

The *Ascent*

July 2009

Ascension Lutheran Church
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A Note from Pastor Norm

It's called **Tour de Revs**. Three Evangelical Lutheran Church in America pastors (David Twedt, Ron Schlak, and Fred Soltow) are taking a bike ride this summer—a 13,000-mile bike ride to raise awareness and money for the ELCA's World Hunger Appeal.

Their journey began with a blessing at the Lutheran Center in Chicago on May 13 and will conclude at the ELCA Churchwide Assembly in Minneapolis in August. In between they are visiting all 65 synods of the ELCA and 65 cities, including New Orleans for the National Youth Gathering, July 22-26, and Tulsa, July 28-29. You can check on their progress at www.tourderevs.org.

In conjunction with their visit to Tulsa, some of us have volunteered to be part of the welcoming committee, riding out to meet them on the road and escorting them into town. If you would like to **ride with us**, let me know and I will be happy to share the details of the ride when I know them.

My bicycle ride will also be an opportunity to **raise money** for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. The three West Virginia pastors have set a goal of \$5 million to be raised during their 100-day ride. You can participate by making a contribution. I'm suggesting a pledge of **\$1/mile** and expecting a ride of 25 miles that

day. So make out a check for \$25 (or for whatever amount the Spirit moves you) during July, mark it "World Hunger Appeal," and drop it in the offering plate.



On the evening of July 28, the entire community is invited to Joy Lutheran Church (9940 S. Yale Ave.) in the evening to meet the riding Revs, see their bamboo-framed bicycle built for three (AKA a triplet), and learn more about world hunger. We can make our World Hunger Appeal donation that evening.

Last summer I went to jail for MDA (Muscular Dystrophy Association) and raised almost \$600. It would be great if we could do even better for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal this summer. The ELCA has an annual goal of \$25 million for world hunger projects. I'm looking forward to the ride and doing our part to help address the problem of hunger in the world.

Peace & Blessings!

Pastor Norm

P.S. If you visit the www.tourderevs.org website, you can also learn that one of these three bike-riding pastors is a seminary classmate of mine. Any guesses as to which one?

Pastoral Care: *If you are in need of pastoral care when dealing with health issues, life choices, or other personal challenges, please contact Pastor Norm.*

Church Council Minutes

June 14, 2009

Officers Present online: Pastor Norman P. Dake, President Keith Khoo, Vice President Sandy Isakson, Treasurer Eileen Imwalle
Council Members Present: Jim Harris, Kelly Knopp, Lynn Jacobsen

Call to Order: Keith Khoo
Motion by Jim Harris to approve Minutes of May 17, 2009 meeting. Second: Sandy Isakson. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Minutes approved.

Pastor's report

1. Tour de Revs.
 - a. July 28-29 in Tulsa.
 - b. I will plan to join bicycle riders to welcome them to Tulsa.
 - c. Will use the bike ride to raise \$\$ for ELCA World Hunger Appeal.
2. Vacation/Continuing Ed.
 - a. I'll be out of the office until June 30.
 - b. Pastor Julia Shreve.
 - Newer member.
 - Will lead worship on June 21.
 - c. Blaine Frierson.
 - Will lead worship on June 28.
 - Will lead adult Bible study on June 21 and 28.
 - d. Linda Christy and Blaine Frierson.
 - Will provide routine pastoral care as needed.

- e. Continuing ed. event at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago. -June 23-25.

Treasurer's report

Motion by Pastor Norm to approve the Treasurer's report with changes. Second: Sandy Isakson. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.
Treasurer's report approved

New Business

Motion by Pastor Norm to extend Suzanne Tips use of the space for her music lessons. Second: Jim Harris. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried. Suzanne Tips will continue using the space.

Pastor Jean DeVoll-Donaldson from the Synod office shared with us options for renewal for the congregation. We will discuss this further at the next council meeting on which option to take and bring it to the congregation.

Respectfully submitted by Keith Khoo

Church Clean-up Day
Second Saturday of July & August
8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Please join us!

This and That

HOLY LAND TOUR—NOW OR NEVER: Last fall a number of you expressed an interest in a trip to the Holy Land to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, and asked me to organize a tour. It's not too late to sign up, but time is running out. A \$300 deposit per person in the form a check payable to NAWAS travel reserves your place. Payment in full is due to NAWAS Travel by July 31st. Brochures with all of the details are available on the table in the narthex or from Pastor Norm.

