

# September Calendar of Events

September 3rd	<i>Acolyte Class at 6:00 pm fifth grade and refresher</i>
September 3rd	<i>Third Grade Bible Class—how to use the Bible — parents and children, at 6:00 pm</i>
September 3rd	<i>God's Young Voices begins practicing at 6:30 pm</i>
September 7th	<i>Rally Day—the beginning of Sunday school all students meet in church</i>
September 7th	<i>Installation of Sunday school staff</i>
September 7th	<i>Southwest Interfaith Plant Sale-Grandparents Day</i>
September 10th	<i>Senior Choir practice begins at 7:30 pm</i>
September 10th	<i>Sit and Be Fit Class begins at 1:00 pm</i>
September 14th	<i>Confirmation Classes (7th &amp; 8th grade) begin at 11:30 am</i>

- Please bring non-perishable food for Hope House on Sundays
- Please bring your aluminum cans and Campbell labels on the second Sunday, September 14th, ONLY.
- Dorcas Circle meets Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
- Sunday School at 10:00 am—meets in church Sunday, September 7th.
- CONFIRMATION for 7th and 8th grade begins Sunday, September 14th at 11:30 am.
- God's Young Voices—meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm.
- Senior Choir meets September 10th, Wednesday at 7:30 pm.
- Health and Wellness meeting, Thursday, September 4, 7:00 pm
- Worship & Music meets Tuesday, September 9, at 7:00 pm
- Ladies Aid meets Wednesday, September 10, at 11:30 am.
- OWLS meet on Thursday, September 11, at 8:30 am at Forum Restaurant
- Property committee meeting Tuesday, September 9, at 6:30 pm.
- Christian Education meeting Tuesday, September 9 at 7:00 pm
- Women's Bible Study meets Thursday, September 18, 7:00 pm.
- Friends meet Tuesday, September 30, at 9:30 am.
- Parish Nurse, Barb Estrada is here on Wednesday mornings but not September 17th she will be here on the Friday, September 19th of that week
- PICK N SAVE WPLC WE CARE NUMBER IS # 934480





## WHAT IS MRSA

I recently had a conversation with a friend of mine who travels extensively for his work. He had just gotten over a very serious infection that started in his foot and had spread to the soft tissue of his leg and blood stream. He was in the hospital and had IV antibiotics at home for some time afterward. He had a MRSA staph infection. I would like to share with you some information about this infection and how to prevent it's spread.

MRSA is an acronym meaning Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus and is commonly referred to as Staph. It is a bacterium found in the nose or on the skin of about 20-30% of the US population. Most people carry "staph" on their skin without any signs or symptoms of infection. However, if the "staph" bacterium enters cuts or abrasions it may cause mild to severe skin and soft tissue infections, and more seriously blood stream infection, pneumonia, and toxic shock syndrome.

MRSA is a form of staph that is very resistant to antibiotics. That means that there are few antibiotics that work to clear the infection. MRSA has been around since the 1960's but mainly confined to hospital or long term care setting and most often in persons who have been on antibiotics long term, have had surgery, or have had an indwelling devices such as a ventilator, urinary catheter, or IV. This form of MRSA is called health care-associated (HA) MRSA. About 15%

of the US population carries HA MRSA.

In the 1990's, MRSA infections began appearing in people other than those listed above, people out in the community living their daily lives. This is called CA MRSA, or community-associated MRSA.

What does it look like?

CA MRSA skin infections usually appear as pimples, boils, or abscesses that can be mistaken for "spider bites". If antibiotics are needed there are a few specific ones that are very effective. The problem with CA MRSA is that it can spread to other people quite easily by direct person to person contact through cuts in the skin and also by contaminated objects, surfaces, and equipment. (My friend thinks he got his infection from the bathroom of one of the hotels he stayed in during his trip.)

### PREVENTING THE SPREAD OF CA MRSA

- Keep skin clean-wash hands often with soap and water or use alcohol-based sanitizing gel if your hands are not visibly soiled. Shower or bathe routinely especially after athletic activities.
- Keep skin healthy, wear protective clothing and gear during contact sports, wear gloves while gardening, use lotion to keep skin moist and sunscreen to prevent blisters due to sunburn.
- Do not share towels, razors, bars of soap, water bottles, or other personal items.

