

# May Newsletter 2011



***He is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed!***

**Ebenezer Lutheran Church – Port Hudson  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

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## **From the Pastor's Desk:**

### **The Risen Lord Continues to Serve You**

**Early in the morning, Jesus stood on the shore, but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus. He called out to them, "Friends, haven't you any fish?" "No," they answered. He said, "Throw your net on the right side of the boat and you will find some." When they did, they were unable to haul the net in because of the large number of fish. Then the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" As soon as Simon Peter heard him say, "It is the Lord," he wrapped his outer garment around him (for he had taken it off) and jumped into the water. The other disciples followed in the boat, towing the net full of fish, for they were not far from shore, about a hundred yards. When they landed, they saw a fire of burning coals there with fish on it, and some bread. John 21:4-9**

Jesus had risen. The disciples knew that as they went fishing. Now they waited for him in Galilee as Jesus had instructed them. All night they fished to pass the time. Their nets were still empty as the sun came up. Then they saw a man standing on the shore as they fished. At his instruction they threw the net into the water and pulled up 153 large fish. Then the disciples recognized that the man they saw on the shore was their risen Lord. Imagine their surprise when they arrived on the shore and Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." A fire was already burning on the shore. Bread and fish sizzled over the hot

coals. It was ready to be served. And the chef was none other than Jesus himself. It is rather amazing to think about. Jesus himself cooked breakfast for his disciples. He knew that the disciples had been up all night and would be hungry, and he prepared a meal for them.

Sometimes it can be easy to forget about this little fact about our risen Lord. We know that he rose from the dead on Easter. So as we face death, he comforts us with his power over death. He gives us peace by assuring us of our own crown of life. But what about today? How does the hope of heaven help us as we struggle through a day of work? Where is the peace when we are separated from loved ones who are deployed for weeks or months? What about the times our belly rumbles or the children are sick?

It's at these times the simple act of Jesus preparing and serving his disciples breakfast serves also as a comfort for us. Jesus didn't just rise and tell us he would raise us also, and then leave us to take care of everything else on our own. Our risen Lord also cares for our daily needs. He is the one who gives that gift of patience as you work with the abrasive personality in the office. He is the one who intercedes on your behalf as you cry out in prayer for your dear one fighting in the war. He is the one giving the doctors the skill to help your children. He is the one providing for each of your needs through the many people he equips and sends to help you. He assures you that nothing is going to separate you from the love of your risen Lord, not your death nor any hardship or trial that comes your way here on earth. The risen Lord continues to serve

you even as you wait for the blessed life in heaven that he brings.

**Prayer:**

**Lord Jesus, how wonderfully you served the whole world by your suffering, death, and resurrection! You have given us forgiveness of sins, life with God, and salvation from death. Thank you also for serving me every day with your power to help and your promise to love. Lead me to love and serve you. Amen.**

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**Mother's Day**

Mother's Day this year will be celebrated on May 8<sup>th</sup>. Pastor received this article some time ago – see if any of you Mothers or your Mothers fit these descriptions of -

**“Mean Moms”**

Someday when my children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates a parent, I will tell them, as my Mean Mom told me:

I loved you enough.....To ask where you were going, with whom, and what time you would be home;

I loved you enough to be silent and let you discover that your new best friend was a creep;

I loved you enough to stand over you for two hours while you cleaned your room, a job that should have taken 15 minutes;

I loved you enough to let you see anger, disappointment, and tears in my eyes. Children must learn that their parents aren't perfect;

I loved you enough to let you assume the responsibility for your actions even when the penalties were so harsh they almost broke my heart;

But most of all, I loved you enough ...to say NO when I knew you would hate me for it.

Those were the most difficult battles of all. I'm glad I won them, because in the end you won, too. And someday when your children are old enough to understand the logic that motivates parents, you will tell them.

Was your Mom mean? I know mine was. We had the meanest mother in the whole world; while other kids ate candy for breakfast, we had to have cereal, eggs, and toast. When others had a soda and Twinkie for lunch, we had to eat sandwiches. And you can guess our mother fixed us a dinner that was different from what other kids had, too.

Mother insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were convicts in a prison. She had to know who our friends were, and what we were doing with them. She insisted that if we said we would be gone for an hour, we would be gone for an hour or less.

We were ashamed to admit it, but she had the nerve to break the Child Labor Laws by making us work. We had to wash the dishes, make the beds, learn to cook, vacuum the floor, do laundry, empty the trash and all sorts of cruel jobs. I think she would lie awake at night thinking of more things for us to do.

She always insisted on us telling the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. By the time we were teenagers, she could read our minds and had eyes in the back of her head. Then, life was really tough!

Mother wouldn't let our friends just honk the horn when they drove up. They had to come up to the door so she could meet them. While everyone else could date when they were 12 or 13, we had to wait until we were 16.

