

Good News

David's Star Ev. Lutheran Church

2740 David's Star Drive, Jackson, WI

August 2006

Volume XII, Number 12

“MISSION FESTIVAL: A WORTHWHILE TRADITION”

By Pastor Woldt

I'm told that David's Star has been conducting Mission Festival services in the church woods for more than 100 years. We continue that tradition on Sunday, August 20th. Our fellow Christians from Morning Star will unite with us for this joint service. Pastor David Kehl, a son of the congregation, will deliver the message from God's Word. Pastor Kehl currently serves our WELS as the administrator of Adult Discipleship. Pastor Kehl has previously served in the home mission field, working on the island of Antigua.

Some of our members have been attending mission festivals at David's Star for 75 years and more. They could tell you about all the changes over the years. While we still enjoyed church fellowship with the Missouri synod, members from Freistadt and Cedarburg congregations would routinely join us for outdoor Mission Festival. Two services with two different speakers were conducted -- one in the morning, the other in the afternoon. Through the years veteran missionaries told stories of gospel work in far away places and in different cultures. The David's Star Band would lead all the hymn singing. The ladies served a full chicken dinner between the services. Bottled beer was the beverage of choice for the hardworking farmers of German descent.

David's Star Mission Festival has changed over time. It's still in the woods, but now an electronic keyboard supplements the band instruments. We conduct only one service, not two. The meal is streamlined, with portions catered to save onsite work. No more beer, thanks to past abuse and present liability issues. Yet, despite the changes, Mission Festival remains a worthwhile tradition.

The importance of Mission Festival was driven home for me just recently. On Sunday, July 23, an African man named Salimo Hachibamba sat on a rough, wooden plank in our David's Star woods. He was worshipping at our Festival of Friendship service, invited by Jim and Carla Volz. Salimo Hachibamba is a pastor in our sister synod, the Lutheran Church of Central Africa. He teaches future pastors at the Zambian seminary. Pastor Hachibamba spent two months away from his Zambian home at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary to learn, teach, write and conference with other missionaries.

Pastor Hachibamba is a dedicated servant of the gospel with a lively sense of humor. (He was wondering where the elephants were as he looked around the woods.) His presence at David's Star was a lesson in flesh and blood. God was reminding me how he uses my WELS mission offerings to do gospel work in places I have never seen. To Him be the glory.

This year, before I fill my Mission Festival envelope, I'm going to think about Pastor Hachibamba, and others like him. I'm going to say a prayer of thanks that God has brought me to saving faith in Jesus and that he also allows me to share the gospel with others through my mission offerings. Cheerful, generous giving is rooted in God's grace.

In the final analysis, Mission Festival is not really about being in the woods, or chicken dinners, or instrumental music, or beer. Our Mission Festival focus is on the Great Commission. "Go and make disciples of all nations!" That focus makes Mission Festival a worthwhile tradition!



Happy Birthday Seniors!
Walter Behling...8/3/1921...85 yrs. old
Esther Moldenhauer 8/5/1916...90 yrs. old



**"Traits of the Twelve"
Continues:**

Aug 6 - Mueller **Philip: Finding God**

Aug 13 - Westendorf **John: The Disciple
Whom Jesus Loved**

LORD, TEACH US TO PRAY

August 20 - Lindemann **This Is How You Should Pray**

August 27 - Bivens **Our Father In Heaven**

September 3 - Mattek **Hallowed Be Your Name**

**Listen Each Sunday Morning on WJYI-AM – Joy 1340
Music for the Master: 7am – Message from the Master:
7:15am**

**Listen Anytime On The Web: www.MilWELS.org
Message from the Master and Music for the Master are produc-
tions of the Milwaukee Federation of WELS Churches
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bled and how you can keep it growing at the Wisconsin Lu-
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mas!**

Gifts may be sent to "Milwaukee Federation of WELS Churches"
2949 N. Mayfair Rd, Suite #105
Milwaukee WI 53222

ATTN: "Wisconsin Lutheran Student Center"

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**THE WEDNESDAY WOMEN IN
GOD'S WORD GROUP**

The Wednesday Women in God's Word Group will meet on
Wednesday - August 16. We will study Pastor Mark
Paustian's book, "Prepared To Answer." It is a helpful
model for sharing one's faith by supplying Scripture-based
responses to common objections to Christianity. It is the
same book that the group, Women Nurturing Women is
completing. It is not necessary that you attend all the ses-
sions. Please join us as often as it fits into your schedule. If
you have any questions, please contact Char Kison at 677-
2389.

