



# The St. John's Messenger

Monthly Newsletter

St. John's Lutheran Church & School

221 Walnut St. S.E.

Sleepy Eye, MN 56085

Church 794-6202 School 794-6200 Pastor 794-4500

www.stjohnsse.com



MARCH 2009

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## What do You Need?

Do you have needs? Don't we all? Psychologists sometimes use a drawing of a pyramid to describe all the needs we have. (I'm referring to the hierarchy of needs developed by Abraham Maslow.) They place the most basic needs at the bottom of the pyramid – things like food, water, and air. Above that they put safety, security, and health. The pyramid continues to build with needs that don't seem as vital near the top. Eventually you get to the need for “self-actualization” . . . and perhaps the need for a double hot fudge sundae. The point of the pyramid is that you will try to fill the most basic needs first. For example, your safety is a more basic need than ice cream so if you are in a burning building you probably are not going to be thinking “I would really like a hot fudge sundae about now!”

What is your most basic need? We all need food, water and shelter, but there is a need even more basic than those – we need a good relationship with God. What good is anything else if we do not enjoy eternity with our creator? It doesn't matter how many hot fudge sundaes you might enjoy in your life (or whatever other pleasures you might enjoy). What do they amount to if you spend an eternity of suffering because of your broken relationship with God?

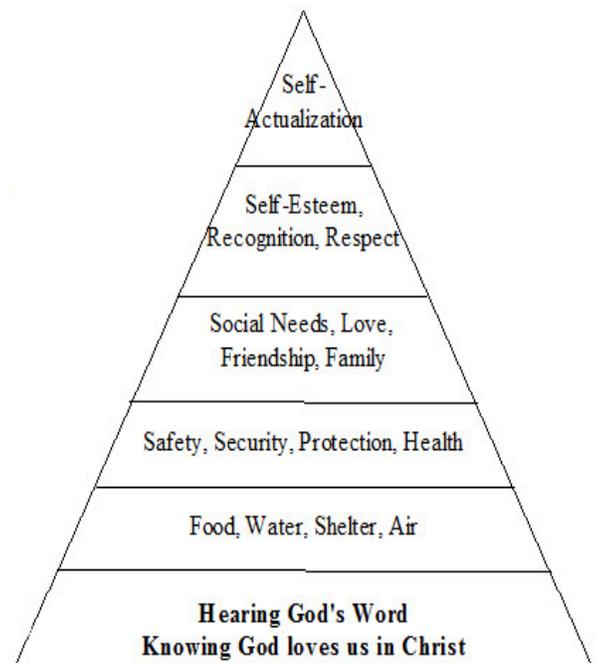
The problem is that we mess up that relationship every time we disobey one of his commands. It happens daily! That is why our most basic need is to hear God tell us that he has repaired our relationship with him. Our greatest joy is hearing our Creator say, “I love you and I forgive you in Jesus Christ.”

To hear that Jesus took away our sin when he died on the cross is our most basic need. It is our only need. Do you remember what Jesus told Martha about listening to God's Word? It is the **“one thing needed.”**

Do we think of God's Word as more important than food, water, or even air? I pray that you will never be forced to choose between God's Word and your next breath, but some have made that choice. (Christians in the early church were sometimes told they must worship Caesar or be executed. Many literally forfeited their “next breath” to hold on to God's Word.) As we consider all the things in our life that we think we “need”, do we treat God's Word as that most basic of needs? In fact, our only need? It is difficult, isn't it.

If you confess, as do I, that you have not treated God's Word as the “one thing needed”, then let me share with you again that most basic of human needs - “As a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Through Christ, you have a good and right relationship with your creator.

In the name of our Savior,  
Pastor Draper



The top five sections of the pyramid show Maslow's hierarchy of needs. The bottom section is all Jesus says we truly need.

**St. John's Mission statement:** *The continuing purpose of this congregation is to serve all people in God's world with the gospel of Jesus Christ on the basis of the Holy Scriptures.*

## Church Council Minutes – February 10, 2009

Present: Leo Derkowski, Paul Maasz, Todd Marotz, Dennis Dittbenner, Kurk Kramer, Van Tallman and Pastor Draper.

Pastor Draper opened the meeting with devotion and a prayer.

### Minutes

Todd Marotz /Leo Derkowski made a motion to accept the minutes of the October 2008 meeting. Motion carried.

### Pastor's Report

A written report on statistics and activities was submitted.