SIMPLY GIVING: If you are interested in the Simply Giving program, please contact Mary in the church office. Simply Giving is a service for people who wish to have their offerings transferred electronically to the church's account rather than having to write checks.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The food pantry is in need of restocking. Special needs are: cereal, peanut butter, cornbread mix, canned tuna, rice, beans, macaroni & cheese, spaghetti noodles and sauce, dish soap, hand soap, and toilet paper. Thank you for supporting the food pantry.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY: We will not have Bible Study in July or August, Please join us on **September 22** at 10:00 AM for our next gathering in the adult classroom.

TRINITY MINISTRIES:

Thursday, July 16, 10:00 AM - A patriotic program, brought to us by Warren Werling, will feature several gentlemen in period costume who describe the meaning of the first Stars and Stripes. 10:00 at First Lutheran Church. Lunch will follow, \$6.00. Reservations for lunch by July 13. (Call 794-5041). Please plan to attend.

COMING EVENTS: July 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 Sunday School: 9:45			1	2 <i>Makenzie Bridges</i>	3 <i>Ed Engelke</i>	4
5 <i>Hayly Helm</i>	6	7	8	9 Worship & Music mtg. 6:30 <i>Lynn Jacobsen</i>	10	11 Church Clean- up 8-1
12 Council Mtg. 12:15	13	14	15	16 Trinity Min. 10 a.m. 1st Luth. <i>Mary Peterson</i>	17	18
19	20 <i>Keith Khoo Kelsey Khoo</i>	21	22 <i>Ronald Oestmann Stacey Baker</i>	23	24	25
26	27	28 Tour de Revs Joy Lutheran	29	30	31	

Birthdays honorees are highlighted in italics on the calendar. If your birthday does not appear, please contact the church office at 743-5741 so we may update our records.

JULY READINGS:

July 5 – 5th Sunday after Pentecost

Ezek 2:1-5
Psalm 123
2 Cor 12:2-10
Mark 6:1-13

July 19 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Jer 23:1-6
Psalm 23
Eph 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 12 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 7:7-15
Psalm 85:8-13
Eph 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

July 26 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 4:42-44
Psalm 145:10-18
Eph 3:14-21
John 6:1-21

ASCENT NEWS ITEMS;

Please submit any news items by email to norma-dreyer@cox.net or call me at my home phone, 583-3759 by the 21st of each month.

Serving our Lord, July 2009

11:00 am	Ushers	Lectors	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Lay Assistant	Greeters	Counters
5	Doug & Roberta Napier	Katherine Tooley	Nathan Napier	Ron & Bonnie Peters	Linda Christy	Doris Elliott / Katherine Tooley	Merl Lindburg / Mary Faulkner
12	Stan Lewis / DB Woods	Karol Wagar	Elizabeth Balman	Lillian Cantrell / Linda Christy	Sandy Isakson	Ron & Bonnie Peters	Stan Lewis / Bonnie Peters
19	Bill & Shirley Bryant	Linda Christy		Barbara James / Karol Wagar	Ron Peters	Donna Glocker / DB Woods	Denise Khoo Kelsey Khoo
26	Ron & Bonnie Peters	Sandy Isakson		Lynn Jacobsen / Sandy Isakson	Linda Christy	Randi Clark / Ardith Andrist	Gerry Oltrogge
8:30 a.m.	Lectors	Communion Assistants	Altar Guild Dorothy Burgess Doris Elliott Betty Jacobsen		<i>Thank you for volunteering at Ascension!</i> Please mark your calendars for the dates you are assigned to serve. If you cannot volunteer on your assigned date, please find a substitute and notify the church office (743-5741).		
5	Keith Khoo	Eileen Imwalle					
12	Jim Harris	Denise Khoo					
19	Carol Anwar	Carol Anwar					
26	Cathy Newsome	Cathy Newsome					

Altar Flowers Provided by:

5	
12	Doris Elliott in memory of Edward
19	
26	Betty & Lynn Jacobsen in honor of Wayne

Where the Wild Things Thrive

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is hosting a fun day for families at the **Kaleidoscope Children's Museum** on Saturday, July 18, 2009.

Every day, children receive messages about money and spending. From video games to movies, toys to music concerts—it can leave parents feeling overwhelmed. Now there's a way for parents to instill sensible money habits in their kids and have fun doing it.

On Saturday, July 18th, beginning at 3:00 p.m. you and your family can join **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans** for a lively and interactive educational experience at **Kaleidoscope Children's Museum**, 6202 S. Sheridan, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Using innovative tools and techniques, **Where the Wild Things Thrive** will focus on teaching kids a values-based approach to money management. Together, families will explore ways kids can share, save and spend; discuss the importance of being responsible with money; and build a financial foundation for children that will last a lifetime.

