



# Table Talk

Fairbanks Lutheran Church  
1012 Cowles (across from the public library)  
Sunday Service Times: 8:30 & 11:00am  
Sunday School 9:45am

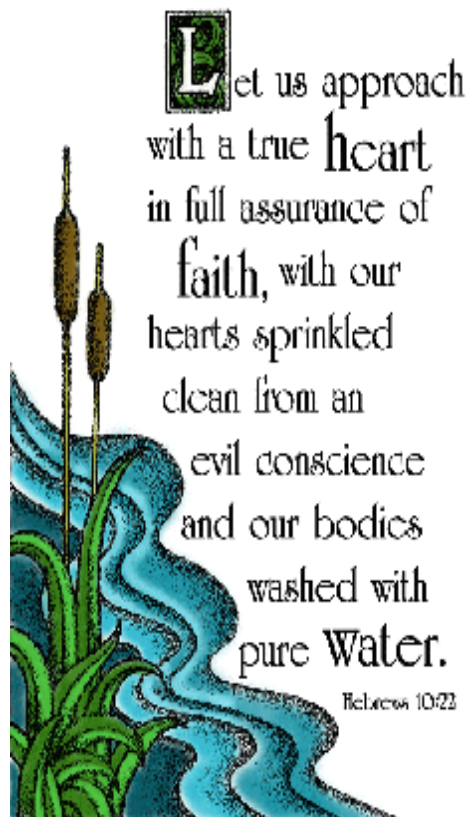
September 2009

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email articles to: [fairluth@gci.net](mailto:fairluth@gci.net)

[www.fairbankslutheranchurch.org](http://www.fairbankslutheranchurch.org)



## From the Pastor's Desk:

[pastorfairluth@gci.net](mailto:pastorfairluth@gci.net)



Some people may think it strange ... others, simply coincidence. But for me, it goes much further beyond. Let's just deal with the facts ... it was an ordinary day, but I had a kind of nagging in my mind to call a certain person. It was almost like a voice saying, "Pick up the phone, and call so-and-so." So I picked up the phone, and the person on the other end of the line admitted that they had been praying that I would call. And in fact, if I had put off calling a day or so later ... it might have been too late ... the "crisis" would have passed.

This incident is by no means an isolated case. Not that every time I have a nagging little voice in my mind, it turns out to be correct. Nor is it always the case that my actions are the fulfillment of another person's prayers! And yet ... it makes me wonder. In fact, I stand back in awe. Could it be an accident ... a coincidence? But how does one prove that a person's prayers could work in such a way?

C.S. Lewis once wrote in an essay titled, "The Efficacy of Prayer": "What sort of evidence would prove the efficacy of prayer? The thing we pray for may happen, but how can you ever know it was not going to happen anyway? Even if the thing were indisputably miraculous it would not follow that the miracle had occurred because of your prayers. The answer surely is that a compulsive empirical proof such as we have in the sciences can never be attained."

The effectiveness of prayer, so to speak, cannot be proved. We say things like "prayer works", only when what we pray for actually happens. However, what happens when the vacationer prays for sunshine, but the farmer for rain? Can God answer both prayers? I was once told that God has several answers to our prayer requests: "NO", "MAYBE", "NOT NOW", "YOU DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT YOURSELF", AND "YES". A real "YES" to our prayers doesn't happen too much ... in fact, I suspect it happens less and less frequently the more we mature in our faith. Because as we mature, we depend more and more on faith to live each day, accepting what happens ... instead of always needing God to "prove" God's self, so-to-speak, by answering our prayers.

(continued on pg. 2)

(continued from Pastor's Desk on pg. 1)

*"Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests",* Paul suggested in Ephesians 6:18. Prayer is a way of life. Prayer is important, not because we get things from God, but because it allows us to be in constant communication with God. Prayers cannot be proved ... but if they are the communication link with God, then it shouldn't surprise us when we become a part of the prayers of others. Thank God, that God listens! The real miracle is that, upon occasion, we are receptive to God's calling.

