

# the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 • (610) 326-2810 • AUGUST 2009

OUR MISSION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

***“We welcome all to receive God's love through Christ and  
to share it with the world.”***

## In This Edition Look for...

Office Notes	<i>Page 2</i>
Pastor's Note	<i>Page 3</i>
Worship Notes	<i>Pages 5,6</i>
Discipleship, Fellowship and Service	<i>Pages 7,8</i>
Auction Donation Form	<i>Page 9</i>
Member News and Thanks You Notes	<i>Page 10</i>
SEPA Assembly Report	<i>Page 11,12</i>



## SUMMER SCHEDULE

Worship

9 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship

10 a.m.

Holy Communion Weekly

## FALL SCHEDULE

**begins September 13**

Worship at 8 and 10:45 am

Coffee Fellowship at 9 am

Adult Education

and Confirmation at 9:30 am



## **OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday through Thursday**  
8 a.m. – noon and 1 – 2:30 p.m.

**Friday**  
CLOSED

## **TELEPHONE**

610-326-2810

[www.stjamespottstown.org](http://www.stjamespottstown.org)

## **STAFF**

### **Ministers**

Each and Every Member of St. James

### **Pastor**

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson

e-mail: [pastorh@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:pastorh@stjamespottstown.org)  
home 610-718-0313

### **Director of Discipleship**

Suzanne Rigg

e-mail: [srigg@thehill.org](mailto:srigg@thehill.org)  
office 610-326-2810  
home 610-970-4865

### **Secretary**

Darlene Jackson

e-mail: [secretary@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:secretary@stjamespottstown.org)

### **Director of Music Ministries**

Sharon MacCabe

email: [sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net](mailto:sharonbmaccabe@comcast.net)  
office: 610-326-2810

### **Custodian**

Glenn Yerger

contact: 610-326-2810

### **Missionaries**

Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson  
Kathmandu, Nepal

### **Newsletter Editor**

Dawn Detweiler  
[newsletterstj@wi.rr.com](mailto:newsletterstj@wi.rr.com)

## **OFFICE NOTES**

---

### **Master Calendar / Room Scheduling**

All room reservations, including committee meetings and private gatherings, should be made with Darlene in the office. Please indicate to her any need for room rearrangement, (extra chairs, tables) so proper preparations can be made.

### **Newsletter Deadline for September 2009 Edition: August 15, 2009**

Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to [newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org](mailto:newsletterstj@stjamespottstown.org) or placed in the "newsletter" mailbox the Sunday before the deadline. Also please note that articles may be edited for clarity and space conservation.

### **Altar Flowers, Eternal Light Bulletin Sponsorships**

The cost for each sponsorship is \$15 for eternal light, \$30 for altar flowers, and \$15 for bulletins. Sign up sheets are posted in Horn Hall for anyone interested. Envelopes are available in Horn Hall on the resource table. Cash or check payment can be placed in offering or turned in to the office.

### **Weekly Bulletin Announcements on the Website**

Weekly bulletin announcements can be found on the St. James' website under the News section. This section is updated weekly so you can know what is happening from week to week even if you miss worship due to vacations and other summer plans. Check it out for yourself at [www.stjamespottstown.org](http://www.stjamespottstown.org).

## Pastor's Article

### "Happy Hour at St. James"

When my wife and I recently went on vacation to a summer resort town, we saw lots of establishments with a sign out front that advertised a 'Happy Hour' at certain times during the week. What that pertains to, of course, is a time at a restaurant when drinks and sometimes food are offered at reduced prices with music and even entertainment part of that. It is a gimmick to invite people to come patronize the place and have a good time.

Well we have a 'Happy Hour' at St. James each week. This summer it has been offered from 9:00 to 10:00 every Sunday morning and we invite people to come in and have a good time at worship.

