-Jun	BUNIK, [SCOTT]	20-Jun
JURGENS, [TANNER]	6-Jun	JAMES, LOUIE	20-Jun
NELSON, RAEDEE	6-Jun	JOENS, RYAN	20-Jun
HAEFNER, LLOYD	7-Jun	MERRILL, JASON	20-Jun
IRWIN, CHELSEA*	7-Jun	STANTON, DEBRA	20-Jun
KLEPSEK, ELEANOR*	7-Jun	FULLER, JOLENE	21-Jun
KUNTZ, ASHLEY	7-Jun	KERNEN, A WILLIAM	21-Jun
OSBORNE, TYLER*	7-Jun	LIEBSACK, KIMBERLY	21-Jun
SCHULTE, [CURTIS]	8-Jun	NEUMANN, EDMUND	21-Jun
CARLSTEDT, SAMUEL*	9-Jun	O'DOWD, ANGELA*	21-Jun
PAPERA, EVAN*	10-Jun	RAGLE, JOANNE	21-Jun
URBATC, RICHARD	10-Jun	WESTPHAL, WAYNE	21-Jun
DUIN, MARILYN	11-Jun	HOLLERS, CADENCE*	23-Jun
PETERS, CHRISTINA	11-Jun	KLABUNDE, LOIS	23-Jun
RAWSON, MARISSA	11-Jun	KNOP, DEBRA	23-Jun
ARGERSINGER, EUGENE	12-Jun	ROY, MICHAEL	23-Jun
KELLER, DONNA	12-Jun	SCHWANKE, LORRAINE	23-Jun
LIEBSACK, JEREMY	12-Jun	WORRELL, CAROLYN	23-Jun
SCHULTZ, KAREN	12-Jun	LAWSON, HEATHER	24-Jun
SKAGGS, JOSHUA*	12-Jun	BAKER, MIKENNA*	25-Jun
BREDIN, BONNIE	13-Jun	GARABRANDT, MARJORIE	25-Jun
LOVETT-LEDWICH, KARRIN*	13-Jun	ISAAC, DOUG	25-Jun
ROSSE, ROBERT	13-Jun	LEWIS, M. DONNA	25-Jun
MEYER, CHAD	14-Jun	BAILEY, MORGAN	26-Jun

~ June 2011 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			6:30p-7:30p Adult Choir Practice (Balcony)	7p-8:30p PPC Meeting (Library)	9:15a-10:15a Women's Bible Study (Library)	8a-1p Omaha Japanese School (Classrooms) 11a-8p Concordia Academy Move In Day (Classrooms/Fellowship Hall) 12p-1p Concordia PALS luncheon for move in (Fellowship Hall/Kitchen) 4:45p-5:15p Bible Study (Library) 5:30p-6:30p Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8a-9a Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary) 9:15a-10:15a Christian Education Hour 9:15a-10:15a Worship - Blended (Sanctuary) 10:30a-11:30a Worship - Contemporary (Sanctuary)	12p-1:30p Staff Meeting (Library) 5:30p-6:30p Metro Area Guardians Meeting (Library)	7p-9p Bible Study w/ Pastor Wilkens (Falkenroth Hall)	11:30a-1p Senior Luncheon (Falkenroth Hall) 6:30p-7:30p Adult Choir Practice (Balcony)		9:15a-10:15a Women's Bible Study (Library)	8a-1p Omaha Japanese School (Classrooms) 4p-5p Baptism of Kylie Belew (Sanctuary) 4:45p-5:15p Bible Study (Library) 5:30p-6:30p Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Youth Event - Offsite - Camp Luther - Service Event (Offsite - Camp Luther/Fremont) 8a-9a Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary) 9:15a-10:15a Christian Education Hour 9:15a-10:15a Worship - Blended (Sanctuary) 10:30a-11:30a Worship - Contemporary (Sanctuary) 2p-3p Brighton Gardens Chapel Service (Brighton Gardens)	Youth Event - Offsite - Camp Luther - Service Event (Offsite - Camp Luther/Fremont) 12p-1:30p Staff Meeting (Library)	7p-9p Bible Study w/ Pastor Wilkens (Falkenroth Hall)	6:30p-7:30p Adult Choir Practice (Balcony)	6p-8:30p Ministry Action Team Meetings	9:15a-10:15a Women's Bible Study (Library) 7p-11p Fellowship Hall in use - Austin's (Fellowship Hall)	4:45p-5:15p Bible Study (Library) 5:30p-6:30p Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)

