

the Spirit of St. James



St. James Lutheran Church, 1101 High Street, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, 19464 ? (610) 326-2810 ? SEPTEMBER 2006

OUR VISION FOR ST. JAMES LUTHERAN CHURCH

*“To Be, and to Become, a Worshiping, Caring, Teaching,
and Outreaching Congregation.”*

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Sunday Schedule

September 3

Worship at 9 a.m.
with Children's Church

Starting September 10

Worship at 8 and 10:45 a.m.
Coffee Fellowship at 9 a.m.
Children's Church at 10:45 a.m.

Starting September 17

Adult Education Classes at 9:30 a.m.

1896-2006 St. James Lutheran Church - Celebrating 110 Years of Ministry
Emphasizing Our Vision to Be an Outreaching Congregation



OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

8 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Friday 8 a.m. – noon

CLOSED Labor Day, September 4th

TELEPHONE

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Fax: 610-326-1025

www.stjamespottstown.org

STAFF

Ministers

Each and Every Member of St. James

Pastor

The Rev. Peter Hutchinson

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home 610-718-0313

Director of Discipleship

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e-mail: srigg@thehill.org

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Dr. Stephen & Becky Thorson

Kathmandu, Nepal

Newsletter Editor

Dawn Detweiler

newsletterstj@wi.rr.com

OFFICE NOTES

Master Calendar / Room Scheduling

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

Newsletter Deadline for October Edition: September 15, 2006

Article submissions can be sent by e-mail to 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.

Weekly Bulletin Announcements Now on the Website

Weekly bulletin announcements now can be found on St. James' website under the **new section called News, Needs and Calendar**. This section will be updated weekly with new information available from week to week. Check it out for yourself at www.stjamespottstown.org.

A Reminder from the Archive Committee

If you have any memorabilia (pictures, news clips, etc.) from any church related events that can be shared, please see that the Archive Committee receives a copy. We are looking for documentation from past, recent, or any future events. Also, if possible, please try to identify the people in the pictures.





Caring and Outreaching

Well, the summer went by just that fast and September is already here.

Its odd, but this time of year I still recall that kind of queasy and uncomfortable feeling I used to get each September as school was about to start up again. Maybe some kids looked forward to school and were excited at the prospect of the next year, but I always wondered if I would like my teacher(s), if my buddies would be in my class, if I would understand or be able to follow what they would be trying to teach me this year, and worrying if there would be a bully in my gym class to be scared of or if the really cool kids would think I'm cool enough to hang out with. It didn't matter that it was not my first time in school; it was still a time of anxiety for me, and probably many others.

September is also a time when lots of people decide to go and try to find a church, or to go back to a new church, especially if their children are of Sunday School age. Imagine then, what it is like for folks who might be looking for a new church to go to; wondering if they will like the pastor (or the pastor's sermon). Wondering if any friends or people their age or race or 'type' will be in the church.

Wondering if they will understand and be able to follow the worship services, and worrying if there are any scary judgmental

people or others who might think they are not religious or righteous enough to be in their church.

Sound silly? It's not. If you have ever been there, as a new student or better yet, as a new person going into a new church, you know what I mean.

And so while we are doing what we can to reduce the anxiety level for people who may come to St. James, there is one other thing that you can do too. If you see someone new or who you have never seen before or spoken with, extend to them a handshake of kindness, a word of grace and make them feel a bit easier about coming to church. For many people these days, it's not something they have done since they were a little child, but something they may be doing that morning for the first time.

Faith and Leadership Academy

Our Synod's Faith and Leadership Academy is a six-week adventure in faith and discipleship. The Academy is designed to identify and strengthen the potential leadership that is in all of us. Open to any confirmed member of a congregation over age 18, the Academy focuses on development of leadership to meet the challenges of ministry and mission in our multicultural society.