Because of our mother we missed out on lots of things other kids experienced. None of us have ever been caught shoplifting,

vandalizing other's property or ever arrested for any crime. It was all her fault.

Now that we have left home, we are all educated, honest adults. We are doing our best to be "mean parents" just like mom was.

I think that is what's wrong with the world today. It just doesn't have enough "Mean Moms!"

### **Tornado Relief**

Horrible information on the lost of life and property in not only our state but in the south with the recent tornados have upset the lives of many families. Over 175 people have lost their lives to recent storms and millions of dollars worth of property has been destroyed. Our congregation will be having a special offering for relief efforts. You can do it now by mailing checks (noting "Tornado Disaster Relief" in the memo line) to LCMS World Relief and Human Care, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861. Our prayers go out to these families and to the many agencies providing aide at this time.

### **Quarterly Voter's Meeting Highlights**

The meeting was called to order on Monday, April 18, 2011 by President Bob Kirschenmann. There were 19 people present.

Pastor Zastrow opened the meeting with a devotion based on "Good and Beautiful Friday", followed by the Lord's Prayer.

The Secretary's minutes were approved as read.

A new member, Don Warren, was approved for membership and signed the constitution.

In the absence of the Treasurer, Wilbert Baumann, the Treasurer's Report was presented by Roland Walkenhorst. A motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report.

Elders' Report was given by David Summers stating that the Elders are meeting monthly.

Pastor stated that in the next several months there will be: an adult baptism, 2 children will be baptized; 2 adult Confirmations; 2 youth Confirmations and 3 weddings.

The Stewardship Committee will sponsor a neighborhood BBQ at the lake on May 21<sup>st</sup>. It will be a potluck with the free-will offering split between the food pantry at the Leslie Methodist Church and the New Haven food pantry. The evening will end with the 5 PM evening service.

It was reported that the Gerdes Estate and Leonard Brune Estate funds will be released to the Church soon. This will be used to pay off debt and the remaining funds will be put on deposit.

The Education Committee will sponsor an Ascension Day Rally. Vacation Bible School is scheduled for July 25-29. The older Sunday School children will help with the upcoming Easter breakfast. All free-will offerings will go to the Leslie Food Pantry. Thrivent will match the funds.

Felix Frye gave the Trustees' report – Bids have been reviewed for the repairs/painting to the stained glass windows. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the bid.

A water chiller/drinking fountain needs to be replaced. If under \$500 trustees will replace. Budget allowance is \$800. Motion made, seconded and approved to allow replacement. Motion carried.

Leaking and corroded water valves in the water heater area have been repaired.

Payment for snow damage was received. The trustees would like to use this to repair gutters and to include ice stakes. They are waiting on bids.

The six overhead fans in the lake pavilion were damaged by high winds. They need to be replaced. The Trustees will submit a claim to the insurance company for the damage. If the replacement total is under \$500, out of pocket, the trustees will replace. The

trustees have received a bid from Lowes of \$1200 with installation. Don Warren said that he would install the fans when purchased. An additional \$500 was approved for the fans, if needed. Motion was made, seconded and carried.

A new leaf blower needs to be purchased.

A discussion was held regarding several other projects that need to be done including the dirt mound on the West side of Church. Mulching needs to be done around the landscaping. A clean up day will be held at Church on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Felix Frye reminded everyone that if they buy something for Church to be sure to ask for a copy of our state tax ID number, so that we don't pay tax on the purchases.

New business was brought to the attention of those present. The Washington Circuit Student Aid Fund was brought up by the President. Information will follow in this newsletter.

After business was concluded, President Kirschenmann adjourned the meeting.

Pastor gave the blessing.

### **Minutes of the Washington Circuit Student Aid Fund Meeting held March 21, 2011**

The March meeting of the WCSAF was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Mark Koch. Those members in attendance representing their congregations were:

Cliff Bossaller – Immanuel, Washington, Don Kappelmann – Ebenezer, Port Hudson, Rich Hesemann – St. John's, Drake, Gary Hoenemann – Immanuel, Rosebud, Mike Martens – Shepherd of the Hills, Hermann, Janice Pohlmann – St. John's, Beaufort, Mark Koch – Bethlehem, New Haven, Pastor Koester, Mt. Calvary, Belle; Zion, Owensville; Tom Kluesner- Christ, Augusta

The minutes of the September, 2010 meeting were approved as presented.

The treasurer's report was approved showing available funds as of 12/31/10 of \$45,018.21 and total funds (which includes both available and designated funds) of \$78,018.21.

Cliff reported on the status of the current students:

\*Kate Densford is no longer going into church work. The motion was made, seconded and approved to remove Kate from the roster of students and additional funds will not be set aside for her. The funds also designated for her will go back into the available funds category.

