



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Publisher
Church mouse

Volume Number
2013

Issue Number
26

Date
July 2013

From Pastor Rodney

See page 3 for his report.

E-mail: Pastorrodney@midtel.net

Pastor now has office hours Tuesday through Friday from 9-1. Please call ahead in case he had to leave.

New website

Our new webpage is up and running. Check it out. It is awesome! Thank you Angela. The address is www.stmarkslutheranmiddleburgh.com

Operation Christmas Child

We are going to try something a little different this year. Rather than waiting until fall to start our collection of items for the kids we are going to collect different items on a monthly basis. For the month of July please bring in girl clothing items. The box is up front near the cross.

Looking for new members!

If you would like to become a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church please speak with Pastor Rodney.

Prayers Concerns

Please lift the following people up in prayer:

Rick Conner

Upcoming Events

July 9 - Council meeting 6 PM

July 13 - Youth trip to Zoom
Flume - meet at church at 9:15

July 14 - Congregational mid
year meeting during coffee hour

July 19 - Ice cream social on
MCS lawn at the concert

July 27 - Annual pie sale, basket
auction and youth craft sale
during arts and crafts festival

August 11 - Tentative Church
picnic @ Gobblers Knob with
CTS 10 AM

August 15: Chicken parmesan
dinner fundraiser - 4-5:30 or 6-7.
Watch for more details.

CPR/AED/First Aid Class:

If interested in taking this class please sign up in the hallway by the music room. Date to be determined soon.



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Confirmation Class:

Last day of confirmation class for the summer was June 30 and we ended with a pizza party. Classes will resume again in September. Join us September 7th 6-8PM for a get together for hot dogs, hamburgers, s'mores and a bonfire at Breanna Palmatier's house - bring your family! Sign up sheet in hallway by the music room.

Confirmation Camp:

Due to unforeseen circumstances camp will not be held. If you sponsored a camper and paid in cash and you wish to get your money back please see Deb Palmatier. Otherwise the money will be placed in the confirmation fund to be used for another event for the class.

Upcoming Youth Events:

July 27 - Fundraiser @ Arts and Crafts festival

August 17 - Howe Caverns zip line/ropes course

Sept 7 - Confirmation class bonfire @ Breanna Palmatier's house

Sept 14 - Fundraiser @ Walmart

Oct 5 - Apple picking

Oct 12 - Fundraiser @ Fall Festival

Oct 26 - Clark Sports Center

Nov 2 - Paint bowls

Nov ?? - Serve soup

Dec 6 - Fundraiser @ Miracle on Main Street

Dec 16 - Christmas party

Happy Days !!!!!

God's blessing to all of those who are celebrating birthdays and anniversaries in July.

Thank you:

To all those that worked on the front yard landscaping. Everything looks beautiful!

Basket Auction:

We will be holding our silent basket auction during the arts and crafts festival. If you would like to make one or donate items to have one made please see Michelle Nespica. Sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in the hallway. Proceeds will be used for the new youth room.

Congregational Mid-Year Informational Meeting

In an effort to improve our communication with you, we (St. Mark's Council) have scheduled an informal mid-year information meeting. During this meeting, we will give an update on our current financial situation, report on some of our ministries as well as answer any questions you may have. **Please plan to attend this important meeting being held on July 14 during coffee hour immediately following the worship service in our Fellowship Hall.**

From: Pastor Royan Rodney [pastorrodney@midtel.net]
Sent: Friday, June 28, 2013 10:52 PM
To: teddebp@midtel.net
Subject: Newsletter

Honoring God

The story is told of a woman who went on a short term missions trip to Kenya, helping the missionaries there. Before she left, she stopped at a remote village where she attended a medical clinic. As the native women outside the clinic began to sing together, she found herself deeply moved by their beautiful singing. The harmonies and rhythms seemed worshipful indeed.

She was so moved she began to cry. Since she wanted to capture the moment in her memories, she turned to her bi-lingual friend and queried, "Could you please translate the words to that absolutely beautiful song?"

Her friend stared at her and respectfully translated, it says, "If you boil the water, you won't get dysentery."

Things are not always as they seem. The same is true within Christendom; there are many people who claim to be serious Christians, but they are merely superficial. They project a great image, but there is little substance.

Daniel 1:1-7 "In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god. 3 Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles, 4 youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. 5 The king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service. 6 Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. 7 Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego."

It is easy to compromise, to live as the world lives. But, God has called us to courage, to honor Him, regardless of the pressure or persecution this world affords. I want to show you, through the life of a godly man, by the name of Daniel, how we can live a life that honors God. There are many ways we can honor God and as we look at Daniel, we can be encouraged.

Here are a few examples of how we can honor God:

1. Honor the Conviction of Your Heart.

2. Make the decision to serve and honor God.

3. Daniel 1:8 "But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself."

4. Make the decision regardless of the possible outcomes.

a. Daniel could have been forced to eat the king's food.

b. Daniel could have suffered punishment, including death, for even suggesting that he avoid eating the king's food.

c. Daniel chose to honor God by doing what was right in God's eyes.

d. The outcome, however, proved favorable to Daniel and his friends.

e. Daniel 1:9 "Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials."

