



St. Luke's **MESSENGER**

July/August 2014

PASTOR'S CORNER

"The Lord will fight for you." Exodus 14:14

This passage is one of my favorites in all the scriptures. The people of Israel had just escaped from the Egyptian Empire where they had been slaves for 400 years. But as they tried to leave, the Pharaoh had a change of heart and desired to bring back his slaves, so he sent his great army of chariots to run them down. The slow-moving people of Israel then found themselves cornered between the Red Sea and the Egyptian army ready to kill them or haul them back to slavery.

This was a stark swing in their situation and circumstances. Just moments before they were living in the elation of new-found freedom, but in just minutes they thought that was all taken away from them as they were cornered by a great and deadly army. It was into this moment of great despair and loss of hope that Moses assured the people, saying, "The Lord will fight for you. You need only to be still."

These powerful words capture the heart of one of the most important themes throughout all the scriptures. God is inviting us to learn how to trust him and rely on him in all things. This reliance means that we do not fight, scratch, and claw to defend ourselves or survive, but that

we instead wait on the Lord to come through for us while simply doing what he asks with our lives.

The temptation we constantly face in life is to take things into our own hands and to fight to preserve and rescue our life and world. We do this because deep down there are doubts within us about whether God is real, willing, or able to help us in our times of need. But Jesus teaches us that those who try to rescue their lives and current circumstances will end up destroying themselves, while those who are willing to lose everything while following God will be the ones rescued (Mark 8:35).

So what is it in our lives that we are fighting to hang onto and preserve? What is it that we see slipping away from us that we are worried about losing? In the face of these anxieties we can go to battle ourselves and inevitably lose or we can be still and wait on the Lord to fight for us and provide for us. Which will it be?

The Lord will come through for his people. He always has and always will. He parted the Red Sea and made a way to safety and freedom. He also raised Jesus from death. He will do the same for us.

Pastor Luke



Worship and Bible Study Schedule

Saturday

4:30pm Worship Gathering

Sunday

9:00am Worship Gathering

10:30am "Text of the Week" Study

Monday

6:00pm "Follow Me" Gospel Study

Wednesday

4:30pm Kids' Time (resumes Sept 3)

SonTreasure Island VBS Recap

June 8-12 was an excellent time with 37 children and 25-30 volunteers as we learned about God's love and how Jesus set the example of how to show that love to others. Our amazing storyteller, Kris Alsin, shared stories about how God's love is giving, patient and kind, caring of everyone, forgiving, and forever.

The crafts were planned, prepared ahead of time, and led the week of VBS by Jennifer Wagner, Rocky Deines, Joanne Leive – along with helpers Katie Lopez, Joanna Hurd, Marsha Oyer and the group leaders. These were some of the best crafts we have ever had—very creative, very colorful and crafts the children & families will want to treasure.

Our group leaders put in the most mileage by taking the children to all the different areas—great big thanks to Sarah Brown, Julie Phillips Kammrath, Kathy Tharp, John Wagner, Karen Wagner, and Jim Wagner.

We had beautiful and also very creative decorations thanks to Sandy Rust (pre-planning) and posters, assembly, etc. by Stephanie Eberlein along with helpers – husband Scott and daughter Karis; friends Daniel & Kyle; set-up & take down assistants Pastor May, Dick Vogel, and many others on the last night of VBS. It was the most slicked tear-down and clean up I have seen in my 18 years of VBS at St. Luke's.

The snacks were amazing – planned by Lucy Mellott, prepared and served with help by Norma Jacob and Martha Cowart. Very creative and delicious.

Laura led the opening/closing with music (Laura's favorite music of any VBS we have had). The skit team was amusing - Captain Cookey (Pastor May); Coco Bananas (Laura); Sugar Cookey (Julie Phillips Kammrath); and Brad Krumbles (Pastor Luke). It was a spoof of Gilligan's Island and the actors and actresses

played their parts so well. Even though the theme song was "Treasure Island," we came to love the song "Following Jesus" and even co-named it "Pastor Luke's theme" as he closes many of his greetings with "On the Way of Jesus" and "Following Jesus."

Of course, there was one thing people would think was a damper—the two rain days when the kids had to play inside. But they enjoyed doing play-dough and made some amazing creations. Thanks to Todd Deines, Lailyn Thomas, Kara Berger, Amanda Martin and Trent Blake for making sure the children had fun.

Thanks again to the Talkins for making our t-shirts. They are beautiful and something everyone looks forward to. Thank you to Jean Thomas for registration and sign-in and to Sue McGinnis for helping hand out the shirts. Thank you to Judy May for doing whatever needed to be done. She may have served in the biggest variety of ways.

Thank you to all who helped on the two work days—May 30 and June 7. We got so much done that it made the opening days of VBS much smoother.

And, of course, on Family Night the Riverview Neighborhood Group served supper to approx. 100 people. We thank them sincerely for making the last night so wonderful.

Thanks to all who helped. If a name was omitted, please know it was not on purpose. Laura tries to keep track as closely as possible to those who donated time, talents, snack items, \$\$ for items ordered for VBS. Some of the gifts are even anonymous. So thank you to each and everyone who played a part in some way. We were able to give each child a CD of the songs, a t-shirt, and other memorabilia that we hope stays in the home and brings the gospel to the family.

--Laura Baack



MLM Backpack Distribution
August 6-8! Sign-up July 21-25!

5th Sunday Mission Breakfast
August 31, 10:00am!

Journey from Creation to Exile **(Jun 15 - Nov 23, 2014)**

How does the Old Testament all fit together?

What is the message of the Old Testament for us?

