

St. John's Church
13372 Nature Avenue
Hutchinson, MN 55350
(320) 587-5104



St. John's Messenger

August, September, October 2009

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REFLECTIONS

During World War II, a US marine was separated from his unit on a Pacific island. The fighting had been intense, and in the smoke and the crossfire he had lost touch with his comrades.

Alone in the jungle, he could hear enemy soldiers coming in his direction. Scrambling for cover, he found his way up a high ridge to several small caves in the rock. Quickly he crawled inside one of the caves. Although safe for the moment, he realized that once the enemy soldiers looking for him swept up the ridge, they would quickly search all the caves and he would be killed. As he waited, he prayed, "Lord, if it be your will, please protect me. Whatever your will though, I love you and trust you. Amen." After praying, he lay quietly listening to the enemy begin to draw close. He thought, "Well, I guess the Lord isn't going to help me out of this one." Then he saw a spider begin to build a web over the front of his cave. As he watched, listening to the enemy searching for him all the while, the spider layered strand after strand of web across the opening of the cave. "Hah, he thought. "What I need is a brick wall and what the Lord has sent me is a spider web. God does have a sense of humor." As the enemy drew closer he watched from the darkness of his hideout and could see them searching one cave after another. As they came to his, he got ready to make his last stand. To his amazement, however, after glancing in the direction of his cave, they moved on. Suddenly, he realized that with the spider web over the entrance, his cave looked as if no one had entered for quite a while. Lord, forgive me," prayed the young man. "I had forgotten that in you a spider's web is stronger than a brick wall."

We all face times of great trouble. When we do, it is so easy to forget what God can work in our lives, sometimes in the most surprising ways. And remember with God, a mere spider's web becomes a brick wall of protection.

Submitted by Jerry Block



Pastor's Notes

This Fall we are taking a significant step in a new direction concerning our Sunday School program. For several years we have been evaluating the benefits of using a curriculum developed by Bethlehem Baptist Church in Minneapolis. Mary and I were privileged to be teachers in the pilot program that became the "Children Desiring God Curriculum."

Bethlehem Baptist, like many other congregations, was not happy with the traditional resources available. Our own Sunday School department has struggled with the same issues that led Bethlehem Baptist Church to develop their own curriculum. We certainly affirm the underlying motivation of Bethlehem Baptist to develop and more God-Centered curriculum.

"Our aim is to impart to children a vision of God, who He is, and who we are in relation to Him, and to establish them with a foundation of doctrine and truth. We want them biblically grounded, seeing God as the hero of every story, with a God-centered world view and a faith that will hold them when the days of testing come. We want them to love the Lord their God with all their heart, and to delight in Him forever."

It has taken us several years to make the decision to move ahead with this curriculum for a couple of reasons: the initial investment involved and the additional preparation time that might be involved for our teachers. But the Sunday School Department and the Council share the conviction that this is the right time to take this step. As your Pastor, I am excited about this decision. Using this curriculum will allow us to continue to build on the solid foundation that has been laid over the past few years to make the Christ-Centered, Bible-Centered instruction of our children a top priority for us as a congregation.

Bob Taylor, Pastor

Council Minutes:

May 13 2009

Council Members Present:

Pastor Bob Taylor, President – Randy Rose, Vice President – Brian Vacek, Treasurer – Jerome Karl, Secretary – Pam Martin, Financial Secretary - Jerry Block and Building Fund Coordinator - Laura Streeter. Pastor Bob opened with prayer. Randy called the meeting to order, shared with the council a message from a web site which focuses on instruction and encouragement for meditating on Scripture called Daily Success. This site is a ministry of the Institute in Basic Life Principles.

Pastor's Report:

**** Made visits with Mike and Kim Martin, Duane and Gloria Wigern, Dave and Mary Huebert, Leona Mueller, Katherine Rannow, Eileen Moehring, Kyle, Holly, and Makayla Wigern, and Loretta Junglaus.**

**** Participated in the Youth Group Garage Sale**

**** New members were received on 5/10/09. They included Nick Rose, Leona Mueller, Jon and Bridget Block.**

**** Upcoming baptisms: Ethan Block 5/24/09 and Mason Martin 5/31/09.**

The secretary's minutes were approved as read.

Jerome gave the treasurer's report which showed a balance after expenses and the transfer of \$5,000 to the building fund of \$6,439.75. This report was approved as given.