Pastor Ottum



## Baptisms, Church Membership, Weddings, Funerals

We would welcome the opportunity to walk with you or members of your family through important passages of your life: baptism, weddings, and funerals. **Please speak to Pastor Bill for more information.**



## Fall Worship Service Times

Beginning on **Sunday, September 13**, we will begin our fall worship times. We'll meet at **8:30am and 11:00am** for worship and **Sunday School from 9:45am – 10:45am.**

We will have classes for all ages from preschool through adult.

## Confirmation Fall Schedule

Classes resume on **Wednesday September 9<sup>th</sup>** at **4:30pm** with a service project led by Sharon Lockwood, our Youth, Education and Family Director. Then from **5:30-6pm** Pastor Bill will meet with the parents.



Regular classes begin the following **Wednesday, September 16** at 4:30pm with a study of the 10 Commandments. Call Pastor Ottum or Sharon for details.

## Adult Learning Opportunities

**Sunday Morning Classes**, resume on **September 13<sup>th</sup>**, 9:45am in the classroom at the foot of the stairs in the fellowship hall. The study will be a straight through reading and reflection on the New Testament book of James. This is the book, which so strongly suggests, "faith without works is dead!" Martin Luther, comparing James to the Gospels and other New Testament books, said that in comparison, James was an "epistle of straw" – meaning that it didn't add anything to the evangelical message of the other books. Come and find out for yourself – join us on Sunday mornings!

**Wednesday Noon Study** The noon studies will begin on **September 9<sup>th</sup>** at noon in the narthex. We will follow a similar format to the Sunday morning studies – reading through a book of the Bible and discussion. The topic will be the Psalms.

**Women's Evening Bible Study** will begin on **Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30pm in the narthex at the church.

**Daytime Women's Bible Study** will meet at 2pm at the church in the narthex on **Tuesday, September 15<sup>th</sup>.**

# Worship & Arts Meeting

is scheduled for **Saturday, September 12th** at 10:30am at the church.



## Christmas Bazaar



We're pleased to announce Fairbanks Lutheran Church will host a Christmas Bazaar on **Saturday, November 7, 9am-4pm**. Details and Registration Forms will be coming out soon, but please mark your calendars for this fun event! The planning committee is putting out the invitation with this message to you talented and generous members to donate handcrafted and handmade items to the FLC Youth Group and/or the FLC for their tables. The youth's sales proceeds will be a fund-raiser for their youth group, and 100% of the FLC table sales and proceeds of the table rentals will go toward FLC benevolences. You may want to consider having your own table to sell your crafts and wares. Because of limited space in the narthex and downstairs, it will be "First Come, First Served." Tables/rental spaces will rent for \$40. A few suggestions of things to donate or sell, but not limited to these, are Christmas tree ornaments, candles, jewelry, aprons, braided rugs, art work, potholders, knit and crocheted items, baby shawls, blankets, booties, sweaters.

The committee can also use volunteers to help in a variety of ways, and you're welcome to attend the **planning meeting on Thursday September 10, 7:00 p.m.** in the church narthex.

Later there will be a sign-up form posted listing the tasks for which volunteers will be needed and appreciated. In the meantime if you have questions, please call Ellen Ayotte @ 474-0364, or Arlene Strandberg @ 457-2840.



## Our Prayer Partner Church

is Island of Faith, Wrangell. Pray for Pastor Majorie Lorant and congregation.

**To submit a prayer request** to our prayer chain pray-ers, contact Millie Dufseth at 452-2992. This group of women has been organized for many years and is well connected with our Lutheran and other community churches.



## ALASKA CONVENTION

Hosted by  
Central Lutheran Church  
Anchorage

**September 18-19, 2009** at Central Lutheran Church in Anchorage the Alaska Women of ELCA will meet together. There will be speakers, workshops, Bible studies, 5K "Walk & Roll", fellowship, service projects, Listening Post, music, storytelling, Fair Trade, election of Triennial delegates, a travelogue of Israel and Palestine by the Bishop & Barbara Keys, and much more.

Special guests include: Diane Brauer, WELCA Executive Board Member, Pastor Michael Keys, Bishop, and you, yes you!

**Theme for convention is "Sent to Serve!"**

Cost is \$65.00.

Registration & Travel scholarships are available!

