



# thegoodnews

2740 David's Star Dr. | (262) 375-1843  
Jackson, WI 53037 | [davidssstar.org](http://davidssstar.org)

## **I Just Have to Say, "Thank You!"**

*by Pastor Loescher*

*"Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
His love endures forever!"*

The Lord has overwhelmed me with his good gifts. Especially the gifts in the people the Lord has placed into my life who do so many things that I cannot, and there's a lot I can't do. I could go on and on about the things I can't do simply because there isn't enough time. Secretarial tasks that so many pastors in smaller congregations have to do themselves, unless they get volunteers to help them out. Producing bulletins and newsletters, keeping church records up to date, handling the crazy network of communication that comes through the church and school office everyday. I couldn't do that. Managing my home schedule, keeping all the children's school and activity calendars straight, making sure everyone is where they are supposed to be day in and day out. I couldn't do all that. Making sure meals are planned and shopping done so the family needs are met. I couldn't accomplish all that. Thank you Lord for the gifts you have placed into my life so that these critical tasks could be done.

I hesitate to begin listing the many things people do around me that I can't do because I don't have the ability. I hesitate because I can't list them all. Where do I start? Where do I end?

I think of people who fix my vehicles, those who fix the furnace and the boiler at church. I think of those who teach my children and the other children of David's Star. I'm especially grateful when the children get up in the grade levels where math gives way to algebra and trigonometry and calculus. I can't do that. Dare I try to enumerate all the insights and knowledge and expertise poured into our building project?

There my head truly spins when I see and hear the men and women who are applying their gifts for the good of our ministry. I definitely can't do that. As another example, let me tell you of the Easter Egg hunt we put on this year. I was blessed that day by many of God's good gifts. I had the privilege of doing what I think is the most enjoyable part of the day, that is, telling the Easter story. In doing so, I may have become for some the face of the whole activity. But let it be known, if we were to depend on my gifts alone to carry out that activity, it would not have happened. So many of God's good gifts were put to work that day, and in the days prior preparing for it. I just plugged into one short section of the whole event. I could not have done all of that.

Nor should any one person try to do it all. The Lord has apportioned his gifts to each one according to his good pleasure. The body of Christ is built up only as each one does his part. As our ascended Lord, Jesus kept his promise to distribute his good gifts to men (Ephesians 4:8). Indeed he has! Seeing this truth playing out in the people around me overwhelms me with gratitude and contentment. I'm grateful that the Lord has seen to all of our needs through the gifts of one another. I'm content with the modest gifts he has given me for service in his kingdom, for each of you. So much of God's good work is getting done around me, it overwhelms me to think of it. I just have to say, "Thank you Lord!"

Special Note: A job fair is being planned to give each of us an opportunity to participate in the building project. Also a living nativity is being planned for this Christmas. Many gifted people will be needed for both.

**MAY 2009**

**Volume XV,  
Number 9**



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS!!!**

Myrtle Ehlke...5/4/1918...91 yrs. old  
Selma Rusch...5/5/1917...92 yrs. old  
Eleanor Gronemeyer...5/8/1924...85 yrs. old  
Dorothy Turek ...5/8/1923...86 yrs. old  
Roger Liesener...5/19/1923...84 yrs. old  
Margaret Becker...5/12/1923...86 yrs. old  
Ruth Laverenz...5/26/1927...82 yrs. old  
Donald Herther...5/18/1927...82 yrs. old  
Lorain Kison...5/19/1919... 90 yrs. old  
Al Laverenz...5/31/1927...83 yrs. old  
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**TEDDY BEAR PICNIC**

This will be held on Thursday, May 7th in the school gym from 6:30 pm - 7:45 pm: ALL AGES invited. Activities for ages 4-9 in gym, bring teddy bears! Bible Study for adults in separate room. Light Refreshments will be provided. Looking for helpers in 5th- 12th grade! Please contact Jennifer Otte 262-306-3521 or [simplyjeno@yahoo.com](mailto:simplyjeno@yahoo.com)

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**MAY 2009 GREETERS**

- Sat., May 2nd  
5:00 Ren & Edie Kremer
- Sun., May 3rd  
7:45 Myron & Delores Philips  
10:15 Dave & Emily Zarling
- Sat., May 9th  
5:00 Vin, Marilyn & Leah Schneider
- Sun., May 10th  
7:45 Patrick & Lynet Steele  
10:15 Roger & Lynne Tews
- Sat., May 16th  
5:00 Rick & Wanda Sandoval
- Sun., May 17th  
7:45 Laverne Groth  
10:15 Mark & Terry Brazell
- Sat., May 23rd  
5:00 Al & Ruth Laverenz
- Sun., May 24th  
7:45 John & Nelda Clemens  
10:15 Richard & Rachel Kwiecinski
- Sat., May 30th  
5:00 Martin & Marie Janke

May 31 ( In the Woods)  
9:30 John & Laura Brown



**Parish Nurse News**

**Healthy Boundaries In Human Relationships**

Have you ever struggled with “When to Say Yes &/or How to Say No”? As Christians we can spend so much time and energy on loving and giving that we forget our own limits and limitations. The Bible has a lot to say about healthy boundaries and when it is appropriate to set limits.

Galatians 6:2 says, “Carry each others burdens and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.” There are times in life when people have “burdens” that are just too heavy to bear by themselves. The Greek word for *burden* means “an excess burden”, like a boulder that is so heavy it can crush a person. Denying ourselves to help another with something that they cannot do for themselves is showing the sacrificial love of Christ. This is what Christ did for us. He did on the cross, what we could not do for ourselves. He saved us!

On the other hand, Galatians 6:5 tells us that “each one should carry his own load”. The Greek word for *load* means “cargo” or “the burden of daily toil”. This word describes the everyday things we all need to do. These loads are like knapsacks and we all can carry our own knapsack. We are expected to deal with the responsibilities God has given to each of us, even though it takes effort.

Problems arise when people act as if their “boulders” are daily loads, and refuse help, or as if their “daily loads” are boulders they shouldn’t have to carry. The results of these two instances are either perpetual pain or irresponsibility.

