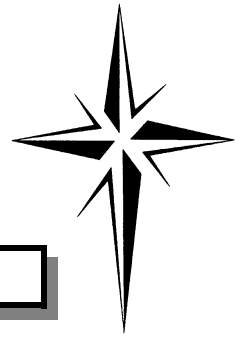


# ABUNDANT LIFE NEWSLETTER



Volume 11

No. 7

July/ August 2010

## *Mac's Musings*

**C**hange. Loss. Trust. New ventures. It's sad, but true. Evangelical Lutheran Women Inc. (ELW), a leader in biblical reflection, learning about social justice issues and service within the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) will be no more. At a very spirit-led meeting, after prayer and discussion, the National Board determined that the most responsible path is to enter into a process of dissolution.

Increasing average age of members, declining use of published resources, changes in the culture and in congregations have contributed to the decision. By deciding to dissolve now, ELW will be able to leave a legacy by setting up a special fund within the ELCIC. The terms of the fund have yet to be determined, however, its purpose will be to continue to support the ELCIC and women's ministry.\*

Many denominations have or are experiencing similar dissolutions of longstanding women's "auxiliaries." It's not unique to our church. Times change, needs are different, opportunities for women to lead are more widespread. As ELW goes through the process of ending, women across the country will grieve the loss of this means of leadership development, study resources, gathering to build support and friendships, opportunities to serve in the congregation and wider church, including me.

In the late 80s and early 90s I worked for ELW at the national office in Winnipeg. The initial position grew into the role of program/art director. It was an enormous learning field for me. I met incredible church leaders, and magnificent women in ministry,

\* Excerpted from a recent news release regarding the ELW board decision. If you would like to learn more, go to [www.elw.ca](http://www.elw.ca) or to the Facebook page "hear, speak and act—Communicate."

both rostered and lay. I learned about working with boards and to overcome my fear of public speaking. I met women across the country who studied scripture, gave of their time, talents and treasures to the mission of Christ. Did you know that each year since 1986 ELW has given a gift of at least \$100,000 to the national church through its Praise Offering?

Coffee time and lunch hours flew by as conversations moved between the mundane and soaring spiritual and theological explorations. It was the first time and place that the teenie, tiny germ of a call to ordained ministry began to sprout in my subconscious. ELW—a seminal time and place for me, as it was for women over many generations. Who I am, what I know, where I've come are due in large part to my experiences with ELW. What a gift! God bless the women and their work—a witness to faithful discipleship in families, congregations, communities and the wider church.

Reflections of influences on my life because of my connection to ELW and the marvelous women on the boards and staff will no doubt fill my mind in the weeks to come. Who or what has been influential to you? I invite you to reflect on times, places, and persons that changed your lives for the better. How were you influenced, what did you learn, how are you richer for your experience? Is there a way to express your gratitude?

Time keeps on ticking. Change and loss are inevitable in the grand scheme of things. Trust is our calling as we learn to lean into the everlasting arms of God and journey into new tomorrows. God turns mourning into dancing. All will be well.

*Pastor Annemarie*



# JUNE ALL-STARS



## WE HERE AT ABUNDANT LIFE

are blessed to be a blessing! So many people volunteer time, money, or talents to make our church a wonderful home and an expression of God's mission. Each month we recognize some of those contributions and say "thanks" for:

- **Landscaping:** To Dave Zayac for putting in the border along the parking lot and to Al Schultz for ongoing groundskeeping and beautification.
- **Garden:** To Rita Goertz, Barb Zayac and Al Schultz for planting flowers and shrubs around the front of the church.
- **Communion:** To Bev Wahl for picking up the communion wine & Dolores Natyna for picking up grape juice and coordinating the making of communion bread.
- **Odd jobs:** To Heather Brewer for cleaning windows in the sanctuary, stamping and labeling envelopes, assembling bulletins and other odd jobs.
- **Nursery:** To Kristen Madsen for cleaning up the nursery and Al Schultz for repairing the footstool.
- **Card Convener:** To Jan Hetherington for sending cards and greetings on behalf of ALL.
- **LUM:** To Jennifer Jantz, Kyle Kushnier, Emma & Lucas for providing the meal and serving at LUM on the second Sunday of June.
- **MOVE:** To everyone who helped with worship prep in June and to team captain Karin Brewer.