Contacts:

Lois Niewohner 474-0877 [lln@gci.net](mailto:lln@gci.net)

Karen Emmel 345-5709 [akaskaemmel@gmail.com](mailto:akaskaemmel@gmail.com)

Kay Zernia 333-5249 [dayrayz@gci.net](mailto:dayrayz@gci.net)

Scholarships 333-5826 [buzzdar@gci.net](mailto:buzzdar@gci.net)



## Fall Synod Lay Leader Training

Lay leaders from throughout the Synod are invited to attend the fall training session- **Church Polity: Why We Do What We Do!** being

offered each Tuesday evening in September from 7-8:30pm at Central Lutheran Church in Anchorage. This series will provide 7.5 contact hours of training for Synodically Authorized Ministers (SAM). It is open to anyone wishing a deeper understanding of Church structure, order and mission.

Sessions include: **Foundation** (Sept. 1), **Reformation** (Sept. 8), **Migration** (Sept. 15), **Denomination** (Sept. 22) and **Congregation** (Sept. 29).

Call the Synod office to register for these free classes at 907-272-8899.

For more information, contact Rev. Carol George, AK Synod Coordinator for Vocation and Leadership at 907-272-8899 or 907-227-7501 or [pastorcarol@alaska.com](mailto:pastorcarol@alaska.com).

## MV Christian Update

### Summer 2009

THANKS to all who have prayed and supported this Alaskan ministry! After pressure washing and bottom painting, the MV Christian RE-ENTERED the water on June 11, 2009.

### THANKS BE TO GOD for BOLD BELIEF & SUPPORT!

We headed to Ketchikan to complete our Coast Guard inspection, and to pick up our life raft. Once Stan's son Andy was safely wedded we made way to Hydaburg for the season's first Vacation Bible Camp. There we joined veteran teacher, Abby Thomas and her mom, Naoma. They started teaching preschoolers at the Presbyterian Church, followed by VBC's for 5-9 yr olds and 10-13 yr olds on board the MVC. A community excursion to Eek brought more adults on board, and an overnight trip to the original village site of Howkan helped

teenage girls reconnect with their ancestral home, while sharing fun and life stories.

Abby & Naoma continued with us to Petersburg to re-provision, and on to Angoon as well for our second VBC. More than 30 kids came aboard to experience our theme, that **"We can do ALL things through Christ who strengthens us" Phillipians 4:13** We ended our VBC with an excursion to Chaik Bay, sighting whales and doing crafts. Stan assisted in worship & administered communion in each of these communities, as they have no clergy serving their village churches.



We continued north to Hoonah, Gustavus and Pelican, meeting residents, fishermen and visitors, listening & exploring ways for the MV Christian to minister in these communities in the future. Our last day in Hoonah included a baptism of two girls on board. It's all about getting wet!

**NEXT UP:** After a brief respite in Ketchikan, we will head to the village of Kake on Kupreanof Island. There we will help a village youth group of middle and high school kids, and deliver clothes & shoes for the new school year. Keep track of us by becoming our friend on Facebook (MV Christian), or email us at [motorvesselchristian@gmail.com](mailto:motorvesselchristian@gmail.com). Cell #'s are 907-254-1110 or 907-617-3597.

**Blessings on your congregations, for partnering with us in bold belief with servant hearts,**

In Christ,

Pastor/Skipper Stan Berntson  
Sharon Geldaker, RN



# Fairbanks Lutheran's 65th Church Anniversary



And now the Fairbanks Lutheran Church 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship Service and Luncheon on August 23, 2009, has become part of our history. The planning committee comprised of Kathy Alton, Millie Dufseth, Lois Heine, Joe Shepherd, Arlene Strandberg and Pastor Bill Ottum agree that every moment they spent in planning this event was a joy and a privilege. The success of the event was made possible through the effort of many people, who volunteered, attended, or who were with us in spirit. We rejoice that we were able to spend time together in worship and celebration of our past, present and our future. The mementoes from the celebration will be kept in our 2009 FLC archive scrapbook, and the committee will leave notes and a few suggestions that someday the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee may want to peruse and consider for that milestone event.

