

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.

May 2008



CHURCH & SCHOOL MISSOURI SYNOD

The Christ Courier

Horton Hears Who?

In Dr. Seuss' classic tale of "Horton Hears a Who" we find an elephant (Horton) enjoying the joys of jungle life. All of a sudden Horton hears a small voice calling from a speck of dust. Well Horton being a kindly type listened to the voice and tried to be of assistance. He is met however with much opposition from his friends. All those in the kingdom of Nool seem to think Horton has now lost his cool. He is talking to something that he cannot see and they all wondered just how can this be. They called him a fool and teased him but worse; they denied what he heard saying it was off course. They took that speck with the Who's, one and all -and were going to boil it in Beezle-Nut oil. But every Who down in Who-ville then let out a yop; so finally their voices were heard by the lot.

That classic children's story tells us about the fine art of listening; something that seems to be falling from favor today. "What?" and "huh?" are two words that demonstrate this. But hearing can also be selective hearing-just note the answer to certain questions by politicians and those under heavy scrutiny. Today there are many who hear the call of a voice and assist those in need. That is truly a wonderful thing, but what voice do they listen to? What causes them to respond in such a way? Well there are a number of reasons. Some respond for the credibility and notoriety it brings to them. They like being noticed for being compassionate and caring. Others believe that their "good works" will make points

with God; they hope that will get them into heaven. But others respond to the call of their Lord and Savior when he says they are to love. So today there are many Hortons in this world and the question is what speck is talking? Whose voice are they listening to?

To some, like those who tormented Horton, God's voice is offensive. They believe Christians live in a fantasy world talking to someone we can't see or hear; they believe we are truly foolish for giving hard earned money to a church. They wonder why we don't go to the lake on Sunday instead of going to services or why we give to help "those people" in need. Many today hear the voice of our jungle calling-"get what you can"; "have it your way"; or "look out for number 1". They believe that this God, that we serve, cramps their style with all those rules. God has only two rules: "*Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind*" and the second is like it, "*Love your neighbor as yourself.*" (Matthew 22: 37, 39) The followers of Jesus hear a voice. They hear a Voice that gives. Jesus gave up His throne in heaven to come and be born of a woman. Jesus gave thirty plus years living with a people

who didn't recognize God right there beside them. Jesus gave up His life and died for you and for me; we follow the voice that says, "It is finished". Jesus gives us salvation, our life after death in this world is guaranteed. And this guarantee is not written on paper but visibly seen in action at the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Because He lives, we know we also will live.

So all of us should listen carefully. There are many voices calling from specks of dust, mediums of the airways, and in black and white, but there is only God who calls out to you and me from His Word, the Bible. Many hear other voices, but one day all will hear the voice of God. Horton realized who his creator was-Theodor Geisel, a.k.a. Dr. Seuss. Do you know yours? Do you hear the voice of your Creator calling to you; do you hear Jesus calling for you to come home; listen to the Holy Spirit as He calls. Stop what you are doing, listen and follow. Horton heard a Who; who do you hear? May God continue to give you ears that hear and tongues that confess Jesus is Lord of all.

Pastor Dave Owens

Date Changes:

The Men's Bible Study Breakfast will be the second Saturday this month, Saturday, May 10, 9 – 11 a.m. The Women's Bible Study Breakfast will be the fourth Saturday, May 24, 9 – 11 a.m.

Church Mouse



Greetings Dear Christ Courier Readers,

My, my, isn't it a glorious day! God certainly has blessed us with some beautiful weather

lately. With ice storms and power outages in the not too distant past, and all the floods raging around here and the surrounding states, we surely are thankful for these sunny, breezy days. Thank you, Lord, for all our many blessings.

