

*Spread the Good*  
**NEWS**



**September 2009**

**Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd**

1325 North 45th Avenue East, Duluth MN 55804-1507

(218) 525-1922 ♦ FAX (218) 525-1318

Email: [office@lcsduluth.org](mailto:office@lcsduluth.org)

Website: [www.lcsduluth.com](http://www.lcsduluth.com)

# LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD MISSION STATEMENT

*A Community of Christ  
Experiencing God † Reaching Out † Nurturing Faith*

## Where Do I Find...

Romans—A Book of Faith.....	2
From the Pen of Paula Ziems .....	3-4
Blessing of the Backpacks.....	5
Book of Faith Jubilee.....	6
News & Events.....	7-8
Youth & Family Ministry.....	9-12
Women’s Corner.....	13
Choir.....	14
Thanks & Accolades.....	15
Parish Nurse Health Ministry .....	16
Prayers.....	17
Attendance & Financials.....	18



*Just as a reminder, starting on Rally Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, we will resume our “regular” worship schedule.*

8:45 AM	Worship Service
10:00 AM	Sunday School
11:00 AM	Worship Service

## Weekly Bulletin Deadline:

Every Wednesday at noon.

## Newsletter Deadlines:

### October/November Newsletter Deadline:

Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>

## Change of Address Reminder...

† If you have moved or are planning to move, please call the church office or send us your change of address. It takes only a minute and saves us both time and money. Thank you!

## Churchwide Assembly

The 2009 Churchwide Assembly was held at the Minneapolis Convention Center the week of August 17-23. Find minutes and highlights from the assembly by visiting [www.elca.org/assembly](http://www.elca.org/assembly).



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## ROMANS STUDY

### Romans

#### A Book of Faith

The Book of Romans, a New Testament letter by the Apostle Paul is central to Christian faith and our Lutheran theology.

We will be holding weekly classes to learn a few insights about the historical setting, the literary style of writing, the devotional value of the message and our Lutheran theology.

These classes are meant to reveal often overlooked aspects of Paul's letter to the emerging church in the most powerful empire the world has ever known. Are there parallel messages for us today? We'll examine that and other fascinating

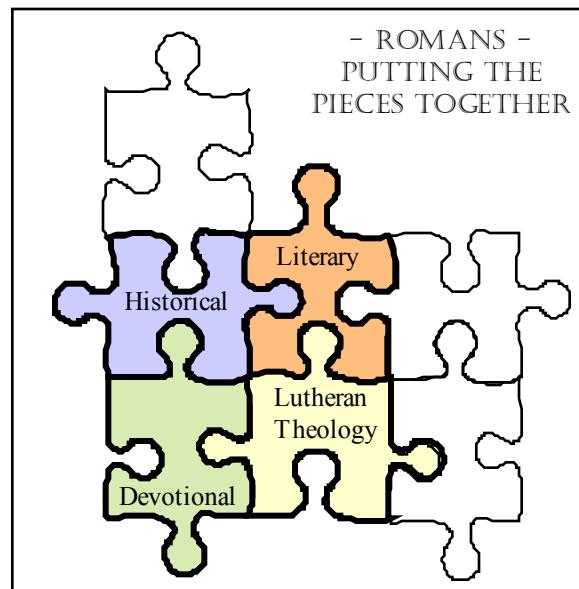
topics as we put the puzzle together. Your views and life experiences will be valuable in doing that.

Please join us as we bring Pastor Dave from his travels in Rome to our midst as he teaches us about Paul and his mission to serve our Risen Lord.

#### Classes will be:

Thursday evenings,  
Oct 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Nov. 5  
7:00 - 8:15 p.m.  
Upper Lakeside Room.

For more information, call 525-1922.



## FROM THE PEN OF PAULA ZIEMS

---



It's hard to believe that by the time you get this, I will have been at Good Shepherd for a whole month. And I need to add, it's been a *WONDERFUL* month! From the first time I met with the call committee, I felt a real connection, and believed that this was all part of God's plan: to bring us together.

