

The Lutheran Letter

The Monthly Newsletter of
Union Evangelical Lutheran Church
5500 Route 873 Schnecksville, PA 18078

September 2010

Volume XXXIX

Number 9



The Pastor's Peace

What Shall We Offer?

The little drummer boy story attached to the birth of Jesus has an important lesson for us—particularly in difficult economic times. What shall we offer him? How about ourselves?

No one should stay away from worship because they feel they cannot give a monetary offering. The greatest offering we have to give in worship is the offering of self, in worship of God. It is profoundly and fundamentally true for Christians who believe that “by grace through faith we have been saved.” Our theology is lived—not just taught.

Some of you may be feeling that this is easier said than done. There are many eyes that we feel watching us as the offering plates are passed. I have a solution to offer you for that as well. Place a note in your offering envelope and seal it. On the note write, “Lord, I have given you the offering of myself.” It will be a most blessed offering, indeed.

As a family of faith we will get through these times because of God's blessings to us. All are welcome at the table of the Savior. Please remember and practice that as an expression of your faith.

In Christ's peace,

Pastor

Regular Hours

The Sunday Worship schedule returns to regular hours on September 12th. The early service is at 8:00 AM and the late service at 10:45 AM. Sunday Church School meets at 9:15 AM.

The Church Office will return to regular hours on September 7th. It will be open and staffed from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Monday, Wednesday & Friday and 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Tuesday & Thursday.

New Member Classes



We will be holding a series of four classes for anyone wishing to become a member of Union Lutheran. The classes will run four Sundays in September (5, 12, 19 & 26) at 9:15 AM in Room 201. New members joining from a non-Lutheran background are asked to attend all four classes. Those transferring from a Lutheran congregation are invited to attend the September 26th class, which will be held in the Family Life Center. New members will be received during the worship services on Sunday, October 10th. To register, please call the church office at 610-767-6884.



Council Report August 2010 By Pastor Moore

- Council requested the Christian Stewardship Committee to review the criteria for awarding the Klotz Scholarships. Treasurer's Report indicated that giving is down 2.7% in comparison to last year while expenses have increased 1.24%. Council also discussed financial trends related to giving and worship attendance.
- Discussed the two-deep leadership for Sunday Church School and other youth related activities as well as age restrictions for SCS teachers. Council requested Christian Education Committee either review its policy or create one to ensure that we are meeting guidelines regarding the two-deep leadership with alternative protocol action if necessary for the safety of both the participants and the leaders involved in congregational activities.
- Gathering Space Display via LCD will move forward as outlined and funded via interest in the Christian Stewardship Growth endowment fund as an instrument for education, volunteering needs, announcements and other areas to be defined.
- Council approved the implementation and funding of a Stephen Ministry program at ULC. This will encompass the training of lay ministers in the congregation to assist other members and members of the community. The cost of \$5,300 will be taken from interest from the Staff and Program Development portion of the Living Legacy Endowment Fund. The first and second highest areas identified in the congregational survey under the area of Service were "help members develop patterns of service as an expression of faith" and "provide ministry to those with special needs (e.g. widows, singles, divorced, handicapped)".
- Discussion was held regarding the staffing proposal with presentation to be made at the September meeting.



Sunday Morning Fellowship

Your Help Is Needed!!!

Volunteers are needed to host our Sunday Morning Fellowship. All you need to do is set up coffee, tea, and cold drinks, and clean up afterwards. The Fellowship Committee will provide cookies. If you are interested, please sign-up on the bulletin board or call the church office. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

The hosts for the month of September are:

September 5	Tom & Tracy McGowan
September 12	Worship & Music Committee
September 19	Chad Cederberg & C J Young
September 26	Christian Education Committee

The next future dates available are October 10 & 24.

Catechism



There will be an organizational meeting for all parents on Sunday, September 12th at 7:30 PM in the Nave. This is to explain the program, review the requirements, make parental assignments and answer questions parents may have about the program or requirements for Confirmation. Please plan to attend this mandatory meeting.

Both 1st and 2nd year classes will be meeting on Tuesday, September 21st from 4:30 – 7:30 PM. There will be an overall program review, group planning and other information. Dinner will be provided.

Women's Café By Lois Steward



The Women's Café meets the second Sunday of the month at 11:45 AM in room 101. The next meeting will be September 12th. Watch the weekly bulletins to find out the theme for the month so you can think about what you will bring to add to our buffet. As always, all women are welcome to attend whenever we gather, so as the old saying goes "try us, you might like us".



From the Director of Music Ministries Susan Hartney

In August 2009, I attended the biennial conference of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, which was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. When I received my most recent issue of *CrossAccent*, the journal of the ALCM, I found an article there written by Robert A. Rimbo, the bishop of Metropolitan New York Synod of the ELCA, which originated as the banquet address last August.

Bishop Rimbo writes that “any church musician worth his or her salt knows there is an unwritten job description.” He goes into quite a bit of detail, but summarizing his remarks, he states that church musicians are cantors, performers, preachers, pastoral liturgists, deacons, counselors, teachers, caretakers of tradition, administrators, recruiters, cultural exegetes, master mechanics, entrepreneurs and presiders. Church musicians “tend the most important instrument of all, the assembly’s voice, used in song to praise God.”

Bishop Rimbo believes that church musicians are mystagogues, leading people to God through music. He expresses what he considers to be essential elements, the Heart of Worship:

- ❖ Strong, clear, beautiful words together with rich, deep, ample signs.
- ❖ A focus recognizing and celebrating the central presence of God in this assembly and in this world.
- ❖ An event that is driven by God’s People and not a dramatic monolog by the charming and effervescent pastor.
- ❖ An ancient, traditional, time-tested, and reliable shape to the liturgy.
- ❖ Focus and flow to the entire rite which is characterized by style and grace and transcends the legalistic use of clocks.
- ❖ A missional sending forth that declares that this assembly is important for the life of the world as it makes present Jesus Christ in this time and place.
- ❖ Art which hospitably and with simplicity, boldness, and beauty invites into the mystery of God.
- ❖ And, most especially, music and hymnody which exalts and serves God and the assembly; that is, music which is mystagogical.

In closing, he remarks that church musicians have embraced the beauty of holiness, which is what we bring to others as we invite them to God. We challenge God’s people with new ways to explore old mysteries, to stretch the human imagination about God with all our senses. We exercise artistic hospitality to create an environment in which the mystery of God can be revealed and explored. We serve the prayer and worship of a religious community. We are “mystagogues, people who initiate others into the mystery of God, people who guide the gathering of God’s people and lead them to God through beauty, ever ancient, ever new.”