Can you relate to any of this? Do you or someone you love struggle with healthy boundaries? Are you interested in learning more? “BOUNDARIES” by Dr. Henry Cloud & Dr. John Townsend would be a great resource on this topic with Biblically based wisdom and insight.

Good mental health to you,  
Sue Bolha RN, Parish Nurse

April 14, 2009

Members in attendance: Pastor Loescher, Pastor Woldt, David Nunez, Dan Bolha, Kevin Behm, Tim Gustafson, Mark Otte, Todd Backus, Kurt Henning, Brian Lee, Dennis Bell, Randy Vogel (Building Committee).

Absent: Jeff Morgan, David Zarling.

The meeting was opened with a prayer. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting on March 10, 2009.

### Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

#### 1.1 Membership Report (Pastor Woldt)

**Incoming:** none

**Outgoing:** Lamm, Angela

*Release from membership*

Vogel, Lawrence & Sara; Nicolas

*Transfer to Good Shepherd,*

*West Bend, WI*

#### Pastors' report

**Pastor Loescher, # 677-0919 [kloescher@davidstar.org](mailto:kloescher@davidstar.org)**

**Pastor Woldt, # 377-1019 [woldt@nconnect.net](mailto:woldt@nconnect.net)**

At the end of this month, the Synodical Council will wrestle with how it can cut up to 8 million dollars from the WELS \$38 million dollar operating budget. The shortfall in funds is primarily due to less ministry money being received from foundations and individuals making special gifts from investment income. In general, congregation mission offerings are slightly down, although not as much as one might expect, given the current economy. Praise God for his faithful people! We too are thankful for the continued dedication the members of David's Star demonstrate in the support of our ministry operations

#### President's report

**Dave Nuñez, #677-2647**

**[David.Nunez@ipaper.com](mailto:David.Nunez@ipaper.com)**

DNR's NR-151 Nutrient Management Plan – Randy Vogel has been pursuing the DNR 151 situation further. David's Star does not fall under the regulation if there is 5 acres or less of turf grass that has fertilizer applied to it. He has not taken a measure wheel to the turf area, but his salesperson who did a drive-by review of the property did not believe that we have 5 acres of turf grass that is being mowed. Further, if we delete the parsonages and the surrounding turf grass as private homes, he is confident that we will fall below five acres. Finally, with recent Wisconsin legislation to ban Phosphate use on existing lawns, the impetuous for the DNR 151 regulation is all but gone. Randy recommends that, at this time, to consider this issue closed, until or if it is determined that we have over five acres of

turf and that applications of fertilizer will be made to this turf area.

Howard Kaschner Estate – We are waiting for a call back from the family to set a date for a final meeting with all parties to finalize the estate. No further updates.

Building project - Randy Vogel will be giving a new recommendation from both the Building Subcommittee and Finance Subcommittee at our meeting.

Antenna – Paul Steinbrenner has been in contact with Bertram Wireless to obtain some type of timeline on what proposals they are going to give us in response to the placement of the new antenna and the future options for us long term. Jeff Rehm has also been in contact with them to discuss the upcoming construction and what will have to move when the time comes in the construction timeline.

Cemetery – The Cemetery Committee will be creating a proposal that will begin the discussion around “pre planning” for our members for cemetery plots. I understand this has been a subject of discussion in the past and was looked at very favorably. However, with the way people are planning ahead in these type of situations, it may be time to reconsider. I have asked Wally Miller and his committee to draft a plan that we can discuss at a future meeting.

Budget Review – One last thing that I would like to put out there as a thought for our next budget review is to build in a “principal payment” amount into the budget, and to create a fund that we can keep and when the time comes for the actual payments to start, we are not in a phase of “sticker shock” and the load is somewhat lightened.

Congregational Meeting Chairman – Randy Matter has accepted an appointment as Congregational Meeting Chairman.

#### Board for Buildings and Grounds

**Kurt Henning, # 677-2797 [klh@nconnect.net](mailto:klh@nconnect.net)**

Our last meeting was April 7<sup>th</sup>. Arbor nights are scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>.

All storage materials in the shed will be taken out arbor night with Liesener Soil providing us with a semi-trailer for temporary storage. The lawn mowers will be stored in Pastor Woldt's and Carl Schramm's garages.

A special thanks to Shaun Maney for donating the landscape block in the church woods, and the labor help of Eric & Tim Brandt, Jared & Brian Kison, Bob Hartwig, and Jeff Wenzel who constructed a new retaining wall around the stage area.

The storage building will have to be moved to allow room for a new parking lot. After talking to Pole Barn Builders and discussing possibly moving the building by dismantling it and putting up the old building in a different location, the cost was too high. A new building cost is being estimated at this time.

After Easter groundbreaking, the trees in the inner circle between the church and school, will need to be removed.

Jerry Lahti and Matt Hartwig will be doing the work, with the help of others from the congregation.

The Parents Group has purchased some replacement parts for our playground, and our committee will install them.

This is a very exciting time for our congregation and Buildings and Grounds Committee, with our building project underway. This will prove to be a busy year for our committee. Anyone from our congregation willing to help with any of our projects or has ideas, please contact Kurt Henning.

Thanks be to God.

#### **Board for Elementary Education**

**Brian Lee, Telephone #377-9419 [brian.lee@jci.com](mailto:brian.lee@jci.com)**

**Principal Tim Gustafson # 338-3992**

**[tgustafson@davidstar.org](mailto:tgustafson@davidstar.org)**

1. The board feels it is in the best interest of the school, students present and future, and David's Star, to maintain present staffing levels. This will be discussed further at a future council meeting.
2. The board's recommendation for 2009-10 school year tuition was presented to council, and will be acted upon during new business.
3. The board feels it is in the best interest of the school, students present and future, and David's Star, to establish an increase in tuition for the 2010-11 school year. Establishing an increase of \$150 is in line with discussions held during this year's budget meetings. This will be discussed at a future council meeting.
4. The board recommends the establishment of a Tuition Assistance Fund to cover only the portion of tuition going directly to the Operating Budget. This will be discussed further at a future council meeting.
5. In March, we held our pre-registrations for preschool and kindergarten. 9 students registered for preschool, and 16 students registered for kindergarten. If no one else registers before school begins, we will begin the school year with an enrollment of 144.
6. Nothing is definite yet, but it looks like the earliest we will be able to start school next year will be Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup>. This is because of construction this summer, and the amount of work that needs to be done.
7. Our new kitchen assistant for our hot lunch program next year will be Beth Klug.

