

Christ Lutheran church is a fellowship of Christians, who have accepted God's call to make disciples of all nations. We have committed ourselves to the ministry of worship, witness, teaching, service and fellowship which involves each of us in boldly sharing God's Word with one another.

August 2009



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL MISSOURI SYNOD

Christ Courier

“So You Want to Go Back to Egypt?”

As I write this I have been again reading about those children of Israel after they have been saved out of Egypt. The miracles they witnessed firsthand. The way God with His mighty hand delivered them and they even watched as their captors drowned in the sea. What a cloud they must have been riding on. But the people lost sight of those new found blessings. Their stomachs were growling, the throats were parched and their circumstances seemed so blah and dreary. The thrill was gone; no they would just keep walking-just keep walking. They forgot they were heading to the Promised Land. They had come down from the cloud to the reality of daily living. That cloud by day and fire by night soon became a normal occurrence. That generation perished in the wilderness and we are told they never entered the Promised Land.

Often as we wander in the wilderness that we call the world, we get side-tracked. God has saved us from our sin and prepares a place in heaven for us. We just have to remain faithful as we live day by day in this wilderness we call the world. Maybe for some the thrill of following God is gone. Perhaps they are considering their life before they were saved. We may be tempted to think this world is all there is. Those kinds of thoughts can lead us into dangerous territory.

In the desert God was trying to have His people trust Him on a daily basis. In the morning they would gather enough bread to last only that day (except on the sixth day when they gathered enough also for the Sabbath-the seventh day) and that evening they would gather quail to eat. This routine moved them to look to God for the necessities in life. You noticed I said necessities-that is needs. But these children that God saved from slavery wanted the best of both worlds. They wanted to be saved but they wanted those things from Egypt too. They wanted God but on their own terms. They didn't realize the blessings they were ignoring.

We too, that is those of us who trust in Jesus for our Salvation, have been saved from a slavery to sin. But the attractions in this world still draw our attention. Those attractions-those things that we want can draw us away from God. Sometimes we believe we are due this or that, or that working harder will make our life easier, or that perfection is something that we can grasp. When we do that it is quite visible to God and to others that we not following God but sa-

tan. Has God supplied our needs? Consider those following God in the desert. I am sure they would have preferred air conditioned motor coaches or 4-wheel drive vehicles for their trip. Maybe they would like fast food restaurants under every palm tree and grocery stores that are open 24 hours a day beside the springs. Are we blessed as much as them? YES! We live in the greatest nation in the world. And did we decide to be born here? No! God is the One who blessed us by putting us here at this time and this place. We are put here to share these blessings not only with those around us, but with those across the world. With these blessings in mind, consider this question. The next time you are grumbling for not having what you want-do you want to go back to Egypt-that is slavery to sin; or do you want to continue following God. Count your blessings and follow God. The Promised Land awaits.

**Pastor Dave
Owens**

Church Mouse



Greetings Christ Courier Readers,

Who are you? It's funny how I rattle on and on each month, but I have no idea who is reading or listening to what I say. Mostly I just talk to myself and then write down what comes to mind. One of today's topic is about who is reading this. I have overheard some discussions with the youth, and a recurring question I hear is "What's your vocation today?" Who are you this minute? First, they must be reminded what a vocation is. Some think vocation means job, employment, or career. But we are reminded that a vocation does not necessarily mean income, and neither does it always mean something we choose to be. Did you choose to be a son, or a sister, an orphan, fair-skinned, or tall, how about of the human race? I am sorry, those can be sore subjects, can't they? Doesn't everybody want to be a mouse?

So, who are you? Who does God want you to be? Certainly I didn't choose to be an uncle, but somehow that vocation came upon me. I can, however, choose whether to be a babysitter or not. Okay, so it's not so bad now that they have grown. But it still is an awesome responsibility to have others looking up to you. What will they see? What will they hear? I

know I have disappointed myself and others with my impatience and quick-wit. So many questions are asked, and they are mostly innocent, but in my mind they seem to poke into my private thoughts. How did they know?

God uses each and every one of us. Have you ever wondered where that thought came from? What made you say what you just said? What made you think of that certain someone that you hadn't heard from in a while? The voice says, go ahead and give them a call or write them a note. It's hard to think, with our tiny little minds, that a God that loves us so much is knowing who needs what at every moment of the day. We can, but pray that our words and deeds are pleasing to Him and used exactly for the good of all.

They had a great vacation bible school this year; just awesome. God's always doing great exciting things (Gadget). And Jesus can fix anything, even our black hearts. The theme this year was from Ephesians 2:10 "*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.* Can you imagine that those little thoughts, words and deeds I was talking about earlier may actually be those good works which God prepared beforehand for us to do? It is so hard to imagine that He knew just what to say at a certain mo-

ment, and He used my mouth or your mouth to accomplish it. Awesome!!

