

Upcoming Bible Studies & Topical Discussions with Pastor Bode



A GRIEF OBSERVED

Grief can and will enter all of our lives at some point. In the classic, "A Grief Observed" by C.S. Lewis we can in honesty and without embarrassment begin to struggle to understand the purpose of love and loss. The book is only four chapters long (76 pages) and by reading it together (one chapter a week) it will serve as the discussion and source of our conversation. You will need to purchase the book (any bookstore has it) or rent it from a library. This class is for those who are acutely aware of grief in their life. We will plan to meet Sundays 8:00 AM --- before worship starting September 7th.

SERMON ON THE MOUNT

This study explores the context and meaning of Jesus well known sermon on the slopes of the Sea of Galilee. Questions explored will include: What is the essence of the life of a believer? What is the meaning of the beatitudes? What did Jesus mean that we are the salt of the earth? What about the Commandments and the Old Testament, do they have any purpose in the context of the Gospel and the New Testament? What about the Lord's Prayer? Or the subjects of fasting, worry, faith?

RUTH

Beginning this fall with regular adult Sunday morning bible class (10:30-11:15AM) we will study the Old Testament book of Ruth. Ruth is a story that pulls us quickly into its unfolding saga of two women, Naomi and Ruth, who in the midst of widowhood and poverty find unexpected joy and renewed hope in of all places... Bethlehem. Centuries later the angels would sing over Bethlehem... *Gloria in Excelsis Deo!* Come see how even in this Old Testament lesson we find unexpected joy, which serves as a symbol of things to come... the joy of a Redeemer born in Bethlehem.

DANIEL

The Old Testament equivalent of the book of Revelation. This study in the course of this coming year (Sunday Morning Bible Study) will explore how God in the book of Daniel brings to pass His everlasting will. We will review familiar stories... Daniel in the fiery furnace, in the lion's den, and the handwriting on the wall. Come learn what God reveals to Daniel about the End Times.

CHRISTMAS IN LUKE

Last Christmas we took a look at Matthew's birth narrative of Jesus, this year we look at the other Gospel that tells the story of the nativity of our Lord, the Gospel of Luke. Focusing on chapters one and two we will study who God sent even before Jesus to "prepare the way" for the coming of our Lord. And too, we will spend time learning of the reaction of people to the Child of Promise... people such as Mary, Joseph, the shepherds, Anna and Simeon and finally ending with the last reference to Jesus childhood as a boy in the Temple teaching the teachers of the Law.

MEMORIALS

Given in memory of:

- * Jacob Forstner to Handbell Choir from Duane and Toni Laffrenzen.
- * Elton Stolt to Debt Retirement from Chuck and Ruth Kiecker.
- * Elton Stolt to Debt Retirement from Adeline Davis.
- * Patricia Raddatz to Debt Retirement from Ann Mills.
- * Ed Ballard to Carillon Fund from Lauren and Ardith Longworth.
- * Ed Ballard to Kinder Haus from Chet and Roween Lundholm.
- * Ed Ballard to Debt Retirement from Chuck and Ruth Kiecker.
- * Elton Stolt to Bathroom Remodel from Wayne and Kathy Luepke.
- * Elton Stolt to Bathroom Remodel from Ron and LaVonne Dahltorp.
- * Lois Roberts to Debt Retirement from Adeline Davis.
- * Elton Stolt to Bathroom Remodel from Gene and JoAnn Stolt.
- * Elton Stolt to General Fund from Dave and Cheryl Lewis.
- * Howard Meyer to Debt Retirement from Hilde Luepke.
- * Dale Wurtzberger to Bathroom Remodel from Gary and Connie Moll.
- * Elton Stolt to Bathroom Remodel from Gene and JoAnn Stolt.
- * Lois Poppen to Bathroom Remodel from Cheryl Lewis and family.

**Start thinking about gift baskets for the Silent Auction in October.

Bleick Fund Grant Applications
It's that time of year for members to apply for the Bleick fund grants. If anyone has an idea for a need in our congregation either for Missions or Capital improvements, you can present your idea to an existing Board and the application can be written and presented to the Stewardship Committee. If you have any questions you can ask a member of the Stewardship Committee- Shirley Nelson, Gloria Effenberger or Kathy Luepke. Deadline for applications is the end of November.

OFFICER AND BOARD REPLACEMENTS

We are currently in the process of looking for candidates for some board and officer positions for the 2009 church year.

