



# Good News

## Connecting People to Jesus

Good News

September 2015

### Please pray

for our council as they start their new year:

President Chuck Simpson  
 Vice-Pres. Chris Mowers  
 Secretary Chris Kelly  
 Treasurer Sheila Wortmann  
 Rebecca Gusoff  
 Elise Marra

- for students starting their first year of college, that they would find Christian friends and make good decisions while living away from home for the first time.

### Inside this issue:

Librarian Recommendations	2
Pattern for Living	3
Kreft Arts Schedule for Sept-Oct	4
Blessed Opportunity: Next Steps	5
Youth News	6
Calendar	7

### Purposeful about Living into Community *by Pastor Gaertner*

Families are not perfect. Poor decisions can be made, and other people respond poorly to the poor decisions. Without ever intending it, families can become broken. I also know that no congregation is perfect. A cycle of decisions can lead to wounds that just don't seem to heal. A congregation can become like a broken family with shattered relationships, stalled projects, and a divided future. Families and congregations are not perfect, but do they have to become broken?

We are all broken in our sin, but in the full grace and truth of Jesus we find healing and restoration. I trust that God has made us to live together in community.

We find community in our homes. We should also be able to find community in this congregation.

We are renovating our space this fall to help people not familiar with churches feel expected and welcomed. The inviting design and experience of feeling invited will be a part of our renovations. Living into community will be cultivated by more than just the design of our facility.

In our congregation I want us to be purposeful about certain practices that will help us live

together. Christine Pohl wrote in her book *Living into Community: Cultivating Practices that Sustain Us*, "Good communities and life-giving congregations emerge at the intersection of divine grace and steady human effort." At this intersection of grace and truth we can be purposeful

ing and keeping promises, truthfulness, and gratitude.

The response of our community to the Gospel of Jesus Christ will be embodied as we live purposefully these four practices. These four practices are written about in more detail by

Christine Pohl in her book. Over the next four months this newsletter space will include some of the contemporary challenges related to responding to strangers or dealing with our own messy lives as we approach shaping our community joined together by a shared response to the Gospel of Jesus.

I want us to get in the habit of noticing and celebrating these practices

of hospitality, making and keeping promises, truthfulness, and gratitude. We are not going to eliminate complacency and despair by wishing for them to go away. Our congregation community should be a living testimony of the life-giving power of Jesus.

about living into community.

There is no room for complacency or despair in this congregation. God is at work in this congregation. The promise of the Good News of Jesus draws us into the kingdom of God. The presence of Jesus has been forming communities for two thousand years. We are building and maintaining a healthy congregation upon the promises of Jesus. In every community there are practices that hold it together. In our community we will continue to build and maintain the practices of hospitality, mak-



## Librarian Recommendations By Jean Schneider



### **The Wedding Quilt**

by Jennifer Chiaverini  
Fiction

Sarah McClure arrived at Elm Creek Manor as a newlywed, never suspecting that her quilting lessons with master quilter Sylvia Bergstrom Compson would inspire the successful and enduring business Elm Creek Quilts, whose members have nurtured a circle of friendship spanning generations. *The Wedding Quilt* opens as the wedding day of Sarah's daughter Caroline approaches. As Sarah has learned, a union celebrates not only the betrothed couple's passage into wedlock, but also the contributions of those who have made the bride and groom the unique people they are. Thus Sarah's thoughts are filled with

brides of Elm Creek Manor past and present—the traditions they honored, the legacies they bequeathed, and the wedding quilts that contain their stories in every stitch.

### **Ruth, A Portrait, The Story of Ruth Bell Graham**

by Patricia Cornwell  
Biography

Virtually raised by the Grammys, award-winning author Patricia Cornwell has seen firsthand the spirit of this courageous woman and here offers an insightful look into the wife of evangelist, Billy Graham. Wife, mother, daughter, and friend are a few of her titles, but it is her deep abiding faith in God that sets her apart from the ordinary. *Ruth, A Portrait* is

brimming with anecdotes that span a century and takes an intimate look into the life of the Graham family.

### **The Penniless Princess, Veggie Tales (DVD)**

Youth

An irresistible take on the childhood classic *A Little Princess* ---with Veggies in the starring roles! Assuring his kindhearted daughter, Sara, that she'll always be God's princess "no matter what," Captain Crewe (or is that "Crewe-cumber"?) sends her to a posh boarding school in Victorian England. When Sara loses her fortune, can she remember her *true* worth---and help others, too? Approx. 45 minutes.