In giving thanks we run the risk of overlooking someone who contributed time and talent, and for that we apologize. We give a special thank you to Pastor Paul Teyler for traveling from Oregon to share the day with us and for his reflections of our past in the worship service, and his reunion with us during the luncheon program. It was wonderful to have him with us to share the day and he shared greetings to us from wife Elin, son Christopher and daughter Karin. Special thanks to Jerry and Lissi Grill, Carol Heine Churchill and Dolores Heine for traveling from out of state to attend. Thanks to Pastor Carin Björn von Letzendorf ("Bear") for traveling from Delta Junction to be with us; for the letters and greetings we received, including those from Bishop Michael Keys, Alaska Synod, ELCA, and Miriam Engebretson, widow of Pastor Bruce Engebretson (FLC, 1977-1988).

In the music category, thank you to Carol Heine, who enthralled us with her wonderful organ presentation, “Neno Lake Mungu” (“Listen, God is Calling”). Connie Oba, who joyfully lead the choir, accompanied by Richard Comer, organist; the singers and musicians from Celebration II service who participated in the Worship Service accompanied by Connie Oba, piano; Dan Gullickson for his original lyrics written for the occasion, “Church Out on Cowles Street,” set to the tune of “Church in the Wildwood.” Thanks to Jamie Koop for renting the sign that faced Cowles Street and invited everyone to “Come Celebrate Our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary This Sunday ☐ Worship @ 10 A.M. ☐ Good Old Lutheran Potluck to Follow.” Thanks to Martin Hartman for videotaping our worship service; Thank you to Mark Lockwood for that great photo of the congregation in the worship service.

Thank you to Arlene Strandberg, Millie Dufseth, Karen Zellmer and Joe Shepherd for work on the narthex display board donated by June Carlson. As an outgrowth of the anniversary preparation, a special committee will be working to complete the 20-panel display board, as well as researching and organizing FLC’s picture collection. Thank you Judy Lietzau and other invisible gardeners for watering the flowers in front of the church during our hot summer days to ensure that we had a beautiful border



on the front of the church to greet everyone on Sunday, the 23rd. Thanks to Lois Heine for displaying our historic binders in the adult Sunday School room during the luncheon. The Lutheran Potluck was its traditional delicious fare. Thank you everyone who contributed food and thank you Kathy Alton, Karen Zellmer, Liz Greig, and Pat Willson, who received the food ahead of the potluck and made the coffee, and Patty Dufseth for making the punch, and to all of those who pitched in to help make clean up a breeze.

The stories that were shared were very special, and although we could have spent many more hours reminiscing, we give special thanks to the people who spontaneously shared memories with us. There was the perfect blend of history, humor and personal reflection to make this time of sharing very special. For instance, Jerry Grill, who is the artist who sketched previous pastor’s pictures that are framed and on display in the church, told of several past events held in the same fellowship area, where some 120 of us sat at our luncheon with our freshly waxed floors. He described several times



when the same room was transformed -- once into a Japanese garden complete with gravel on the floors, and another social event where the decorations were the Old West theme, and the floor was replete with sawdust! Thank you also to Jerry for sharing his historic pictures for our use on the display boards and for our archives. Thank you also Bob Workman, Mary Silvey, Ross and Eva Hansen for sharing special thoughts and reminiscences. Thanks to Mike Cook for his reminiscences as well as his report from the Call Committee, and to Kathy Alton for her report from the Building Committee.

We’re grateful for Dermot Cole’s article on the history of Fairbanks Lutheran Church in the

August 21, 2009 in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner. We appreciate the Dufseth family providing him with historical background and for his further research into the News-Miner archives on the history of ELC in Fairbanks preceding the founding of FLC in 1944. We thank Millie Dufseth for her Fairbanks Lutheran Church History Summary printed in the 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Worship and Luncheon Program. We thank the Youth Group – Olivia Braastad, Dawson Lewandoski, and Rebecca Slane for their Presentation on their travel to New Orleans to attend the National ELCA Youth Gathering, accompanied by Sharon Lockwood and Jim Lewandoski. We were sorry Robin Lockwood was ill on Sunday and unable to share her experience, but we know that these young people represent our future and we are grateful for their participation, for their leaders and parents.