The 2006 **session will run Saturdays, October 14 - November 18, at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.** If you would like more information or if you are interested in registering for the Academy, please contact Pastor Hutchinson or Suzanne Rigg. **There is no cost to any member who would like to attend.**

WORSHIP NOTES

Sunday Morning

Adult Education Opportunities

Starting on September 17 there will be **two adult education opportunities** on Sunday mornings beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Living the Good News – This is a lectionary-based Bible study that shapes and transforms lives. Each week as a class the group will take an in-depth look at the Bible readings heard that week in worship while discovering and learning to share God's Word. The class teaches, inspires and involves its members in prayer and spiritual growth. The class will meet weekly in the Adult Study classroom. Individuals can join this class anytime throughout the year.

Christianity and Islam: Comparing and Contrasting These Two Faiths - This study is a four week study of basic and foundational differences and similarities between Christianity and Islam. Viewpoints will be presented by both Christian and Muslim scholars. The class will be held in the Blue Room.

Note: *Supervision and activities are available for children Kindergarten - grades 5 who have parents or guardians attending either one of these classes.*

Blessing of the Animals

October 8, 2006

5 p.m.

In celebration of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, there will be a blessing of the animals at the home of Ted and Pat Baer (on Rambler Avenue, across from the church parking lot) on **Sunday, October 8, 2006 at 5 p.m.** You are welcome to bring pets and animals of all sizes and varieties to receive a blessing.



Confirmation Classes

Any parents of children who will be **entering the sixth grade this fall**, 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.

We meet in the youth room off the Main Sunday school room on **Sunday mornings from 9:30 to 10:15 from the fall through the spring.**

The Lutheran Course

Starting: October 29, 2006
Sundays: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Ending: December 10, 2006



Why is Luther winking? Come and find out by taking The Lutheran Course starting on Reformation Sunday, October 29, 2006 and lasting for seven weeks. Sessions will be held from 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. in the Blue Room.

Based on The Lutheran Handbook, The Lutheran Course takes you through the fundamentals of Lutheranism in seven sessions. Each session features a large group DVD presentation with top-notch theologians, followed by discussion by the whole group. A sense of humor is critical. Registration is required for this course. **The cost to register is \$10 per household** (or there is no cost if you already have The Lutheran Handbook in your household). Registration begins on Sunday, September 10 at the Ministry Fair and then after worship for the following weeks. **Registration deadline is Sunday, October 15, 2006.** Great for new Lutherans, old Lutherans, and anyone in between. The 7 Sessions:

"How to Tell the Difference Between the Law and the Gospel" - Topic: Law and Gospel; DVD Presenter: James Nestingen, professor of Church History at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.

"Five Things You Should Know about the Lutheran Reformation" - Topic: Lutheran Reformation; DVD Presenter: Ken Sundet Jones, assistant professor of Philosophy and Religion at Grand View College in Des Moines, IA

"The Anatomy of a Baptism" - Topic: Baptism; DVD Presenter: Winston Persaud, professor of Systematic Theology at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA

"How to Receive Communion" - Topic: Communion; DVD Presenter: Foster McCurley, professor (emeritus) of Old Testament and Hebrew at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, PA.

"The Three most Rebellious Things Jesus Did" - Topic: Jesus; DVD Presenter: Barbara Rossing, professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, IL.

"How to Read the Bible" - Topic: Bible; DVD Presenter: Rolf Jacobson, assistant professor of Old Testament at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.

"How to Share your Faith with Someone" - Topic: Evangelism; DVD Presenter: Kelly Fryer, assistant professor of Congregational Leadership at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN.

SEMINARY DAY 2006

Saturday, September 30th 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Hymn Sing! Children's Program!
Workshops!

Experience a day in the life of a seminarian. You'll get to know the Seminary campus and community while discovering new ways the Seminary can help you, your family, and your congregation on your own journey of faith. Enjoy a beautiful fall day on our historic campus. The day will open with a Hymn Sing and morning lecture by Seminary President Philip Krey, entitled, "The Da Vinci Code and Other Fictions: Ancient Heresies in Modern Dress."

After lunch, workshops will give a sampling of required and elective courses taken by seminarians. Tours of the campus and the new Brossman Learning Center will also be given. A special Children's Program is available for children age 5-12. For more information please see the forms attached to the end of the newsletter. Forms should be returned to Suzanne Rigg no later than September 17, 2006. Questions or for carpooling information, contact Suzanne.