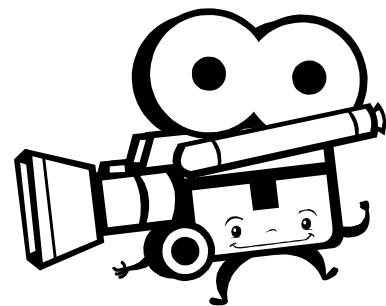
There is food and drink offered (we call it the Sacrament of Holy Communion) and not only is it free, but there are no restrictions as to who can come and partake. We also have wonderful music at our Happy Hour and people find it so enjoyable that most actually sing along with the songs being played! And there is also entertainment. Not mindless foolishness, but serious activities that even do more than entertain. The word of God is presented each week in bible readings and during the message at our 'Happy Hour'. That not only attracts our attention, but also stirs our hearts and moves our minds and souls. And of course our Happy Hour has the social time that comes with gathering and worshipping together and sharing with one another, both in the Sanctuary as well as in coffee hour afterwards.

So if you have not taken advantage of St. James 'Happy Hour' this summer, make yourself a mental note to try to come out and have some fun. There is no gimmick to it, everything is free, and everyone and anyone are welcome. And I promise that you will have a good time. Some have even said that it's "the best place in town!"

**PASTOR**

## Movie Night

***There is no bible study this month with Pastor, but please join him on Tuesday nights in August for Movie Night. Details follow on page 4.***





## Movie Night - Tuesday Evenings in August

Once again we will take time out each week during the month of August to enjoy '**Movie Night**' at St. James. This is a time, not just to watch a good movie, but to also see where some discussion of God, a glimpse of God's nature, or the message of the Gospel and the story of Jesus Christ, can be found in films. So movies that do not prompt or promote that are not considered. But neither are films that are explicitly 'Christian' or which deliberately try to convey a religious message. Our intention is to help us look for God and Christ and the gospel in places where we might otherwise not look and where it may not be intentionally presented but where, through the power of the Holy Spirit, it is nonetheless there for us!

The lineup for this summer is as follows:

**'A Walk in the Clouds'** (Tuesday, August 4) – A heartwarming story of a pregnant but unmarried young girl who is befriended by a returning war veteran on a bus ride home to her parents (her father is the wealthy owner of a large vineyard). Through an unexpected encounter with the young man she finds him to be a chivalrous gentleman, and so she asks him to briefly come with her and pretend to be her husband to avoid the father's rage over her situation. He reluctantly agrees to this charade, which then leads to a humorous but serious love story that almost never happens. This movie reflects biblical themes of forgiveness, redemption, and the second chances that grace can bring to all of us. It's rated PG 13.

**'Gran Torino'** (Tuesday, August 11) – Clint Eastwood directs and stars in this film about a retired autoworker who sees the world around him changing dramatically. Hunkered down in his home, he watches for encroachment from the new immigrant Asian population that has moved into the area. With an "Archie Bunker type" attitude, he protects what is his, and especially his fully restored Ford Gran Torino that is his pride and joy. But his encounters with his new neighbors reveals some new things to him and, by the end of the film, opens his eyes to seeing the world and those in it in a different light. It's a film that helps us to see the face of God in all people, especially those we consider to be "others" and even those whom we hate. This film has a little violence and some offensive language and so is rated R.

**'Young @ Heart'** (Tuesday, August 18) – A delightful film about an ensemble of senior citizens who are formed together by a musical director to become a singing group called 'The Young @ Heart Chorus'. This group of elderly persons ends up thrilling their audiences with performances of, ...not Tony Bennett songs, ... but rock and roll songs! The ups and downs of the effort that goes into their preparations, as well as the poignant moments that reflect both the worth as well as the frustration of growing old, will make you smile, laugh and maybe even cry a bit. It's a great film to remind us of the value we each hold in the eyes of God. It's rated PG.

**'Paradise Now'** (Tuesday, August 25) – Khaled and Saiad are two Palestinians who are recruited to be sent to the Israeli section of their community as suicide bombers. Although initially sympathetic to the cause of their people and even to the violence used to promote that, the two are simple and regular guys (garage auto mechanics). They are best friends, have families who they love, and one is even beginning to fall in love with a young girl who does not agree with their ideas. The truth is, *they* are not even sure they agree with their ideas and they struggle with the prospect of their becoming martyrs. The movie humanizes them as they prepare for the horrible event in ways that are sometimes stressful and at other times subtly humorous. But the film raises the question of how God could advocate or endorse such violent activities and how human political aspirations can use faith and religion in ways that may conflict with what God really wants. This film is rated PG-13.