- Cover cuts, scrapes, and tears in the skin with a protective bandage or dressing to contain any drainage.
- Clean and disinfect surfaces of exercise and sports equipment before and after use. Products recommended include Lysol or a bleach solution (1 cup bleach and 9 cups water). Kitchen and bathroom countertops, toilets and doorknobs, and any other areas commonly touched by a person's hands or skin, should be disinfected.

Persons at highest risk are participants in organized sport activities, users of health clubs and gyms, dormitory bathrooms or shared common areas, adults with compromised immune systems, and children age 2 or younger.

I've started taking disposable cleaning cloths along with me on trips for motel bathroom areas, doorknobs, and light switches, telephones, the TV knobs, and any other surfaces I might want to disinfect. I always have a small bottle of gel hand disinfectant in my purse for times when I (or those I'm with) cannot wash hands. Take your shower shoes to the gym or pool, and wash your personal towels in a dilute bleach and detergent solution, especially if they have touched the floor or bench areas. Don't hesitate to see your doctor if you think any skin area is showing signs of infection that is not quickly healing. CA MRSA needs to be diagnosed and the correct antibiotic prescribed.

## Condensed Council minutes from July 14, 2008

Council members bid farewell to our exiting member, **Jerry Pagel**. *Thanks Jerry for your past service. Your contributions over the past years are appreciated... and welcome to our new members!* Van, Betty and Reg – we're so pleased to have you join us and we look forward to working with you over the next two years.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

#### Education – Kyle Sorvick

VBS is on track; actual classes might take place at Immanuel UCC because of the problem in our basement. Status of Sunday School teachers for the fall is unknown. Christian Ed monthly meetings are needed, as well as monthly informational meetings with all Sunday School teachers.

#### Fellowship – Kris Laposki

Planning is in progress for annual church picnic on 10/5. Unsure if condition of basement will impact plans at this point.

#### Health & Wellness – Jill Underberg

- “Bless the Years Sunday” was observed on May 4<sup>th</sup> and was a big success;
- Hearing presentation took place at church on May 14<sup>th</sup>; approximately 15 people attended;
- Blood drive scheduled for Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup>; Sign-up still available;
- Senior Symposium took place at Luther Manor on May 17<sup>th</sup> to develop new and creative models of senior ministry for the congregation – some grant funds are available.
- Parish Nurse Barb Estrada is doing research in regard to purchasing a defibrillator to be kept at church and training volunteers as to its proper operation.

#### Worship & Music – Ruth Rice

- Usher booklets are in the process of being updated;
- Instructional meeting for all Altar Guild members being planned for August/September;
- Blessing of the Animals coming this fall on a date yet to be determined;
- Possible Polka Service being discussed for later this year;
- W&M meetings changed to the first Thursday of each month.
- Suggestions made by Council members for future

“blessing of the bikes” during Harley week, which usually takes place in Spring, per Ralph) and “blessing of the backpacks” on Rally Day for kids returning to school and “Farwell & God-speed” in mid-August for college students who are departing for the fall semester.

#### Green Committee – Kyle Sorvick

New council members were given an explanation of what this committee is all about. Basically, we are looking for environmentally friendly procedures which reduce our carbon footprint. Ideas include discontinuing the use of styrofoam plates during coffee hour and using ceramic dishes instead, and using Chinex, which breaks down easier than styrofoam, for large functions such as the church picnic. Also, plastic communion cups are not “green”. We changed our mission statement to include the care of God’s creation; now we must find ways to stand behind it.

#### Stewardship – Kris Laposki

This committee will reconvene with a representative of the James Company on 8/18 to review the next steps which need to be taken. Volunteers will be needed for making phone calls. Small groups/training will be provided.

