



Pittsburgh Lutheran

July-August 2008

Concordia Stores Medical Equipment Headed to Philippines, Thanks to Board Member Betts

CABOT—A partnership among Concordia Lutheran Ministries, American Renal Associates and Kittanning physician Dr. Ross Betts will soon send medical equipment to the Philippines. Betts is a member of Concordia's board of directors.

Betts, a nephrologist, and American Renal, the local dialysis company in Kittanning, donated 15 dialysis machines and six dialysis

chairs to the Philippine American Medical Society of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. (PAMS). Due to the makeup of the dialysis machines, however, they can only be shipped in warm weather.

Concordia president and CEO Keith Frndak volunteered the Oertel Care Center at the Concordia at Cabot campus to store the machines until it is warm enough to ship them. Betts said he was pleased with the potential and promise the gift will give to the people of the Philippines. "The need is great in the Philippines, and Concordia's help was instrumental in properly caring for this sensitive equipment," he said.

Chris Ford, president of American Renal Associates, said, "ARA is always looking to help internationally with organizations like PAMS." Betts recently purchased new machines for the Kittanning facility, but recognized that there was still life in the previous ones. He said that each

(Please turn to page 2.)

Immanuel Senior Luncheon Begins 10th Year of Ministry

BRADDOCK—A \$3,800 grant from the Eastern District LWML will enable the Senior Luncheon Ministry to continue to serve a free home-cooked meal to Mon Valley area seniors once a month. The LWML grant will also provide new kitchen equipment.

Below, Edith Tubbs and Margie Smith stock shelves, with help from a \$300 donation from the local Lion's Club.



Peace Begins With a Celebration

UPPER ST. CLAIR—On Saturday, May 17, 2008 a Celebration Dinner, to commemorate the beginning of Peace Lutheran Church, was held in the Fellowship Hall. About 80 people were in attendance.

The guests descended the stairs to find an upright metal stand holding a copy of the Peace Lutheran Church Constitution, Bylaws and Charter Membership Booklet. Happily, each new member signed his or her name to the yellow parchment pages of the document.

The evening began with a table full of delicious hors d'oeuvres. Guests mingled and enjoyed lighthearted conversation, while Linda and Connor Daley shared their musical talents by providing a background of lovely piano music.

Following a dinner prayer by Rev. Jamison Hardy, everyone was invited to the buffet line beginning with the head table. The meal was catered by PJ's catering. Pam, the owner, is known for her delicious home-style cooking. Sitting at the head table were Rev. John and Evelyn Molitoris, Rev. Jamison and Wendy Hardy, Rev. Bob McCanless, and Rev. Neville and Anna Marie Mirtschin. The tables were beautifully decorated. They had either a yellow or pink tablecloth and in the middle of each table sat a black painted wooden sign that read: **Peace**.

(Please turn to page 10.)

Don't Forget to Sign Up for July-August Vacation Bible School

VBS programs to occur in July and August:

Ascension, McCandless

Power Lab, *Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power* will be the VBS program held July 21-July 25 at 5:45-8:15 p.m. Call 412.364.4463 to register. Registration fee: \$5.

Bethel, Glenshaw

VBS will have an Olympic theme July 21-25; the youth will plan the program with a mission project for China.

Calvary, Murrysville

Grab your walking shoes and head over to Calvary, Murrysville for *Friendship Trek*, where we will learn that *Jesus is our Forever Friend*. VBS will be held July 7-11 from 9 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Call 724.327.2898 for registration and receive a free CD of all of the songs.

Concordia, Brentwood

After a hiatus last summer, Vacation Bible School planned for August 4-8, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. utilizing the CPH program *Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend*.

St. Luke, Cabot

Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend will be held July 28-August 2.

St. Paul, New Kensington

Members are in prayer and having outreach meetings to ask the Lord to guide them through the difficult processes of God-led changes, planning and anticipating many young kids for VBS this year, at *Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend*, July 14-18, 2008. Time is 9 a.m. to noon.

VBS programs which were held in June:

Christ, Forest Hills

Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend, June 16-26

Christ, Newcastle

Power Lab, Discovering Jesus' Miraculous Power, June 16-20

Redeemer, Oakmont

Jerusalem Marketplace, June 16-20

St. John, Millvale

Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend, June 16-20

Zion, Accident

Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend, June 16-20

Zion, Bridgeville

Friendship Trek: Jesus, Our Forever Friend, June 23-27

Medical Equipment to Philippines

(Continued from page 1.)

machine is valued at \$1,500, and the chairs are worth about \$500 apiece. They should operate without problem for at least four to five years.

In a December letter to Betts, PAMS President Dr. Antonia A. Mendoza said the dialysis machines and chairs would be a tremendous help to Individuals living in remote areas of the Philippines who have no access to dialysis centers, which are located only in the cities. PAMS provides medical and surgical care in all specialties. They provide more than 2,000 medical consultations and 200 surgical procedures every year. "Concordia is pleased to be able to assist this gesture of good will. We realize God's special blessings here and believe it is our duty to reach out to people in need throughout our world," Frndak said.

Article from the *Leader-Times*, April 2008.

Churches Seeking Organists

Redeemer, Oakmont


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Send resume to jnaumann@redeemer-oakmont.org, or byh31@comcast.net.

St. Thomas, Pittsburgh

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Newcastle Has a New Citizen

NEWCASTLE—Congratulations to Sonia Zang, the wife of Rev. James Zang, who became a naturalized citizen of the United States of America on Thursday, May 29, 2008 at Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Museum in Pittsburgh. In honor of the 250th anniversary of the naming of Pittsburgh in 1758, 250 individuals were chosen to take the Oath of Allegiance given by Chief Justice Donnetta Ambrose.


Several congregational members and a good friend from St. Louis, Joe Harwell, along with Pastor James

and son Jason were present for the ceremony. A reception was held for the new citizens and their guests at the Cathedral of Learning and all were invited to tour the Nationality Classrooms there.

After church on Sunday the congregation at Christ Lutheran honored Sonia by having a reception with decorations done in a patriotic theme.

From left, Pat Dienert, Nancy Schlumberger, Jason and Sonia Zang, Rev. James Zang, Annette Miller, Ann Houk.



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PALM Monthly Board Meeting
Date: 4th Tuesday of each month
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Location varies. Contact Terry Nelson-Taylor (412.480.0903 or terryntaylor@verizon.net).

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Nar-Anon Family Group Meetings Held at Bethel
 GLENSHAW—Family members of persons with substance abuse problems support each other and get education about how best to help their loved ones. The Nar-Anon Family Group at Bethel meetings are held on Mondays at 7 p.m. Call the church office for more information (412.486.5777).

Congregation News

From Scouts to Sports, of Accolades and Anniversaries,

Ascension, McCandless



Eagle Scout Christopher Shaginaw of St. Mary's Boy Scout Troop 169 in Shaler and member of Ascension, McCandless was honored at an Eagle Scout Court of Honor on April 6. Chris Shaginaw, 18, son of Frank and Cheryl Shaginaw of Allison Park, is a 2007 graduate of Deer Lakes High School. He currently attends Slippery Rock University where he is majoring in Business and Computer Science. Chris's Eagle project was the painting and refurbishment of the fellowship hall, connecting stairwells, entry way and outer waiting area of the women's restroom at Ascension.

Congratulations to Ted Connolly who was named one of the Fabulous Five Basketball All Stars selected by the *Post-Gazette* Scholastic Sports staff. Ted, a 2008 North Allegheny High School graduate, will be attending the U.S. Naval Academy.