As I mentioned in my first children's sermon, we are on a journey together, and I have a feeling it's going to be a fabulous one! The central role of my position as Director of Youth & Family Ministry is to equip and mobilize children, youth, parents, families, and congregation members to pass on their faith to one another and to future generations. How will I do this? I'm glad you asked. You've heard me talk about puppets, and on Rally Sunday you'll be introduced to Spaz, one of my favorite puppets. I'll be utilizing puppets in our Sunday School openers, and in other times during worship. Lord willing, I'll be launching a puppet ministry this fall/winter; so if that's something that might interest you, be sure to watch upcoming announcements. I'll be drawing from my education and training in youth ministry to make confirmation a fun program our youth will want to tell their friends about. Oh, and did I mention that I had the privilege of helping to write the *Here We Stand* confirmation curriculum we use here at Good Shepherd? Yep...I did. And I had fun! So in addition to puppets, music, and teaching, there will be servant projects, mission trips, and other fun youth and family outings. Oh, and you 6<sup>th</sup> graders??? You won't be forgotten. I have some fun things planned for you, too.

So *who* is this Paula Ziems and where did she come from? Well, I was born and raised in Iowa. I received my BA in English from Grand View College in Des Moines, IA (an ELCA college). After working a number of years at Grand View as an Admission's Counselor and Asst. Softball Coach, I felt God calling me into the ministry. I began seminary at LSTC in Chicago, and then transferred to Luther Seminary in St. Paul where I graduated in 2001 with a Master's of Divinity and a Concentration in Youth & Family Ministry. I served for 7 years as an ordained pastor, and left ordained ministry a year ago to work as an Asst. Manager at Dunham's in the Burning Tree Plaza, here in Duluth.

---

## **FROM THE PEN OF PAULA ZIEMS**

My husband, Patrick, is also an ordained pastor. We met in seminary and were married in August, 2001. He's serving at Zion Lutheran in Superior (that *good* state), so you won't get to see him very often. On December 24, 2003, we received the greatest Christmas present ever...we traveled down to Guatemala and brought home our son, Benjamin Joseph. Ben is truly the pride and joy of our lives. However, I have another pride and joy, only this one is four-legged. He's an English Springer Spaniel and his name is Baxter Henry Mendenhall Ziems; or just Baxter.

Besides puppets and music (both writing and playing), my other passions in life are camping, fishing, biking, roller coasters, oh...and shopping! My favorite food is pizza and I love Diet Coke. (not Diet Pepsi) I'm a huge sports fan. I love to watch high school football. I'm a Wisconsin Badger fan, as well as a Minnesota Twins and a Kansas City Chiefs fan.

My office door is always open (unless the air is on), so when you're at church, stop on in and say hi. I might even have a Diet Coke in the fridge for you.

# BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

## *Blessing of the Backpacks / Book Bags*

on Rally Sunday, September 13

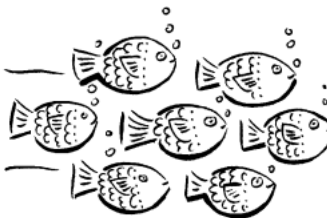
Dear school students,

Your church is thinking of you as you are getting ready to go to school this fall. We want to invite you to a special “Blessing of the Backpacks/Book Bags” during worship on Sunday, September 13.

On that day, please bring whatever you carry your books in — at some time in the worship we want to surround you with God’s blessings and give you something to remind you of how God will be with you throughout every moment you are at school.



**Back to School!**



---

# BOOK OF FAITH JUBILEE

## **The Book of Faith Initiative is a Movement, Not a Program**

by Joyce Lund

WOW!... and again I say... WOW! Experiencing the Jubilee is hard to put into words as you are awash with the Spirit working in and through the four keynote speakers, 27 workshop leaders, all parts of morning and evening worship, and the Spirit within us as participants. Our very singable music was led by two of the six members of the Dakota Road group and written by them, accompanied by guitar and piano. Choosing only four workshops out of the 23 offered was not an easy task.

In his brief greeting to us, ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson reminded us that, “The Word is important. God speaks to us there.” Those who listen will be enriched, challenged, and changed. We are drawn into a relationship with the Living God.

A question we can well ask ourselves when we read the Word is, “What is God up to in this passage for us/me now?” “We all still live somewhere between Acts and Revelation.”

We need new models. This “Book of Faith Movement” we’re involved in is a culture-shift, not simply developing new habits. 17-23% of Lutherans are involved in Adult Christian Education and 6-9% in the study of the Word. Those who nurture their spirits at home get a whole lot more out of sermons and Sunday School lessons. The Bible seems to no longer function as the norm, as being central in our lives.

So ... what’s the manna (food) in your life? How is God a light in your life? What is God saying to you personally?

The stuff in the Bible is about US! “When you betray a friend, you hear the cock crow.” When you read about Samuel, called by God, you’re reading about yourself. As we learn about the characters in the Bible, we find out who we are. The story (Bible) isn’t dead.

