

**THE AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF WINDOM**

VOLUME 52, No 5.....May 2009



**Why Media at American Lutheran Church
of Windom?**

(Screens, High Definition Cameras, Projectors and
Contemporary Band Music)

After a special meeting of the church council, one of our members asked me, “Pastor, do you really think that adding media to worship will do any good?”

I am taking this question as an opportunity to share my impression of what up-to-date media enhancements can do for us.

First, the changes will not affect our traditional 8:30 AM worship.

Second, the “Mega Church” format will not affect our 11:00 AM worship. In other words, we will not become a “non-denominational”, “non-liturgical”, congregation. We will still look and sound and feel very Lutheran with a contemporary sound and proclamation. We will continue to enjoy our beautiful sanctuary enhanced by audio and visual excellence.

Third, today’s culture is extremely visual. Television and computer technology have merged with cellular phone and cyber communications. We are utilizing communication satellites to help us get to where we want to go and our words are becoming short and abbreviated through “texting”. (Texting is not a good thing for the English language, in my opinion, but I’m old)

Fourth, worship in the language and music of the people is an important part of our Protestant Heritage. Martin Luther was emphatic in his concern for the liturgy in the “Words of the day”. A contemporary worship enhanced by media is an attempt to use the language, images and music of a significant segment of the American population that is under the age of twenty-five. It will be variously received and understood, but it respects the integrity of Christian youth. ALC has a host of talented youth who will gladly contribute their music in such a contemporary format. In the modern idiom of words and music that are alive and joyful to many of the younger generation (and a growing number of older folks), the media enhanced contemporary worship is an inviting option for ALC.

Finally, you won’t know what this will do to the mission of this congregation until you get it and use it effectively to the glory of God. The benefits of new technology go beyond the Sunday morning worship hour. We will be able to video tape weddings, baptisms, anniversary celebrations and important events in the life of our congregation. We will have the capacity to film great panoramic views, close-ups and inclusive angles. Synodical judicatories will want to use our congregation for large meetings because of our visual and auditory excellence.

I am more like most of you than you think. I tend to resist change. But, I have seen enough of the good use of good media to know that it is not only the wave of the future, it is the way young folks listen and learn.

Pastor Terry Frovik

**Happy Mother’s
Day**

May

VISUAL MEDIA



“Visual imagery is the primary language of our day and draws together people of all ages, races, genders, and classes.”

“(Michael Bausch writer of Silver Screen, Sacred Story), continues the reforming tradition encouraged by Martin Luther, who translated the Latin liturgy and Bible into German, and John Calvin, who translated liturgy and Scripture into French, to reach people in the sixteenth century who no longer knew Latin. Similarly in the mid-20th century, Vatican II led the Roman Catholic Church to translate worship into the language people speak in each land. Now, with visual image as the primary language, our task is to learn from Michael Bausch and others who translate worship into the language of the visual arts to communicate effectively to younger, visually oriented generations.”

The silver screen which can be made any color, works like a stain glass window. In stain glass, the light comes through and the artist tells us something about our faith. The screen reflects the light projected and again we give artists the opportunity to share their craft. Worship happens when people become aware that they are in the presence of God.

Worship planners can use visual language to prepare memorable calls to worship ... prayers of confession ... benedictions ... as well as enhance sermons.

- *The screen can be used to create brief videos of church retreats, mission projects, overseas missions as well as interpreting ALC local missions like serving the Lord's Supper to 'homebound' members (with permission) or at second service scrolling announcements before worship.*

Did you know that we can use clips from animated movies like Lion King or Noah's Ark to communicate Biblical themes.

- *“The Bible is also the great code for major motion pictures --- Dead Poets Society, Forrest Gump, countless episodes of Star Wars, Saving Private Ryan, and even E.T. --- in which the main characters act in many ways like Jesus.”*

- *Bausch explores how films deal with Biblical themes like ... SpiderMan and baptismal imagery in O Brother, Where Art Thou.*

There are Art Sites like Artchive.com or Artbible.net that can be used for worship or Sunday School/Confirmation/Adult Ed.

There are Film Sites like Wingclips.com and Godtube.com that has thousands of examples that can help reach the ipod generation.

As a pastor, having projection abilities at ALC will bless our ministry as we learn to use these resources. The second service or gathering does not have to be a verbal sermon. What is described at 8:30 can be seen at 11. Both are valid ways to preach, reach and teach Jesus.

