

May & June 2010

CALLING EVERYONE FROM EAST TO WEST...

BAOBAB BLAST IS THE GET-TOGETHER OF THE SUMMER!
MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND GRAB YOUR GEAR. THIS IS AN EVENT LOADED WITH
ROCKIN' MUSIC, ENERGY- PACKED GAMES AND AMAZING BIBLE STORIES.

WHERE: LIVING WATERS LUTHERAN

WHEN: JUNE 21ST-25TH

FROM: 9AM-12PM

CALL: 429-8082 TO REGISTER OR STOP BY THE DISPLAY TABLE TO PICK UP A
REGISTRATION FORM. PRE-REGISTRATION WILL END ON JUNE 6TH.

MEET YOU AT THE BAOBAB, COME AND DISCOVER!



*Honor your
father and
your mother.*

Exodus 20:12

Living Waters Lutheran Church

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(941) 625-8090

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Church and Concil Officers

Nancy Nickles	Marty Savard	Peg Pulfer
Jerry Pauley	Daryl Mendez	Tim Waters Sr.
Carol Piltz	Don Cope	Kari Reece

New Worship Schedule for Summer 2010

The Council has set a new worship schedule for worship during the summer months of 2010. This summer, we will have one service only at 10:00 am.

Due to scheduling conflicts not known at the time the Council originally approved the new summer worship schedule, the effective date of the new worship time will be May 23 rather than June 6 as previously announced.

On May 23, we will meet for one service at 10:00, and continue on that schedule through August. By combining our three services into one, we will efficiently utilize our resources and provide an opportunity for all members to gather at one time.

Because the three services have all been distinctively different, we have created a totally new service that includes aspects of each of the three services. There will be things that are familiar as well as things that are new to each of us.

As part of our new service, we are learning a new liturgy from the ELW –Holy Communion Setting 8. We have a CD of this setting and will be playing it before each of the services during the month of May. When you arrive at church, you can listen to the new setting and follow along in the hymnal to become familiar with it.

On May 23, we will gather 10 minutes before the service to sing the new liturgy together.



On March 26, Judy Johnson, Minister of Worship, presented a check to Steve Trawford, General Manager of Piano Distributors –Sarasota, for payment in full of our new baby grand. We were able to have the piano in our church during the fund raising effort as part of the company's 88 Keys Program. Thank you everyone for your generous contributions to the purchase of our new piano.

Offering Envelopes

We hope everyone is enjoying our new system of mailing offering envelopes. The cost is similar to the cost of the boxed set we used formerly. However, this new approach helps us stay in closer contact with everyone.

Offering envelopes are mailed on a monthly basis. However, it takes two months for us to change the mailing address for offering envelopes.

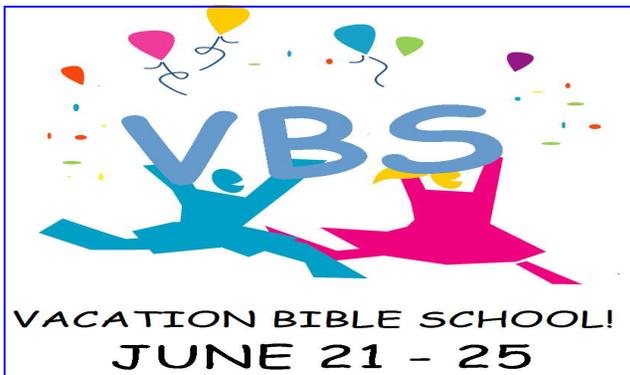
Since many members and friends of our church family are “on the go,” your address changes a couple of times each year. The Travel Log is helpful. But, we understand that circumstances change and you don’t always know when you will be returning to North Port. Therefore, we hope you can provide us news of your travel plans in time so we can update our mailing addresses –and keep you current with things here at Living Waters.

The Offering Envelope address list is submitted with updates on the 26th of each month. The update sent on April 26 will affect the June mailing list. The update sent on May 26 will affect the July mailing list— and so on.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kris in the church office kris@LivingWatersLutheran.com or (941) 625-8090.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteers are needed for the benevolence committee. We now have two new coordinators, Carol Colvin and Kris Dines. Volunteer duties will include helping with set up, making sandwiches and cakes and also serve and clean up. There are a variety of areas we could use help in. Please call Kris at the church office for details.



****See back cover for the details****



Note From

PASTOR DELL

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.” Acts 2:42 (NIV)

This time of year, we in the church remember our beginnings. In the story of God’s Salvation History, The Time Of The Church began on Pentecost (to be celebrated this year on May 23).

The story of the first Pentecost for the early church is recorded in Acts, chapter 2.

At Living Waters, we continue to pray and to seek God’s guidance to help us keep ancient church tradition alive and relevant for our times. The church is not about us. It is about what God has done for us and among us. In the beginning, God formed and inspired the early church by the power of the Holy Spirit and the scriptures. Today, The Spirit of God and the Word of God bring us together and build us up as the church. In the beginning, the church studied the Bible, cared for one another, shared Communion and prayed together. These remain core elements for our life together as a church family.

