

**May/June 2009 Newsletter from:  
First Ev. Lutheran Church  
8397 Piney Orchard Parkway  
Odenton, MD 21113  
410-672-3352  
Rev. Scott MacDonald, Pastor**



*"You shall each revere  
your mother and father...."*

*Leviticus 19:3, NRSV*

# Gospeltality

First  
Evangelical  
Lutheran  
Church

May/June  
2009  
Issue

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Fellowship  
Evangelism  
Love  
Community

Gospeltality is the  
monthly newsletter  
of First Evangelical  
Lutheran Church of  
Odenton, MD

## FROM THE PASTOR

### The Season of Life!

We are in the Easter season. Easter is more than one day a year for God's people, it is an entire season where we are to remember and celebrate the life of Jesus Christ among us! What better time of year to do this than during springtime! Just before Easter we welcomed new members during a worship service and with a reception that followed. Let us continue to pray for these who are professing faith in our church family and for all who are becoming a closer part of our family.



Later in the month on May 17th we will recognize our youth during worship services as they will take part in the service and will be sharing with us. On May 31st we will celebrate with our confirmands as they profess their God-given faith before our church family at the 11:00 service. As we continue in this season of life, we celebrate the eternal life the Lord has given. May he cause us always to grow in the Faith of Jesus Christ during the entire season of life that our Lord has called us to!

Pastor

## SPECIAL DATES IN MAY (YOUTH EMPHASIS MONTH) AND SPECIAL DATES IN JUNE (LADIES' AUXILIARY EMPHASIS MONTH)

### MAY

- 1-3—SED Conference
- 7—National Day of Prayer
- 8-9—Fellowship Hall Floors to be Waxed
- 10—Mother's Day
- 11—Blood Drive, Nichols Bethel 2-8 PM
- 16—Auxiliary Flea Market, 9 AM—2 PM  
Men's Breakfast—Nautilus, 8 AM
- 17—Youth Sunday
- 20—Pre-K Graduation, 9:30 AM
- 21—Ascension of our Lord
- 25—Memorial Day
- 30—Church Chore Day  
—Ride Across MD Event begins
- 31—Pentecost

### JUNE

- 1—Ladies' Auxiliary Potluck, 6:30 PM
- 7—Summer Worship Schedule Begins/  
Trinity Sunday/Ball Game
- 14—Flag Day
- 15-19—Vacation Bible School
- 21—Father's Day/First Day of Summer
- 27—Church Chore Day



Youth Emphasis



Ladies' Auxiliary

"When I stand before God at the end of my life, I would hope that I would not have a single bit of talent left and could say, 'I used everything you gave me.'" - Erma Bombeck

**PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2009**

Condensed from Alan Potter’s Minutes

- March Treasurer’s Report shows \$5,415.66 after expenses. Building fund—\$304,124.
- Prekindergarten problems discussed. Zoo trip to be subsidized by church.
- Pastor & Mike Peterson to attend SED Convention; Todd Lowry will lead 5/3 services.
- Approved support of contestant’s Flea Market on April 25 for lifetime TV Challenge. Chore Day originally slated on that date will be rescheduled.
- Request for building funds for California church denied.
- Copier donated for Pre-K area.
- Mike Mrozek appointed as new Elder.
- Cost of \$1820 to comply with Asbestos Inspection and Management Plan noted.
- May 8/9 scheduled for stripping and waxing of fellowship hall—no events.

**THE ASCENSION**

Many Christian churches will celebrate Ascension Day on (or near) May 21, which is 40 days after Easter. Theologian Friedemann Hebart explained Christ’s Ascension this way:

“When Jesus’ work on Earth was done, he took leave of his disciples and went to be with his Father. A time for sad farewells, one might think. Yet the church celebrates the Ascension with special joy. What is the reason for joy when Jesus leaves his people?

“The Ascension is not the end of Jesus’ work, but a new beginning! How could Jesus ever leave us alone? Because he has gone to be Lord of the universe, he can continue his work of life and love—among us, too. His work was not just a short episode in Galilee. In the person of the Holy Spirit, the same Lord is present among us, still revealing the Father’s loving heart, so that we, too, can believe—and sing songs of joy.”



**EVANGELISM NOTE**

by John Broderick

It is said that we are made up of the sum of our experiences. If this is so, we are certainly not even close to perfect. Some would say we are able to become perfect by doing good, giving more, or by greater suffering etc.. Can imperfection change itself into perfection?