## Time Treasure and Talent Auction 2015 by Anna Ankenbrand



Do you have a special talent, some extra time, or a treasure you could donate? Starting Sunday, September 13th we will be asking for donations for the Time, Treasure and Talent Silent Auction.

The Time, Treasure and Talent Silent Auction is an opportunity for you and your family to use your God given gifts and talents to help raise funds to purchase new kitchen appliances.

Donation sign-up forms will be available at church and online starting Sunday, September 1st to Sunday, September 27th.

What can you donate towards this Blessed Opportunity? Here are some ideas:

- ◆ Are you a creative person

like a painter, woodworker, quilter? Why not use your talent to create something for the auction.

- ◆ Are you a carpenter, wallpaper hanger, plumber, etc.? Donate an allotted number of hours of your time.
- ◆ Are you a gardener, weeder, planter, raker? Donate your time...your choice of hours.
- ◆ Are you a wonderful cook, baker, candy maker? Offer to cater a dinner, a basket of homemade goods.
- ◆ Do you babysit, pet sit or house sit? Donate your time and services.
- ◆ Do you own a business, have tickets or a favorite

restaurant or store? Ask or donate a gift certificate.

Questions – If you have any questions please contact Anna Ankenbrand at (P) 810.623.1174 (E) kaankenbrand@yahoo.com or Lori Schonsheck at (P) 248.763.850 (E) ischonshec@aol.com.

All auction items for the silent auction will be displayed and available for silent bidding on Sunday, October 4th with the final bidding ending on Sunday, October 18 at 12:30 p.m. A complete catalogue of items will be available on the church's website as well as in the Narthex.

## Pattern for Living *By Tim Hurst*

Everyone wants to be successful. We strive for success in our career, yearn for a successful marriage, look for ways to be a successful parent, try to imprint success on our children. We are inundated with books and articles on how to live a successful life. More often than not, these are merely collections of the latest cultural fads, written by people who are no better at the game of life than the rest of us, who seize the microphone for a minute and are quickly forgotten.

There is a textbook for living that has been tested for thousands of years and still is relevant today. The Bible, by precept and example, examines the human condition, and regardless of our circumstances,

gives us direction. In the Old Testament we find the laws which God has established to enable us to live with one another, in obedience to His will. In the New Testament He offers the forgiving love of Jesus Christ that wipes away the fear and guilt that immobilizes us when our deeds fall short of our capabilities, when our self-image is shattered by our wayward actions. When our own thinking causes us to stumble, the Bible can shine a light on the path which we should take.

Where are we to find these guideposts for a Christian lifestyle? Does the Bible seem to be a confusing collection of events, stories, teachings and admonitions with no relevance to our personal life? Each Sun-

day, during the Education hour, we can explore together the Pattern for Living that the Bible provides. From Genesis to Deuteronomy to Jeremiah to Matthew, we can find the common thread that pulls our lives together. The Bible is a wonderful book that has provided direction and peace to millions of lives like ours over thousands of years. God has provided a pattern of life for each of us. Through study and prayer we can find it and sweep away all the static and distortion that diverts us from the path.

Come join us; together we can help each other to grow in the Word, to achieve a richer and more fulfilling life.

**“There is a text book [that]...still is relevant today”**

## From the Lutheran Hour Ministries

*2015 Fall*

### Outreach Seminar

**Saturday Oct. 10, 2015**

**Our Savior**

**Lutheran Church**

7910 East St. Joe Highway,  
Lansing, MI.

### Bringing Christ to Your Neighborhood

Registration is now open for all LCMS Michigan District members wishing to attend.

The seminar is being sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries, Michigan District. The presenter will be Bruce Sutherland, Constituent Relation Manager for LHM. The two hour seminar will cover the three C's of outreach:

**Connection:** Intentionally pursue guests to connect them to the life of your church.

**Culture:** Transform how your congregation views outreach.

**Community:** Understand, serve and impact your neighborhood for Jesus.

Deadline to RSVP is October 3 by email or phone: [John.raffel@gmail.com](mailto:John.raffel@gmail.com) or call 616.894.2936 and ask for John Raffel. He is also the contact .



## Do Well With Your Savings. Do Good for the Church

*by Paul Wills, Church Extension Fund*

Want to do well with your savings while it does good for your church? Church Extension Fund offers competitive great rates on their investments. Your investment will make possible building loans to LCMS churches and schools! Call 800-242-3944 or visit [www.mi-cef.org](http://www.mi-cef.org) for information.