His final statement, confirms that church musicians are called by God for a unique ministry. We are, indeed, brimmed for pouring.

Happy Birthday



To Our Homebound!!!

September 2

Rita Muthard

1040 Riverview Dr
Walnutport PA 18088

September 20

Mildred Gilbert

7269 Decatur St
New Tripoli PA 18066

Musicians Wanted

We are looking at possibly forming a “Praise Band” here at ULC and need musicians interested in sharing their talents to the glory of God. Rehearsals would be held a couple times a month with a goal of providing musical support for worship on occasion, for Rejoicing Spirits worship (held monthly on Sunday afternoon) if requested, and possible concert venue as well. Guitars, keyboard, percussion and other instruments welcome. The ability to at least provide some back-up singing is a plus—but not necessary. Technical support also needed. Roadies welcome at a later date. If it sounds like something you’d be interested in, contact the church office (office@unionlutheranchurch.org or 610-767-6884). Hope to form a group by early September to begin rehearsing.



Sunday School
By Cindy Pugh

WOW!!! Did this summer go fast? I cannot believe that we are starting another year. I have to say that I am very excited about seeing all of you again. We have new curriculum for you this year. It contains all different kind of Bible stories. I also have a few contests planned and maybe some other things up my sleeve.

We still need some help. So talk to your moms and dads and see if any of them are willing to help us out.

See our list below:

- Sunday School teachers needed: age 3 & 4, kindergarten and 3rd & 4th grade.
- Christmas Program Coordinator: program to be held during the church service the Sunday after Christmas.

Anyone interested in joining our team, please call Cindy Pugh at 610-776-0451 or email me at softball8@rcn.com.

Rally Day will be held on Sunday, September 12th. We will start in the Family Life Center at 9:15 AM then go outside to play some sports. Please come dressed to play. Parents are welcomed to join us.

"Sunday Morning News" will be new this year. It is an information bulletin board for parents, family and friends found between rooms 203 and 204. There you will find information relating to any youth activities. Also, you can put things on there pertaining to your child's achievements (newspaper articles, school awards, special occasions, scouts, etc.). I'm sure our congregation would love to know about our wonderful youth. Please check it out.

Save the Date: Bible Sunday is September 19, 2010.



Adult Sunday School
Class Offerings

"Happy Hour" & "B. Y. O. B." Classes

Both Classes will begin on September 12 at 9:15 AM. "Happy Hour" meets in room 202 and "B.Y.O.B." meets in the Chapel. Watch the Sunday bulletins for more information.

Vacation Bible School 2010
By Jackie Bucks & Cindy Pugh



We are back from our High Seas Expedition and what a great adventure we had! There were 93 shipmates and 52 volunteer crew members who traveled the High Seas together. We met Peter, Paul, John and five "Bible Buddies" who taught us about Jesus and the Mighty Love of God! We learned that God's Word is true, comforting, surprising, life-changing and most importantly, for everyone!

The Captain would like to offer a big thank you to the following volunteers who helped to make VBS 2010 such a success:

Station Leaders: Kerry Blommel, Mary Ann Drews, Hannah Geiger, Zach Grim, Susan Hartney, Patti Hoffman, Traci Kinney, Kandy Lang, Stacy Mesics, Melissa Metzger, Holly Miller, Pastor Moore, Laura Querio, Chris Rittle, Rich Saffron

Station Helpers: Sinjin Cavosi, Stacy Graham, Kim Labenberg, Chris Moore, Elizabeth Rice, Lindsey Sell
Preschool Crew Leaders: Lillie Geiger, Taryn Gulkewicz, Yelena Gulkewicz, Jordan Hoffman, Mackenzie Hoffman, Sandy Knotts, Madison Williams

Preschool Crew Helpers: Jake Grim, Jessica Mann
Elementary Crew Leaders: Emily Bevans, Colin Bilcheck, Shelby Brown, Sydney Caton, Michelle Dengler, Laura Landis, Lenny Rothrock, Cathy Smith, Skylar Williams, Gregg Zahour, Lauren Zahour

Elementary Crew Helpers: Liz Yankanich and Thomas Yankanich

Mission Project: Lori Argot, Lenny Rothrock, Cindy Pugh
Nursery: Jessica Mann, Jennifer Morabito, Jodi Smith
Photographers: Laura Querio and Sydney Stein
Sound System: Tim Remaly
Registration: Denise Hoffman

We heard that VBS 2011 will be just as exciting! What do you think is going to happen when a pack of fun-loving panda bears invades UELC next summer? A wild celebration of God's unconditional love! At PandaMania VBS, kids will discover that God has a purpose and a plan for everyone and that he crafted each of us with his own loving hands.

So, save this date for another exciting adventure.....**VBS 2011 – Monday, July 25th – Friday, July 29th**





Ask The Pastor Pastor Moore

Pastor Moore,

I have heard parents of those young people who are attending confirmation classes state, “my child has completed all the obligations, we don’t have to attend church on a regular basis anymore.”

By that they mean all the service hours the young people are required to do during those 2 years.

I feel concerned for the future of the church with this attitude. Please give your thoughts on this problem.

Thank you for your concern, however, I don’t think I have enough room in the newsletter to fully address my thoughts on this matter.

- When do parents stop being parents for their children? I know I haven’t reached that age yet. When I brought my children to the church to be baptized, I assumed responsibility for their spiritual upbringing. They are now both on their own—but our role as their parents is one of setting a Godly example for them. We worship weekly—no matter where we are and if they are with us—they are expected to do so as well.
- How will our youth assume greater responsibility in the life and ministry of our congregation without continued parental support? We confirm at the end of 8th grade. Even though there are some 8th graders who would love to drive, legally no one can until they are at least 16. If our youth are going to fulfill the vows they make during confirmation, their parents must continue to assist them to do so. Vocabulary that centers around being “done” doesn’t open doors for ministry—it closes them. Disciples are done when we die.
- There may be legitimate excuses for “not going to church” but there is not legitimate reason for Christians for “not worshipping God.” If God is worthy of our worship and praise, then excuses like “it’s boring,” “nobody else goes,” “it’s my only day to sleep in,” don’t stack up before God.
- Our life as Christians is counter-cultural—so we either deal with it or neglect the practice of our faith—we can’t have it both ways. Jesus said, “no one can serve two masters.” If our treasure is found

outside our faith—that’s where our hearts are going to be found as well as our “seats” on Sunday morning and throughout the week. Someone once said, if you aren’t sure who your god is—just look at the ledger in your checkbook.