~ June 2011 ~

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8a-9a Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)	12p-1:30p Staff Meeting (Library)	7p-9p Bible Study w/ Pastor Wilkens (Falkenroth Hall)	6:30p-7:30p Adult Choir Practice (Balcony)	10a-12p LWML Rebekah Circle meeting (Library)	9:15a-10:15a Women's Bible Study (Library)	4:45p-5:15p Bible Study (Library)
9:15a-10:15a Christian Education Hour						5:30p-6:30p Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)
9:15a-10:15a Worship - Blended (Sanctuary)						
10:30a-11:30a Worship - Contemporary (Sanctuary)						
26	27	28	29	30		
8a-9a Worship - Traditional (Sanctuary)	12p-1:30p Staff Meeting (Library)	12:30p-2:30p LWML Lydia Circle, Circle Meeting (St. Mark Library)	6:30p-7:30p Adult Choir Practice (Balcony)			
9:15a-10:15a Christian Education Hour		7p-9p Bible Study w/ Pastor Wilkens (Falkenroth Hall)				
9:15a-10:15a Worship - Blended (Sanctuary)						
10:30a-11:30a Worship - Contemporary (Sanctuary)						
12p-6p Fellowship Hall in use -- Rosse's (Fellowship Hall)						

The St. Mark Golf League runs through Saturday, August 6th. We play at Warren Swigart Golf Course, 3865 Parkview Drive. Cost is \$10 plus weekly green fees. This is a for fun league. Golfers of all abilities are invited. Please arrive early, we tee off at 7:15 a.m. For more information contact Lloyd Schultz (402) 558-1174 or bhsbunny72@cox.net.

The LWML 2011 Convention will be held June 23-26 in Peoria, IL. St. Mark LWML will be collecting items to take to the convention. A display during the month of May and first part of June is in the entrance of the church listing the items suggested to donate.

St. Mark Lutheran Church is seeking a Part-time Preschool Teacher to teach the 4-year old class three mornings a week. If you are interested in more information, please call Julie Kyriess at 402-391-6148 or send your resume to: jkyriess@stmarkomaha.org or St. Mark Lutheran Church 1821 North 90th Street Omaha, NE 68114

Thanks to all that supported the mission teams in the rose fund raiser. We ran out of roses prior to the 10:30 service two weeks ago and apologize to those that were unable to support us with a purchase.

The next fundraiser is for Father's Day. You can order a "Sportula" for all the Fathers that are tailgaters or grill enthusiasts. They are \$25 each and made of stainless steel with wood handles decorated with his favorite college team or car racing team. Deadline for ordering is June 5th so that we can have delivery in time for Father's Day. Stop by the Poland display table to see the samples and fill out an order form to get one for your special Dad or Grandfather. (They don't need to be ordered just for the fathers either!)

The Nicaragua mission team needs your help in collecting the following items for their upcoming mission work:

- 2 dozen baseballs
- 2 batting tees
- Baseball glove (small, medium, and a few large)

Please feel free to pick up a lily in the entryway.

2011 Graduates

Adam Wacker	UNO
Will Kois	Continue At National Indemnity Co.
Erica Bang	Burke High School
Amanda Ziegenbein	Behavior of Science Degree
Ashley Kuntz	Millard South
	Capital School of Cosmetology
	Iowa State University
	Teaching Position
	Concordia High School
	Concordia University, Seward NE

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Jesus lives for:

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

You!