

## From the Pastor

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. – Hebrews 13:16*

When we encounter Jesus in the Bible, he is frequently giving something away. Bread and fish in the feeding of the 5000. Power to the woman who touched his cloak and was healed. Sight to the man born blind. Wisdom in the Sermon on the Mount. Bread and wine – his body and blood. Fish on the beach in Galilee, where he meets the disciples after the Resurrection.

What's even more interesting is that the things Jesus gives away often don't belong to him in the first place. The bread and the fish belonged to a young boy. Jesus' wisdom and power to heal come from God the Father. The Last Supper was held in a borrowed room, and we don't know where the bread and wine came from.

The ministry of Jesus is notable for its emphasis on *the other*. Jesus constantly shared what he had with other people, even if those things didn't rightfully belong to him. It's like the parable of the Prodigal Son, in which the father divides his estate between his two sons. At that point, the father no longer possesses anything of his own. And yet, when the younger son returns home, the father throws a lavish party in the prodigal son's honor – even though the supplies for the party come out of the older son's portion of the inheritance, without his consent.

Faithful followers of Jesus are continually willing – even happy – to have their possessions used for Christ's ministry. Jesus is like the generous father in the parable. We alternately tend to be like the younger son – disobedient, reckless, selfish, or the older son – disgruntled, miserly, selfish.

Are we willing to break that trend and allow Jesus to use our possessions as he sees fit? As a church and as individuals, this is our mission! Our job is not to hold tight to our possessions, but to give them away in the name of Christ. That is this month's challenge, which comes with promises of blessing, just like the younger son received in the parable.

In Christ,

*Pastor Katya*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTORAL SUPPORT COMMITTEE

The Pastoral Support committee was organized twelve years ago to foster positive and confidential communication and resolutions between congregation members and a Pastor when needed, and to provide a sounding board for a Pastor's thoughts and ideas. The committee, which meets monthly, is made up of the Pastor and four members of the congregation who are not members of the Church Council.

After meeting recently with the Executive Committee of the Church Council we, collectively, have determined that the Pastoral Support Committee will take action on all requests pertaining to the Pastor. This would include items of support/strengths as well as general feedback and items of concern.

We would ask that you first bring feedback regarding our shared ministry at Cooksville Lutheran directly to the Pastor. If the Pastor is not available or assistance is desired, please contact a member of the committee with a phone call, e-mail, letter, or verbal communication. We will prayerfully respond to your request in the strictest confidence. We are not able to handle any concerns that come to the group anonymously.

Committee Members:

Pat Foltz – 455-1522 [foltzpa@gmail.com](mailto:foltzpa@gmail.com)

Art Olsen – 882-4784 [flahamer33@gmail.com](mailto:flahamer33@gmail.com)

Marilyn Kueng – 884-8779

Laura Pehler – 835 -7552

## ***Fall Festival: September 21<sup>st</sup> – Worship at 10am, festivities to follow!***

### **Crafts & Collectibles**

The Fall Festival Craft booth is looking for donations of handmade items. If you enjoy sewing, crocheting, sculpture, painting, embroidery or other crafts – please consider starting some projects for this year’s festival! Donations large and small, simple and fancy are welcome! Thank you for sharing your talents with the community.

Donations of collectible items will also be available at this booth. Please contact this year’s chair, Bethany Stachow, for more information about desired items (608-698-7766).

### **Raffle**

Are you planning on donating items for this year’s raffle on September 21? Donations could include specialty baskets, artwork, gift certificates to local businesses, cash, or other items of value. All prizes must be submitted at least one week in advance so that the coordinators can properly recognize all donors. Please contact Sue Parsons with any questions (608-295-8796).

### **Silent Auction**

The Fall Festival Silent Auction booth wants your donations. A successful Silent Auction needs participation by everyone. Let’s make this year the best so far. Please leave your donations on the designated tables in the new wing of the church basement. Call Nancy Remley, 608 882-5864, for assistance or if pick-ups are needed. Our congregation thanks you for your help and for your contributions.

### **Lefse Baking**

Lefse makers young and old: The Gathering invites you to share your tools and talent to help prepare several batches of lefse for this year’s Fall Festival. We’ll gather on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, starting at 8am. Contact Kathie Gunn (755-9965) or Ilene Axford (873-6914) if you have questions. *Volunteers are also needed to make lefse on their own for the Festival. Last year we ran out early in the day – help boost the supply for this year!*

## ***Fall Festival: September 21<sup>st</sup> – Worship at 10am, festivities to follow!***

### **Book Nook**

The Book Nook is looking for used books for this year's Fall Festival. We will accept donations on two Sundays in September after church: 9/7 and 9/14. *Please do not bring books at any other time, as there is limited storage space in the church basement.* Certain types of items do not sell, so please follow these guidelines when choosing books to donate:

