

# Along The Way

## Blessings

When I started counting my blessings, my whole life turned around. **Willie Nelson**

The hardest arithmetic to master is that which enables us to count our blessings. **Eric Hoffer**

When I'm worried and I can't sleep I count my blessings instead of sheep. **Irving Berlin**

Count your blessings instead of your crosses;  
Count your gains instead of your losses.  
Count your joys instead of your woes;  
Count your friends instead of your foes.  
Count your smiles instead of your tears;  
Count your courage instead of your fears.  
Count your full years instead of your lean;  
Count your kind deeds instead of your mean.  
Count your health instead of your wealth;  
Count on God instead of yourself.

**Author Unknown**

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> “Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

**Matthew 5:3-11 NIV**

## Our Blessing Tree and Prayers of Thanksgiving

In August, we set up two bare trees (Thank you, Ken Schmidt) and invited people to write their blessings, things for which they are thankful for, on a leaf and add it to the tree. I've been struck by the congregation's positive response and surprised that the leaves keep coming in. One woman told me she was happy to write her blessing on a leaf the first week, willing to do it the second, skipped the next “because she had already done it” and then on the way home that week she started thinking about what she could have put on the leaf. What she described to me was an incident that the world would consider “crisis” but how God had taken a dark time in her life and wrung a blessing from it. She was now thinking of her life and her “blessings” differently. With her comments in mind I asked the congregation to consider if there had been a dark time, a crisis, a challenge that became a blessing for them. We will keep the blessing trees up through thanksgiving and encourage you to “Count Your Blessings.”

See you in church!

Grace and Peace,

*Pastor Cath Mode*

# Youth News

## Looking for Something to do on Sunday Mornings? – Grades 7 and Up

Join us in the YOUTH ROOM to hang out and have some fun. You may even learn a little about yourself, your peers, other members of the congregation, and how we, as Christians, live our lives. We'll go out for breakfast once in awhile, have Q&A sessions with special guests, watch movies, play games, and lots more. Can't make it every week? That's OKAY, just come when you can. DON'T HIT THE SNOOZE BUTTON—BE A PART OF IT!

## SUNDAY MORNING VOLUNTEERS

We need adult volunteers for the youth room on Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 am. All curriculum/materials are provided and there is minimal prep time. The morning usually consists of watching a video or reading a devotion to discuss. The group then plays games, watches a movie, or just "hang out & talk." Our goal is to have adults volunteer for 4-5 weeks each. We need 2 adults each week. Contact Marie Kimmes or Pastor Mode if you are able to help.

## YOUTH BAND – Grades 6 & Up

Do you play an instrument or love to sing? Then the youth band is for YOU! They practice on Wednesdays from 7:45-9:00 pm in the band room. You'll have more fun than you can stand, learn a ton about music *and* get to jam with some pretty cool peeps. The band will perform once a month, including all youth services and the lock-in. Contact Kurt Stein at 203-9562 for more info.

## OCTOBER YOUTH EVENT – Grades 6 & Up

Mark your calendars for our "Welcome Back" Youth Event.

**When:** Wednesday, Oct. 5. **Time:** 3:45 - 5:30 pm (right after school). Dinner is served at 5:00 pm. **Cost:** \$3

## YOUTH WORSHIP WEEKEND – Grades 6 & Up

Mark your calendars now for the Youth Worship Weekend on October 1 & 2. We will lead all three worship services and our rock band will perform.

## YOUTH PIE SALE – Grades 6 & up

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Pie Sale will take place Oct. 1 & 2 at all three services. We need YOUTH FAMILIES to help make this event a huge success. We're asking each family to provide 2 home-baked pies OR whole loaves of bread or cakes. Please contact Marcie Kimmes at 725-3956 or [mkimmes@our-saviors.org](mailto:mkimmes@our-saviors.org) to help.

## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS OCTOBER 23 AT THE 10:30 SERVICE.