A prayer as we journey together — invite others to join along:

*“Open my heart to your love, oh God.*

*Open my eyes to your grace.*

*Open my life to receive your Word.*

*Send wisdom and courage to follow your way.”*

From the Book of Faith Jubilee at Luther Seminary, August 14-16, 2009

## NEWS & EVENTS

### Thursday Morning Bible Study

The Thursday Morning Bible Study invites anyone interested to join us in the library on Thursday mornings at 9:30 AM beginning September 10<sup>th</sup>. Come when you can, or call Debbie Sanders at 724-9065 for information.

### Save this Date!

Watch the bulletins for details on an Intergenerational Event on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. The event will start at 10:00 AM and will include a puppet show and lunch. Sponsored by WELCA. Everyone is invited!

### September Lectionary

The Summer Sabbath lectionary that you received in late May, goes through September 12<sup>th</sup>. Lectionary readings for the remainder of September will be included in upcoming bulletins.

### Save on your Auto Insurance!

*Because there have been many requests, this class will be offered on a Saturday!* An AARP Driver Safety Program refresher course will be offered at Good Shepherd on Saturday, September 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. This one-day class is only for those who have previously completed a full course. There is a \$12 charge for AARP members (\$14 for non-members) — make checks payable to AARP. By completing an AARP Driver Safety Program, you will be eligible for a 10% discount on your auto insurance in Minnesota! Call Jerry Asperheim (525-1922) to make reservations.

### La Bohème — A Night at the Opera

We had a wonderful night of wonderful music and great food/fellowship with our Good Shepherd members and friends. The musical Rent is a modern day version of La Bohème and will be at the Duluth Playhouse April, 2010. Let's set our sights on April and plan to attend.



### Thank you for saving Labels for Education!

Please save the entire label (including the UPC code), not just the front panel from the following products: Campbells, Franco American, Pepperidge Farm, Swanson, Market Day, Prego, and V8. Leave the labels in the Parish Outreach and Missions/Marcia Semerau mail slot in the church office. Questions, call Marcia at 722-1042. Please remember that the UPC code is needed in order to use your labels!

### Back to School with Backpacks

Many thanks to everyone who supported this 11<sup>th</sup> annual event. We were able to give CHUM nine backpacks plus other school items. Along with the backpacks, supplies included: compasses, crayons, erasers, folders, glue and glue sticks, highlighters, loose-leaf paper, markers, pencils (regular and colored), pens, rulers, scissors, sharpeners, spiral notebooks, staplers, three-ring notebooks and more. We also donated \$63. This is an exciting time for our area children. These things will help them start the school year off right. Thanks for all you do! — Marcia Semerau, Parish Outreach and Missions

---

## NEWS & EVENTS

### **Baptismal Font — Where is the process? What is happening next?**

Hours of discussion, planning and review of congregational input have led us to our next steps. Plans are underway for the removal of our current font and the dedication of a new moveable font for our worship space. We have remained true to our wish to preserve parts of the original font and incorporate them into our new font.

This process will be completed this fall. Watch the bulletins and newsletters for specifics on how we will dedicate our new font. The celebration of Baptism and affirmation of this sacrament remains central to our theology and practice.

In the gathering area, we will post specific plans and a look at the font itself — at least in planning form. Members of the task force are available to answer your questions. We look forward to this change and recognize the need to spread this good word to all members.

Feel free to find/call one of us if your questions aren't answered by the information provided.

Linda Susens, on behalf of The Baptismal Task Force  
(Other members are Amber Westerbur, Jennifer Peterson and Pastor Dave)

### **Sound and Light Booth**

Our Technology Team is continuing to coordinate our systems of light, sound, and projection of liturgy and music. The need remains for persons to run the sound booth on Sundays. The lights are adjusted weekly as our natural light and use of projections vary each week. The microphones are also adjusted to the voice of the reader, liturgist or musical offering. Youth will receive a service point for volunteering with this ministry. Training is available and openings are ongoing. Interested? Leave your name in the office or call Linda Susens at 525-1922.

### **Grounds & Garden Committee Meeting**

The Grounds & Garden Committee will meet on Monday, September 14 at 6:30 PM. Bring your ideas for fall foundation planting and future spring planting. Call Nan Asperheim at 525-1922 if you have any questions. Everyone is welcome!