## Coming Events at Kreft Arts

### From The Director

The Kreft Arts Program at Concordia University strives to stimulate the artistic, intellectual, and creative experiences of students and the community. The series includes art exhibitions, concerts, lectures, dance performances, author appearances, and theatrical productions by artists from around the world and by Concordia's own students and faculty.

### THEATER

#### A Christmas Carol

When: Oct. 8, 9, 10 at 8:00 p.m. & Oct. 11 at 2:00 p.m.  
Where: Kreft Center Black Box Theater  
Tickets: \$10 (\$5 students and seniors)  
734-995-7537

A classical adaptation taken directly from the Dickens novel, will transport you through time and space to London, where the Cratchit's struggle to make the best of Scrooge's inability to see anything but the material world in front of him, until the Christmas Eve he is visited by his partner's ghost and three spirits who enable him to see beyond his little life and the money making ventures of the day. Suitable for children.

### LECTURES

#### Robert and Jill Muñoz

Independent Film-makers  
When: Tuesday, Oct. 27, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Kreft Center Black Box Theater  
Free and open to the public.

These Concordia alumni discuss their film company, CubeCity Entertainment. Their latest feature-length film, "The Lost Penny," was an official selection for the Manhattan Film Festival and the Niagara Film Festival in summer of 2015. See website for more information about this viewing

### MUSIC

#### Preview Concert – Snapshot of all Concordia's Performance Ensembles

When: Sunday, Oct. 4, 4:00 p.m.  
Where: Chapel of the Holy Trinity  
Free and open to the public.

#### Priscilla Johnson, Violin accompanied by Nick Gable, piano

The Beaumont Quartet  
When: Monday, Oct. 5, 8:00 p.m.  
Where: Kreft Center Recital Room  
Free and open to the public.

Priscilla Johnson has performed and taught in Southeast Michigan for over twenty-five years. She is currently a player and board member in the River Raisin Ragtime Revue, a member of the Beaumont String Quartet and Assistant Director of Operations at the Ker-rytown Concert House.

#### The Concordia Wind Ensemble, William Perrine, conductor

When: Tuesday, Oct. 20, 8:00 p.m.  
Where: Kreft Center, Black Box Theater  
Free and open to the public.

### GALLERY EXHIBITS

#### Selected Works from the Collection of Karl and Shirley Kreft

When: Sept. 2-Oct. 18  
Where: Kreft Center Gallery (Gallery hours: Tues-Fri, 12:00-4:00 and Sat-Sun 1:00-5:00)  
Opening Reception and Gallery Talk: Thursday, Sept. 17, 7p.m.-9 p.m.

Free and open to the public  
Over the course of four decades, friends of Concordia University, Karl and Shirley Kreft, assembled a large and eclectic collection of painting, drawing, and sculpture. This exhibit takes the viewer through a variety of styles and genres, and raises questions about collecting and living with art rather than viewing it only in the formal space of museums and galleries.

#### Beauty and the B-Movie

When: Oct. 27 – Nov. 25  
Where: Kreft Center Gallery  
Artist Reception and Gallery Talk: Friday, Oct. 30, 7p.m. – 9p.m.  
Free and open to the public.

A collection of vintage horror, sci-fi, and fantasy movie posters.

## Blessed Opportunity: The Next Steps *by Becky Gusoff*

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, We are quickly approaching getting into the nitty gritty of the Blessed Opportunity project. With excitement, thanksgiving, and appreciation for the support of the project up to this point, we ask that you prayerfully consider volunteering your time in this next phase. We will need help in the immediate future with the following:

Sorting, packing, and storing; kitchen, compassionate care closet, and fellowship hall items; (Packing boxes are needed.)

Demo of kitchen;  
Demo of bathroom;  
Demo of small and large fellowship hall floor.

There is, no doubt, going to be some inconveniences in the next few months; however, with many helping hands, we can all help make the transition go more quickly and smoothly. Please prayerfully consider volunteering some of your time, however small or large, to lend a hand. Whether it is sledge hammering old kitchen cabinets, (there may be a wait list for this one) helping to clear and sweep debris, clean-

ing adjacent areas to keep construction dust at bay, or simply delivering some cold water or yummy treats for volunteers, the Building Committee hopes you will want to be a part of this exciting next phase of the project as we all help build a more inviting place of worship for us all and the surrounding community in Jesus' name.