***Drinks and snacks are provided each evening.***

# WORSHIP NOTES

---



## Rejoicing Spirits Cookout August 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

Come join us for food and fellowship as we enjoy time together with members of our Rejoicing Spirits community. We will have hot dogs off the grill, root beer floats and other munchies.

**Worship follows at 7 p.m.** with special music that evening provided by **Rev. Cathy Huling** and **Minister Juan Rodriguez** from the Church of the Adonai.

Rejoicing Spirits is dedicated to sharing God's Word and spreading his love to our brothers and sisters with developmental disabilities it is also open to everyone in the community. If you have not had a chance to come and worship with us, give it a try and see for yourself the love and joy that is shared among all who attend.

## Third Sunday Offering August Recipient Our Missionaries in Nepal

Our Third Sunday outreach offering for August will be given to support the work of our missionaries in Nepal, Dr. Stephen and Becky Thorson. The Thorsons through The World Mission Prayer League (WMPL) have been missionaries in Nepal for more than ten years. Over those years the Thorsons have visited St. James several times to share their experiences as missionaries and to give us their thanks. They will be visiting us again in November of this year. Stephen is a missionary pediatrician who teaches theology and also works as a doctor. He has been the author of several bible commentaries. The Thorsons stay in touch with us through cards and e-mails. Please considering giving to this month to support the Thorsons as they continue to do their ministry in a county that is sometime dangerous and in an environment not really open to Christianity as Nepal is 90 percent Hindu.

## Third Sunday Offering Schedule

SEPTEMBER – Lutheran World Relief  
OCTOBER – Cluster Outreach Center  
NOVEMBER – Open to allow for offering for current need, i.e. hurricane relief.  
DECEMBER – ELCA World Hunger

## Children Church Leaders Needed

The fall is soon approaching when we will be returning to our normal schedule of two services and Children's Church. With the return of Children's Church in the fall we could use a few more individuals who would be willing to lead our Children's Church during the 10:45 service. **Individuals can either lead our preschool-kindergarten group of children or our elementary children who are in grades 1- 5.**

Children's Church leaders present a brief lesson and lead the children through an activity (game, craft, worksheet, etc.) that reinforces the lesson. Lesson plans and materials are provided. **Leaders teach approximately 6 times a year. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Suzanne at 610-326-2810.**

## Confirmation Class Starting in September



Pastor will be starting confirmation classes in September. Classes **meet on Sunday mornings from 9:30-10:15 a.m.** Any parents of children who are entering **sixth grade or older** who want their child to participate in Catechetical Class (Confirmation Class) should notify the pastor so that they may be included in this year's class.

**The confirmation process is a three-year obligation** in which students learn more about the Christian faith through instruction following an outline designed by Martin Luther. It covers study of the Old and New Testaments, the Ten Commandments and the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer and the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion as well as a look at liturgy and worship throughout the church year.

## Let your light so shine . . . Get trained as an acolyte



On **Sunday, September 27<sup>th</sup>** following the 10:45 a.m. worship, we will be training all young people (**1<sup>st</sup> grade or older**) interested in becoming acolytes. Those who have served as acolytes are welcome (and encouraged) to refresh their understanding and to encourage others. You will be fitted with an alb and given instruction sheets. Parents are welcome to sit in! **Please let Suzanne Rigg (610-362-2810 or [sirgg@stjamespottstown](mailto:sirgg@stjamespottstown)) know if you plan to attend.**

## The Altar Guild is Looking for New Team Members



Altar Guild members are responsible for preparation of the paraments, candles, baptismal font and the altar for Holy Communion, in addition to caring for the paraments and the communion vessels. Members serve for one month at a time, approximately twice a year. Training will be provided. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Suzanne at 610-326-2810.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This year St. James will not be sponsoring a VBS for kids, but children of St. James are invited to participate in the VBS program at St. John Lutheran Church. Below is the date, location, time and contact information:

St. John Lutheran Church  
75 East Main St. Pottstown  
August 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>  
5:30-8:00 p.m.  
Dinner included  
610-326-1120

# DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP and SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

---

Come to Friendly's Restarurant for dinner and support  
**the Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities**