Projecting words and/or music at the ALC worship service is excellent. Screen technology is this and so much more. ALC can use as much and as little as it chooses. For those whose lives are driven by cell phones and ipods, this ability can reach people who have a hard time relating to worship. All I can tell you is that using Hollywood to help teach, places many more options for a preacher or teacher than not having this ability.

Peace,
Pastor Steve

SERMON SERIES by Pastor Terry

Easter Obligations: a series of sermons on post resurrection commitments

Easter's message is not for observers. We are called to participate in God's work of reconciliation through Jesus' suffering, death and resurrection. The Holy Spirit comes to "create in me a clean heart" - if we listen and respond. For three Sunday's in May (17th -24th - 31st), Pastor Terry will emphasize friendship, prayer and Christian Joy as Easter obligations. We are obliged to "Make Friends" before we die; to "Pray" before we sleep and to "Laugh in Christ" before we Rise. The three sermons are titled, "*Friendship before we Die*"; "*Prayer before we Sleep*" and "*Holy Hilarity before we Rise*". Come and give it some thought and prayer!



MAY WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES....

MAY 3 – 4th Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11:00 am WORSHIP with Holy Communion

- Presentation of Jr. High Play at both worship services. The 7th, 8th, 9th grade Sunday School Class have written a play entitled “Hiding From God”
- This group will also serve coffee hour.

MAY 10 – 5th Sunday of Easter & Mother’s Day

8:30 & 11:00 am WORSHIP

- Teacher/Volunteer Recognition Sunday
- Hunger Appeal Boxes distributed
- Last Sunday of Sunday School
- Handbell Choir/Holy Commotion Season Finale

MAY 17 – 6th Sunday of Easter

8:30 & 11:00 am WORSHIP

- 11:00 am Senior Recognition Sunday

MAY 24 – 7th Sunday of Easter

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND – THIS SUNDAY WE BEGIN OUR SUMMER SCHEDULE OF ONE SERVICE.

9:00 am WORSHIP with Holy Communion

MAY 31 – Pentecost Sunday

9:00 am WORSHIP

**SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP
remains at 5:30 pm in the Chapel**

The Congregation is Responding to the Bell Tower

The design of the church bell tower consists of a concrete core faced with stone and with an air gap between the two materials. This design allows rain water to enter through the outer surface (whether through the mortar or the stone) but there is no way for the water to escape. Presently, the water drains into our church where, unfortunately, it also happens to be right above our new organ.

On March 22, our congregation voted to immediately proceed with the repair of the bell tower which is estimated to cost \$70,000. At a second special meeting on Sunday, April 19th, the congregation approved applying the generous gift of \$50,000 from the estate of Richard Anderson to fund part of this project. Our congregation must pay for the repairs within 15 days of the completion of this project, which is expected to be June 15, 2009.

The Church Council authorized a committee to work with the congregation to raise the final \$20,000. Raising that amount would avoid having to refinance our other loans to repair the Bell Tower. As of April 20, we have received \$7,250 toward our \$20,000 goal.

To reach this goal of \$20,000 by June 1, 2009, the congregation is being asked to prayerfully consider purchasing one or more Bell Tower “stones” for \$50 each. If you wish to participate in this project, please put a check in the offering plate or send it to the Church Office indicating “Bell Tower” on the check.

Check the display in the Skylight Court to see the progress our congregation is making from week to week. Names are being added to the “stones” as they are purchased. The large base will be labeled In Memory of Richard Anderson for his generous gift. At the present time, American Lutheran has received \$57,250 toward the \$70,000 cost of the bell tower repair.





We pray God's Blessings on the following students from ALC as they prepare for their High School graduation. Special recognition will be given to these graduates on Sunday, May 17 at the 11:00 am Worship Service. Cake & Coffee will be served in their honor beginning at 9:30 am in the Skylight Court prior to worship by the Youth & Family Board.

Harlie Courts
Kristi Damgaard **
Matthew Doherty
Morgan Flatgard **
Lisa Johnson
Jena Jorgenson ***
Clinton Jurgens
Kaylee Koch
Michelle Legler
Elise Mickelson
Brenda Nichols
Alicia Norby
Rebecca Oakland *
Justin Olson *
Bramer Powers
Patrick Rhubee
Benjamin Woizeschke
Tierney Zimmer

* Mt. Lake High School

** SW Star Concept

*** Redrock Central

Students graduating from Windom Area High School will have their Baccalaureate at 3 pm at the High School on May 17 with graduation ceremonies on May 22 at 7 pm.