### **Save your pennies!**

Then bring them in and place them in the bright pink and polka-dotted container on the Welcome Center. This year the pennies collected in the Lake Superior Conference churches will be given to Home Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels). Thank you for your support!



# WOMEN'S CORNER



<b>All Women</b>	
<i>What:</i>	<b>Fall Gathering</b> — Thursday, October 8 8:30 AM at French River Lutheran Church
<b>Rebekah/Miriam Circle</b>	
<i>When:</i>	<b>Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup></b> 9:15 AM Coffee 9:45-10:15 Bible Study 10:15 AM Business Meeting Call Arlene Olson or Judy Franz for more information.
<i>Where:</i>	Upper Lakeside Room at Good Shepherd.
<b>Deborah/Priscilla Friendship Circle</b>	
<i>When:</i>	<b>Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup></b> at 1:00 PM
<i>Where:</i>	Upper Lakeside Room at Good Shepherd Hosted by Karen Somrock
<b>Ruth Circle</b>	
<i>When &amp; Where:</i> TBA	

## Fall Gathering

The Fall Gathering for women is on Thursday, October 8 at French River Lutheran Church, off Ryan Road. It begins at 8:30 AM. The theme for the day is “God’s Work, Our Hands.” Dr. Annie B. Henry from Bemidji will be the guest speaker; and Paula Ziems, Director of Youth & Family Ministry at Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, will present a puppet show.

The penny focus from now until the Spring Planning Meeting of 2011 is for Home Delivered Meals (Meals on Wheels). From now on the penny focus will be determined at spring planning meetings instead of fall.

The offering for the Fall Gathering will go half to Home Delivered Meals and half to Churchwide. If necessary, our treasurer will add to the offering so that \$500 will be given to Home Delivered Meals.

Keep working on those silent auction items which will help send women to the Triennial in 2011 (July 14-17) in Spokane!

The Lake Superior Conference is responsible for the backdrop quilt at the June convention/retreat. Squares from all churches are to be finished by December 15. The squares should be handed out at the Fall Gatherings.

### **Worship that is Embedded**

Sheldon Withrow, Adult & Children's Choir Director

As many of you realize by now, I love the psalms. There are many reasons for this but one of the primary reasons is that it reveals how embedded the worship of Israel was. It was deeply rooted in their lives and very identity. Hence, I ask myself, how do I help myself and others experience music and truth to the point of it becoming a natural part of our experience at Good Shepherd? When we live out truth through worship, our lives and the lives of others around us will change. It is the most powerful tool we have to express God's truth. With that in mind I exhort you to participate in the adult choir and sign your children up for choir as well. The choir as a worship community is more than just an ensemble — it is a fabulous tool in God's hand to express truth and build community through the great literature of the church. Not only is it rewarding but it's FUN for adults and children. The psalm that has come to my mind recently is Psalm 150, that great celebratory psalm that ends the psalter. Two things jump out to me in this psalm: first, God and God alone is the audience; and secondly, we have many instruments to choose from to express our praise, not the least of which is our singing voices. How simple! God is our object and we can express our praise in virtually unlimited ways. So, get involved in choir and join this journey with us.



## THANKS & ACCOLADES

---

*To my dear Good Shepherd family,* Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for your well wishes, cards, the lovely altar flowers, and above all, for your prayers for successful rotator cuff surgery and recovery. An excellent surgeon has repaired a completely-torn-off-the-bone tendon, and my recovery and physical therapy are on schedule. My recent diagnosis of shingles has increased my need to have a sense of humor in this whole ordeal! I miss my work and contact with the congregation and staff; and I look forward to returning to work as soon as possible. May God bless you as you always have blessed me. With my appreciation and love, — Kathy Skoog

*Thank you* to Chet & Kathe Peterson for donating the materials for the food shelf cross; and to Sulo Kangas for his expert craftsmanship.

*Thank you* to members who have provided funds for the water cooler in the office; and to those who have purchased paper for the office. Your generosity is very much appreciated!

*Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ* at Church of the Good Shepherd, I was so pleased to be able to share the work of the Lutheran Church in Honduras with you and was thrilled by all your good questions and comments while I was there. Thank you for spoiling me rotten during my visit. Although more used to giving than receiving, the switch was delightful! Blessings, — Janet Alcántara

*Your recent donation* to the Duluth Emergency Food Shelf is greatly appreciated. Thanks to your generous support, 1,245 households were provided with 51,428 pounds of food from April through June, 2009. On behalf of the CHUM staff and the people we serve — Thank You.

