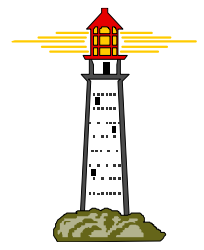


# The Pilot

"JESUS, SAVIOR, PILOT ME  
OVER LIFE'S TEMPESTUOUS SEA ...  
CHART AND COMPASS COME FROM THEE:  
JESUS, SAVIOR, PILOT ME."



Volume 11, No. 11

September, 2007

## Church Council

### **Board of Elders**

David Klatt  
Richard Schmid  
David Lohse  
James Schendel  
James Pearson  
James Tessmer

### **Board of Education**

Mike Hafften  
Joel Nystrom  
Jerome Meyer  
Bill Vollbrecht  
Brent Lange  
Paul Lieder

### **Board of Finance**

Joel Johnson  
Aaron Reich  
Doug Beise  
Rod Bechtold  
Scott Anderson  
David Lieder

### **Board of Trustees**

Jeff Bursch  
Jim Dixon  
Tim Hallstrom  
Mike Reich  
Tom Bursch  
Bill Schendel

### **Pastor**

Dennis K. Strong

### **School Faculty**

Principal:  
Matthew Meitner  
Nathan Hochmuth  
Merry Leerssen  
DeLyle Schultz  
Kathy Strong

### **Office Secretary**

Tawnya Lieder

Hebrews 10:25 (NIV) *"Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another-- and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

**Why go to church?** Some of our members have asked and have not been able to answer their own question and so they just don't go.

If I go back into the archives of newsletters,

I'm sure the Hebrews passage has been featured at least once. It is one that just keeps jumping up and down, wanting to answer the question posed at the beginning. But it falls on deaf ears and closed eyes. For other members, the answer seems so obvious. God has given us an avenue to One thing we can be sure of in our worship is that there are thousands of believers around the world worshipping the same God

*(Continued on page 3) Why go to church?*

## School to start

School starts on Monday, August 27. Pray that the Lord blesses our school year as our teachers and students prepare to learn.

There will be no school on Friday, August 31 and Monday, September 3.

This year we will have Vicar Robert Oberg teaching Catechism in Grades 5 and 6.

Vicar Oberg is from Redeeming Grace Lutheran, Rogers. Since Redeeming Grace does not have students in Catechism Class this year, he will be getting his training at our school.

All are invited to the opening service on August 27 at 9:00 a.m. in the church.

## Salem Project Update

As you will notice, the church looks a bit different than it did a few months ago. The storm windows over the stained glass windows are now done. The rest of the trim will be painted in September. The narthex doors and windows are complete. There are a few things that have to be taken care of, then that part will be done.

The handicap lift was delayed because of company issues. The trustees are working hard to get the company to get it done as soon as possible.

Information concerning steeple repairs will be coming as it comes in. The brick on the

*(Continued on page 3) Project plans*

## Synod Convention

Our WELS Synod Convention was held the last week of July. There was much discussion about issues ranging from financial difficulties to calling home world missionaries to closing a Synodical Prep School.

The outcome of the convention was that we continue to operate the 2 Synodical Prep schools alongside Martin Luther College and Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

Members of all congregations will be encouraged to prayerfully consider how each can increase their mission offerings to help carry out our great commission to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. Every member is affected by our Synod's work, whether it be your pastor or teachers or being a part of the world wide mission work. When we support WELS, we are supporting God's work.

## School Mission Projects

Martin Luther College and Mission to the Children were the mission fields chosen by Salem School for 2006-07. Martin Luther College received \$2,105.79, and Mission to the Children received \$450.00. In addition, a Christmas collection of \$319.00 was sent to Mission to the Children.

For the 2007-08 school year, our mission monies will be sent to our mission outreach in Russia and Mission to the Children in Mexico.

## Items collected

Thanks to you and your efforts, the school received \$598.51 from the General Mills boxtops and \$374.65 from the Kemps milk caps.

We will continue these programs again this year. Collections can be brought either to school or church.

We also save Land O' Lakes milk caps and Campbell's labels. Campbell label fronts are no longer accepted-instead, they want the bar codes. For further information as to what is needed for Campbell's, please refer to the enclosed flyer.

## Altar Guild

Beginning December 1, we will be putting into action an Altar Guild. This will be a small group (4 or 5) of interested members who wish to help care for worship service items, such as: setting up and cleaning up for Holy Communion, changing altar hangings for the various seasons of the church year, filling candles with oil, and other related responsibilities. Contact Pastor Strong if you would be interested in serving on this committee. It will be a one year, renewable commitment.