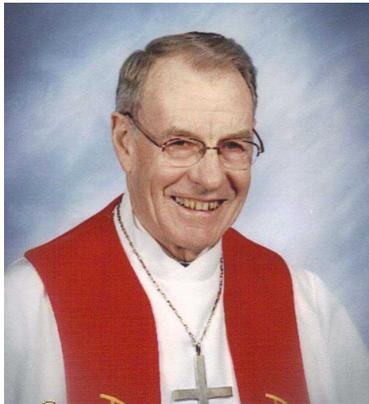
On Pentecost Sunday, May 23, we will begin our new summer worship schedule with one Sunday morning service at 10:00. We are blending the best of all our previous types of service into one service.

One reason for the change in worship scheduling and worship planning is to make us stronger and more united. This summer, our year-round membership will worship together. In September, when we change to a schedule that includes more than one worship service, people will no longer be asked to choose between different “styles” of worship, because we will no longer offer multiple “styles” of worship.

I hope that you will become as excited about these changes as I am. Meanwhile, please pray God’s blessings upon the lay leaders of our church as we work together during this time of transition. Have a great summer.

Guest Pastor Program of Living Waters

Our next scheduled guests in the Beerbower House are Pastor Dell's parents, Rev. Wendell and Ruth Shiell. Pastor Wendell Shiell will be our Guest Pastor for the month of June 2010. Prior to retirement, Pastor Shiell served for 36 years of parish ministry in Wisconsin and Minnesota. Since retirement, Pastor Shiell has served as interim pastor in Minnesota and Arizona and currently serves as part-time visitation pastor at American Lutheran Church, Sun City, Arizona.



Currently, we have Guest Pastors scheduled for all of 2010, except for the months of May, July and August. If you know of a pastor who might be interested in serving during these months, please direct them to www.Pastors2Go.com for information and an application.

LWLC Small Groups Work Together to Feed the Hungry

According to a recent census taken by Salvation Army volunteers there are 250 homeless people in North Port. The Salvation Army is beginning a program where area churches and other organizations like the VFW and Amvets are joining together to feed homeless people. They are asking that each organization commit to supplying, preparing and serving two meals per month beginning May 1, 2010. The Sunday morning 9:00 am small group, headed by Gayle Backiel decided to join this effort to feed the homeless.

We are planning to serve the meals we prepare here in Hanson Hall on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month beginning on May 6th, 2010, dinner being served from 4:00 until 6:00. This makes it possible for A Special Time to be able to use any leftovers. As a starting point, we plan to provide for 50 people to take advantage of these meals. That number will be adjusted according to actual attendance.

Rick Backiel has volunteered to prepare Spaghetti and meatballs for the first dinner scheduled at our church. We are planning a Turkey dinner for the second meal. We will have a soup and sandwich dinner sometime during the summer. We have been gathering soup in anticipation of this. Future menus will be planned as we go along.

Kris Dines Wednesday afternoon group will help in gathering the food that we serve. They also plan help the Salvation Army and the Food Pantry by having an innovative way of encouraging the congregation to get involved in food donations. Twice a month, a list of special needs will be given to the congregation. Sometimes the list will include food for feeding the homeless here at living Waters.

The Sunday 9:30 am group, headed by Daryl Mendez, has agreed to assist in the set-up and preparation of the meals. This group also pledges to assist the Dines Group in collecting food for the Food Pantry plus help in any way other groups need assistance.

We are asking for volunteers to donate food supplies, and/or help once or twice a month with set up, cooking, or clean up. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for anyone who would like to help.

The church council has enthusiastically approved this commitment to the Salvation Army and the area homeless and will back-up the small groups responsible for the project.

Gayle Backiel

Lay Ministry Coordinator



Congratulations to all the ladies who helped make the Spring Gathering such a wonderful event. I have received emails with such appreciation and thanksgiving for a very special day from the ladies of the other congregations.

Coming in May:

May 2nd –we ll be handing out blue ribbons to commemorate Rachel’s Day, to pray for and remember children who have been abused or lost their lives.

May 5th –lunch at the Family Table at 12:30 for all the ladies active in the four women’s groups; cut-ups, Christian Wellness, Dorcas Bible study & the Prayer Team.

May 23 –We will celebrate with our confirmand Amber Kayla Jones with a teen Bible to help her in her journey to learn about Jesus and His Word.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for the Fall Gathering on **November 12-14** at Lake Yale. The theme this year is “Gather in Love at the Foot of the Cross”. Applications will be available in September.

Thank you for your participation and concerns for others.