### Treasurer's Report

Leo Derkowski/Todd Marotz made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried. A discussion was held concerning covering a revenue shortfall and acquiring the funds necessary to meet payroll obligations. One solution is to tap into our line of credit with Americana Bank. The consensus is that we are reluctant to incur debt at this time. We will wait until the end of the month and reassess our financial position.

### President's Report

No report

### Board of Elders

Leo Derkowski/Todd Marotz made a motion to transfer the membership of Layne and Sara Evers and family to St. Paul's in New Ulm. Motion carried.

### Principal & Board of Education

A formal written report was submitted by Kurk Kramer.

Todd Marotz/Leo Derkowski made a motion to hold a special voters' meeting on March 15, 2009 to discuss the middle grade teacher vacancy in the next school year. Motion carried.

MVL will host an Internet safety presentation for parents and students on March 8 and 9, 2009. Parents are encouraged to attend.

The Board of Education recommends that teachers' salaries and benefits be reviewed and that base salaries need to be consistent with Synod guidelines.

### Worship Committee

No report 8

### Maintenance Committee

Some repairs are needed in the school. Kurk Kramer will provide a list to the Maintenance Committee.

### Outreach

The Hispanic Outreach request has been submitted to

Synod. Two other churches in addition to St. John's have agreed to participate.

### Stewardship

Commitment cards and Thrivent sign up forms will be provided in the coming month.

### Endowment and Trust Fund Committee

No report.

### MVL/WELS

MVL – no report. Leo Derkowski/Todd Marotz made a motion to commit \$15,000 in the next budget for MVL support. Motion carried.

WELS – no report

### Old Business

None

### New Business

Pastor Draper will look into upgrading/replacing our antiquated phone system. Memorial funds may be used to offset the cost.

Pam Dittbenner requested permission to plan a multi-church picnic with Morgan and Fairfax churches. Permission granted. No motion required.

Leo Derkowski/Van Tallman made a motion to allocate Thrivent funding as follows:

\$200 – Youth Lenten Suppers

\$200 – Ladies Pie Stand (split between Ladies Aid and Youth Group)

\$520 – Hog roast

\$100 – Ladies December Bake Sale

Motion carried.

Leo Derkowski/Todd Marotz made the following motion: "As of February 10, 2009, be it resolved under provisions of section 107 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, the Called Worker listed below may have a portion of his compensation designated as a parsonage allowance. The amount indicated shall be the designated parsonage allowance for the year 2009: Principal Kurk Kramer in the amount of \$18,000." Motion carried.

Next council meeting: 7:30 March 10, 2009

Todd Marotz/Van Tallman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Meeting closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted  
Leo Derkowski, Secretary

## Hosanna Circle

Hosanna Circle had their meeting on February 12th. Pastor Draper led us in devotion about Job and how even after all his hardships, his faith in the Lord remained strong. Let us keep Job in mind when our own hardships seem to be more than we can handle. We can take all our troubles and lay them at the feet of Christ and he will take care of us.

This year will prove to be a very busy one for Hosanna Circle and we look forward to serving the Lord with gladness. Hosanna Circle will be cooking two of the Lenten Suppers, one on Ash Wednesday and the other one on March 25th.

On Tuesday, May 6th, all of St. John's ladies are invited to attend a Salad Luncheon at 6:00 p.m. at St John's in Fairfax. The Fairfax women will provide the luncheon and the program is "Period Dressing" by Barb Schmidt. If you are interested in attending, please contact one of the Hosanna Circle members, as we will be forming a car pool. There will be more information to come as the event gets closer.

We are in the early stages of planning another Growing in Christ planting event. Last year was an enjoyable afternoon planting wonderful flowerpots we could take home to beautify our homes and since some of us have no talent when it comes to growing things, Lynn Hacker gave us many tips on how to plant, what to plant and how to keep them healthy. Even the pot I put together did very well all summer!



### Annual Picnic

Sunday, June 28th St John's will be hosting a Multi-Congregational Church Picnic at Fort Ridgley. We will have a 10:30 a.m. Worship Service with a Potluck meal to follow. There will be games planned and many other activities available for your enjoyment. If you are interested in helping plan

some of the activities, contact any Hosanna Circle member. We are extending an invitation to three of the area Wels congregations. They are Fairfax, Wellington and Morgan. There will also be the Saturday night Worship Service at the church for those who would choose to attend. Camping is available for those inclined to do so. It is advised that you contact the Park to reserve a campsite. The on-line reservation Web site is and the reservation phone number is 1-866-857-2757. There will be a \$3 day pass required if you do not have a park sticker. Please mark your calendars for this event; it will

be a great way to enjoy a day the Lord has made.