#### **Board of Elders**

**Dennis Bell, Telephone # 677-2248**

**[dandmbell@sbc.global](mailto:dandmbell@sbc.global)**

No report.

#### **Evangelism Committee**

**David Zarling, Telephone # 414-839-0094**

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

Pastor Loescher gave a brief report.

The Easter Egg Hunt was a successful outreach event with 102 present.

We've seen some visitors as a result of the mailings and press releases created.

Evangelism will begin addressing the outreach opportunity through our preschool program.

Andy Meyer accepted an invitation to use his time and talents toward renovating the David's Star website.

The committee is looking into doing a living nativity in December.

#### **Stewardship Committee**

**Todd Backus, # 677-4016**

**[todd.backus@prodigy.net](mailto:todd.backus@prodigy.net)**

Stewardship Committee minutes from April 7, 2009:

Heart N Focus Course – obtaining feedback from teachers for future format.

Stewardship Communication

Todd will continue to include monthly pieces in our newsletter.

Promotion for Simply Giving – help from Evangelism Committee.

Planned Giving – Bill Truebenbach has written a couple of articles for inclusion in the monthly newsletters. Todd to pass along to Phyllis for publication.

Other items:

Envelope changes include KML Foundation will be added to another monthly KML envelope.

Council discussed the Our Foundation envelope and its similarity to the Restricted Building Fund in envelope color. It was decided, as both envelopes ultimately end up in the same account, that both envelopes will remain unchanged.

Pastor Loescher will publicize next special envelope for Lutheran Boy Pioneers International Program.

WELS Walking Together 2009- August timeframe or later. Further discussion and development needed.

Next meeting – May 5th at 8:00PM

#### **Spiritual Growth Committee**

**Mark Otte, # 306-3521 [lotte@kmlhs.org](mailto:lotte@kmlhs.org)**

No report.

#### **Building Committee**

**Randy Vogel**

Randy Vogel discussed the status of our current building project and presented council with a recommendation to be approved by council under new business, and acted upon at our voter's meeting.

#### **Fundraising Committee Update**

**Gary Heckendorf**

David Nunez read Gary Heckendorf's comments regarding financing proposals that we had received. His committee recommended that we obtain the loan from Port Washington State Bank. This will be acted upon under new business.

### **Treasurer's report**

**Dan Bolha, # 677-3485 [dbolha@charter.net](mailto:dbolha@charter.net)**

The March 31, 2009 ending balance in our operating fund shows a deficit of \$169,610 compared to a deficit of \$171,621 February 28, 2009 and a deficit of \$122,721 on March 31, 2008. Year to date operating fund receipts are \$200,510 compared to \$209,988 last year and this year's budget of \$204,492. Our Foundation Build on the Rock funding appeal has received year to date revenues of \$110,877.

We have received a charitable gift annuity from the estate of Leona and Harold Heidtke with 1/3 each going to Our Foundation funding appeal, David's Star Tuition Assistance, and Called Worker's Tuition Assistance.

**Vice President Report**  
**Jeff Morgan, # 377-7532**

No report.

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**

Request for burial rights in David's Star Cemetery. A son of our congregation who was a called worker, and is a current Missouri Synod member, requested burial rights on our cemetery. Council denied this request as this does not fall under current cemetery guidelines.

Building Committee recommendation – Having reviewed the latest cost estimates for the construction of the building project as approved at the special February 11, 2009 voter's meeting and reviewing the directly related other than construction costs, the cost of borrowing money at the current time, and the fact that we have raised in excess of \$150,000 of the cash into the master plan, construction documents and fund raising costs to date, and being blessed with commitments in excess of \$658,000 in pledges and an additional \$20,000 per year in Thrivent pledges (\$718,000 total = pledges + Thrivent), we recommend to allow for borrowing of the funds necessary to complete the connector building, heating, ventilating and cooling updates for the school, and heating updates for the church, septic system updated as needed and for the remodeling of the school. In addition, considering the need for mechanical room space and the increased expenses that would result if the narthex is built at a future date due to portions that would be abandoned or reworked, we recommend to construct the full narthex at this time. We believe that this construction will greatly enhance our fellowship opportunities and ultimately aid in the spread of the Gospel.

The construction work is to begin on June 1, 2009 with CD Smith as the CM (Construction Management firm). The school remodeling is to be completed by September 2009 and the completion of the balance of the construction by

Christmas, 2009. The estimated cost totals \$2,700,000 for direct construction costs, \$475,000 for directly related other than construction costs and allowing \$125,000 for contingency costs for a total dollar amount of \$3,300,000. We find that it is prudent to amend the fund raising restrictions of 1/3 cash, 1/3 pledges and 1/3 long-term borrowing to 57% cash and pledges with 43% in long-term loans.

We further recommend that the following items are to be added to the current construction project if donors are moved to directly support these items in addition to any current pledges, in a timely manner

1. Canopy drop off at the south entrance (\$20,000)
2. Air conditioning for the church (\$6,000)
3. Finish roughed-in concession area (\$7,500)
4. Walk off mats at three entrances (\$7,500)
5. Blinds for the windows (up to \$20,000)
6. Larger elevator capable of handling a casket (\$4,800)
7. Upgrade restrooms to solid Phenolic partitions (\$4,800)

For clarification, the following items have been removed from the project as it is currently proposed:

1. Fire suppression system. The fire suppression system will be added when the sanctuary is built.
2. Stone on the exterior of the narthex that would be lost when the sanctuary is built has been replaced with brick.

The above recommendation was discussed by Council, and approved to be brought to the voters at the quarterly meeting.

Financing Committee recommendation – The financing subcommittee of the building committee would like to proceed with securing financing for the first phase of the building project with Port Washington State Bank based on the proposal submitted by Gary Heckendorf April 10, 2009. Details of the proposal include a 5.25 percent rate without a deposit relationship (5.125 percent with a deposit relationship), a five year term with the first year being interest only followed by four years of principal and interest, a 20 year amortization after the first year, standard out-of-pocket expenses plus \$500, collateral being first mortgage on the David's Star properties and assignment of pledges, no prepayment penalty, and the first year being the construction period and all draws will be handled through the title company. This recommendation was approved by council to be presented to the voters at the next voter's meeting.