Well, enough said for now. Thanks for your concern. Let’s continue to pray for everyone, because our faith calls us to make tough choices—pray we make the right ones.

Fair Trade Cart

Be sure to stop at the Cart in the Gathering Space and check out the coffee, tea, chocolate and almonds.



Is raising money for the
Union Lutheran Church
and YOU are invited!

five BEL^oW carries the best **Back to School Supplies** around! We carry trendy backpacks, Bic pens/pencils, Mead binders, folders, and notebooks! We also have fun computer software, books, Ipod accessories, sporting goods, games, t-shirts, jewelry, bath and body, candy, snacks and beverages, room décor, seasonal items plus much, much more. The greatest part is—
EVERYTHING IS PRICED AT \$5 OR LESS!

Our Event will be held on:

Date: August 8 – September 8

Store Hours: Sunday 10am-6pm and M-Saturday 10am -9pm

Where: You Can Use This Flyer At Any Of These Locations!!

Five Below Allentown 610 264 4237
(2631 Macarthur Rd Whitehall Pa18052)

Five Below Airport Shopping Center 610-231-2072
(928 Airport Center Dr Allentown Pa 18109)

Here’s how we raise funds! 10% of what you buy that evening, accompanied by this flyer at the register, is donated right back to Union Lutheran Church!!! by **five BEL^oW!**

To be completed by Five Below Associate

(pre tax) Purchase Amount \$ _____

Reg: 1 2 3 4 (circle one) Assoc Name _____



Elementary Youth Group By Rich Saffron

WOW can you believe it is back to school already? We hope you had a fun summer. We look forward to seeing you and hearing all about your summer vacation.

We will stay with the schedule of EYG being on the third Sunday of each month. The first Kids Club will be on Sunday September 19th, 1:00 – 3:00 PM at the Lehigh Valley Zoo. As a group we will eat together (bring your own lunch) then walk through the Zoo. The admission fees are children under 2: free; children 2-11: \$7.00; Adults: \$9.50. The church will subsidize \$3.00 per child. Parents are requested to attend and pay their own admission. Upon leaving the Zoo area we will stop at the brook and spend some time there playing. Families are all welcome to come and join the fun as we see God's creations and make new friends, hairy, furry, feathers or funny. See the poster on the bulletin board for more details.

Kids Club (EYG) in October will be on the 17th at 6:00 PM in the Family Life Center.

Junior Youth Group **M.O.M. (Minors On a Mission)** By Doug Collins

WOW, WOW, WOW! What more can be said about our involvement in the Harrisburg Mission Trip? I believe when we set out on Sunday afternoon we all had different ideas and expectations on what the week ahead held in store for us and what each of "our parts" was going to be. When we rolled back into the church parking lot on Friday we were all definitely "on the same page", realizing "our part" was simply serving God through our actions, words and deeds.

Let me just tell you what a wonderful, giving, selfless group of young people we have in our congregation representing us!!!!!!! As we spent our time at ministry sites, traveling, eating or just "hanging out (not much time for that though), there were existing bonds that grew tighter, there were new bonds created, acquaintances became friends, trust and respect were built, but most of all we realized that not only was God with us but IN us and working THRU us!!!!!!! Our actions were not for ourselves but to glorify Him by helping those who need it.

Now I don't want it to sound like all we did was work,

we had a lot of fun and laughs as well. The only thing really missing was sleep, but we all survived. So please take the time to talk to the kids that were part of the trip. They have a lot to share.

Thank you all for your continued support of the youth of our congregation. They need to know you are there for them. They have a lot of good ideas and we need to assure them that we want to hear and discuss things with them. Trips like this and any/all other activities help to grow their relationship with the Lord and each other. We know it's a tough world they are preparing for and they need as strong of a "core" as possible, knowing and trusting God without hesitation. Again, what a trip and thanks to all who participated in any way.

Senior Youth Group By Rich Saffron

DevoDine will be on September 9, 6:30- 8:00 PM at the Lehigh Valley Mall. We will meet at the mall entrance by Barnes & Noble. We will have dinner then walk the mall for our devotion & discussion. Please bring money for your meal. Come on out to DevoDine. Talk to Abby or Rich if you need a ride.

Y.E.L.L. is a concept of a new fresh contemporary magazine where youth can express themselves through the Arts. We will brainstorm on layout and content design. Are you into literature, photography, music, fashion, graphic design, and drawing? We need creative youth to make it happen. The first meeting is September 14th, 7:00 PM at Barnes & Noble in Whitehall, PA in the café area. See you then!

NE Synod Youth Event - There is some good news for the congregations in our synod...Agapé will be in concert on Sunday, September 19 at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit in Emmaus, PA! The concert begins at 3:00 PM. The suggested minimum donation is \$5 per person. If you have attended the ELCA Youth Gathering or a Youth Quake, you probably heard and met Christian hip hop artist, Agapé (David Scherer). Go to the Union Lutheran Church Youth Group Facebook page to see an Agapé music video.

Youth Summer Mission Trip - August 1st through the 6th, 20 youth and 5 adult leaders went on a life-changing week of service in Harrisburg, PA. At the mission site they performed servant work at nursing homes, Central PA food bank, project SHARE city beautification projects, day care facility and much more. These wonderful youth and adults were the hands of Christ in very tangible ways. There will be a Temple Talk in September for the youth to share with all of you their experiences.

Youth & Family

By Rich Saffron

Have you seen it? Look what's new, the Union Lutheran Church Youth Groups Facebook page. Search it on facebook and become a member and you will be linked into the news & events for all ages of youth groups at ULC.

The next **Café Karaoke night** is scheduled for October 10th, 7:00 – 9:00 PM in the FLC. Start warming up your voices.

“Do the words really matter?” Thursday, September 30 at 7:00 -8:00 PM, you are invited to a gathering for youth & family here at ULC to come and listen to music and watch video of all genres and have an open discussion. We will listen to music across decades both Christian and secular and take a closer look at the lyrics and what they mean to the author as well as you. It is a great opportunity for fellowship across generations. All ages are welcome.

