

May Calendar of Events

Sunday, May 2nd	Bless the Years Luther Manor Auxiliary Sign Up Sunday school teachers meeting
Saturday, May 8th Sunday, May 9th	Spring Clean Up Mother's Day Services with Healing
Monday, May 10th	LEAF articles are due
Thursday, May 13th	Ascension of Our Lord
Friday, May 14th & Saturday, May 15th	5 Star Retreat at Atonement in Waukesha
Sunday, May 16th	Confirmation
Sunday, May 23rd	PENTECOST / MUSIC SUNDAY
Sunday, May 23rd	<u>Special</u> Congregational meeting at 11:00 am
Sunday, May 30th	The Holy Trinity

- Please bring non-perishable food for Hope House on Sundays
- Please bring your aluminum cans and Campbell labels on the second Sunday, May 9th, ONLY.
- Dorcas Circle meets Tuesdays at 9:00 am.
- Sunday School at 10:00 am—meets in church Sunday, May 9th. Teachers meeting May 2nd, after Sunday school.
- God's Young Voices—meets Sunday mornings at 9:40 am.
- Senior Choir meets every Wednesday at 7:30 pm.
- Health and Wellness meeting, Thursday, May 13th, 7:00 pm
- Worship & Music meets Tuesday, May 11th, at 7:00 pm
- Good News Bible Study and lunch meets Wednesday, May 12th at 11:30 am.
- OWLS meet on Thursday, May 13th, at 8:30 am at Forum Restaurant
- Property committee meeting Tuesday, May 11th, at 6:30 pm.
- Christian Education meeting Tuesday, May 4th at 7:00 pm
- Evening Bible Study meets Thursday, May 20th, 7:00 pm.
- Friends meet Tuesday, May 25th at 9:30 am.
- Parish Nurse, Barb Estrada is here on Wednesday mornings but not May 19th she will be here on the Friday, May 21st, of that week



August 1st, the time of the second service will be moved to 10:15 am.



National Women's Health Week

National Women's Health Week begins on **Mother's Day, May 9th, 2010**. It is a weeklong health observance coordinated by the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health. The hope is that it will help to empower all women to make their health a top priority. The nationwide initiative encourages women to take simple steps for a longer, healthier, and happier life. We often forget that good health is a process that starts with habits that we cultivate early in our lifespan.

Talking about and encouraging women to taking care of ourselves is essential. Women are often the caregivers for their spouses, children, and parents and forget to focus on our own health. Research shows that when women take care of themselves, the health of their family improves too. Some steps that we can take to improve our physical and mental health and lower our risks of certain diseases include:

- Getting at least 2 hours and 30 minutes of moderate physical activity, 1 hour and 15 minutes of vigorous physical activity, or a combination of both each week
- Eating a nutritious diet
- Visiting a health care professional to receive regular checkups and preventive screenings
- Avoiding risky behaviors, such as smoking and not wearing a seatbelt
- Paying attention to mental health, including getting enough sleep and managing stress.

During National Women's Health Week, I will place on the tables in Hornburg Hall a handout regarding general screening and immunizations women should have during stages in their lives. Please take one for yourself, your daughters, mothers, sisters, aunts, wives, and girlfriends and encourage them to discuss these screening procedures with their primary care or gynecological physician. Also visit the Web site at <http://www.womenshealth.gov/whw> to learn and participate in more National Women's Health Week activities.

Barb Estrada, RN.PN



Annual Auxiliary Membership Drive

On **May 2** we will once again welcome Linda Lueck, Client Relations Coordinator from Luther Manor, who will give us an update on what's happening at Luther Manor and help us with our Annual Auxiliary Membership Drive. Dues remain at \$2 and go a long way when added together with other ULPA (United Lutheran Program for the Aging) congregations to purchase the extras for all those who call Luther Manor home. Linda will also be bringing samples of resident art work that has been on display recently at Luther Manor.

On **May 2** we also will be celebrating **Bless the Years Sunday** when the Health & Wellness Committee will be presenting flowers to all those 80 years young and above.

We also learned that some Health Center residents, consistently, do not receive mail. It was suggested that we could give "*Thinking of You*" cards signed "*Your friends at Whitnall Park*". Cards can be placed on Barb's desk. Mark what they are for and we will get them to the volunteers who deliver the mail each day. **Thanks** for your support.