GREETERS FOR AUGUST 2006

8/6/2006 7:45 Harold & Janice Ehlke
9:30 Brian & Nola Zemlicka

8/13/2006 7:45 Mel & Eunice Heckendorf
9:30 Darvin & MaryAnn Behm

8/20/2006 (MISSION FESTIVAL)
10:00 Bob & Dawn Hartwig
Jim & Sandy Siebers

8/27/2006 7:45 David & Sheila Krause
9:30 Roger & Lynne Tews

**CHURCH BUILDING
COMMITTEE**

UPDATE...UPDATE...UPDATE

The Executive sub committee has been moving forward with the building project. Currently they are interviewing church architects and builders. This initial interview process will continue through August.

When the field has been narrowed, the Design and Construction sub committee will be activated to select the final company. When that decision has been made, an interview process will begin with David's Star organizations and staff to make certain all needs and requests will be heard and considered.

If you have any comments regarding the progress of our church building project, please contact Randy Vogel or one of the pastors.

COUNCIL CAPSULE

A SUMMARY OF THE JUNE 2006 COUNCIL MEETING

Pastor's Report

(Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 677-0919)

(Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 377-1019)

Pastor Woldt completed his class at the seminary on "The Worship Space." Continuing formal education is truly a blessing to keep fresh in the ministry. We are looking forward to the special events of "Festival of Friendship" and the "Joint Mission Festival with Morning Star." Meetings with the Building Committee as we interview architects and builders to help us with crafting plans for support of the gospel ministry at David's Star Church and School. Pastor Woldt is serving on the Governing Board of the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary and has already met with the board. The next governing board meeting will be in October.

President's Report

(Randy Matter, Telephone # 376-1585)

The President went through the results of the capital campaign. He handed out a document entitled Stewardship Appeal Report for David's Star Lutheran Church. (See Handout)

- Highlights include the totals that were joyfully given to the glory of God.
- We did not get as many extremely high giving units which did hurt our overall monetary goal; however, we did have a great turnout.
- This appeal is still ongoing and will benefit the church in the short and long term.
- The average amount per giving unit was roughly \$4674. This places us in the mid range for a congregational capital campaign, however, this is higher than normally seen in larger congregations
- We did receive 1.32 times our annual offerings and is a healthy ratio; however, it was not the 2 times that we had hoped for.
- Need to keep this in the front of the congregation over the following months. A committee should be put together to supervise and coordinate the remaining two years of the appeal.
- Cornerstone Stewardship Ministry is offering its Growth Giving Stewardship Program that was part of the original agreement. This includes an ongoing program of scripturally based stewardship program to meet our long-term goals. We should be grateful that we have received this amount despite the fact that we only had a Long Term Vision plan rather than firm building blueprints.

The president also presented to Council a resolution from the Church Redecorating Committee. They recommend that the Church Redecoration Committee use \$30,000 to repaint and redecorate the existing Church. The project would be completed by September 14, 2006.

Rusch Land Development—I communicated Council's action to Donna Gierach and told her that we were not willing to

commit congregation funds to re-do the Western Avenue intersection at this time and that we were not interested in purchasing the 5 acres they previously offered in exchange for the private drive access. She understood and said they would probably move forward with selling the land to a farmer who apparently intends to farm it for now.

Building Committee—The building committee is moving forward with interviewing architects and design/build firms. So far three architectural firms and one construction firm have been interviewed. They expect to interview a number of others over the next month. Then, they will narrow down the field and do more in-depth interviews and on-site project walk-throughs before deciding on the firm.