We are assessing on the feasibility of having a Youth & Family Retreat. If you are interested in helping please contact Rich Saffron rsaffron1@enter.net or 610-295-4910.



Christian Book Club

Mentors can be grandparents, or teachers, or a colleague. It's usually someone who is older, patient and wise. Someone who understands you, helps you to see the world as a more profound place, or gives you advice to help you make your way through it.

For Mitch Albom, that person was Morrie Schwartz, a college professor. Like Mitch, you've probably lost track of this mentor as you've grown. Wouldn't you like to see that person again, ask about the bigger questions that haunt you, gain new wisdom for your busy life today? Fortunately for Mitch he got a second chance.

Tuesdays with Morrie is our next Book Club selection. We'll discuss this book as well as compare it to our July selection by Mitch Albom – *Have a Little Faith*.

We'll meet to discuss these books on Sunday, September 19 at 9:15 AM in room 107. Pick up a copy of the book in the church office and join us for a lively discussion!

Mark your calendars!

By Susan Hartney

Our music rehearsals schedule resumes in September as follows:

Glory Ringers (adult handbells) – weekly rehearsals start Tuesday, September 7, from 7:15–8:15 PM.

Union Chorale – weekly rehearsals start Wednesday, September 1, from 7:45–8:45 PM.

Kids of the Kingdom (ages 3-7) – weekly rehearsals start Wednesday, September 15, from 6:15–6:45 PM.

Youth Singers (ages 7-13) – weekly rehearsals start Tuesday, September 14 from 6:30–7:00 PM.

Junior Jingalingers [youth handbells] (ages 7 & up) – weekly rehearsals start Wednesday, September 15, from 5:00–6:00 PM.

Please consider joining one or more of the groups if your schedule permits. New members are always welcome! If you have any questions, please see me for more information!



From Our Parish Nurses

Back to School

As our children get ready to head back to school, here are some Back Pack safety tips.

- Pack light – a backpack should never weigh more than 10 to 20 percent of the student's body weight.
- Organize the pack to make use of all compartments and pack heavier items closest to the center of the back.
- Choose a pack with wide, padded shoulder straps and a padded back.
- Always use both shoulder straps. Slings a backpack over one shoulder can strain muscles and may increase curvature of the spine.

Blessings
The Parish Nurses,
Bonnie and Dottie

From the Director of Youth & Family Ministry By Rich Saffron



More God and Less Me

People being helped, faces with smiles, arms wrapped around for hugs, ears open to listen, hearts open to love, Christ seen through peoples words & deeds that sounds magnificent? That is what happened the week of August 1, 2010 for 20 youth and 5 adults from ULC during a mission trip in Harrisburg, PA.

The theme of the week was More God and Less Me. It was seen loud and clear all week. Youth starting their day at 6:30 AM making breakfast, working hard at their daily work sites, coming back to our home (Swarta Church) for the week and making dinner, then an evening activity, club time, church service and lights out at 11:00 PM. The next day they started it up all over again. They were tired and yet they kept on going each and every day doing God's work and making new friends and growing their faith. They spent time in fellowship, worship, devotion and service in the community with people they never met. As young Disciples of Christ they performed service in the community as living examples of "More God and Less Me".

The ServentLife is one that is doing service with them not to them! Jesus led a life of service, which invited all to grow in their own discipleship. Why then when we go on a service event or mission trip do we get caught up in the moment that we need to build something? Why do people feel there needs to be a physical landmark that we left behind to show we were there and that is what "we did for them"?

ServentLife does not have to be a special event. It is in the privilege that GOD had given us in our everyday lives. Hold a hand, read a story to a child, listen to someone talk, it's as easy as holding the door open and saying hello to a stranger. When we engage in true Christian service and serve one another, everyone grows. Entering into ServentLife is a basic opening of your heart to the Holy Spirit already working around and in you. "More God and Less Me".

Many of us had an irreplaceable spiritual experience at the 2010 Youthworks Mission site in Harrisburg, PA. These special twenty youth built new relationships and enhanced existing ones. We taught our youth to take responsibility for the injustices in our world rather than making "the poor" something to be pitied or romanticized.

It is less about the actual event and more important about what is happening all around us. Harrisburg is another step in their journey of faith and modeling a "More God and Less Me" Life for our gracious Lord and loving Father.

World Hunger By Judy Gifford

Health Care in Chile Santiago & Concepcion



Gilda always wanted to be an artist, but poverty and political upheaval made Gilda put those dreams aside.

Gilda became involved with Popular Education for Health (EPES), a World Hunger partner in Santiago and Concepcion. EPES promotes individual and community health with a variety of creative and effective education, training, and advocacy methods. As a volunteer EPES health promoter, Gilda offers workshops and mounts displays in the market about self-esteem, domestic violence, HIV prevention, and breast cancer.

Gilda's artistic talents are put to good use, too. She recently designed and coordinated a wall mural about breast cancer, urging women to take advantage of improved community access to mammography, and advocating for more resources for breast cancer treatment. Your gifts for **ELCA World Hunger** can make a beautiful healthy difference. Special envelopes are in the pew racks.

A Blessing of the Animals Sunday, October 3, 4:00 PM



Outdoor Worship Area

In case of rain, service will be held in the Family Life Center.

Worship Matters

By Judy Gifford

Be a Part of God's Saving Story (Part 2)



Last month's column ended with the following: "Worship is an encounter with God, who saves us through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ who has promised to be with us always until the end of the age."

Think about it like this. God's spirit calls us together. God speaks to us through readings from the Old and New Testaments of the Bible, through preaching, prayer, and song. God feeds and nourishes us in a saving way. And God blesses and sends us in mission to the world.

Taken together, the **Word** proclaimed and the **sacraments** – both Holy Baptism and Holy Communion – are called **the means of grace**. We believe that Jesus Christ is present in these means through the power of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes we describe worship as a "gathering around the means of grace." This is a way of saying that we trust that God is genuinely present with us in baptism, in preaching, and in sharing the bread and wine of Holy Communion. In that sense, Lutherans believe that God's presence permeates all of Christian worship.

The voices of all the people joined in song and the participation of all the people in the worship is a witness to our conviction that in worship we are being drawn into God's own saving story.

Come, Be Part of God's Saving Story. Worship Each Week!