—Kathy Sonntag, Key Person and
Sandy Abraham, Co-worker

Waukesha County Drug Collection Effort

On **May 8th**, Waukesha County will once again be putting on a drug collection effort for patients.

Brookfield: Ruby Isle Shopping Center, 9—12

Waukesha: Waukesha State Bank, downtown location, St. Paul Ave. at Madison St. 9—12.

Milwaukee's Medicine Collection Day

is **May 8th, 2010** from 9—1 at Miller Park.

Miller lot by the "*Sausage Haus*."

Please keep medication in the original package or bottle. You can cross off your name and address, but **DO NOT** cover up or remove the name of the medicine.

Things to bring: Prescription Medication, Over the Counter Medication, Ointments, Sprays, Inhalers, Creams, Vials, Pet Medication.

Council minutes from February 23rd, 2010

Members in Attendance: Lou Graef, Betty Hembrook, Van Johnson, Gloria Brinkmeier, Donna Winiarski, Jennine Sonntag, Jill Underberg and Pastor Michael Fazio.

President's Report: Special thanks to Roger Brinkmeier for setting up WPLC's new website.

Treasurer's Report: Roger Brinkmeier met with Bob Nolan from Nolan Accounting on February 7, 2010 to discuss alternatives for WPLC's accounting and payroll functions. Nolan would do all of our processing, balancing and reporting for \$225/month. Nolan would process and deliver our payroll checks (including all governmental insurances paid and reported, all personal insurances paid, all pension paid and accounted for, and all reports and transactions would be integrated into the accounting services provided) for \$30.25/month. Hiring Nolan Accounting would cost a total of \$3,400/year. Nolan has experience doing accounting for other religious organizations. We should have Nolan attend a Finance Committee meeting to discuss it further.

Pastor's Report: *Pastor Fazio submitted a breakdown of all pastoral acts between 1/27/10 – 2/23/10 including:* led worship and preached at 6 services (missed worship on 2/14 due to illness); 2 hospital visits; 4 pastoral counseling appointments; 0 home visitations; 2 home/hospital communions; 24 pastoral phone calls; 1 healing service; pre-marriage meeting – Kranzusch/Myrah; pre-baptism meeting – Jankowski Family; Ash Wednesday worship – Noon and 7 pm; concluded four-week Scripture Study based on Rob Bell's NOOMA DVD series; Youth Group Family meeting (Jan. 31); Confirmation classes; Christian Ed; weekly local pastors' bible study meetings at Jackson Park Lutheran; meeting of Veterans Task Force of the Greater Milwaukee Synod (Jan. 26); CPE Program every Thursday – October 22 through April 15; discussion of Brent's retirement from role of Treasurer and the need to replace him; meeting with representative from Church Mutual Insurance on February 11, 2010 regarding changes to our policy since last renewal, especially new "water endorsement".

Pastor Fazio's upcoming activities and tasks include:

Youth Group planning meetings; start of mid-week Lenten services at Noon and 7:00 pm; First Communion Classes Friday evening, March 19, 2010 and Saturday morning, March 20, 2010 – Kelly Brown will assist; Palm Sunday, March 28; Maundy Thursday, April 1 (First Communion); Good Friday, April 2; Easter, April 4.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Christian Education – Jennine Sonntag

Christian Ed and Worship and Music met jointly on February 2nd to determine the schedule for worship and special events for the remainder of 2010.

Endowment – Betty Hembrook

\$5,000 has been given to the mortgage fund.

Finance – Van Johnson

We will table the purchase of accounting software and a new PC until after we make a final decision on whether we will be hiring an outside accounting firm. If we decided to hire a firm, it would not be involved in the accounting of any committee's own account. The WPLC Treasurer would function as a liaison between the outside accounting firm and WPLC. If we hired an accounting firm, it would not have access to our members' records of their contributions—that will continue to be done at church.

Ron Noeske, Donna Winiarski and Van Johnson will perform an audit of church records.