There is great news to report from Rejoicing Spirits. With the offering received from our August worship we met our goal for the year of being able to donate two goats and a flock of hope through Heifer Project International. The Rejoicing Spirits ministry partners with Heifer International, which gives gifts of animals and training creating self-reliance for food and income. Rooted in the Christian tradition, Heifer International joins with people everywhere to work for the dignity and well being of all people.

Our Rejoicing Spirits monetary offering for the remaining of the year will go to Heifer International to donate a trio of rabbits. So long as they are warm and dry, rabbits thrive, and they love to eat leftover vegetables. In turn, families get nitrogen-rich manure to use on gardens or to sell as fertilizer. And since rabbits have up to 40 offspring a year, they provide families with steady sources of protein and income. We look forward to buying our next animals as we continue to collect our offering for this year!

More good news is that Rejoicing Spirits is growing with more Rejoicing Sprits ministries starting all over the country. Our own David Hartzman will be traveling to Lenoir City, TN for the first Rejoicing Spirits worship there. At August's worship a photo was taken of all the Rejoicers at St. James to send with Dave to share with our friends in Tennessee. Please wish him well in his upcoming trip serving as an ambassador for Rejoicing Spirits.

September's Rejoicing Spirits worship is the second Wednesday of the month, September 13 at 7 p.m. Remember that even though 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.



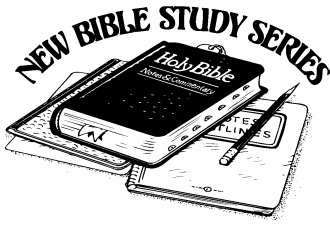
Third Sunday Offering SEPTEMBER Recipient

Lutheran World Relief

This month's Third Sunday Offering will go to Lutheran World Relief. Empowered by God's unconditional love in Jesus Christ, Lutheran World Relief envisions a world in which each person and every generation lives in justice, dignity, and peace.

Every day in 50 countries, **Lutheran World Relief (LWR) works to combat the causes of poverty** and the dignity it robs from people's lives. They advocate for fair trade that helps farming families earn a better income. (Our Fair Trade Coffee program at St. James is through LWR). **They teach people to better care for themselves their communities and the environment** and how to be less vulnerable to natural disasters. They advocate with and for them for policy change that more fairly represents them. LWR counsels them after manmade and natural disasters, and helps them recover with material aid. They do all of this exclusively with partners from the communities they serve. Their partners help them remain incredibly efficient and effective.

U.S. Lutherans, freed and empowered by God's grace in Jesus Christ and called to respond to God's love for all people and creation, **put faith into action** through the mission of Lutheran World Relief. LWR values the contribution of Lutheran theology to their understanding of faith active in love and cherishes their Lutheran heritage and identity. LWR acts on behalf of U.S. Lutherans, the ELCA, and the LCMS as a common expression of their faith through international relief and development.



Pastor's bible study sessions will commence again in September. Class will be on **Tuesday night at 7 PM at the church, and again at Sanatoga Ridge Community on Thursday morning at 10 AM.** Coffee and doughnuts are provided at the Thursday morning class. (Thank you once more to all who provide these treats)!

In September we will look at the Book of Job from the Old Testament for five weeks and then finish with a short one-week study of the Book of Lamentations. Meetings will **begin on September 12th/14th and run for six weeks.**

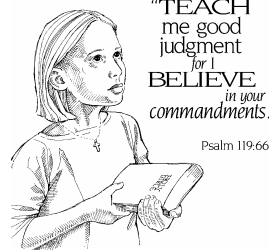
We will take two weeks off and then begin a study to lead us into Advent of the birth stories of Jesus from the two gospels that speak of that; Matthew and Luke. **That will begin on Thursday, November 2nd and Tuesday the 9th** running for six weeks also, until mid December. (We will skip the Thursday morning session on Thanksgiving).

Please remember that you need no prior bible knowledge or even to be a member of St. James to come to these sessions. Just ask someone who has been to one and they will tell you that they are fun and informative. See you there!