Congratulations to Rev. Brennan and Dawn Gaertner on the birth of daughter Dollyanne Margaret on April 24. Dollyanne joins siblings Laurence, Reed, Gabe, Tillie, Oak and Stone. Youth group attended the two-day Acquire the Fire Christian event in early May.

Calvary, Murrysville

Congregation turned fellowship hall into a "bed and breakfast" for 22 college-age bicyclists who are cycling cross-country (New York to Seattle) to raise \$100,000 for cancer research. A car cruise to benefit Meals on Wheels will be held on July 27 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. DJ Jeff Alan will provide music.

Christ, Forest Hills

Congratulations to Ryan Polidora, who helped Norwin High School capture five plaques and place second in

an area Science Challenge; and to Nathan Thiem, whose Woodland Hills Mock Trial team made it to the second round in the state championship.

Judy Chick and Karen Hoblak attended as delegates to the LWML 2008 Eastern District 32nd biennial Convention in Rochester, NY. Rev. Ronald Bright was voted in to become the new junior counselor for the LWML Eastern District.

Christ, New Castle

New members are Bonnie Miller, Marge Del'Castello, Will and Carol Mangino and Kurt and Beth Hallowich whose children, Tyler and Alexandria, were also baptized.

Congratulations to Taylor Miller, who received a high merit award in the young poets contest and her poem was chosen for publication.

Grace Currie was presented with the perfect attendance in Sunday school award. The Sunday school children were treated to a trip to Chuck E Cheese.

The annual block party will be held July 16 at 6 p.m. for church members and neighbors. Hot dogs, corn on the cob and watermelon will be served, gifts will be given out, the choir will perform and entertainment for the children will be provided.

The church picnic will be held at Pearson Park on August 3.

Concordia, Brentwood

John Ubinger, Jr. has a Web site featuring "National Geographic quality" photos from a four-month journey in India and Nepal: www.flickr.com/photos/ubinger.



The Garden Club will hold a plant sale on the church grounds the morning of the Brentwood July 4th parade. As the church is along the parade route, and as it is one of the

biggest area celebrations, it has proven an excellent venue in which to not only raise funds for the ongoing beautification of the church grounds, but also to invite the community into the church with each visitor and sale!

Faith, Butler



Dedication of the new roof is planned for early October.

Rev. George Dolak and his wife Martha were given a surprise **50th anniversary** celebration after services on Sunday, June 8th at Faith Lutheran Church in Butler. Fun, fellowship, cake and ice cream were enjoyed by all.



Grace, Penn Hills

Happy **50th anniversary** to Norman and Mary Michel; double anniversaries for Rev. Berton Greenway: **20th** of his ordination into the ministry and **15th** as pastor at Grace.

Congratulations to Cindy Altman, who is beginning a pre-doctoral internship at Boys' Town, Omaha, NE through Duquesne University. Congratulations to college graduates Ashley Berry (Immaculata Univer-

Fasting, Feasting, Celebrating and Cleaning Up

sity); Sarah Fanto (University of Pittsburgh, mechanical engineering); Alex Stubenbort (Westminster College; philosophy).

Immanuel, Braddock

Happy 60th anniversary to former pastor Rev. Paul and Carol Kreyling, who served 1971-1978.

Redeemer, Oakmont

Youth group attended the Higher Things summer conference in Scranton, PA in June; planning to attend Pirate Game in July.

Congratulations to Nathan Auvil, who received the Neuroscience Faculty Award from Allegheny College for his research contributions; he is pursuing a master's degree in medical science. Congratulations to Jonathan Baisch, part of a 5-person team which won the Grove City College Senior Electrical Engineering Competition; the team designed a computer operating system for gantry crane units at Bechtel Corporation.

St. John, Morrisdale

Why wait for Easter or Christmas to fill the church with flowers? Members observed 2nd Annual Geranium Sunday on May 25, filling the church with live plants (red for observance of Armed Forces Sunday).

Waneta Lingenfelter, Barb Brown, Karen Kusko and Deaconess Nancy Lingenfelter attended the 32nd Biennial Eastern District LWML Convention in Rochester, NY June 6-8. Plans are underway to attend the Women's Retreat at Pioneer Camp September 19-21; guest speaker will be Rev. David Belasic, former president of the Eastern District.

The Creation Cleanup Crew of 20 spent a Saturday in May clearing seven miles of local roadways, cumulating in 50 bags of litter.

St. Luke, Cabot

Youth participated in annual World Vision 30-Hour Famine and fundraiser. During the "famine" the youth volunteered to pack clothing and other goods at the World Vision Gifts in Kind Center in Pittsburgh and then hosted an evening concert by Kevin Schlereth of the band Engaged from Missouri.

St. Matthew, Pittsburgh

Armed Forces Sunday was ob-

served with geraniums.

Trinity of the Deaf, Pittsburgh

Two anniversaries were observed this spring: 45th anniversary of the building dedication and the 87th year of outreach to the deaf in Pittsburgh. Former pastor Rev. Edwin Bergstresser (Columbus, OH) and Rev. Gary Lawson (Cleveland, OH) were guest preachers. Many certificates of appreciation were presented to members who served faithfully for many years: Don Mowl (more than 45 years in various offices); Harrison Lewis (treasurer for past 15 years), John Welch, Edwin & Alice Kooser, Edward & Elsie Kooser, Vendetta Sanders, Wayne & Marian Ritchey, John & Patty Saraka, Harrison Lewis, Mary Mowl, John & Janet Ward and June Paul. Lou and David Kieffer received certificates on behalf of their parents who served the church for more than 40 years; Lou Kieffer presented the church with more than \$1,000 from a LCEF investment made by his parents years ago.

Don and Mary Mowl's nephew Jon Mowl, a student at Gallaudet University, is making a coast-to-coast bicycle trip with two other Gallaudet students in memory of Kevin Mowl, who died from battle wounds received in Baghdad, Iraq. They left Atlantic City, NJ on May 14 and hope to make Venice Beach, CA by mid-July. Annual church picnic planned for August 2 at Billy Bell Park in Washington, PA. Welcome to new member Brian Sita, confirmed on Mary 25; joins wife Tammi, a member since 1993. Their four children were baptized on March 30 by Rev. Bergstresser.

Zion, Accident

On April 27, 2008, Lois Kolb was recognized for 40 years of service to Zion Lutheran Church. Lois has served as custodian, altar guild, and

is very active in LWML both at Zion and in the Eastern district. Lois is married to Gurney Kolb. They have four children, Ruth Ann Hahn, Darl Kolb, Glen Kolb, and Rita Fitzwater; and four grandchildren, Carrie and Amanda Hahn, Lori and Anet Fitzwater.



Dave Higdon and Jim Joslin traveled to Camp Restore in New Orleans, LA in April to help rebuild homes and lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Another trip is being planned for October. Everyone is welcome to go along. Contact the church office, 301.746.8170, for more information.

Zion, Bridgeville

July 12 is the Annual Fellowship gathering to PNC Park for a Pirates game.

Zion, Lawrenceville

Rev. Ron Rafferty will be traveling to Hatteras Island, Outer Banks, to marry one of Zion's members, Alexander Freyer to Megan Lennox. The ceremony will take place on the beach Monday, July 7. Family will join them for a small family reception and vacation for the week.