#### Mutual Ministry – Kris Laposki

New council members were provided with a definition of “Mutual Ministry” as follows:  
Provide a place where church staff members can discuss their ideas/problems/complaints to someone they can trust other than the pastor.  
Executive Committee (council officers) make decisions on money issues.  
Personnel Committee works on job descriptions and performance issues.  
Currently, Jill Underberg and Randy Sannes are the “go to” people for staff. Executive Committee is responsible for conducting performance reviews.

#### Property – Pastor Michael

- Clean-up work in the basement is completed; testing for mold is being done. Per Wisconsin law, whenever construction work is done, there must be an inspection for asbestos. Not sure if this has been done yet.
- A \$70,000 check from Church Mutual has been cut to the church which excludes \$7,000 for countertops. Discussion still in progress about coverage for countertops. We will cut checks for progress payments to contractors. Separate line item suggested.

- Another treatment is needed to sanitize the elevator which was flooded in June. The wall behind the elevator was also damaged and equipment must be moved in order to repair the wall. Need to determine if this is still under warranty. Expenses would be over and above the \$70,000 received from Church Mutual.
- Insurance will cover replacement of drywall and kitchen cabinets. Floor can probably be salvaged, but carpeting in nursery needs to be replaced. Suggestion was made to buy a pressurized seal for the access pipe which keeps sewage out of our property. This idea will be considered. Property Committee will also need to find out if we have more than one access point.
- An abnormality was found in the roof; discussions with Beyer Construction are underway.

### **Insurance Coverage**

Church Mutual has previously agreed to bind coverage for \$500,000 of Employment Practices Liability coverage and \$1,000,000 of Directors, Officers and Trustees Liability as soon as the completed applications were returned to their office. Papers were faxed to them on 5/30. Ruth will check on the status of endorsements adding the new coverages, as well as checking on the limits of the flood insurance.

### **Arizona Property**

Some years ago, former church members gifted our congregation with partial ownership of a piece of property in Arizona which we share with six different parties. None of the parties can sell their portion of the property without consent from the other parties. The original intent was to establish a church, however that has never been done. We are unsure of any liability issues we might be responsible for, such as the presence of toxic substances. Suggestion was made to issue a Quit-Claim to the other parties who share ownership of the property. Subject added to “parking lot” for discussion at future meetings.

### **Pastor’s Report**

Pastor Fazio submitted a breakdown of all pastoral acts for 5/28/08 – 7/14/08. His statistical report indicates one funeral for George Vukich and two baptisms for Matthew Ridder and Braiden Lobel. Other pastoral acts include leading worship/preaching at 10 services; 12 hospital visits; 7 pastoral counseling appointments; 5 home visitations; 10 home/hospital communions; 4 pre-marriage counseling sessions as well as all regularly scheduled bible study and com-

mittee meetings and participation at the Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly. He will be attending a continuing education class in California on “Pastoral Care for the Dying and Grieving” from 8/4 through 8/8 and will be back on town on 8/13. Barb Estrada will lead worship on Sunday, 8/10.

### **Secretary’s Report –Ruth Rice**

- Minutes from 5/27/08 have been approved as printed.
- Jill’s minutes from the semi-annual meeting will need to be submitted to the church office for publication in the 2009 Annual Report.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Ralph Llanas**

Brent advises everything is “status quo” at this time.

### **Next steps for Constitutional Changes**

Someone needs to check the synod website to find out the proper procedure for changing the church constitution in regard to: 1) council’s authority to approve expenses up to \$10,000 without congregational vote and 2) changing dates of annual meeting to take place between 2/15 and 3/31 of each year and dates of semi-annual meeting to take place between 8/15 and 9/30 each year.