Wednesday, August 12, 2009  
4 - 9 p.m.  
Pottstown Friendly's Restaurant  
200 Shoemaker Road, Pottstown

## News from the Pottstown Cluster

**Current needs** for the food pantry include: chunky soup, **jelly, new born and sizes 1, 4 and 5 diapers, baby wipes, laundry or dish detergent, tampons, Gerber 6 pack apple juice (4 oz), Good start formula, any type including soy, and toilet paper** and for the clothing closet: **girls shorts (size small), girls and boys socks (all sizes); girls and boys underwear (sizes 3-8).**

Donations for the Cluster can be brought to St. James and placed in the basket located in Horn Hall or in the basket by the lower level mailboxes located at the bottom of the stairs closest to the parking lot. Donations can also be taken directly to the Cluster.

### **Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities**

137 Walnut Street Pottstown, PA 19464  
(610) 970-5995

Hours of Operation:  
Monday - Friday,  
9 AM-12 Noon

## Next Miller-Keystone Blood Drive

**Our next scheduled blood drive will be on Monday, August 17<sup>th</sup>** in Horn Hall. If you would like to make an appointment, please contact Ellen Ibach at 610-323-4477.



## **Blood Pressure Checks** *Now on the Second Sunday of the month*

Stay well! Blood Pressure checks will be on **August 9<sup>th</sup>** after the 9 a.m. service.

## Salvation Army Community Lunch

Each second Wednesday of the month a group of volunteers from St. James prepares and serves the community lunch at the Salvation Army. Help is needed at different times between 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.

## **Looking to be involved with the life and ministry of St. James?**

Forms are available in Horn Hall if you would like to join or get more information on a ministry, team or way to serve. The green forms are located on the resource table of Horn Hall and once completed can be placed in the offering plate or returned to the office.

## Women of the ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference

### Bible Study

The next WELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study will be held at Grace Lutheran Church, Pottstown, on **Tuesday, September 8, at 10 a.m. with coffee at 9:30.** The leader will be Barbara Lutz presenting *Mutually Engaged*.

**All women** are invited to participate in these Bible Studies based on the theme *To God's Beloved: Paul's Letter to the Romans*. Study materials are found in Lutheran Women Today magazine. Subscriptions are available for \$12 per year. This is the 25th year of meeting and sharing together. Bring your friends. We welcome inter-denominational viewpoints. If you would like to attend, please contact Grace Schafer or Mary Arnt for carpooling.

## Liberty Lutheran 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Artman Tennis Outing

The 10th Annual Artman Tennis Outing will be held on September 13th, 2009, at the Philadelphia Cricket Club. Players and spectators alike are invited to this fun, elegant event! Tennis starts at 1 p.m., and supper starts at 4:30 p.m. An open bar is served throughout the day. All proceeds benefit the Benevolent Care Fund at Artman. To register for the event, or for more information, please call Brenda Doyle at 215-643-6335, extension 244.

## St. James Auction Night October 16, 2009



*All proceeds go towards the capital campaign.*

Food available beginning at 5 p.m.  
Silent Auction begins at 5 p.m.  
Live Auction begins at 7 p.m.

**If you would like to help with the planning and organizing of the auction** in any way, please contact Carol Keller at 610-326-1013.

### Donations needed for St. James Auction

**Donations of all kinds** (hand-crafted items, gift cards or certificates, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, art, manual labor, etc.) are being accepted for the auction. **Your imagination is the limit!** Here is a list of what has been donated at past auction to help you to think about what you can donate:

**Previous auction donations have included the following:** beeswax candles, handcrafted baskets, season tickets to the Pottstown Symphony, knitted sweater, two tickets to the Walnut Street Theater, handcrafted afghan, autographed church softball, two passes to the Franklin Institute, counted cross stitch, Christmas ornaments, Hummel figures, the labor to paint of paper a 10 X 10 room, solid wooden duck, prepared dinner/wine for 4-6 people, crocheted tablecloth, sing-a-gram: live, car wash, five hours of babysitting, family meal at Taco Bell, videos, fresh-cut fir Christmas tree.

**If you would like to make a donation,** please complete a donation form attached to this newsletter and return it to Annette Renn or the church office. If you have any questions you can contact Annette at 610-970-7499 or [arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com](mailto:arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com).