Alex, a lifelong member of Zion, is the son of William and Shirley Freyer and grandson of Mildred Molkenthin. His cousin, Naomi Agostino, also a member, will do a reading and his goddaughter, Felicity Agostino, will be a flower girl. His future bride is the daughter of Doug and Cindy Grafton of Ford City. The couple are 2006 graduates of the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing where they met and both are staff nurses at UPMC. After a honeymoon in Jamaica, they will live in Allison Park. The Freyers will host a reception on August 16 at Heinz Field.



Christ School, Forest Hills



“Run for the Son” servant event was held June 1 to raise funds for others in need. Kindergarten through 8th grade took time during the afternoon to help another 8th grade student whose father has been diagnosed with cancer; the students ran to raise funds to assist the family with their medical bills. Students pledged to run or walk a certain amount of laps and then collected donations based on their laps pledged. A total of 53.2 miles were completed by the students and over \$500 was raised.



On June 2, 8th grade graduation was held for Brandon Jones, Samantha Kelly, Ethan King, Darnell Lee, Zach Matey, Kristin McMahon, Michael Sivak, Haley Tougher

Immanuel Preschool, Braddock

Preschool will not continue for 2008-2009 school year after 20 years of teaching.

Peace Preschool, Upper St. Clair

After 12 years of serving Bethel Park, Upper St. Clair, Peters Town-



ship and surrounding communities, Little Lambs of Hope Christian Preschool concluded with its last graduating class on May 20. The “little lambs” were dressed up and donned their handmade cap (mortar board) and attached tassel. They marched forward to the tune of Pomp and Circumstance played by Linda Daley. Each boy and girl received a diploma, a cross and a Bible, purchased with generous donations from members of Peace Lutheran Church. Rev. Neville Mirtschin gave an object lesson to the children. The preschool was founded while Rev. Mirtschin was serving Hope Lutheran in 1996. How fitting that he should be at the last graduation ceremony. Mark Kiefer presented the teachers, Mettelise Ziegler, Jennifer Kotkiewicz and Pam Kabo, with a gift from the congregation. The service concluded with the singing of “Jesus Loves Me”. Cookies and punch were served in the narthex.

Redeemer, Oakmont

On May 14, grades 1-3 enjoyed an afternoon fieldtrip to the Pittsburgh Playhouse in Oakland for a production of Frog and Toad after learning about the author and reading several of the books based on the two characters. In addition, some of the children used the Frog and Toad series as a theme in their various learning centers.



May 16, students from grades 1-8 joined students from St. Luke’s Lutheran School (Cabot, PA) at Concordia Lutheran Home for morning activities. Children spent time with residents playing games, making banners with them, talking with them and singing songs for them. Older students also planned to do work to beautify the grounds for residents to enjoy. Following their morning at Concordia Lutheran Home, students from Redeemer Lutheran School went to St. Luke’s to have lunch, learn and play games with fellow Lutheran School students in our area.

On May 20, 7th and 8th graders from the school flew to Washington,



D. C. for their annual class trip. Students toured the White House and Capitol Building, and went to the National Archives building, Holocaust museum, and Spy Museum where students learned about espionage. In addition, students saw the Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial.

Students returned to school May 23 just in time for Pittsburgh Area Lutheran Schools Track & Field Day. Grades 3-8 headed to Oliver High school on the North Side for the sporting event, which included a variety of traditional Track & Field events and races. Students have been working hard to train and compete in tug-of-war, various races and jumping challenges. Older students also revved up by joining a running club at Redeemer which took place after school. Children in K-2nd grade also experienced Track & Field Day, with activities taking place on Redeemer School grounds.

Also on May 20, 5th and 6th graders headed to camp Lutherlyn for an overnighter. Students had unique learning opportunities regarding echo systems, survival skills, and how to work/build together. An evening campfire and night sounds walk were also enjoyed.

Submitted by Gretchen Schinkel, Admissions Counselor

St. Matthew School, Pittsburgh

On February 4, 1874, St. Matthew Lutheran School was “born”. On June 9, 2008, the school will close after 128 years of operation (there was a time during the Depression Years that the school was closed).

St. Luke, Cabot

The weather was perfect for our PALS Track and Field Day at Oliver High School, where student athletes from St. Luke, Redeemer, Christ, and St. Matthew jumped, threw, ran, and tugged in eight exciting events, vying for more than 450 prize ribbons. Rev. Barry Keurulainen started off this friendly Christian competition with a fun interactive opening devotion. Does anyone remember the approximate

year we began field day, which events were held, or any anecdotes from the "old days"? I'd appreciate receiving any information for a future alumni news article—please e-mail me at stlukeschool@stlukecabot.org.

The annual school picnic featured old-fashioned outdoor games and food, as well as the all-school "Mile Run"; this year, seventh grader Troy Mathews crossed the finish line first, followed by...the rest of the school!



The final day of school ended with a chapel service and awards ceremony. Many students received recognition for honor rolls, perfect attendance, music, art, physical fitness, science, math, good citizenship, leadership, and American Legion essays.

Submitted by Sharon Ambrose

Trinity Preschool, Monroeville

Trinity Lutheran Preschool is in the process of forming a Together With Twos class to begin again in September. This class meets on Thursday morning from 9:30-11 a.m. Children bring along an adult to join the fun. Children do not have to be potty trained to attend. Bible stories, crafts, free play, music, literature, and large muscle activities are presented every class. The mothers stay in the classroom, but are able to discuss parenting joys or concerns while the children are playing. Siblings may attend also. Bring a friend for twice the fun. Registration is on going. The class limit is six families. Call 412.372.9046 for further information.

Our May 16 field trip to Round Hill Farm was open to all of our preschool families. This was a culmination of our farm unit. Despite some rain, everyone enjoyed seeing farm life and feeding the ducks. We ended our day with picnic lunches. One of our preschool moms made a DVD of our day and presented each family with a copy at the graduation program.

Submitted by Kathy Sourbeer

Gifts from the Heart

Gifts from the Heart will be a regular column to list or showcase outreach through time, talent and treasure.

Ascension, McCandless — Shepherd's Heart Fellowship Homeless Mission

Bethel, Glenshaw — Bethesda Lutheran Homes; Concordia Lutheran Ministries; International Student/Campus Ministries (First Trinity, Oakland); The Pittsburgh Lutheran

Calvary, Murrysville — Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry; Tabitha women's group collected money through the Christmas card fund, their Christmas tree fund and from the craft and bake sale they had. They donated the money to three people for medical needs, flood victim, and the Sonshine Kitchen; each received \$802. From their re-made all occasion cards they were able to donate \$100 to Mark Mozeik, a Seminary student and former member of Calvary.

Christ, Forest Hills — A benefit dinner, a garage/yard sale and a strawberry festival were held to raise funds in support of a member family going through a medical crisis. Quilters group sent quilts to the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch.

Concordia, Brentwood — Stewart Avenue Lutheran Church Food Pantry; Concordia also continues to help sponsor second year Seminary student Jim Moshier at CTS-Ft. Wayne. They are looking forward to another visit from Jim and his wife Renee this fall, and hearing him preach for the first time.

Epiphany, Penn Hills —



The Prayer Shawl Ministry at Epiphany has been in existence for almost 11 months. We have grown from two knitters / crocheters to an additional two who help us when possible. In that time we have created prayer shawls, lap robes and

the occasional baby blanket that have been distributed to 22 people. We continue to make these items because we never seem able to build up a reserve; in addition we are working to make scarves to share with some youth before the winter chill returns. We have been supported in our efforts with occasional financial contributions, the most recent coming from the Community Caring Corner at Epiphany. This ministry takes of our time and our talents, but the thankful responses that we receive fill our hearts. Pictured are Rhonda Pope and Inge Pizzica.