Now I pray that God will use me to give me the right words. God's Word is the most important reading and thinking you will ever do. Study science, math, grammar or even theology and you may impress your neighbor, but not God. Children, settle down and listen to your teachers and parents. You will never know when it can save you future heartache. Teachers, parents, be prepared to fill their minds with God-pleasing things. Adults, quit with the idle chit-chat that benefits no one. Study what God says and let it fill your heart and mind. Pray for understanding, believe His promises, and then live your life to His glory. Who are you; you are His. Bye for now, gotta go!

Respectfully Submitted,
C.M.

But now, this is what the LORD says - he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine. Isaiah 43:1

**The Christ Courier is
published
monthly by Christ Lutheran
Church in Mustang, OK.
Staff: Susan Anderson, Christ
Lutheran Contributors
Deadline for the September
2009 Courier: **August 24****

LWML Raffle
“A NIGHT ON THE TOWN”

The raffle item for the annual LWML craft show will NOT be a quilt this year. This year, A NIGHT ON THE TOWN basket will be offered. So far, items include: a night’s stay at the Skirvin Hotel for 2 and a three-hour limo ride by our very own Mike Fisher of Mike’s Limousines.

Like always, raffle tickets will sell for \$1 each. The arts & craft show will be Saturday, September 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the gym next door.
Stay tuned for more details.

**VOTER’S MEETING/
POTLUCK
SUNDAY, AUG. 16**

BABIES AND MORE BABIES
Congrats to Matt & Ashley Anderson on the birth of their son, James, and to Adam & Rebecca Baker on the birth of their twins, Elijan & Wyatt.

**Angel Food
Order Dates
August**

Friday,
August 14
11:30 – 12:30,
5-6 p.m.

Saturday,
August 15
11:30 a.m. –
12:30 p.m.

Sunday,
August 16
12-1

Distribution

Date:
Saturday,
August 22
9 – 10:30 a.m.

Cookies are
Needed for:
**OPEN HOUSE
@ CHRIST
LUTHERAN
SCHOOL**

**Thursday,
August 13
6:30 to 8 p.m.**

**Enrollment
Continues
for CLS**

There are still positions open for the Christ Lutheran School PS 3s, PS 4s preschool classes and Kindergarten for the 2009/10 school year. PS 3s meet from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday and the PS 4s meet at the same time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. KG meets each day from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Tuition for PS 3s is \$65 per month and \$85 per month for the PS 4s. \$225 is the tuition cost for KG. Please contact the church office if you would like to enroll your child for this next school year. There is a 10 percent discount on tuition for church members. A big welcome to EDEN ANDERSON who will be in the PS 3s class.

**Christ Lutheran
teachers will be
blessed at the 10:30
service on Aug. 16.**

Fellowship Notes

Get your calendar out to jot down a few of the upcoming events @ Christ Lutheran Church.

- Sunday, August 16: Potluck (Also Voter's Meeting)
- Saturday, August 22, CLC Game Night @ 6:30 p.m.
(watch bulletin for more details) **BRINGING IT BACK**
- Sunday, Sept. 13, Potluck to honor Grandparents & Rally Sunday
- Annual Community Picnic, Sunday, October 11

If you would like to join us as we plan social events for our congregation, please join us at our next meeting, Monday, Aug. 17 at 7 p.m. You'll be just in time to help us plan our annual picnic, which is always lots of fun. Thanks and God's Blessings on your month.

*Susan Anderson & Kathi Fisher
Fellowship Co-Chairs*

A big THANK YOU to Juliana Overmier who blessed us this summer with her flute playing during occasional offerings and postludes. Juliana gives flute lessons each Thursday in our sanctuary during the summer. Thanks for the joyful sound each week.

– Pastor Dave and Susan

VBS FUN BY ALL

Those who attended VBS enjoyed the G.A.D.G.E.T. robot during Vacation Bible School last month. Close to 70 kids enjoyed the week of Bible stories, challenges, music, crafts, games and snacks. A huge thanks to **EVERYONE** who helped make this week such a success in sharing the word of God to our children. We learned, God's Always Doing Great Exciting Things. Close to \$200 was received in offerings for the India mission.

Thanks to the Browns who made such an awesome robot. I hear he'll be leaving us soon and making his new home at Mustang Elementary.

THE U IN JESUS

Before U were thought of or time had begun,
God stuck U in the name of His Son.

And each time U pray, you'll see it's true,
You can't spell out JesUs and not include U.

You're a pretty big part of His wonderful name,
For U, He was born; that's why He came.

And His great love for U is the reason He died.
It even takes U to spell crUcified.

Isn't it thrilling and splendidly grand
He rose from the dead, with U in His plan?

The stones split away, the gold trUmpet blew,
and this word resUrrection is spelled with a U.

When JesUs left earth at His Upward ascen-
sion,
He felt there was one thing He just had to men-
tion.

'Go into the world and tell them it's trUe
That I love them all - Just like I love U.'

So many great people are spelled with a U,
Don't they have a right to know JesUs too?

Ft. Cobb Yearly Camping Trip
August 14 –16

Sunday School Teachers Needed

If you would like to teach
Sunday school during
the 2009/10 school year,
please see Parish Ed
Chair, Sue Wright. Thank
you.