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GATHERING – Holiday Inn, Manitowoc

All high schoolers are invited to a weekend of Christian fun with cool music and speakers, great workshops, DJ dance, themed dinner, and MORE! The dates are November 11–13. The cost is \$125 per student. *New this year - service projects* for all groups attending! Registration packets are now available and must be completed and turned in by Sunday, October 2. Contact Marcie if you're interested.

## NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING – New Orleans

The National Youth Gathering will take place on July 18–22 in New Orleans, LA. This trip is open to all current high school students. We need to get our group registered soon, so if you're interested in going, please contact Marcie Kimmes ASAP.

### LOOKING AHEAD...

Nov. 2: YOUTH EVENT

Nov. 11–13: High School Youth Gathering in Manitowoc

**ATTENTION PARENTS: ALL YOUTH MUST HAVE A PERMISSION SLIP  
ON FILE TO PARTICIPATE IN YOUTH EVENTS**

# Sunday School News!

This month's story line:

## Ten Men Healed

The Bible story we are learning in October is about the men who had Leprosy and what Jesus did for them.

How often do you thank God?

Spark Rotations Include:

Art - Tami Dietzen & Angie Schabo

Games - Joan Terry

Video - LaVonne Pockat

Science - Gwen Sargeant

Storytelling - Annamarie Zimmerman

Cooking - Julie Judnic

Music Leader - Diane Doersch

Looking Ahead

Advent & Christmas

Sunday School begins each week at  
9:15 am in the Sanctuary.

See you there!

## APPLE, PUMPKIN, CHOCOLATE...Oh, My!

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Pie Sale is almost here. The sale will take place on Oct. 1 & 2 at all three services. You can buy by the slice for \$2 or buy a whole pie. All proceeds will be used for future youth events. What a "sweet" way to support our youth ministry!



## Youth & Sunday School Calendar

### Oct. 1

5:00 pm Youth Service & Fundraiser

### Oct. 2

8:00 am Youth Service & Fundraiser

9:15 am Sunday School

9:15 am Growing in Faith Class (3-4 yr old)

9:15 am Grade 6 Confirmation Class

9:15 am Youth Group (Grade 7 & Up)

10:30 am Youth Service & Fundraiser

### Oct. 5

3:45 pm Youth Event

5:30 pm Grades 7 & 8 Confirmation Class

7:45 pm Youth Band Practice

### Oct. 9

9:15 am Sunday School

9:15 am Grade 6 Confirmation Class

9:15 am Youth Group (Grade 7 & Up)

### Oct. 12

5:30 pm Grades 7 & 8 Confirmation Class

7:45 pm Youth Band Practice

### Oct. 16

9:15 am Sunday School

9:15 am What is the Bible—Grade 2

9:15 am Grade 6 Confirmation Class

9:15 am Youth Group (Grade 7 & Up)

10:30 am Sunday School Kids Sing

11:45 am First Communion Class

### Oct. 19

5:30 pm Grades 7 & 8 Confirmation Class

7:45 pm Youth Band Practice

### Oct. 23

9:15 am Sunday School

9:15 am Grade 6 Confirmation Class

9:15 am Youth Group (Grade 7 & Up)

10:30 am Confirmation Day Service

### Oct. 26

5:30 pm Grades 7 & 8 Confirmation Class

7:45 pm Youth Band Practice

### Oct. 30

9:15 am Sunday School

9:15 am Grade 6 Confirmation Class

9:15 am Youth Group (Grade 7 & Up)

12:00 pm First Communion Retreat



## “SINNERS TO DINNER”

Sinners to Dinner will be going to Benvenuto's following the 5:00 pm worship service on Saturday, October 8.

Dinner is “Dutch Treat” and everyone is welcome and invited to join us when it works into your schedule.

Please contact Roberta Golden at 920-722-5476 or by email at [roberta\\_golden@hotmail.com](mailto:roberta_golden@hotmail.com) by Friday evening, October 7, so we can make reservations. We hope you can join us.