Good Shepherd, Whitehall — C.A.E.A.P. Food Bank at St. Elizabeth's; rummage sale benefitted Raise the Roof, which builds home for South African orphans; Sunday School mission offerings for St. Matthew Christian Academy.

St. John, Millvale — Soldiers serving in Iraq; Bethel Lutheran, Biloxi, MS (Hurricane Katrina Ministry)

St. John, Morrisdale — Braille Centers at Prince of Peace (Freedom) and Zion (Accident); sponsorship of a Bethesda Home resident and a Fort Wayne seminary student.

St. Luke, Cabot — A month-long "baby shower" was held for Lifeline Crisis Pregnancy Center in Butler.

Zion, Accident — Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Moline, IL (Sri Lanka mission); Lanka Lutheran Church; Unity Community Lutheran Church Building Fund; quilts for Lutheran World Relief.

Zion, Lawrenceville — Ladies Aid made a gift of \$1260 to the congregation from funds raised for its Second Annual Tea Party on May 10. In addition they donated \$1000 to LCMS World Relief.

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*International Student Ministry***Maggie's Baptism**

SLIPPERY ROCK—After almost a quarter century of being around college students at All Saints Lutheran Church and Student Center, it still amazes and thrills me to see how God leads students to baptism. One thing I've seen over and over again is that it is God's doing. This was brought home to me again this past semester. I thought that an international student who has been studying the Bible for two years would be baptized, but instead it was Maggie, a school-teacher from China who was baptized. This is the story of how she came to be baptized. But in reality, it is God's story of what He does.

Maggie's baptism began over 10 years ago. The first time she was told about Jesus by some college students in China she didn't pay much attention. The next time those students told her about Jesus Maggie was ready to listen. In fact, she believed what they were telling her about Jesus. She started to read the Bible and kept on reading it. However, she either did not understand or chose not to understand the importance of making time in her demanding academic schedule for Christian fellowship and for church worship. She didn't even consider herself to be a Christian because she had not been baptized and she didn't know how to get baptized. For 10 years she was a silent believer.

The first time Maggie's university in China offered her the privilege of becoming an exchange student to SRU she turned it down because she couldn't bear to be away from her baby daughter. She never expected to get another offer to be an exchange student. But when she did she considered it a miracle. This time she was ready to come. She felt she could be away for six months while her mother-in-law took care of her precious child.

Maggie came to Slippery Rock University last January for the spring term determined to do excellent work as a student here. She worked night and day to earn outstanding grades. She did not make time for movie nights, church meals or worship at All Saints. However, she did accept an invitation from Professor Shin, a devoted Christian exchange professor from South Korea, to attend a worship service at



Maggie's friend Professor Shin, Jim Mennell, Rev. Michael Scheer, with Rayah Claypool, Maggie and Augusta Mennell. The Mennells are Maggie's godparents.

All Saints. He had attended many functions at All Saints as well as church worship, so he felt comfortable inviting her to worship here.

Not knowing that Maggie was a Christian, church member Jim Mennell sat next to her and explained everything that the pastor was doing and saying, hoping to interest her in coming back to church. It wasn't until after church that she stated that she had been a believer for 10 years. When Rev. Michael Sheer heard that Maggie was a believer he asked if she had been baptized. He realized that not all Christians practice baptism. Maggie responded that she never been baptized and she exclaimed that she'd never even dreamed this would be possible.

Maggie came to Pastor Sheer for catechetical instruction. He quickly determined that Maggie did believe in Jesus as her Savior. Pastor Sheer prepared her for baptism. It was like an unimaginable dream coming true. Her baptism took place on April 27 during the church service. In the church to see her baptism was a very close friend and also a colleague from China who is not a Christian. Maggie was publicly baptized. All could witness that she was God's child now in baptism. Her face reflected the joy she felt.

God not only led her to baptism, He also arranged for Maggie's baptism to be a witness to her colleagues back home in China, one of whom just happened to be have been at SRU last year and who is Maggie's office mate at their university in China. That colleague had been

afraid that baptism would hinder her child's education in China, so she did not allow it here at All Saints even though her child indicated belief and a willingness to be baptized. Prayerfully the Lord will work through Maggie's baptism to inspire more baptisms in China.

After baptism and before returning to China, Maggie came in to ask many questions. She wanted to know where she should worship; how she should show care for her husband and in-laws; and how she should establish priorities. She was deeply concerned with how to grow in her faith. She gladly took a *CPH Self Study Bible* (with footnotes), the *NIV Trimline Bible* that fits in a purse, the *People's Bible* commentaries on Luke and on Genesis, *100 Bible Stories* (CPH), and *Luther's Small Catechism with Explanations in Chinese and English* published by the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. These will help her in her baptismal walk as a Christian. So will the prayers of all the Christians who witnessed her baptism. Maggie, who is such a sincere, loving person, will always be held in prayer for God's blessings.

Maggie's baptism was the Lord's work. He used some students to plant the seed, some Lutherans to water the seed, and the South Korean professor to invite her to the church where she would be publicly baptized. Even after so many years it is awesome to see what God can do; He prepares the way for His children to be baptized.

*By Augusta R. Mennell
Campus Ministry Director
All Saints Lutheran Church and
Student Center*

Campus Ministry

First Trinity's Lutheran Student Fellowship—God gives generously!

My father and I just returned from a three week+ trip to the Baltics. Please include prayers for Yevgenja, 20, a Russian/Latvian student at the University of Jelgava who was my waitress at a pub in Riga, Latvia. We openly and at length discussed the death of her father when she was 11 and how that had led her to reject God. She said she would email me to continue the conversation. Please also give thanks for the Christian hospitality of Laura, a student at the University of Helsinki, who was our host in the Finnish capital. ISM of Pittsburgh—they come here AND we go there! EA

Finally, see the powerful witness given by one of students here in Pittsburgh in the article below:

When I became a Christian about five years ago it was pretty exciting (as I'm sure you can image). Almost every word spoken about the Christian faith was a revelation to me. I was learning and asking questions. But as the questions got harder, what I found was a host of varying and sometimes contradicting answers. For me to sort out what was true and what was not seemed an impossible task. I was pretty tempted to go along with today's standard fallacy: "Jesus died for you, *and the rest doesn't matter.*" But then I had to ask, "If it didn't matter, why would God say anything about it?" No, if God cared enough to say something, I certainly wanted to care. I distinctly remember reading James 1:5-6: "*If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault and it will be given to him. But when he asks, he should not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind.*"

Well, I already felt "blown and tossed by the wind" and was quite in doubt that I would ever be given the wisdom to tell good doctrine from bad—and what was worse, this doubt seemed to promise more blowing and tossing about. So I prayed earnestly that I would not doubt, and that I would be given wisdom.

And God gave me First Trinity. I can think of no better way that Pastor Andrae could respect his students than by never glazing over or dumbing down teachings. Both com-

plex and simple questions are answered thoroughly and thoughtfully. This is what we are hungry for, *this* is what we need, because man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord—every word. Through his ministry, Pastor Andrae has helped me to better decipher and apply God's word by teaching Law and Gospel, the Doctrine of Vocation, and the Two Realms. This alone has impacted my life tremendously. But I can also add that I trust Pastor Andrae as counsel and have found support in personal dilemmas.

"If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God who gives generously without finding fault." No, I have no doubts that God answered my prayer. Indeed, He provided more than I asked for and more than I hoped for. Honestly, "gives generously" is a bit of an understatement. I've been so blessed through First Trinity—and thank God all the time for bringing me here.