### **New Officers and Council Representative Assignments**

President – Kris Laposki  
 Vice President – Kyle Sorvick  
 Treasurer Liaison – Ralph Llanas  
 Secretary – Ruth Rice  
 Education – Kyle Sorvick  
 Endowment – Betty Hembrook  
 Fellowship – Kris Laposki  
 Health & Wellness – Jill Underberg  
 Worship & Music – Ruth Rice  
 Property – Van Johnson  
 Social Ministry – Gloria Brinkmeier (contact Marjorie Pagel)  
 Evangelism/Publicity – Gloria Brinkmeier  
 Stewardship – Kris Laposki  
 Audit Committee – Ralph Llanas  
 Mutual Ministry – Kris Laposki/Jill Underberg/Reg Simpson  
 Green Committee – Kyle Sorvick

Respectfully submitted,  
*Ruth Rice, Church Council Secretary*

***Birthdays***

1 Brian Martin  
 Jenna Ridder  
 3 Marge Ristow  
 4 Mary Llanas  
 5 Jackson Bussler  
 6 Todd Brinkmeier  
 Robert Dallmann  
 Lois Pogratz  
 7 Erin Hareng  
 Terry Sparacino  
 8 Jenna Laposki  
 9 Katrina Loebel  
 10 Nicole Winiarski  
 11 Hannah Breese  
 13 Leroy Pfeil  
 Stacy Tikkanen  
 14 Collin Ehleiter  
 Joshua Kienbaum  
 15 James Grafwallner  
 17 Madison Bainbridge  
 Jessica Stanton  
 18 William Peck  
 Nicole Sparacino  
 Rachelle Suchla  
 19 Jamie Bussler  
 20 June Jensen  
 Ronald Labott  
 21 Elvin Arthur  
 Matthew Elertson  
 22 Tom Abraham  
 Charlotte Christensen  
 Tim Robinson  
 23 Lisa Hayes  
 Steven Mason  
 Patricia Page  
 24 Cody Suchla  
 26 Lloyd Gellings  
 Kyle Sorvick  
 27 Thera Baginski  
 Angela Cotey  
 Dolores Cobb  
 Donald Hareng  
 Gregory Stanton  
 28 Deborah Krajewski  
 29 Charlotte MacPherson  
 Kathy Swenson  
 30 Michele Paneitz

***Anniversaries***

1 Lyle & Joan Lance  
 2 Donald & Mary Ann Barrows  
 Russell & Joyce Goetz  
 4 **Donald & June Jensen 62**  
 7 Gordon & Darlene Kelley  
 8 James & Bonnie Halper  
 9 Brian & Kristine Peyer  
 10 Donald & Kathy Ross  
 13 Richard & Vickie Katschke, Sr.  
 15 Robert & Karen Everts  
 Kurtis & Sharon Kaempfer  
 17 Thomas & Sandra Abraham  
 18 **Luther & Lorraine Graef 54**  
 21 Alan & Nancy Olson  
 22 Roy Stollenwerk &  
 Jennine Sonntag  
 27 Ward & Lynn Kopp  
 28 Roger & Mary Ann Steckhan



The 18 people who went on the camping trip, August 8-10th to Plymouth Rock Camping Resort had a SUPER TIME! Watch the Kiosk for the Pictures! A Great Big THANKS to Kim Graef, Julie and Ron Sorenson who helped with transportation and chaperoning on Friday thru Sunday, along with Kathy Graef who joined the group Saturday & Sunday. Thanks again to Dave Brown for cooking up the hamburgers for the group on Saturday night - delicious!

WPLC Youth Gathering Update .... Along with Kathy and Jodi Graef as Chaperones, we have 9 kids from our church that has signed up to attend the July 2009 Gathering in New Orleans! Watch the church weekly bulletin and your email for upcoming registration information and meetings!



## Social Ministry Update:

### Three on going Social Ministry Projects continue to need your faithful support.

- **Hope House** and its
- **South Side Food Pantry** are in great need of non-perishable food items. There are now more needy families needing food, while fewer contributions are made during the summer months. So please continue to bring these food items any Sunday and thus faithfully support this ministry!! All food is gratefully received by the staff at Hope House
- **The garden Produce Table** is again proving to be popular site on Sundays as a greater variety of seasonal produce is available. Your generous donations to the "*Hunger Container*" are all thankfully received. All money received will be used to support programs to feed the hungry!
- **Remember September is the time to take home one or more school bags** to be filled with the required items (**a list of the eight items will be included in each school bag.**) **These completed School Kits will be sent (along with quilts sewn by Dorcas members) to Lutheran World Relief in mid-October.** The quilts are used during natural disasters in the USA and elsewhere where needed through out the world. Last year we sent 253 School Kits to LWR. Please respond generously!