Learning to Use My Bible Registration Required Classes Begin October 1, 2006

Available this October will be a four-week class open to **second through sixth graders** on teaching them some bible basics. The class is called "Learning to Use My Bible" and will begin on Sunday, October 1st **at 9:30 a.m.** and will continue on the following three Sundays (October 8, 15 and 22) at the same time of day.

Each class will focus on something different and will last one hour. Every child participating in this four-week course **will receive a bible to keep as his or her own on Sunday, October 29th during worship.** In this class children will get to know the bible through several learning centers that involve music, food, games, and other activities. At the end of the class each participant will also receive a workbook to take home with him or her to give them some activities that reinforce what they learned in the class. Families of participants will receive a booklet called, "Bible Questions for Families" which you can share and learn with each other. Parents are invited and encouraged to help with the class so they can teach and learn with their children.



Registration for the class is required so the correct number of bibles can be ordered. The bibles the children will be receiving on October 29 will be the same bibles

used throughout the class. Families may register for the class at the Ministry Fair on Sunday, September 10 at the Christian Education display, or by signing up in Horn Hall or by calling Suzanne Rigg at 610-326-2810. **Registration deadline is Sunday, September 17.** If you have any questions or would like to help with the class, please contact Suzanne Rigg at 610-326-2810.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Time Talent and Treasure

Because of our country's farming heritage, the fall of the year has traditionally been a time to gather in crops and give thanks to God for a bountiful harvest. We continue that tradition when we annually **celebrate our gifts of time, talent and treasure and commit how we will serve in and financially support** the various ministries and mission of the church in the coming year. We invite all members to participate in both of these essential activities. Prayerfully consider how you can best use your gifts for God's work!



Ministry Fair

The annual **Ministry Fair** will be held in Horn Hall on **Sunday, September 10 from 9:00 am until 10:30 am**. The Fair is an opportunity for all members to learn more about the various ministries that operate externally and internally through the efforts of the congregation. Members can then decide how God is calling them to participate. *Gifts of the Spirit* commitment forms will be distributed at the Fair. It is important for all members to complete and return them over the next two weeks. **Consecration of the *Gifts of the Spirit* commitment forms** will be made on **September 24** during both worship services. Refreshments for the Fair will be provided by the Fellowship Committee.

All ministries of St. James are invited and encouraged to take part in the event. Set up will be on Saturday, September 9 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Please let Dave Garner know if you want to reserve table space for the event (rueren@aol.com or 610-970-7560).

Commitment Sunday



Pastor Janet Corpus, Assistant to the Bishop and Stewardship Specialist for the Southeast Pennsylvania Synod will be the guest speaker for **Commitment Sunday** on **October 15, 2006**. On this day members will be asked to make financial commitments for the upcoming year to support the work and operations of St. James. A celebration brunch (no charge) will be held after each service. **Please respond** when asked concerning your attendance at the brunch. Members will share their thoughts on commitment through temple talks leading up to Commitment Sunday. A letter explaining the details of the entire process will be mailed out this month.

What exactly is *Thrivent* Financial for Lutherans ?

It is a non-profit financial services organization, steeped in Lutheran values, that serves over 2.8 million persons. They help people meet their financial goals, and provides all sorts of assistance to churches who do ministry in their communities. They help provide aid to people locally, nationally, and globally. **Thrivent** uses gifts, matching funds, and grants to give back to the church members they serve, to help them be good servants to the Lord.

Thrivent can help you make wise choices and sound investments with your money. Contact our local **Thrivent** representative in church, John Ungerman for more information.

DISCIPLESHIP and FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

WELCA News

The WELCA FALL Rummage sale here at the "Red Door Boutique" is coming **October 2nd and 3rd** so get ready now!!! Have your **CLEAN**, ready-to-use items gathered to **bring to the church on Sunday, October 1**. Place them in Horn Hall, in the marked area, and plan to shop!!

Remember, as you clean and gather your special items, if there are tags or tickets still attached, do NOT remove those! It's helpful if you place those items in a separate bag. We add these new tagged items to our annual In-Gathering .

Shopping for St. James members will be Monday from 4 to 6 p.m. The sale opens for the public Tuesday from 9 to noon and then 12:30 to 1:30.

Tell your friends about this event! They, in turn, tell all their friends and co-workers they shop at the "Red Door Boutique" and find WONDERFUL items two times a year!!