The birthday bash was grand this year. Did you go? I had so much fun with the decorations. I lost count of all the times I ran up and down that circus tent pole. And the sand castle cake looked like so much fun. Congratulations, Cora Wright. Next year I'm thinking of a doll house where I can run in and out the doorways, and sit on the furniture. But not a Barbie dollhouse or anything girlie. I like the castle theme, with a moat around it with a drawbridge. And a throne inside, yeah, we all want a throne inside. And do you think I could have a sword or a suit of armor? Can I help, please, can I help? When I have my birthday, I want you all to come. You guys know how to throw a party! The cakes were outstanding! Mrs. Clifton, how did you do it? The beach ball was perfect, big, round and colorful. It looked so real, you should have put up a volleyball net. I bet someone would have tried to pick it up and hit it over the net. I would not have believed it if I hadn't seen it for myself. I sure hope somebody took pictures! And there was one table that had cakes that looked like sunglasses and flip-flops! That was so cool!

Who said Christians were boring and solemn? What if everyone knew the joy you have and could party and live it up without hurting others? We often witness mean spirited fun whether up close or on the news. People hurting people, or other living things, is a much too common occur-

rence. It's a miracle that God would have sent His Son to live on this earth for any length of time. And, well, I'm not sure how to say this. But I have been thinking about what I've heard and seen here at Christ Lutheran, in the sermons and Bible classes, from the guest speakers from World Missions and Camp Lutherhoma, from the LWML meetings and in the school classrooms; isn't there something else that I need to be doing? I've been looking into a type of seminary to attend. I have learned a lot here, but do I need more training before I try to go out and reach the unchurched? Do I even think I could make a difference? Yes, I know I could make a difference as long as Christ is with me and I am telling of His Good News. If I could just forget my weaknesses and frailties and just let His love, grace and mercy be shown through my words and actions, I know I could make a difference. Do you know of some place that could benefit from a four-ounce weakling with a big mouth? I wonder. Do you think they have mice at Camp Lutherhoma? It wouldn't be that far away so if I failed I could come back home quickly with my tail tucked between my legs. Or is that taking the easy way out? They already have a ministry going and are preaching the Good News, so I'm sure the mice over there are getting their ears filled. Why they might already have someone writing articles for their newsletters. Maybe I should pray more about this. God will send me something, some kind of sign on where He could best use the talents He has given me. I really have grown fond of these children here, but I know God doesn't always put us where we want to be. We just have to trust Him on the decision making. Maybe out in the panhandle, are there many churches out there? I don't hear too much about that area. Maybe I could spread some of your Christ-like enthusiasm to them. Should I go to the east or to the west? Or do I just start and then see what God puts in my path? If I do head west, I

may need some words of wisdom from Mr. and Mrs. Wessler who are from Guymon. I know they would help me. Confirmation questioning is close at hand. Confirmands, just remember, you haven't learned it all; there's so much more. Remain faithful, stay in God's Word, and fear, love, and trust God above all things, and He will guide you in paths of righteousness for His Name's sake. Blessings for me and you both. Well anyway, I gotta go for now.

Respectively Submitted
C.M.

The Christ Courier is published monthly by Christ Lutheran Church in Mustang, OK. Staff: Susan Anderson, Christ Lutheran Contributors Deadline for the June 2008 Courier: May 28
Phone: 555-585-5555; 555-555-5555
Email: yc@mscsoft.com

Where to find Lutheran Hour Ministries

The Lutheran Hour

Sundays

Enid, KGWA 960, 9:30 a.m.

Norman, KREF 1400, 9:30 a.m.

"Life...Revisited"

Sundays

Enid, KGWA 960, 7 a.m.

Norman, KREF 1400, 9 a.m.

A million thanks for all the cards, calls and visits while I was in the hospital and recuperating at home.