September Commemoration

September 25 – Sergius of Radonezh, Abbot of Holy Trinity, Moscow, 1392

The people of Russia honor Sergius as the most beloved of all their saints and a model of Russian spiritual life at its best. At the age of twenty he began to live as a hermit, and others joined him. From their monastery in the forest, Sergius led the renewal of Russian monastic life. His monastery, the Monastery of the Holy Trinity, was a center for pilgrimage where people came to worship and receive spiritual support. Sergius, ordained as a priest when he was 30, was also a peacemaker whose influence stopped four civil wars between Russian princes. Sergius left no writings, but his disciples founded numerous monasteries and spread his teachings. To this day, people still flock to his grave. In

1920, the monastery was closed but it was returned to the church and a theological academy has opened there.

Sergius lived life much like St. Francis of Assisi with a love for animals. May the example of Sergius and Francis help us to increase our love of the natural world.

V-Man Says "V is for Vigor"

By V-Man

It is obvious that the V-word is "Vision" when it comes to Vision2011, but there are many other very good V-words that we should keep in mind—vim, vigor, vitality—all relating to the strength that the Vision 2011 program brings to our congregation.

The goal of Vision2011 is to give our congregation strength for the future when the \$53,000 equity payment from Neffs UCC ceases next year. One of the definitions of vision is "foresight." Vision2011 affords us the foresight to deal with the shortfall that we cannot avoid. Foresight can prevent weakness if we use it to prepare for what is coming.

Union Lutheran Church needs to be strong to fully carry out its mission of witness and ministry. Those who have made commitments will help by keeping their giving current. If you have already fulfilled your commitment, consider doing more. If you have yet to make a commitment, do so today by calling the Church Office or using a Vision2011 envelope found in your packet of offering envelopes.

Every dollar given to Vision2011 provides vigor--strength for the future!

...To Our Office Volunteers



Beverly Baer, Jane Borbe, Carolyn Bottjer, Georgene Brobst, John Cole, Mary Jane Cole, Sally Crowe, Thomas Crowe, Barbara Fung, Marion Greenwood, Don Hoffman, Sandy Hoffman, Betty Laubach, Ruth Lobach, Blanche Minnick, Dorothy Miller, Ellen Miller, Richard Miller, Betty Moll, Barbara Nikitscher, Stacey Rice, Richard Ruth, Art Schneck, Shirley Schneck, Peggy Twardzik, Ruth Weaver, Donald Weaver, and the Zwickl family.

Library News

By Karin Jagiela



As you think about heading back to school after a long, hot summer, remember the wonderful resource you have right here in your church - the church library! Perhaps the kids need a book for a book report or maybe Mom or Dad has a few extra minutes to read now that the kids have returned to school! Whatever the reason, we are right here for your use anytime the church itself is open. If you've never visited the library before, don't be afraid! The sign-out procedure is spelled out for you in easy to follow steps.

Perhaps you'd like to volunteer in some manner, but only have a limited amount of time to do so. The library could use a few library helpers. This involves only one hour a month and duties include re-shelving books and simply being available to assist anyone who may need help in the library during the Sunday School Hour.

And finally, remember the opportunity available to everyone in the congregation - it is possible to donate a bookshelf or shelves in honor or memory of that special person who is just so hard to buy for. The cost is \$30.00 per shelf, and any number of shelves may be purchased.

For any questions regarding the library, please contact Jo Anne Creyer, Librarian or Karin Jagiela, Library Committee Chairperson. Good luck as you head back to school!

Church Picnic

Thank you to all the people that volunteered their time and talents to making our church picnic an enjoyable event.

Jody Maurer,
Fellowship Committee Chairperson



View Church Pictures Online

For those of you who receive the newsletter via email, you can view the pictures for this month by clicking on the following links:

Church Picnic:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ulclv/sets/72157624665374093/>
Youth Mission Trip:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ulclv/sets/72157624665391293/>
VBS:
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/ulclv/sets/72157624665453313/>



We are getting organized and working toward beginning the worship services in the fall. (See insert.) The music committee is looking for handheld rhythm instruments (such as wooden blocks, maracas, handheld "clappers" – anything that can be used to "make a joyful noise") for the participants to use during the worship services. If you have any instruments, or find any at yard sales, etc., that you would like to donate, please bring them to the church office.

Food Bank

By Dottie Bealer



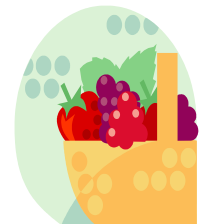
It is Yam Time!

Please help us supply the Northern Lehigh Food Bank with YAMS for their Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner packages. We will need to supply 300 items for each holiday with the total of 600. Canned yams (any size) or instant sweet potatoes will work. As always, please keep our Gathering Space grocery cart overflowing.

Our current list for the grocery cart: beef stew, instant and canned potatoes and yams, canned meats and fish, macaroni & cheese, canned pasta, spaghetti sauce, canned soup, cereal, peanut butter, jelly, juice, jello/instant pudding. Also, items for kids: snack packs, Easy Mac, granola bars, juice boxes, fruit roll-ups, cereal boxes and individual serving items. Additions to the list are personal care hygiene products, tissues, toilet paper, paper towels and house cleaning products.

Harvest Home

Sunday,
September, 19



In place of the ushers receiving the offering, everyone will be asked to come forward with their offering (regular and Harvest Home) and gifts of canned goods, boxed food and/or fresh produce for the Food Bank and place them at the altar.

Diakon Family Life Services

Tony and Anne have been successful at managing demanding careers and family life. Now, in her early 60's, Anne's anticipation and eagerness for a more relaxed pace of life, cashing in on the rewards of years of discipline and hard work is noticeable. Tony, content in his work and the rhythm of life now that their children have established their own households, feels himself getting anxious when Anne brings up the topic of retirement.

They have prepared financially for this transition but have not taken the time to develop a clear timeframe or plan for what this phase in life will be like. The ease of their relationship is at risk if they do not take the time to talk about what each of them envisions, wants and hopes for.

Diakon Family Life Services has counselors skilled at helping couples communicate openly, explore options and develop mutually satisfying goals for the later part of life. And with a sliding fee scale, there's no reason *not* to pick up the phone! 610-682-1337 or 1-888-499-2699 (toll free), or visit www.diakon.org/fls.



**And these words...
shall be upon your heart;
and you shall teach them
diligently to your children...**
-Deuteronomy 6:6-7

What have we taught others about the generosity of God through our example of giving?