Diana Pascoe, Junior, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh Pastoral Conference, May 13, 2008

Please support this vital and thriving mission with your contributions. Make your check out to "First Trinity," with "campus ministry" in the memo line and mail to: LSF, 535 N. Neville St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213. For more information: ERA@FirstTrinity.net, 412-683-4121, or www.LSFPgh.com.



July 8 — Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group, 2 p.m., Lund Care Center, Cabot

July 20-25 — Campraise at Camp Pioneer, Angola, NY

July 21 — 5th Annual Concordia Lutheran Ministries Golf Outing, Deer Run Golf Club, Gibsonia, 8:30 a.m.

July 27 — Concordia Lutheran Ministries 127th Annual Summer Festival, Noon - 6 p.m.



Rev. Eric Andre (right) with his father, Rev. Hans Andre (left) and Rev. Vanags, in Riga.

Wedding and Bridesmaids Dresses Needed In Nicaragua

ACCIDENT—The Orphan Grain Train (Maryland Division) would like to help in Nicaragua by collecting wedding and bridesmaid dresses.

Your donated wedding gown or bridesmaid's dress will start a little rental business that will supplement the meager income a deaconess has (\$50 a month). Recently we were in Nicaragua speaking to a deaconess who told us that one of her children was sick, needed an antibiotic, and because the cost so depleted their resources, they did not have food to put on the table. Veronica was so excited about the prospect of this business and eagerly looks forward to receiving the dresses so she can start her business.

Contact Elfie Eberle, Regional Director, 410.544.1621, or email elfie.eberle@md-orphangraintrain.org or contact Zion Lutheran, Accident, MD, which collects for the Grain Train. Contact Helen Harman 301.387.2742 or email wharman@gcnetmail.net for information also.

*Words on a New Beginning***Peace: People Excited About Christ Eternally**

The following is an excerpt from the special remarks given by Rev. John Molitoris at the Celebration of the beginning of Peace Lutheran Church, Upper St. Clair.

Faithful and Obedient Servants of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ:

"This is the day that the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it."

We are rejoicing today and for a good reason. Our Lord established another of His churches, named it **Peace Lutheran Church**, and then entrusted it to "His faithful and obedient servants."

That we might understand and appreciate the meaning and purpose of Peace Lutheran Church, let us mentally, prayerfully and spiritually return to Jerusalem and take to heart all that Jesus taught and still teaches today.

One day, over 2000 years ago, the Lord's disciples were gathered in a small room in Jerusalem. They were fearful, troubled, disappointed and sad. Their leader and Savior, Jesus Christ, had been killed and His body was laid to rest in a tomb. Yes, Jesus was "dead and buried." They thought that the death of Jesus was the end of their religious movement. They also thought that their three years with Jesus were wasted.

They asked themselves, "What can we do to help ourselves?" Who or what can help us to move from our sadness to gladness? What the disciples could not do, Jesus did. Jesus suddenly and miraculously appeared in their midst.

His first words were "Peace be unto you." His "Peace" meant relax and settle down. Do not be afraid.

Their faith in Jesus and exemplary Christian life helped to change their society and world for the better.

Today, we ask, "How did the disciples in Jerusalem influence the disciples in Pittsburgh? The answer was and is "their example." Their example persuaded the Hope and Our Savior disciples to be good examples also. For many years Hope, Upper St. Clair, and Our Savior, Mt. Lebanon, committed their time, talents and lives to Jesus, His ministry and mission work. Church memberships increased and the Lord's peace and gladness message was shared.

However, in the course of time, memberships decreased, fewer members participated in local and foreign mission programs and projects, and financial support was more difficult to obtain. Members naturally and consequently became concerned, worried and troubled about the future of their churches.

While the church members wondered and worried about the future of their churches, Jesus patiently and purposely, was working His plan. He moved the mind and heart of the Shepherd Pastor to deliver the Good Shepherd's two-part message to the Hope and Our Savior flocks. The first part was, "Peace be unto you" and the second part was "Merge into one church."

The leaders and members of Hope and Our Savior churches, after many private and public prayers and constructive discussions, replied, "Lord, we hear and obey. Thy will be done. We will merge and become as one. We also approve and accept the church's name **Peace Lutheran Church**. The word **Peace** describes who we are, what we are, and where we are going. We are **People Excited About Christ Eternally**.

The very excited, joyful and thankful Peace Lutheran Church began as a larger "mission" church. Peace Lutheran Church is more visible to the eye of the passersby. Peace Lutheran Church offers more Christ-centered and mission-minded programs and projects for individuals, couples and families. Peace Lutheran Church is a visible example to other small struggling churches to merge and serve God and man "more efficiently."

Peace Lutheran Church, instead of living and remaining in the past, is learning from the past and moving forward into the future one day at a time. Peace Lutheran Church has made a good beginning. Let us never forget the Lord's guiding words: "Not my will but thy will be done."

May the Peace of God that surpasses all understanding keep the Peace Lutheran Church minds and hearts in Christ Jesus eternally.

Servants of the Lord,

Rev. John & Evelyn Molitoris

Celebration at Peace

(Continued from page 1.)

After dinner, everyone made their way to the sanctuary for the Celebration program. It began with the singing of "The Church's One Foundation". The scripture reading for the night was I Corinthians 12:12-31 which talks about one body, many parts. Rev. Hardy proceeded with a homily based on this text.

Everyone sang a song written by Chuck Bieri (the organist at Peace) called "Perfect Peace". Chuck wrote this song back in 1991. He had no way of knowing that one day he would become a charter member of a new church called Peace. The words of the first stanza are:

Perfect peace, perfect peace, How great it would be,

For all people to live so in harmony,

Fill our hearts now with gentleness,

Fill our minds with compassion,

Lord we ask for your peace, perfect peace.

There was a section in the program for special remarks. Sandy Albert began by asking the members of the Provisional Council to come forward. Each of the men were given a small gift as a "thank you" for all the many hours donated to the completion of the merger.

Several congratulatory letters were received and Ron Grimm read each one aloud. They were from Dr. Gerald B Kieschnick, Timothy Ewell, Dr. Robert Sauer, Rev. Terry L. DeGiovanni and Seminarian Timothy Fitzner.

After the letters were read, our guest pastors were each asked to step forward and address the congregation. They included Rev. John Molitoris, Rev. Bob McCanless and Rev. Neville Mirtschin.

Rev. Hardy was the last to speak and he shared with everyone a special announcement. He had decided to return his call to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Dearborn, Michigan. A thunderous round of applause was given. With that said, he asked everyone to rise and loudly sing "A Mighty Fortress is Our God". The members heeded to his request and boldly sang this Lutheran fight song.

Everyone then proceeded to the narthex for a slice of cake and more fellowship. It was a wonderful evening that will not be forgotten.

Mileposters

Ten-Day, 300-Mile Ride Benefits Western PA Mission for the Deaf

Mileposters rode 42 miles on a weekend camping trip in May to raise money for kitchen renovations at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, distributing crosses and cards to other trail users. After setting up camp at Cedar Creek County Park in Westmoreland County, they pedaled to Buena Vista and back on May 24, for 20 miles. Before supper, which was cooked on a portable stove at their sheltered picnic table, they had a Vespers service. The next day they broke camp and went toward Slush Run, turning at Milepost 48, adding 22 more miles.