Hosanna Circle is planning another Advent by Candlelight on December 6th. There will more information to follow later.

Again mark your calendars; this is an event you will not want to miss. We continue working on the new banners for the church.

If you are interested in helping out, please come to our next meeting on March 5th at 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Be strong in the Lord, he is with us always.

Your sisters in Christ,  
Pam Dittbenner and Connie Trebesch.

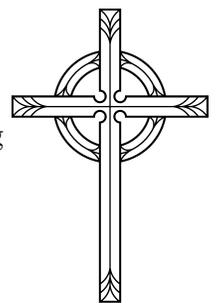
## Ladies Aid

The Ladies Aid met on Wednesday, February 4, at 2PM. Our devotion led by Pastor Draper was on Job 27:1-6 and from 1 John 1 beginning with verse 8.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to pay the \$50.00 membership dues for the LWMS. The annual National Convention will be held June 25-28 in Denver Colorado.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$100.00 to the Church Scholarship Fund. A motion was made, seconded and passed to give \$20.00 in scrip to the MVL after Prom Party. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to purchase 2 long handled serving spoons to be used for church functions.

The candlesticks from the altar have been refinished, and been returned. The Cross and bookstand will also be refinished. The cost of the refinishing is being paid for by memorials given for this purpose.



Block 3 is up to serve.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 4th at 2PM. Come join us!

Marilyn Deibele  
Secretary

**PRINCIPAL'S ARTICLE  
ST. JOHN'S LES**

**“March Madness”**

**“madness” defined as - a being crazy; insane condition; loss of one's mind**

OK, OK, that might be putting it a little on the extreme side, but that is somewhat of a description of the whirlwind of events that are taking place here at St. John's LES this month. This first week of March is *Lutheran Schools Week*. Our school along with twelve other Lutheran elementary schools in the area, our area Lutheran high school, Minnesota Valley Lutheran, and Martin Luther College, all are participating in different events and activities this week. Here is a brief description of some of the events. Sunday is the final day of the grade school basketball tournament at the college. Monday is parents day with a musical presentation by the students entitled, “*The*



*Granny Awards*” followed by a noon meal for all of the students and parents. Tuesday is a repeat of Monday, with the exception it is for the grandparents of all the students. Wednesday the students will all be visiting the college and spending time with the college students in different classrooms doing hands on activities. Thursday is game day for all of the students. They will be in mixed grade groups contests participating for prizes. Friday the students in grades 6-8 will be bowling with their parents. Sunday night is an Internet safety presentation for all parents at MVL, and on Monday the upper grade students will be a part of the Internet safety presentation given for thirteen different Lutheran elementary schools at MVL.



During the first two weeks of the month, St. John's will also have college students from MLC in each classroom doing their EFE (Early Field Experiences) work for college courses they are taking. This gives the college students a chance to start doing some classroom activities with students as they prepare for classrooms of their own.

The end of the third quarter is on the 20<sup>th</sup>, and report cards will be sent home on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Students in grades 6+7 will have an opportunity to participate in the solo and ensemble contest at MVL on the 21<sup>st</sup> of the month. Plans are being made for this month's PreK and Kindergarten roundups.

Parent/Teacher conferences, by appointment, for the third quarter are also scheduled for later in the month. There is a principal's retreat for the Lutheran elementary schools in Minnesota being planned for the last weekend of March. Final plans are yet to be completed for this opportunity for administrators from around the state to get together to share their expertise and ideas. The students of St. John's will also begin their final mission project for the school year which is the Lutheran Home in Belle Plaine.

Is it “madness”? Maybe, you can decide for yourself, but at any rate, there are lots of activities to be sure! And to think, in a couple more months it will all be put to rest for another school year. Then, the “madness” of planning and preparing for the next year of classes begins all over again.

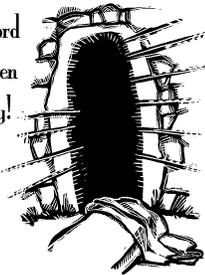
***To love what you do and feel that it matters- how could anything be more fun?***

## Preschool and Kindergarten

Miss Zastrow

“The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.”—Mark 10:45 This is a memory treasure that certainly could serve as the theme of our Bible stories for the month of March. This month, the preschool and kindergarten students will be hearing all about Jesus walk to the cross, death on the cross, and

Christ  
the Lord  
Is Risen  
Today!



resurrection. I expect it to be a very humbling experience for me as I tell these little ones, many of whom have never heard the story in its entirety, about what their Savior did for them. I will again witness the incredible faith of a child.

