

CHRIST THE VINE LUTHERAN



July /August 2010

GRAPEVINE

July & August and the 1st Sunday in September there will only be one service.

8:00 am – 8:30 am Continental Breakfast

There will be Christian Education classes for the adults;
(8:30 AM) with supervised children's activities. (8:30 AM)

Dear Friends,

Just this past weekend I participated in the wedding of a friend in Seattle. I was at the rehearsal and the rehearsal dinner Friday evening. I was at the wedding itself on Saturday and then the reception.

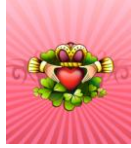
As a pastor, I'm involved in quite a few weddings. I see more of them than most people. All weddings elicit strong emotions, (usually positive emotions) but at this event, the rejoicing, the laughter, the tears of joy...the positive emotions were even more intense, more heartfelt than usual, it seemed. I left thankful to be involved in the whole event. I felt privileged to be a part of it.

I also left asking myself; "What is it that made this wedding so joyful?"

Part of the answer has to do with the fact that the groom is almost 51 years old, the bride about ten years younger and this was the first marriage for both of them. They had waited a long time for this, and I'm sure each of them doubted many times in their lives that this would ever happen.

I think that's one reason why it was so apparent to everyone involved, that this couple has a strong sense of gratitude toward God for what He's given them. They don't seem to take one another for granted.

Each of them is also a member of a large family. The groom is one of six siblings; the bride is one of nine. The bride's family has close ties to their ancestral home in Ireland. Along with all the brothers and sisters from both sides, a contingent of family members from Ireland traveled all the way to Seattle to honor the couple and celebrate their wedding



These are also families who've experienced tragedy and sadness. The groom's family lost their Mom when the groom was about twelve years old, and their Dad when the groom was about twenty. And along with remarkable achievements among family members on both sides, some battled addiction; some wrestled with depression. They've experienced the struggles and disappointments and failures that come with life.

As a result, these families have developed a sense of compassion for others. They have an especially deep sense of love and care for one another, an appreciation for one another, an eagerness to celebrate the triumphs and willingness to overlook the shortcomings of one another. They recognize their own failures and respond to God's forgiveness of themselves by forgiving one another. That's my take on it anyway.

As I sat at the rehearsal dinner that Friday night, in a room crammed with people and filled with laughter and love for one another, I had a sense of peace, a sense that through all the struggles of life, God will always see us through.

That family celebration I got to be part of this past weekend came to mind when I read one of the Old Testament passages from the July 2010 lectionary; Isaiah 66: 10-14. The passage uses the metaphor of mother and child to describe a time of rejoicing, peace and rest that is coming to those who put their faith in God:

“Behold I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse, you shall be carried on her hip, and bounced upon her knee. As one whom his mother comforts, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice...”

Through the difficulties and struggles of life, you can have confidence that God will never leave you or forsake you. He sent His Son to die so that you may live. You shall see...there will come a time of rejoicing and peace and God's comfort for you. You can count on it.

I was reminded of that this weekend. I'm reminded of that continually in God's Word.

The Lord bless you and keep you always! Pastor Kris Morris.



WHAT IS STEWARDSHIP?

I am a simple person. I ask simple questions. Where did the word “stewardship” come from?

In jolly England household servants who were responsible for bringing food and drink to a castle dining hall were called” stewards.” (Think of a “wine steward” of today).

The steward’s job description expanded to include all household and domestic affairs. The term today describes the responsibility to take care of something owned by someone else.

To a Christian, stewardship describes the responsibility to carefully take care of something that belongs to God. God has given us an income. God’s house is where we meet to serve and worship him. We give tithes and offerings to take care of our congregation, to take care of God’s house, to spread His Word, to show our love and appreciation for the treasures that He has given us, etc.

I was elected to serve at the Chair of the Board of Stewardship. Bob Fligg, Stan Watters, and Quentin Fadness comprise the rest of the Board. We meet monthly to make sure that we are taking good care of the things that God has entrusted to us. We worked closely with the Budget Committee (as we put on different hats!) to craft a budget that fit the needs and abilities of Christ the Vine Lutheran Church. The congregation has responded to the challenge posed by the budget it approved.