**CALLED  
TO SHARE  
HIS  
LIGHT**

**October 16, 2009  
St. James Auction Night  
Donation Form**

St. James will be sponsoring both a silent auction and a live auction with all proceeds benefitting our capital campaign.

We hope that you will consider donating an item for one of the auctions on October 16, 2009. **Donations of all kinds (hand-crafted items, gift cards or certificates, sports memorabilia, gift baskets, art, labor, dinners, etc.) are being accepted for both auctions.** Your imagination is the limit of what can be donated!

If you would like to donate an item please complete this form and return it to Annette Renn or the office. **If you have any questions you can contact Annette at 610-970-7499 or [arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com](mailto:arenn@colonnadeseniorliving.com).**

**Please use one form per donation.** Additional forms can be obtained by contacting the church office – 610-326-2810.

**Name of donor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact information:**

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **e-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Item being donated:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Description of item:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Approximate dollar value/worth of item:** \_\_\_\_\_

# MEMBER NEWS

---



## August Birthdays

1 – Betty Darocha; 3 – Mary Littlefield; 4 – Warren Emery, Judy Kochel; 7- Sam Davies; 8- Ava Fusco; 10 – Kyle Kirsten; 12 – Paul Eshbach; 13 – Dave Brewer, Taylor Rothenberger, Scott Strichik; 15 – Aaron Hoehne, Hank Hoehne, Josephine O’Neill, Alyson Taylor; 16 – Cassandra Groff, Isabel DuBois, Eleanor Hetrick, Ron Schafer; 19 – Deb Geesey; 20 – Ruth Neiffer; 21 – Jackie Klaus; 22 – William Degler, Donald Erb, Ryan Hall; 23 – Cheryl Detweiler; 24 – Alisha Sandoe; 26 – Eva Kehler; 28 – Michele Hoffman, David Rothenberger; 29 – Chad Widmann; 30 – Rick Geesey, Noelle Hartzman, Jason Matrone; 31 – Herbert Kenney

## Thank You Notes

To Friends of St. James,  
Thank you for all your phone calls and cards with thoughts and prayers for a speedy recovery from my recent surgery. Special thanks to Pat and Ted Baer, Fay Saylor and Pastor Hutchinson for home and hospital visits. Thanks again!!

Howard Snyder

Thank you to all who have been filling in last minute on Sunday mornings in the different assisting minister roles.

Thanks to Ted Baer for turning on the air-conditioning in our worship space each Saturday night so we have a cooler place to worship on Sunday.

Thanks for the help of Joe Mittura and John Ungerman during our recent computer crisis in the office.

Dear friends of St. James Lutheran Church,  
Thank you for your generosity to our organization. Your partnership with us greatly helps in our mission to meet the needs of this community.

Sincerely,  
Barbara Wilhemy, LCSW  
The Pottstown Cluster of Religious Communities

## Council Member Contact

If at anytime you have a question, concern, or suggestion that might help the church, contact one of the following elected Council members.

Pat Baer - President 610-326-8598  
Email: [pattedbaer@verizon.net](mailto:pattedbaer@verizon.net)

Cyndi Krasley- Vice-President  
484-945-0165

Barbara Ungerman - Secretary  
610-718-9368  
Email: [bungerman@comcast.net](mailto:bungerman@comcast.net)

Vickie Kirsten 484-300-4915  
Email: [vjkirsten@comcast.net](mailto:vjkirsten@comcast.net)

Sherry Clancy - Treasurer 610-323-5977  
Email: [srclancy@comcast.net](mailto:srclancy@comcast.net)

Ron Schafer 610-326-4814  
Email: [ronslibrary@comcast.net](mailto:ronslibrary@comcast.net)

Mike Lunn 610-367-8762  
Email: [lunns2@dejazzd.com](mailto:lunns2@dejazzd.com)

Julie Hauck 610-385-7308  
Email: [jlynne65@ptd.net](mailto:jlynne65@ptd.net)

Scott Strichik 610-327-3108  
Email: [sstrichik@verizon.net](mailto:sstrichik@verizon.net)

Laurie O’Connell 610-323-5787  
Email: [loconnelljr@concast.net](mailto:loconnelljr@concast.net)