\*Daniel Potts is currently attending the seminary in St. Louis

\*Kyle Lang is attending his first year at River Forest. The committee is unsure of his level of classification as he did attend some classes at ECC before transferring to River Forest.

\*Paul Rieger's status is currently in question. He has transferred his membership to a congregation outside the Washington Circuit. As he is out of the circuit, no more money will be set aside for him. The question was raised about the funds already designated for him. Since it was set aside for him while he was in the circuit, does the committee continue to hold those funds for him until he takes a call? A motion was made, seconded and passed to leave things as they are until next meeting when perhaps there will be more information about his future plans.

Don Kappelmann was pleased to note that the income of the past year was near to the outgo of 2010 and hoped this trend continued. It was noted that all but one congregation has actively participated in contributing to the treasury in some way this past year.

Christ Lutheran of Augusta has requested that even though the congregation is no longer a member of the Washington Circuit, they be grandfathered into the student aid fund and be allowed to continue to participate in the committee and contribute to the fund. In exchange they would like a guarantee that should a member from their congregation decide to pursue a career in church work, funds from this committee would also be set aside for that student. As this congregation was an active participant prior

to their circuit assignment change, the motion was made, seconded and passed to restore membership into the WCSAF to Christ, Augusta and to guarantee that participation in this committee allows students from that congregation to have the same considerations as students from the Washington Circuit.

The date for the next meeting was set for Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM at Bethlehem Lutheran Church near New Haven.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Janice Pohlmann  
Secretary

Please note – The Treasurer's report is on file in our Church office.

### **Thrivent Event**

Please note – We have been putting a survey in the bulletins lately regarding an educational event that will be sponsored by Thrivent. Mark Koch could not do the program for Thrivent on the 17<sup>th</sup> of July. It has been rescheduled for July 31<sup>st</sup>. The topic will be "Identity Theft, What You Need to Know."

### **Ladies Aid News**

The Ladies Aid will meet on Friday, May 6 at 12:00 Noon. This will be a luncheon meeting and all ladies of the congregation are invited to attend. Members are asked to bring a covered dish to share. Anyone else attending can also bring a dish if you want to.

The Ladies Aid will again have the Country Store at the annual Church Picnic in June. If anyone would like to donate items (cakes, homemade bread, coffeecakes, crafts, plants, etc.) it would be appreciated.

The Ladies Aid will also have their "White Elephant" table at the picnic. So if you are doing some spring cleaning and come across something to put on the "White Elephant" table, we would also appreciate that. Please price any items that are brought. Thank you!!

## **JUNE 12 – PICNIC – WHAT WE NEED**

### **1 – Silent Auction Donations:**

Pick up letters at the back of the Church to give to businesses or individuals so they know what they are donating to. Donated items may be left on the table in the old basement or in the Ladies Aid Room with your name, description of item and value. If donations will be plants or food the day of the picnic, please fill out information slips (available in either area) so the paperwork can be done in advance.

### **2 – Sell Donation Tickets for:**

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – ½ Beef    3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – ½ Hog (processing is included  
2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – ½ Beef    4<sup>th</sup> Prize – ½ Hog    for all prizes)

Tickets are in the Church office in packets of 60. Sign them out on the sheet in the box or see Bob Saak (Sat, service), Susan Hoemann, Bill Pohlmann, Mary Sprick (Sun. service).

### **3 – Sign up for Picnic Jobs:**

The sign up board is at the back of the Church for jobs the day of the Picnic (Sun. June 12) as well as set up (Thurs. June 9) and clean up (Mon. June 13).

**Thanks for all your help and support,  
The Picnic Committee**

### **Acolyte Schedule for May, 2011**

#### **May 1**

**Cody Adams**

**Brian Nelson**

**Brent Thurmond**

**Bell Ringer-**

**Codie Brunkhorst**

#### **May 8**

**Brian Nelson**

**Alyssa Bopp**

**Paul Kassebaum**

**Corey Adams**

**May 15**

**Brent Thurmond  
Cody Adams  
Alyssa Bopp**

**Andrew Kassebaum**

**May 22**

**Alyssa Bopp  
Brian Nelson  
Paul Kassebaum**

**Jeff Hohlt**

**May 29**

**Paul Kassebaum  
Brent Thurmond  
Cody Adams**

**Codie Brunkhorst**

**Usher Schedule for May, 2011**

<b>1: Kevin Hoemann</b>	<b>4: Albert Bade</b>	<b>Head Usher: Lee Kassebaum</b>
<b>2: Eugene Scheer</b>	<b>5: Joe Kassebaum</b>	
<b>3: Tyler Gardner</b>	<b>Alternate: Phil Pelster</b>	