***Articles for the October newsletter are due to the church office on September 15.

Prayer Chain

Prayer requests can be made through the Prayer Chain. For daytime requests, please call Cathy Shaffer at 610-767-6884 or 610-799-4506 from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. For evening requests, call Pat Moore at 610-395-0044 from 6:30-10:30 PM.



ELCA Mission Investment Fund

As a ministry of the ELCA, we share this church's continuing mission to share God's boundless love with the world.

We work toward accomplishing this in two ways:

- by providing investments that are similar to savings accounts, checking accounts, money market accounts, and CDs to ELCA members, congregations and ELCA-related ministries, an
- by providing loans and supporting services to new and established ELCA congregations and related ministries.

For information, speak with Herb Gifford or be in touch with Pr. Mark Wimmer at mark.wimmer@elca.org or 267-203-1137.



Funsters News

The Funsters is a Church sponsored group of "Senior Adults" interested in fellowship and participating in group activities. Our events focus on "FUN" and are self-directed, self-funded and member driven. Everyone is welcomed to join in the activities as well as in the planning and development of the program.

We are always interested in suggestions and ideas for activities that might have a broad appeal. If you have any suggestion or would like to serve on our planning committee, you can email us at funsters.ulc@verizon.net, phone us at 610-261-0416 or drop a note into our mailbox at the church office.

Addresses of College Students

We would like to send newsletters to our youth who are away at college so they can keep informed as to what is happening at Union Lutheran. If you have a student in college, please call the church office and give us their address **or** write it down on the back of a “ministry response card” on a Sunday morning and place it in the offering plate **or** send us an email. Please indicate whether or not they are a Freshman.

Your Help Is Needed

Volunteers are needed to host our new member receptions. They are held on the 4th Sunday of January, April and September for people attending our new member classes. You need to provide and serve light refreshments, including coffee, tea and cold drinks. You would also have to clean up afterwards. If you are interested in helping, or would like more information, please contact the church office at 610-767-6884.

Homebound (long or short term)

If you are unable to get to church and would like a copy of the weekly service (either video or audio), please contact the church office. We will make arrangements for someone to deliver the tapes to you.

Wish List of Gifts

Please give prayerful consideration to providing one of these items as a gift to our church. Your gift can be designated “in honor of”, “in memory of”, “to the glory of God”, or in recognition of a special event. Please speak with Pastor Moore or contact our church office for more information about your gift.



- Cameras for building for Security Project 13 cameras @ \$375 each
- Book shelves for library.....\$30 each
- Handbell music.....\$50 per title
- Choral Music – single titles or groups of five or ten titles..... \$75 per title
- Professional instrumentalists for special worship services..... \$200/musician/occasion
- Lockable computer stations (13)\$600 each
- Upgrade Choir & Chancel lights.....\$7000
- Wallpaper for Nave..... \$17,500
- Video Projection Equipment.....\$25,000

Fall Basket Party October 29th & 30th

See enclosed insert for more information

Senior Youth News by Cathy Shaffer

What do you guess 9 senior high youth would be doing on a warm summer evening?

- * Taking a dip at the pool?
- * Texting friends?
- * Playing Xbox?

Not this group of kids. Let me tell you how they spent the evening of August 19.

We carpoled from ULC and arrived at the Northern Lehigh Food Bank at 3:30 PM to begin our shift. Our Senior High youth volunteered to staff the food bank on behalf of the congregation. I sensed the hesitation on the part of the "regulars" who staff the food bank. *Oh great, here comes a group of kids - what help will they be?*

After sorting food, helping clients pick out food, and carrying the food to their cars, the "regulars" were singing another song. They could not say enough positive words about our kids, how hard they worked and how polite they were to the clients. Our gang served 64 clients that night - 24 more than usual. We worked over an hour of "overtime" - until almost 8:30 PM without eating dinner ourselves. Not a one complaint was uttered by our gang. I was extremely proud! They represented ULC well!

Thanks to Julia & Jonny Barber, Kellie Beck, Emily Bevans, Becca Kosar, Kristi & Tanner Smith, Celine Stahley, and Greg Zwickl

Thanks to our drivers/chaperones: Lori Beck, Cheryll & Dan Kosar, and Tracey Smith

Prayer Scarves for College Freshmen

We are getting set to send prayer scarves to our youth who are Freshmen in college (or students who have never received one), but we need your help. We need the addresses of these students – those who are away at school and those who live at home. If you have a Freshman in college, please call the church office and give us their address or write it down on the back of a “ministry response card” on a Sunday morning and place it in the offer plate or send us an email.

Union Lutheran Parish Register
New entries from July 16, 2010 – August 15, 2010

Funerals

Nancy M. Dougherty - August 4, 2010

July 30, 2010

	Current Period	Year to Date
INCOME:		
Unrestricted Contributions	30,152.74	237,267.30
Other Income	<u>4,473.83</u>	<u>31,314.22</u>
Total Income	34,626.57	268,581.52
 EXPENSES:		
Budgeted	31,413.25	264,030.27
Nonbudgeted	<u>0.00</u>	<u>(417.59)</u>
Total Expenses	31,413.25	263,612.68
 Excess Income over Expenses	 3,213.32	 4,968.84
	=====	=====
 July Contributions –		
Mortgage Reduction	20.00	
Vision2011	2,122.56	

You can lay the foundation for ministry into the new millenium.
Remember Union Lutheran Church in your will.

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church

Our mission is to work together to follow Jesus, teach the Word

and to serve God's people with love and commitment in our growing and changing world.

Schedule of Sunday Services: Worship Service 8:00 and 10:45 AM
Nursery for infants through age 5

Pastor: The Reverend Dennis W. Moore
Home Address: 946 Parkway Rd.
Allentown, PA 18104
Home Phone: 610-395-0044
E-mail: pastormoore@unionlutheranchurch.org

Interim Assoc. Pastor: The Reverend Ginny Goodwin
Home Phone: 610-928-3494
E-mail: pastorginny@unionlutheranchurch.org

Pastor Emeritus: The Reverend Donald W. Wert

Staff: Susan Hartney, Director of Music Ministries
E-mail: suzyflute@aol.com
Cathy C. Shaffer, Office Administrator/Treasurer
Shirley M. Rennolds, Assistant Office Administrator
Jacob F. Hammond, Sexton
Bonnie Krause, Parish Nurse
Dorothy Bealer, Parish Nurse
Lori Argot, Nursery Coordinator
Denise Hoffman & Kristine George, Nursery Care Givers
Rich Saffron, Director of Youth & Family Ministry

Church Office Phone: 610-767-6884

Church Office Hours: M, W, F 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM; T, Th 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

E-Mail Address: office@unionlutheranchurch.org

Website: www.ulclv.org

FAX and after-hours church facility phone: 610-767-9611

Lehigh Valley Hospital Pastoral Code #349

Congregation Council: Chuck Allison, Joe Burke, Josh Dietz, Dan Grim, Patty Hersh, Karin Jagiela, Steve Litz, Melissa Metzger, Donna Remaly, Chris Pirrotta, Richard Saffron, Linda Sell, Emily Steward, Keith Williams, Bill Zwickl



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**
God's work. Our hands.