The Preschoolers are learning all about animals this month. Our letter people, Ms. S, Mr. R, and Mr. Z are teaching us all about animals at home, animals on the farm, and animals at the zoo. Kindergarten is also learning all about animals during the month of March and into April. It is amazing to discover all of the different ways animals were made by our awesome Creator, in order that they are able to live and thrive in each of their habitats. We will also have a lot going on at school for Lutheran School week and Preschool and Kindergarten Open House days coming up. God’s blessings on your month!

afternoons will round out the fun later in the week.

Math will keep us busy this month. Grade One will learn about congruent shapes, trading dimes for pennies, telling time to the half hour, and fourths and halves. Grade Two will learn about subtraction fact families, telling time to 5 minute intervals, estimation, writing numbers in expanded form, and measurement of height and inches.

In our Science unit we will build a rainforest in our classroom. This is an exciting unit as we learn about animals and different layers of our world's disappearing Rainfoests.

One morning in March we will join other first graders from other WELS area schools at MVL. The children will tour the school, visit some classes, and join in some fun activities with MVL students. They will learn how MVL is a wonderful place to continue their Christian education into their high school years.

As the days get longer and move toward Spring, we are reminded of God's constant love and care for us through every season!



## Grades 1-2

Mrs. Halvorson

During Lent, we turn our thoughts to our Savior’s great love for us through his suffering and death. We will hear devotions with “Resurrection Eggs.” Each of the twelve eggs contains a symbol of Jesus’ suffering and death and helps us better understand our Lord’s great sacrifice for us.

This month promises to be a busy and exciting one in our classroom and school. “Lutheran Schools Week” will be celebrated by our area WELS Lutheran schools from March 1-7. We will celebrate at St. John’s with Parents’ and Grandparents’ Days complete with entertainment by the children. Game and Movie

## Newsletter Deadline Is March 16th



**Grades 3-5**  
*Mrs. Rosenow*

**Written by "6th – 8th  
Grade Students"**

Our class has been working hard at keeping the winter doldrums out and away. Granted we were greatly relieved when we could *finally* go outside for recess once again after being inside for so long, but even while we were in the classroom for recess we still had many interesting things to do. Some people chose to use the time as extra study time and have no homework and "free" time when most other students were working on homework later in the day. Here are some of the things we have been looking at in the past month.

In Christ-Light we are having continual excellent discussion about how the stories we learn about Christ's life have importance in our lives now. They always come up with wonderful witnessing opportunities. We have also been learning some wonderful hymns including "Love in Christ is Strong and Living" to go with Valentine's Day.



We have just finished up two books about "old days." One Literature group finished Homer Price and enjoyed the humor of finding a toaster "new-fangled." The other Literature group finished Freedom Crossing and discovered some new facts about the Underground Railroad and slavery. We are now working on mini-plays and honing our reading aloud with expression.

Fourth and Fifth grade will always remember the order of size in the metric system by a wonderful mnemonic device! Ask them about it sometime! Since we don't really use "mnemonic" when we are talking about it in the classroom you might want to remind them that "Kathy" stands for "kilo."

Third and Fourth grade spent a long time studying and now can proudly tell you about the 44 Presidents of the United States. We used a great little book that had pictures and a story to remember the order.

Science class has now started our unit on the Solar System. We were generally shocked when we compared the sun and the earth in size to see how small the earth really is. The awe continued when we went outside to see how big the solar system was and covered the distance of the entire block. Amazing how God made all the great expanse and yet we are His crowning creatures!

**Bible History Grades 6-8**

We are learning about Solomon. He built a very expensive temple. We also learned about David and Samuel. David wanted to build the temple but God wouldn't let him. Solomon had the choice of anything he wanted and he chose wisdom. God gave him wealth and much more. God was very pleased with him.

**Hymnology Grades 6-8**

On February 6, we recited hymn 573, Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying. On February 13, we recited hymn 304, Jesus Sinners Does Receive. This week we are assigned to recite hymn 579, Lift High the Cross.



**Spelling Grade 6**

In 6th grade spelling we have learned about vowels in unstressed Syllables, vowels in final syllables, vowel sounds with r and suffixes -ation, -ion, -tion and next we are going to learn about words form many cultures. With the suffixes -ation, -ion, -tion we had to remember to drop e or the y and put on the ending.