Thanks to those who gave their elbow grease and TLC to clean areas and make improvements to the church in preparation for the anniversary Sunday: Sharon Lockwood, Lois Niewohner, Verna Henkel, Sharon Cook, Arlene & John Orbeck, Millie Dufseth, Arlene Strandberg, Kathy Alton, Kathy Birch, Jonnie and Bill Ackiss, Richard Comer, Pearl Lockwood, Robin Lockwood – see picture on previous pg. 6 of Arlene Orbeck and Lois Heine’s employment of practical engineering to move the heavy sand box back to the Godly Play Room on our August 15 cleaning work day in preparation for the start of Sunday School and following a busy summer’s use of the downstairs classrooms. We all thank Pastor Bill Ottum for his work on developing the worship service, for his sermon, and Sandy Mayfield for her skillful work with the bulletin, announcements, communications and her helping hands and enthusiasm in support of us to make this a successful church event.

Thanks to the Saturday work crew, who set up the fellowship area: Kathy & Tom Alton, Pastor Bill, Ross Hansen, Jerry & Karen Zellmer, Joe Shepherd, Linda Tilman, Kathy Birch. Thank You to Kathy Alton, Karen Haggstrom and Cathy Birkliid, who were true professionals in the table floral arrangement department, and Millie Dufseth, who provided gorgeous fresh cut flowers from her garden for the sanctuary for our anniversary worship service.

Thank you everyone for making our 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration a memorable day. We do rejoice and give thanks to God for FLC’s past, present and future. We are reminded that the sign over the church sanctuary door reads “You Are Now Entering the Mission Field” – we do ask God to “Stir Us To Deeper Discipleship.”





## From our Bishop, Michael Keys ALASKA SYNOD

1847 WEST NORTHERN LIGHTS BOULEVARD #2 • ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99517-3343 OFFICE (907) 272-8899 • FAX (907) 274-3141 • EMAIL: aksynodbishop@alaska.net

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

August 26, 2009

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Returning from the 2009 Churchwide Assembly, there are many things on which to report. In the upcoming September OUTFAST, I will share a more complete picture of many of the decisions made during the week of the Assembly. These include the Full Communion Agreement with the United Methodist Church, Lutheran Malaria Initiative, HIV-AIDS Strategy, Restructuring for Evangelical Mission, Middle East Strategy, and a timeline for future social statements.

This week, many have asked for more immediate clarification of the decisions made in Minneapolis, specifically in regards to human sexuality and ministry policy.

Human sexuality was a topic of multiple conversations, debates, amendments and votes. The ELCA has been working on a social statement on human sexuality for eight years, though questions were surfacing before the merger in 1988. We were reminded that ELCA social statements inform this church, not define this church. They speak to the ELCA and the broader community in confronting the brokenness and abuses in society.

The social statement *Human Sexuality: Gift and Trust* speaks to the Gospel, scripture, and Lutheran traditions while addressing a broad array of concerns including marriage, family, cohabitation, same-gender relationships, social impacts of the sexualization of society, commercialization of sex, domestic violence, the protection of children, and the actions this church needs to take. This passed with precisely the two-thirds required by our constitution.

As a separate issue, the ministry policy concerning same gender relationships and the implications to rostering were discussed, debated and voted upon. Acknowledging the lack of consensus within the church, three key actions were approved:

- a) recognition that people of good faith and with scriptural integrity disagree regarding same-gender relationships and that each is to respect the integrity and faithful work of those with whom we disagree (Galatians 6:2);
- b) persons in same-gender relationships are in our congregations; this church should find ways to hold them publicly accountable to the values and expectations similar to those in the covenant marriage (e.g. lifelong, monogamous and trustworthy); and
- c) while committing this church to eliminate the prohibition toward persons in publicly accountable, lifelong, monogamous same-gender relationships from serving on the roster of the this church, we will provide policies that respect those who believe that homosexual persons rostered in the church must remain celibate, and therefore, are not obliged to call leaders in same-gender relations.

### What does this mean?

For some individuals and congregations, they are experiencing deep struggles and pain over these decisions. They are concerned about what this mean for them and this church to which they have been deeply committed. For others, it is a time of reconnecting to this church because of the exclusion they have experienced. Now is a time for prayer and support for all.

