

# Our Father's News

The past three years we have been living into the purpose God provided Our Father's: Building Christ's Community through Hospitality, Relationships, Teaching and Service. Not just a marketing phrase, "Building Christ's Community" has brought excitement, energy, and even some angst. God's purpose has us doing really important work: considering our identity, exploring our past, and dreaming about our future.

Perhaps living into our purpose has also brought about our very own reformation. Martin Luther and the reformers were seeking to reform (change) the beliefs and practices of the Roman Catholic Church of the 16th century. Imagine that, some important beliefs/values of the church didn't match the practices/actions of the church.

Don't we have the same circumstances? Some of what's most important to us (our beliefs/values) doesn't get lived (our practices/actions) by us. Reformation is merely the act of aligning what we believe with what we do.

There's a natural path to alignment: discerning what we believe and what we value is the first step. Then we consider steps or actions that will move us toward what we believe and most value. Finally, we act by moving forward into this preferred future. Along the way we are learning to trust God and each other. This reconnects us with the responsibilities of baptism, "... so that your child (you) will learn to trust God."

Over four decades we have been intentional people. To reform is to change in ways pleasing to

God. Even as we navigate life's joys and challenges, God walks along with us. We're living into two stories that are running simultaneously — our's and God's.

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We have got a great, big, amazing God who loves us and desperately wants to be in relationship with us. In Christ we hear God's promise to be in relationship: "*For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them*" (Matthew 18:20). After the disciples were charged with the great commission, Jesus promised, "*And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age*" (Matthew 28:20b).

This summer we've been taking a deep dive into God's ordering or how it looks to love God. Jesus sums up all the commands in his call to "*Love God and love others.*" Beginning in June, we focused on God's Ten Words (Commandments) where we heard about how to really love God and love neighbor. We learned that the purpose of these Words (Commandments) are not to burden us but, rather, to free us.

Next, we've been living into the letter of 1st John, where John proposes our lives and actions should more closely align with our beliefs and values. Closing the gap between what we most deeply believe and how we live, then, is a necessary act of integrity.

In August, our final stop of the summer is the most beautiful description of intentional, relational love as described in the book of Ruth. Through disaster and devastation, Naomi and Ruth fashion lives of trust and love with one another, and more importantly, with God.

Join us as together we seek out God's meaning and purpose for our lives. Through Labor Day weekend we worship more traditionally at 9:30 am Sundays and in Engaged Worship at 7:00 pm Wednesdays.

Mark your calendars for Rally Weekend, we'll return to Saturday evening engaged worship at 5 pm. On Sunday, September 7th when we'll worship and fellowship together beginning at 9:30 am. Then in the afternoon we'll head out to serve and support Pastor Kimberly and Perry Buffie and the people of House of Grace in serving the community of Montrose, and enjoy a picnic meal together.

God's rich blessings on  
you and yours! Love,

*Pastor [Signature]*

  
**Council  
Corner**

*"Building Christ's Community through Hospitality,  
Relationships, Teaching and Service"*

**Leadership Notes:***In God's Time*

Often I have heard, "something will happen when we wait to see what God is doing." When we see God's people being called by him to serve, it is awesome! People of all ages are helping to feed kids through Lunch Box Fever. Meals on Wheels delivers meals to the home bound and checks on them. Music in the Park was supported by many people from Our Father's and other community churches.

Many children from Our Father's and the community attended Vacation Bible School last month. At the Wednesday evening worship they shared songs filled with energy. We were asked, "where have we seen God?" One of the children said, "I have seen Him everywhere!"

How is God calling you?

God's Peace,

Jim Strehlow, President

**Welcome**  
*Glad you're here!*

Welcome to Glenda Banken who will be starting as Office Administrator on September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **"I DON'T WANT TO BE "THAT KIND" OF CHRISTIAN!"**



God calls us into a new way of being in the world, but sometimes we just don't want to go there. We soon imagine someone on a busy street corner yelling out scripture and damnation or perhaps handing out flyers at the airport and telling strangers Jesus loves them? We may soon imagine having to become someone we are not. Well, **FEAR NOT** my friends. Jesus is calling us to be our **TRUE** selves, to live lives of integrity and courage. God wants us to be his "go-to people" in the world, fighting for justice, peace and caring for creation and each other.