**Spelling Grade 7**

We just started suffixes, -ary, -ery, -ory, latin roots part one, people suffixes, and easily confused words. Our next lesson will be "Including all the letters", which means the words might have more letters than you expect.

**Spelling Grade 8**

Last week in spelling 8th grade learned about suffixes. Some examples are flammable, reference, and convenience. This week in spelling, we learned about words that could be used as one word and two words. Some examples are kind of, already, and all together. Next week we are learning about homophones. Some examples are suite, sweet, and bizarre, bazaar.

### **World History Grades 5-6**

In World History we learned about Ancient Greece and now we are learning about The Greek World. Did you know the Ancient Greeks had 14 gods? The Greek world had 2 main cities- Athens and Sparta. The Athenians focused on education but the Spartans focused on physical education.

### **Geography Grade 7**

We are learning about Africa south of the Sahara. We have learned about its climate, vegetation, population, history, government, and cultures. One-third of Africans are Christian. Most of them have extended families.

### **American History Grades 7-8**

Recently in American History we finished our study on WW2. To help us review we are working on a picture report and watching multiple videos. Paging forward we will be looking of how the postwar period brought prosperity in the United States and the beginning of the Cold War.

### **Math Grade 6**

In arithmetic we are learning with units of measure and also learning writing fractions as percents, ratio, order of operations, and changing percents to decimals. Ratio are to describe a relationships between numbers. Changing percents to decimals is like 269% to a decimal is 2.69 and 8% to .08.

### **Math Grade 7**

We are now studying graphs and number lines. We have also recently learned circumference and area of a circle, complex fractions, and percents.

### **Math Grade 8**

In math we have working a lot with positive and negative integer figuring. When we add we put parentheses around each one and insert addition signs in between each number. We just worked with opposites and we have also worked multiplying and dividing positives and negatives.

### **English Grades 6-8**

First we learned about personal pronouns and

we had to identify if they were subjects or objects. Then we practiced finding antecedents and finding the pronoun. Now we are reviewing those things, reflexive, and intensive, interrogative, and demonstrative pronouns. We are finding the pronouns and then labeling them as reflexive, intensive, interrogative, or demonstrative.

### **Art Grades 6-8**

Our most recent project in art has been making a poster showing the habitats of birds. Showing the roadsides are very important to their habitat Our last project was a parallel of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, in the shape of a shield. The project before that was making silhouette of a city with newspaper. Then we chalked it in accordance to which part of the city it was.

### **Current Events Grades 6-8**

We just finished a poster about cocaine and amphetamines. You can see them in the church basement. Currently we are looking at meth and hallucinogens. Next we are looking at narcotics and heroin.

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## **Newsletter Reminder**

**This month's deadline for  
all newsletter articles is**

**March 16.**

**Thank you!**



**MARCH**



# Memorials



*In Memory of Velma Honeman*  
Organ Fund

Arnie & Arlene Hinderman – \$5.00  
Harold & Bev Bartz – \$20.00  
Greg & Mary Bartz – \$20.00  
Armin & Leona Lendt – \$10.00

*In Memory of Elmer Lehnert*

St. John's School  
Irene Schwartz – \$5.00  
Al & Hazel Maasz – \$10.00  
Family & Friends – \$10.00

Organ Fund

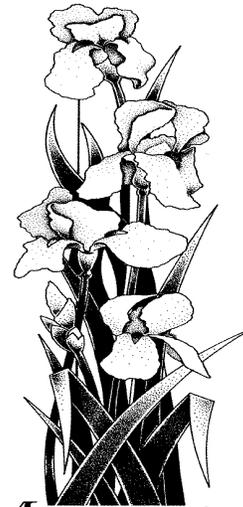
Harold & Bev Bartz – \$20.00  
Vern & Betty Hinrichs – \$20.00  
Armin & June Grundmeyer – \$10.00  
Wally & Mary Ann Trebesch – \$10.00  
Delbert & Eunice Sandhoefner – \$20.00

St. John's

Arleen Seifert – \$5.00  
Steve & Joleen Jensen – \$20.00  
Pastor & Sallie Draper – \$10.00  
Mary Siegler – \$50.00

Armin & Leona Lendt – \$5.00  
Ken & Penny Mathiowetz – \$10.00  
Steve & Judy Schotzko – \$10.00  
Lois Graff – \$10.00  
Leo & Marcia Derkowski – \$10.00  
Greg & Mary Bartz – \$25.00  
Bernice Eckstein – \$10.00  
Betty Schmid – \$20.00  
Family & Friends – \$342.00

*In Celebration of*  
Jean Schulz' 77th Birthday – \$77.00



## My Plan for Giving

For congregation use  
from 7/1/2009 - 6/30/2010

I in thankful recognition . . .