In our congregation's life, very little will be impacted or changed. The education, formation and approval of candidates for ministry will remain much the same, as well as the *Vision and Expectation* statement that each candidate is expected to sign. In the call process, the local congregation continues to be the decision maker for who is and is not called to serve a congregation. The Alaska Synod affirmed this at the 2004 Assembly stating that the synod is obligated to disclose to the call committee any information that might impact a candidate's ministry and relationship with the congregation (e.g. health, addiction, personal relationships, or sexual orientation).

It is in the best interest of the congregation, the candidate and the synod that appropriate persons be matched with calling congregations. The ministry policy votes allow for more openness and honesty, not less. The synod pledges no surprises, sabotage, or hidden agendas, and to faithfully honor the call process.

We all need to delve deeper into the scriptures, but more importantly delve deeper into the Living Word, Jesus Christ. A Lutheran biblical perspective always begins and ends in Jesus Christ, not just what Jesus said while on earth, but what Christ is saying in our midst through Word, Sacrament, preaching, and teaching.

Finally, together, let us pray that we stay at the table...not an ELCA or even your congregation table... but Christ's table. The Body of Christ has wrestled across its history with many internal conflicts including: welcome of Gentiles and "unclean" ones by Jesus and later the early church in Acts, the role of women as presiders, acceptance of soldiers into the faith community, the equality before God of freemen and slaves. As imperfect, broken people, we gather at the table to receive forgiveness, hope, and life. We pray for the wholeness of self, of family, of church that we cannot come to ourselves...a wholeness that is only ours through the loving grace of God.

I would ask for your prayers for the whole Church, our congregations and each other. You are encouraged to listen on line to Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson's word after the ministry policy decisions and those of Rev Ishmael Noko, General Secretary of the Lutheran World Federation.

<http://www.elca.org> click on Assembly.

I ask you to commit yourselves to tending the relationships within your congregation and the synod, as I commit to you to tend these relationships. Let us find new ways to live into Christ's mission for the Church, and to deepen our connection as the Body of Christ for the sake of the world.

God bless us, Christ walk with us, Holy Spirit guide us.

*Michael F. Keys*

Pastor Michael F. Keys

Bishop, Alaska Synod





## Youth Group News - September 2009

Hurrah! Youth Group is ready to start the 2009-2010 year. I don't know if you ever noticed before, but **YOU** are the reason we have a Youth Group! Youth Group is for youth in grades 7 – 12 and **friends are always welcome!** In fact, we have several "friends" who are no longer simply a 'friend' who comes along, but are an active part of the group!

We generally meet weekly on Sunday nights from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. We do a whole bunch of different activities together! It is easy to say, that there is always something for everyone. The monthly schedule is always available online at [fairbankslutheranchurch.org](http://fairbankslutheranchurch.org), in the FLC newsletter, on 3 bulletin boards at church, and sent home to you each month.

Back by popular demand is our 'Scavenger Hunt September'. Each week in September during Youth Group, we will have a different scavenger hunt that will keep you on your toes. The "hunt" may be a portion of our time together or our whole time together. Of course, there will be fabulous prizes awarded weekly, and at the end of the month for our top three finishers.

### Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 4:30 – 7:00pm

Week One of Scavenger Hunt September!

We will be having our first Scavenger Hunt at a 'suprise' location. We will also be having a BBQ, so please bring a side dish or something to share and come have some fun! We do need adults to drive, so please ask your parents and let Sharon know that he/she can drive. Extra points will be given to people who bring a friend or sibling who is new to youth group.

### Sunday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 6:00 – 7:30pm

Week Two of Scavenger Hunt September!

Be ready for rain or shine and a crazy fun time! We will have some laughs tonight at this week's hunt for a variety of wacky "things"!

### Sunday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> 6:00 – 7:30pm

Week Three of Scavenger Hunt September!

If you have a rake at home, bring it tonight because you will need it. We will be helping some folks clean up their yard before the snow flies. If you have 2 rakes, bring them both so you can share. Work gloves are a great idea too.

### "Jesus\*Justice\*Jazz" – ELCA National Youth Gathering News Flash

July 20-27, 2009; written by Becca, Dawson, Jim, Olivia, Robin and Sharon

Our Youth Group had the opportunity to attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer thanks to the generosity of our fellow Fairbanks Lutheran members and friends. We held several fundraisers – pizza sales, car wash, firewood, craft sale, plant sale - that received generous donations of time, items, money and prayer from all of you. THANK YOU! A special thanks to Ruth Carson who led us in several Bible studies to prepare our hearts and minds.