Laura reported that the Building Fund received a dividend of \$17.26 and a check for land rent for \$5,950.00. A check was issued for property taxes in the amount of \$696.00 which left a balance of \$38,580.69. As of the date of this meeting, this amount does not reflect the transfer from the general fund of \$5,000.00. This report was also approved.

Old Business:

-- Ryan Voss called Randy and will be stopping by to assess the roof/shingle issues.

-- Pastor Bob has taken care of the Confirmation gifts and certificates.

-- Randy will be working on building the hand railing for the other side of the front entry to be installed sometime this summer.

New Business:

~~ Pam will contact Karen and Jerome will let the Hutch paper know of the summer hour's change.

~~ Jerry will take care of the change in hours on the sign in front of church.

~~ A motion was made and approved to honor this years graduates and to buy the high school graduate gifts on Sunday, May 31st. This year's graduates from high school include Hannah Streeter, Tyler Martin, Sam "Whitey" Sanken, Laura Senske, Evan Karl, and Alan Kaufmann. Jeremy Martin will be recognized as a graduate from college. Pastor Bob will take care of the gift buying.

~~Randy will program the thermostats for the summer months.

~~Discussion was made in regards to the cleaning of the church. It was suggested that we check out pricing on professional cleaning as the carpet is in need of shampooing and they would have all cleaners/tools necessary to do a thorough job. Jerry volunteered to get quotes and email them to the council.

~~Randy will check into what can be done to get rid of the snake problem on the church grounds.

~~ The VBS is looking at possibly organizing a picnic/kickball family day on the 14th of June.

There were no suggestions in the box.

Because members will be setting up for the Ice Cream Social on Wednesday, the next meeting will be Monday, June 8th.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Martin/Secretary

June 8, 2009

Council Members Present: Pastor – Bob Taylor, President – Randy Rose, VP – Brian Vacek, Treasurer – Jerome Karl, financial Secretary – Jerry Block

Council Member Not Present: Secretary – Pam Martin, Building Fund Coordinator – Laura Streeter

Randy Rose called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob Taylor opened with prayer and a devotional.

Pastor's Report:

***Visits with Loretta Jungclaus – Joe and Joyce Karl – Eileen Moehring – Katherine Rannow – Alan Mielke – Mike and Kim Martin – Betty Sanken – Margie Block

***Baptisms: May 24, 2009 – Ethan Robert Block (son of Jon and Bridget Block), May 31, 2009 – Mason Glenn Martin (son of Mike and Kim Martin)

***Summer Adult Bible Study, Tuesday evenings, 6-7 pm, will end the Wed. before the beginning of Bible School

Secretary's Minutes: Approved as read.

Treasurers Report: Current balance after expenses - \$9,407.92 – report was approved

Building Fund Report: No report this month

Old Business:

--Randy Rose reported that the second hand railing will be installed sometime this summer.

--Cleaning of the church by Dave Minnick's Cleaning Service was done on the Monday and Tuesday following the Ice Cream Social at a cost of \$400 for the cleaning and \$425 for shampooing the carpet.. The cleaning bid was approved by polling Council members between the May and the June Council Meetings. Dave Minnick estimated that they cleaned 2423 sq. ft. of carpeting.

--There was confusion over the beginning of the summer hours. Clarification: summer hours begin the Sunday following Memorial Day thru Labor Day weekend.

--A motion was made and approved that the replacement of the communion cloth was delegated to Mary Huebert and Bridget Block and the money for the replacement will be taken from the Memorial Fund.

New Business:

~~A motion was made and approved that the Curt Bussler Lawn Service be authorized to spray cedar oil to deal with snakes, Asian Beetles, spiders, and ants. The spraying will be done around the perimeter of the church. The spraying will be done following the Ice Cream Social.

~~Ryan Voss assessed the roof. A few repairs are needed but the roof is generally in good condition. The cost of the repairs will be approximately \$500. A motion was made and approved that Ryan Voss be authorized to make the needed repairs along with several minor exterior items.

~~Brian Vacek showed the Council a sample shelf that he built for pew bibles. A motion was made and approved that Brian proceed with the project with an estimated cost of \$480 and that Pastor Bob be authorized to purchase the number of bibles needed. The money will be taken from the Memorial Fund.

Suggestion Box: No suggestions this month

Next Meeting: July 8, 2009

Adjournment: A motion was made and approved that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was ended with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted: Bob Taylor, acting Secretary

July 8th, 2009

Council Members Present: All members present.