What a wonderful thing our Savior has done! By grace though faith, lest any man should boast. How simple for us who believe. Keep it simple and spread the news!

Every Good Gift & Every Perfect Gift Is From Above...

How wonderful, how marvelous, and what peace he can bring!!

J a m e s 1 : 1 7

**CHURCH CHORE DAYS**

Don’t forget to come to church on May 30 and June 27 to help with cleaning up and fixing things at church. Contact Bruce Cole with questions at bru23@aol.com.

**WARM YOUR HEART. VOLUNTEER AT AUGSBURG**

by Debbie Starke

Volunteers are needed at Augsburg Lutheran Home (located near Liberty Rd. & the Belt-way) for ongoing programs.

Friendly visitors, meal servers, escort residents to church services and activities, assis-

tance with mailings are among the needs to be met by volunteers. Clerical experienced volunteers are needed for filing, gathering and assembling information. We have a special need for anyone with musical instrument or the piano or keyboard, especially for Sunday Church services. Flexible hours are available for weekdays, early evenings and weekends. For more information contact Betty Ireland in the Volunteer Office (410) 486-4573x147.

Find the joy of volunteering at Augsburg.

Address: Augsburg Lutheran Home and Village  
6811 Campfield Road  
Baltimore, MD 21207-4657



### **AN UNFORGETTABLE DATE**

A woman told her husband, George, that she wanted him to take another woman on a date. "I love you," she said, "but the woman I have in mind loves you, too, and needs to spend some time with you. It's your mother."



Dutifully George called his mom and made a date. For the special evening, she chose the dress she'd worn to the last anniversary she and her late husband had celebrated. Mother and son enjoyed chatting so much that they missed their movie. Both left feeling joyous and fulfilled.

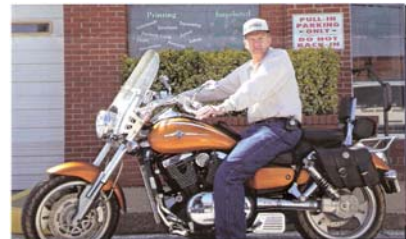
Sadly, George's mother died only a few days after their date. He was so happy he'd been able to spend that special time with her.

Right before she died, George's mother sent him this note: "Enclosed are two prepaid tickets for you to have dinner where we had such a pleasant evening together. You'll never know what that night meant for me. I love you, Son."

Happy Mother's Day to all the mothers in our congregation.

### **HELP THE FIGHT AGAINST BREAST CANCER**

Mike Mrozek is participating in Dick Gelfman's Ride Across Maryland to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. For those of you not familiar with this fundraiser, it is a 2 day event (beginning May 30) of motorcyclists who gather together to raise money for this very good cause. They ride from the Columbia Mall to the Francis Scott Key Hotel in Ocean City. All money raised is donated to the cancer fund.



Please consider sending a tax deductible donation of \$5, \$10, \$25, etc. or whatever you can afford. To donate make a check payable to Ride Across Maryland and give it to Mike or a family member. You could mail your check to Mike Mrozek, 514 Cheddington Rd., Linticum MD 21090. You may also go on line to [rideacrossmaryland.org](http://rideacrossmaryland.org) and follow instructions to sponsor a rider.

As Mike says "The times are tuff right now, and I know it's harder than ever to be donating, however as difficult as it may be, it's so much more difficult for those suffering from cancer, and for their families. Please help if at all possible."

NEXT ISSUE OF THE GOSPELTALITY WILL BE IN JULY/AUGUST.

# SURPRISE Dad ..... at work!

Dads work so hard to provide for their families' needs. Here's a fun way to show your appreciation to your dad this Father's Day.\*

### What you need:

- Paper and envelope (any color)
- Markers and crayons
- Stickers
- Pencil
- Stamp
- Your dad's work address

### What you do:

1. Decorate the paper with drawings, stickers, etc.
2. Write a message to your dad, letting him know how thankful you are for his love and hard work.
3. With an adult's help, write your dad's name and work address on the outside of the envelope and your return address in the top-left corner.
4. Place a stamp in the top-right corner and then mail your special gift.

### Other ideas:

- Pack a lunch to eat with dad at or near his workplace.
- Send your letter in a box and include some homemade cookies.
- Pack your dad a special lunch. Place self-stick notes with messages of appreciation on various food items.
- Write appreciation messages on self-stick notes and, with your mom's help, place them all over the inside of your dad's car.



\*All these ideas will work also for Mom on Mother's Day or her birthday.