Storage shed recommendation – The Buildings and Ground Committee and the Cemetery Committee recommend to Council that we have the metal storage shed removed to allow for more parking in the new construction. This will allow for better drainage and cleaner sightlines in and around the new parking areas and south entrance into the school. If the old shed is left in place, it will be

approximately 3'-4' above the parking lot grade, have to be ramped in order for the lawn mowers to be stored and cause issues with drainage from the parking lot.

It is recommended to have a new 36' x 48' building be constructed on the area to be determined with the architect but within the area that has been designated by the master plan.

Total cost of the building will be \$34,500. This includes the building, concrete, fill allowance and electrical allowance. Labor for the concrete slab, excavation of the site and trucking the fill will all be donated by members.

The funding of this project will come from the cemetery fund. The Cemetery Committee feels the majority of the building's use is for the lawn mowing equipment as well as storage for what is needed to maintain the cemetery.

This recommendation was approved by council to be presented at the next voter's meeting.

The Board of Education recommends that the fees/tuition for David's Star School for member children be at the following levels for the 2009/10 school year: Preschool \$1050/year; Kindergarten \$710/year; Grades 1-8 \$850/year (\$800 after 1<sup>st</sup> student). This recommendation was discussed and approved by Council. This will be presented to the voters at Thursday's meeting.

Cemetery Committee proposal – a proposal by the Cemetery Committee was briefly reviewed by Council and will be discussed further at a future date.

**Items for Voters (for the April 16 voters meeting)**

- Undesignated gift policy for gifts over \$5,000.
- Building Committee recommendation.
- Financing Subcommittee recommendation.
- Storage shed recommendation.
- Tuition and fee schedule for 2009/10 school year recommendation.

Next months meeting is **Tuesday, May 12 2009 at 7:00 P.M.** The next Voters meeting will be **Thursday, April 16, 2009 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).

| <b>FINANCIAL REPORT FOR</b> |                         |                          |                                 |                                 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>March 2009</b>           |                         |                          |                                 |                                 |
|                             | Current Month Offerings | Average weekly offerings | Offerings Received thru 3/31/09 | Offerings Budgeted thru 3/31/09 |
| Operating                   | \$74,328                | \$18,582                 | \$191,021                       | \$195,404                       |
| Missions                    | \$ 8,146                | \$ 2,037                 | \$ 19,564                       | \$ 19,600                       |
| KML Operating               | \$ 5,543                | \$ 1,386                 | \$ 11,947                       | \$ 13,500                       |
| KML Building                | \$ 919                  | \$ 230                   | \$ 2,502                        | \$ 3,500                        |

The deficit in our Operating Fund is \$169,610  
 The deficit at the end of February 2008 was \$128,352  
 The deficit at the end of February 2007 was \$104,987  
 The deficit at the end of February 2006 was \$97,790

**LADIES' AID NEWS CORNER**

We would like to encourage all women in our congregation to come to our meetings and see what we're all about. Our next meeting is Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 pm. The meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month except June, July and August. We are now starting at 6:30 p.m. and planning to be done by 8 p.m. to accommodate those moms who need to get home to be with their children. We would like to revamp the Ladies' Aid to better serve all of the ladies in our congregation and would like to have your suggestions on how we can serve you better. Please call or e-mail our new president, Lynne Tews at 262-377-2051 or ltews@davidsstar.org, with any questions or suggestions. Hope to see you soon!

Upcoming Activities:  
 Meeting; Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm.  
 Saturday, May 30 @ 8a.m. – Move 3 storage room and kitchen items to gym, move school office to the Parish Center, remove shelving in storage rooms.



## Living Within Your Income

Since it is unlikely that you have an unlimited income, you will need to adjust your spending habits so you can give generously, save aggressively, and still live comfortably. If you've been accustomed to spending all of your income on your wants and desires, you will find it difficult to live within your means. Spending is easy, whereas giving and saving require self-discipline. Your ability to give and save is made possible by your willingness to say "no" to your spending. To live on the portion of your income that you have left after giving and saving, you need to control your spending. Improper spending habits are the biggest hindrances to living successfully within your income.

The concept of "self-limitation" is new to many people. When you intentionally buy fewer things than you can afford, you are choosing to limit your lifestyle. "Self-limitation" decisions are based not on the premise of what you can afford, but rather on what you need. You must ask, "Do I need this certain thing or does God have need of my money to help others and His Church?" When your income rises and your lifestyle doesn't reflect your increased buying capability, you are choosing to limit yourself, which frees up more for giving and saving.



What lifestyle does the Bible suggest? Are you pleasing God by living in substandard housing, driving broken down used cars, wearing cheap clothes, and not satisfying any of your desires? Is God happy if you

have an abundance of new things? Living comfortably is not a sin. God does not condemn being rich, but He speaks against the self-centered attitude wealth can cause. Living in opulence without any regard for others does not please the Lord. However, if you love the Lord and serve Him and others with your money and time, you are free to live in comfort. Jesus said "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33). Certainly, there is a tremendous amount of diversity among Christians and what they own, but your lifestyle should reflect your relationship with Jesus.

According to Russ Crosson in his book *A Life Well Spent*, we have increased our standard of living at the expense of our lifestyles. "We have increased our lifestyles, but in the process haven't we also lost our ability to really live? We have amassed wealth, not wisdom. We have given our children toys, not time. We have children who have been taught to consume rather than work; we have fathers who don't know their children, and marriages that do not work or last. We have been in a rush to run a race without understanding the finish line. Could it be that we are being robbed of our very lives because we are not thinking correctly about why we have money and what we are to do with it?"

Our culture promotes monetary wealth. You need to be careful not to become a victim of the foolish desires money can create. Satan works on us daily and attempts to convince us we need more and more.

## THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE



**CEMETERY WATERLINES** are going to be replaced over the summer. There will not be water available at the cemetery to water plants.