Pictured below are new members who joined Living Waters in February. Sam & Phyllis Serrian are here year round and the others, being snow-birds have become associate members and will be here only during the winter months. Please give them a warm welcome and be sure to ask them to help with your ministry so they will soon get to know you and other people in our church.



Sam Serrian in the white sweater with his wife, Phyllis Serrian is standing next to Kay Sheils and her husband Jim Sheils.

On the left is Mary Catherine Leeper standing next to her husband Ron Leeper . On the right is Sylvia Wakefield next to her husband Bill.

"A Special Time" adult respite program at Living Waters is a supervised care, structured activities program every Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. with lunch provided. It is for individuals with Alzheimer's, dementia or other cognitive disabilities. Please spread the word of this opportunity to your friends and neighbors who may be caregivers in need of some time to take care of their own needs. The note cards on sale in the lobby to benefit this program are \$5 for a set of 10 cards with different art work done by these participants. Payment can be left in the church office. Anyone who would like more information on "A Special Time" program, can call the program Director, Wilma Ellis, R.N. at (941)-268-4976 or email ast@livingwaterslutheran.com

FROM HERE TO ETERNITY

Nearly half of Christ's parables deal with money. More is said about prudent stewardship of our money and possessions than heaven, hell or prayer.

Recently our Sunday scripture readings reminded us that Jesus said things about himself that proved to be “hard sayings.” As a result of such “hard sayings,” people abandoned Jesus; they stopped following him.

Talk about money in church is a frequent reason people give for leaving one church and going in search of another. “That other church talked too much about money.” Maybe they are right. But, maybe they are wrong. Maybe it wasn’t about the money. Maybe the message was, “Give your money as a way to say ‘Thank you’ to God and walk more closely with the Lord.” But all they heard was, “Give your money.”

Check out the online calculators to see how you can receiving income and a tax benefit when you make a planned gift to the Living Waters Fund. Go to www.LivingWatersLutheran.com/PlannedGiving.php to use the Planned Giving calculators provided by the ELCA Foundation.

“The Living Waters Fund” is the endowment we are growing at Living Waters. This fund grows as people bless our church by naming us the beneficiary of wills and trusts. The purpose of The Living Waters Fund is to support ministries beyond the capacity of our regular tithes and offerings. Please prayerfully consider leaving Living Waters a tithe of 10% of your estate.





40 Days of Community a Success!

The 40 Days of community, which we completed in February was a great success. Sixty-eight people participated in this small group experience. The focus was on how we are 'better together' in reaching out to our community. We are reaching out in many ways:

The Cope Team, led by Don and Rhonda Cope, visited the shut-ins and discovered their needs and those of their neighbors. They then followed up helping the shut-ins and their friends.

Sandy Cox and Linda Lambert's small group's mission was to clothe North Port homeless children, one child at a time. They were given size information from Salvation Army and purchased clothing and shoes for two little girls ages 6 and 4.

Pastor Dell and Diane Shiell led a group who did projects around church. They also sponsored a Silent Auction and Bake Sale to benefit the Living Waters Preschool. Nearly \$1,100.00 of funds raised will be used to address the drainage problem in the playground.

Gayle Backiel's small group is committing to the Salvation Army, along with other churches and groups in the area, to feed the homeless here at Living Waters Lutheran Church, twice a month. We are asking for volunteers to donate food supplies and/or help twice a month with set up, cooking, or clean up.

Dolores Nyblad led a small group who chose to support a local organization serving youth, The Boys and Girls club. We collected \$200.00 and purchased an advertisement for Living Waters Lutheran Church in the Boys and Girls Club 2011 calendar. Hopefully this will increase visibility of our church and support a wonderful service for families in our community,

Kris Dines's small group wants to help the homeless by helping the Salvation Army and the Food Pantry. They are planning innovative ways of encouraging the congregation to get involved. Twice a month a list of special needs will be given to the congregation. Sometimes the needs will include food for feeding the homeless here at Living Waters.

The Dines group and the Backiel group will continue to meet during the summer months to study God's Word and to coordinate the mission of our groups. If you would like to get involved in either group, contact Kris at 625-8090 or Gayle at 769-0882.

Mission is only part of the purpose of our small groups. We gather to learn about God's word, his love and his purpose for our lives and to pray. We also gather to get to know one another better and to grow in friendships.

I would like to commend each of these groups for a job well done.

Gayle Backiel

Director, 40 Days of Community



On May 1, 2010, Gayle Backiel completed three years of service as our Lay Ministry Coordinator. Gayle has helped us welcome and assimilate new members into the life and mission of Living Waters. Gayle has worked to develop our lay ministry teams—recruiting, training, scheduling, encouraging volunteers. Gayle has also organized two Mission and Ministry Fairs and annually updated our Ministry Directory. Gayle has worked closely with Kris in the church office to make sure our records were up-to-date and that we stayed in touch with our church members and friends.

Gayle, "Thank you," from all of us in your church family for your faithful service and loving attention to our ministries and our members.