Randy called the meeting to order.

Pastor Bob opened with prayer and scripture from 1st Corinthians Chapter 29.

Pastor's Report:

**** Made visits with Emily, Eric, and Dylan Metag, Katherine Rannow, Eileen Moehring, Gloria and Duane Wigern, Betty Sanken, Margie Block, Loretta Jungclaus, Joe Karl, Dave and Pam Martin, and Curt Paulsen.**

**** Informed the council of the birth of Dylan Bruce Metag on June 30, 2009.**

**** Requested vacation August 10th & 17th. (Council will discuss under new business.)**

**** Discussed with the council new confirmation material as well as a cost change in the Sunday School Curriculum. This also will be discussed under new business.**

**** Informed the council that the ice cream social grossed \$3,710.45 and netted a profit of \$2,439.85 with most receipts being turned in and paid out. This year we sold \$603 worth of raffle tickets!!**

The secretary's minutes were approved as read.

Jerome gave the treasurer's report which showed a balance of \$8,925.92. after normal expenses were paid out. This report was approved as given.

Laura reported that the Building Fund received a dividend of \$16.80 for the month of May and \$12.34 for the month of June. The balance at the end of June was \$43,609.83 which reflects the transfer of \$5,000.00 from the general fund. Council approved this report.

Old Business:

-- Ryan Voss is meeting Randy at the church this week.

-- The cleaning of the church is complete and looks great.

-- Spraying of the snakes was done two weeks ago and seems to be working well. Both a granular and a liquid form were used at different locations around the church and cemetery.

-- Mary Huebert will be gone August 2nd and Desiree Strassburg will play the organ.

-- Brian Vacek has completed and put in place the bible holders and did a fantastic job! A check will be made out to him for \$400.00.

New Business:

~~ Bylaws were reviewed and no changes that needed to be done.

~~ The memorial book and plaque are being worked on for updates.

~~ Jerome made a motion to grant Pastor Bob August 10th & 17th as vacation days. Pam seconded and council approved.

~~ Discussion was made on the Confirmation Curriculum. Pastor Bob handed out a sample copy of an outline of the lessons. Jerome made a motion for the council to pay for a new curriculum for confirmation at a cost of \$130.00 for the teacher's kit plus \$10 per student for individual journals. This curriculum is a two year program. Jerry seconded and council approved.

~~ The Sunday school curriculum came in at a cost of \$840. The Sunday school will pay \$375 with the council paying the rest.

~~ A concern was brought to the council regarding the front steps. The council took under advisement. Randy is having the company put more grit on the surface to help with it not being slippery in the winter and the council will also look at a rolling mat that can be put inside to eliminate salt from tracking in.

There were no suggestions in the box.

The next meeting will be Monday, August 3rd as there are conflicts with the second Wednesday.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Martin/Secretary

Sunday School Happenings



**Last Sunday of
Sunday School
May 17th**

Sunday School

It's that time of the year again to gear up for Sunday school which will start on September 13th at 9:15am. It will be an exciting time as we start up with a new curriculum . We are also still in need of a part-time Sunday school teacher , if this is something you are willing to help with please contact Brenda Garoutte.

On September 20th, the St Johns children will be singing in church, the congregation will also get to see highlights from this summers Vacation Bible School. You will not want to miss any of the excitement so mark it on your calendar.

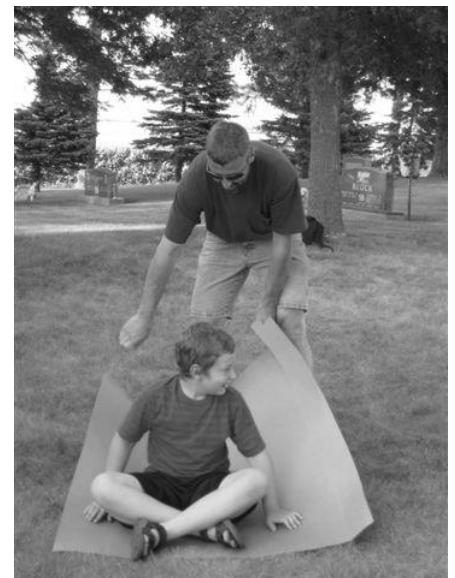
VBS

A Big Thank You to all who helped get ready for Bible School. To all who helped during Bible School. For all the good snacks! And a BIG THANK YOU to John Wuethrich for the supplies and his talent in making the scenery. It made it GREAT to come each evening.