**OUR FOUNDATION COMMITMENT CARDS** If you have misplaced your commitment card—we do have additional cards available for you in the church narthex. We also have posted it on-line at [www.davidsstar.org](http://www.davidsstar.org). Click on the left hand Building Project and put your cursor on the pledge card and click and the pledge card is right there.

**BUILDING CONSTRUCTION** Due to the remodeling and building, there won't be any access to school facilities during the summer months. The Ladies' Aid will not be able to serve for funeral meals in the facilities at David's Star. The pastors may help families with suggestions for alternative locations and service plans.

## WELS UPDATE FROM THE STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Results for the third quarter of the 2008-09 fiscal year indicate overall support for the synod's operating budget was \$6.0 million, or \$3.2 million less than expenses. Year-to-date support is \$25.1 million, or \$3.1 million less than expenses. The year-to-date results point to a deficit of \$5.9 million – that's up from the \$3.7 million projected at the end of the second quarter.

Congregational Mission Offerings (CMO) – given by congregations for the synod's collective ministry – were \$3.76 million for the quarter, down nearly 14 percent from the same quarter last year. Some of the difference may be due to the timing of Easter, which occurred in March last year. Foundation grants and gifts from individuals are also down dramatically.

Despite the growing shortfall, it is anticipated that the deficit will be met through the \$3.4 million surplus from last year's budget, a grant for Home Missions from WELS Church Extension Fund, unrestricted bequests, and other cost savings.

The deficit could continue to grow if congregations are unable to meet their CMO commitments, as has been the case for the first quarter of the calendar year.

For more information, download the complete financial summary online at: [www.wels.net/jump/finance](http://www.wels.net/jump/finance).



## TREASURE

“If your treasure is on earth, you are going from it; if your treasure is in heaven you are going to it.” (Author unknown)

Last month Pastor Woldt delivered a sermon message that discussed going up a mountain. Have you gone up that mountain? Do you go up that mountain daily? Why would we need to go up a mountain? Just to get a good view of something?

The mountain Pastor Woldt shared concerned Jesus' transfiguration. The view was fantastic for those who were there, and the view is just as fantastic for us as believers who have followed Jesus up to the small mountain of a hill called Calvary. We have the same view the disciples had of a glorified and risen Savior whenever we look to the cross. That is real treasure. And we need to climb that mountain daily, to know our sins are forgiven by a risen Savior and to treasure the view we will one day have in heaven.

Jesus' death for our sins includes such sins as wasting time or not using our treasures properly. Though our heavenly treasure awaits us, our earthly treasures are going to remain here on earth. Take time today to go up the mountain of earthly treasures God has given you and consider how you will use it wisely. Use your days ahead to the glory of God and for the good of others. God expects us to plan for our earthly treasure before we receive the heavenly treasure. Climb that mountain of procrastination and understand that Christian stewardship is part of the Lord's will for us. Treasure the time you have.

*Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.*

*Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is.*

Bill Truebenbach –  
David's Star Planned Giving Chairman  
262-677-2066 or [btruebenbach@tlha.org](mailto:btruebenbach@tlha.org)



## Quarterly Voter's Meeting

April 16, 2009

David's Star Ev. Lutheran Church,  
Jackson, WI 8:00 pm

The meeting was opened with devotion by Pastor Woldt. The meeting was called to order by congregational meeting chairman Randy Matter.

A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes from the January voter's meeting and the special voter's meeting on February 11, 2009.

The agenda was adopted by the voters.

Membership Report (since January Meeting)

Incoming: Meyer, Jenna  
*Transfer from Woodlawn, West Allis, WI*  
Oestreich, Mark & Ginger; Elijah  
*Transfer from Morning Star, Jackson, WI*  
Praefke, Susanne  
*Transfer from St. John's,*  
*Wauwatosa, WI*  
Retherford, Rosanna; Keegan  
*Profession of faith*

Outgoing: Kremer, Jesse & Janet; Keturah, Miriam  
*Transfer to Shepherd of the Hills, West Bend, WI*  
Kuber, John & Ellen  
*Transfer to Redeemer, Cedarburg, WI*  
Lamm, Angela  
*Release from membership*  
Ratzburg, Daniel & Tracy; AnnaJo, Noah, Meta  
*Transfer to Morning Star, Jackson, WI*  
Vogel, Lawrenz & Sara; Nicolas  
*Transfer to Good Shepherd, West Bend, WI*

### Signing of Constitution by new voters

No new members were present

**Pastors' report (Pastor Loescher, 677-0919, [kloescher@davidstar.org](mailto:kloescher@davidstar.org) and Pastor Woldt, 377-1019, [woldt@nconnect.net](mailto:woldt@nconnect.net) )**

It was a privilege to confirm 17 young people on Palm Sunday this year. Please encourage them in their walk of faith. Holy week services were well-attended with over 800 in attendance for the two later services Easter Sunday. Keep the synod in your prayers as they wrestle with financial issues. Pastor Woldt has been asked to submit his name for chairman of MLC Board of Controls.

### President's Report

**(David Nunez, 677-2647, [David.Nunez@ipaper.com](mailto:David.Nunez@ipaper.com) )**

A. DNR's NR-151 Nutrient Management Plan – Randy Vogel has been pursuing the DNR=151 situation further. David's Star does not fall under the regulation if there is 5 acres or less of turf grass that has fertilizer applied to it. He has not taken a measure wheel to the turf area, but his salesperson who did a drive-by review of the property did not believe that we have 5 acres of turf grass that is being

mowed. Further, if we delete the parsonages and the surrounding turf grass as private homes, he is confident that we will fall below the 5 acres. Finally, with recent Wisconsin legislation to ban phosphate use on existing lawns, the impetus for the DNR 151 regulations is all but gone. Randy recommends that at this time to consider this issue closed, until or if it is determined that we have over 5 acres of turf or that applications of fertilizer will be made to this turf area.

Howard Kaschner Estate – We are waiting for a call back from the family to set a date for a final meeting with all parties to finalize the estate. No further updates.

Paul Steinbrenner has been in contact with Bertram Wireless to obtain some type of timeline on what proposals they are going to give us in response to the placement of the new antenna and the future options for us long term. Jeff Rehm has also been in contact with them to discuss the upcoming construction and what will have to move when the time comes in the construction timeline.