Judy Murray

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS & VERSES

Adeline Fairchild

(Daughter of Matthew and Christinna Fairchild)

*“Therefore, prepare your minds for action;
be self-controlled; set your hope fully on
the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ
is revealed.”*

1 Peter 1:13

Jordan Newham

(Daughter of Steve Newham)

*“God is our Refuge and Strength , a very
present Help in trouble.”*

Psalms 46:1

Lexy Witt

(Daughter of Stan and Cynthia Witt)

*“For I know the plans I have for you,”
declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and
not to harm you, plans to give you hope and
a future.”*

Jeremiah 29: 11

God’s Blessings Confirmands

CLEANING THE UPSTAIRS YOUTH ROOM

Attention all Christ Lutheran Church Members. Once again it’s time to do some spring cleaning. It seems we have collected more than our shelves can handle in the upstairs loft. The youth have a day scheduled to reclaim and repaint their youth loft. The shelving will be removed from the loft to the new storage shed. If you have items stored in the loft, they MUST be removed. However, if you wish to store anything on the shelving in the storage building, it must be in sealable plastic containers that will fit on the shelves. Anything left in the loft on the day the loft will be painted (tentatively May 31), it will be thrown out.

If you have any questions, you may contact: Joyce George at 745-2209 or Regina Clifton at 376-9899.

MAY

Angel Food Order Dates

Wednesday,
May 14,
5-6:30 p.m.

Friday, May 16,
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.,
5-6:30 p.m.

Saturday,
May 17,
11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Sunday,
May 18,
Noon – 1

Distribution Date:
Saturday,
May 31,
9 – 11 a.m.

For May LCEF
Investment rates,
see the bulletin in
the Narthex.

Happy
Mother’s Day
Sunday, May
11
Don’t forget to
remember
Mom!!

Did You Know?

- *Janice Correia works at Kohl's? Stop by and see her sometime at the Yukon store.*
- *Steve Newham is getting married? Congrats. The lucky gal is Linh Duong and the date is May 17.*
- *Pam Means is the new chair of the Human Care committee? Thanks Pam for stepping in when Barb had to resign due to a career change.*

Please let the church office know of anything...absolutely anything...in your life so we can let the rest of the congregation be "in the know."

Christ Lutheran School Graduation
Tuesday, May 20, 7 p.m.
Graduates: Alexis Williamson (KG)
Tyler Coghill (PS 4s)
Mikayla George (PS 4s)
All are invited!

***Congrats to Mustang High School Graduate
Danielle McRee and Tuttle High School Graduate
Brandon Allen. God's Blessings !!***

***Last Day of Midweek 2007/08 Classes
Wednesday, May 7
Midweek Picnic and Party:
Wednesday, May 14
Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share!***

MAY LCEF TIDBIT

"And why do you worry about clothes? See how the lilies of the field grow. They do not labor or spin. Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these" – Matt. 6:28-29

What a wonderful promise....God's assurance of caring for our needs in this life. And what a beautiful promise to share with others as we celebrate yet another of God's great miracles...the miracle of Spring! You can help "Spread the Word" about all of God's miracles, including the greatest of all miracles...our own salvation and the promise of life everlasting through faith in our Lord and risen Savior Jesus Christ! As an inventor of Church Extension, your savings dollars help congregations reach out with expanded ministry to their communities. And you'll also earn competitive interest in your investment as you share in this ministry! For an offering circular and application form, all the 1-800 THE LCEF.

KG KORNER

April was an exciting month for the CLS Kindergarten. We had fun on Beach Day surfing and eating Octopus Stew. Yum! The kindergartners have been doing an excellent job reading in their readers. To celebrate, we took a trip to the Mustang Library. We have been watching the life cycle of butterflies and are eagerly waiting for them to emerge from their chrysalises. We also learned about ways we can take care of our Earth by picking up

trash around the church and recycling our empty snack containers. We are looking forward to May which will be even more exciting. We are going to the Tiger Safari on May 9 to learn more about God's creatures. Then on May 14, we are going to the Harn Homestead to learn about living in Oklahoma in the 1800s. We are even going to do chores that children did back then like gardening, white washing a

fence and working in the barn. The Preschool and Kindergarten graduation will be Tuesday, May 20 at 7 p.m. We have been working very hard and have been practicing some fun songs for graduation. After graduation, we will celebrate the last day of school with a fun Teddy Bear Picnic on Thurs., May 22.

May God Bless You!
Tammy Whitaker
Kindergarten Teacher

Preschool Post

Wow! Only a few more weeks of school. During this last month, the preschool will explore insects, plants and sea life. What a wonderful gambit of creation the Lord has made. We are even going to Tiger Safari, May 9.