VBS - The Decorating Party



VBS 2009 - Crocodile Dock



More VBS 2009



Youth Page

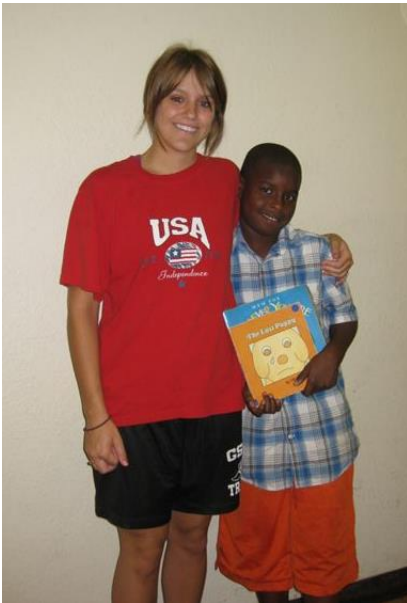
What we've been doing:

- The Garage and Bake Sale was held on May 1st and 2nd and was again a big success. Thanks to all whom donated items and baked treats, helped with set up clean up, storage, etc! And once again thanks to Warren and Bonnie for opening their house and garage to us.
- Desiree and Danielle recently returned from a mission trip. They will share pictures in church in the near future. Read more about their trip later in this page.
- July 9th we attended a Twins (4) vs Yankees (6) game.

Looking Ahead:

- August 5th the youth will meet at church at 1:00 to decorate new activity bags. We may do a variety of other activities as time allows. Then we will conclude the day by going to Cactus Jacks to package meals for Kids Against Hunger.
- Other activities will be scheduled soon. Please watch your Sunday bulletins for more details or call Julie Karl or Roxanne Sladek if you would like more information about the youth group or activities.

A message from Desiree and Danielle about their Mission Trip:



This was mine and Danielle's first mission trip. We were both a little nervous not knowing what to expect, and the thought of spending time with people we did not know was kind of nerve racking. We went to Kansas City Missouri, and stayed at a church for the whole week. The staff was very welcoming and nice. There were also other groups from different states and towns that were with us. The first night we got split into different "krews," mixing all of us with different people. And not long

into the week we had many new friends. All the "krews" had different tasks to do during the week. Danielle's krew helped paint an elderly residents shed and part of her house which took two days. Then the other days they went to Operation Breakthrough which is for children to go to while there parent(s) work. There were around 200 kids that went there everyday. My "krew" got to do three things during the week. We got to go to The Upper Room. This is where children go during to summer to help them learn to read better for the school year. We got to assist them and help them read. Next we went to the Clare Manor Nursing Home. This nursing home was not only for the elderly, but also for the older people who have/had drug addictions, or other problems. We visited with the residents and played games with them. We heard many stories, and got lots of advice from them because of what they had gone through in life. The last place my group went to was the New House. This was a home for women and children who were seeking shelter from an abusive relationship. Because of poor funding and not much money, the facility cannot hire the help that is needed. So we cleaned some offices and staircases for them.

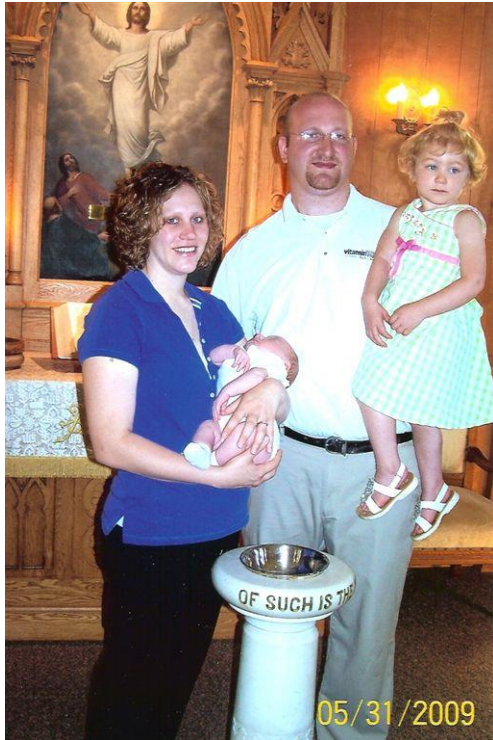
During the week we had a theme. It was FREE. We talked about what we had in life and how we should be thankful because there are many that are less fortunate then us. Also we talked a lot about how God gave his life for US. We should be thankful for everything in life, and give back to the Lord, which can be done in many ways. Such as helping others. We took time to think about things that were getting in the way of our relationship with God, and how we can change that. Maybe you could ask yourself the same question. What's getting in the way to put your faith in God, and praise him?