**Organized by the  
Worship Ministry Team**



## Pre-Communion Class for Grade 2 and up!

To prepare for First Communion at Our Savior's, parents and students attend a short meeting, a Sunday afternoon retreat, and work on a family project together. Through crafts, a video, and parent/child conversations, we will discover the meaning of Holy Communion. Children will also make a Communion banner and special Communion cup to be used at their First Communion.

**The first class is Sunday, Oct. 16,  
from 11:45 am-12:30 pm.**

**The retreat is Sunday, Oct. 30, from  
12:00 to 2:30 pm.**

**First Communion weekend is Nov.  
5 & 6 at all three services.**

Contact the church office at 725-3956 for more information.

# Have You Ever Wondered About Vacation Bible School?

I have wondered... what is it, when is it, who goes, and why?

Vacation Bible school was all about *being a chef for a week*. "Shake it up Cafe" was brought to Our Savior's with the help of a huge group of volunteers: Joni Heinz, Beth Heinz, Ardy Kreuter, Sarah Swender, Bill Mode, Kelly Keach, Ben Keach, Alley Keach, Amy Hansen, Lynn Schmitting, Kelly Arens, Sharon Nickel, LaVonne Pockat, Austin Erickson, Brendan Vatne, Pastor Catherine Mode, Chris Swender, Darlene Rippl, Amy Kampe, Ben Kampe, Caitlyn Kampe, Antoinette Sullivan, Ta'sha Burkes, Stefani Grassi, Raye Chandler, Deanna Brock, Kalynn Chiodi, Geri Webb, Janice Lawell, Jordan Lawatch, Connie Schaefer, Taylor Harn, Tim Boehnlein, James Verbrick, Stacey Kreuter, Nancy Lephart, Alea Kreuter, Matt Meinke, Drew Christiansen, Madelyn Himes, Katie Miller, Arianna Vatne, Alexa Meier, Paige Nickel, Hope Arens, and Logan Birkholz.

Thank you all for a fabulous, fun-filled week of Vacation Bible School On August 1, *35 children* (ages 3 to 14 years old) learned how Jesus and cooking are connected!

Now honestly, can you tell me who really has fun during VBS, the children or volunteers?

God's many blessings to all.

*Ruthie Melzer*



## FREE TO GIVE AWAY

Memberships in a thriving, healthy, Lutheran congregation to anyone who is looking for a church home that not only teaches and preaches the good news of Jesus Christ but puts that love into action through many community and global ministries.

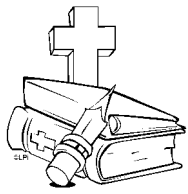
Interested? Call Cheryl Timm, Office Manager, at 725-3956.

Not sure? Need more info? Have questions? Have doubts? Call Pastor Catherine Mode at 725-3956.

**NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION:** Thursday, Oct. 6, at 6:30 pm in Gathering Area. Call Cheryl Timm to indicate you are coming.

**NEW MEMBER WEEKEND:** Members received during worship services on Sat., Oct. 15, at 5:00 pm, and Sun., Oct. 16, at 8:00 and 10:30 am.

## Attention Parents!



Check out  
these classes  
for you and  
your  
child(ren)

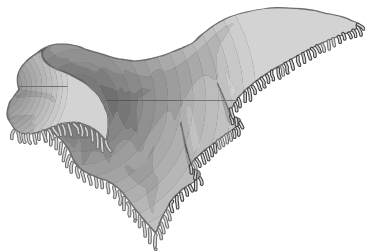
### Age 3-5—Growing in Faith

This class is designed to help parents with tools and methods to develop faith conversations with their child(ren).

Class will be held **Oct. 2 at 9:15 am**. Then your child(ren) will be honored during 10:30 am worship.