Thank you all for supporting ALL. *If you know someone who is an ALL STAR, tell anyone on Council. At each Council meeting we add names to*

If you're the first person in your house to read this newsletter online, please be sure to pass it on to any others in the home, or to point out sections of it to, say, youth, readers, gardeners, teachers, etc. Thanks.

## C.N.N.

### Council Notes and News

From the "core leadership team":

- "The Plan," devised at the 2009 Congregational Workshop, was reviewed—where we are at with the 3-year goals. The Plan is posted in the MPR.
- An ad hoc committee has been struck to look into the placement of a church sign and has met a couple of times. The special 10th anniversary gift was an offering split 50/50 between ALL's sign project and the MNO Synod's Mission as Hope Appeal. As well, several donations have been made directly to the sign. We look forward to seeing/hearing their progress.
- The commitment to try and remain "green" as part of our stewardship of creation was affirmed. This time we talked about the cleaning products used in the building and want to move to natural products such as vinegar and water as much as possible. □

## WORSHIP

### SUMMER MIDWEEK PRAYERS

Need a quiet spot in the middle of your week? Going to be away on the weekends? Wednesdays evenings in July, we will have time and space for prayers between 5-7 pm. Folks can drop by and rest in the sanctuary. Do your own thing or use the available prepared resources; and Pastor AM will be there for anyone wishing prayer or counsel. All welcome.

### SUNDAY SERVICES

Pastor AM will be away for part of August. On August 8 and 15, seminarian Deb Kerr will lead Service of the Word. On August 22, Rev. Kolleen Karlowsky-Clarke will lead the service with Holy Communion.

### DAILY DEVOTIONS

Copies of *Eternity for Today*, a booklet of daily readings and devotions, is available (free of charge) on the table by the office. Pick one up for the July-September quarter.

### MOVE

#### *(Movement of Volunteer Energy)*

The MOVE teams do not operate during July and August. If you know you'll be in church on one of the summer Sundays, you're invited to sign up for one or more of the jobs. Thanks. □

## YOUTH COMMITTEE

Thank you to everyone who donated prizes for the silent auction in support of the youth travelling to London, ON this summer for the youth gathering, and a great big thank you to all who supported the auction by purchasing tickets.

Congratulations to the winners - Lisa Schmidt (3 basket winner!!), Kara Schmidt, Colin Schmidt, Lori Brooks, Clyde Loeb, Nathan Jacob, Sabina Jacob and Lori Templeton!

Winners names were not drawn by members of the Schmidt and/or Jacob family, believe it or not!! ☺ ☐

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### OPERATIONS, MAY 2010

Revenue	\$	9,311.00	
Expenses		(10,818.00)	
Net income (loss)	\$	<u>(1,507.38)</u>	
Building Fund	\$	<u>37,327.52</u>	

### KITCHEN FUND

Donations	16,730.34	
Costs *	<u>16,944.00</u>	(213.66)

#### \* Costs are comprised of:

3 comp. sink, faucet	\$	1,270.83
Floor capping		252.00
Racks & baskets for D.W.		45.92
Gas range		6,487.82
Gas hose kit		360.18
Galvanized roof curb		364.00
Flynn Roofing		892.50
Electrical		672.00
Stove vents		4,397.95
Install grease canopy		<u>2,200.80</u>
	\$	<u>16,944.00</u>

## COMMUNITY GARDEN

Do you have some spare time? We need some volunteers to pick up and/ or drop off the NEST family members. We also could use some help with the weeding. Or, if you don't have time, donations of seed packets, flowers or vegetable plants are always welcome. Or you could make a monetary donation (mark "Garden" on your envelope or cheque memo line).

Thanks! - Green Thumb Willi ☐

## July Gospel Readings

Below are the scheduled lectionary readings.