*"Don't fear, because I am with you; don't be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you. I will surely help you; I will hold you with my righteous strong hand."*

Isaiah 41:10 (CEB)

As we enter a new fall season at Our Fathers there will be many opportunities to engage our faith. Some things many seem a bit scary when you first notice them, **DON'T BE AFRAID**, we are working toward deepening our relationship with God and each other!

In thankfulness and love, Pastor Cathy



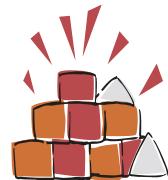
Congratulations to Wayne Olfert who received the Commodore's Award for his dedicated volunteer service and community involvement.

## LIFE & GROWTH

### Our Father's Foundation News

This is an excerpt from the ELCA Foundation website:

As you contemplate your past — and look to the future — you may want to show your gratitude for all that the church has done for you. But you might not know where to begin. The ELCA Foundation stands ready to assist you, your congregation, synod or other ELCA organization. The ELCA Foundation offers expertise, as well as resources, financial education and investment and endowment management services to help you make major or planned gifts to an ELCA ministry that has meant so much to you. We can accompany you as you joyfully answer the call to live as faithful stewards — and continue your distinct story by making gifts that help change the world, near and far.



- See more at: <http://www.elca.org/give/elca-foundation#sthash.dD2AR5Vz.dpuf>

Your OFLC Foundation memberships and gifts of gratitude continue this mission here at home at our church through gifts given to promote our Rally Sunday and local food shelf, for instance, and around the world, through the Foundation's support of Cheetah Development. Please feel free to contact one of our board members and/or access the ELCA website at the link above for support in your gift giving and stewardship.

Peace, Krista Fisher, Tom Lemmage, Denise Wold, and Mark Nelson

### Women's Ministry News

Twins Game that was scheduled for September 7th has been cancelled because of conflicts.



# Giving

*"Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received." 1 Peter 4:10*

## Our General Fund at a Glance

	2014 Actual Year to Date January 1 – July 31	2013 Actual Year to Date January 1 – July 31
<i>Contributions</i>	\$136,904	\$136,227
<i>Expenses</i>	\$141,771	\$147,357
<i>Net of Contributions &amp; Expenses</i>	-\$4,867	-\$11,130

### *July 2014 - Memorial & Special Gifts (these gifts are not included in General Fund)*

- A Memorial Gift of \$30 to Camperships
- Gifts totaling \$251 to House of Grace
- A Gift of \$50 to Playground Fund
- A Gift of \$310 to Good Samaritan Fund
- Gifts totaling \$146 to Rockford School Strive Program
- Gifts totaling \$2,913 to Lunch Box Fever
- Gifts totaling \$20 to MOPS and \$90 to Food Shelf Support
- Gifts totaling \$6,946 to the Harvesters of Hope Fund

Nancy Varner, Congregation Treasurer

## OUR FATHER'S WISH LIST - August 2014

**Evangelical Lutheran Worship Red Hymnals** - \$24.50 each

Optional : Hymnals can be dedicated In honor of or In memory of someone special.

**Clever Climber & Tikes of Steel Overhead Climber Playground System** - \$16,975  
(\$12,907 has been donated) Additional amount needed - \$4,068

**Telescopic Banner Storage System** - \$500

**Banners – Baptismal** - \$500/each

### SCHOLARSHIP NEEDS

Camperships & Retreats (range from \$20 - \$200)

### GOOD SAMARITAN FUND

Any amount may be given, Pastor will use as he sees a need.

Gas cards - Grocery cards



## RiverWorks Food Shelf August Focus – canned fruit or fruit snack packs



*The Food Shelf desperately needs  
brown paper bags*



**RiverWorks Store** - Your community thrift store. Proceeds used to enhance current and future programs to strengthen our community. **Store Hours:** Monday through Friday 10:00 am - 6:00 pm and Saturday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Accepting donations during regular business hours. The RiverWorks Store is located in the Rockford Mall.