5. Make the decision, but respect those that may not understand.

a. Daniel appreciated the predicament that the king's official was in.

b. Daniel 1:10-12 "And the commander of the officials said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should

he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king."

11. But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, 12 "Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink."

Daniel knew in his heart what he needed to do. Honoring the convictions of your heart is usually not an easy endeavor; however, to dismiss those convictions will promote a life yielding to temptation, sin, and compromise. But, Daniel chose the path that honors God. We can do the same thing as well.

St. Paul encouraged the Corinthians to Live by Faith and so should we. Daniel not only honored the convictions of his heart, he lived those convictions by trusting God. I encourage us to do the same thing and always stand up for the truth and chose to honor God.

Pastor Royan Rodney
Christ the Shepherd Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 423, Schoharie, NY 12157.
Saint Mark's Lutheran Church
326 Main Street, Middleburgh, NY 12122.
518-827-5318

Update from Pastor Mike Tamorria

In June St. Mark's received an update about all that has been happening in the lives of Pastor Mike and his wife, Pastor Karen. As you may recall in June 2012, we gave Pastor Mike a moving good-bye as he left us to return to being semi-retired in his hometown of Frostburg.

However, August 2012 proved to be a very interesting month for both of them. Pastor Mike was called to serve as an interim pastor at St. Mark's in Auburn, Indiana. Pastor Karen was interviewed for and ultimately was hired as pastor for two churches in rural Ohio – St. John's, Celina and Zion, Rockford. Since both of their jobs were 65 miles apart, they decided to put their home in Frostburg on the market and move to Rockford, OH.

Sadly, in February 2013, Pastor Mike's mother had been hospitalized three times with mini-strokes and falls so she now resides in an assisted living facility in Bowie, which is located near his sister.

They write, "Life is busy, but God is good....With our own eyes we also see God's goodness and provision even in the midst of stress, change and uncertainty. We ask Him for His blessings upon all our friends and relations in 2013..."



St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Committees:

Christian Education/Youth:

34 people attended the youth family picnic/bingo night. Thank you Mr. Gordon for barbequing for us.

Sign up sheets for apple picking, the Zip Line at Howe Caverns and Clark Sports Center trip are hanging in the hall by the music room. Work has begun on the youth room - No peeking!!!

The winner of the ConAgra food challenge was Breanna Palmatier collecting 40 codes. 40 meals will be donated to the Regional Food Bank by ConAgra Foods.

We are now collecting box tops from General Mills products. See insert in this newsletter. Box located by the altar rail. If we can collect 1000 box tops the youth will get a pizza party.

Finance:

Benevolence for May: \$428.35

NALC \$214.17

Oklahoma tornado relief \$214.18

Checking account:

Income for May \$4657.45

Expenses for May \$5617.15

Over/under (\$959.70)

Vision mortgages:

Receipts for May \$750.00

Mortgage payment 11046.00

Over/under (\$1296.00)

Servers for July

July 7:

Acolyte - Mary/Gabby

Ushers - Harry/Sharon

Reader - Stephanie Nicol

Greeter - Maurice

Prayer - Beth

Counter - Diane

July 14:

Acolyte - Breanna/Vivian

Ushers - Aaron/Alyssa

Reader - Allison

Greeter - Pat

Prayer - Georgia

Counter - Debbie

July 21:

Acolyte - Logan/Braedon

Ushers - John/Gabby

Reader - Ted Langenbahn

Greeter - Janet

Prayer - Ginny

Counter - Diane

July 28:

Acolyte - Hannah/Jenna

Ushers - Dean/Lori

Reader - Marie

Greeter - Jessica

Prayer - Gene




Counter - Debbie

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HOW TO HELP

OUR PARTNERS

PARTICIPATING BRANDS

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OUTNUMBERING HUNGER TOGETHER

HOW YOU CAN HELP OUTNUMBER HUNGER

BUY SPECIALLY MARKED GENERAL MILLS PACKAGES

Purchase participating products and enter codes from these packages by clicking the "Enter Your Code" button—it's that easy! Look for specially marked General Mills products with package codes that can help Outnumber Hunger. Each code you enter from participating General Mills brands will help Feeding America® secure 5 meals for your local food bank.*

ENTER YOUR CODE

Together small actions can help make a difference.

*For every code you enter by March 1, 2014, we will donate \$0.65 to Feeding America—enough to secure 5 meals on behalf of local food banks. Maximum total donation of \$1,300,000. We have already donated \$700,000. We will donate up to an additional \$600,000 based on online code entry and other consumer actions. Look for other ways to trigger donations at www.outnumberhunger.com.