We will also review our colors, numbers, sizes, shapes and patterns. The 4s have already started putting letters together to form simple words. It is such an amazement to watch the light bulbs go on.

Our graduation exercises are Tuesday, May 20. Come! You will be pleasantly surprised. It is a wonder to see what Christ Lutheran School produces...children learning, not only academics but about the love of Christ...memorizing His Word in scripture and song and learning to show others Christ's love.

It is a joy to be His servant.

Mrs. Robin Ila Wilkerson

News from Redeemer Lutheran Jr/Sr High School

We thank the Lord for the promises of Spring and remember the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus. The new life that arises around us in God's creation reminds us of our new life each day as we live our baptismal renewal. *If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation.* II Cor 5:17

We also praise the Lord in that He has answered our prayers for a leader for Redeemer Lutheran Jr/Sr High School. Joshua Sommermeyer, of Tomball, TX has accepted our call as Principal/Executive Director. He and his wife Sarah have two children, Gabriel, age 4, and Aurora, age 1. They plan to finish out the school year in Texas and attempt to find a home here in OKC. We welcome them in the name of our Lord!

We will be providing instruction in 2008-2009 in 7th - 11th grades. We are always looking for prospective students and will have several open house events in the weeks ahead for parents and students.

We continue to receive gifts and books for our library and hope to begin cataloging them soon. Our spring concert and awards night is scheduled for Tuesday, May 20th, followed by our final day of school on May 21st.

We continue to collect register tapes from Buy for Less and sell Scrip for many stores and eating places in OKC.

Thanks to the OK District LWML for the grant of \$4895 for Science Equipment for our school.

We have begun our accreditation process. When we are accredited by LCMS, we will also be accredited by the state of Oklahoma. Blessings to you this summer!

Rev. Fred A. Muenchow
Interim Principal

I'm Invisible

It all began to make sense, the blank stares, the lack of response, the way one of the kids will walk into the room while I'm on the phone and ask to be taken to the store. Inside I'm thinking, 'Can't you see I'm on the phone?' Obviously not; no one can see if I'm on the phone, or cooking, or sweeping the floor, or even standing on my head in the corner, because no one can see me at all. I'm invisible; "The Invisible Mom."

Some days I am only a pair of hands, nothing more: Can you fix this? Can you tie this? Can you open this? Some days I'm not a pair of hands; I'm not even a human being. I'm a clock to ask, 'What time is it?' I'm a satellite guide to answer, 'What number is the Disney Channel?' I'm a car to order, 'Right around 5:30, please.'

I was certain that these were the hands that once held books and the eyes that studied history and the mind that graduated summa cum laude - but now they had disappeared into the peanut butter, never to be seen again. She's going, she's going, and she's gone! One night, a group of us were having dinner, celebrating the return of a friend from England. Janice had just gotten back from a fabulous trip, and she was going on and on about the hotel she stayed in. I was sitting there, looking around at the others all put together so well. It was hard not to compare and feel sorry for myself as I looked down at my out-of-style dress; it was the only thing I could find that was clean. My unwashed hair was pulled up in a hair clip and I was afraid I

could actually smell peanut butter in it. I was feeling pretty pathetic, when Janice turned to me with a beautifully wrapped package, and said, 'I brought you this.' It was a book on the great cathedrals of Europe. I wasn't exactly sure why she'd given it to me until I read her inscription: 'To Charlotte, with admiration for the greatness of what you are building when no one sees.' In the days ahead I would read - no, devour - the book. And I would discover what would become for me, four life-changing truths, after which I could pattern my work: No one can say who built the great cathedrals - we have no record of their names. These builders gave their whole lives for a work they would never see finished. They made great sacrifices and expected no credit. The passion of their building was fueled by their faith that the eyes of God saw everything. A legendary story in the book told of a rich man who came to visit the cathedral while it was being built, and he saw a workman carving a tiny bird on the inside of a beam. He was puzzled and asked the man, 'Why are you spending so much time carving that bird into a beam that will be covered by the roof? No one will ever see it.' And the workman replied, 'Because God sees.' I closed the book, feeling the missing piece fall into place. It was almost as if I heard God whispering to me, 'I see you, Charlotte. I see the sacrifices you make every day, even when no one around you does. No act of kindness you've done, no sequin you've sewn on, no cupcake you've