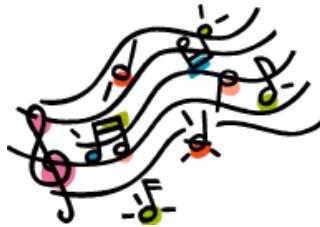
## NEWS FROM HARVESTERS OF HOPE & CHEETAH DEVELOPMENT

It has been a tumultuous month at Cheetah Development and our Harvesters of Hope combine project, as we continue to wait for our shippers to work out the documentation needed for the importation of our used combine into Tanzania. Brian assures us that the two shippers he is working with are soon to get the wrinkles ironed out.

At the Cheetah volunteers meeting on Tuesday night, July 29<sup>th</sup>, Ray outlined to the group a series of innovative partnerships that Cheetah is implementing in Iringa, plus some newer exciting ones that are in the works. These new ventures will give farmers great new opportunities to increase their incomes. On this side of the “pond,” Cheetah is about to roll out some new investment possibilities: a collateral fund that will enable many more farmers to get agricultural loans... and, an investment fund that will aim to start several new companies, all of which will focus on agricultural “value added” ideas that will have a beneficial impact on small farmers in Tanzania while showing promise for a decent return on investment over a five to seven year time period. There are several new staff additions to the Iringa office that Ray expects to propel Cheetah into new areas... and to be able to “scale up” the operations already running... such as the maize marketing joint venture with local farmer cooperatives where our combine will soon have a great impact!

So, imagine our shock when... the morning after this inspiring meeting... we received the news that Rena Menard, Ray’s middle daughter, suffered a massive and irreversible brain hemorrhage that left her “brain dead” during the night. Ray had shared with us at the meeting the night before, how she was making steady progress towards being able to fly home by the end of August... to continue her recovery at home and at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester. Our whole team was in shock and grief as we tried to accept this terrible news. Ray left immediately for Holland to be with his wife, Lonnie, and daughter Naomi and to make arrangements to bring his daughter home to Minnesota. The funeral was set for their home church, Our Saviour’s in Hastings on Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup>. A delegation from Our Father’s immediately made plans to attend... representing our congregation.

Friends of Cheetah Development and the Menard family have established a fund, managed by Our Saviour’s in Hastings... without the knowledge of Ray... to help with the substantial financial burden placed on them by this lengthy ordeal (nearly ten weeks in intensive care in a foreign country). An offering was taken at Our Father’s on Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>, that will be sent to Our Saviour’s. Donations can still be made to our treasurer, Nancy Varner, to be forwarded on to Our Saviour’s in Hastings. Our thought is that this is something we can do for the family that has done so much for others and now needs our help. They have lost a daughter who spent the last three years working alongside her father at Cheetah Development for the poorest of the poor in Tanzania... loss upon loss! Lord, have mercy on this family and grant them peace!



## Welcome to the 2014/2015 Music Season

We are looking forward to another wonderful year of Music at Our Father's. If you have never participated in the Choirs before, now is a great time to join! Every person is truly a welcome addition to our groups. Come join in the fellowship and share your talents. The music program is outlined below.

<u>Choir Name</u>	<u>Director</u>	<u>Age/Grade</u>	<u>Practice Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sunshine Ringers	Amber Olfert	Sunday School	Sunday School	Sanctuary
Ringers of Light	Nancy VanSickle	7 <sup>th</sup> grade – Adults	6:00 – 7:00 pm	Practice Room
Rejoice Singers	Amber Olfert	7 <sup>th</sup> grade – Adults	7:00 – 8:00 pm	Sanctuary

Ringers of Light and the Rejoice Singers rehearse on **Wednesday evenings** starting in September and ending in May. The Sunshine Ringers are scheduled a few Sundays in the Fall and practice on the Sunday they are going to play during the Sunday School Hour.

Please consider sharing your Musical Gifts with our Congregation. If you would like additional information about any of the groups, please contact the church office at 763-477-6300 or the Director of Music, Nancy VanSickle at 612-201-5608.



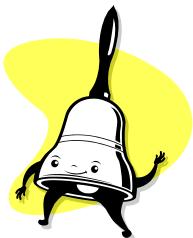
## Calling All Adults!