There will be sign-up sheets for various tasks in the Narthex coming soon! Please forward any questions you may have to a building committee member.

See you soon!

Blessings,

Becky Gusoff

## Fall Festival *by Elise Marra*

Summer is winding down, but don't feel too sad. Fun things are planned for this fall at St. Paul!

On October 3, St. Paul will host its annual Fall Festival. As in years past, this event brings together the members of St. Paul in fellowship and invites the Hamburg community to feel welcome at our church.

"I believe that this festival gives us a chance to show our neighborhood what kind of community we are at St. Paul Lutheran Church," said Pastor Gaertner. "The grace of God is the undeserved love of God revealed in Christ Jesus. At this festival we

share freely with our neighbors the joy and confidence of being loved in Jesus."

The festivities take place on October 3 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the church grounds. There will be free activities for people of all ages to enjoy like carnival games, inflatables, and a rock wall. A free lunch will be served between 11:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Noon will feature a special appearance by the VBS band!

"I think the Fall Festival is a lot of fun at St. Paul," said Christi Gaertner, Fall Festival Coordinator. "I love that we can offer the inflatables, rock wall, and

carnival games to families without charging any money. I look forward to sharing the joy we have in Christ with the neighborhood."

With all the inflatables and carnival games, lots of volunteers are needed to make sure that everything runs smoothly. Now is the time to volunteer to make this year's Fall Festival a great time for all. You can sign up to volunteer by emailing Christi at [christigaertner@gmail.com](mailto:christigaertner@gmail.com) or you can call or text her at 810-355-1600.



# Youth News

by Mike Hausch

## Preschooler Information

Mommy and Me, Daddy and Me will be "a Sunday School class where parent and child participate and learn together." St. Paul will be providing some very capable leadership with a

co-leadership team. The format of the class will provide some interactive playtime and lessons designed with the learning abilities of children ages 2- 4 years old. This is a great opportunity

for child and parent to grow in God's grace. The class will begin on September 6. Follow the signs.

## LAC

**LAC (the youth group for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) will host a planning event on Sunday, September 13, noon to 2 pm.** Since this will occur right after the 11 am worship service, lunch will be provided. Our goal is the creation of a calendar of monthly activities for young people to have fun and build relationships with

their peers. Parental support is necessary and helpful in the planning process.

Also happening this year, our fall Sunday evening Confirmation classes will be kicked off with a special event. We will attend a **"Lost and Found" Concert at Grace Lutheran Church in Howell.** We will

gather at St. Paul at 5:30 pm to attend the concert that begins at 6:00 pm. "Lost and Found" is a duo of Christian musicians who write and perform. Songs they have written are incorporated into our Confirmation learning experience.

## For the Seniors

**Senior High National Youth Gathering Informational Event** will be Sunday, September 20, right after the 11:00 am worship service. The gathering will take place July 16 -20, 2016, with registration opening the end of October, 2015. The theme of the gathering is "In Christ Alone We

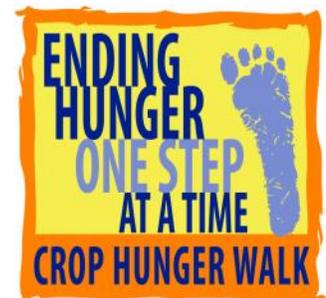
Stand." At the informational event we will share the "Who, What, Where, When and How" of the gathering. "This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." 1 John 4:10 (NIV) We will discuss dates and deadlines, fun preparation and

fundraising. Parents and students are encouraged to attend together. The event is open to young people entering 9<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall of 2016 through those who will graduate spring of 2016.