Thank you, Marilyn Schoenleber



### CROP Walk

Walkers are needed for the 2008 CROP Walk which will take place on Sunday, October 12th, at 1:30 p.m. at the McKinley Marina at Milwaukee's Lakefront. Walkers have a choice of either a two mile or a five and one half mile route. Walkers will collect pledges in late September and early October to support the programs of Church World Service

(a frequent partner with Lutheran World Relief) which help fight poverty and hunger in the United States and around the world. Up to 25% of the money raised at the Milwaukee CROP Walk stays locally to support the anti-poverty advocacy work done by the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee. Non-perishable food items will also be collected by the CROP Walkers for the Hunter Task Force. If you want to walk or otherwise participate in this community outreach program, please contact Charles Schoenleber or a member of the Social Ministry Committee.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans has this year again provided a generous matching grant of up to \$900, matching each dollar that Whitnall Park CROP Walkers raise with fifty cents. This allows all of the money donated to go just a little further to support programs designed to help fight poverty and hunger.

Walk A Mile In Her Shoes

Whitnall Park raised \$2,415 for the 2008 Walk A Mile In Her Shoes, which included an \$805 matching grant from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The money raised will support the programs designed to combat domestic violence of Jewish Family Services, Sojourner Truth House, and the Task Force on Family Violence. Thanks are due to the Social Ministry Committee and the Youth Group who helped raise the money and to everyone who so generously donated.

Be sure to look at the two photographs taken at the walk on Sunday, May 4th, posted on the kiosk in Hornburg Hall. —Charles Schoenleber



**From M.E., Kelly Brown  
Minister of Education**

**Third Grade *How to Use the Bible* Information Class**, is new this year as it has been our tradition, for the last 30 years, we will again be giving the entering third grade students the *Good News Bible*. However, new this year we will be having a class for the students (parents are invited) in **how to use the Bible**. The class will be on **Wednesday, September 3rd at 6:00 pm.**

**Sunday school begins on Rally Day,  
Sunday, September 7th, at 10:00 am.  
Students should meet in church.  
Children from 3 years old to entering  
8th grade are invited.**

Our VBS was held July 28th—31st at Emanuel, United Church of Christ. The theme was God's Big Backyard, where. . .the evening began with a dinner followed by a bible study for the adults and VBS activities for the children.

The daily themes were. . .

Day #1: Serve Family

Day #2: Serve Friends

Day #3: Serve Neighbors/Community

Day #4: Serve Jesus

I was fortunate enough to recently witness a great example of serving. While eating dinner at a restaurant, an older man walked in and sat down in a booth. From his appearance, he was homeless. After a short time had passed, a family who had just sat down to eat their dinner noticed the homeless man sitting in the booth behind them. They got up and purchased some food and gave it to the man. This man was obviously hungry and was very thankful to have a meal. A few minutes had passed and a young man in his 20's walked up to the homeless man and gave him something to drink. While my daughter was sad to see someone who was so needy, I was toughened by the kind of response to this man. This was a prime example of what we had been teaching at VBS. We are to Serve one another as Jesus asks us to.

After sharing this story with others, I was asked the question; *Did God place that man there to teach us a lesson?*