Join us on Sundays this summer and fall as we walk through the story of God's people, that begins with the creation of all things and ends with questions about whether God has completely abandoned his people in their disobedience.



Baptism Anniversary



- Dorothy Mellott (7/2)
- Frances Main (7/9)
- Charlene Sargent (7/13)
- Ann Brough (7/21)
- Sandra Ryland (8/1)
- Brittney Spear (8/3)
- Dakota Bryant (8/3)
- Nicholas Bryant (8/3)
- Luke Kammrath (8/3)
- Edward Schons Jr. (8/5)
- Edward Ryland (8/6)
- Rose Tiszka (8/12)
- Susan Brown (8/16)
- William Richards (8/16)
- Shika Brown (8/17)
- Jasmine Brown (8/17)
- Jordin Brown (8/17)
- Ethan Hughes (8/19)
- Rion Glynn (8/20)
- Joanna Hurd (8/24)
- Helma Brown (8/28)
- Michael Marquez (8/28)
- Rachel Telgemeier (8/29)

- Christine May (7/2)
- Joanna Hurd (7/3)
- Darcy Silva (7/4)
- Joseph McDaris (7/6)
- John Espino (7/10)
- Susan Rust (7/11)
- Geronimo Rocha Jr. (7/11)
- Hannah Gooden (7/13)
- Aimee Rinck (7/14)
- Tyler Denny (7/14)
- Dick Richards (7/15)
- Kaitlyn Lopez (7/17)
- Brittney Spear (7/19)
- Madeline May (7/20)
- Mario Vargas (7/21)
- Cindy Ford (7/25)
- Hannah Harris (7/25)
- Merilee Lea (7/27)
- Elizabeth Mellott (7/30)
- John Tiszka (8/4)
- Melanie Bunch (8/6)
- Annie Klingensmith (8/12)
- Deborah Wagner (8/14)
- Laura Baack (8/17)
- Sara Bridge (8/20)

- Helma Brown (8/21)
- Dean Bridge (8/21)
- Charles Payne (8/21)
- Phyllis Richards (8/22)
- Jacqueline Wagner (8/23)
- David Sasnett (8/24)
- Ralph Heiden (8/27)
- William Richards (8/28)
- Erma Stewart (8/29)
- Laura Zugelder (8/31)

Wedding Anniversary

- Donna & Chuck Payne (7/11/70, 44 yrs)
- Dean & Tina Bridge (8/3/92, 22 yrs)
- Tom & Rose Tiszka (8/4/85, 29 yrs)
- David & Julie Gunther (8/7/77, 37 yrs)
- Cory & April Emily (8/10/03, 11 yrs)
- Richard & Nina Rankin (8/16/65, 49 yrs)
- Robert & Sandra Ryland (8/18/63, 51 yrs)



Board Corner

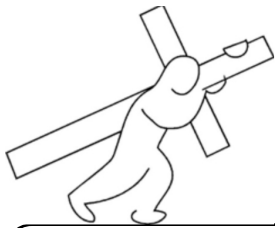
Our board has officially undergone some significant transitions. First off, four previous members of the board have finished their time of service and have stepped down: Tina Bridge, Donna Payne, Paul Jagesch, and Vicki Mundinger. We thank Tina, Donna, Paul, and Vicki for their years of faithful service. Replacing them we have welcomed four new board members: Rose Tiska, Karen Wagner, John Wagner, and Dick Vogel. We thank Rose, Karen, John, and Dick for their willingness to commit to serving on the board and to leading our great congregation in the days ahead. We pray and beg to the Lord to fill them with his Spirit so they may faithfully fulfill this task according to his will.

Additionally, the board recently held elections for officers. We thank Jack Wagner for his previous service as president, Vicki Mundinger for her service as vice-president, and Jim Wagner for his service as treasurer. The newly elected officers of the board are...

- President: Jim Wagner
- Vice President: Rose Tiska
- Treasurer: Karen Wagner
- Secretary: Chrissy May (she will continue in this position into this next term)

We thank these individuals for willingly and eagerly accepting their election into these positions and we pray that the Lord will use them and guide them in their leadership and servant-hood on our behalf.

Finally, a few pieces of information to pass along. The board has decided to set its new regular meeting times for the first Tuesday of the month at 5:30 pm. MLM has very generously purchased tables and chairs for the downstairs and the lounge. The bathrooms continue to be remodeled, we received a donation of a washer and dryer, and we will also need a volunteer group to manage the cleaning stations once the remodel is finished. The annual report to the Stat of Kansas was submitted by Jack Wagner on behalf of our congregation.



Come check out our website and find access to great resources like the church calendar, sermons, reading suggestions, and more!

www.stlukeskck.org



"Gangway to Galilee"

Vacation Bible School

A team from Ascension Lutheran Church in Wichita, KS, is coming to put on a VBS that will be an amazing sailing adventure around the Sea of Galilee to learn about God's Word!

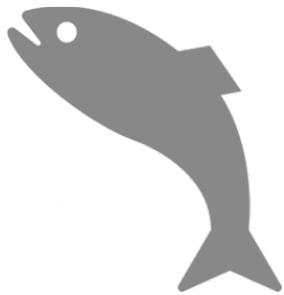
Thursday, July 31 — 4:30 pm

Friday, Aug 1 — 10:00 am–3:30 pm (lunch and games)

Friday, Aug 1 — 6:00 pm (family meal and games)

Saturday, Aug 2 — 10:00–11:30am

Children ages 5-12 (or younger kids with an accompanying adult chaperone)



St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church
722 Reynolds Ave
Kansas City, KS, 66101

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