The officer positions open for election are:

- *President (1 year term)
- *Vice-President (1 year term)
- *Secretary (1 year term)
- *Treasurer (1 year term)

The board positions open for election are:

- * 3 Elder positions (3 year term)
- * 2 Trustee positions (3 year term)
- * 1 Stewardship position (3 year term)
- * 1 Education position (3 year term)
- * 1 Finance position (3 year term)
- * 2 Youth positions (2 year term)

Please prayerfully consider involvement with one of these committees.

LWML FALL RALLY

St. John's Lutheran Church, of Good Thunder, would like to extend an invitation to the LWML Fall Rally on Saturday, September 27th. Registration and coffee is from 8:30-9:00am and there will be a noon luncheon. The cost is \$8.00. Pastor Teigen will lead the Bible Study and the speaker will be Krista Doering (Guatemala Medical Mission). "Gifts from the Heart" for the ingathering donations should be brought that day. Suggestions are listed on the bulletin board by the offices. **SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS!**

COOKBOOKS

The cookbooks have arrived. We have to get some final things done and then they will go on sale. Watch for more information! The price of the cookbook will be \$12.00. All proceeds from the cookbook sales will go to the Kitchen Remodeling Fund.

“Let these Gifts.....”

The Stewardship Committee is planning the fall fellowship groups again. We hope to have participation from all segments of the congregation, from children to senior citizens, from new to longtime members. The fellowship groups will meet together each month for the next 7-8 months. Each group will be a voluntary mixture of three to five households of members from the congregation. We will try to assemble groups that vary widely in age, household makeup and family interests with the hope that everyone will feel welcome to join. The “lead family” coordinates the activities of the group. Each group decides for itself what to do. Popular activities could be potlucks, bowling, pizza parties, table games, park retreats, lawn games and old TV show and movies videos. There is really no limit to the creative activities that groups can plan. A sign-up table will be set up in the Fellowship Hall starting in August and the following Sundays in September. Use this opportunity to get to know and share Christian fellowship with new and old members as we have been received into His church by God’s grace.

What is Stewardship?

It is a word we often hear, but what does it mean? How does it relate to life today? Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the Child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purpose.

Maybe to understand this concept better, we can ask some questions.

- ◆ How can we be stewards of all that God have given us?
- ◆ Is this really our responsibility?
- ◆ What things do we have to “take care of”?
- ◆ What does God ask of us in our daily life?
- ◆ What gift has God given us? Do you have to “pay back” God?
- ◆ What is the difference between a “gift” and an “offering”?

We understand sacrifice as “to give up”. We see sacrifices as something that hurts. We often say “Give until it hurts.” The spiritual person says “Give until I am delighted.” Giving doesn’t just happen. A sacrifice is generous. The joy set before Christ was to offer His life (Heb. 12:2) He was delighted! We will be emphasizing Stewardship during the months of Sept. and Oct. with information given during these months– something to think about and maybe you’ll say “I never thought about it that way before!”

Nationally Known Creation Science speaker
at Our Savior’s, Mankato

Brian Young, a nationally known speaker and author will be sharing at Our Savior’s Lutheran Church (1103 North Broad St) Mankato at 6:30pm on Wednesday, September 17th. Mr. Young has debated numerous professors at secular universities challenging the traditional views of evolutionary origins. He will give answers to common questions such as: Where did Cain get his wife? Are dinosaurs in the Bible? How could people live 900 years before the flood? How old is the earth and what about the dating methods? What caused the ice-age? Can a Christian believe in evolution without contradicting the Bible? What does the fossil evidence tell us about origins? All these and many more issues will be addressed as well as time to ask questions on any topic you desire. Although all ages are welcome and will enjoy the topics, the information presented will be most beneficial for ages 10 and up.

**BLEICK TUITION FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR
2008-2009 ACADEMIC YEAR FOR
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL (K-8)**

The intent of this tuition fund of Redeemer is to encourage Christian schooling of our membership’s children (K-8th grade) at Immanuel Lutheran School, Courtland, and to not allow finances alone to be a determining factor for not sending one’s children to this parochial LCMS school. We do not want any child of our congregation to miss out on the opportunity for Christian schooling where we as a congregation can help provide financial assistance.