### Grade 2—What is the Bible?

Join us for a class designed to familiarize children and parents with the Bible and how to look up familiar verses. Class will be held on **Oct. 16 at 9:15 am**.



## Prayer Shawl Ministry

Will meet on the first Tuesday of the month and will start on October 4 at 9:30 am at church.

## Adult Forums Starting Oct. 8

Adult Forums will begin on October 8 with the 6-week study of *Fearless* by Max Lucado.

Classes are open to anyone interested. Books will be available but not required to participate. The study is DVD based where you watch the weekly lesson and then discuss.

Pastor Mode and Vicar Ed will facilitate the discussions.

## Men's Breakfast Group

Oct. 8 & 22 at 8:00 am  
at Perkins in Neenah



## Congregational Meeting

Sunday, November 7  
11:30 am



## Women's Retreat

“A Time For Everything – Words of Wisdom” is this year’s topic for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Women’s Retreat on October 7-9 at Crossways Imago Dei Village. Join us Friday night through Sunday noon for fun, food, fellowship, Bible study, worship, and making new friends through meaningful activities.

Based on Ecclesiastes 3:1-8, the retreat will focus on times in your life and wisdom literature in the Bible. Pastor Cath will lead the Bible study. There will be opportunities for meditation, prayer, silence, walking, crafts, conversation, games, singing, and doing a service project. We will be “building” our sacred space so begin thinking about bringing a timepiece and/or something that represents time in your life.

The cost will be around \$37 for the weekend. Adjusted cost for less time spent at camp will be figured on an individual basis. Camper-ships are available through Pastor Cath.

Add your name to the sign up chart in the Gathering Area and fill out a registration form. For more information contact Ardy Kreuter at 722-6930 or [akreuter@new.rr.com](mailto:akreuter@new.rr.com).

## Rebekah Circle

Rebekah Circle will meet on Tuesday, October 18, at 7:00 pm at the home of Chris Dieck-Hillegas, 3602 Jadetree Terrace, Neenah.

We will continue our study of Mark's Gospel using the October issue of *Gather* (formerly *Lutheran Woman Today*). All women are welcome.

Please call Chris at 836-3921 for directions or more information.

## Ministry Fair 2011



### **"What's The Buzz All About?"**

**Date and Time:** Before and after services on Saturday, October 1 and Sunday, October 2.

Each ministry will be represented by providing examples of how it contributes to our immediate church community and the outreach programs. The individual ministries offer opportunities for member participation if your interests/talents/gifts apply.

Come visit us and see how your time and talents can add sting to our hive.

During your visit, follow the path to unscramble the puzzle for a prize.

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## Chili Time!

Tuesday, Nov. 8  
4:00 - 7:30 pm



It's fall and you know what that means-Sunday School, Confirmation, Packers games and Chili Supper!

We will serve up our "secret" Chili recipe with buns, crackers, cheese, coffee, milk, and top it off with all those wonderful homemade desserts so generously donated by our members.

We cannot put on this community favorite event without your help. Donation and volunteer sign-up sheets will be located in the Gathering Area. Chili Supper signs will be available to take home to put in your yard starting October 8.

Any questions, contact Alley at 725-3956 or [ashepeck@our-saviors.org](mailto:ashepeck@our-saviors.org).

Many hands make light work so please consider donating an hour or two of your time.

## Fair Trade Fair

November 8, 4:00-7:30 pm  
November 13, 8:00 am-Noon

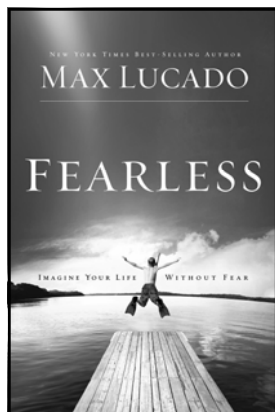
Purchase beautiful and unique Fair Trade items handmade by disadvantaged artisans in developing regions. With each purchase, you help artisans maintain steady work and a sustainable income so they can provide for their families. You help artisans like A. Dowlethbee, a basket weaver who works in India. She says "Customers who buy our baskets can be a part of creating a future for us." Cash and checks will be accepted.