## A legacy of faith

You're blessed when you have a mother, a grandmother or any relative or friend who passes down a strong faith to you. In the Bible, Timothy was influenced by his grandmother and mother.

Complete 2 Timothy 1:5 (NIV) below by filling in the blanks with the correct vowel.

**VOWELS: 1 = a 2 = e 3 = i 4 = o 5 = u**

"\_ h \_ v \_ b \_ \_ n r \_ m \_ nd \_ d \_ f  
 3 1 2 2 2 3 2 4  
 y \_ \_ r s \_ nc \_ r \_ f \_ \_ th, wh \_ ch  
 4 5 3 2 2 1 3 3  
 f \_ rst l \_ v \_ d \_ n y \_ \_ r gr \_ ndm \_ th \_ r  
 3 3 2 3 4 5 1 4 2  
 L \_ \_ s \_ nd \_ n y \_ \_ r m \_ th \_ r  
 4 3 1 3 4 5 4 2  
 \_ \_ n \_ c \_ \_ nd, \_ \_ m p \_ rs \_ \_ d \_ d,  
 2 5 3 2 1 3 1 2 5 1 2  
 n \_ w l \_ v \_ s \_ n y \_ \_ \_ ls \_."  
 4 3 2 3 4 5 1 4

2 TIMOTHY 1:5 (NIV)

Answer: "I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also."

## **WHAT'S NEW AT PRESCHOOL?**

by Viiia Erwin

Well, here I am again, wondering where the time has flown. I can't believe another school year is almost over!

May is "Listening and Following Directions Month", something we've all been working on all year. And some of us have caught on to that concept better than others!

May is also our month to visit the Baltimore Zoo to see all those wild animals we learned about in April. That's always a fun trip for everyone.

The Maryland Department of Health will also visit us to conduct vision and hearing screenings for all our students.

We'll also be working on Mother's Day gifts and projects.

Then comes the big day! Graduation will be held on Wednesday, May 20, at 9:30 A.M. We invite you all to join us in celebrating this happy occasion. The morning class graduates will include: Alauna Algarin, Nicholas Amelse, Marcus Bird, Jackson Burchick, Mark Elmer, Logan Fischer, Cary Gerhardt, Jessica Jones, Lucas Marks, Raegan McKinney, Joshua Park, Garrett Powers, Julius (Lex) Scobey, Christopher Shapard, Julia Stauffer, Sean Stasiak and Hannah Walker.



The afternoon class graduates are Emily Bearden, Niccolo Buonocore, Joseph Camus, Joseph Houck, Anabelle Jacobs, Thomas Loughry, Lacey Norton and Caden Tessieri.

Don't forget that preschool is still accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year. If you'd like more information or an application please call the church office or download the registration online.

Liz and I wish everyone a safe and happy summer!



### **WORSHIP SCHEDULE CHANGE**

On Sunday, June 7th, our worship schedule for Sundays will be at 8 AM and 10 AM. Watch the bulletin for announcements for the schedule for Vacation Bible School. Sunday School will not run during the summer.

## **YOUTH NEWS**

by Michelle Hess

The youth here at First Lutheran had a very busy April. The middle schoolers stuffed eggs for the Easter egg hunt followed by a viewing of the movie "Prince Caspian" on April 3rd. The night before Easter they met at church to set up the Fellowship Hall for Easter breakfast and then picked up trash on the church grounds as well as all along Odenton Rd. as far as Rita's Italian Ice. There, they each got a treat and walked back to church.

The high school youth cooked and served Easter breakfast once again this year in the Fellowship Hall. Over 100 people were served. A big 'thank you' to all the youth, middle schoolers and high schoolers, and their youth leaders, who participated to make this a success.

On Saturday, April 25th, the high school youth group met at church to assist Bruce Cole in painting the preschool fence. We were also selling hot dogs and sodas at Mrs. Treloar's food drive/yard sale for Lifetime channel's Clean Start Challenge.



The month of May is Youth Board month and May 17th is Youth Service Sunday! Be sure to attend late service that Sunday as the youth will be participating in the message and music of the service.

### **PRAYER FOR THE COURSE OF OUR ACTIONS**

by Peggy Ferrell

Dear God,

We seem to be such busy "doers."

There's our "to-do" list and "honey-do list."

When a friend is in sorrow, we tell them to let us know if there's anything we can "do."

Even Saint Paul tells us that faith without works is dead.



Yet -

Sometimes we're so busy with the "works" we forget about the faith.

Help me, O God, to keep in touch with you, the wellspring of my faith.