Families can look forward to an enjoyable afternoon at the museum with activities, and educational materials to take home. Parents will gain a better understanding of why it's important to teach kids about financial principles. Kids will learn how even small decisions regarding money can make a big difference. Dinner will be provided.

Where the Wild Things Thrive is free and open to adults (parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc.) and children ages 6–10. You do not have to be a member of **Thrivent Financial for Lutherans**. No products or services will be sold.

Registration begins June 12th. To register, please visit www.thriventattulsa.eventbrite.com or call 392-7130.





Julia Shreve working with Operation Toy Box.

STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION 2009

Summer SPLASH Columbia, South Carolina

Reformation Lutheran Church, Columbia, S. C., has a mission: Summer SPLASH (Students Playing, Learning, and Staying Healthy). SPLASH helps school-aged refugees and immigrants as they transition into a new culture and a new educational system.

The program offers students healthy meals and snacks while helping them improve their English skills. Assisting the children with language comprehension opens up new opportunities and helps them reach greater heights in the future.

With campers representing eight countries, SPLASH also focuses on cultivating cross-cultural respect and friendships. Matthew, a SPLASH counselor and a student at Newberry College, says, "On the first day we talked about the different nations in my class. On the second and third days, my class learned to say 'I love you' in three languages. As the camp went on, I noticed that the kids didn't see each other by race or color. They saw each other as people and played well together."

The ELCA Domestic Hunger Grant program helps connect neighbors in our country with the resources to break the cycle of hunger and poverty. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger help make ministries like this possible. Thank you for your generous and compassionate response!



For more Stories of Faith in Action, visit www.elca.org/stories. Do you have a story to share? E-mail us at stories@elca.org.

 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

STORIES OF FAITH IN ACTION 2009

Quilting Transforms Lives Jos, Nigeria

In Nigeria, HIV-positive women who take antiretroviral drugs will live for some time. But stigma around their HIV status means they have lost homes, jobs, and family support, making it hard to earn a living.

More than 50 Women of Hope in Jos, Nigeria, are earning a living from piecing colorful African fabric into quilts, table runners, and bags. Recently, they tackled their biggest project yet: turning a painting by Chinese artist He Qi into a backdrop for the 2008 ELCA Global Mission Event (GME) in La Crosse, Wis.

Piecing, machine quilting, and assembling the 18 x 24-foot, 61-pound quilt took 13 women several weeks. The night the quilt made its debut on the GME stage, Women of Hope member Azur Riki shared her story. Azur told how Women of Hope helps HIV-

DID YOU KNOW?

The ELCA supports Women of Hope and the Mashiah Foundation with missionaries Bayo and Mary Beth Oyeboade, an annual financial grant, and designated gifts. ELCA funds also support priority ministries of the Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN), including its health care ministry, communication system, and water resource management and sanitation program. The beautiful He Qi quilt can be borrowed from the ELCA Global Mission program unit. Call 800/638-3522, ext. 2642 for details.


positive women transform their lives. Sixty have been able to live in Bezar Home, which provides food, shelter, and pays children's school fees while women learn sewing skills.

Today, they are renting their own homes, paying their children's school fees, and supporting themselves. Some, like

Azur, have purchased land and eventually plan to return to their home villages, where they are now respected and recognized as women living with AIDS.

Women of Hope is part of the Mashiah Foundation, which focuses on the needs of those living with HIV and works to prevent its spread. With solid support from the ELCA, the Mashiah Foundation's holistic HIV/AIDS education, prevention, testing, counseling, and health program ministry is making a difference in Jos.

For more Stories of Faith in Action, visit www.elca.org/stories. Do you have a story to share? E-mail us at stories@elca.org.

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God's work. Our hands.

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Pastor Norman Dake

Sunday Services:

Celebrative Praise – 8:30am
Traditional Liturgy – 11:00am

Sunday School – 9:45 am

Office Hours: 8:00am–12:00 noon Mon-Fri

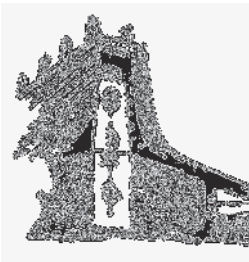
Website: www.ascensionlutheran.net

**E-mail: welcome@ascensionlutheran.net
pastornorm@ascensionlutheran.net**

Mission Statement:

**Responding to Gods love,
We faithfully
Welcome
Worship
Grow
Witness
Serve**

*Glowing and Growing
in the Light of the Lord*



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