



The Messenger

*News about our church,
our ministries and our people*

July 2012

Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool

About This Issue...

- A church picnic in Hanson Hall
- New columns on church finances
- What does that logo mean anyway?
- What are our youth up to?

To submit articles for the next issue of *The Messenger*, please see the back page for details. Remember to send me members-only birthdays, special occasions or other notes for the *On a Personal Note* column.

Judy Johnson



Special July Services

July 8: The service will be conducted entirely by members of Living Waters. Be sure to support your fellow LW family members as they give of their talents to create a unique time of worship. We will also have our second Sunday of the month hymn sing.

July 15: Pastor Carl Kaltreider, a pastor with a Living Waters history, will be with us this day. You are sure to be inspired by his message.

Introducing The Hansens

We are pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Carl Hansen and his wife Betty Jean to Living Waters beginning mid-July. They will reside in the Beerbower House and he serve as our Guest Pastor into October while Pastor Dell and Diane are on sabbatical. The Hansens will be with us for the first time on July 22.

A native of Denver, Colorado, Pastor Hansen graduated from Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas. He completed a Masters of Divinity degree at Augustana Theological Seminary, Rock Island, Illinois and a Masters of Theology Degree at Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, New Jersey. He was ordained by the Rocky Mountain Synod, LCA in 1964 and was called to Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Camden, New Jersey.

Most of Dr. Hansen's ministry has been in Lutheran Higher Education. He was called to Bethany College in 1966 as Professor of Religion and Philosophy. He taught there for 15 years and concurrently earned his Ph.D. from the University of Colorado. He also served Bethany as Interim College Chaplain and Director of Church Relations and Continuing Education. During those years, he also served various area churches as an Interim Pastor and an Assistant Pastor and was an adjunct professor for the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago.

On sabbatical leave in 1976-1977, the Hansen family lived in Germany while he served as a Consultant in Youth and Single Soldier Ministry for the Chaplain's Office of the Seventh Army Europe in Heidelberg.

In 1982, Dr. Hansen was called to be President, Midland Lutheran College, Fremont, Nebraska where he served for 18 years, the longest term in the college's history.

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A Message From the Pastor

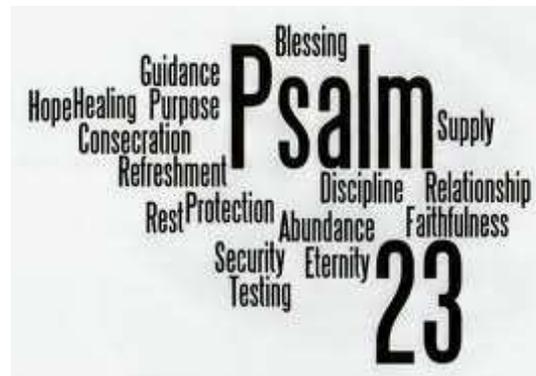
In June 2012, Diane and I celebrated our eighth anniversary as partners with you in ministry at Living Waters. In recognition of these years of service, the Congregation Board of Directors approved a two-month sabbatical to which we have added a vacation month for a total of three months.

Our three-month sabbatical (July-September) will involve some travel.

In July, Diane and I will stay in a cabin north of Bemidji, Minnesota. Our children and their families plan to join us for four days.

In August, we will be in England. We are going to do a home exchange with a pastor and his family from a town called Yeovil in southwest England. This English family will live in our house in North Port while we live in their house in Yeovil. Pastor Ian Green from Yeovil will preach at Living Waters on Sunday, August 19. I will preach at his church in Yeovil on the same day.

Finally, we will return to Florida for the month of September.



The Rev. Dr. Carl Hansen and his wife, Betty, will live in the Beerbower House during our sabbatical. Pastor Hansen will preside over Sunday Worship, lead the weekly adult Bible Study, and be available for pastoral care emergencies.

The purpose of our sabbatical is provide time for reading, thinking, journaling, visiting other churches, and getting “re-acquainted” with Diane.

During this 3-month sabbatical, Diane and I will keep you in our prayers. And we hope you will, also, keep us in your prayers.

From Diane and me: “Thank you” to Living Waters for giving us this special opportunity.

In Christ,
Pastor Dell

Hansens – continued:

Following retirement in 1999, Dr. Hansen served as Vice President for Development for Lutheran Family Services of Colorado and later as Adult Education Pastor at Bethany Lutheran Church, Cherry Hills Village, Colorado. For the past several years, he has been a supply pastor and interim pastor for several churches as well as serving as interim minister for pastors on sabbatical and for churches searching for a full time pastor.

He has also served as a Life Enrichment

Lecturer with the Celebrity and Costa Cruise lines.