YOUTH NEWS & NOTES

From Christian Ed & Youth Coordinator,
Tera Elness



Sunday School Volunteer Supper will be served on Monday, May 11th at 6:30 pm in the Skylight Court for all those who help with Christian Education at American Lutheran. RSVP to Tera by May 4th.

OUR EDUCATION STAFF will also be recognized at both services on Sunday, May 10th. THANK YOU for sharing Jesus with our children!!

LAST SUNDAY FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL WILL BE MAY 10

“HIDING FROM GOD”

The seventh, eighth and ninth grade students have had a combined Sunday School class this year with their teachers being Pauline Gustafson, Keith Pohlman & Renee Giefer. They have written a play entitled *“Hiding From God”* which they will present at both worship services on Sunday, May 3.

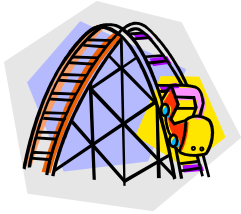


YOUTH BREAKFAST CLUB
will meet on Mondays,
May 4 & 11 at 7:15 am
IN THE ALC YOUTH ROOM



KIDS OF THE KINGDOM – May 6 (1st & 2nd)
AMIGOS – May 13 (3rd & 4th)
WOW – May 20 (5th & 6th)

COME & JOIN YOUR FRIENDS at the Bergen Ball Park for softball, games, food and fun on one of the above times. This is your end-of-the year party. Meet the church bus at school and parents can pick you up at 5 pm at the church. Bring your baseball glove!



VALLEYFAIR TRIP

Mark your calendar for Lutheran Youth Fellowship Day at Valleyfair on Monday, June 22. This is for those just completing the 4th grade on up. The bus leaves at 7:30 am and returns to ALC parking lot at 8 pm.

Cost is \$42 which includes your admission, lunch & transportation. Account money may be used. Sign-up is limited to the first 48 kids who get their money turned in to Tera or Wendy. Deadline is Monday, June 1st.

“THE BANQUET”

MARK YOUR CALENDAR to go to Sioux Falls to “The Banquet” to serve a meal to those less fortunate. We will be taking 40 people and you must be age 13 or up. The date is Tuesday, June 30, leaving at 3 pm. We will be taking donations to pay for the meal we are serving. “The Banquet” serves approximately 500 people each meal. Also needed, plastic containers with lids for food (cool whip, cottage cheese, etc), liquid dish soap, unscented bleach, crossword & word find books, coloring books & crayons.

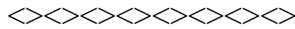


“DISCOVERY CANYON” is the theme for this year’s Bible School that will be held Monday-Thursday, June 8th-11th from 9:00 am to 11:30 am. Classes will be held for children who have completed our 3, 4, 5 year old Sunday School classes. We are asking a fee of \$10 to help with costs. Open registration will be held May 3rd & 10th between worship services in the Skylight Court.

DAY CAMP will be held from Monday-Thursday, June 8th-11th from 9 am to 3 pm. The Shetek Camp Counselors will be leading Day Camp. Cost for Day Camp is \$25.

Bible School & Day Camp are available to all children; scholarships are available for those who cannot pay the fee.

TEACHERS & HELPERS are needed for both groups. Call Tera Elness to volunteer. A staff meeting will be held Wednesday, May 27 at 7 pm.



SHETEK BIBLE CAMP

It is still time to sign-up for summer Bible Camp. Brochures are by the parking lot door. You can look up the schedule online if you wish www.shetek.org. ALC offers scholarships to ALC students ---- \$150 for a week and \$75 for mini camp.

“DAY PLAY” at Camp Shetek will be Monday, July 27th If your child will be in 2nd grade for the 2009-10 school year, they can experience what Camp is all about by attending this ONE DAY OF FUN. Swimming, games, crafts & learning about God. Tera will take a group out to camp, give her a call.

**WOMEN OF THE
ELCA**



HE IS RISEN INDEED!!

Blessings in the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus Christ!

With renewed spirit, we appreciate the renewed hope of life with spring being evidenced everywhere we look. We women of the W.ELCA had a great look at spring in April with a somewhat surprising gathering at Remick Ridge with our annual Mikkelsen Pie Party being served to the good people at Remick - due to a slight, but well managed error! They were quick to point out that the error was not on our part at all, and with the way it turned out we WILL plan to make it an annual event - at Remick Ridge. Our May meeting will be held on Ascension Day - Thurs. May 21, with the brunch to be held at 9:00 AM. Our special guests will be Pastor Terry Frovik and his wife, Pauline, sharing their experiences while touring Norway last year. We look forward to this time together which will be hosted by the board. Please consider attending this brunch - all are welcome!