This was a wonderful week. Danielle and I were very happy that we got to go, and felt like we got a lot out of it. It has brought us closer to God, and realize many things. We are both thankful for this experience and hope that we could go to another mission trip sometime again. It has opened our eyes. We made many memories and many friends during this trip, it was truly wonderful.

With love,

Desiree and Danielle Strassburg.

Church Happenings...



Baptism for Mason Glenn Martin



New Members:

Nick Rose, Jon & Bridget Block, Leona Mueller
Pastor Bob and Ethan Block looking on



Heavenly Music!



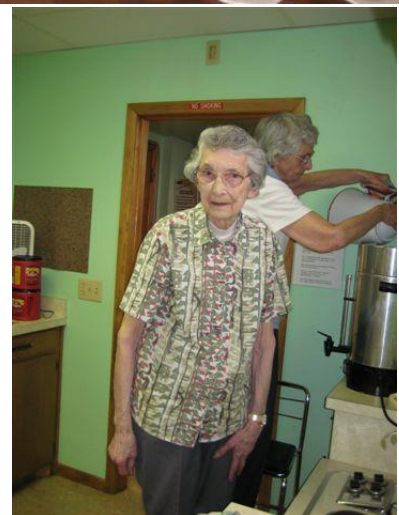
Mary Taylor, Leah, Jon Block & Ethan

Ice Cream Social

June 11, 2009



Oooooooh, those pies!!!



And the fresh perked coffee! Yum!



The lines looked long, but the new layout moved the customers through pretty quickly.



Enjoying the Rootbeer, Chandler? ☺

Outdoor Service, June 14th



Children's Sermon



"Relaxing" Outdoor Service



A beautiful day to worship the Lord!

Mark your calendar!

Council Meeting for August will be held on Monday, August 3rd at 7:00 p.m.

The youth group will meet at church at 1:00 on Wed August 5th. We will decorate activity bags for the children and other activities during the afternoon. We will finish the day by going to Cactus Jacks to package food for Kids Against Hunger.

“Heatwole” church service is Sunday, August 9th at 9:30 a.m.

We'll be going back to Fall Worship time on Sunday, Sept. 13th with Sunday School at 9:15 a.m. Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Council meeting is the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.
Women's Guild is the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m.

Announcements

ATHC is in partnership with the Recycling Association of Minnesota to recycle Holiday lights. Working and non working lights are accepted. Recycling your old lights provides employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities at ATHC. The light bulbs will be removed from the wire strands and then the wire will be sold to a local recycler. Thank you for helping ATHC promote this new recycling effort. There is a box in the entrance that you can put the lights in. Any questions talk to Elaine Carrigan.

Good Clean Fun

Are you interested in having some good, clean fun? There is a group of ladies who get together periodically to make laundry soap. We also make bars of hand soap from time to time. The soap is wonderful and the fun and fellowship are the best! We would love to have others join us. If you are interested, contact Mary Huebert.

Raffle Winners!!!!

Embroidered towels-Jillian Schuch, Stool-Steve Block, Stool-Rita Roepke, Bench-Bernice Huebert, Small chair - Carol Block, Step Stool-Beverly Zumach, Childs bench-Shirley Soeffher, Cord holder - Sharon Mielke, Saw Horses - Chase Blackbird, Smaller Wishing Well-Theresa Adrian, Larger Wishing Well-Cindy Lindeman, Large Wooden Bench-Bob Jasmer, & Afghan - Sue Rose.

A sincere "THANK YOU" to Dick Swift, Gene Konerza, Duane Wigern, Leona Mueller, and Sharon Mielke for making the beautiful items that made our raffle such a success. We did beat last year's amount of \$499. This year's sales were \$603.00. "THANK YOU" ticket sellers for an outstanding job.

Update on what was made at the Ice Cream Social. As of this date profit total is \$2,348.04!