Fellowship – Sandy Sannes (via written report)

The members of WPLC led by Kathy Fazio put together a surprise 40th birthday party for Pastor. It was held on Saturday, January 30th. It was very well attended and a good time was had by everyone. Lenten soup lunches and soup suppers begin on Wednesday, February 24th. They are open to the congregation. Information will be made available for members to order flowers for the Easter Cross. The plants can be taken home after the last service on April 4th. The Whitnall Friendship Circle is planning its annual rummage and bake sale in late April. More information will be provided in the near future regarding donations.

Continue on page 5

Continued from page 4

Health and Wellness – Jill Underberg

We had a “lunch & learn” on February 14, 2010 with three speakers discussing what seniors can do when their money runs out as it pertains to living in a senior living facility. The program was attended by 40 people and many asked questions. Linda Lueck from Luther Manor will attend the “Bless the Years” celebration on May 2nd. WPLC will host a blood drive on July 20th. There was discussion of having a private company, “Lifeline Screening”, come to WPLC to screen for serious problems such as abdominal aortic aneurysms, risk for stroke and others. The screenings cost \$149. This company has approached WPLC because it needs places to hold its screenings and would advertise our location to the local community. This would be a one-time event. After discussion, it was decided that Health & Wellness Committee will get more information from “Lifeline Screening.”

Worship and Music – Donna Winiarski

Christian Ed and Worship and Music met jointly on February 2nd to determine the schedule for worship and special events for the remainder of 2010.

Property – Van Johnson

The upper level ladies room floor will cost \$1,200 to repair. John Just met with a contractor to discuss the problem. There is nothing wrong with our foundation, but it is possible that the concrete topping did not adhere to the foundation as it was supposed to. If this is the case, then it would be more than \$1,200 to repair. We did have a “band-aid” repair done so that the floor is not a hazard. John Hembrook has joined the Property Committee. The Property Committee will have to address who currently has, and who still needs, key cards to the building. The January snowplowing invoice is \$584. There will be a 3 foot x 4 foot bulletin board installed in the Sunday School hallway. The Property Committee is looking into different fund raisers to repair or replace the parking lot.

Stewardship – Sandy Sannes (via written report)

Most of the offering envelopes have now been picked up. Audrey Grafwallner continues to work on contacting those that still remain at the church. A special “Thank You” to Audrey for all of her work on this project!

Evangelism/Publicity & Social Ministry – Gloria Brinkmeier

The “Souper Bowl”, coordinated by Charles Schoenleber, was extremely successful. Roger Brinkmeier has made major revisions to the WPLC website (www.whitnallparkchurch.com). Many changes have been made. The home page now includes a welcome message from Pastor Fazio and a map of the church location. We also have: information on services, calendars, monthly Leafs, Sunday bulletin insert announcements, sermons, photos, e-mail to contact the church (e-mails will be checked by Sandy) and links to other church related websites.

Other Business:

A meeting with our Church Mutual Insurance representative attended by Pastor and most members of council occurred on February 11, 2010. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss a new endorsement which will replace the existing “water exclusion.” The Church Mutual rep. explained that our multi-peril policy, which expires on March 15, 2010, will continue to cover water infiltration, such as we experienced in the past.

There was discussion of stretching out the terms of those council members whose terms are supposed to end in October so that all terms will expire in February (although in different years). There was also discussion about having the Semi-Annual meeting earlier than October so that there is more time between the date that the new council starts working and the time of the Annual Reports and Annual Meeting. We discussed a potential Semi-Annual Meeting date of September 19th or September 26th. It will depend on the date that is selected for the picnic. We will not have the Semi-Annual Meeting on the same date as the picnic.

The next Council meeting will be held on March 23, 2010.

Submitted by Jennine Sonntag, Council Secretary.