After several adjustments to our 'registration profile' (people finding that they could or couldn't attend), our group consisted of Olivia Braastad, Dawson and Jim Lewandoski, Robin and Sharon Lockwood, and Becca Slane. It was really neat because the youth were all in the same confirmation class, but they did miss the one who was traveling in Montana!

Our group registered with several other Alaska Synod churches, so we were able to stay in the same hotel and participate in the same service project. Our focus was on Wealth and Poverty for our Service Day, Learning Center Day, and Interactive Center Day. It was wonderful to see our fellow Alaskans often, amongst the 38,000 people who attended!

As with all trips that we take, we kept a journal of our experiences. Questions are asked in the journal, and we each answered with our own thoughts, feelings and reactions to each question. The following questions and answers are excerpts from the journal.

**Write about your servant experience.**

"When our group of about 35 arrived at the graveyard, I was convinced it would be nearly impossible for us to finish the whole place and make it look nice. The biggest challenge was working through the extreme heat. It seemed like we all drank gallons of water. We all wanted to keep working, but the heat and humidity kept slowing us down. To our relief, another busload of people came to help. After a lunch break and a few more hours of working, we only had one corner left of the graveyard. It felt great to accomplish and I felt very satisfied when citizens thank us. I'm happy



we made a difference."

"Well to start out with, I didn't think that cleaning a graveyard was a job that even needed to be done. There was NO point in doing it all all. But when they were burying a man, his wife came up to us and was so HAPPPY that we were taking our time to clean up the place. The feeling I got was so amazing that I got so many goose bumps. It was crazy to know that someone's loved ones are there, and that is the best place to

go to be reminded of them. But the heat was so hard to work in, but the reward was great to look at how much we helped them out. I also met a guy that was so much fun to pick grass with. He was only there with his pastor and him mom, but he was still so on fire for the Lord!"

**Which of the speakers, musicians, or parts of the 'programs' at the Superdome were most inspirational to you and why?**

"The most inspirational speaker to me was the lady that started the running club. Almost everyone, everyday passes a homeless/poor person on the road and ignores them. She was my age when she realized what she was doing wrong, running past the very ones that need help, hope and joy. You don't have to have a community to change lives."

"It was one massive VBS sing along. And that's not good. Call me old fashioned, but I'm not into that at all. I didn't really like any of the musicians, but I'm not much of a fan of music period. The speakers were amazing."

“I really liked the young man who played the accordion – very talented and cool music! I also liked the humble folks who make a big difference to lots of people from the US to Africa! Pointing out our American excesses was good, because it affects everyone.”

“My favorite part of the gathering in the Superdome was the speakers. They were knowledgeable and inspirational. Their stories were always interesting. My favorite song was definitely, “I get down and he lifts me up!” It will be the song I’ll most remember. Apart from the gathering, I loved the swamp tour. I never imagined being two feet away from a 15 foot alligator!”



**List the top 10 things about our week that you will share with others.**

1. People who showed they appreciated our help.
2. Cleaning the cemetery.
3. All the people we met
4. Letter from Barack Obama
5. Extreme Weather!
6. Swamp Tour
7. Walking to the Superdome and causing traffic jams.
8. Inspirational speakers
9. French Quarter/Flea Market
10. Shocked faces when people realized we were from Alaska and all the Sarah Palin questions I couldn't answer.



**Sunday School hour is 9:45 am – 10:45 am.**

**Rally day will be on September 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:45 – 10:45 am.** We will have games, crafts, songs, a skit, and snacks! This is an all age affair to get us ready for our new Sunday school year. Come and have some fun with your friends and family at Fairbanks Lutheran!

**Sunday school 9:45 – 10:45 am for all ages - preschool through adult**

Preschool through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will study a variety of themes for approximately one month using some of our favorite Vacation Bible School resources and PowerXpress curriculum. The group will start together for some action filled singing and fun, and then divide into smaller age and activity groups including art, science, cooking, games, and storytelling that reinforce the monthly theme..

4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders will meet weekly in the Godly Play Worship Center listening to the stories of our faith, wondering and reflecting individually and together.

