



## **“KEEP THAT EASTER JOY ALIVE!”**

by Pastor Michael Woldt

On a scale of 1 to 10, how would you rate your Easter joy? Easter joy is easy to lose. Superficial Easter joy disappears as soon as the Easter egg hunt is over and empty candy wrappers are littered throughout the house. Easter joy is endangered when the din of daily life drowns out the strains of “He’s risen” we heard in church. Easter joy is challenged by the cynical world around us, a world that all but ignores the most significant event in the history of the planet.

Holding on to Easter joy can be difficult, even for life-long believers. The story is told that one day Martin Luther’s wife Katie decided to dress all in black, complete with a black veil over her head and face. When her husband got home from wherever he was, he barely got two steps in the door before he took one look and said “What’s the matter with you? Why are you all dressed in black?” “I am in mourning,” Katie declared.

“In mourning?” Luther said. “What for? Who died?” “God died,” Katie said. “What do you mean God died?” Luther said. “That’s crazy! God is not dead.”

“Well,” Katie said, “the way you’ve been acting this past week I figured God *must* be dead.”

Do we sometimes act as if God is dead ... as if Jesus was still in the grave? Do we sometimes feel as if there is no hope in life, no relief from despair, no possible end to our troubles? Does our sour attitude spill over into our relationships with others in our home, at work, or within the church? It’s time to rekindle that Easter joy!

The apostle Peter knew what it was like to live without Easter joy. On the first Easter night, Peter and the rest of the disciples found

themselves fearfully secluded behind locked doors even though the Jesus’ grave was empty. But by the power of the Holy Spirit, Easter joy filled Peter as the reality of Easter, together with the words and promises of the risen Jesus, assured him of forgiveness and a place in God’s family for eternity. Peter shares that Easter joy with us as he writes in his first epistle:

*Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade. This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God’s power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. ( 1 Peter 1:3-5 NIV)*

Easter joy is kindled in the heart as we stay close to the risen Jesus through Word and sacrament. Easter joy is joy to share as we live our lives reflecting the love of Jesus.

If you find your mood turning sour in the coming days, remember that God is not dead. The tomb is empty. Jesus lives. Listen to the Good News! Remember your baptism. Receive the Holy Supper. Keep that Easter joy alive!

April  
2013

Volume XV,  
Number 8



## Happy Birthday Seniors!!

Betty Vogel...4/3/1927...86 yrs. old  
Leonard Rusch...4/12/1933..80 yrs. old  
Lawrence Klein 4/29/1928...85 yrs. old  
Evelyn Guhl...4/30/1931...82 yrs. old



## APRIL 2013 GREETERS

April 7 7:45 Dave and Nicole Miller  
10:15 Rachel and Richard Kwiecinski

April 14 7:45 Rick and Nancy Ebeling  
10:15 Mike and Shelley Willis

April 21 7:45 Diane Hafemeister and Susan Daley  
10:15 Sue and Charles Rusch

April 28 7:45 Mark and Teresa Ahrens & family  
10:15 Jim and Sandy Siebers

## BIBLE CLASS OFFERINGS

### BIBLE CLASSES

As the world becomes more and more evil in these last days, we Christians can feel that we are in a situation similar to the Prophet Daniel's. Daniel was forced to live his entire life in Babylon because his native country of Israel was destroyed by the Babylonians. But rather than giving up in despair, Daniel used his position in life to witness to the Babylonians about his God. The LORD used Daniel as his mouthpiece to declare that, while arrogant men think they're in control, it is always the LORD whose purposes win out in the end. Most importantly, God used Daniel to proclaim that all God's purposes culminate in the coming of the Messiah. Please join us as Prof. Bill Tackmier continues to lead this Bible class.

**CHILDREN AND TEEN BIBLE STUDIES** Join us from 9:10 to 10:00AM, as we look at God's Word together. K3 will have an overview of the Bible. K4/K5 to 8<sup>th</sup> grade will study the Ten Commandments. Teens will discuss various topics.

**ALL WOMEN OF THE CONGREGATION** are invited to Women's Thursday Bible Study. Please bring your Bibles and we will discuss our topic for the coming year. We will meet the 1st and 3rd Thursday mornings of each month at 9:30 in the multi-purpose room. We hope to see you there.

**WEBS-WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY** All women of the congregation are invited to join us on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month in the atrium (upstairs). Please call Colleen Loeffler, 677-2319 with any questions.

**WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** meeting at 10:00 am in the multi-purpose room in school.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY** at Jimmy's in Jackson meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 am.

**BARNABAS** is the name of our small group bible studies. We took that name from an early disciple who was given that nick name because he was such an encourager. Our small group home bible studies are also intended for the encouragement of one another. The groups are getting a restart in November, and it is never too late to get involved in a group. Call or email Pastor Loescher if you'd like to get involved. 677.0919 or [kurt.loescher@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.loescher@gmail.com).