## After School Supervisor

We are in need of an after school supervisor for Mondays,

### Ushering for the month of September:

	<u>8:00</u>	<u>10:30</u>	<u>Fin. Counters (Sun-Wed)</u>
Sept. 2	T8 (9:00)		Scott/Aaron-Aaron/John
Sept. 9	AR3	PR2	Doug/Dave
Sept. 16	T7	L4	John/Scott
Sept. 23	PR5	AR6	Dave/Aaron
Sept. 30	L8	T2	Scott/Doug

### Head Ushers:

Aaron Reich	763-286-9042
Jared Tessmer	763-498-7347
Paul Reich	763-682-1306
Ben Lohse	763-497-2887

### Items for school

We collect:

- Campbell products—UPC symbols
- “Box Tops for education” from General Mills products
- Kemp’s Milk Program
- Used Cell phones
- Used Computer printer ink cartridges and laser cartridges
- Pop can tabs, given to the Ronald McDonald House
- Dominoes Pizza proof of purchase dots
- “Food Club” product UPC’s
- Nestle Pure Life Bottled Water labels

Drop these collections off at church or school.

Have a *Target* Charge Card?

Designate Salem School as recipients of 1% of your charges.

Shop at *Office Depot*?

Give them our Salem school ID: 70054214  
And our school will receive 5% credit.

(Continued from page 1) **Why go to church?**

we worship. We have the encouragement that we are not the only ones who believe. An organization serves its members. The members need to be involved so that the organization can function well. The church is no different. When members think they don't need to participate, they are harming the infrastructure as well as their own spiritual lives by shunning the very church that has led them to Christ. Ask those who regularly attend worship and they will tell you that their spiritual lives are nourished and growing because they have that special opportunity to worship. God works through His Word. If you don't have the Word, you aren't growing spiritually. Word and Sacrament. Confession and absolution. God's people responding in song. A sermon delivered in real life and real time. God desires that we gather together. It is worth our time. It carries with it the

rewards of the Word and the opportunity to encourage others.

Just think what our congregation could do if all of the members were regularly participating and being involved. Each individual member would benefit immensely spiritually, emotionally and perhaps physically as well. Who knows? If God isn't part of your life, then who is? I don't think our Board of Elders needs to beg people to come to church. The men will contact those who refuse to come to church and remind them of their spiritual commitments to God. But they will not be sending out the SWAT team to bring them in.

Our church will continue to encourage and instruct our members in God's Word. John 10:27 (NIV) *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me."* May we listen and follow. Going to church to worship God can become a habit... a true blessing. Don't let satan tell you otherwise.

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(Continued from page 1) **Project plans**

lower part of the steeple is bulging out. The trustees have had an engineer and construction personnel look at it as well as the insurance company. All will give us advice as to how to proceed. We are looking at the condition of the shingles, the metal flashing and inside and outside of the steeple. Some of the trustees have been in the steeple on many different days checking out its condition when dry and when the rain came. It will take time to figure out what we need to do. A special voters' meeting will be called when we get all of the information gathered.

## Thank you's abound

Klatt Electric, for their electrical work on the Narthex doors and handicap lift;

YPS and parents, for the wonderful meal at the Ice Cream Social.

Dave and Duane Bechtold, for their work laying the asphalt under the Narthex carport.

Trustees, for their untiring efforts at getting our projects on schedule and dealing with the steeple problem.

Jim and Bev Pearson for sponsoring the mud jacking work around the school and parsonage;

Gary Lieder for use of his tent for the outdoor church service and picnic;

All those who helped clean school on Monday and Tuesday.

## Babysitting Clearinghouse

Are you looking for a dependable babysitter? Are you looking for babysitting jobs?  
If you are a babysitter or if you need a babysitter,  
please contact Carol Meyer, coordinator at 763-682-3754 or mac0508@hotmail.com.



## Fall Sunday Bible Study

We are presently going through a Bible series on the Old Testament. From the creation story of Genesis through the prophecy of Malachi, we are reviewing the history surrounding the Old Testament to help us make sense of the Old Testament. The series is called, "Connecting Sinai to Calvary."

Join us at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday.

## Scrip Program

We will continue to offer the Scrip Program which enables people to purchase gift cards for major businesses through our church and school. Then the program receives a discount off of the gift cards which will then be used for tuition assistance, school projects and church projects. For further information, talk to Pastor Strong or Carol Green. There are blue sheets at church and school which lists many of the available gift cards.

## Wise Penny

The Wise Penny is in need of a manager and part time manager. There is a ad on the bulletin board at church. You may contact the following for more information: Bill Ruddle @ 320-963-2140 Billr546@Charter.net; Julie Deuth @ 763-560-4641 jsdeuth@ties2.net; Jill Rindt @ 763-205-3348 jillrindt@comcast.net

<b><u>Welcome:</u></b>
Mike and Tammy Melott and children,
Megan, Sarah and Benjamin.
Dan and Stephanie Smith and children,
Jacob and Katherine.
They are new members in our congregation.
<b><u>Congratulations:</u></b>
Jeff and Jeanne Schmid were married on
September 22nd.



### **Finances:**

Year-to-date as of July 31, 2007:

Budgeted Envelope Offerings: \$ 33,988.00

Received Envelope Offerings: \$ 30,215.00

Now as our building projects are coming to a completion, the bills will be due. We will need your extra offerings to help pay for the capital improvements that we as a church have voted on. Your envelopes can be mailed! Or you can use the Thrivent Simply Giving program. Help us to stay on track so that we can carry out our mission. If you would like to give a special donation to the capital improvements, please contact our treasurer, Joel Johnson.