WELCA's Meeting Schedule

The schedule of meetings for September 2006 through June 2007 will be available at the Ministry Fair, but put the first event on your calendar now!

September 18th - "Everybody's Birthday"

Women of the ELCA Upper Montgomery Conference

Bible Study

The next WELCA Upper Montgomery Conference Bible Study will be held at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Pottstown, on **Tuesday, September 5, 2006, at 10 a.m. with coffee at 9:30**. The leader will be Ginger Miller.

The October Bible Study will be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Pennsburg, on **Tuesday, October 3, 2006**, with St. James member, Mary Arnt as leader.

All women are invited to participate in these Bible Studies found in the Lutheran Woman Today Magazine. This is the 22nd 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.

SCRIP has new local addition!

Kohls' Department Store cards in \$25 amounts now available ! The gift card is redeemable for merchandise at any Kohls' store or Kohls.com. *Kohls' cards may also be used as payment on a Kohls' charge account at any store register.*

See you Sundays after the first service until the beginning of the second service in Horn Hall when we return to two services. Stop by our table during the Ministry Fair and learn how you can plan to shop for the holidays and feed the hungry at the same time!

Altar Guild Meeting

September 6th at 7 p.m.



There will be a meeting of the Altar Guild on **Committee Night, Wednesday, September 6, at 7 p.m.** to discuss the maintenance and care of the new oil-filled candles. All are also invited to attend the committee night supper preceding the meeting at 6 p.m. **Please sign up in Horn Hall** for supper by September 3, 2006.

Committee Night

Wednesday, September 6th
Dinner at 6 p.m.
Devotions at 6:45 p.m.
Meetings at 7 p.m.

All committees will reconvene at 8 p.m. to share any necessary communications. Committees meeting this month include:

**Evangelism, Christian Education,
Fellowship, and Stewardship, Altar Guild**

If you are not currently serving on a committee but are interested in learning more about what each committee does, please join us. Anyone willing to serve on a committee should talk to Suzanne Rigg or Pastor Hutchinson



Breakfast Fundraiser

Applebee's (Pottstown) and the Pottstown Cluster are collaborating on a breakfast fund raiser on **Saturday, September 16** from 7-10 a.m. Pancakes and Sausage will be served with a suggested **minimum** donation of **\$5** for adults and **\$3** for children 3-12 years old. **See Dave Garner for tickets** or to make a donation if you cannot attend.

Salvation Army Community Lunch Second Wednesday of Month

Volunteers are needed! Cooking and preparing the meal begins at 8:30 a.m. and is usually done by 11:30 a.m. Serving and cleaning up begins at 11:30 a.m. and volunteers are usually done by 1:30 p.m. Please consider helping those in need. For additional information please contact Jean Drauschak at 610-323-1792.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels has openings for new clients! Are you over the age of 60? Are you primarily homebound? Do you find it difficult to cook or shop for groceries because of lack of transportation, illness or disability? If you or a citizen you know could benefit from having meals delivered to their home please call **Meals on Wheels at 610-326-1610.**

Godspeed to Linc

After two and a half years of service, Lincoln Noecker ended his term with St. James on Sunday, August 27th. Linc's work was recognized during the worship service that day and during a special Coffee Fellowship in his honor he was presented with a gift from the congregation in appreciation for all that he has done.

Over the last two and half years, Linc not only faithfully played the organ and piano at worship, but also led our Chancel and Bell Choirs and helped out playing at Rejoicing Spirits worship services. We are grateful to God that Linc was able to be there for us in our times of need and for the excellent job he did in providing us with beautiful music by which we sang praises to God. We pray that the Lord be with him in whatever ministry he serves in the future.



Welcome Our New Director of Music Ministries, Sharon MacCabe

After an extensive search, receiving numerous applications and interviewing five candidates, St. James has selected Sharon MacCabe to be our new Director of Music Ministries. Sharon is an accomplished musician who will play the organ and piano at worship as well as lead the Chancel and Bell Choirs. She also plays other instruments including the guitar and the harpsichord and has led choirs, both large and small in performances. In addition to this, Sharon plans to involve the youth in the music of St. James as well as introduce

music into many aspects of our ministries beyond worship services and intends to bring to St. James a variety of musicians and performers to enhance our music program.