UNION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
5500 ROUTE 873
SCHNECKSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA 18078
610-767-6884

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Schnecksville PA
Permit No. 20

Address Service Requested



September
2010



YOU ARE INVITED!

Please join us on **Sunday, October 24th at 2:30 PM** as we launch a brand new **Rejoicing Spirits** worship ministry here at Union Evangelical Lutheran Church.

UELC is reaching out and encouraging people with developmental disabilities to become a part of our faith community. To better serve those with special needs, we've designed an adapted worship service to engage these individuals, along with their caregivers, families, and other supportive members in the community. We have created an environment that is accepting and welcoming to all Children of God.

So many reasons to come...

- ▶ Lots of music and joyous singing
- ▶ Brief, meaningful messages
- ▶ Love-filled community
- ▶ Fellowship opportunities
- ▶ Light refreshments
- ▶ EVERYONE in the community is welcome and all faiths are welcome

The **Rejoicing Spirits** worship service is held the **fourth Sunday** of each month at **2:30 PM**.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the church office at 610-767-6884 or office@unionlutheranchurch.org. If you would like some invitations to share with your neighbors, please let the church office know.

Announcing the 3rd Annual Fall Basket Party

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church
5500 PA Route 873, Schnecksville

Friday, October 29th from 5-8pm
Saturday, October 30th from 9am to 2pm

Advance ticket sales-5 sheets for \$20.00
At the door 4 sheets for \$20.00 or \$5.00 a sheet

Do not need to be present to win!!!

FREE SHEET OF TICKETS

for every bag full of non-perishable food items for
the Northern Lehigh Food Bank.

Kitchen will be open both days serving...
Homemade Soups, Turkey BBQ, Hot Dogs,
Terry's Baked Beans, Pickled Cabbage, Homemade Desserts etc.

Benefits the Youth Mission Projects and ELCA National Youth Gathering

***Get a chance to win a "Special Halloween Treat Basket"
if you come in Halloween Costume!!!!**

To Donate a Basket

- (1) You can make up the basket for us.
- (2) Purchase the item(s) and we will make up the basket for you.
- (3) Donate a cash amount and we will do the shopping for you.

We will make sure your name goes on as a sponsor.

You may dedicate your basket In Honor of or In Memory of someone.

Ideas for Baskets

garden, towels, small appliances, candy, snacks, kitchen/house hold items,

sports themes, kids, toddler, teenager, books, inspirational,

Home sewn/knitted/crocheted items,

T-towels, candles, gift cards to local business,

just about anything you like could be made into a basket

Items can be too big for a basket

ex... Pot of mums, pumpkin, household appliance.

We will put into a clear bag and tag.

The past 2 years we requested the basket value to be about \$20. BUT, please know we will very gratefully accept any basket that is donated.

We kindly request no alcohol in the baskets

Join us for lunch and try your luck at winning a basket.

Tickets go on sale October 1st

Questions contact Patti Hoffman 610-799-2528 or chefhoff@ptd.net or Cathy Shaffer 610-767-6884 or Office@unionlutheranchurch.org

Thank you to the congregation for your support!!!

We can't do it without you!



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

For Everything There Is a Season

A pastoral letter from Presiding Bishop Mark S. Hanson

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

- Ecclesiastes 3:1

August 24, 2010

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

On a recent morning walk I reflected upon familiar words from Ecclesiastes, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSV). As I walked, I prayed and pondered about this time in the life of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). It is my prayer that we use this time for discerning and engaging; for repenting and reconciling; for restraint but not timidity; and for rejoicing.

A Time for Discerning and Engaging

Throughout the ELCA I hear people asking, "Is my voice heard? Will my voice be respected as we seek together to discern God's purpose for us?" The answer is yes. Nevertheless, people of deep faith and a desire to be part of this church wonder: Do we mean it when we say we can preach, teach and hold divergent views on sexuality and be full participants in the ELCA's life and witness? Again, the answer is yes.

My confident "yes" is predicated upon our shared commitment to be engaged together in discernment. This discernment is hard work. It must be grounded in the witness of the Scriptures and the Confessions, and it needs the voices of all the baptized. It calls for the Holy Spirit's guidance and our prayerful, disciplined and respectful listening to one another.

Even more, the source for my confident "yes" is God's gracious "yes" to us, spoken through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The "yes" of Jesus empowers us to be passionately engaged. It frees us to ask questions, have difficult conversations and uncover differences and tensions. It calls each of us to be everyday evangelists, discerning together what the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ means for the world and for our common life.

Let our shared commitment be that our discerning together always will serve our proclamation of Jesus Christ in word and deed and our engagement in God's mission for the life of the world.

A Time for Repenting and Reconciling

The most powerful moment in the recent assembly of The Lutheran World Federation occurred when Lutherans asked for forgiveness from God and from Mennonites for the violence done to Anabaptist Christians in Reformation times and through the continuing legacies in Lutheran teachings. This public act of repentance, with many delegates on their knees, was a powerful witness to the healing of wounds in Christ's body, the church.

With tears in our eyes, we heard promises of God's mercy in Christ and words of forgiveness from Mennonite sisters and brothers as we received and shared God's gift of forgiveness and healing.

This experience of reconciliation is underscored for me in the fifth chapter of 2 Corinthians: the powerful announcement that if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. This new creation rises from Jesus, who died rather than be in the sin-accounting business.

The implication for us of the gospel's transforming power is that we become ambassadors for Christ. God has entrusted to each of us the message and ministry of reconciliation.

As yet another Lutheran church body forms, we must ask how this separation in the body of Christ will serve the ministry and message of reconciliation entrusted to us by God.