There were some nervous nights contemplating these matters. Words of comfort come from *Philippians 4:19* “*My God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus.*”

And, as we strive to be better stewards, we can try to model after the Great Steward, Jesus Christ. God entrusted us to be well taken care of by His Son. Thank you Lord for entrusting our care to your Son. And thank you for sacrificing Him so we can live forever.

John Henry Hingson III
Chair, Board of Stewardship



Stick Around & Have Some Fun! Music! Food!

Right after church July 25th, we will have a picnic right here in the Grape Room and outside to:

- **Welcome our new members!**
- **Welcome back our youth from the Mission Trip to Gitnow**
- **Ask God's blessing and bid a formal "Bon Voyage" for those going to Germany.**

We'll start right after church and should be done around 12:30 – 1:00. Please join us for a great time!

Day In Damascus

Save the Date!

**Saturday, July 31st, 2010-07-02
10:00 pm – 4:00 pm**

Once again CTV will be participating by handing out sliced watermelon. Please contact Lucy Leach if you would like to volunteer for an hour or two.

There will be lots of food, a dog show, farmer's market, crafters, games, artists and entertainment.

**Kiwanis sponsored event.
See you at Damascus Centennial
Park behind the fire station.**

**VACATION BIBLE
SCHOOL
SANDY VISTA MIGRANT
CHILDREN**



**AUGUST 2 – 6
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

We are beginning to collect school supplies in the Narthex for the children at the end of VBS. This will be the first VBS for most of these children whose parents we have been teaching English this past winter & spring.

Stay tuned for more upcoming news on how you can help and participate!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

8/3	Ron Mellmer
8/5	Mary Davis
8/6	JW Gray
8/8	Jennifer Lootens
8/12	Steven Shepard
8/13	Steven Giorgi
8/14	Vicki Johnson
8/16	Caitlin McCoy
8/18	Brenda Bruce
8/26	Cheryl Fidler
8/26	Drew Gehrig
8/26	Kellyann Giorgi
8/27	Kelly Schwartz
8/27	Heather Stowell
8/28	Kyle Sieckmann



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

8/10	Troy & Michelle Lutz
8/11	Vince & Darla Jacob
8/20	Tim & Karyn Giorgi
8/22	Tim & Kristi McWilliams
8/24	Kim & Linda Sieckmann
8/25	Brenda & Darrel Rassi
8/31	Mark & Sherri Brown



Ed Eckman

Bob & Judy McDonald

Bonnie Moore

Ken and Donna Petersen

Harvey and Nelda Rupp

3-M Mission News

Missionary Biography – The Stams

John Stam was born in 1907. His parents gave first place in their New Jersey home to the things of God and were strict, but loving with their children. There were fun times too, when the children, who all took music lessons, would perform as a family orchestra.

Though his brothers and sisters became workers at the Star of Hope Mission, founded by his father, young John was independent and decided he would go into business. At 15, however, he experienced a profound conviction of sin under the preaching of a blind evangelist who was conducting services at the mission. Hell became real as never before as he realized that, apart from Christ, he was lost.

John's conversion changed him intellectually as well as spiritually. He began to study and read Greek. He also began to study human nature, walking the whole length of Manhattan Island, visiting all the neighborhoods, talking to people and learning about their problems. Greatly influenced through these experiences, John quit his job so he could work at the Star of Hope Mission. With his younger brother, Neal, he was out almost every summer evening, witnessing on some street corner. By now he was committed to missionary work at home or abroad, and decided to go to Moody Bible Institute in Chicago, trusting God alone to supply all his needs.

Pray for the Holy Spirit to direct children today in the way they should go.

Luke 18:16

...Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.

The Stam family understood this verse very well. They raised their children to follow the Lord. Each child in their family saw His ways lived out in their parents' daily lives. Their son John went on to give his all to see people in China reach for Christ's Kingdom. What a delightful legacy!

Pray that families today will take Jesus' words to heart to the point where they will be willing to let their children go anywhere God sends them.

Wish List for Alter Guild

New candelabra Oil Candles for Alter

Alter Cloths

New Baptismal Banner

Please keep saving your Soup Labels!!!!



Look what was purchased for our preschool with the Campbell Soup Labels!!!!