## Howell-Hartland-Fowlerville-Pinckney CROP Hunger Walk

**Sunday, October 4  
2:00 p.m. (check-in 1:30)  
First Presbyterian Church,  
323 W. Grand River, Howell**

**5 or 1 mile walk routes through  
beautiful Howell neighborhoods**



# SEPTEMBER

## St. Paul's Special Events and Scripture Readings

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> 1 Kings 18:1-19 Eph 1:1-23	<b>2</b> 1 Kings 18:20-40, Eph 2:1-22 <b>7p</b> Building Com- mittee	<b>3</b> 1 Kings 19:1-21, Eph 3:1-21 <b>9a</b> Hymn selec- tion	<b>4</b> 2 Kings 2:1-18, Eph 4:1-24	<b>5</b> 2 Kings 2:19- 25;4:1-7, Eph 4:25-- 5:14
<b>6</b> 2 Kings 4:8-22, 32-37, Eph 5:15-23 <b>8:30 and 11am</b> Backpack blessing	<b>7</b> 2 Kings 4:38-5:8, Eph 6:1-24	<b>8</b> 2 Kings 5:9-27, Phil 1:1-20 <b>7p</b> Church Coun- cil	<b>9</b> 2 Kings 6:1-23, Phil 1:21--2:11	<b>10</b> 2 Kings 9:1-13; 10:18-29, Phil 2:12- 30	<b>11</b> 2 Chr 29:1-24, Phil 3:1-21	<b>12</b> 2 Chr 31:1-21, Phil 4:1-23
<b>13</b> 2 Chr 32:1-22, Col 1:1-23 <b>12p</b> Lac Planning event <b>6p</b> Lost and Found Concert	<b>14</b> 2 Chr 33:1-25, Col 1:24--2:7	<b>15</b> 2 Chr 34:1-4, 8 -11, 14-33, Col 2:8- 23	<b>16</b> 2 Chr 35:1-7, 16-25, Col 3:1-25	<b>17</b> 2 Chr 36:1-23, Col 4:1-18 <b>Newsletter Articles Due</b>	<b>18</b> Neh 1:1-2:10, 1 Tim 1:1-20	<b>19</b> Neh 2:11-20; 4:1-6, 1 Tim 2:1-15
<b>20</b> Neh 4:7-23, 1 Tim 3:1-16 <b>6:30p</b> Confirma- tion (students and Parents) <b>12:00p</b> Sr. Youth Gathering meet.	<b>21</b> Neh 5:1-16; 6:1-9, 15-16, 1 Tim 4:1-16 12:30p Love Knots	<b>22</b> Neh 7:1-4; 8:1- 18, 1 Tim 5:1-16	<b>23</b> Neh 9:1-21, 1 Tim 5:17--6:2	<b>24</b> Neh 9:22-38, 1 Tim 6:3-21	<b>25</b> Mal 1:1-14, Mat 3:1-17	<b>26</b> Mal 2:1-3:5, Mat 4:1-11
<b>27</b> Mal 3:6-4:6, Mat 4:12-25 <b>6:30p</b> Confirma- tion (students and Parents) <b>7:30p</b> Conf Prayer partners	<b>28</b> Deut 1:1-18, Mat 5:1-20	<b>29</b> Deut 1:19-36, Mat 5:21-48	<b>30</b> Deut 1:37-- 2:15, Mat 6:1-15			

### Weekly Schedule

#### Sunday

7:30 a.m. Fresh Brew Bible Study  
8:30 a.m. Divine Service  
9:45 a.m. Education Hour  
11 a.m. Divine Service & Kids' Connection  
5 p.m. Tough Questions

#### Monday

9 a.m. Quilters  
11 a.m. Women's Bible Study

#### Tuesday

9 a.m. Old Timers

#### Wednesday

8 a.m. Classical Conversations

#### Saturday

8:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
9 a.m. Altar Preparation  
10:30 a.m. AA/Alanon





St. Paul Lutheran Church  
P.O. Box 490  
Hamburg, MI 48139  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

### Worship Times

#### Sunday

**8:30 am** Traditional Divine Service

**9:45 am** Christian Education Hour for all ages

**10:45 am** Fellowship Time

**11:00 am** Blended Divine Service

**11:00 am** Kids Connection for preschool—2nd grade after the Children's Message

#### Monday (During the Summer)

**7:00 pm** Traditional Divine Service

Rev. Dr. Evan Gaertner, Pastor  
[TheRevEv@gmail.com](mailto:TheRevEv@gmail.com)

Michael Hausch, DCE  
[mike@stpaulhamburg.com](mailto:mike@stpaulhamburg.com)

Phone: 810-231-1033  
Fax: 810-231-1016  
[stpaul@stpaulhamburg.com](mailto:stpaul@stpaulhamburg.com)  
[www.stpaulhamburg.com](http://www.stpaulhamburg.com)  
[Facebook.com/stpaulhamburg](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulhamburg)



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Hamburg, MI  
Permit No. 53

## Time Treasure and Talent Auction 2015

Donation Gathering Starts September 1st

See inside for more details and contact information