Therefore, an amount of \$5,000.00 has been designated for this purpose from the Bleick Fund-Mission Outreach. Each year this Bleick Tuition Fund would be reassessed by the Church Council, and the ability to continue this Bleick Tuition Fund would depend on money being available each year for said purpose. The number of applicants would determine amount of funding available for each student with the potential of up to a 50% tuition match. We pray this can be of help to member families who may want LCMS parochial schooling for their children, but finances in the past would have hindered it. Currently we have 11 students at Immanuel who are members of Redeemer. This is roughly 20% of Immanuel’s student body. District busing is available. Check with Tammy or Jaime for an application.

KWIK TRIP YOUTH FUND RAISER

We have been offered a great fund raiser through Kwik Trip. For a limited time, we can purchase gift cards for 20 percent off of their face value. For instance, a \$20 gift card costs us only \$16, so you can buy the card for \$20 to purchase \$20 worth of gas or any items in the store, and the youth get to keep the \$4. This is a great way for the youth to make money to help fund upcoming youth activities and also a mission trip next summer. If you don’t buy gas or groceries from Kwik Trip, perhaps you would consider buying a card to give as a gift. The youth will begin selling the cards on Sunday, Sept. 21st following the worship service and on the following communion Sundays. You can buy cards in the amount of \$5, \$10, \$20 or \$50.

Thank you for helping out the youth!

KINDER HAUS HAPPENINGS

Celebrating in the Son!


August Themes:

- ◆ OT Stories– Moses
- ◆ Transportation– things that go
- ◆ Kinder Haus Olympics
- ◆ Circus
- ◆ Minnesota State Fair
- ◆ Garden produce

The stories of Moses have taught us a lot about how God takes care of His people. He calls us: some to be leaders, all to follow Him. He gives us all we need. Listen to the children tell these stories and sing God's praise. A video will again be part of the display for church. We continued the story with the Ten Commandments. We talked about following rules, sin and forgiveness.


Our feet help us go on land. Other things that go on land have wheels. We rolled objects through a long tube and we found that triangles and squares don't roll very well. We sang our circle shape song. We sailed a boat in water. We learned things must float to go in water. We pretended to fly like airplanes.



 We played many games during our Olympics week. We played softball, bean bags, bowling and volleyball. We played team volleyball with a beach ball over the fence: Kinder Haus vs. Kinder Haus II. Result– all are winners! We did many things with the Olympic rings. We played ring toss, we did a color match game, and we found all 5 colors on a walk. We talked about why those are the colors of the rings. Do you know?

The rings continued during circus week. We put up the tent on Monday with the help of our elephants. We each made an elephant ear hand band. Clowns came dressed for fun on Tuesday. We continued with lion taming and listening. We matched animal heads with their bodies. We had fun building wacky animals.



 In August we found that seeds grow and produce abundant fruit, if they are in good ground and tended to well. We shared garden produce like peas, green beans, cucumbers, corn, green peppers and broccoli! We are thankful for all these wonderful foods. God has made us like the earth, where seeds of faith grow and give birth to fruits of faith that we can share with all God's people everywhere.

The last week of August we will do Minnesota State Fair. We will learn about the state in which we live and have some fair fun. Watch for projects on display.

Thank you for your support! We ask for your continued prayers. God bless you.

In His Service,
Jeanne Holten, Director
and Cindy Wiederhoeft

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

DATE	ACOLYTE	GREETERS	LAYREADER	FINANCE	USHERS	FELLOWSHIP
September 7	Ellen Wiederhoeft	Dave and Laura Keene	Tom Wheeler	Carol Hoffmann Al Hoffmann Marie Sperling	Dale Grund Group	Steinberg and Vogl Families
September 14	Calvin Jobe	Emery and Betty Haus	Chris Gordon	Ed Bode LaVonne Dahitorp Caryl Yarger	Chuck Kiecker Group	Sven and Jean Eelma and Tom and Mary Schwarz
September 21	Emily Mielke	Les and Eileen Shellum	Sarah Schwarz	Mark Schneider Duane Laffrenzen Linda Koehler	Roger Schultz Group	Wiederhoeft Family
September 28	Connor Portner	Larry and JoAnn Norton	Laura Keene	Kevin Kolstad Dave and Laura Keene	Brian Nelson Group	Adult Choir

USHERS FOR MONDAY NIGHT SERVICES- September 8 – Dick and Elaine Poulson September 22 – Emery and Betty Haus