### July 04 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20

*Jesus commissions harvesters and labourers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.*

### July 11 Luke 10:25-37

*Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. Jesus tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.*

### July 18 Luke 10:38-42

*Jesus uses his visit to two sisters as an occasion to remind disciples that an important aspect of obedience is single-minded devotion to Jesus and his word.*

### July 25 Luke 11:1-13

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.*

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## LIBRARY

*Some new additions to the library...*

*In case you don't know, the bookshelves housing library books for adults/youth/children are located under the mailboxes.*

A fiction package has been ordered for our library. Watch for titles such as *The Eye of God*, *The Call of Zulina*, *The Big 5-Oh*, *Walking on Broken Glass*, *Surrender the Wind* and others. ☐

## STEW'S CORNER

### STEWARDSHIP THO'TS

*The question is not, how much of what is mine do I give to others. The question is: how much of what is God's do I reserve for myself. The answer we give is a faith issue, a stewardship issue. –William Avery ☐*



## Looking Ahead...

### September

- 07 Council meeting, 7 pm
- 12 Welcome Back Sunday, beginning of Sunday school classes

### October

- 07 Metro Ministerial, Neil Bardal Inc., 11:45 am
- 16 Metro Conference Convention @ St. Stephen/St. Bede
- 31 Reformation Sunday

### November

- 07 All Saints Sunday, (tentatively, Confirmation Sunday)

Each Saturday, between 10 am and 6 pm, an Apostolic Christian congregation gathers in our space for worship, education and a community

## CONTACT INFO

Pastor AM is on a week of study leave and two weeks vacation between Aug. 02-22. In case of pastoral emergency while she is away, please contact: **Rev. Bob Jacob** @ home: 334-4747 or cell: 510-4747

Without **GOD**, our week would be:

Sinday  
Mournday  
Tearsday  
Wasteday  
Thirstday  
Fightday  
and  
Shatterday

Remember seven days **WITHOUT GOD** makes one **WEAK!!** □

## WELCOME BACK SUNDAY

Sept 12 is “welcome back” Sunday—welcome back as Sunday school kicks off and some of our other programs get into swing. Registration and classes (pre-school-K; Gr 1-3, Gr 4...) begin this day. There’ll be lots of singing in worship and students entering Gr 3 will receive Bibles during children’s time.

Activities for all ages will be planned after the service, including a lunch prepared on site to inaugurate the new stove.

One idea was to meet at Sobey’s before worship and have a bicycle parade to the church! We have hopes for a great day of worship and fellowship together. ☺ We’ll wind down around 2 or 3 pm. Mark your calendars and see you there. □