# September 2008

## Whitnall Park Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Southwest Interfaith plant sale honoring Grandparents Day- September 7</b></p>	<p><b>1</b> Closed for Labor Day</p>	<p><b>2</b> 9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting &amp; Crocheting class 7:00 PM Worship &amp; Music</p>	<p><b>3</b> 6:00 PM Acolyte Training Class 6:00 PM Third Grade Bible Intro Class 6:30 PM God's Young Voices</p>	<p><b>4</b> 7:00 PM Health &amp; Wellness</p>	<p><b>5</b> 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours Pastor's day off</p>	<p><b>6</b></p>
<p><b>7</b> 10:00 SS Teacher Installation 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Cailinn Lynch Baptism 10:00 AM Sunday school Sunday school meets in church Third Grade receives Bibles</p>	<p><b>8</b> 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p><b>9</b> 9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting &amp; Crocheting class 6:30 PM Property 7:00 PM Christian Ed</p>	<p><b>10</b> 11:30 AM Ladies Aid 1:00 PM Sit 'n Be Fit 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p><b>11</b> ☆ 8:30 AM OWLS meet at the Forum Restaurant</p>	<p><b>12</b> 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours Pastor's day off</p>	<p><b>13</b></p>
<p><b>14</b> 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday school Services with Healing 11:30 Confirmation</p>	<p><b>15</b></p>	<p><b>16</b> 9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting &amp; Crocheting class</p>	<p><b>17</b> 1:00 PM Sit 'n Be Fit 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p><b>18</b> 7:00 PM Women's Bible Study</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours 9:30 AM Parish Nurse Pastor's day off</p>	<p><b>20</b></p>
<p><b>21</b> 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday school</p>	<p><b>22</b></p>	<p><b>23</b> 9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting &amp; Crocheting class 7:00 PM Council meeting</p>	<p><b>24</b> 1:00 PM Sit 'n Be Fit 6:30 PM God's Young Voices 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p><b>25</b></p>	<p><b>26</b> 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours 5:30 PM Rehearsal Winiarski/Braun Pastor's day off</p>	<p><b>27</b> 2:00 PM Wedding Winiarski/Braun</p>
<p><b>28</b> 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM Worship 10:00 AM Sunday school 11:30 Confirmation</p>	<p><b>29</b></p>	<p><b>30</b> 9:00 AM Dorcas 9:30 AM Friends 1:00 PM Knitting &amp; Crocheting class</p>	 <p><b>Confirmation for the 7th and 8th grade begins September 14th at 11:30 am.</b></p>			



*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

It's hard to believe that we're entering into September and toward the end of summer. It's commonly thought that with family vacations and various outdoor activities the church generally slows down from June until the end of August...I keep waiting for things to let up, but it's not looking to be the case! Oh well... life is more exciting when you're busy and involved; and one thing that I know for certain is that things are always changing and new opportunities arise around every corner.

For Kathy and me personally, we're anxiously awaiting the arrival of our first-born child; a Son who's due to arrive on December 29<sup>th</sup>. Since he's going to be a Christmas baby, I've been thinking of biblical names (like the names of the three wise men: Caspar, Melchior or Balthasar)...but Kathy's not buying into these so much, so the naming process continues! Many people have said that our lives are going to change, and it's a change about which we're very excited.

Here at Whitnall Park Church, we as a community also have much to look forward to and be excited about as people of God. We're about to kick off a new school year and get much of our programs back up and running. I wanted to simply highlight some of the things about which I'm excited and looking forward to here at church.

† Our Sunday School is in motion and the Christian Education Committee and teachers are looking forward to a great year with new goals and an agenda that seeks to implement the best possible educational curriculum for our children.

† Our Confirmation Program is going to look a little bit different this year, but will seek to not only provide a solid theological, historical and spiritual understanding of our Lutheran brand of Christianity, but also find a balance between classroom learning, practical application of the principles of faith and quality time spent with the family.

† Our Stewardship Team is actively pursuing ways to decrease our mortgage and utilize our financial resources in ways that seek to expand God's kingdom in our own congregation and outward to the larger community.

† Our Church Council is excited at the opportunities God is providing us to grow as a Christian Community and welcome new members into this journey upon which He's called us as a group of believers in whom the Spirit is truly active.

There are many, many more opportunities that this upcoming year holds for us... new bible studies, book groups, Eucharistic ministries, couple outings, service opportunities and times to play together as God's people enjoying the gift of creation. Just as there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God present in Christ Jesus, there is nothing that can limit what we can accomplish as faithful people living out God's Call together. Let the adventure continue!

God's Peace and Blessings on a wonderful journey,  
Pr. Michael