- † that all I am and possess comes from God,
- † in my desire to glorify God, and
- † with a desire to support the Lord's work at St. John's and in the Synod . . .

I willingly and joyfully make this plan for giving for the coming year.

**My annual offering to my congregation will be**

Home Offerings \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Synod \$ \_\_\_\_\_ MVL \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to the back of the church or church office by April 12th. Thank you.



### **Annual LWMS Offering Day is Sunday March 15th at St. John's**

Each of you will have the opportunity to help support the work of the LWMS by placing a contribution in our special door offering to be held March 15 after both services. This offering is sent to our Circuit, where a portion is used to support local mission endeavors and a greater portion is also sent in to the national office to support home and world missions. This is a wonderful opportunity to bond together with other WELS members around the world in combined support of missions. It is especially appreciated during the current economic period. If you desire to make your contribution by check, please make it out to St. John's and write LWMS on the memo line. (We will send in one check instead of many.) It is important that the contribution goes into the special door collection box instead of the standard collection basket.

Your contribution may help people from many walks of life hear the saving gospel. Thanks for your support!

Our congregation is a part of the Minnesota Valley Circuit of the Lutheran Women's Missionary Society. The annual spring rally is quickly approaching, and you are all invited!

**What:** Spring Rally of the Minn. Valley Circuit of the LWMS

**When:** Saturday, April 25th, 2009. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

**Where:** Friedens Ev. Lutheran Church, New Prague

**Theme:** Sisters by Grace

**Speaker of the Day:** Michelle Markgraf

**Why:** To learn of new information about missions at home and abroad, discover ways to support those missions, and share in Christian fellowship.

Watch next month's newsletter for carpooling information.

Annual Convention:

The LWMS Annual Convention will be held in Denver June 25-28, 2009. This year's theme is "Missions with an Altitude". To find convention information and registration forms, please go to [www.lwms.org](#) or see the convention newsletter on our basement bulletin board.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Windschitl, Reporter

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## **MLC Auxiliary**

The MLC Auxiliary is pleased to announce this year's spring rally. Information is as follows:

**What:** MLC Auxiliary Spring Rally

**When:** Tuesday, April 21 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.\*

**Where:** St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, New Ulm

\*Note: this is a date change from a previously announced date!

Anyone that wishes to learn more about what's new on campus, support the students of the college and also enjoy some time with others who share the same interest, please come to the rally! Our congregation has benefited so much from the students at the college, as well as the professors, use of equipment, nearby facilities, plays, athletic events etc. Supporting the projects of the MLC Auxiliary is one way for each of us to give back. We will be selecting projects to go on the ballot for 2009-2010 at this rally. These future pastors and teachers are very grateful for our help

If you ever wish to become more involved in the Auxiliary, have questions about it, or desire to contribute to the Auxiliary's projects, please contact me and I will be happy to assist where possible. And, don't forget to check out the MLC web site when you have time: You can find lots of great information there. To connect to the Auxiliary link, just type 'auxiliary' into the search box.