Dr. Hansen and Betty were married in 1960. They have four adult children and six grandchildren. Lakewood, Colorado is their home.

Thanks to Pastor Dell for locating such an accomplished minister to be with us for the coming months. We look forward to having the Hansens with us and to learning from the vast experience Dr. Hansen’s career represents.



Save the Date November 9, 10 & 11, 2012

"In God's Hands"

Florida-Bahamas Synodical Women's Organization
Fall Gathering — Lake Yale

Only \$180 for the weekend with lodging and meals included. Or commute at a reduced price. Registration forms, workshops offered, and other information will be available soon on the website at www.flawelca.com. See the video of the 2011 Fall Gathering on the website now. Living Waters contacts: Sheri Moehling, Gayle Backiel, Pat Keller, Kris Dines.

What's in a Logo?

A personal narrative by Carol Sutton

I love the sacred dove of peace that flies about our pews every Sunday morning. It is a symbol of peace, hope, faith and serenity and seems to calm my troubled thoughts and renew my spirit. My heart is uplifted and my little problems seem to fade as I watch it.

And so, one Sunday, back in April 2004, as I was watching the dove and thinking of the various challenges our church was facing at that time, I wondered what I might do to uplift not only my heart but the hearts of my fellow church members.

It seemed to me that this sacred dove can serve as a hopeful reminder that there are miracles and new possibilities waiting for us every day. And the idea of creating a church logo came to me.

The logo for our church puts the meaning of our name into pictures. Every element of the logo has significance.

The **Circle** is a fairly universal symbol among Christians. Since it has no beginning or end, it represents the eternal and everlasting love of God.



The **Sacred Dove of Peace** brings uplifting joy to the viewer as it also brings its message of hope and love. It also represents peace because a dove brought to Noah a bough of an olive tree

as a sign that the flood waters had abated and the promise that He would never destroy the earth again. It is also a symbol of the Holy Spirit as taken from the story of Jesus' baptism, where the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove. (Matthew 3:16)

The **Water** is the symbol of our church name, Living Waters Lutheran Church. John 7:38: ". . . out of His heart shall flow rivers of living water" is our church's Bible verse. Jesus used the term "living water" here as a symbol for the Holy Spirit. He gives us the Holy Spirit to dwell in us, seal us and fill us. Jesus is the fountain where living water is found. Water also represents baptism and salvation. God commands, "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."

New for You—Financial News

By: Pastor Dell Shiell and Scott Hanson

This month, we are introducing two new columns about Living Waters church finances. Each month, we will recap important financial news and opportunities for the congregation.

As we introduce these two new sections of our newsletter, once again, we want to thank everyone for your outstanding participation in our Forward in Faith 2012 effort. With these funds (more than \$31,000), we replaced the floors in the sanctuary and the social hall.

Forward in Giving is the name of the column about Living Waters General Fund income and expenses. These funds are used for our Annual Operating Budget. The General Fund receives gifts of cash and capital assets.

"Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each person should give what they have decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9: 6,7.

Living Legacies is the name of our column about The Living Waters Fund (Endowment Fund) and the Living Waters Memorial Fund.

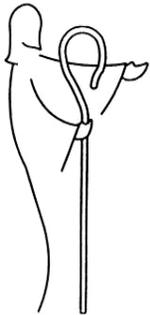
The Living Waters Fund (Endowment Fund) receives gifts of capital assets and estate assets. These gifts are invested and held in perpetuity with annual distributions for items *not included* in the Operating Budget and supported by the General Fund of the church.

The Memorial Fund receives gifts of cash. Usually, these gifts are used within 12 months of the contribution. Typically, gifts given to this fund are given in memory or in honor of someone. The church does its best to consult with the donor or relevant family member prior to using these gifts.

Plant your seeds now and trust in the Lord that these seeds will bear fruit even when you are gone.

If you have questions about any financial information, please contact Scott Hanson, Director of Income, at scotthia@cheqnet.net.

Healing Service Continues



The next Healing Service, led by Pastor Hanson, will be held Wednesday, August 15 at 11:00. The July service is cancelled since Pastor Dell will be gone and Pastor Hanson will not yet have arrived.

Held on the third Wednesday of the month in the Sanctuary, the Healing Service is for those who would like special prayers, communion, and a time of healing for body, soul or spirit.

Food for Thought...

"I like to give willingly; when I give willingly, I enjoy it so much I give again."

- Anonymous -

Friends In Service Here (FISH), a community organization that helps people get to local doctor appointments and other necessary places, is in need of drivers. Please contact Adeline Banks for further information—941-244-7870.

Summer Church Picnic/Concert July 29



Living Waters is holding a Church Picnic this summer with a bit of a twist.