**Special
Congregational Meeting
Sunday, May 23rd,
after the second service**

Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|----|------------------|
| 1 | Rebecca Brown | 26 | Sarah Martin |
| | Lisa Komorowski | 27 | Matthew Hegge |
| | Earl Prescott | | Matthew Johnson |
| 2 | Kevin Farber | | Larry Pfeil |
| | David Palmersheim | 28 | Gregg Sorvick |
| | Mary Schubert | | Ryan Buss |
| 3 | Susan Arthur | | Marsha Horcos |
| | Rebecca Brown | 29 | Chad Stein |
| 5 | Randy Sannes | 30 | Doris Dickmann |
| 6 | Jacqueline Underberg | 30 | Rachel Krainer |
| 8 | Seth Kaempfer | 31 | Roger Strube |
| 9 | Don Albrecht | | Michelle Harbort |
| | Gary Duensing | | Matthew Hembrook |
| | Richard Katschke, Jr. | | Edward Krause |
| | Douglas Tikkanen | | Nancy Olson |
| 10 | Harvey Breese | | |
| | Darlene Kelley | | |
| | Paul Saari | | |
| 11 | Jacob Edmundson | | |
| | Haley Just | | |
| 12 | Brayden Beschta | | |
| | Gloria Brinkmeier | | |
| 13 | James Lorenz | | |
| 14 | Lorene Nelson | | |
| | Madeline Schubert | | |
| 15 | Carl Hanson | | |
| 16 | Kylie Just | | |
| | Ward Kopp | | |
| | Kenneth Perkl | | |
| | Raymond Schlueter | | |
| 17 | Jonathon King | | |
| | Kaitlyn King | | |
| 19 | Kristin Martens | | |
| | Arlyn Weltzien | | |
| 20 | Kaitlyn Ehleiter | | |
| | Sarah Kopp | | |
| | Heidi Martin | | |
| | Nathan Tikkanen | | |
| 21 | Kimberley Brown | | |
| | Maria Peyer | | |
| 21 | Kathy Ross | | |
| 22 | Jeanette Eberhardt | | |
| 23 | Nancy Lietzau | | |
| | Amanda Stone | | |
| 24 | Evelyn Klug | | |
| | Rosemarie Konczal | | |
| 25 | Dawson Loebel | | |
| | David Ross | | |

Anniversaries

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|
| 1 | Antonio & Bernice Sparacino | 62 |
| 4 | James & Darlene Meier | |
| | Kevin & Susan Schlueter | |
| 6 | Kristi & Brian Martens | |
| 10 | Warner & Patricia Kilbey | 58 |
| 11 | Ralph & Leta Klute | |
| 14 | Gregory & Lynn Stanton | |
| 16 | James & Linda Shea | |
| 19 | Gerald & Anne Magyera | |
| 20 | Aaron & Sarah Knier | |
| | David & Angela Cotey | |
| 29 | Duane & Susan Larson | |

Five Star Retreat

All women of WPLC are invited to attend a “5-Star Retreat” on Friday and Saturday, May 14 and 15, at Atonement Lutheran Church, Watertown. The cost for the full retreat is just \$10, with a free-will offering to help defray expenses for food, etc. Those who can’t attend both days are welcome to come for just the one day. Speakers include: Nancy Davis—executive director of ABC Connections, a volunteer program that helps the elderly. She’s also a certified laughter leader. Ask Marjorie Pagel for details, 414-425-4066.



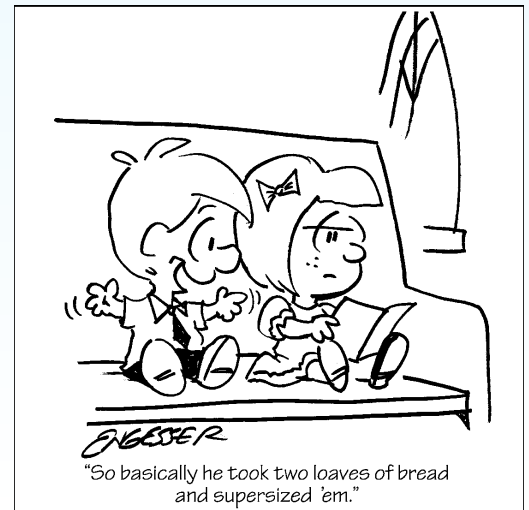
Lent Soup Supper—MISSION POSSIBLE

For five Wednesday evenings, an average of 18—22 people gathered for great home-made soup and fellowship prior to the Lenten evening worship service. The free-will offerings collected have annually been given to a “*Lenten Mission*” chosen at the final evening gathering. This year, the offering of \$180 was went to the ELCA’s “*God’s Global Barnyard*” which supports animal-related projects of ELCA World Hunger, and working with Lutheran World Relief.