COLLECT UNTIL 2/1/2014

FOLLOW OUTNUMBER HUNGER

Follow us to hear more ways you can help Outnumber Hunger! In addition to purchasing specially marked General Mills packages, follow Outnumber Hunger on Facebook, Twitter or Pinterest to be the first to learn of other special ways to help Feeding America secure meals for local food banks.*

FOLLOW BMLG ARTISTS

Follow participating Big Machine Label Group artists to get access to more codes that help Feeding America secure meals for local food banks. Big Machine Label Group artists—like The Band Perry, Rascal Flatts, Eli Young Band, Brantley Gilbert and more—are helping to Outnumber Hunger. Follow them on Facebook to get access to special codes they release to friends and followers to help Outnumber Hunger!

DONATE TO FEEDING AMERICA

When you donate directly to Feeding America your gift makes a big impact—every dollar you donate helps secure 8 meals for people struggling with hunger. That means that a \$10 donation can help Feeding America secure 80 meals!

VOLUNTEER AT YOUR LOCAL FOOD BANK

Food banks in your area need help. Ending hunger in America requires millions of people to donate their time to help feed hungry families. Learn about volunteer opportunities at your local food bank to find out how you can help Outnumber Hunger. To help Outnumber Hunger, please contact your local food bank. It's simple—get involved today!

Follow Us   

SEE BMLG ARTISTS

MAKE A DONATION

FIND FOOD BANKS

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HELP US HELP THE REGIONAL FOOD BANK WHICH HELPS US. BRING IN THE CODES AND PLACE IN BOX. WE WILL ENTER THEM.

<http://www.outnumberhunger.com/how-to-help>

5/22/2013

PARTICIPATING BRANDS

YOPLAIT

CHEERIOS

LUCKY CHARMS

REESE'S PUFFS

WHEATIES

COOKIE CRISP

BETTY CROCKER

PILLSBURY

CHICKEN HELPER

HAMBURGER HELPER

SUDDENLY SALAD

OLD EL PASO

TOASTER STRUDEL

GREEN GIANT

TOTINOS

NATURE VALLEY

FIBER ONE

CHEX MIX

Putting Faces on a Disaster

Hurricane Sandy Relief Update

The work of the Atlantic City Long Term Recovery Group (ACLTRG) and St. Andrew By The Sea Lutheran Church, a NALC congregation in Atlantic City, N.J., might not have progressed as far and as fast as it has were it not for the generosity of individuals and congregations across the country — both in volunteer efforts and in financial support.

St. Andrew is a founding member of the ACLTRG and has been blessed to welcome volunteers to labor in rebuilding damaged homes, as well as to receive funds through NALC Disaster Response both to support the beginnings of the ACLTRG but, most importantly, to restore afflicted residents to safe and secure homes. To date more than \$93,000 in generous donations has been expended for the recovery and rebuilding efforts, and



additional funds are waiting to be turned into loving action.

Who has been helped? Let's put a face on the pain we seek to soothe — names have been changed to protect confidentiality but the stories are true.

Mary is a 56-year-old school crossing guard with an income of barely \$1,160 a month during the school year; she receives unemployment compensation in the summer. With an income not nearly enough to cover all of her bills, Mary works at odd jobs but also rents the lower level of her old home to a low-income friend at a reasonable monthly rent. Her home was assessed at \$22,200 in damage from Sandy, but with no savings or assets in reserve — and unable to afford expensive flood insurance — Mary turned to FEMA. FEMA was not permitted to assist beyond \$1,000 for repairs and \$1,888 in rental assistance while she was out of her home. FEMA regulations call Mary's home an "investment property," so she does not qualify for further restoration assistance. The ACLTRG intervened, obtaining an \$8,800 grant for heating and appliances, and a Robin Hood Foundation grant of \$4,000. The balance of \$9,400 was provided by an NALC Disaster Response grant through St. Andrew by the Sea Lutheran Church.

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Sophie is 64 years old with a daughter and two grandchildren living with her. She and her daughter are on disability, with a monthly household income of \$3,663 and savings of \$3,500. Her roof was damaged and the first floor living space had two feet of water in Sandy's wake. Flood insurance was an unaffordable luxury. She received \$4,707 from FEMA. The total repair cost is estimated at \$25,450. ACLTRG assisted in obtaining an \$11,000 grant for the roof and appliances, a Robin Hood Foundation grant of \$4,000, and an additional outside grant of \$1,450. The work is being finished thanks to \$9,000 provided by an NALC Disaster Response grant through St. Andrew.



Photos provided by First Lutheran Church of Pontiac, Ill., from their recent work trip to New Jersey.

The Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt of Crossways International calls the money God has blessed us with "love in potency" — love that is "warehoused" when we hold on to it but active in love when we let it go. The warehouse doors have been flung open and so much love is being transformed into action by the wonderful financial response of individuals and NALC churches.

Your volunteer labor is welcome. Contact St Andrew by the Sea Lutheran Church at standrewbythesea@verizon.net or 609-344-7333) if you wish to volunteer, and we will put you in touch with the ACLTRG. Thank you for your love!

Gifts to support NALC Disaster Response efforts may be made online at www.thenalc.org or sent to:

NALC Disaster Response
2299 Palmer Drive, Suite 220
New Brighton, MN 55112