We are also looking for people to sell products in two-hour shifts on Sunday, November 13.

If you have any questions or would like to help with the fair, please contact Chris Boehnlein at 722-1563 or at [cnoffke1023@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cnoffke1023@sbcglobal.net)

Make a difference for people all over the world with your purchases.

**CHRISTMAS SHOPPING WILL NEVER FEEL SO GOOD!**



# Still Time to Join a Small Group

Are you asking yourself,  
“Why should I join a small group?”

The answer is simple. Because God calls us to be part of a community. God is all about relationships and that’s what being a part of a small group can bring.

We have many different small groups still looking for someone just like you! Don’t see a current group that you like or one that fits into your schedule? Create one of your own with friends, family, neighbors, or co-workers!

The *Fearless* study is based on Max Lucado’s best selling book, *Fearless*. It will help us explore and find a spiritual solution to the growing minefield of fear. In six DVD sessions, *Fearless* addresses some of our biggest fears and shows us how the solution is easier than you think.

Groups will receive their *Fearless* books and group materials the weekend of October 1&2. Sermons based on the series will begin on the weekend of October 8 & 9. Once the *Fearless* study is finished your group has the option of continuing with another study or taking a break. Groups are not limited to weekly study. Your group can choose to study weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly, whichever works best for the group.

Interested in joining a small group but have either already studied *Fearless* or just not interested in the study. No problem! We own dozens of studies that cover a wealth of topics.

To sign-up, for more information on the *Fearless* study or other studies available, please contact Alley Shepeck at [ashepeck@our-saviors.org](mailto:ashepeck@our-saviors.org) or 725-3956.



## Mark Your Calendars 2012 National Mission Trip Dates Are Set!

The dates for two 2012 National  
Mission Trips are...

January 7-14

Tuscaloosa, Alabama (or  
surrounding area)  
for tornado recovery

June 24-29

Joplin, Missouri  
for tornado recovery

The details of the trips are yet to be determined, but we will communicate soon. The trips are open to anyone. You do not need to be a member to attend.

The first meeting for the January trip will be Tuesday, October 18, at 6:30 pm.

Contact Alley Shepeck at 725-3956 or [ashepeck@our-saviors.org](mailto:ashepeck@our-saviors.org) for more information.

*God's Work. Our Hands.*

## Genesis Study Moves to Monday Evenings

The group studying Genesis on Wednesday evenings has moved the study to Monday evenings at 6:00 pm. All are welcome! We meet in the Lounge in front of the Altar.

We will be studying *Fearless* with the rest of the church starting on Oct.3 and then switch back to Genesis after. The way the study is structured you do not need to have attended prior classes to participate. No prior Bible study experience needed.

# Vicarious Experiences

“Collared”

By Vicar Ed

Among the many new experiences for me as I have started my internship (or vicarage to be fancy) is wearing a pastor's shirt with a white clerical collar—or wearing the “collar” my seminarian pals say.

I'm learning that things change when I'm wearing the collar. *I'm* changed when I'm wearing it. I make a conscious effort to have a pleasant look on my face. I smile more. I drive with courtesy and consideration. I accept as loved children of God drivers who have forgotten their own courtesy and consideration. I make sure my shoes are shiny, my teeth are brushed and my pants are ironed. I would comb my hair if I had enough to bother with.

So far I *like* the version of me in the collar. I hope it lasts. The collar changes things for me.

Maybe it changes things for others, too. People ask me about the collar. At the grocery store; “are you Catholic, then?” at the bus stop; “are you a priest or something?” “Something...” I answer, “...a vicar.” I get to tell some of my story and hear someone's story for a bit as the bus rumbles north through the dark streets. And I feel like *I know* I'm doing God's work. It's a start, anyway.