Thank you to those who made and donated soup— Pat Suderland, Sharon Hause, Dorothy Nurse, Laurie Sorvick, and Marion Kuglitsch. And to those who brought the wonderful “*extras*”, Nancy Blachowski, Evie Schubert—homemade rolls— Beth Jaeger, Doris Sorvick, Donna Winiarski, Pat Suderland, Dorothy Nurse and Sharon Hause.

EASTER BEAUTY

Thank you to all who provided the beautiful plants for the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Many thanks to Gregg, Karl, Kyle and Kraig Sorvick, for putting up and taking down the *Cross of Flowers*, and to Pat Suderland, Danni Kaboskey, and Dorothy Nurse for quick and easy distribution of the plants following services. —**A HUGE thank you** to Sharon Hause for putting it all together!!!!





Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 23rd following the second service. Congregational approval is needed to move forward with our parking lot replacement. Proposals have been received and reviewed by the

Property committee but since they are over the \$5,000 limit of what can be approved by council; a meeting is necessary.

Please plan to attend.

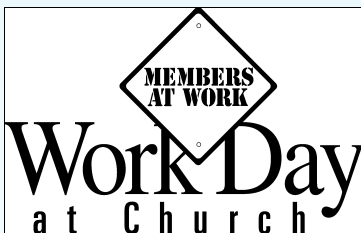
PARKING LOT FUND DRIVE

We're off to a great start. In March we raised \$1,020.75. *Look for future events—*

**May—Golf Outing Raffle
Bake Sale**

June—Saturday, June 26th starting at 11:00 am we will be sponsoring an Antique Appraisal Event with Bake Sale and Lunch***more to come.

For personal donations please put your name or envelope number on the envelope marked Parking Lot Fund. Place in the offering plate. Your personal donations will be recorded on your yearly giving statements. Thank you.



**Spring Clean Up
Saturday, May 8th
8:00 am—Noon**

Join us for some fresh air, a healthy workout and meaningful fellowship.

As always, there's plenty of work to do inside and out.

Energy snacks provided. See You There!!!

Fresh Garden Produce Table

The Social Ministry Committee's fresh produce table is back in 2010. The funds raised by the table will benefit the ELCA World Hunger Appeal, the Hunger Task Force, and Feeding America Eastern Wisconsin. Everyone is encouraged to bring in garden produce (vegetables, fruits, cut flowers, plants) for the table and to enjoy the bounty.

Seeds have already been planted (An especially appropriate metaphor in this Easter season. Remember the words of the hymn: "Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,/Wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;/Love lives again, that with the dead has been:/Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green."). Seeds that with loving care will provide produce, and produce that will provide both enjoyment for those who eat it and funds to fight hunger. Love certainly lives again.

Hope House

Non-perishable food items for Hope House can be brought in at any time. The items are delivered monthly. With the economic downturn the need for food items is now even greater.



CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

Did you know Hales Corners Lutheran Day School offers an excellent education for children in preschool through 8th grade? Throughout the day, the children

are engaged in reading, writing, math, science, art activities, and most importantly, they are reminded of Jesus' love and all the blessings we have been given from Him. Our Primary School offers preschool for children ages 1-4 with extended care from 6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Our Elementary School and Middle School offer Preschool through 8th grade. Our accredited faculty includes specialty teachers in Art, Music, Technology, and Physical Education. Enrollment for the 2010-2011 school year is currently taking place. Check out all the great things happening in our schools. For more information or to schedule a tour, please contact