Tracie Rheel 610-323-7051  
Email: [trheel@comcast.net](mailto:trheel@comcast.net)

Candy Koons 610-327-0458  
Email: [itp494@aol.com](mailto:itp494@aol.com)

Carol Keller 610-326-1013  
Email: [mycourt33@comcast.net](mailto:mycourt33@comcast.net)

## Summary of SEPA Assembly – May 8-9, 2009

Marge Fegley and David Hartzman along with Pastor Hutchinson and Suzanne Rigg attended the 2009 synod assembly as voting members. Below is a summary of the assembly:

### God has a plan...We're it!

"We are God's incarnational presence, the very Body of Christ, the hands and feet and FACE of our Lord," said Bishop Claire Burkat as she unveiled the results of the year-long discernment process that involved nearly 2,000 people across the synod. It represents four strategic directions that emerged:

- \* Faith formation
- \* Faith in Action
- \* Connecting and communicating
- \* Equipping and developing

Instead of yielding a traditional strategic plan, this listening process revealed the instincts and passions of our people to grow deeper in faith and to share that faith with our neighbors in word and deed.

The Assembly reflected that result, devoting significant time to hearing directions and dreams from circles of leaders who have been working in each of the strategic directions, and giving attendees time to reflect on and explore God's call in conversation. Read more about the process at <http://tinyurl.com/sepaface>

"Like social networks, the gospel is spread and extended through relationships," the bishop said. God's plan is about relationships so we can use whatever tools we need to accomplish that plan. We connect in order to be released for mission.

"Mission and ministry will happen because people at the grassroots, in our neighborhoods and in our congregations, want it to happen and are listening to God to direct them, not because it is a synod plan," said Bishop Burkat.

View a video of the bishop's address at <http://tinyurl.com/bishopaddress>

View videos of all of the key presentations at <http://tinyurl.com/sepavideos>

Download the "facebooklet" discussion guide at <http://tinyurl.com/facebooklet>

Assembly news:

### **2010 budget includes small increase, deficit**

The Assembly passed a 2010 budget with an anticipated income of \$2,876,000 and anticipated expenses of \$3,167,175. The 2010 budget represents a 2% increase over 2009 and an anticipated deficit of \$291,175. Budget deficits are currently funded out of the Fund for Mission. Partnership Support for 2008 was down 4 percent, or just over \$116,000.

In 2008 the Assembly authorized a year-end special synodical appeal, which brought in \$40,000. After passing the 2010 budget, the Assembly authorized another appeal to for 2009 to occur on a date to be decided by the Synod Council.

Read more at <http://tinyurl.com/budget2010>

### Resolutions:

#### **Assembly says “yes” to ministry changes**

The Southeastern Synod Assembly Friday expressed support of the proposal before the ELCA to allow ordination of persons in long-term, monogamous same-gender relationships. The Assembly passed by voice vote a resolution urging the ELCA Churchwide Assembly to adopt the Social Statement on Human Sexuality. The resolution also recommended adoption of the four-parts of the proposed Recommendation on Ministry Policies.

An additional clause asked the church to develop resources for faith communities that choose to support same-gender relationships by holding them publicly accountable in the exchange of promises of lifelong love and fidelity. Learn more at <http://tinyurl.com/sepayes>

The Assembly had earlier defeated a resolution calling on the Churchwide Assembly to require a two-thirds majority on votes relating to the proposals on sexuality. Learn more at <http://tinyurl.com/sepatothirds>

In other actions:

The Assembly voted to become a “Book of Faith” synod committing “to live in and from the Word of God.” The resolution encouraged all congregations to commit to the initiative and become Book of Faith congregations in order to explore new opportunities for engaging the Bible. The voting members of the Assembly also agreed to covenant together to participate in regular Bible study and prayer. Learn more at <http://tinyurl.com/bookoffaith>

The Assembly passed a resolution asking the Churchwide Assembly to reaffirm support and funding for Lutheran Disaster Response, a nationally recognized organization to bring comfort, healing and renewal to those affected by a variety of disasters. A resolution seeking to strengthen efforts to encourage young adults of color to consider a call to public ministry was passed. Learn more at <http://tinyurl.com/moreresolutions>