Express Your Joyful Response

Providing a planned stewardship
gift to your congregation can
provide vital support and pre-
dictability. Without these con-
tinuous gifts, your ministry may
not be able to reach out and help
as many people as you and your
fellow members would like.
Lutheran Church Extension
Fund (LCEF) offers a free, auto-
mated giving program that helps
you conveniently and consis-
tently give to your ministry. Joy-
ful Response is a free service
that reliably and safely transfers
contributions through pre-
authorized withdrawals from
the bank account of your choice
to that of the congregation. Be-
cause of this deliberate, ongoing
stewardship, your ministry staff
can concentrate more on the im-
portant tasks that continue out-
reach and congregational sup-
port.

For more information, call the
LCEF at 1(800) 843-5233, Mon-
day through Friday, 7:45 a.m. to
4:15 p.m. (CT)

THE STORMS OF LIFE

Though the weather that morning was questionable and clouds were forming, she made her daily trek to the elementary school. As the afternoon progressed, the winds whipped up, along with lightning. The mother of the little girl felt concerned that her daughter would be frightened as she walked home from school and she feared the electrical storm might harm her child. Full of concern, the mother quickly got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school.

As she did, she saw her little girl walking along. At each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up, and smile. Another and another flash of lighting followed quickly and with each, the little girl would look at the streak of light and smile.

When the mother's car drew up beside the child, she lowered the window and called to her 'What are you doing?' The child answered, 'I am trying to look pretty because God keeps taking my picture.'

May God bless you today and everyday as you face the storms that come your way.



OKC LUTHERANS

The Lutheran Churches of the Oklahoma City Area are partnering to assure that the broadcast of the **Lutheran Hour** continues. The current station in the OKC area that was carrying the Lutheran hour was broadcasting on a station out of Norman but that station is dropping the broadcast.

The OKC Lutheran churches are going to pool our resources to sponsor the program on AM 800 KQCV-AM.

The broadcasts will cost \$145 dollars each and we would like to ask you to consider personally sponsoring a broadcast.

We will establish a special fund at Messiah to gather the funds from the various churches to be used to pay for the program. If you want to make a donation to sponsor one or more broadcasts or partially support a broadcast, (we will accept any size donation) please send a check to Messiah and indicate "**Lutheran Hour Broadcast**" on the memo line of your check. Send to: Messiah Lutheran Church, 3600 NW Expressway, OKC OK 73112

Yes, I would be interested in sponsoring a **LUTHERAN HOUR BROADCAST**. **Broadcast cost: \$145.00;**

Donation of any size also accepted.

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in honor of the anniversary of _____

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in celebration of the birthday of _____

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in memory of _____

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Note below when you wish to sponsor the Lutheran Hour Broadcast

Sunday, _____

(Month / Day)

Please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church. Please mark on the memo line "Lutheran Hour Broadcast

HAVE YOU MET?



*Of course you probably have met....Pastor Dave and Pam's son, **Kenny Owens**. Kenny transferred to Christ Lutheran from the family's former church in Farmington, Illinois. Kenny makes his home in Mustang and is currently taking classes at OKCCC and is employed by Interurban restaurant.*



***Desiree & Steve Webber**. The Webbers reside in Mustang and Desiree may look a little familiar to you for she is the head librarian @ the Mustang Library. Desiree joined Christ Lutheran in April through Affirmation of Faith.*

Meet our New Missionary

Donations taken on Mission Sunday, the months with a fifth Sunday, will go to Coral Rose's work in Africa. The next Mission Sunday is Aug. 30.

Born in Texas and raised in Milwaukee, Coral Rose graduated from Valparaiso University with a Bachelor degree in Business Admin. – Accounting. She joined the emerging "data processing" industry and worked to automate accounting, order processing, sales and inventory systems. Eventually she moved into system implementation and training, working with numerous industries worldwide.

In 2002 Coral received a Masters in Religious Education from Luther Seminary and worked several years in Children's Ministry. In addition to Religious education, she helped congregations utilize the church web page to encourage faith practice from Monday to Sunday.

God has called Coral to use her business and travel experience and love of different cultures to work with the many national/local church bodies within Africa, as they plan and execute projects sponsored by LCMS World Mission. She'll use her business and communication skills to support the work of LCMS missionaries in Africa. As the Regional Business Manager, she will be living in Pretoria, So Africa and will travel to mission and project sites to support project progress and finances. Her work will encourage the local church leaders and their members, and allow the missionaries and their families to concentrate on evangelizing and teaching about the love of God.



See Coral's newsletter at the back of the Courier.

Great One Liners

The best mathematical equation ever seen:

1 cross + 3 nails = 4 given.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

Prayer:

Don't give God instructions -- just report for duty!

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

He who angers you, controls you!

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

If God is your Co-pilot - swap seats!

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

God grades on the cross, not the curve.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

God promises a safe landing, not a calm passage.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

Forbidden fruits create many jams.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

God doesn't call the qualified, He qualifies the called.

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