baked, is too small for me to notice and smile over. You are building a great cathedral, but you can't see right now what it will become.' At times, my invisibility feels like an affliction. But it is not a disease that is erasing my life. It is the cure for the disease of my own self-centeredness. It is the antidote to my strong, stubborn pride. I keep the right perspective when I see myself as a great builder. As one of the people who show up at a job that they will never see finished, to work on something that their name will never be on. The writer of the book went so far as to say that no cathedrals could ever be built in our lifetime because there are so few people willing to sacrifice to that degree. When I really think about it, I don't want my son to tell the friend he's bringing home from college for Thanksgiving, 'My Mom gets up at 4 in the morning and bakes homemade pies, and then she hand bastes a turkey for three hours and presses all the linens for the table.' That would mean I'd built a shrine or a monument to myself. I just want him to want to come home. And then, if there is anything more to say to his friend, to add, 'you're gonna love it there.' As mothers, we are building great cathedrals. We cannot be seen if we're doing it right. And one day, it is very possible that the world will marvel, not only at what we have built, but at the beauty that has been added to the world by the sacrifices of invisible women.

Great Job, MOM!

We Want Your Recipes

Pull out those cookbooks you have on your shelf. Dig into your recipe card box. Rummage through your drawers for any loose recipes you've written down or printed off the computer. And, of course, the ones you have memorized that you've made over and over again and have never written down. Please bring these favorites to the office so we may share them with the congregation in future newsletters.

Board of Lay Ministry Minutes from 02/05/08 Meeting

- Matt reported to the board that Pastor sent a request to Danny and Andrew asking for a final reconciliation meeting to take place after Lent, in order to bring this process to a close and finalize the covenant. This request was received. Pastor asked the elders to consider items for the covenant.
- Craig told the board he is going to mention the discussion of Pastor buying his own home and the future considerations of the parsonage at the upcoming February voter's meeting. There will be town hall meetings to discuss the future plans for the parsonage. We will be possibly looking at a vote on this issue in the May voter's meeting. Alan has been checking into housing expenses, to the church, if the parsonage is sold.
- After some discussion, a motion was made and seconded to change the time of the Easter morning sunrise service to 7:00 AM. After a vote the motion was unanimously accepted.
- Pastor gave his report to the board.
- A motion was made and seconded to give Joyce Hendrickson a spiritual release from her church membership. After a vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.
- Matt asked the board to consider possible candidates for the board of elders, with names to be given to the nominations committee. Two names were discussed.
- Pastor and Craig discussed and presented the amended church constitution. A vote will be taken to approve this constitution in the May voter's meeting.

Minutes from 03/11/08 Meeting

- Pastor handed out a paper showing the estimated housing expenses, to the church, if the parsonage was sold. Discussion on this item was tabled until the next meeting.
- Names were discussed for the board to be given to the nominations committee.



The new technology led to greater efficiency at Christ Lutheran Church

- The board discussed the covenant, what it's for and what should be included in the covenant. Matt encouraged all board members to consider items for the covenant.
- Pastor gave his report to the board, which include information concerning sick and hospitalized members or family of members.
- Pastor reiterated to the board how important it is for the elders to be calling on their zones, especially when there's a death in the church family.
- The board discussed and arranged the upcoming schedule for Holy Week.

LWML Mission Projects

The LWML ladies have chosen Camp Lutherhoma as its local mission and Mexico as its global mission. Help send someone to camp by contributing to the camping "art" in the Narthex. The LWML sent a check to Cristo Rey Lutheran church, who put together health kits for children in Mexico. Thank you for any contributions you are able to give.