*Dear Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd,* On behalf of the people we serve at CHUM, I would like to thank you for your generous donation of toiletries and school supplies. Know that they will be put to good use. Your kindness and love are a blessing to all of us. Community support is vital for our program and is appreciated by the people we serve. Hopefully our continued efforts will ensure that the needs of our neighbors are met. Thank you — Terri Bunnell, Office Manager



### **Congratulations to:**

*Kip & Rebecca (Fink) Reinarz,* who were united in marriage on August 1, 2009.

## PARISH NURSE HEALTH MINISTRY

“Wholeness” was defined in my Parish Nursing training as the “full realization of the individual in open, dynamic relationship with God, others and all that is.” “Health” as defined by the Christian Medical Commission is “a dynamic state of well-being of the individual and the society; of physical, mental, spiritual, economic, political, and social well-being; of being in harmony with each other, with the natural environment and with God.”

Another look at Health Ministry is finding ways to maintain a balance of “Mind, Body and Spirit” within our community of Good Shepherd. All of these items are far reaching — the concept of “all that is....dynamic relationship with God....others....being in harmony.” But these guidelines govern our work with Health Ministry.

Our Health Ministry Team was formed as the support and help for Parish Nursing. A team of individuals have met and set plans and continued the work of seeking health and that harmony mentioned within health. The faces of the Ministry team continue to change...we started with a staff member as Parish Nurse — now we are served by volunteer Parish Nurses. Training for these individuals included the partnership with their support team.

Health Ministry Team is one area which may be of interest to you. Individuals do not need to be a “Medical” person by trade. We seek those interested in health and wholeness. Our key work is done by education and connection. We need volunteers to help our mission. Today, I am reaching out for those who wish to be involved in any of our many areas of service.

We are part of the mission branch of the Reaching Out Leadership Team. Our team meets quarterly each year. Additional planning is done in select areas. Some work can be done independently and on your own time. Connect with Barb Poulter, Sue Boman or myself if this sounds like a possible use of your time and interests. Blessings and Harmony to you all,

Linda Susens, Volunteer Parish Nurse



# PRAYERS



**Please keep these people in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved ones:**

*Helen Ogren* and family. Helen's husband, Vern, died July 1, 2009.

The family of *Barbara (Nelson) Littler*, who died August 16, 2009.

*George Oberg* and family. George's wife, Josephine, died August 18, 2009.

We continue to pray for members of our church family as a staff and on Sunday mornings. It is our hope that you, too, will remember these people in your prayers. We encourage you to use your directory to familiarize yourself with the people we will remember in prayer this month. Let us pray for one another.

If you would like us to pray for a specific concern, please call the office at 525-1922 and your request will be shared with others who care about your need and believe God will hear and answer. If you have a prayer request emergency and you are unable to contact the church office, you are invited to call Karin Lemenager at 721-4332.

*The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? — Psalm 27:1*

<b>Sept 6</b>	Karen & John Keenan Sherri & John Carlson, Scott and Laura Carol & William Hall Jody & Scott Larson, Amanda and Dustin
<b>Sept 13</b>	Melissa & Pat Kelley, Kendra and Katelyn Marion Carlson Kimber & Travis Hamernick, Austin, Mitchell and Brooke Linder Jill Laughlin, Kenneth and Matthew Mellin
<b>Sept 20</b>	Sheryl & Troy Kelts Shirley Carlson Lisa & Jon Hammond, Erik and Samantha Amanda LeCuyer
<b>Sept 27</b>	Heather & Will Kerola, Anna, Paige and Sara Rose Cheryl & Todd Carlson, Alex and Nicole Karoline Hand Jennifer & Robert LeDoux, Richard and Anthony

# ATTENDANCE & FINANCIALS



## Month Ending: July 2009

### Budgeted Receipts:

Current Month.....\$31,941.44  
 Year to Date.....267,608.17  
 % of Yearly Budget .....53.6%

### Budgeted Disbursements:

Current Month.....\$35,478.35  
 Year to Date.....282,090.21  
 % of Yearly Budget .....56.5%

### Pledges for 30 weeks:

Budgeted .....\$219,231.00  
 Actual Received.....206,372.93  
 Over/(Short)..... (\$12,858.07)

**Mortgage Balance:**.....\$514,449.78

# ATTENDANCE

## Attendance for August 2009

	<u>9:30</u>
Aug 2 .....	132
Aug 9 .....	135
Aug 16 .....	178
Aug 23 .....	150