**Ellyn Heicher at 414-529-6701 or
eheicher@hcl.org.**

- May 2 Bless the Years' Sunday / LUTHER MANOR AUXILIARY DRIVE**
- 8:30** Assisting Minister **Linda Shea** Acolyte **Brittney Henneberry**
 Ushers **Ron Hause, Carl Hanson**
 Greeter **June Jensen**
 Altar Guild **Bernice Sparacino**
- 10:00** Assisting Minister **Laurie Sorvick** Acolyte **Scott Johnson**
 Ushers **Paul Saari, Greg Saari, Ron Noeske, Katie Mason**
 Greeter **Karon Hedlof** Nursery **Tricia Henneberry**
 Altar Guild **Kathy Fazio**
- May 9 Mother's Day/Sunday school meets in church/Services with Healing**
- 8:30** Assisting Minister **Ron Sonntag** Acolyte **Jim Shea**
 Ushers **John Hembrook, Jerrijo Cowman, Ken Perkl**
 Greeter **Carl Hanson**
 Altar Guild **Evelyn Schubert**
- 10:00** Assisting Minister **Mike Sparacino** Acolyte **Jacqueline Underberg**
 Ushers **Tom Laposki, Brian & Kristi Peyer**
 Greeter **Elsie Hansen** Nursery **Volunteer**
- May 16 Last day of Sunday School meets again in September / CONFIRMATION**
- 8:30** Assisting Minister **Jane Dillon-Perkl** Acolyte **Mitchell Cowman**
 Ushers **Jim and Linda Shea**
 Greeter **Evelyn Klug**
 Altar Guild **Krista Bainbridge**
- 10:00** Assisting Minister **Student** Acolyte **Joseph Hasenstein**
 Ushers **Students**
 Greeter **Student** Nursery **Jennifer Just**
 Altar Guild **Elaine Johnson**
- May 23 PENTECOST / MUSIC SUNDAY**
- 8:30** Assisting Minister **Kristin Martens** Acolyte **Melody King**
 Ushers **Jim Gaffney, Duane Hause, Lyle Lance**
 Greeter **Joan Lance**
 Altar Guild **Jerrijo Cowman**
- 10:00** Assisting Minister **Tom Laposki** Acolyte **Tyler Henneberry**
 Ushers **Jerry Pagel, Jerome Thome, Larry Pfeil**
 Greeter **Joan Henderson** Nursery **Samantha Llanas**
 Altar Guild **Bernice King**
- May 30 THE HOLY TRINITY / Memorial Day Weekend**
- 8:30** Assisting Minister **Lou Graef** Acolyte **Maria Sparacino**
 Ushers **Ron Hause, Carl Hanson**
 Greeter **Joan Maasz**
 Altar Guild **Sandy Johnson**
- 10:00** Assisting Minister **Kraig Sorvick** Acolyte **Michelle Rubenzer**
 Ushers **Jerry Pagel, Jack King, Brian Martin**
 Greeter **Sandra Krause** Nursery **Heidi Martin**
 Altar Guild **Marilyn King**

From M.E., Kelly Brown Minister of Education

We are reaching the end of the Sunday school year, with only five Sundays left. We have had a great year! Thank you to all of the teachers for their time and talents.

Haley Just, was our teacher for the three and four year olds. Haley will be leaving us next year as she is college bound.

Lori Nelson taught Kindergarten and has been an excellent teacher for over 19 years.

We welcomed **Jessica Williamson**, our new teacher for the first and second grade this year.

Her assistant was **Stacy Tikkanen**, They worked wonderfully with the students.

Jodi Graef has been a teacher for over 10 years! He taught the third and fourth grades this year.

Corrin Laposki taught the fifth and sixth grade. She also will be leaving for college.

We will miss both **Corrin** and **Haley very much**.

Sharon Kaempfer, taught seventh and eight grade. She is much appreciated as a member of the Christian Ed ministry.

Our subs were **Lori Ridder** and **Jennine Sonntag**. Thanks for a valuable service!!

With Sunday school ending, it is time to start thinking about *Vacation Bible School*. A short survey will be coming home with the Sunday school children. I am encouraging the parents to please fill it out and send it back to Sunday school with your child.

I am pleased to see such a great response to our prayer chain. I was even more thrilled to see children adding links. Please continue to add your prayers—there is power in prayer!

Reminders:

May 9th —Mother's Day

May 16th—Last day of Sunday school and Confirmation Sunday

Have a wonderful Mother's Day!



GOD'S MASTERPIECE IS MOTHER

God took the fragrance of a
flower...

The majesty of a tree...

The gentleness of morning dew...

The calm of a quiet sea...

The beauty of the twilight hour...

The soul of a starry night...

The laughter of a rippling brook...

The grace of a bird in flight...

Then God fashioned from these
things—







A creation like no other,

And when his masterpiece was
through—

He called it simply—Mother.