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders will meet together for a Bible study, or they may have the opportunity to teach.

Adults will be studying the book of James.

Additional Adult learning opportunities include a weekly Monday night Women's Bible study, a weekly mid-week study of Psalms at noon on Wednesdays, and a monthly women's study on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month.

If you are interested in learning more, please call church at 452-3425.

**YOU are invited to join God's Sunday School Team!**

Sunday school teaching is a wonderful gift that God has given to us. It is a pleasure to share his word and promises with others, knowing that you are making a positive difference in someone's life.

Jesus has told us in Matthew 28:19-20 to "Go and make disciples of all nations. Baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to obey everything I have commanded you. And you can be sure that I am always with you, to the very end."

**Sunday School Teachers Meeting was held on Thursday September 3<sup>rd</sup>**

If God has called on you to help, but you don't know where to start, talk with Sharon Lockwood to find out how you can use your time and talents to glorify God!

Our Sunday school program is designed so that you can teach all year, once a month, for a month, or however your schedule allows. We have teaching positions, which require preparation, and those that require little or no preparation. We have opportunities to help at other times of the week in preparation for Sunday school. All helpers and teachers are important; no part is insignificant!

Please prayerfully consider how God desires you to serve.

**Confirmation Class for all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders!**

Weekly Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 5:30 pm. This fall, we will study the 10 Commandments and the Apostle's Creed. The first Wednesday of each month will be a service project. For more information, please contact Pastor Bill or Sharon Lockwood at 452-3425.

# September 2009



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 5:00pm TOPS	2 9am Pastors' Text Study	3 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 4pm SS Teachers Meeting 5:00pm Building Meeting 7pm – AA UAF Classes begin	4	5 12noon AI Anon 6-10pm ServiceMaster
6 8:30 & 10am Services Pastor Fred Schramm	7 Labor Day Holiday 12noon Narcotics Anon Foodbank Closed Church Office closed	8 5:00pm TOPS	9 9am Pastors' Text Study 12pm Bible Study begins 4:30pm Confirmation Service Project 6:30pm Heritage Choir Rehearsal begins 7:30pm Celb2 Rehearsal begins	10 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 4pm Staff Meeting 5:00pm Building Meeting 7pm Bazaar Planning Mtg 7pm – AA	11 6:30pm Sons of Norway	12 10:30am Worship & Arts 12noon AI Anon 4pm Skit Rehearsal & Setup for SS Rally 6-10pm ServiceMaster
13 Fall Worship Hours begin  8:30 & 11am Services 9:45am Sunday School 1:30pm Thrivent Meeting 4:30pm Youth Group	14 12noon Narcotics Anon 1:00pm Foodbank 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	15 10am Staff Meeting 2pm Women's Bible Study at FLC 5:00pm TOPS 6:30pm Sons of Norway Cultural Night 7pm Council Meeting	16 9am Pastors' Text Study 12noon Bible Study 4:30pm Confirmation Heritage Choir Rehearsal	17 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 5:00pm Building Meeting 7pm – AA	18	19 12noon AI Anon 6-10pm ServiceMaster
20 8:30 & 11am Services 9:45am Sunday School 6pm Youth Group	21 12noon Narcotics Anon 1:00pm Foodbank 6:30pm Women's Bible Study TableTalk Articles Due	22 5:00pm TOPS	23 9am Pastors' Text Study 12noon Bible Study 4:30pm Confirmation Heritage Choir Rehearsal	24 12noon – NA 12pm Moms in Touch 5:00pm Building Meeting 7pm – AA	25	26 12noon AI Anon 6-10pm ServiceMaster
27 8:30 & 11am Services 9:45am Sunday School 12:15pm Congregational Meeting 6pm Youth Group	28 12noon Narcotics Anon 1:00pm Foodbank 6:30pm Women's Bible Study	29 5:00pm TOPS	30 9am Pastors' Text Study 12noon Bible Study 4:30pm Confirmation Heritage Choir Rehearsal			



Fairbanks Lutheran Church  
1012 Cowles Street  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

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ph: 907-452-3425

fax: 907-452-3422

email: [fairluth@gci.net](mailto:fairluth@gci.net)

[www.fairbankslutheranchurch.org](http://www.fairbankslutheranchurch.org)