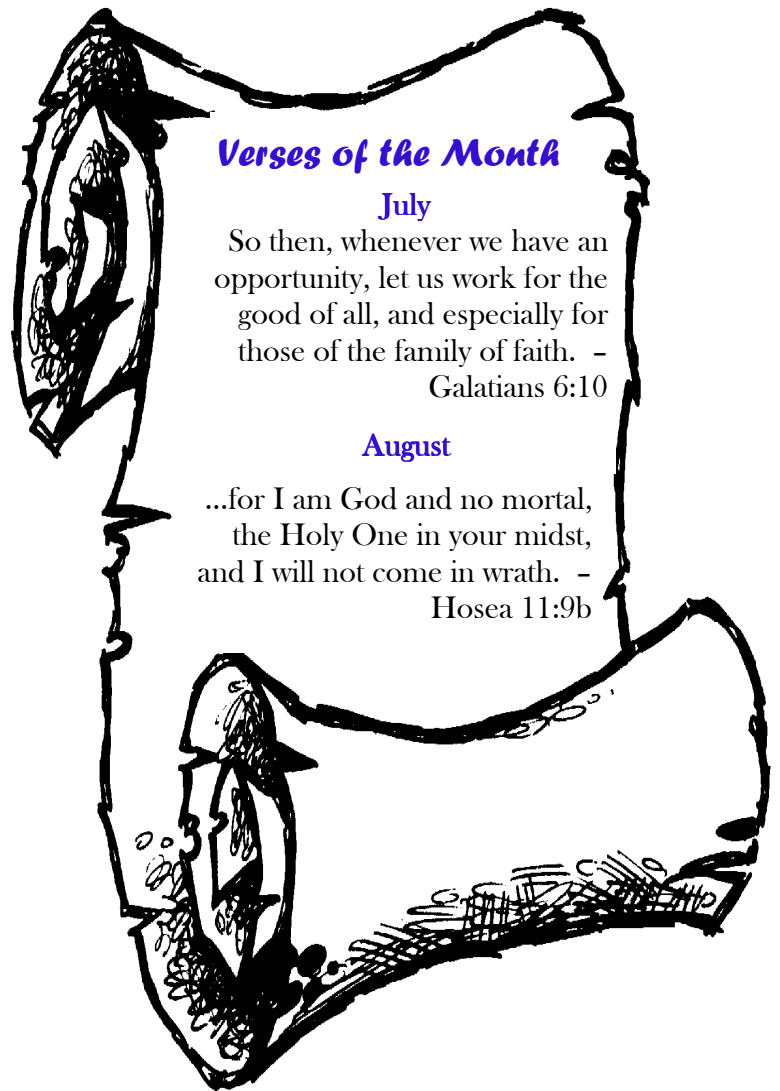
### Verses of the Month

#### July

So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. - Galatians 6:10

#### August

...for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. - Hosea 11:9b



## August Gospel Readings

Below are the scheduled lectionary readings.

**Aug 01 Luke 12:13-21**

*In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.*

**Aug 08 Luke 12:32-40**

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

**Aug 15 Luke 12:49-56**

*Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God's call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.*

**OR Luke 1:46-55**

*Mary's song, the Magnificat, serves as a thematic anthem for God's work, in the world and therefore for ministry of her son, Jesus. In Mary's praise we hear of a saving God who remembers the humble, scatters the proud, lifts up the lowly, and fulfills all things.*

**Aug 22 Luke 13:10-17**

*Jesus heals a woman on the Sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the Sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "Sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.*

**Aug 29 Luke 14:1, 7-14**

*Jesus observes guest jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to mimic God's gracious hospitality to the poor and the broken.*

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## Stewardship of Creation ELCIC

One of the best, all-purpose cleaning agents is probably already in your pantry—vinegar. Maybe you already know that. If not, here are some things you can try.

1. Dip a rag in vinegar and clean your countertops.
2. A mixture of half water, half vinegar to wipe inside shelves and walls of fridge.
3. Spray outside doorways and windows, or where you see trails of ants, to deter the critters.
4. Clean the BBQ grill with a ball of tin foil sprayed with vinegar and a firm scrub.
5. Cover a sticker or label with a vinegar-soaked cloth overnight and it should slide off by morning.
6. Scrub wheel of can opener with vinegar and old toothbrush.
7. A cup of vinegar for every gallon of water does a nice job of polishing linoleum floors.
8. Monthly, pour 1 cup vinegar into empty dishwasher and run machine through its cycle to remove soap build-up and odours.
9. Disinfect wood cutting boards with a wash of vinegar.
10. Tupperware stains (and odours) can be treated by wiping with a vinegar saturated cloth.

At ALL we are trying to implement the use of enviro-friendly vinegar in as many ways as possible for cleaning purposes.

Go to [www.vinegartips.com](http://www.vinegartips.com) to see "1001 uses for white distilled vinegar."

### Our Mission:

As people of God, we are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ so that all may come to know his love and experience the abundant life he gives.

## *In the Wider Community...*

### **ST. CATHERINE ANGLICAN TO CLOSE**

Our neighbouring parish has begun the process of dissolution and will officially close at the end of September 2010. Along with members of that faith community we give thanks for what has been and look with hope toward the future God provides.

### **GIMLI LUTHERAN CHURCH, 52 THIRD AVE.**

Gimli Lutheran is sending out an open invitation to all Winnipeg Lutheran families and “fellow Anglicans” who will be out their way in the next months— whether for the day or while enjoying your summer home—to join them in worship. Worship begins @ 10:00 am. See poster.

### **HELP LTS DURING CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

Lutheran Theological Seminary has entered into a capital campaign this coming year. They are looking for synod representation on various committees working to make the campaign successful. Below is a link to a website that will provide you with job descriptions of the volunteer positions they are looking to fill.