May 2010

Whitnall Park Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Bless the Years </p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM WORSHIP 9:40 AM God's Young Voices 10:00 AM Braun Baptism 10:00 AM Sunday school 11:30 AM Confirmation Class Bless the Years Luther Manor Auxiliary sign up </p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">4</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting 7:00 PM Christian Ed</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">5</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 1:00 PM Sit 'n Be Fit 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">6</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">7</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">8</p> <p style="text-align: right;"></p> <p>8:00 AM - 12:00 PM SPRING CLEAN UP Sunday school meets in church tomorrow at 10:00 am</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">9</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> Honor of Our Mothers</p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM WORSHIP 9:40 AM God's Young Voices 10:00 AM Sunday school Mother's Day Services with Healing</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">10</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">LEAF Articles are due</div> <p>7:00 pm Worship & Music</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">11</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting 6:30 PM Property</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">12</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 11:30 AM Good News Bible Study 1:00 PM Sit 'n Be Fit 7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">13</p> <p>8:30 AM OWLS meet at the Forum 7:00 PM Health & Wellness</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">14</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours "5 Star Retreat" at Atonement in Waukesha</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">15</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"5 Star Retreat" at Atonement in Waukesha </p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">16</p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM WORSHIP 9:40 AM God's Young Voices 10:00 AM CONFIRMATION 10:00 AM Last Sunday school</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">18</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">19</p> <p>7:30 PM Senior Choir</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">20</p> <p>9:00 AM Assemble the LEAF 7:00 PM Evening Bible Study</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">21</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours 9:30 AM Parish Nurse</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">22</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">23</p> <p style="text-align: center;"></p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM WORSHIP 9:40 AM God's Young Voices 11:00 AM Special Congregational meeting</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: 18pt;"><i>Pentecost</i> Music Sunday</p> </div>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">24</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">25</p> <p>9:00 AM Dorcas 9:30 AM Friends Meeting 1:00 PM Knitting & Crocheting 7:00 PM Council Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">26</p> <p>9:30 AM Parish Nurse 1:00 PM Sit 'n Be Fit</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">27</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">28</p> <p>9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Office hours</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">29</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">30</p> <p>8:30 AM - 10:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM Baptism Leah & Emma Swenson Holy Trinity Sunday</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt;">31</p> <p>Memorial Day-- Office is closed</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p style="font-size: 18pt;"><i>Memorial Day</i></p> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; font-size: 24pt; font-family: cursive;"> Thank You, Teachers!  </div>				



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It's that time of the year again...time for our church office to turn in our annual statistical report to the Synod Office. In this report we provide the larger church with information about various aspects of the life of our congregation. For example, we give them our membership numbers, the average number of people worshipping on a Sunday morning, information about our budget and finances, and information about our Christian Educational programs. It's not something that each of us who have to provide this information look forward to doing each year, but we do it gladly as part of the larger call of the church.

As I've been looking over our statistics for this past year, one word has jumped out at me...**Growth!** Our average number of worshippers has increased by 26 people from last year to this year; which is a wonderful thing. Looking at the trend of the ELCA as a whole (as well as the trends of just about every main-line Christian denomination), the overall tendency is that the entire Christian Church is declining in membership...which is obviously NOT a wonderful thing. Church on the whole seems to be losing its priority for a large percentage of the general population...but not here at WPLC!

Growth is an interesting thing. I do appreciate seeing our numbers grow...seeing more people in the pews...getting to know more people who are seeking that all-important relationship with God...and benefiting from a whole new set of gifts into our church community. Growth in the number and variety of people here at Whitnall Park Lutheran is an amazing thing to be a part of...and I believe it speaks solely to the wonderful community each of you make our church to be...this place feels like home away from home and our people do feel like members of each other's family.

However, the growth that I seek out is far and above a numbers game. It's nice to see more people here, but what I'm most interested in is **our personal and collective growth in our Lord, Jesus Christ**. Numbers are one thing, but to have an individual life touched and transformed by the grace and mercy of Christ is truly an awesome thing! When you get a community full of people who can say with certainty that their lives have been affected by the living Lord, you get a community alive in the Spirit of something (and someone) much bigger than themselves; and that is the type of growth that excites me the most because it's the type of growth that brings life to us all.

I pray every day for the well-being of our church community and hope and pray that our numbers continue to rise...but the motivation for that desire is that I truly want people to experience the wonderful, Christ-centered community that is Whitnall Park Lutheran Church. Thank you all for making our church a place of growth in our Lord!

God's Peace and Blessing be with you all,
Pr. Michael