#### YES

Fiction (all genres)  
Non-fiction  
Cookbooks  
Inspirational books  
Gardening books  
Craft & Pattern books  
Sheet music  
Jigsaw puzzles (with all pieces)  
Board games (with all pieces)

#### NO

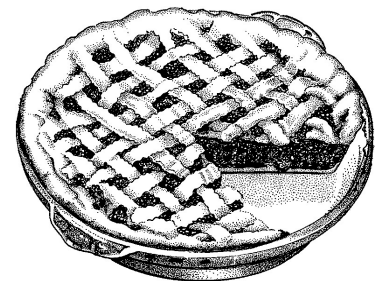
Magazines  
Textbooks  
Dictionaries  
Encyclopedias  
Old atlases  
Torn or damaged books  
Used coloring books  
VHS videotapes  
Cassette tapes

Contact Pat Foltz with questions regarding the Book Nook (608-455-1522). Thank you for your donations!

### **Bake Sale**

The Fall Festival is fast approaching. This event can provide a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and community outreach. Visitors marvel over the bountiful spread of baked goods at the Bake Sale booth. Last year the tables were loaded with a wonderful assortment of home made items.

Some of the delicious goodies that fill the Bake Sale tables have to be made the day before for best results, but many baked goods like cookies and quick breads can be made ahead and frozen. Fruit pies are the most popular item. Donuts are also very popular.



There will soon be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Contact Lynn Bednarek at 516-2574 or email [lbednar1@gmail.com](mailto:lbednar1@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Listen to the Music!**

Jeanne Julseth is holding open organ rehearsals every Wednesday at 11am throughout the summer. All are invited to hear a variety of music played on our organ from Holland. Jeanne also welcomes hymn requests.

*Come at 11 for the music, stay at noon for prayer group!*

### **Setting the Table: A Practicum on Hospitality**

Keep first-time guests coming back by *Setting the Table*. New Life Church (7564 Cottage Grove Rd, Madison) has an extraordinary ministry of hospitality. Pastor Rob Carlson and the New Life Hospitality Team invite you to this practicum on Saturday, September 13, 8am-2pm. You will explore the “whys” and “hows” of Sunday morning hospitality, explore the natural, congregational barriers to renewal, and leave with the beginnings of a hospitality plan for renewal in your own congregation. Cost is \$10, which includes a light breakfast and lunch. *The first 5 participants from Cooksville can attend free of charge, thanks to a special donation!* Register by Sept. 6, online at [www.newlifelc.com](http://www.newlifelc.com) or by calling 608-223-9337.

### **Evansville Ecumenical Care Closet Donations**

The Care Closet can now take the following donations, working or broken: lamps, fans, vacuums, mixers, and other small appliances. A volunteer is available to fix broken items. The Care Closet cannot accept microwaves, TV's, computers and their accessories. Thank you for your support.

### **Evansville Cares: Restore the Roof**

*Great News: over \$40,000 has been raised for the \$45,000 capital campaign designated to put a new roof on the Evansville Ecumenical Care Closet!* Construction will begin in early August. EECC volunteers and clients invite your continued support to make a caring impact in our community through a special financial gift to this campaign Envelopes are available in the Fellowship Room, or you may send a check to the Evansville Care Closet, 206 S. Madison St., Evansville, WI 53536.

## Offering

Your monetary offerings keep our doors open and help us do ministry in Jesus' name! Sharing the Gospel doesn't take money, but operating a congregation requires it. Your generous financial gifts allow Cooksville Lutheran's mission to be shared among new generations of Christians.

Offerings in June totaled \$8936.00. Our annual budget requires monthly income of \$11,156.91. Please consider supporting your church with an extra financial gift this month.

## Gifts-In-Kind

The following items can be put to use immediately for ministry!

- Bottled water (for those who can't drink our water with nitrates)
- Postage stamps (Forever stamps preferred)
- Hand soap (Softsoap with aloe refill bottles)
- Metal forks
- Paper cups & coffee cups (non-Styrofoam)

## Ink Cartridges for Office Supplies

Your printer cartridges can be used to support the church! Members redeem used cartridges for points at Office Depot, which are then used to purchase office supplies for the church. We need your help! Please bring in your used printer cartridges to the box by the coat rack in the Narthex. Contact Pat Foltz with any questions (608-455-1522).