This is an opportunity for people with gifts in these areas to help the seminary do the work it needs to do to provide for theological education to our candidates. It is work that can be done here in our synod and in your local area. Please contact President Kevin Ogilvie if you are able to assist the seminary in this way (email: kevin.ogilvie@usask.ca or phone: 306.966.7863).

**[http://www.usask.ca/stu/luther/CapCamp/Job\\_descriptions.html](http://www.usask.ca/stu/luther/CapCamp/Job_descriptions.html)**

### **MISSION IN PERU**

Pastor Fran Schmidt is an ELCIC missionary serving in Peru. Check out her blog for interesting reading and pictures at: **<http://fransadventures.blogspot.com/>** □

**MNO Newsletter—Crossword  
available @  
[www.mnosynod.org/crossword.html](http://www.mnosynod.org/crossword.html)  
or contact [rscherger@elcic.ca](mailto:rscherger@elcic.ca)  
to be on mailing list.**

### **LUTHER VILLAGE**

**Toll-free phone: (204) 480-8204;**

**email: [info@luthervillage.ca](mailto:info@luthervillage.ca)**

Hope you all had a great month of June! Summer is in the air at the Village – the sun is shining, the bugs are not even bad! We want you to know there is still room in Grade 7-9 camp (July 4-9) and Grade 4-6 camp (July 11-16<sup>th</sup>). Registration forms are on the table by the offices. There are also a couple open cabins and some campground spots in the summer! □

## **WHY WE LOVE CHILDREN**

### **NUDITY**

I was driving with my three young children one warm summer evening when a woman in the convertible ahead of us stood up and waved. She was stark naked! As I was reeling from the shock, I heard my 5-year-old shout from the back seat, 'Mom, that lady isn't wearing a seat belt!'

### **KETCHUP**

A woman was trying hard to get the ketchup out of the jar. During her struggle the phone rang so she asked her 4-year-old daughter to answer the phone. 'Mommy can't come to the phone to talk to you right now. She's hitting the bottle.'

### **BIBLE**

A little boy opened the big family Bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages.

'Mama, look what I found,' the boy called out.

'What have you got there, dear?'

With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, 'I think it's Adam's underwear!'

# ———— Youth Look! —————

**Are you between 12-19 years of age? This column is for you!** "Coolest Youth Group" tries for one Friday & one Sunday a month (except summer). News & event updates get sent by email — to youth *and* their parents. If you are a youth (or parent of a youth) & not receiving our emails, please let Youth Committee chairperson, Alyson Impey—663-9804 (h) or [amimpey@mts.net](mailto:amimpey@mts.net)—or the office know, & we'll add you to our list. **And, hey, your friends are welcome to join us anytime!**



## YOUTH / YOUNG ADULTS Upcoming Activities & Events

**CLAY 2010, Aug 19-22 (bus leaves Aug 15, returns Aug 24)**

**...we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.**

-Isaiah 64:8b

### Blessing for Travellers to CLAY

O God, our beginning and our end,  
you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage;  
you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea;  
and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus.

Protect and guide our youth and their leaders as they set out to London, ON.  
Send as their traveling companion your life-giving Spirit to make their way safe,  
their time away awesome, and their homecoming joyful. Amen.

(Adapted from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, p. 331.)

### Prayers

Your prayers are requested as conversations are opened around the possibility of a shared youth leader position.

**Congratulations  
to all Graduates!**



**Have a great summer whatever  
you're doing — travelling, studying,  
working, relaxing!**

**As you play, work,  
or relax this summer,  
here are some things to  
think about, have a  
conversation about, write, or  
draw about:**

"Growing up is hard, especially because..."

"When I'm hanging out with my friends, I like to..."

"I see God as..."

"I want God to see me as..."

## ABUNDANT LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the Manitoba-Northwestern Ontario Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

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**Telephone/fax: 255-5433**

*The office is open Mondays and Thursdays 9:00 am—3:00 pm, administrative assistant, Lori Templeton is there to receive enquiries and visitors. If you would like more information about Abundant Life Lutheran, please contact the office at 255-5433 or check out our website at [www.abundantlifelutheran.ca](http://www.abundantlifelutheran.ca).*

***In an emergency, call Pastor Annemarie MacIntosh at 772-6612.***