CHURCH LEADERS FOR 2009

PASTOR

Rev. Bob Taylor 763-420-6800

COUNCIL

President: Randy Rose..... 864-6862
 V. President: Brian Vacek 331-0129
 Secretary: Pam Martin..... 864-6302
 Treasurer: Jerome Karl 587-7702
 Financial Secretary: Jerry Block..... 587-5737
 Bldg.Fund Cord: Laura Streeter 587-8733

WOMEN'S GUILD- 2009

President: Charlie Block..... 587-5737
 Vice President: LeaEtte Peters 864-3282
 Secretary: Marge Block..... 587-2362
 Treasurer: Mary Garoutte 587-8722
 Sunshine Chairman: Elaine Carrigan ... 864-3330

CEMETERY BOARD

Douglas Block 328-5356
 Jerry Block 587-5737
 Dave Sanken 328-4164

BENEVOLENCE COMMITTEE

Julie Karl 587-7702
 David Sanken 328-4164
 Elaine Carrigan 864-3330

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS & SUBSTITUTES 2008-2009

Preschool-1st

Mary Taylor 763-420-6800
 Laura Streeter 320-587-8733

2nd

Jodi Sanken 320-328-4164
 Andrea Wigern 320-234-6454

3rd-5th

Brenda Garoutte 320-864-4646

6th-8th

Kathy Trimbo 320-328-4241
 Mandy Mielke 320-328-5339

Substitute List

Roxanne Sladek 320-864-4993
 Celine Swift 320-864-6188

YOUTH GROUP LEADERS

Roxanne Sladek 864-4993
 Julie Karl..... 587-7702

CHURCH SECRETARIES

Records Upkeep: Celine Swift..... 864-6188
 Clerical: Karen Konerza 864-4554

CCCC

Area Rep.: Ron Stewart 320-356-9001
 Conf. Minister: Stephen Gammon... 651-739-147

Job Sign-ups for 2009

CUSTODIANS

January.....Sladeks
 February.....Streeters
 March.....Dale & LeaEtte Peters
 April.....Rose & Benjamin
 May.....Swifts
 June.....Elaine & Mavis
 July.....Kaufmann
 August.....Sanken
 September.....Streeter
 October.....Blocks
 November.....Cory & Brenda Garoutte
 December.....
 JANUARY 2009.....Sladeks

USHERS

January.....Sladeks
 February.....Roger & Kathy Trimbo
 March.....Blackbirds
 April.....
 May.....Swifts
 June.....Konerza
 July.....Dale & LeaEtte Peters
 August.....
 September.....Karls & Kaufmanns
 October.....Jerry Block & Curt Paulsen
 November.....Cory & Brenda Garoutte
 December.....Sanken
 JANUARY 2009.....Sladeks

ALTAR GUILD

January.....Sladeks
 February.....Roger & Kathy Trimbo
 March.....
 April.....Rose & Benjamin
 May.....Swifts
 June.....Elaine & Mavis
 July.....Kaufmann
 August.....
 September.....Dale & LeaEtte Peters
 October.....Blocks
 November.....Cory & Brenda Garoutte
 December.....
 JANUARY 2009.....Sladeks

August 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
USHERS: CUSTOD; SANKEN ALTAR:						1
2 Communion Brenda G.	3	4 Chase B.	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Annie S.	12	13	14	15
16	17 Troy U.	18	19	20Taylor M.	21	22Elaine C.
23	24	25Evan K.	26	27	28Mavis M.	29
30 Andrea W.	31					

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
USHERS: Karl-Kaufmann CUSTOD; STREETER Altar:Dale & LeaEtte Peters		1 Noah E. Gene K.	2	3	4	5 Darrin U.
6 Worship 9:30 a.m. Communion Loretta J.	7 Kyle F.	8	9	10	11	12 Debbie S.
13 Sunday School Begins, 9:15 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Carly E.	14	15	16	17	18	19 Jerome K.
20	21 Grant K.	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29 Adam G.	30			

October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ushers;J Block- C. Paulsen Cust; Blocks Altar;Blocks				1	2	3 Hailey M. Pam M.
4 Communion Grace G. Hannah S.	5	6	7 Glen R.	8 Sandy S. Dylan W.	9	10
11	12	13 Brian V.	14	15 Alice K.	16	17 Curtis P.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Casey B.
25	26 James G.	27 Braden W.	28	29	30 Kaitlyn U. Duane W.	31

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Information for the next newsletter will be due October 24th .You can bring your input to me at the church, or mail it to me (821 Baxter Ave, Glencoe) or email me at stjmail@hutchtel.net.

Karen Konerza