I would like to thank Char & Rod Kison for all the help in organizing and planning the Lenten suppers this past year. Also, Char Kison for the donation of the plastic shovels that were handed out at the groundbreaking ceremony last Sunday. They were very much appreciated. Also, thank you to Randy Matter for serving as Congregational Meeting Chairman.

Thank you is really not enough for all the time, energy and stress that has been put in by Randy Vogel and his building committee. They have worked many hours with the architect, the new construction management company and numerous other people to make sure that everything has been looked at, checked over and details sifted through on the building project. So thank you gentlemen for all of your hard work. Very shortly, the fruits of your labor will show.

### Treasurer

**(Dan Bolha, 677-3485, [bolha@netwurx.net](mailto:bolha@netwurx.net) )**

The March 31, 2009 ending balance in our operating fund shows a deficit of \$169,599. This compares to a deficit of \$171,622 as of February 28, 2009 and a deficit of \$122,721 on the same date last year. Year end operating fund receipts are \$200,510 compared to \$209,988 last year and this year's budget of \$204,492.

### Board of Elders

**(Dennis Bell, 677-2248, [dandmbell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dandmbell@sbcglobal.net) )**

This is the first time in a long time that we have maintained the same elders as we had the year before. There is something to be said about having a consistent group of gentlemen to work with.

The Church Council has approved the Christian Life Resources collection again this year. Baby bottles can be picked up on Mother's Day May 10<sup>th</sup> to be returned on or before Father's Day June 21<sup>st</sup> with your contributions inside of them.

The Parish Nurses have been very busy over the past quarter with blood pressure screenings, as well as attending workshops. Our Parish Nurses hosted the WELS Parish Nurse gathering here at David's Star on January 31<sup>st</sup>. They also had a manned display at the School Open House.

#### **Board for Elementary Education**

**(Brian Lee, 377-9419, [brianlee@jci.com](mailto:brianlee@jci.com) )**

The school is running smoothly with its use of volunteers. The Board is working on establishing a tuition and fee schedule, as well as providing guidelines for future year increases. The Board is also looking at establishing a tuition assistance fund. We are presently making plans for graduation.

#### **Spiritual Growth Committee**

**(Mark Otte, 306-3521, [motte@kmlhs.org](mailto:motte@kmlhs.org) )**

We continue to look for ways to help our members grow in the Word.

Our last round of Sunday morning Bible classes begins this Sunday with a special mission presentation by Werner Lemke.

The following Sunday (April 26), Pastor Woldt will begin a study in the church called "Current Topics in Christianity". Subjects for discussion will include a variety of issues within the visible church of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Participants will help determine the topics for discussion. The first session will address various views on the office of the pastor and views on public ministry.

Pastor Loescher will begin a study also on April 26 called "Lessons to Share". The class will review some of their favorite Bible stories. If you have a favorite, either email to Pastor Loescher ([kloescher@davidstar.org](mailto:kloescher@davidstar.org)) or you can write it down and put in Pastor Loescher's box near the north entrance across from the balcony stairs. They will be studied with a view to our own encouragement and strengthening and also with a view to how we can use these stories to help others.

We would like to welcome a new church librarian, Mark Hendrix. He will be keeping the library organized and functioning. He takes over for Jesse and Janet Kremer who we thank for their years of service to the congregation.

Andy Loeffler, after a number of years has decided to step down as our Sunday school superintendent. We thank him for his years of service. We will be searching for a new leader for our Sunday school program this spring and summer.

The initial plans for Family Bible Week this summer have been made. The week will run from Sunday July 26 through Thursday July 30. The opening night is planned to be in the church woods. Monday through Wednesday will be at KML due to construction on the David's Star campus. We will join the Thursday evening worship to cap off the week.

New Bible class leaders for 2009-2010 school year are currently being recruited.

Heidi Walz continues to do a great job running our cradle roll program.

#### **Evangelism Committee**

**(David Zarling, 674-1094, [david.zarling@gmail.com](mailto:david.zarling@gmail.com) )**

We promoted and participated in the March 7<sup>th</sup> Evangelism Workshop – Prepared to Answer, with approximately 15 from David's Star in attendance. We promoted and implemented the Easter Egg Hunt on April 4<sup>th</sup> with 102 children in attendance including 35 visitors. Special thanks to Bob and Lois Traska for their organizational efforts. We have been involved with promoting the Building Project and Groundbreaking providing 1000 brochures and 1000 postcards, as well as providing a press release posted in the Milwaukee Journal and West Bend Daily News and public service announcements on several area radio stations.

We are working on recruiting and establishing Evangelism Awareness and Community Outreach Coordinators to help fulfill the mission of the Evangelism Committee and David's Star, and developing a formal outreach program to our community. We are recruiting additional help for New Member Integration and Publicity groups, as well as volunteers for our 2009 David's Star Living Nativity outreach project. We are working to implement a formal outreach program to our non-member school families – specifically, our early childhood education outreach opportunities. We are in the process of renovating our logo, website, and signage to better communicate God's saving grace to unbelievers and provide faith building tools for our Christian brothers and sisters at David's Star.

#### **Stewardship Committee**

**(Todd Backus, 677-4016, [todd.backus@prodigy.net](mailto:todd.backus@prodigy.net) )**

Kevin Behm presented the report.

The Heart N Focus course has been completed. Thanks to Jody Hansen and Randy Matter for co-teaching the class.

Bill Truebenbach has agreed to serve to replace Jody Hansen as Planned Giving Chairman. Thanks to Jody for his past service on this committee and thanks to Bill for volunteering. Bill has already started his work. Watch for newsletter articles for Planned Giving.

Communications continue on stewardship concepts in the newsletters and on the David's Star website. Encourage all members to read and study what God's Word teaches about stewardship.

In conjunction with the Evangelism Committee, we will again be promoting Simply Giving.

WELS Walking Together – special service request for August timeframe or later. Opportunity for special gift to synod.