Ms. McCabe is steeped in the Lutheran tradition and yet will bring to us a diversity of music to enhance our worship services. Because of the ambition, richly diverse experience, and expertise that Sharon brings, the position she will be assuming has been expanded to accommodate all that she plans to and will be able to do for us in the future.

Sharon graduated from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia and West Chester University School of Music and has served in numerous congregations (Lutheran and others) over the past 27 years. She is employed as a teacher at the Kimberton Waldorf Music School and lives with her husband and two children in Royersford.

Please join in welcoming her when she begins to serve St. James on Sunday, October 1.

Thanks go out to the Search Committee made up of Pat Baer (Chair), Dave Garner, Dottie Smith, Dave Hartzman, John Ungerman, Suzanne Rigg and Pastor along with the Chancel Choir. Their work in the screening, interviewing and selection process is appreciated. Of course, we trust and believe that behind all of this, God's Holy Spirit has also been at work helping us and give thanks and all the glory to God.



Family Fun Night

September 23rd from 5:30- 7:30 p.m.

A Special Night for Families with Children

Come be with other families with children for a night of fun on Saturday, September 23 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for **dinner and a Veggie Tales movie**. Dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will include some favorites for the kids, such as hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, and Veggie Tales chicken nuggets. There will be other tasty delectable items for the adults.

After dinner there will be popcorn and the movie "Veggie Tales' Lord of the Beans." Lord of the Beans follows the journey of a young Flobbit named Toto Baggypants (Junior Asparagus), who inherits a bean with amazing powers from his Uncle Billboy (Archibald Asparagus). Young Toto learns that he has been given an extraordinary gift- -but what is it for? From the Mountains of Much Snowia to the Razzberry Forest, through the Blue Gate and to the Land of Woe, Lord of the Beans teaches kids a memorable lesson about using the gifts God has given them.

After the movie there will be a brief discussion with the children as to how they can use their gifts to do ministry at St. James.

If you and your family would like to be apart of this fun night please **sign up in Horn Hall by Sunday, September 17 or contact Suzanne Rigg at 610-970-4865**. Also if you can help with food preparation or set-up please indicate on the sign up sheet or when calling.

Charity Golf Scramble

October 2, 2006

A charity golf outing **to benefit the Preeclampsia Foundation** will be held at **Bella Vista Golf Course** on Monday, October 2. The event will feature impressive prizes, raffles, BBQ lunch and more! Male and female golfers of all skill levels are invited. The cost to play is \$95 per golfer and all proceeds go to the cause. **Registration is due by September 20, 2006.**

Preeclampsia is a pregnancy disorder that threatens the life of both mother and unborn fetus. It is the number one reason a doctor decides to deliver a baby prematurely. Anyone **interested in golfing** should **contact John Ungerman 610-718-9368**. For more details or entry forms, **email Dawn Detweiler at dkkd@wi.rr.com.**

CROP Walk

October 8, 2006

Come rain or shine, many individuals in the area are gearing up to join in the Pottstown **CROP WALK, on Sunday, October 8, 2006. The WALK will begin and end at First Presbyterian Church located at 750 N. Evans Street.** Registration is at 1:30 p.m. with the walk at 2 pm.

Organized by the Cluster Outreach Center, the Pottstown CROP WALK's goal is to help stop hunger here in our community and around the world, through self-help development initiatives. A portion of the funds raised here in Pottstown will go to the Cluster Outreach Center.

If you are interested in walking or would like to sponsor someone who is walking, please stop by the CROP WALK table in Horn Hall in the month of September or contact Sue Rigg at 610-326-2810.



Health News

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own?"

1 Corinthians 6:19

STROKE Identification

From our dear friend Ray Yocom in West Yomouth, MA

During a BBQ, a friend stumbled and took a little fall. She assured everyone that she was fine. They got her cleaned up and got her a new plate of food. While she appeared a bit shaken, she went about enjoying herself the rest of the afternoon. Her husband called later saying his wife had been taken to the hospital and passed away. She had suffered a stroke at the BBQ.