Are you a "Shower Singer?" Can't read music? We have people in the choir that can help with that. Now that we have taken away your reasons for not joining the choir – come be a part of the fun! We are looking for additional members to join the Rejoice Singers. If you have been in the choir before, we would love to have you return. If you have never participated, please consider sharing your talents with the congregation. The Rejoice Singers will be starting their rehearsals on **August 20th** at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Starting on September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the rehearsals will return to their normal time of 7 – 8 pm. Amber Olfert is the director for this choir and Tammy Jarvi will be the accompanist.

## ***Summer Music Schedule***

<b>Sundays</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Sundays</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>
August 17	Tammy Jarvi	September 7	Rejoice Singers
August 24	Amber Stefan	September 14	Ringers of Light
	September 21	Sunshine Ringers	
	September 28	Rejoice Singers	
August 31 (Labor Day Wknd)			

## **In need of a few Ringers**



We are looking for a few people that would be willing to play in the Bell Choir. We need one full-time person and a couple of substitute ringers. The Bell Choir practices on Wednesday evenings from 6 – 7 pm starting on **Wednesday September 3<sup>rd</sup>**. If you are interested in learning more about this group, please contact Nancy VanSickle at 612-201-5608 or [nancy.vansickle@genills.com](mailto:nancy.vansickle@genills.com). This is a great group to share Fellowship with.

Hello Everyone,

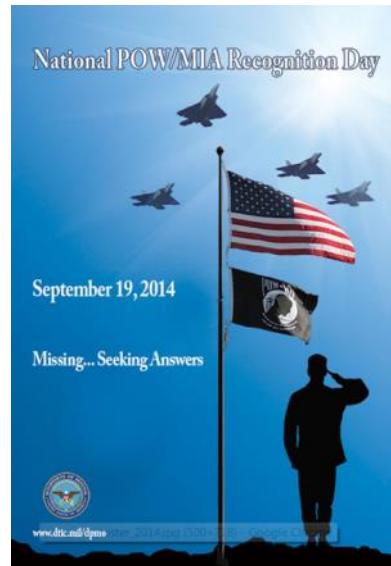
I was recently appointed 2014/2015 - VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7th District POW/MIA Chairman.

**National POW/MIA Recognition Day** is held annually on the third Friday in September, **September 19, 2014**. You may go to: [http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/pow\\_day/](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/pow_day/) for additional information and the poster.

I want to encourage students and families to place posters, go to a memorial park, say the pledge of allegiance and read the POW/MIA prayer. Several versions are on the internet.

This year's motto, "***Missing...Seeking Answers.***" Note the jets on the poster looking for our heroes.

Sincerely, Kerri L. Holm-Eberling, OFLC Member



## AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 3 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Jen Boulton
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	William & Sherry Berkowitz Mario & Kim Lucarelli & Family
<b>READER:</b>	Jen Boulton
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	William & Sherry Berkowitz
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Jen Boulton, Norie Siers
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 6 (Wednesday 7:00 pm)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Sarah Sanderson
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	
<b>READER:</b>	
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 10 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Jen Boulton
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Paul, Tiffany, Colton, Lily, & Anna Stecker
<b>READER:</b>	Lily Stecker
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Jen Boulton
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Colton Stecker, Lily Stecker
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 13 (Wednesday 7:00 pm)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Jen Boulton
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	
<b>READER:</b>	
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 17 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Barb Strehlow
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Ken & Kathy Lunderby Laurie Hanson
<b>READER:</b>	Kathy Lunderby
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Paul & Lynette Schultz
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Kathy Lunderby, Laurie Hanson
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 20 (Wednesday 7:00 pm)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Suzanne Otten
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	
<b>READER:</b>	
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 24 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Paulette Podratz
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Brad & Renee Tostenson Kurt & Betsy Pennuto
<b>READER:</b>	Betsy Pennuto
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Brad & Renee Tostenson
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Betsy Pennuto, Paulette Podratz
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 27 (Wednesday 7:00 pm)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Suzanne Otten
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	
<b>READER:</b>	
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	
<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>August 31 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Becky Miller
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Jeff & Veronica Kvam Jason & Jo Tornell & Family
<b>READER:</b>	Jason Tornell
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Jeff & Veronica Kvam
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Jason Tornell, Becky Miller

## SEPTEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

September 6 (Saturday 5:00 pm)

Sarah Sanderson

<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>September 7 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Tari Brase
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	John, Janine & Grace Zimmerman Michael & Sharon Thomas
<b>READER:</b>	John Zimmerman
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Michael & Sharon Thomas
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Janine Zimmerman, Sharon Thomas

September 13 (Saturday 5:00 pm)

Betsy Pennuto

<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>September 14 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Paulette Podratz
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Les & Betty Anderson Mark & Sandy Anderson
<b>READER:</b>	Betty Anderson
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Mark & Sandy Anderson
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Betty Anderson, Norie Siers

September 20 (Saturday 5:00 pm)

Jen Boulton

<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>September 21 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Becky Miller
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Paul, Lynette, Nick & Molly Schultz Al & Deanna Kemna
<b>READER:</b>	Deanna Kemna
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Paul & Lynette Schultz
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Becky Miller, Deanna Kemna

September 27 (Saturday 5:00 pm)

Suzanne Otten

<b>SERVICE</b>	<u>September 28 (Sunday 9:30 am)</u>
<b>SERVICE COORD:</b>	Barb Strehlow
<b>USHERS/GREETERS:</b>	Dale & Sheila Engebretson Bruce, Dawn, Emily & Aiden Rund
<b>READER:</b>	Barb Strehlow
<b>COMM PREP/CLEANUP:</b>	Bruce & Dawn Rund
<b>COMM ASST:</b>	Sheila Engebretson, Dawn Rund

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Always**  
Living made  
**New.**

25 YEARS TOGETHER IN CHRIST

**“God’s work. Our hands.”**

On Sunday, September 7, 2014, the nearly 10,000 congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) are invited to put their faith into action by serving their communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God’s people. Whether it’s volunteering at a homeless shelter, cleaning up a public park, writing letters to military personnel serving overseas or supporting those congregations who fight for peace and justice in their communities every day, we are a church that boldly does God’s work of restoring and reconciling communities.

*“God’s work. Our hands.” Sunday reminds us that we are church together for the sake of the world. Our lives have been changed by our relationship with God through Jesus Christ, and it’s that encounter with Jesus that frees us to make a difference.”*

— ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

Here at Our Father’s we will gather in worship at 9:30 am. followed by fellowship and then we will be heading over to Montrose! We will be joining Pastor Kimberly Buffie and House of Grace in some community projects together.

So bring your tool of choice time and Get ready to serve!

**ALL COMMITTEE NIGHT**

*Tuesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm*



Love INC

Love In the Name of Christ

## *Love INC Heartland*

Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser will be held on August 22nd at Pioneer Creek Golf Course in Maple Plain. Registration begins at 11:00 am with a shot gun start at 1:00 pm.

Tickets are on sale now at Love INC – Heartland, Delano State Bank and Coburns in Delano. The \$115.00 fee covers 18 holes of Golf, Dinner, and a cart. Join us for the Pastor's Putt, awards and dinner beginning at 5:30. Dinner only tickets are \$40.00. Hole Sponsors are also needed and the price to have your name advertised as a hole sponsor is \$200.00.

The Back to School Giveaway is Wednesday, August 20th at 5 pm at West Pointe Church in Delano. This is always a fun event. Call Love INC at 972-6547 if you are interested. Volunteers and donations of school supplies to the Love INC office by August 18 are welcome:

backpacks	pencil boxes	pencils, colored pencils, pens
scissors	rulers	spiral notebooks, loose leaf paper
crayons	pink erasers	binders, notebooks, colored folders
glue sticks, glue	washable markers	highlighters, dry erase markers

There will be a Love INC Quilt Auction in November. Handmade quilts that are hand-quilted or machine-quilted (not tied, please), of any size, can be donated. It will be a lovely event!

Our current bedding needs: (items except for pillows can be used and clean)

queen sheet sets	queen and king comforters/quilts
blankets	new pillows

Thank you for all your generous and continuing donations! We would love more helpers to make bedding calls or visits, or help sort/organize/or pick up bedding, contact Laurie Hanson at (763) 477-4834.