On June 13, five riders began the Mileposters 2008 trip from Pittsburgh to Washington, D.C., in support of PALM's Deaf Mission in Western Pennsylvania, covering over 300 miles. Various bicycles, including the triplet, a tandem, and a solo bike, enable the flexibility needed to match all riders to all segments of the journey. This is the first trip to Washington, DC to go straight through between Frostburg and Cumberland, Maryland, following completion of the trail in 2007. Training rides were on the Conotton Creek Trail, the Eliza Furnace Trail, the South Side Trail, the Sheepskin Trail, and the Youghioghney River Trail. The ride itself began on the Yough Trail, part of the Great Allegheny Passage, which also includes the Allegheny Highlands Trail, connect-



ing at Cumberland, Maryland with the Chesapeake & Ohio Canal. The Western Maryland Rail Trail provides a paved alternative between Pearre, Maryland and Fort Frederick. Completion of the route, from the canal to Berwyn Heights, Maryland, home of Pastor and Mrs. Rudy Kampia, is via the Northwest Connection, descending the incomparable Sligo Creek Gorge.

New Mileposters riders are waiting to begin trips when the DC ride is over. The first junior captain is eager to break in more stokers—so far she has had four. She is pictured with her first stoker on her qualifying ride last September. The rare 20-inch tandem was custom-built by an employee of Bilenky Cycle Works in Philadelphia. One of the first rides will be on the newly-surfaced portion of the Sheepskin Trail between Bowest Junction, on the Yough Trail, and Dunbar, PA. The Skeepskin Trail is planned to extend to the West Virginia state line, where it will join with the Monongahela River Trail to Morgantown and Fairmont.

Mileposters games nights will take a break in June and resume in July. The May 11 session featured hide-and-seek again, and was well-attended. Three adults assisted with games, Bible lesson, singing, and snacks. Sessions last from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on selected Sunday nights.

Photos of Mileposters events are on our Web site: www.mileposters.net.

Submitted by Mark Shields

White Fields Foundation

Lessons Learned on the North Side

My whole life I have been a huge baseball fan. So when the opportunity came to be able to coach Little League on the North Side, through White Fields Foundation, for 9-10 year-old kids that might not have the chance to learn the game, my first reaction was excitement in passing my knowledge of baseball. My second reaction was worry of what I just got myself into.

After the first couple of practices, I began to see how much work we as coaches had ahead of us. Not only did we have to teach the kids that had played baseball before how to pitch for the first time, but we also had to teach some of the kids that have never played the basic fundamentals of the game. Along the way we also tried to teach the kids to respect themselves, their teammates, their coaches and yes, even the umpires.

Little did I know how much enjoyment I would get out of the season. One kid that a few weeks earlier did not know how to hold the bat and would not speak to me finally got his first hit of the season. After the hit, he gave me a high-five, looked at me and said "I actually hit it this time." I realized that I actually made a difference in that kid's life. To watch these kids not only turn into baseball players, but also watch them turn into young men is an experience that I will cherish for the rest of my life.

So I would like to issue a challenge to everyone that reads this. Whatever knowledge you might have, if it's baking cookies, playing chess or a love of a sport like baseball, pass it on to the younger generation, especially to kids that might not have an adult to look up to. You might be surprised at the blessings that you will experience in the accomplishments of those you teach.

By Scott Fetzik
Ascension, McCandless

Editor's Note: Look for another "Lessons Learned" article in the September issue from Coach Chris Stanton. Better yet, talk to Scott Fetzik, Chris Stanton or Rev. Brennan Gaertner to hear just how meaningful the baseball-mentoring experience has been!

The thrill of victory and the agony of defeat...



OAKMONT—On Saturday, August 2, Redeemer Lutheran School will host its 10th annual Redeemer Golf Scramble at Rolling Fields Golf Course in Plum with an Olympic theme. The proceeds from the outing are matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and benefit our school. Other than a few fellowship dinners throughout the year, this is the school's main fundraising event. The more participation we have, the more our school will benefit.

One way to support the event is to come out and play a round of golf. You can sign up individually, or bring your own foursome. The cost of \$60 per person includes 18 holes of golf, hot dog at the turn, dinner and prizes. This event is designed for fun, golf expertise is not required! Please contact Charlie Buttgerait at 412.795.1071 or the school office 412.828.9323 to sign up!

We realize that not everyone will be able to participate by playing, so we offer another means by which you may become involved. Your family or your business may become a sponsor by making a contribution from \$25 to \$500. In acknowledgment of your support, your family's name or the name of your business would be placed in a brochure to be given out at the golf outing. In addition to monetary donations, prizes are also gratefully accepted.

We certainly appreciate your support of our program and thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. Our program booklet will be printed July 26. Please return your sponsorship forms and donations to the school office by July 25.

*Yours in Christ,
Charlie Buttgerait Jr.
RLS Board Chairman*

**Confirmation Update
73 Confirmed at 18 Areas
Churches: 36 Young
Women, 37 Young Men**

Christ, New Castle

This spring Dylan Reiter and Andrew Nieto were confirmed.

Faith, Butler



Confirmation at Faith, Pa June 1st was a "Red Letter" day as three young people renewed their Baptismal Vows in the Solemn Rite of Confirmation. Pictured here with Rev. George Dolak are the members of this year's Confirmation Class. From left to right: Nicholas Kadunce, Emily Hartman and Brett Miner.

Martin Luther, Punxsutawney

Emily Minns was confirmed Sunday, June 15 by Rev. James Kusko, Vacancy Pastor from St. John Church in Munson. Jared Minns graduated from Punxsutawney High School on June 6. The family hosted a dinner on Sunday, June 15, after the service to honor siblings Emily and Jared.

Zion, Bridgeville

Front row: Sara Vallelunga, Molly Oelschlager, Rachel Klemash, Mia Case. Back row: Ben Ackerman, Andy Weldon and Rev. Donald Matzat.



Operation Lifeline

Lifeline Sends Girl Scout Cookies to Troops Overseas

NEWCASTLE—This spring Operation Lifeline received 1400 boxes of Girl Scout cookies that were sold to family and friends by Brownies and Girl Scouts from Portersville Christian Academy, Shenango, Mohawk and Neshannock areas in New Castle and the Beaver area. This was their project to be able to collect boxes of cookies to send to the soldiers. The Shenango area girls also brought in cans of powered Gatorade. Operation Lifeline packed and shipped the cookies to the troops.

Boxes filled with powdered Koolaid and Gatorade were sent in early June. They help flavor the water and the Gatorade replaces electrolytes lost from excessive perspiration due to the high temperatures at this time of year.

The 4th annual support group picnic will be held at Pearson Park in Neshannock Twp. on July 22 at 6 p.m. This is for soldiers, families, friends and volunteers.

Names and addresses of soldiers serving in Iraq and Afghanistan are still wanted. Call Ann Houk at 724.652.6484 for information.

Concordia Assisted Living Resident Turns 100

CABOT—Concordia Lutheran Ministries Assisted Living resident Elsie Schaefer celebrated her 100th birthday on June 18 with a party in the Oertel Care Center library. The former Elsie Hesse was born in Pittsburgh on June 18, 1908. She married Harry Schaefer in June of 1957 and has been at Concordia since August 16, 2007. Prior to Concordia, she lived in Baldwin, PA. Before her retirement in 1960, Shaefer worked as an assistant treasurer at Birmingham Fire Insurance Company of Pennsylvania. She is a member at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Whitehall.



**Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind
Celebrating Nine Years in Ministry**

OAKLAND—A few months ago I shared some exciting news with you. Perhaps you recall it was in celebration of the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind's (PLCB) ninth anniversary.