Had they known how to identify the signs of a stroke, perhaps she would be with us today. Some stroke victims do not die, they end up in a helpless, hopeless condition instead. A neurologist says that if he can get to a stroke victim within three hours, he can totally reverse the effects of a stroke....TOTALLY. He said the trick was having a stroke recognized, diagnosed and then getting the patient medically cared for within three hours, which is tough.

Remember the first three letters in the word STROKE.

S-Ask the individual to **S**mile

T-Ask the person to **T**alk; to speak a simple sentence (i.e. It is sunny out today)

R-Ask him or her to **R**aise Both Arms

Another sign of a stroke is this-Ask the person to stick out their tongue. If the tongue is crooked, if it goes to one side or the other, that is also indication of a stroke.

Rays' article is priceless. Please take a minute to drop a line and let him know we appreciate his thoughts for our health. His address is Mr. Raymond I Yocom, Apt. 232 579 Buck Island Rd., West Yamouth, Ma. 02673.

BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS Stay well. Blood Pressure checks will be September 3rd after the 9 a.m. worship.

BLOOD DRIVE October 9th is our next scheduled blood drive held from 2-7 p.m. We do four drives per year. Please set aside the date and plan to give.

MEMBER NEWS

Change of Address

John Wanger, 2461 E. High St., K-206,
Pottstown, PA 19464



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

2 – Ted Baer, Gerald Richards;
4 – Bob Wien, Debra Arnosky; 5 – David
Loughery, James Stott, Jeanette Wert;
6 – Haley Byers, Scott Shollenberger;
7 – Gary Hall, Laurie O’Connell, Amy Stein;
8 – Beverly Reber; 12 – Don Bilger, Alice
Schindler, Troy Wagner; 13 – Alyssa
Hartzman, Kristy Lapreziosa, Mike Lengyel;
15 – Amelia Kulp; 19 – Andy Olock;
20 – Joshua Irwin, Marlene Kinckiner; 21 -
Yvonne Brewer, Sarah Gunter; 23 – Mary
Beth Kochel; 25 – Sandra Eshbach, Shira
Schaeffer; 27 – Sandy Olock, Ernest
Schultz

Thank You Notes

Many thanks for the beautiful flowers. They were delivered to me on Sunday, July 15, 2006. They have brought me much pleasure. Thank you again.

I remain . . .
Kenneth H. Garner

Thank you to Dawn Detweiler for the exersaucer for the nursery. It will be sure to get lots of use making it a nice addition to our nursery.

Thank you to John Ungerman for hanging the additional bulletin boards on the closet doors of Horn Hall.

Thank you to the Property Committee for buying and installing the new air conditioner in the office, and specifically to Jeff Leiby and Jon Fink for their “extra hours” changing the electric outlet.

Thank you to all who came out to support St. James' Relay for Life Team at Friendly's on July 24, 2006. The team made \$312 that evening for the American Cancer Society.

Dear Sue,

Thanks so much for all your help with VBS. Unfortunately I do not have the addresses of all those from St. James who helped with shepherding and teaching but please pass along our sincere thanks to all of them. Mari Ryding, Julie Hauck and Janet Neiffer did a great job teaching the Bible Stories. Marge Fegley was wonderful downstairs with the crafts. She seemed to enjoy working with the children and we appreciate her help immensely. Thanks to Pastor Hutchinson too for filling in for Pastor Latshaw in the opening skit. And thank Melinda Mace for her help as a shepherd.

Thanks for everything,
Linda Davis
Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Memorial Contributions Given

In memory of Jack Deloplaine from Mary Thompson

In memory of Lulu Szychowski from Judith Fegan

CHURCH COUNCIL

Council Highlights

from the Meeting Held August 16, 2006

-Ratified the action of the Executive Committee's decision to extend an offer to Sharon MacCabe to serve as the Director of Music Ministries.

-Approved a \$500 disbursement from the endowment funds as a donation to Bear Creek Camp.

-Approved a \$500 disbursement from the endowment funds as a donation in SCRIP or cash to Sharon and Roy Reifsynder for losses due to fire.