**Altar Guild for May, 2011**

**Pat Anderson & Mary Sprick**

**May Birthdays**

**Anthony Allmeroth 5-1  
Shannon Sprick 5-1  
Samantha Monzyk 5-4  
Bonnie Gardner 5-7  
Dawn Brunkhorst 5-7  
Kelsee Ann Crego 5-8  
Karen Sprick 5-12  
Estelle Brunkhorst 5-13  
Jeff Wettling 5-13  
Brent Thurmond 5-13**

**Gail Meyer 5-14**  
**Jacob Alexander 5-15**  
**Diana Nicks 5-15**  
**Brian Brune 5-16**  
**Albert Bade 5-17**  
**Michelle Kasmann 5-19**  
**Rick Scheer 5-20**  
**Richard Meyer 5-21**  
**Becky Summers 5-21**  
**Samantha Summers 5-21**  
**Paula Brune 5-22**  
**Derek Meyer 5-22**  
**Kimm Gleitz 5-23**  
**Judy Creek 5-23**  
**Joseph Kassebaum 5-24**  
**Sophia Marie Voss 5-24**  
**Mary Sprick 5-27**

**May Anniversaries**

**John and Mary Wesche 5-1**  
**Paul and Paula Gleitz 5-8**  
**Donald and Melissa Hoemann 5-10**  
**Don and Pat Kappelmann 5-13**  
**Kevin and Bonnie Gardner 5-16**  
**Bill and Donna Pohlmann 5-17**  
**Elmer and Patty Kellmann 5-19**  
**Roland and Denise Walkenhorst 5-20**  
**Ron and Judy Wettling 5-23**  
**Steve and Jennifer Thurmond 5-24**  
**Steve and Wanda Gilbert 5-26**  
**John and Jane Redhage 5-26**  
**Tyler and Meredith Gardner 5-29**  
**Lowell and Sue Kassebaum 5-31**  
**Daniel and Linda Davis 5-31**

**We wish you all God's Blessings as you celebrate your "Special Day"!**

### **Union Pasta House Company Offer**

Don't forget – if you'd like to go out for dinner on a Sunday, visit the Pasta House Company in Union and take your Sunday bulletin along. They will donate \$0.50 back to the Church and will give the customer 10% off their entire check. Please see the poster on the bulletin board near the Church entrance.

### **Mission Opportunity**

This year we will again sponsor Otis Woodard at our Vacation Bible School. When your children or grandchildren are cleaning out their desks and lockers at the end of school, consider having them save any old school supplies that they will not be using again the following school year. This includes crayons, markers, pencils, pens, rulers, scissors, paper, notebooks, binders, etc. We will collect at Bible School or the items can be brought anytime to the Church basement. Thanks for your help and support.

### **Recycle for Missions Update**

Recycle for Missions Update – Another \$60.35 has been added to our totals for recycle aluminum. This brings our total for aluminum to \$2,704.05 and our grand total for all recycle to \$3,608.98. The paper dumpster has been replaced within the last two weeks. We should be receiving a check in about a month. **REMEMBER – NO PLASTIC BAGS OR CARDBOARD IN THE**

**DUMPSTER.** Thank you for all of your support with out ongoing recycle for missions project. All of the money collected from recycle goes toward helping our missionaries – John Strasen, Robin McCoy, and Mike and Cindy Rodewald.

### Monthly Treasurer's Summary March 2011

Beginning checking balance	\$18,580.48
Receipts	\$8,938.00
Disbursements	\$9,542.41
Ending checking balance	\$17,976.07
Pledged to Missouri District for year	\$4,800.00
Paid to Missouri District this year-to-date	\$1,200.00
LCEF 2010 loan balance	\$59,933.19
Other outstanding notes	\$0
Monthly receipts needed to meet budget	\$11,798.00
Surplus or (shortfall) in actual receipts	(\$2,860.00)

# MAY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) St. Phillip and St. James, Apostles (Red) Sunday School 9 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10 AM CONFIRMATION Lake Pavilion reserved	2 Adult Class 3:30 PM	3 Elders 7:00 PM	4	5 National Day of Prayer	6 Ladies Aid luncheon 12 :00 Noon	7 Worship 5 PM
8 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) Mother's Day Sunday School 9 AM Worship 10 AM Adult Confirmation	9	10	11	12	13 Pastor to Valpo	14 Matthias, Apostle Worship with Holy Communion 5 PM Pastor at Valpo
15 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) Sunday School 9 AM Worship with Holy Communion 10 AM Pastor at Valpo	16 Pastor returns from Valpo  Mission Society 7:30 PM	17	18	19	20	21 Armed Forces Day  Community Day @ the lake Worship 5 PM
22 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) Sunday School 9 AM Worship 10 AM	23	24 Education and Sunday School teachers 7:00 PM	25	26 Evangelism Meeting 7:00 PM	27	28 Worship 5 PM
29 6 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White) Sunday School 9 AM Worship 10 AM	30 Memorial Day	31 The Visitation (White)	1	2	3	4