#### **Board for Buildings and Grounds**

**(Kurt Henning, 677-2797, [klh@nconnect.net](mailto:klh@nconnect.net) )**

Arbor night is May 5<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>. All storage materials in the shed will be taken out that night with Liesener Soil providing us with a semi-trailer for temporary storage. The lawn mowers will be stored elsewhere.

A special thanks to Shawn Maney for donating the landscape block in the Church Woods and the labor help of Eric & Tim Brandt, Jared & Brian Kison, Matt & Bob

Hartwig and Jeff Wenzel for constructing a new retaining wall around the stage area.

The storage building will have to be moved to allow room for the new parking lot. After talking to Pole Barn Builders and discussing possibly moving the building by dismantling it and putting up the old building in a different location the cost was too high. A new building cost is being estimated at this time.

After Easter groundbreaking, the trees in the inner circle between the church and school will need to be removed. Jerry Lahti and Matt Hartwig will be doing the work with the help of others from the congregation.

The Parents Group has purchased some replacement parts for our playground, and Buildings and Grounds will install. This is a very exciting time for our congregation and Buildings and Grounds with our building project underway. This will prove to be a busy year for our committee. Anyone from our congregation willing to help with any of our projects or has ideas, please contact Kurt Henning.

Thanks be to God

#### **Cemetery Committee (Wally Miller)**

We are in the process of reviewing the rules and regulations for the cemetery, and will have information at the next quarterly meeting.

#### **Kettle Moraine Lutheran High School (Joel Pless)**

Many of our teams have completed a very successful sports season including the boys basketball team, as well as the varsity cheerleading team who won a state title. We are presently working on paying our debt load, as well as raising funds for a fine arts center. 13 of the 15 David's Star eighth grade students plan on attending KML. Graduation is May 31<sup>st</sup> at 2PM.

#### **Building Committee (Randy Vogel)**

At a special voters meeting on February 11, 2009, the congregation approved the building of the connector building, the remodeling of the school, the updates of the HVAC systems for the school and church and, in addition, the complete narthex, if funds are made available.

Plunkett Raysich Architects (PRA) was contacted to start the next phase of the design work.

The Construction subcommittee, led by Terry Koth, solicited six proposals from construction management (CM) firms. The firms' proposals were reviewed and the group narrowed down to four firms and then interviewed. CD Smith was chosen due to their experience, competitive cost, the manager assigned to our project and the creative ideas and concern for completing the school access when school is back in session.

Representatives from CD Smith, Terry Koth and other members of the building committee met with PRA numerous times in the following weeks, often two or three times per week. Details of the plan were reviewed and decisions made to move the project forward.

The town of Jackson Park and Planning Commission reviewed and approved the site plan and proposed building at its March 25, 2009 meeting.

The Design subcommittee, led by Jeff Rehm, along with representatives of the school, the office staff and the Ladies Aid reviewed color concepts and choices along with carpet and tile choices and stone and brick veneers to make recommendations. In addition, the office design plans were refined and greatly improved at these meetings.

David Klug donated machine and operator time to check the soils at our existing septic field. The soils do not meet the current requirements for the state code and will not be useable for the larger sanctuary that is planned and will likely need to be replaced with the current phase of construction. An alternate site for the septic system has been found on the property and a plan is being designed that will be bid on.

CD Smith reviewed the project as it has been tweaked and updated the costs. The cost estimates were higher than anticipated. A review of the project, now without the sanctuary as part of the first phase revealed that the fire suppression system with the associated storage tank and pump were not necessary due to the firewalls where the buildings connect and the lower square footage. Further review of the project revealed areas that could be value engineered to reduce the cost.

Over \$50,000 of volunteer work has been identified for members to support. Projects such as landscaping, retaining wall construction, cleaning during and after the construction and skilled labor projects are being identified. The Construction subcommittee will be organizing the volunteer efforts, watch for announcements relating to volunteer efforts soon.

The one area of the project that is lower in cost than anticipated, if it is built at this time, is if we complete the narthex now. The addition to complete the narthex was originally estimated at \$400,000. If the narthex is built at the same time as the connector the complete narthex will add \$300,000 to the cost.

The costs currently are only estimates. The project will be put out into bids. With the current slowdown in the economy, we anticipate aggressive bidding to occur. Recent local news articles indicate that certain construction bids are up to 25% under projected cost levels. We are not counting on bidding being this aggressive for our project, but we will seek the best bids that are possible.

A ceremonial groundbreaking was held on Easter Sunday and very well attended.

A recommendation for building will be voted on later this evening.

Thank you to the many volunteers who have already stepped forward and those offering assistance on this project. Nelson Erdman for producing press releases regarding our project. Tony Gromacki donated time and talent for additional survey work. Lynne Tews and Phyllis Dencker for facilitating the many day-to-day items and phone calls. David Nunez and Pastor Woldt for setting up the groundbreaking ceremony on Easter, to all of the

Church Building subcommittees and members for their tireless efforts and freely supporting this project with their time, talents and support. But, foremost, we thank our risen Lord and Savior for the opportunity to serve him.

### **Funding Campaign (Gary Heckendorf)**

We have received 227 out of 485 pledge cards. Total commitments are \$860,845, with about \$173,000 upfront, and the remaining amount of around \$690,000 in pledges. These pledge amounts do not include Thrivent monies which could be up to \$60,000. We are still continuing to receive pledges.

A motion was made and carried to accept all reports.

### **Old Business**

Status of antenna for internet service – This was included as part of the President’s report.

### **New Business**

Council recommendation for Building Project – Having reviewed the latest cost estimates for the construction of the building project as approved at the special February 11, 2009 voters meeting and reviewing the directly related other than construction costs, the costs of borrowing money at the current time, and the fact that we have raised in excess of \$1,100,000 in cash and having invested over \$150,000 of the costs into the master plan, construction documents and fund raising costs to date, and being blessed with commitments in excess of \$658,000 in pledges and an additional \$20,000 per year in Thrivent pledges (\$718,000 total = pledges + Thrivent), we recommend to allow for the borrowing of funds necessary to complete the connector building, heating, ventilating and cooling updates for the school and heating and ventilating for the church, septic systems updated as needed and for the remodeling of the school. In addition, considering the need for mechanical room space and the increased expenses that would result if the narthex is built at a future date due to portions that would be abandoned or reworked, we recommend to construct the full narthex at this time. We believe that this construction will greatly enhance our fellowship opportunities and ultimately aid in the spread of the Gospel. The construction work is to begin on June 1, 2009 with CD Smith as the CM (Construction Management firm). The school remodeling is to be completed by September, 2009. The estimated costs total \$2,700,000 for direct construction costs, \$475,000 for directly related other than construction costs and allowing \$125,000 for contingency costs or a total dollar amount of \$3,300,000. We find that it is prudent to amend the fund raising restrictions of 1/3 cash, 1/3 pledges and 1/3 long term borrowing to 57% cash and pledges with 43% in long term loans.