For those of you who don't know, The Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind is an evangelistic outreach to the blind community of the Pittsburgh area from First Trinity Lutheran Church (Oakland), in co-operation with Lutheran Blind Mission. Our Mission Statement: The Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind seeks to reach out to the blind and visually impaired of Pittsburgh, feeling their needs, and touching them with the love of Jesus, that they may reach out and touch others with the love of Jesus. We have been in existence since March 1999.

Our primary program is the monthly meal which offers "food" to nurture the body and the soul. A Bible Study and Vespers Service are always part of the meal-day programming.

I write this time with some concerns about the future of this mission. We have no sustaining funds coming in. First Trinity has a large heart for missions, gives us space, prayerful support, and congregation members make individual contributions of their time and treasure. However, the Blind Center is not just a mission of First Trinity, but of the entire Pittsburgh Region. The PLCB's annual budget of \$12,000 needs the support of all of the area congregations and their members.

One guest shares her thoughts: "Through the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind, I have come to know and to deeply appreciate the beautiful relationship I have with Our Lord Jesus. There are no words to completely relate the transformation in myself and the rebirth I have experienced. Although my life circumstance hasn't always been the

fairytale happiness we all crave emotionally, since Jesus entered my heart and has lived there, every day has been transformed into a bounty of inner peace and satisfaction. The Center also provides a social forum for us, where we can simply meet, visit, pray, and be ourselves. When I began coming, I never could have imagined that my spiritual garden could have flourished so marvelously."

If the PLCB is to remain a viable ministry to persons who are blind/visually impaired we need your help. Please support us with your prayers and/or monetary contributions. You may make checks payable to the Pittsburgh Lutheran Center for the Blind and mail them to: 535 N. Neville Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213. Thank you for your consideration.

Sherri Crum, Director
Pittsburgh Lutheran Center
for the Blind
535 N. Neville Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412.682.1800
E-mail director@plcb.net

June Haven Update



As construction winds down on the Haven I facility, one thing is becoming truly apparent: the top-quality construction and the beautiful natural surroundings make this one lovely place to call home...

Not to mention a great value.

At Haven I there are a number of value-added services available, including - routine maintenance, transportation for local shopping and some medical trips, assistance with medical, tax, and other types of forms, spiritual support, and many other activities on and off site. Gas, electric, water, sewage, trash pick-up, cable, and property tax is included as well.

Additionally, there are some things that are difficult to place value on, such as peace of mind. As part of the Concordia at Cabot campus, our Haven residents live with the assurance that medical assistance is only steps away if need be - and that's a comforting feeling.

Progress on the building is moving a mile a minute lately. On the outside, the brickwork is complete, roof shingles are installed, sidewalks and patios are nearing completion, the portico and cupola have been installed, and the parking lot and landscaping have begun. Inside, the drywall is nearly complete, the wallpaper is 50 percent up, the stone fireplace is complete, and the furniture selections have been made.

As of now, we're serving around 300 independent living residents. With God's help we'll continue to serve even more.

Concordia currently has 10 to 15 apartments available. Please contact Peggy Trettel at 724.352.5378 to discuss Haven retirement services and apartment availability. For more pictures and information, visit us on the Web at www.concordialm.org.



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www.samaritancounseling.net

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345 College Avenue Beaver, PA 15009 724-775-4673	201 E. Jefferson Street Butler, PA 16001 724-287-2567
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If you would like to sponsor a broadcast, send your donation to Immanuel Lutheran Church, 420 Fifth Street, Braddock, PA 15104 (note Radio Ministry on your check) and include a note about the reason for the sponsorship (memorial, birthday, etc.) Full broadcasts cost \$150, but any donation is appreciated!



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Concordia to Host Annual Summer Festival and Dedicate Haven I

CABOT—Concordia Lutheran Ministries will host its 127th annual Summer Festival on Sunday, July 27 from noon – 6 p.m. under the tents behind the Lund Care Center – and this year’s event will mark another milestone in Concordia’s illustrious history: the dedication of Haven I at 1:30 p.m. at its main entrance on Marwood Road.

The Festival will feature a traditional summer menu: Grilled Sweet Italian Sausage, Homemade Ham BBQs, Grilled Hot Dogs, Creamy Homemade Cole Slaw, Fresh Macaroni Salad, Calico Baked Beans, Nachos with Cheese, Dreamsicle Orange Cake, Caramel Apple Pie, Snow Cones, and assorted beverages.

There will be a 3 p.m. worship service led by Rev. Herbert Schumm, pastor at St. John’s Lutheran Church in Millvale and Concordia board member, assisted by Concordia Chaplain Rev. Jack Hartman and Board Members Rev. Jamison

Hardy, pastor at Peace Lutheran Church and Rev. Barry Keurulainen, senior pastor at St. Luke Lutheran Church. There will also be open houses of the Haven I facility (1:30-5 p.m.), Lund Assisted Living (4-6 p.m.), and Concordia Childcare (1-3 p.m.).

The entertainment will include a steel drum band, the CamPraise singers, and other beach-inspired musical acts, to follow along with this year’s Beach Party theme. The Pittsburgh Lutheran Chorus, accompanied by several Concordia Haven residents, will sing during the worship service, as well as Concordia Deaconess Sara Lemon.

Additionally, golf carts and the famous Saxonburg trolleys will be transporting people around campus and a bus will be available for several hours to tour Saxony Farm Estate. There will also be a number of activities for children – including a train, clown, caricature artist, crafts, and games.

To keep up to date with what’s happening at Concordia, visit www.concordialm.org.

Several Foursomes, Sponsorships Available for Concordia Golf Outing

CABOT—Four foursomes and several sponsorship opportunities are currently available for the fifth annual Concordia Lutheran Ministries Golf Outing, scheduled for Monday, July 21 at Pittsburgh National Golf Club (formerly Deer Run Golf Club) in Gibsonia.

All sponsorships with foursomes include the opportunity for an ad in the event program book, listing in *Concordia News & Views* (Concordia’s bimonthly newsletter) and all related advertising including our Web site, a welcome banner at the course on the day of the event, and tee or green signs on the course.

The golf outing includes an exclusive gift for all golfers, coffee and doughnuts, lunch, golf on a premiere par 72 championship golf course (featuring a beautiful semi-private country club setting with greens fees, cart and practice range), and a full-course buffet dinner with several entrée selections.

Reserve your place for this event, contact Concordia’s office of public relations and development at 724.352.1571, ext. 8298.

Good Samaritan Hospice to Host Children’s Camp

CABOT—In an effort to help children who have lost a loved one understand the grieving process, Good Samaritan Hospice (GSH), a mission of Concordia Lutheran Ministries, will host an overnight summer bereavement camp (Camp Good Sam) from Aug. 14 – 16 at YMCA Camp Kon-O-Kwee near Zelienople.

Camp Good Sam is designed for children ages 6 – 18 years old. Interested campers must complete a camp application and participate in a brief interview before attending. Thanks to community support, grants, and organizational sponsorships, the minimal cost for Camp Good Sam is only \$15 per family, which last year helped 13 kids better understand the grief process, as well as their own feelings.

The curriculum for the camp in-



Concordia Lutheran Ministries Hires I.T. Tech at Cabot Campus

CABOT—Concordia Lutheran Ministries President and CEO Keith Frndak recently announced the addition of Butler resident Benjamin Oesterling to the Concordia team as an Information Technology Technician at the organization’s Cabot campus.