Every Member Visit Comments—Please review the comments that were distributed at and after last council meeting and be prepared to discuss any that pertain to you. Note especially if you feel that any are misclassified so we can channel the comment to the correct area of ministry. I would like Council to begin a "wish list" discussion of ministries they believe we should have at David's Star Church and School based on the input we received from these visits. These could be incorporated into an updated 3-year ministry plan. Our discussions could take the place of our annual retreat which we did not do this spring. Thoughts?

Buildings and Grounds Report

(Kurt Henning, Telephone # 677-2797)

Pastor Woldt's kitchen roof was fixed. School roof was fixed under warranty from Dehling and Voight. Gym floor was recoated. Pastor Loescher will have some of the plants replaced by the parsonage. Discussion about the sign at the end of David's Star Drive. It was recommended that the congregation proceed with building the sign in its proposed location. This was passed.

Board of Elders

(Dennis Bell, Telephone #677-2248)

They did meet, nothing to report.

Board for Elementary Education

(Patrick Steele, Telephone # #677-7673)

No Report.

Evangelism Committee Report

(Bob Traska, Telephone # 375-3877)

Nothing to report.

Spiritual Growth Report

(Mark Otte, Telephone # 306-3521)

The Bible Study Curriculum for next school year is set. A couple of openings remain that can be filled as topics and speakers arise. Look for some changes in the fall as we seek to offer classes that appeal to all.

Stewardship Committee Report

Jody Hansen, Telephone # 387-1154)

Kevin Behm has accepted Bob Heider's position on the committee. We seek Council's approval of Kevin. This was approved.

At our next meeting we will be discussing the timeline and ideas for the every member visit that we will be working on this fall. In addition to this, Shannon will begin working on the 2007 budget. He will be getting budget sheets out to all committees in September to begin the process.

Howard Kaschner continues to motivate people even after his entrance into heaven. He motivated myself (Jody Hansen), and others that I know, to develop an estate plan and a statement of faith. Please follow Howard's example and consider developing your own plan to God's glory.

The Job Description booklet will be handed out to all committee chairman at the council meeting in July. We encourage all the church leaders to utilize this when recruiting new members for their committees.

Treasurer's Report

(Chuck Gauger, Telephone # 677-4361)

- Discussed the two cases of vandalism in the Church Cemetery. It looks like it will cost the congregation approximately \$2000 to cover the deductibles for the two incidents.
- The June 30, 2006 ending balance in our operating fund shows a deficit of \$ 105,650. This compares to a deficit of \$89,790 as of May 31, 2006 and a deficit of \$ 107,072 on the same date last year.
- Year to date operating fund receipts are \$381,844.69 compared to \$355,703.86 last year and this year's budget of \$403,714 .
Our Foundation Built on the Rock funding appeal has received year to date receipts of \$210,670.

A motion was made and carried to accept all reports except those items that needed separate action under old or new business.

Old Business - None

New Business

With the 150th Anniversary of the Church Building, we need to consider how to celebrate this milestone. It would emphasize Word and Sacrament. Perhaps the second week of Advent, which is a non-communion Sunday, we could include this in the planned song festival for that weekend. This would be December 10, 2006. Council needs to think about this before the next meeting.

Items for Voters - None

**FINANCIAL REPORT FOR
June 2006**

	Current Month Offerings	Average weekly offerings	Offerings Received thru 6/30/06	Offerings Budgeted thru 6/30/06
Operating	\$53,108	\$13,277	\$351,829	\$387,986
Missions	\$5,587	\$1,397	\$39,044	\$44,654
KML Operating	\$4,018	\$1,005	\$27,680	\$30,039
KML Building	\$916	\$229	\$8,380	\$10,000
"Together Shining Like the Stars..."	\$1,395	\$349	\$20,621	\$17,574

The deficit in our Operating Fund is: \$105,650

The deficit at the end of June 2005 was:
\$107,073

The deficit at the end of June 2004 was:
\$74,679