## Automated Giving

The time is always right to sign up for automated giving! Cooksville Lutheran uses a program supported by Thrivent to offer a safe and secure way to transfer money from your bank account to the church. More families are using this opportunity to donate on a regular basis and avoid writing checks. It is helpful for the church to be able to rely on your offering even if you are on vacation, or if worship must be cancelled. Forms for automated giving are in the Narthex and Fellowship Room. **Contact Tom Parsons with questions ([tom.parsons@ymail.com](mailto:tom.parsons@ymail.com), 295-1697).**

## **Slovakia Partnership**

In early July, an intern from Slovakia shadowed Pastor Katya for a week. Eva Soldanova came to the USA through a program with the Slovak-Zion Synod, and she was assigned to St John's – Evansville for six weeks. Eva was able to spend one week of that time at Cooksville, going on home visits and attending clergy meetings and helping out with general church business for the week. Some of you will remember meeting her in worship on July 13<sup>th</sup>. We are blessed with both local and global church partnerships! You can follow Eva's adventures on her blog: <http://slovakzionsynod.org/sip/>.

## **Refugee Resettlement**

### **with Lutheran Social Services & the South-Central Synod of Wisconsin**

Thank you to the congregation of Cooksville for their recent donations of supplies needed to help settle a family from Colombia. Anyone interested in helping pack boxes for this project should contact Nancy Krake, 882-5609. It usually requires a morning of your time once every 6- 8 weeks.

## **Lutherdale 2014 Programs for All Ages!**

Coffee hour offerings from June through August will support Lutherdale's "Let the Children Come" fund, providing financial support for youth to attend camp. Lutherdale offers fun-filled faith-based summer programs for youth, as well as family camp and year-round retreats. Call 262-742-2353 or check out [www.lutherdale.org](http://www.lutherdale.org) for program information. Brochures are also available in the church office.

## **28<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutherdale Fest Quilt Auction**

The Lutherdale Fest Quilt Auction is on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. There are quilts, crafts, and frozen pies as well as baked goods for sale on that day from 4-8 pm. The event includes a fish fry (adults \$12/kids \$7). You are invited to come enjoy the festivities and help support Camp Lutherdale.

## **Thank You!**

Cooksville Lutheran Church relies on volunteers to accomplish the many tasks of ministry. This month a special thank you goes out to:

- Those who cleaned or paid to have the church cleaned in July: Sue Wollin, Rosa Hanson, Virginia Sime, and Anne Brunsell.
- Those who hosted Coffee Hour in July: Ilene Axford, Rhonda Wethal, Marilyn Kueng & Connie Gregerson.
- Nancy Krake, for helping with secretarial duties this summer.
- Donna & Paul Haakenson, for their leadership of the Wednesday prayer group.

## **Funeral Luncheon**

It is such a gift in this congregation that when a need arises, all we have to do is make a phone call. The recent funeral luncheon for Bill Young is an example of this phenomenon. Thank you to the following persons who responded to a call with donations of desserts and/or their time:

Ilene Axford, Lynn Bednarek, Kristeen Farberg, Pat Foltz, Donna Haakenson, Judy Hatlen, Connie Gregerson, Marilyn Kueng, Art & Doris Olsen, Sue Parsons, Laura Pehler, Tom Severson, Rhonda Wethal, and Donna Wheeler

Thank you all for your generosity, and God's blessings to you. Bill's family was very appreciative. Be ready, the next phone call may come to you!

## **Grief Camp for Children and Youth**

Do you know of a young person, aged 6-14 years who is suffering from a loss? Home Health United hosts Camp GLOW, a day camp available to kids across southern Wisconsin at no charge. This year's camp is scheduled for August 23, from 10am to 3pm, at Traxler Park in Janesville. For more information, contact Cayla Harun, 276-7589 or [CHarun@hhuvns.org](mailto:CHarun@hhuvns.org)



## Albany Annual Ice Cream Social

The annual ice cream social will be held on Wednesday, August 6 from 4:30 -7:00 pm. The menu includes Barbecue Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Chips, Beverage and Pie and Ice Cream. Food items will be priced individually. The United Methodist Church is located at 500 Park Street, Albany, WI.

## News from our Members

*Do you or a family member have an accomplishment that you'd like to share with the congregation? If so, submit your item to the church office.*

## Stay in Touch

Please contact the church office if you or a family member:

- Have a change of address or phone number
- Would like to be added to the prayer list
- Are interested in church membership
- Would like a visit from Pastor Katya
- Become hospitalized or homebound
- Would like to be baptized

Church office: 608-882-4408 (phone)

[cookvillelutheran@litewire.net](mailto:cookvillelutheran@litewire.net) (email)

Pastor Katya: 608-616-5075 (cell)

[cookvillelutheranpastor@gmail.com](mailto:cookvillelutheranpastor@gmail.com)

Worship Coordinator, Donna Haakenson: 608-882-4131

Choir Director, Jeanne Julseth: 608-882-0505

**Cooksville Lutheran Church is on Facebook! "Like" our page for the most up-to-date photos and details about upcoming events!**