Ideas Needed!

Since the beginning of the year Council has been asking for ideas as to how to spend 3-7% of the endowment as mandated in the Endowment Charter. To date, \$8,512 has been allocated as follows out of the \$10,641 minimum:

\$600 Volunteer Home Care
\$1956 in 2:1 matching of congregational offering for St. John's Flood Relief
\$1206 in 2:1 matching of congregational offering for Seminary Support
\$500 Relay for Life/American Cancer Society
\$500 Preeclampsia Foundation
\$250 Pillows of Love
\$500 Miller-Keystone Blood Center
\$500 Friendship House
\$500 Lutheran World Relief for Darfur
\$1000 Pottstown Cluster
\$500 Bear Creek Camp
\$500 S. and R. Reifsynder for losses from fire

We are looking for ways to fulfill our mission to "reach out to the community and the world". **Any recommendations should be communicated to a council member.**

Council Member Contact

If at anytime you have a question, concern, or suggestion that might help the church, you may contact one of the following elected Council members: *Dave Garner, Jeff Leiby, Sherry Clancy, John Ungerman, Alison O'Donnell, Dottie Smith, Pat Weber, Mary Arnt, David Hartzman, Tracie Rheel, Ro Schafer, Chipper Meadowcroft, Jessica Mitchell.*

TREASURER'S REPORT

	<u>July 2006</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Income	\$26,370.30	\$166,382.50
Expenses	<u>26,126.55</u>	<u>188,683.59</u>
Net Income	\$ 243.75	(\$22,301.09)

REGULAR ENVELOPES

Received	\$18,768.00	\$126,078.84
Needed*	<u>20,034.76</u>	<u>120,208.54</u>
Over (Under)	(\$ 1,266.76)	(\$12,897.70)

THIRD SUNDAY OFFERING

Collected \$ 978.00

Beneficiary: *St. John's Flood Relief*

*Each month includes \$14,653 actual pledged and \$5,382 needed growth to balance the budget.

WELCOMING THE STRANGER
Refugee Resettlement Ministry
"I was a stranger and you welcomed me" - Matthew 25:35

No word as of yet when our refugee family from Russia will be arriving but the work still goes on as we at St. James prepare to welcome them along with the members of Emmanuel and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches.

We hope many members of each of the congregations will find a way to be an active part of this ministry. **Here are several ways that one can help:**

Provide transportation - Our family will initially need some help to get to places such as doctor appointments, grocery shopping, work, etc. If you can help provide transportation from time to time please complete the **sign up sheet in Horn Hall asking what days and times are best for you and the number of passengers that you can accommodate.**

Donate household items - All of the congregations will be contributing to helping to set up house for our family. **Sign up sheets will be posted periodically in Horn Hall requesting items for different rooms.** Please check back from time to time to see if different items are needed than what was posted previously. If possible, please try to **hold on to these items** until we have secured permanent housing for the family. If you are unable to do that, then please contact Suzanne Rigg for storage of these items.

Visit the family - Once the family arrives we hope to have someone visit with the family for a half hour at a time. Visitations would be scheduled according to an individual's availability. **If you would like to be a visitor, please sign up in Horn Hall with the days and times that are best for you.**

Help find employment - Once our family is initially settled we will be finding employment for the father of the family. Previous occupations have been painter, driver, drill operator (oil company) and assembler (furniture company). **Please contact Suzanne Rigg if you know of any openings for jobs that fit these skill levels or have time to search the paper for positions appropriate to these skills or what might be other suitable employment.**

Help to locate interpreters - One of the most important things that we need in this ministry are interpreters since our family does not speak English; they speak **Russian**. So if you speak this language or know someone who does, **please contact Suzanne Rigg or sign up in Horn Hall.** Do not forget to ask your friends, neighbors, or co-workers if they know of anyone who can serve as interpreters.

Pray - Pray for the family that will be joining us in Pottstown. Pray about your role in this ministry. Pray for the guidance and resources to accomplish this ministry. Pray for all who will be helping with this ministry.

If you are interested in learning more about welcoming and resettling our refugee family, please contact Pastor Hutchinson or Suzanne Rigg at 610-326-2810.