I am so pleased to be here at Our Savior's as your vicar. In our Lutheran tradition, a vicar is a person who is studying to be a pastor. I have been driving to the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago for the past two years taking a full load of classes on the path to becoming a pastor. This internship is the next step in my journey. It is learning by doing. Pastor Cath is my supervisor, but I'll really be learning how to become a pastor from you.

I'm married to Judy, and our son, Erik, is 24 and finishing up his pilot's license. You may know that we are mourning Tyler, our 17-year-old son who died in a drowning accident this past summer. As a family we have appreciated your flexibility, kindnesses and prayers. We do miss Tyler terribly, but we know that God's promises are sure and he is safe in the arms of Jesus now. I'm sure you will get to know more about my family and me as our year together unfolds.

If you haven't yet, please introduce yourself to me when you see me. I also ask for your patience if I struggle to remember your name (I do struggle, but I'm working on it).

Vicar Ed Baseman



Quilting in October

Thurs., Oct. 6 at 1:00 pm  
&  
Thurs., Oct. 20 at 9:00 am

## Do you have any candles and candle holders you would be willing to donate?

The Worship Ministry Taize Service Committee is looking for candles and candle holders.

**Candles:** can be burned or unburned; color preference is white, ivory or pastels; any height, 2 ½ inches in diameter or larger. We will also need votive candles – same color preferences.

**Candle Holders:** simple design, low to medium height or plates. Please drop off at church prior to October 25. They can be left in the music area of the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Roberta Golden at 722-5476 or [roberta\\_golden@hotmail.com](mailto:roberta_golden@hotmail.com)

## Memorials & Honorariums

\$85 in memory of Tyler Baseman  
 \$685 in memory of Ervin Volkman  
 \$90 in memory of Gladys Peotter

GENERAL OPERATING FUND	YTD through Aug. 2010	YTD through Aug. 2011
Income	\$236,860.27	\$241,011.00
Expenses	\$255,854.96	\$255,185.00
Over / (Short):	(\$18,994.69)	(\$14,174.00)

## KEY POINTS ABOUT OUR FINANCES

### BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROSITY

- Vacation Bible School reached 84+ people, including many un-churched!
- Summer intergeneration learning in the gathering area reached 158 people (including relatives and friends of members and visitors plus, by the end of August, 94 blessing leaves have been turned in. More are coming.
- Our musicians led creative worship on Rally Day Weekend and at the Pet Blessing service.
- We also hosted a Welcome for Vicar Ed Baseman and a corn roast on Rally Day.
- Bibles and Lutheran Handbooks have been provided for all 49 of our confirmation students.

**Income:** Year to date is \$241,011 which includes all pledged and non-pledged envelope giving, and loose offerings.

**Expense:** The expense to date is \$255,185 which leaves us with a shortfall of \$14,174.

**Available Funds:** (Specified for General Operating Expenses only e.g. Heat, Confirmation Camp, Debt Reduction etc.) When we applied the currently available funds to the expenses to date we are actually in the black by \$3,019.

At the end of August all bills were paid except August benevolence. Finances remain quite tight. The council at it's August meeting began re-drafting the budget for the remainder of the year, which could put us on track to end the year in the black and reduce our operating debt. Furlough days and withholding benevolence were considered. No furlough days for staff are planned at this time and the council voted to send \$1,000 (a reduced amount) to benevolence with the hope that we will be able to do that each month until the end of the year. Bishop Justman and the synod has been notified.

ATTENDANCE		
August	2010	2011
Week 1	179	165
Week 2	170	126
Week 3	234	146
Week 4	147	164
Week 5	208	n/a
Weekly Avg.	188	150

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(See Genesis 6-8)

09-16-2011

YOU THROW THE CATS OVERBOARD AND I'LL  
 TELL YOU WHERE I FOUND THE BRANCH