**David's Star Church  
Council Meeting Capsule  
March 12, 2013**

Members in attendance: Pastor Woldt Pastor Loescher, Tim Gustafson, Brian Lee, Dan Bolha, Randy Matter, Kevin Behm, Andy Loeffler, Jim Korthals, Bob Heider, Dennis Bell, David Zarling, Kurt Henning.

Absent: None

The meeting was called to order by Brian Lee. The meeting was opened with a prayer by Pastor Loescher. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on February 12, 2013.

**Committee Reports  
Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)**

**Incoming:** Reich, Deanna  
*Transfer from Good Shepherd, West Bend, WI*

**Outgoing:** Metzger, Teresa  
*Transfer to Star of Bethlehem New Berlin, WI*

**Pastors' Report**

**Pastor Loescher, Telephone # 262.677.0919**

**[kloescher@davidstar.org](mailto:kloescher@davidstar.org) &**

**Pastor Woldt, Telephone # 262.377.1019**

**[woldt@nconnect.net](mailto:woldt@nconnect.net)**

Thanks to all the council members for being willing to serve the Lord in leadership positions of this congregation. We are grateful for all the initiatives you are pursuing to strengthen our own members in worship and faith, to keep our facilities in shape, and to reach out with the gospel of Jesus Christ to more and more people. Please pray for the Lord's blessings this Lenten season as we proclaim our crucified and risen Savior.

**President's Report**

**Brian Lee, Telephone # 262.377.9419**

**[brianandpam1@att.net](mailto:brianandpam1@att.net)**

It is obvious that many hours of work went into starting up and getting the Let Our Light Shine campaign to this point. Thanks to everyone involved. The brochure and more importantly, the message contained in it is very impressive. God has blessed our congregation with many talented people.

The first draft of the constitution and by-laws should be ready by mid to late March. Then the work for all of us will start.

**Board for  
Buildings and Grounds  
Kurt Henning 262.677.2797  
[klhhrconst@gmail.com](mailto:klhhrconst@gmail.com)**

Kurt reported that the gym wall was looked at and is being monitored this spring for movement. There has been some discussion about additional storage in the gym with the possibility of adding a block structure with a truss roof at the east side of the gym. The board has been discussing athletic field tree plantings and plantings along pastor's driveway. Cemetery trees will need to be removed next to the church. The Board is also discussing removing the pine trees off of David's Star Drive in the church woods and possibly utilizing this as a parking area.

Council also discussed the need for long-range plans for expanding the cemetery, as well as the signage potential for our property on the corner of Western Avenue and Church Road.

**Board for Elementary Education  
Bob Heider, Telephone #262.644.1726  
[bhheider@charter.net](mailto:bhheider@charter.net)**

**Principal Tim Gustafson Telephone # 262.338.3992  
[tgustafson@davidstar.org](mailto:tgustafson@davidstar.org)**

Chris Nader was chosen through an interview process to assume the school secretary position upon the retirement of Lynne Tews. Both Eunice Washburn and Kathy Bintz accepted the new calls extended to them for their new responsibilities. Registration was held last week for our preschool and kindergarten programs. Initial registration figures are: 3K – 9, 4K -10, and K – 13.

**Board of Elders  
Dennis Bell, 262.677.2248  
[dandmbell55@yahoo.com](mailto:dandmbell55@yahoo.com)**

Advent by Candlelight will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup>. David Martin is working on starting an OWLS chapter locally. The position of Worship Coordinator was approved by the Board of Education and will move forward with the selection of who will fill this position. Chris Feldschneider is planning to start a special needs parent support group with the help of Pastor Loescher and Bill Truebenbach. The Elders and Technology Committee are working on equipping our current worship space properly in regards to audio/visual equipment. There will be a door offering for the Bell Choir to support this year's festival.

A request from Ladies Aid in regards to the placement of solar shades in the east end of the narthex was presented

to Council. After discussion, it was decided to reformulate a decorating committee to overlook these type of projects. Brian will look into forming this committee.

#### **Evangelism Committee**

**David Zarling, Telephone # 414.839.0094**

**[david.zarling@gmail.com](mailto:david.zarling@gmail.com)**

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Backup plans are being made for holding the event indoors, if necessary. Our directory is in the design mode. The committee is also working on website redesign utilizing a new vendor, Cloversites. The cost is \$1,000 upfront, but it is \$15 per month less per month from what we are currently paying. A handout of new road signage was reviewed by Council.

Pastor Loescher also provided an update on continuing discussions with Redeemer, Cedarburg and Trinity, Pleasant Valley Road, relative to cooperative evangelism.

#### **Stewardship Committee**

**Jim Korthals, Telephone # 262.242.8143**

**[korthalj@wls.wels.net](mailto:korthalj@wls.wels.net)**

In connection with the new debt reduction effort, there will be an additional envelope added to the monthly giving opportunities. This will also mean a renaming of the third line item on the regular Sunday offering envelope. There was discussion regarding utilizing the same name on all envelopes when a particular line item on an envelope is directing the donation to go to the same fund.