*Paula Windschitl*  
*MLC Auxiliary 1st VP*

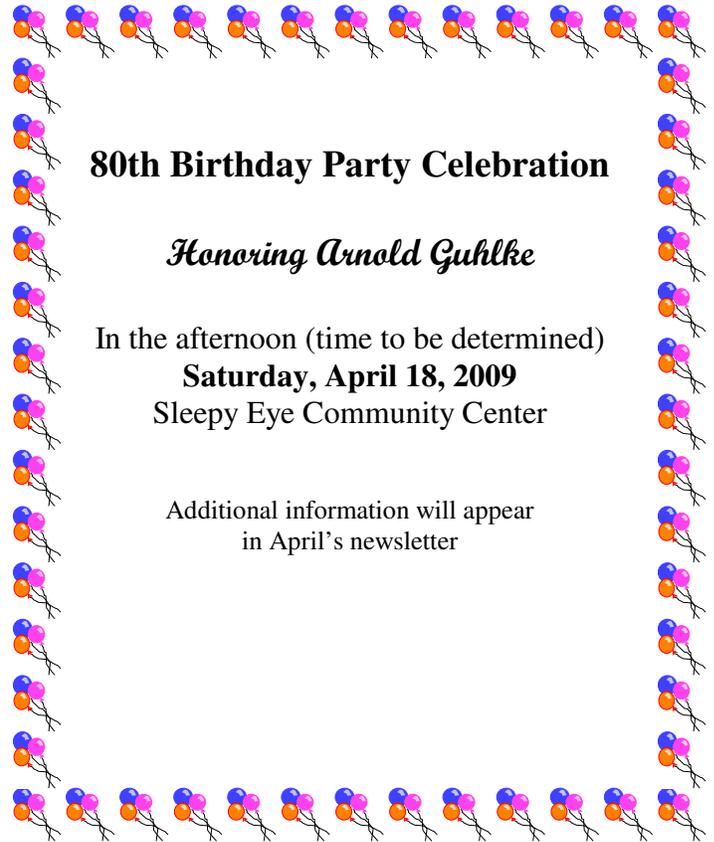


## Open House Bridal Shower

For  
*Amanda Peterson*  
Bride-To-Be  
*Of Paul Ibberson*  
(son of Julie Ibberson)

(time to be determined)  
**Saturday, April 18, 2009**  
Sleepy Eye Community Center

Additional information will appear  
in April's newsletter



## 80th Birthday Party Celebration

*Honoring Arnold Guhlke*

In the afternoon (time to be determined)  
**Saturday, April 18, 2009**  
Sleepy Eye Community Center

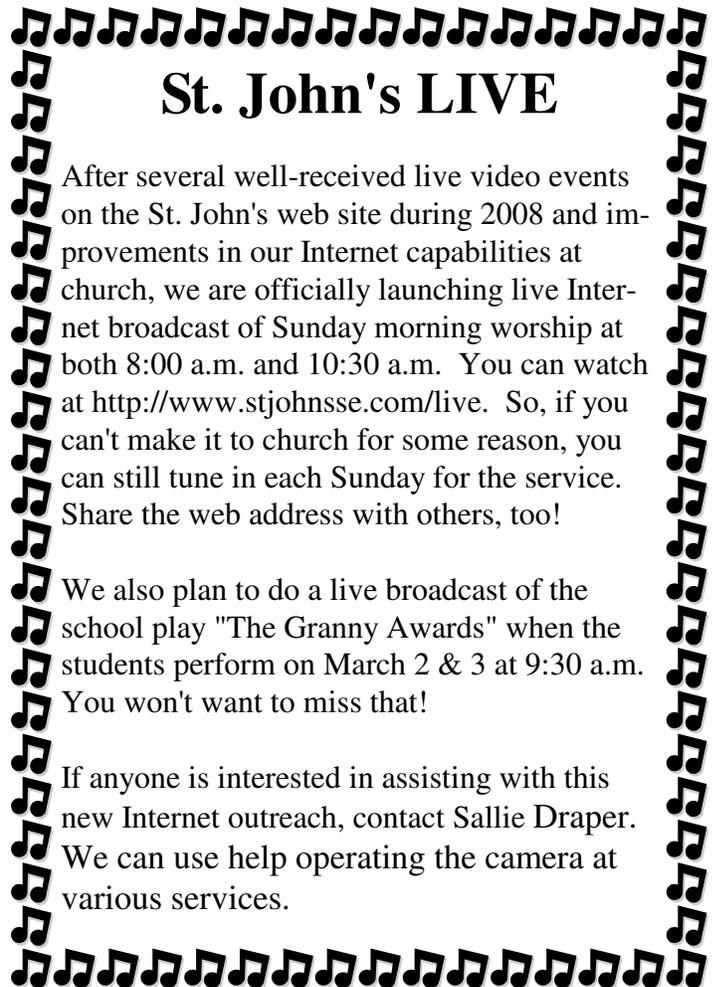
Additional information will appear  
in April's newsletter

## Ladies' Craft Day

Do you have a craft project, scrapbook, or quilt just waiting to be finished?

Please join us for "Ladies' Craft Day" Saturday, March 14th from 9:30am-3:30pm in the church basement. Bring your choice of craft (stamping, scrapbooking, knitting, sorting photos, etc.) or plan on working on a group project we'll have set out, probably cutting labels or something for church. We will have a large table set up just for you to spread your work out on.

Soup, beverages, and plates will be provided, plan to bring a dish or snack to share. This is a come and go event so please plan to attend for whatever amount of time you have. It will be fun to have some time to visit and have a large space to work on some projects. Please RSVP to Amber Brown 359-3178, scharral@hotmail.com.