Let me allow you, and not me, to be the real source of my actions.

Let the source of my actions determine the course of my actions.

Amen.

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST SCHEDULE**

by Todd Lowry

May 16th - Men's Breakfast will be at the Nautilus Diner in Crofton from 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM.

June 20th - Men's Breakfast will be in Fellowship Hall from 8-9:30 AM and breakfast will be served.



### **EXPANSION MEETING MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2009**

by Debbie Starke

Steve Heemann of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) was the guest at the meeting. Debbie Starke provided background on the project, including how much money has been raised to date, expected costs of the project, scaling back of plans to a more affordable option, etc.



Steve addressed the group regarding LCEF services and types of loans. We talked about their rate structure, starting with a construction loan and converting to a mortgage. Construction loans carry a higher fee initially and are adjusted once settlement has occurred. We would place the funds

into an account and use those funds first before we would start borrowing and incurring interest. He walked us through the basic worksheets and at initial glance, we should have no problem securing a loan

Steve also addressed other programs that LCEF offers.

The expansion committee will meet with a number of financial institutions and will then present the findings. Once a lender is selected, we will hold a voter's assembly to vote on entering into an agreement for a construction loan & mortgage.

Our application has been submitted for a permit. CCR continues to work closely with the county. Because of the size of the project, the county has agreed that we do not need to submit a full site plan, saving us \$6,000.00

The expansion committee is still in need of volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please contact Debbie Starke at 443.255.3324 or [deborah.starke@verizon.net](mailto:deborah.starke@verizon.net).

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

by Jean McHenry



Those who signed up to donate altar flowers during May and June are:

**EARLY SERVICE**

- 3—Jim & Wanda Travis (both vases)
- 10—
- 17—Tim Bach's Birthday
- 24—Matthew Pinckney's 16th Birthday  
—Debbie Starke for Sean Pine's Birthday
- 31—Confirmation Flowers
- 7—
- 14—Debbie Starke for Father's Birthday  
(Robert Starke)
- 21—
- 28—Zayden Bach's Birthday

**LATE SERVICE**

**MAY**

- 3—
- 10—In memory of Mary Walls mother of Linda Vitchock
- 17—Mike & Beckie Petersen's 41st Anniv.
- 24—Jonathan Vitchock's 23rd Birthday  
—Bruce & Veronica Cole, 28th Anniv.
- 31—Confirmation Flowers

**JUNE**

- 7—In memory of Ed Ozolins by Irene Lello  
—Susie Family in memory of Bill's father Albert
- 14—Susie family for Anna's 11th Birthday
- 21—Irene Lello's Birthday by Viia Erwin
- 28—Barbara Williams in memory of husband Joe Williams  
—Alan & Pat Potter's 40th Anniversary

There are times when we buy flowers and the donors are not there to pick them up after the service. Please be aware that we still have the expense of the flowers whether you are there to collect the flowers or not and we appreciate your donation for them. Flowers not picked up will be sent to sick or shut-in members. Flowers are now \$10 per vase; flower money should be earmarked for "altar flowers" and placed in the regular church offering.

**CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (CAP)**

by Jean McHenry



May is CAP's Fruit Bowl drive to collect canned fruit for our pantry. During June we will concentrate on collecting boxes of Macaroni and Cheese. Many thanks to all who help this worthwhile cause. As usual, food donations go in the CAP basket in the narthex.

CAP recently received a donation of a desktop Lexmark printer. Unfortunately it does not work. If there is anyone who is able to take a look to see if it is fixable, we would appreciate

it. Either that, or a donation of a small printer that works would be a big help. Contact me at 410-674-5353 or mchenrynorth40@verizon.net. Any help or advice is appreciated.

**FATHER'S DAY**

A Houston newspaper asked readers to send in thoughts about their fathers. Letters flooded in and what people wrote about their fathers is most inspiring. A few comments.



- Dad was always there for me. He sacrificed to make sure we had what we needed.
- When disappointment came my way, Dad said "Son, real life ain't about getting what you want, but more about doing something with what you get."
- My Dad was disabled but he worked hard to make sure we children had a good education and lived moral lives. He would say "I want you to succeed more than I did."
- My Dad wanted us to be Christians and took us regularly to church.

What would you write about your father?

**WHEN ON VACATION**

When on vacation be with us in spirit.  
The rest of the summer, be with us in person.