## EDUCATION



**Confirmation begins.... [students 7-10<sup>th</sup> grade]**

**Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>**

6 pm Food  
6:30 pm Program  
7:30 pm Worship  
8:15 pm Closing & Sending

We begin the year with a Parent & Student Night. If you have questions, see Pastor Cathy or one of our amazing mentors.

*Wednesday Evenings  
this fall  
Engage & Confirm  
[your faith]*

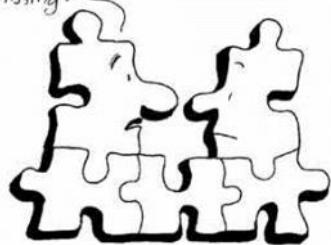
**What?** A new way to look at learning about God and each other by entering the Bible and sharing our story with God's story.

**Who?** 5th & 6th graders and their families

**When?** we start, September 17th -  
6pm with food & fellowship.  
-6:30pm Program  
-7:30pm Worship

**Why?** God calls us to be growing and engaging our faith.

Ever get the  
feeling something's  
missing?



Our ministries are not complete without you. As we grow into being Christ's Community all our gifts are important! See where you can share your strengths...

### Hospitality:

- Setting up and organizing the details for scheduled events
- Helping organize and serve food.
- Welcoming & greeting

### Relationships:

- Mentoring one: one or in small groups

### Teaching:

- Presenting and Leading larger groups
- Finding resources and materials for specific topics.

### Service:

- Finding places we can serve in our community and beyond.
- Organizing groups to go out and serve.

All of these opportunities and more are waiting for people to gather and engage in God's work together.

**RISE UP**  
TOGETHER  
ELCA YOUTH GATHERING

ELCA Youth Gathering  
July 15-19, 2015  
Detroit, Michigan

Registration begins soon!  
See Jolene Botten or Pastor Cathy for more details



## Vacation Bible School

It was another blessed week! 40 children attended this year's VBS. Five counselors from Camp Onomia gave of their time, shared their love of Christ, and ensured our kids had a great week. The theme this year was Jesus' "I am..." statements. The kids worshiped, played games, participated in Bible studies, tie-dyed t-shirts, enjoyed a water day, and sang lots of songs. The final hurrah was that the kids donated enough money for the Camp Onomia fundraiser, that every counselor got a whip cream pie in the face! Several moms made the kitchen a home-base for their time as well. They were essential in making sure check-in, meals, and the day went smoothly. So many people made this week great by bringing in meals and snacks, opening up their homes, and sharing their days with us. I feel I cannot give enough thanks to everyone who participated in this spirit filled event. Feel free to contact me with any great stories from the week or suggestions for next year!

Sarah Dahl – [zend0001@hotmail.com](mailto:zend0001@hotmail.com) or 651-503-9706  
VBS coordinator

## Family Education Kick-off Celebration, Sunday, September 21st, 8:30-9:20 am

*Parents and caregivers:* Please plan to join your child(ren) for a Family Education Kick-off Celebration on Sunday, September 21 at 8:30 a.m. Together, your family will learn more about our goals for the 2014-15 education year, which include engaging with the Bible, strengthening your relationship with God, fostering faithful relationships with others and feeling like you belong. Please note that education will continue throughout the school year each Sunday morning at 8:30 am.



Better Moms Make a Better

**OFLC MOPS typically meet on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays of every month (Sept-May), 9:30 - 11:30 am  
Mothers of children: womb to kindergarten (Your first meeting is FREE!)**

It seems we spend all of our time doing two things- living and waiting to live.

What we all seem to have in common is that we need a nudge. A nudge to get us out of our ruts and routines so that we can be reminded to risk bravely.

At MOPS we believe that you were meant to live deeply and so we have created this year's theme to inspire you to choose the extraordinary.

Be you, Bravely is designed to help us become more ourselves. To remind us that courage is always worth it and that we are all in this together. Cheering each other on toward our futures is the gift of community at MOPS.

### REGISTER BY AUGUST 30TH!! SAVE \$15!

Our 2014-15 MOPS year will begin on Friday, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:30-11:30 am. We welcome anyone who has children from a newborn to kindergarten.