We further recommend that the following items are to be added to the current construction project if donors are moved to directly support these items in addition to any current pledges, in a timely manner:

1. Canopy drop off at south entrance (\$20,000)
2. Air conditioning for the church (\$6,000)
3. Finish roughed-in concession area (\$7,500)
4. Walk off mats at three entrances (\$7,500)
5. Blinds for the windows (up to \$20,000)
6. Larger elevator capable of handling a casket (\$4,800)
7. Upgrade restrooms to solid Phenolic partitions (\$4,800)

For clarification, the following items have been removed from the project as it is currently proposed:

1. Fire suppression system. The fire suppression system will be added when the sanctuary is built.
2. Stone on the exterior of the narthex that would be lost when the sanctuary is built has been replaced with brick.

After some discussion, the above recommendation was carried.

Council recommendation for building project financing – It is the recommendation of the Church Council to allow the finance subcommittee of the building committee to proceed with securing financing for the first phase of the building project with Port Washington State Bank base don the proposal submitted by Gary Heckendorf April 10, 2009.

Details of the proposal are:

Rate: 5.25% w/o deposit relationship (\$5.125% with deposit relationship)

Term: Five years with first year being interest only followed by four years of principal & interest

Amortization: 20 years after the first year

Fees: Standard out-of-pocket expenses + \$500

Collateral: First mortgage on the David’s Star properties & Assignment of Pledges

Prepayment Penalty: None

Construction Period: The first year will be the construction period and all draws will be handled through the title company.

Amount to be financed: \$2.2 million maximum

After discussing the above details, this recommendation was approved.

Council recommendation for Fees/Tuition for David’s Star School -2009/2010 school year – The Church Council recommends fees/tuition for member children be set at the following levels:

Preschool - \$1050/year Kindergarten - \$710/year Grades 1-8 \$850/year (\$800 after first student)

This motion was carried.

Council recommendation regarding Undesignated Gift Policy for undesignated gifts over \$5000 – The Council recommended the following allocation:

35% - Church Operating Endowment Fund

35% - Restricted Building Fund

10% - Future Called Workers Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund

10% - Building and Improvement Fund

10% - KMLHS

After some discussion, the above recommendation was approved by the voters.

Council recommendation regarding Funding of New Shed construction – It is the recommendation of the Church Council to allow the Buildings and Grounds Committee and the Cemetery Committee to have the metal storage shed be removed to allow for more parking in the new construction. This will also allow for better drainage and cleaner sightlines in and around the new parking areas and south entrance into the school. If the old shed is left in place, it will be approximately 3’-4’ above the parking lot grade, have to be ramped in order for the lawn mowers to be stored and cause issues with drainage from the parking lot.

It is recommended to have a new 36’ x 48’ building be constructed on the area to be determined with the architect but within the area that has been designated by the master plan.

Total cost of the building will be \$34,500. This includes the building, concrete, fill allowance and electrical allowance. Labor for the concrete slab, excavation of the site and trucking the fill will all be donated by members.

The funding of this project will come from the cemetery fund. The Cemetery Committee feels the majority of the building’s use is for the lawn mowing equipment as well as storage for what is needed to maintain the cemetery.

This motion was carried.

#### Announcements

Next Scheduled Voter’s Meeting: July 9, 2009 8:00 pm

The Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer and Benediction by Pastor Woldt

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin A. Behm, Recording Secretary ([kevinbehm@att.net](mailto:kevinbehm@att.net))

#### JESUS CARES MINISTRIES

Jesus Cares Ministries (JCM) and Morning Star Lutheran Church in Jackson will be holding a karaoke dance for people who have a developmental disability. The fellowship event will be held on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at Morning Star Lutheran Church in Jackson from 6:00-8:00 PM. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. If you are interested in attending or would like to volunteer your time for this event please RSVP to Bill Truebenbach, Staff Minister with JCM at (262) 677-2066.

## David’s Star Ladies' Aid Bus Tour

*All women are invited to join us on*

Thursday, June 11, 2009

*Oregon, IL*

## PRIDE OF OREGON

Experience a taste of what life may have been like along river towns in the heyday of the **paddlewheel steamer** by enjoying a **luncheon cruise** on the **scenic Rock River** on the **Pride of Oregon**, an authentic paddle wheel boat.

Lunch consists of orange roll, salad, Beef Bordelaise, potato, vegetable, dessert and coffee. (Chicken entrée can be arranged for those who do not eat beef)

**Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum** is a treasure trove of a time gone by. Rockford, Illinois businessman Robert Hall Tinker built the home in 1865, perching it high on a limestone bluff overlooking Kent Creek. His inspiration came from an 1862 tour of Europe where he fell in love with the architecture of Switzerland. **Today the Cottage is one of only a handful of Swiss-style homes remaining in the United States** from the 1800s. The Tinker family, the sole occupants of the Swiss Cottage, left their home to the Rockford Park District and their household belongings to trustees after 75 years of residence. Filled with original furnishings, artwork, diaries and household items, the **Cottage is a rich time capsule of life a century ago!** The **Tinker Swiss Cottage Museum Store** is filled to the brim with unique gifts and souvenirs!

**Call Colleen Loeffler at (262) 677-2319  
to make your reservation!**

**Reservations due: 5/5/2009**

**Per Person Cost: \$69  
Please make checks payable to  
David’s Star Ladies' Aid**

Departs David’s Star in Jackson at 8:40am  
Estimated Return to Jackson: 5:45pm

\*\*\*Tour is nonrefundable after 5/7/2009 unless a replacement can be found.