## St. John's LIVE

After several well-received live video events on the St. John's web site during 2008 and improvements in our Internet capabilities at church, we are officially launching live Internet broadcast of Sunday morning worship at both 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. You can watch at <http://www.stjohnsse.com/live>. So, if you can't make it to church for some reason, you can still tune in each Sunday for the service. Share the web address with others, too!

We also plan to do a live broadcast of the school play "The Granny Awards" when the students perform on March 2 & 3 at 9:30 a.m. You won't want to miss that!

If anyone is interested in assisting with this new Internet outreach, contact Sallie Draper. We can use help operating the camera at various services.

# DAN HACKER ALS BENEFIT

A benefit will be held to help our St. John's member, Dan Hacker. Dan was diagnosed with ALS, more commonly known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. The goal of this event is to raise \$22,000 to purchase a handicap accessible van and to make his bathroom handicap accessible.

The Dan Hacker Benefit will be held Saturday, April 4th at the Springfield Community Center. The benefit will begin at 4pm with the pork meal served from 5pm-7pm at a cost of \$8 per person. The event will feature Entertainment, a Bake/Craft Sale and Silent Auction.

Dan was diagnosed with ALS in 2007. Dan's ALS has started in the lower part of his body making it difficult to move. ALS is a neuro-muscular disease that gradually paralyzes its victims, robbing them of movement, speech, and swallowing, but leaving their mental and sensory functions intact. It is usually fatal less than five years after diagnosis. An average of two Minnesotans die per week from ALS; about a hundred new cases are diagnosed each year. Dan is as active as can be. His motto is "every day is a blessing."

You can participate in the Dan Hacker Benefit in several ways:

- 1. Donate Silent Auction Items**
- 2. Make a cash contribution.**

No contribution is too small. All proceeds will be applied to the van or bathroom.

Cash or check donations can be made payable to:

Dan Hacker Benefit at United Prairie Bank  
200 N Broadway  
New Ulm, MN 56073

or

United Prairie Bank  
2 South Marshall  
Springfield, MN 56087

- 3. Sign up to help work at this event and /or donate Craft/Bake Sale items.** Look for sign-up sheets in the back of church early in March.
- 4. Keep Dan in your thoughts and prayers as he continues his fight with ALS.**

If you have any questions or wish to help, you may also contact:

Heather Hacker Hammer  
heather@a2zinnia.com  
651-214-8534

Laurie Halvorson  
ljhalvorson@hotmail.com  
507-276-2757

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this request to help our brother in Christ.

# LWMS Befriend a Mission Update

Every two years, our congregation receives new assignments for supporting mission congregations at home and throughout the world. Today I am sharing one of the four assignments with you. Watch for three more updates in upcoming newsletters. I have chosen to highlight this one first as they have a specific need that should be addressed quite soon if anyone wants to help out. Read on for more information.

One of the 'Befriend A Mission' assignments our church received for 2009-2010 is that of Native American Evangelist Gary Lupe. Lupe works with Pastor Dan Rautenberg in Whiteriver, AZ. The mission in Whiteriver is experiencing growth. Currently they have over 10 confirmation students and 15 Bible class students.

**Special Prayer Requests:** Pray that the members remain true to God's Word and refrain from mixing traditional religion with God's Word. Pray for the Women's Group in Cibique. Pray that the members remain faithful to Christ.

**Specific Projects:** They ran out of Sunday School materials and would like to purchase more. They would also like materials for the teenage group which would help them learn the stories about Sampson, Samuel, King David, etc. There were many first time attendees from their women's group at the 2008 LWMS Convention and they returned home telling about all they had learned. Several would like to attend the 2009 LWMS Convention in June. Monetary help for the convention registrations, etc. would be helpful. If anyone has interest in contributing, please contact Paula Windschitl at 794-2310. The Minnesota Valley Circuit of the LWMS would gather funds as one and submit them. The deadline for this collection will be determined at our next reporter's meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Birthday</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Gary	April 24	
Berlita (wife)	August 17	
Vania	4/24/1984	In military
Olivia	8/24/86	
Faith	10/27/1989	
Quintina	7/16/2001	Last name: Adey (adopted daughter)

**Contact information:**

Gary & Berlita Lupe  
PO Box 1449  
Whiteriver, AZ 85941-1449  
Phone: 928-338-6169  
E-mail: [openbible@frontiernet.net](mailto:openbible@frontiernet.net)  
(this email is shared with Pastor Dan Rautenberg)