It's a busy time for all, but please take advantage of all of the opportunities offered.

God's Continued Blessings!

Irene Wiens, Judy Woizeschke, Co-chairs

SARAH CIRCLE will meet on Thursday, May 21 at 7 pm at Carolyn Torkelson's home. (NO OTHER CIRCLES MEETING)

FRIENDSHIP GROUP FOR MAY:

May 1 – Bring a May basket with a snack in it to be exchanged with someone. Meet at church at 6:30 pm.

May 8 – 2-4 pm Ice Cream Social at Good Samaritan Home OR

May 9 – Wings on the Prairie in the morning

May 15 – 5:30 pm Out-to-Eat

May 22 – No Meeting (Graduation)

May 29 – 9 am Brunch



Mark your calendar for Thursday, July 16th
to come to a one-day Bible Study retreat.

Many women find it hard to gather monthly for Bible Study in the summer. We are planning a one-day retreat to study **“Mary: A Woman for All Seasons”**. This is a summer study in our Lutheran Woman Today magazine. If you don't have the magazine, we can download copies of the three studies for free from website: www.lutheranwomantoday.org.

We will gather at 9:00 am on July 16th in the Skylight Court. Our morning will begin with some delicious muffins, coffee & juice. We will begin with the June Bible Study. After a brief break, we will study the July lesson. We will then break at noon for a salad luncheon and follow that with the August Bible study. We are then free to go home to enjoy the rest of the summer refreshed and renewed. This is a retreat for ALL WOMEN even if you don't belong to a circle.

Look for a sign-up sheet to come on the bulletin board across from the office to help provide food.



A committee is working on collecting recipes from ALC members and friends to make a new church cookbook. Their goal is 500 recipes by May 1st. We are short of that goal so they will extend the time a little, so we ask you to PLEASE get your recipes in as soon as possible. The more recipes, the better the cookbook!! Forms are available at the entrances for you to fill out. The goal is to have these books read for the Holiday Fair on November 14 with the proceeds going to ALC's Renovation Debt.

BITS AND PIECES

^ To activate ALC's Prayer Chain, please call one of the following women: Esther Shelley 831-4317; DeLorris Quiring 831-4101; Rosalie Brodin 831-2330; Lavonne Swenson 831-5018 or swenson@windomnet.com

^ National Hospital Week – May 10th-16th. Windom Area Hospital will be offering a couple of opportunities. May 11 at 7 pm – Colonoscopy 101 by Surgery Manager Nancy Jensen and Dr. Rod Dynes. A health fair will be held May 13th from 7:30 am to 9:30 am at the Hospital lobby. Several screenings will be offered.

^ CONGRATULATIONS to Ronda Renee Koch as she completes her studies at Luther Seminary in St. Paul. Graduation will be on Sunday, May 24 at 2 pm at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. All are welcome to attend – balcony seating is open. ALC has been helping Ronda with seminary tuition the last few years.

^ THANK YOU from Lavonne Swenson. Thank you to all who have remembered me since my knee surgery. Your well-wishes, food, cards, visits and prayers have meant so much and have helped me while I have been recuperating.

^ Foreign Exchange student needs home for the school year 2009-10. His name is Nacel Open Door & is 16 years old and from Germany. He plays trumpet and wants to join the band and choir and loves running. His father is a soldier in Afghanistan. If interested, contact Julienne at 507-831-1469.

^ In honor of National Nursing Home Week and recognizing that lasting Legacy of Love continues through strong partnerships with community, you are invited to Good Samaritan Society-Windom Ice Cream Social, May 8th from 1-4 in the Sogge Center Dining Room. Tours of their assisted living building will be available from 1:30-3:00 to celebrate Mikkelsen Manor's 10th Anniversary.

^ GRACE MATTERS on KDOM Radio on Sunday mornings at 7 am has now been replaced with "Day1" with Peter Wallace. The cost of this broadcast is \$35. At this writing, we have no sponsors for May.

SHETEK MINISTRY UPCOMING EVENTS...

507-763-3567

^ **CELEBRATE SPRING** on Saturday, May 3rd from 2-4:30 pm. Create a butterfly House and watch your caterpillars transform into amazing butterflies before your eyes. All ages welcome.