#### **Spiritual Growth Committee**

**Andy Loeffler, Telephone #262.677.2319**

**[2046home@gmail.com](mailto:2046home@gmail.com)**

With the repurposing of the IMC relative to our early childhood programs, it will be necessary to relocate the church library. When these library materials are moved, the shelving will need to be moved to the new location.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

**Randy Matter, Telephone # 262.376.1585**

**[matters@nconnect.net](mailto:matters@nconnect.net)**

The February 28, 2013 report was presented indicating an ending operating fund balance at 2/28/13 in the amount of (\$34,924), representing a reduction to our deficit during the month in the amount of \$3,331. Operating fund receipts for the month were \$83,684 which is a 105% of our budget. YTD operating fund receipts are \$155,517, compared to \$161,696 last year.

Randy also reported that we are awaiting the receipt of \$15,000 from the IRS. He is working with LisaMarie on long-term storage needs by setting up cabinets for our record retention program.

#### **Vice Presidents Report**

**Dan Bolha, Telephone #262.677.3485**

**[dbolha@ymail.com](mailto:dbolha@ymail.com)**

Dan reported that Mel Heckendorf purchased the coat rack for which we had received a donation. This had been discussed at a previous council meeting.

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

#### **Old Business**

Future of "Parish Center" – Work is still underway on this project.

#### **New Business**

Council Retreat – It was decided not to have a council retreat this year. We may get together on a Saturday morning to discuss the proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws.

New Member Welcome – Dave Zarling reported that he would be surveying council members pertaining to their availability on potential dates for a new member welcome in May or June. He encouraged council members to respond.

#### **Items for Voters (for the April 11th Voters Meeting)**

Next month's meeting is **Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 7:00 P.M.** The next Voters meeting will be **Thursday, April 11, 2013 at 8:00 PM.**

A motion was made and carried to adjourn. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectively submitted,

Kevin A. Behm, Recording Secretary

[kevinbehm@att.net](mailto:kevinbehm@att.net)



## Parish Nurse News

### *The Journey of Grief*

#### *Walking through the valley of the shadow of death*

Recently, I had the opportunity to attend a WLIM Conference given by WLIM Chaplain, Pastor Joseph Radsek and his wife Dawn. They found David's words in the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, "*Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for you are with me*" to be especially comforting and reassuring during the life-changing challenges in their lives. Those challenges in our own lives can take many different forms and how each of us travels *through the valley of the shadow of death* is unique. This journey could be the loss of a loved one, a divorce, loss of employment or financial setback, the losses associated with caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's disease or other debilitating illness or even the loss of independence as a person ages.

As a congregation, we have opportunity to support those among us who we know are "*walking through the valley of the shadow of death*". Keeping in mind that context, timing and who is giving the comfort are everything...here are a few things to avoid saying and a few ideas on what might be helpful to say!

Helpful things to say:

- I am so sorry for your loss (or to hear about your situation).
- I don't know how you feel, but I am here to help in any way I can.
- You will be in my thoughts and prayers. How may I pray for you?
- My favorite memory of your loved one is...
- Give a hug instead of saying something!

Things to avoid saying:

- I know how you feel.
- Be strong
- She did what she came here to do and it was her time to go.
- There is a reason for everything.

Many of us have said things from both the helpful list and the not so helpful list. We mean no harm, in fact the opposite. We were trying to comfort! That desire to comfort is communicated even when we just don't know what to say. Interested in learning more? I am going to acquire some of the suggested resources and make them available in the Health Office. Some may be devotional. Some instructive on the process of grief and some may be a personal story of their journey of grief. Just ask for help!

Together in Christ, Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse  
[parishnurse@davidstar.org](mailto:parishnurse@davidstar.org) 677-3485

Does your child's scrapbook stop after their first year?  
Have a pile of pictures you've been waiting to scrap?  
Are you planning a spring break trip that you want to preserve in a special way?

### THEN PLAN TO ATTEND DAVID STAR'S FIRST ANNUAL



**12 Hour Crop!**  
**Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**10 am – 10 pm**

Bring your scrapbooking supplies for a day of fellowship and fun!

A \$10 suggested donation covers 12 hours of uninterrupted scrapbooking fun including:

✂ **Sub lunch, pizza dinner, snacks and beverages**  
✂ **Make and Takes**

- A page or card all designed for you- you just make it with the supplies provided and take it home!

✂ **Swap Table**

- Have a half sheet of stickers, unused paper, or other unwanted materials? Bring them to the swap table- you may find a new treasure!

✂ **Inspiration Station**

- Bring your completed books for others to browse through and gain inspiration from!

✂ **Door prize drawings on the hour**

To register, or if you are interested in helping with the event, contact Krista Kuber at 262-384-0102, [krista@accordmfg.com](mailto:krista@accordmfg.com), or visit the Scrapbook Crop Event on the David's Star Facebook page.