First: The picnic will be in Hanson Hall because, well, it's just too hot (and maybe rainy?) outside in Florida in July.

Second: We will be treated to a free concert by Fletcher Music. Fletcher will bring an instrument and entertain us with a wide variety of music including Broadway hits, big band, country classics, dance music, polka favorites, and patriotic selections. They will provide sing-along booklets, award free CD recordings to a few lucky people, and maybe even get you dancing. You can also enter a drawing for a free instrument Fletcher is giving away later in the season.

Third: This event will be a "Welcome to Living Waters" gathering for our guest pastor Dr. Hansen and his wife Betty.

Fourth: Each family/individual will bring their own picnic dinner complete with food, plates, cups, drinks and tableware. You may want to gather a group of friends (non-members are certainly welcome), or your small group and reserve a table. A section on the reservation sheet (see Picnic Details box in next column) will be for people who are alone and want to join with others.

Picnic Details

Date: Sunday, July 29

Time: 4:00—6:00pm

Place: Hanson Hall

Reservations: Look for a sign-up sheet on the narthex table starting July 8.

Watch for additional details in upcoming bulletins.



Connect with LW on Facebook

[Facebook.LivingWatersLutheran.com](https://www.facebook.com/LivingWatersLutheran.com)

Use this address to access our church's Facebook page. Do not include www in the address.

Youth Travel To Orlando and More

In July, several of our youth will be taking a trip to Orlando to visit Holy Land, a Bible-based theme park. They will experience plays about the birth of Christ to taking Communion with the program of the Last Supper.

This should be a great outing. Be sure to watch the bulletin board in Hanson Hall for pictures.

The week after the Holy Land experience is the **Youth Lock In** scheduled for **August 10**. This is sure to be a great event for all youth.

Outdoor and indoor games are being planned, as well as a 3am Bible lesson or skit put on by kids. Save that date; all kids grades 1 through 11 are invited.

Personal invitations to all youth will soon be in the mail. Bring a friend and be ready to have a fun filled day and night! Any questions, contact Patty Pauley at queenmom6@verizon.net or Kari Reece at mkhn98@yahoo.com or reach them by phone at 941-429-2303.

On a personal note...

From Pamela Johnson... Thanks to everyone who prayed for our family during the loss of my brother, Monte Hurst. We ask your continued prayers for my husband's brother who is gravely ill.

In Sympathy...

The Reverend Edward Reeves, who served as our first called pastor from 1977—1984, passed on to glory on June 24, 2012.

Pastor Reeves was 96 and is survived by his wife, Arline. Pastor Ed and Arline have remained residents of North Port since he retired. Expressions of sympathy may be sent to:

Arline Reeves
6373 Matero Ct.
North Port, FL 34287-2110

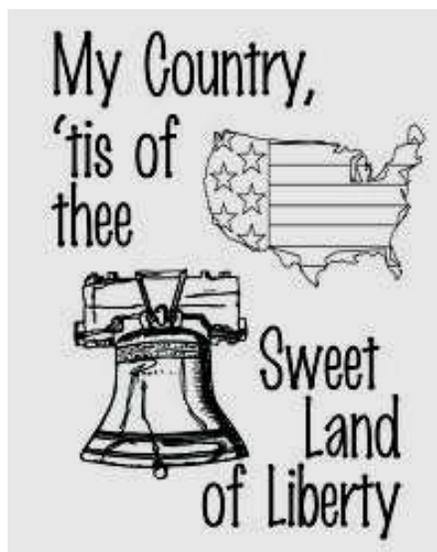
Happy Birthday:

July 11—Pastor Dell
July 30—Barbara Mortensen

Prayer Shawl Ministry

In addition to knitting and crocheting prayer shawls, we are also making "prayer squares" or pocket prayer cloths. These cloths are approx. 4-5 inches square and have the detail of a cross.

Come join us and learn how easy they are to crochet. We also have patterns for knitting. Thanks for all of your support to this important ministry.



The Messenger is published monthly by Living Waters Lutheran Church and is distributed the first Sunday of each month. Copies are also available at: www.livingwaterslutheran.com and via email distribution.

To have information included in the newsletter, please write your content and send it to Judy Johnson: j3john@comcast.net. Articles must be submitted by the 21st of each month for publication the following month and may be edited. Pictures are not printed.

Physical Address

Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool
12475 Chancellor Blvd.
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Mailing Address

PO Box 8064
North Port, FL 34290

941-625-8090

www.livingwaterslutheran.com

Summer Office Hours: May 1- August 15
9:00 am—Noon, Monday thru Thursday.

If you have questions about our church, its ministries or about becoming a member, please contact Pastor Dell Shiell via email at: pastor@livingwaterslutheran.com