As an I.T. Technician, Oesterling’s primary duties include implementing computerized charting systems and assisting the I.T. department with various projects. He comes to Concordia with two Associate Degrees: one in Computer Forensics and a second in Networking and PC Management, both from Butler County Community College. He is currently working toward his Bachelor’s Degree in Computer Forensics from Champlain College.

Oesterling said he is happy to be a part of the Concordia team. “I was told by several people that Concordia was a great place to work,” he said. “I really enjoy working with this staff and being in an environment where I can put my education to use.”

Oesterling lives in Butler with his wife Charla and two pets: Cooper (a dog) and Scotty (a cat). He is currently a member of St. Wendelin’s church and enjoys working out, kickboxing and jiu-jitsu.

cludes group sessions, one-on-one interaction, crafts, and activities. Campers are encouraged to work through grief at their own pace, while GSH counselors foster an environment of sharing and acceptance.

To register or receive additional information, contact Good Samaritan Hospice toll free at 1.800.720.2557 or visit GSH on the Web at www.concordialm.org.



Concordia Rehabilitation Nurse Coordinator Published in Medical Journal

CABOT—With the 1000-plus people employed by Concordia Lutheran Ministries, finding individuals with notable accomplishments isn't a difficult task. However, finding someone who was recently published in a prominent medical journal isn't something you see every day.

Concordia at Cabot Rehabilitation Nurse Coordinator Janine Sharer, R.N., recently had her article "Tackling Sundowning in a Patient with Alzheimer's Disease" published in the Feb '08 edition of the Journal of Adult Health. The journal is published monthly and its primary audience is nurses and other medical professionals.

Sundowning is a term that refers to individuals with Alzheimer's or dementia who become increasingly confused at the end of each day. Sharer said she believes this is a topic that needs further research.

"Since the number of Alzheimer's patients is on the rise, more individuals are experiencing sundowning symptoms," Sharer said.

When Sharer finished her article on Alzheimer's care for her Professional Nurse Role class in the Nursing Education Track Master's program at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, she had no expectations other than getting a decent grade. Her professor, however, saw the potential in the article.

"Dr. Shellenbarger stated on my graded paper that he thought it was good and I should consider publishing it," Sharer said.

Sharer has been in nursing for 15 years. She has been with Concordia since 2004 and recently accepted her new role as Rehab Nurse Coordinator, where she acts as the liaison between the nursing and therapy departments in the Lund Care Center. She has also served as a registered nurse and a unit manager.

"Concordia is truly compassionate about the patients they care for and that is so important to me as an employee," Sharer said. "I am hoping my article will provide a better understanding of Sundowning to my peers."

Concordia Lutheran Ministries Receipts

April 19, 2008 through June 11, 2008

General Donations

Calvin & Alma Eggers - Albert & Joan Lucas - Richard & Susan Boggs - Dale & Linda McGary - Allen Montag - Dale & Helen Chapman - Ruth Hrivnak - Robert Bell - Irvin Sallach - Corrine Compton - Clarence & Clara Belle Beale - Douglas Bornemann - Terry & Ruth Miller - Esther Kriess - Janet Kelly - John & Jean Black - Bob & Maryjane Mertz.

Memorial Contributions

In memory of Richard Gordon by: Gerline Gehr. In memory of Albert Gust by: Leo & Mary Ann Krantz. In memory of James Burkhart by: William & Doris Hawkins. In memory of Marion Carroll by: Gerline Gehr. In memory of Wayne Ohl & Kay Hanna by: Richard & Cathy Haas. In memory of Andy Prazenica by: Ruth Brewer. In memory of Joseph Jakim by: Anna Mae Jakim. In memory of Lillian & Vernon Dille and Elizabeth & Andrew Heintz by: Marilyn Heintz. In memory of Charlotte Demme by: George & Anna Marie Orenchak - James & Marilyn Altman - Richard Demme - David & Patricia Kryder - Bruce & Lynn Richards. In memory of Esther Jackson by: Lester & Elizabeth Scott - Administaff - Barbara Stephens. In memory of Nancy Smock by: Randy Flick - Centralia Coal Sales Company - David Goodman - Alfred & Kathryn Slowik - Thomas Stitt - Holmes Safety Association - Clyde & Bonita Turner - Patti Hoffer - Jeffrey & Elizabeth Love - Gary & Susan Croyle - Highland Tire - Wendy Jones - Richard & Louise Sweeney - Ronald & Yvonne Temsik - John & Barbara Wuycheck - William & Susan Holt - Chris & Eileen Antonikas - Cerullo, Datte & Wallbillich, P.C. - John & Jean Hughes - Janice Schinagl - Richard & Nadine Woods. In memory of M. Hagey by: Edward & Laurance Oliva - Edward & Judy Wilson. In memory of Julia & Leonard Bauer by: James & Betty Lou Bauer.

Concordia to Host Alzheimer's Support Group Meetings

CABOT—Concordia Lutheran Ministries' Adult Day Services will host Alzheimer's/Dementia Caregiver Support Group meetings on July 8 and August 12 at 2 p.m. in the Lund ground floor activity room. These meetings will be open discussions on issues important to the group. They are free and open to all caregivers of individuals living with Alzheimer's or dementia. Adult care will be available during the meetings as well.

For more information, please call the director of adult day services at Concordia at 724.352.1571, ext. 8271 or visit on the Web at www.concordialm.org.

Congregational Donations

Ruthfred Lutheran Church, Bethel Park - Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Freedom - Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Albion - Redeemer Lutheran Church, Oakmont - Christ Lutheran Church & School, Pittsburgh - Grace Evan. Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh - First Lutheran Church, Pittsburgh.

Good Samaritan Endowment Fund

Paul & Jayne Simpson - Ruth Brewer - Michael Purucker - Velma McDonald - Barbara Saylor - Helen Fletcher - Geraldine Williams - Robert & Kathleen Young - Walter & Mary Wunderlich - Earl & Margaret Pauli - Joseph & Donna Reiting - Jeanne Heid - Carl & Elda Voelzke - Richard & Connie Grammes - Edith Waltenbaugh - Walter Vogel - John & Audrey Johnson. In honor of Marsha Santella by: Harry & Lois Shindedecker. In honor of the 50th anniversary of Joseph & Nancy Succop by: Mary Ehrlinger. In memory of Donald Miller by: Henry & Hilda Sundermann. In memory of parents by: Allen & Bernice Hook. In memory of Glenn Stewart and Marion Carroll by: John & Emogene Blair. In memory of her husband and mother by: Lillian Dallapiazza. In memory of Charlotte Demme by: Betty Bernhardt. In memory of Kamal Hanna by: Richard & Susan Beatty. In memory of Andrew Prazenica by: Henry & Hilda Sundermann. In memory of Marion Carroll by: Dorothy Gunther. In memory of Frieda Schwalm by: Meredith Schwalm. In memory of Vivian Sallach by: Betty Bernhardt. In memory of C. Samuel Shick by: Eva Shick. In memory of James Arner by: Harry & Hilda Sundermann. In memory of residents of Concordia Lutheran Ministries by: Keith Frndak.

Staff Appreciation Fund

Anna Mae Jakim - Linda Henning - Marie Stopansky - Margaret Schelien - Milton & Ruth Cerny - Jeanne Heid - Carl & Elda Voelzke - R.W. Larson Associates, P.C. - Avonell Wagner. In memory of Flossie Rupp by: Marie Malenky. In memory of Charlotte Demme by: Neal Altman.

Concordia Visiting Nurses Charitable Fund

Randall & Flo Allison. In memory of Charlotte Demme by: Stella Hughes.

Concordia at The Orchard

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JULY 27 AT THE 127TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL

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