The ELCA has and will continue reaching out to others for the sake of the gospel and serving our neighbor. Standing together, we are known as a church that rolls up its sleeves and solves problems, the church that is catalyst, convener and bridge builder. Our strong ecumenical relationships and global partnerships testify to that commitment. Yet before the ELCA can undertake any such efforts with a new Lutheran church body, I believe we must commit to obey the commandment against bearing false witness and commit to live its meaning in every setting, both private and public: "We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light" (The Small Catechism, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 1161).

A Time for Restraint but not Timidity

We live in a world that is plagued by incivility, willful misunderstanding and hurtful caricatures of those with whom one disagrees. Let us declare that such behaviors will stop with us. There is room in this church for lively conversations and disagreements about questions of faith and life. There is room in this church for vigorous dialogue that witnesses to faith without rushing to judgment and closing off discussion.

Let us be restrained in our judgments and speak charitably with and about one another. Let us not be timid as we boldly proclaim Jesus Christ and participate in God's healing of the world. Let us generously, faithfully and courageously respond to the groaning of the creation and the cries of humanity.

A Time for Rejoicing

Even in the midst of great challenges in the economy and in the church, we can rejoice because the ministry in which we are engaged is a ministry of God's mercy and reconciliation in Christ. Our ministry is not about us, our shortcomings or our problems, for we proclaim Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the forgiveness that God offers at the font and the table, in public proclamation and personal assurance. We celebrate the reconciliation from God that breaks down every dividing wall of hostility and unites humankind in the bonds of Christ. We delight in the promise of the new creation that God is bringing to life in Christ. We joyfully embrace the world and all its inhabitants in love and service. What a cause for rejoicing! By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful presence; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen. (*Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 75)

In God's grace,

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson
Presiding Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Copyright © 2010 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

All rights reserved. This copyright notice must appear on all copies and reproductions.

Copies may be produced for distribution within the ELCA by affiliated ELCA organizations.

Union Evangelical Lutheran Church
Income and Expense Statement (UNAUDITED)
GENERAL FUND
For the Five Months Ended May 31, 2010

% of Fiscal Year Complete **41.67%**

	Year-to-Date Actual	Annual Budget	% of Budget	Prior Year YTD Actual	Fav/(Unfav) to Prior Yr	% Change
INCOME						
CONTRIBUTIONS						
UNRESTRICTED	\$ 180,228.86	\$ 439,120.67	41.04%	\$ 184,706.30	(4,477.44)	-2.42%
DESIGNATED GIFTS	-	-	0.00%	4,345.41	(4,345.41)	-100.00%
Subtotal Contributions	180,228.86	439,120.67	41.04%	189,051.71	(8,822.85)	-4.67%
EQUITY FROM UCC						
EQUITY FROM UCC	22,135.40	53,125.00	41.67%	22,135.40	-	0.00%
INVESTMENT INCOME	222.07	295.17	75.23%	133.50	88.57	66.34%
Subtotal Equity From UCC	22,357.47	53,420.17	41.85%	22,268.90	88.57	0.40%
TOTAL INCOME	202,586.33	492,540.84	41.13%	211,320.61	(8,734.28)	-4.13%
EXPENSES						
BENEVOLENCE/MISSION	15,000.00	45,775.00	32.77%	14,583.30	(416.70)	-2.86%
PERSONNEL						
SALARIES	61,832.18	158,397.96	39.04%	63,611.13	1,778.95	2.80%
BENEFITS	24,220.14	88,309.96	27.43%	32,929.76	8,709.62	26.45%
MISCELLANEOUS PERSONNEL	20,856.24	15,078.92	138.31%	6,133.22	(14,723.02)	-240.05%
Subtotal Personnel	106,908.56	261,786.84	40.84%	102,674.11	(4,234.45)	-4.12%
GENERAL & ADMINISTRATIVE						

OFFICE EXPENSES	8,148.52	19,750.00	41.26%	8,341.28	192.76	2.31%
PROPERTY	22,859.46	65,445.00	34.93%	20,302.10	(2,557.36)	-12.60%
Subtotal General & Administrative	31,007.98	85,195.00	36.40%	28,643.38	(2,364.60)	-8.26%
PROGRAMMING & COMMITTEES						
EDUCATION	3,294.20	10,434.00	31.57%	2,190.26	(1,103.94)	-50.40%
GOD'S TEAM	149.26	950.00	15.71%	157.64	8.38	5.32%
FELLOWSHIP	530.74	2,200.00	24.12%	604.11	73.37	12.15%
STAFF SUPPORT	-	400.00	0.00%	-	-	0.00%
SOCIAL MINISTRY	(646.46)	1,600.00	-40.40%	348.97	995.43	285.25%
CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP	-	3,925.00	0.00%	-	-	0.00%
SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES	327.00	1,000.00	32.70%	484.00	157.00	32.44%
WORSHIP/MUSIC	2,042.28	6,425.00	31.79%	2,432.57	390.29	16.04%
YOUTH MINISTRY	2,585.65	3,850.00	67.16%	2,243.75	(341.90)	-15.24%
CONTINGENCY FUND	1,165.76	500.00	233.15%	86.84	(1,078.92)	1242.42%
Subtotal Programming & Committees	9,448.43	31,284.00	30.20%	8,548.14	(900.29)	-10.53%
MORTGAGE PAYMENTS	26,758.04	68,500.00	39.06%	30,277.54	3,519.50	11.62%
PAYMENTS-DESIGNATED GIFTS	-	-	0.00%	3,964.52	3,964.52	100.00%
MISCELLANEOUS	(494.81)	-	0.00%	(1,529.71)	(1,034.90)	67.65%
TOTAL EXPENSES	188,628.20	492,540.84	38.30%	187,161.28	(1,466.92)	-0.78%
EXCESS INCOME\ (EXPENSES)	\$ 13,958.13	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 24,159.33	\$ (10,201.20)	-42.22%

The July financial statements were reviewed. In comparing the Income Statement to year-to-date July 2009:

- a. General giving is down 2.77% (\$237,267 vs. \$249,114).
- b. Expenses are up by 1.24% (Personnel up 4.07% (\$150,750 vs. \$144,860), Office Expense down 7.12% (\$10,758 vs. \$11,583), Property up 0.60% (\$29,521 vs. \$29,345), Benevolence/ Programming up 7.35% (\$35,540 vs. \$33,106) and Mortgage down 10.57% (\$37,461 vs. \$41,891)).
- c. Unrestricted available cash as of July 31st is \$89,268.
- d.