**TAKE A CARD!**

Pat Potter recently added some Lutheran Church Extension Fund cards to the rack to the right of the doorway as you enter the sanctuary. There are also honor/memory cards from First Ev. Lutheran Church, Lutheran Hour Ministries, Augsburg Lutheran Home, LCMS World Relief, Christian Assistance Program and Gideon Bible ministry cards. Please feel free to help yourself.

**FLEA MARKET**

by Jean McHenry



The Ladies' Auxiliary will hold their Spring Flea Market in the church parking lot on Saturday, 16 May from 9 AM to 2 PM. Rain date is Saturday, 6 June. We will have a bake table, sell used items and clothes, and sponsor a hot dog stand. If anyone would like to rent their own table or space (\$10/\$15 respectively) contact the Church Office at 410-672-3352 or Alice Andrzejewski at 410-987-4575. We'll need members of the congregation to provide baked items for our sale since there are so few auxiliary members. There will be someone at the church at 7

PM the evening before the Flea Market to pick up any donated items. If you have questions, please contact Alice at the listed phone number.

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 10. ANBRAAS—BARNABAS      | 5. LUAP—PAUL                       |
| 9. TERPE                  | 4. TFSBTHONTHAJAE—JOHN THE BAPTIST |
| 8. USEOMIN—ONESIMUS       | 3. EONMSI—SIMEON                   |
| 7. YMTOTIH—TIMOTHY        | 2. IDAEOHRS—HERODIAS               |
| 6. TSEMPPEINO—SIMON PETER | 1. JSSEU—JESUS                     |

**ANSWER TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 9**

**POTLUCK SCHEDULED**

The Ladies' Auxiliary will have a Potluck Supper on Monday, 1 June at 6:30 PM. Bring your family and food and fellowship with us.

## **FOCUSING ON THE TRINITY**

Christians are monotheists, meaning we believe in only one God. Yet, we talk about the doctrine of the Trinity. In the church year the Sunday after Pentecost is known as Trinity Sunday. It's a day for focusing on what theologians call the Triune God—the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.



Someone said about the concept of the Trinity, "You will lose your soul if you don't believe it and you will lose your mind if you try to explain it."

God has revealed himself to mankind in three persons; as our Creator, who also came to earth as our Savior (in the person of Jesus) and also as the Holy Spirit. On Trinity Sunday, we praise our Triune God.

## **SATISFIED SERVANTS**

According to a survey conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, clergy members ranked highest in job satisfaction. More than 87% of pastors report being satisfied with their jobs. Firefighters are second (80%), and physical therapists are third (78%).



The survey collected data from more than 27,000 people for almost two decades. At the bottom of the job-satisfaction scale are waiters, roofers and gas station attendants.

Survey Director Tom Smith admits he was surprised that pastors topped the list. "Apparently the rewards of spiritual guidance and leadership outweigh the burdens of being a religious leader," he says.

Job satisfaction is highest in professions that involve "caring for, teaching and protecting others and creative pursuits." Smith adds. Prestige and happiness aren't necessarily linked.

If you want to be happy in your work, seek out a career or volunteer opportunities that allow you to make a difference. Pray that God will show you ways to use your gifts to help others.

## **SPOTTY HEADLINE PUZZLES**

Fill in the missing letters of each "headline," which relates to a Bible story. Then unscramble the letters you've added to the headline to form a name which is the object of the headline. Answers on page 8.

1. ONLY BEING THAT COMBINE- -U-T D-ITY WITH H-MANITY.
2. EV-L QUEEN -EM-NDS EX-CUTION -F -IG-TEOU- BAPTIZER.
3. D-VOUT MAN REC-G-IZES BABY AS THE PRO-I-ED MESS-AH.
4. RESPEC-ABLE -ER-ON -AP-IZED -IS C-USI- IN --E -ORD-N R-V-R.
5. WRITING -ETTERS CONTIN-ES BY UND-UNTED -RISONER.
6. DOUB-ING FI-H---AN -ULLS IN -NOUGH F-SH TO SI-K B-AT.
7. -OUNG -AN S-RUGGLES T- PAS-OR FLEDGL-NG C-URCH.
8. R-NAWAY -LAV- BEC--ES A CHRI-T-A-.
9. -ONGU- OF FI-E SAT U-ON SUDD-NLY MULTILINGUAL MAN.
10. CHRISTI-- -ELIEVED TO -E ORDE-ED TO -CCOMP-NY EX-PERSECUTOR OF CHRI-TIANS.

## **VBS**

Word just came in. VBS will be held from 15-19 June. Theme will be Gadget's Garage (robots). Watch for further details in the bulletin..