^ **SPRING CLEAN-UP** --- May 2nd & May 16. 8:30 am to how ever long you can help. Lunch will be served at the SLM dining hall. As they say, many hands make light work! Come and help your camp get ready for another exciting faith-filled summer camping season. Call camp and tell them you are coming.

^ **FISH "N" FUN DAY** – Sunday, June 7th from 1-5 pm. Fish Lake Shetek from the camp pontoon, learn basic knot tying & practice casting, participate in fun games & activities, make your own pop can rig. Cost is \$5 per person. Bait provided. Call the camp to sign-up.

^ **GREAT OUTDOOR LUTHERAN FUNDRAISER** --- Shetek Ministries along with Thrivent Financial and Center Sports proudly present ---- G.O.L.F. XI --- Monday, June 22 at Slayton Country Club. The 18 hole scramble tournament begins at 9:30 am. Lunch will be served at the clubhouse as you golf. The day will conclude at approximately 3 pm with refreshments, door prizes & awards. Your charitable entry fee for Shetek Ministries is \$70 per golfer. This includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, logo ball, special events, refreshments and a special Shetek Gift. Call camp to register or e-mail tournament director, Jeff Erickson at jeff@kjoeradio.com

^ The Shetek annual **QUILT AUCTION** is planned for Saturday, June 27 in the activity center. Come and support the camp!

^ **GRANDPARENTS**---- How about rounding up those grandkids and spending a couple of quality days at Shetek with them? The date options are June 10-12, June 14-16, July 19-21, Aug 2-4.

^ **FAMILY CAMP** is June 19-21. Choose to stay in the high comfort Lakota Retreat Facility, cabins or RV/Tent!

HOW ARE WE DOING FINANCIALLY???

As of April 24, 2009:	INCOME:	\$132,638
	EXPENSES:	\$146,621
	2008 CARRYOVER:	\$ 4,039.92
	BORROWED:	\$ 6,000
	MISSIONS HELD:	\$ 2,690

These figures do not include April end-of-month commitments and mission checks.

The Lent, Holy Week & Easter offerings were designated ½ to Missions and ½ to debt retirement.

Total offerings:	Lent & Holy Week:	\$5,516.08
	Easter:	\$5,021

Because of these designated offerings, mission checks for January, February and part of March were sent.

BELL TOWER UPDATE:

\$7,250 of the \$20,000 has been raised by the purchase of bricks from 79 giving units.

RENOVATION UPDATE:

The Renovation Loan currently has a balance of \$162,952. Monthly payments of \$2,574.29 are being made. If you would like to make a contribution towards this debt, you may do so by placing it in the blue renovation envelope or mark your check "Renovation" and place in the offering plate or mail to the church.



**BLESSINGS TO YOU
AS WE REMEMBER
OUR LOVED ONES
May 25**



USHERS FOR MAY....

First Service – Stan Grams, Bruce Gross, Greg Hanefeld, Dean Schoeb, Bernie Woizeschke, Robert Kirstein, Marv Einertson & Paul Voth Sr.

Second Service – Ron Jorgenson, Scott Rahn, Richard Johnson, Rahn Larson, Rick Quade, Brian Busch, Paul Thorkelson & Ken Fast.

Saturday Ushers – Bob Byers, Pat Tepley, Betty Kipfer, Dully Holmen, Earl Flatgard, Stan Severance, Myrna Anderson.



FROM THE CHURCH RECORDS:

BAPTISMS: *ADAM FARAG, son of Lisa & Ahmed Farag*
KEYGAN PATRICK PAPLOW, KAMRON
ROGER PAPLOW, KAYDEN WILLIAM
PAPLOW, sons of Leora Paplow.
LYVIA JADE McMANIGLE, daughter of Cody
McManigle & Trista Goldie
LILLY MAE NETSCH DERICKSON, daughter of
Josey Netsch & Alyssa Derickson

BURIALS: *Sophia Crispin*
Eleanor Conrad
Alice Zimmer

NEW MEMBERS: *Travis & Krissy Fossing*
Connie Johnson
Kristen Porath, Porsha, Tylan & Cragen
Monte & Beth Scrivens, Wyatt & Kaede
Jayd & Kim Soderholm

MEMORIALS: *TO RESTORTION FUND – In memory of Esther*
Larson & John Anderson Jr.
TO CAMBERSHIP FUND – In memory of Ernest
Carlson