**MOPPETS TEACHERS OR HELPERS:** If you have older children and would like to help in the MOPPETS classrooms by being a volunteer teacher or helper, please contact Suzanne Haag at (612) 209-4968.

*Connect with other moms*

*Hear encouraging words and advice*

*Learn important life skills*

*Break from your busy schedule*



For more info: [www.ourfatherschurch.org/  
MOPS](http://www.ourfatherschurch.org/MOPS)

Contact Co-Coordinators:

Angela Schmidt at (763) 477-0033

Cristal McClain at (651) 403-0146

[oflcmops@hotmail.com](mailto:oflcmops@hotmail.com)

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

Are you a homeschooling Mom with children older than kindergarten?

No worries! OFLC MOPS now offers a supervised area for older homeschooled children so that you don't have to miss out!!

## BIBLE STUDIES

### Every Tuesday Morning at 10:00 am

Together, we discuss our lives and God's promises. All are welcome. Contact Pastor Cathy or Pastor Jon for info.



### Wednesday Afternoon (September 10th) at 1:00 pm

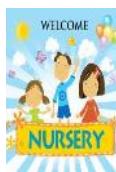
#### Women's Study (Rebekah Circle) – Lydia

Our final story takes us to a different book with its own story of raising up the foundations of many generations. In Acts 16:11-15 we meet both Lydia and the group of women with whom she gathers down by the river as well as Paul and his companion who encounter them there.

### Saturday Morning (September 6th) at 7:30 am

MAN Meeting - All men welcome! Questions? Contact Tom Dery at 477-6787.

**Widows and Widowers Group** will be meeting on Thursday, September 11th at 5:00 pm.



**Looking for Nursery Assistants** – Looking for a way to serve? Do you love kids? Interested in providing a little space and support for families with little ones? We need two caregivers each Sunday morning in the nursery during the 9:30 am worship service. Sign up on board posted on nursery door.

**COUNCIL****President**

Jim Strehlow 498-7652

**Past President**

Jeff Miller 477-4096

**Vice President**

Open

**Secretary**

Open

**Treasurer**

Nancy Varner 498-7883

**Communications**

Amy Field (612) 237-3884

**Building & Grounds**

Paul Mutterer 477-6924

**Education**

Dan Reed 479-4007

**Evangelism**

Open

**Personnel**

Jen Boulton (612) 636-0466

**Social Concerns**

Lynne Greseth 682-5486

**Stewardship**

Open

**Women's Ministry**

Tari Brase 477-5322

**Worship & Music**

Norie Siers 477-5218

**Youth**

Brian Walton 477-5770

**Foundation**

Krista Fisher (612) 916-0139

**OUR FATHER'S INFORMATION****JOIN US FOR WORSHIP**

9:30 am Sunday Worship

7:00 pm Wednesday Worship

**Beginning September 6th & 7th**

9:30 am Sunday Worship

5:00 pm Saturday Worship

**OFFICE HOURS**

Monday	12 Noon	-	4:00 pm
Tuesday	12 Noon	-	6:00 pm
Wednesday	12 Noon	-	6:00 pm
Thursday	9:30 am	-	4:00 pm
Friday	9:30 am	-	12:30 pm

**STATISTICS****AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER SERVICE**

June 2013 - 109 (average for 4 weeks)

June 2014 - 105 (average for 5 weeks)

**Welcome Children of God!**

Olaf Erik Binsfeld, son of David and Kaari Binsfeld was baptized on July 20th. Sponsors were Nolan Aker and Rayna Aker.

**Baptism Class**

Making plans for a baptism? Contact Pastor Jon with questions.

Our Father's Lutheran Church  
3903 Gilbert Ave SE  
Rockford, MN 55373  
Office: 763-477-6300  
Fax: 763-477-7092

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## RALLY WEEKEND

*Saturday, September 6th at 5 pm Dinner Church*

*Sunday, September 7th at 9:30 am*

*Worship & Fellowship,*

*then partnering in Montrose to serve*

*with people of House of Grace,*

***"God's work, Our Hands" Sunday***

*(more info on Page 12)*