



THE REPORTER

August 2009

"Making Christ Known to All"

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God.

- 1 John 3:1

God has blessed our congregation once again! We once again have had an amazing success with our Vacation Bible School. By the second day of the week we already had more kids take part as campers for our Son Rock Kids Camp than we did the year before. But more than just numbers, there was a Spirit at Resurrection that was infectious. From preschool age to sixth grade, the campers had a great time singing songs, doing crafts, playing games, eating snacks, and learning all about the love of Christ. We prayed for success and God granted it to us!

A successful VBS begins with a program that is centered on the gospel and focused on Christ. It is people, however, that God uses as instruments to make his Word sing! Thanks to the leadership of our Parish Education Chair Jim Boland, and the dozens of youth and adult volunteers, an enthusiastic passion for Christ was passed on to nearly a hundred children.

Every job was important: from the counselors leading their "Bitty Bird" and "Mighty Moose" groups from station to station to the women preparing snacks to the youth who helped out with games. The gifts they shared and the excitement they brought was used by God to make a difference in the lives of these kids. I'm thankful for everyone who was a part of the week.

Each day of VBS the campers were encouraged to learn a Bible verse based on the theme of the day. Monday's theme, "Accepted by Jesus," gave us a chance to look at 1 John 3:1 that reminds us how blessed we are that God has showered his love upon us. "How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God." When people at Resurrection use their abilities for various ministries they are recognizing that the God is the source of their love, hope and joy. We put our faith into action when we enthusiastically share Christ with others. Active faith is real faith. Active faith is living faith.

God has lavished his love upon you. Embrace this love by putting your faith in action. This fall look for opportunities to serve. Look for opportunities to learn. Look for opportunities to be generous in your giving. Look for opportunities to love. God is blessing our ministry through the passion and service of children of God like you.

Rejoice always!

Pastor Tony Dusso

708-687-2170

151st & Central, Oak Forest, IL 60452

lcr1lord@sbcglobal.net

www.resurrection-oakforest.org

Council

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Evangelism, Parish Education, Finance, Stewardship and Properties Committees meet on **Tuesday, August 4 at 7:30**. The night will begin with a devotion in the worship space. We will break up into our committees to do work and planning. We will regroup again at 8:30 to make any connections with other committees.

Worship & Music, Social Concerns, Youth and Fellowship Committees will meet on **Saturday, August 8 at 10:00am**. The time will begin at 10:00 with a devotion in the worship space. We will break up into our committees to do work and planning and regroup at 11:00 to make any necessary connections with others.

Come out on one night or both and see which committee would be a good fit for you.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet on **Sunday, August 23 at 12 pm**.

Music & Worship

Stanley Sowa, chairperson

COMMUNION WINE ~ Thank you to those who donated communion wine.

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS~Aug. 23



The new school year begins at the end of August. With the beginning of the new school year comes all kinds of new things for students: new teachers, new schools, new friends, new subjects, new expectations, and of course new school supplies. Boy, that's a whole lot of new.

God is with us in all our new beginnings, whether it's starting pre-school, grammar school or high school. We will remember that gracious fact on **Sunday, August 23 at our 11:00 worship service**.

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Tania Downen, chairperson

Thank you to all who participated in and helped with the annual Garage Sale. On such a hot day it was wonderful to have the turnout we did! Food sales were down, but we made up for it in sales of drinks! \$39.75 in pop sales went back to the O&B fund. We made roughly \$300 in food sales and space rentals. This money was raised for Hearts In Motion, and combined with the money from the Spring Craft Fair, we were able to give them \$1,200. Plus, many people donated their garage sale "left-overs" and those items were transported to the H.I.M. Thrift Store. Proceeds from that store help the Battered Women's Shelter, Haven. Also, when women

who have stayed at Haven are ready to start over, they are allowed to choose items from the store, for free.

THE YEAR OF THE CHILD

During the second half of this year Social Concerns is going international and dedicating itself to helping children in need.

In May we welcomed Karen Scheeringa, founder of Hearts in Motion to Resurrection. For those of you who were here she is an amazing women who has dedicated her life, through her organization Hearts in Motion to provide quality medical care and to assist in the development of social programs to improve health, education and welfare for the people of Guatemala and Honduras.

In addition to work done abroad, Hearts In Motion cooperates with other US based service organizations. Donations of funds and services are coordinated to aid various shelters, ministries and individuals. This work provides physical and mental support to our disabled and those in need in our community at home.

H.I.M. also offers opportunities for individuals, churches or service groups to help support them by attending a mission trip, raising funds, praying for them or by collecting clothes, shoes, vitamins and over the counter medicines.

VITAMIN DRIVE...

In August, Social Concerns is sponsoring a VITAMIN DRIVE. Because of the conditions in these countries the multi vitamins are needed to rebuild the strength of people in Guatemala and Honduras who have been treated for parasites by the doctor volunteers that H.I.M. takes there. Once someone is treated they need to be on a regiment of vitamins for 6-8 weeks so the need is great.

A container will be out in the narthex to collect vitamins as well as any USED left over vitamins, prescription pills, analgesics and any other over the counter medications. Hearts in Motion sorts the used medicines before sending them on to Guatemala or Honduras. Please help us.



EYE GLASSES NEEDED!



Throughout the remainder of the year we will also be collecting other items, old eyeglasses and sunglasses are two of them. These can be brought to the church office. A box will be available for this collection. Watch your newsletters and buttetins to see what will be next

HEALTH DAY ~ Sat., Sept. 19th



Our "Health Day" event is **Saturday, September 19th**. Sign up for the Blood Drive and visit the many booths with various health practitioners and advisors that will be on hand to provide information only. This event is free and open to family, friends and surrounding communities.



FOOD SUNDAYS

Sundays, August 2nd is Food Sunday. Please don't forget the food pantry during the summer. Remember to add a few items to your shopping cart and share them with the patrons of St. Stephen's

Food Pantry. Your generosity is always appreciated and welcomed. Thanks again to Ed & Jean for seeing that the items get delivered to the pantry.

Please no perishable, outdated or used items.

Thank you!

FELLOWSHIP

Lee Travis, chairperson

WINDY CITY THUNDERBOLTS BASEBALL



Don't forget to get your tickets for **Saturday, August 15** when your WCBolts take on the Washington Wild Things. Mark your calendars and get ready for

another great time. After the game sit back and enjoy the best firework show in town.

The cost per ticket is \$21 which includes game ticket, and all-you-can eat buffet (1 hour prior and ½ hour into the scheduled start time of the game).

Remember....unless your child eats a lot it is a better value to order just a ticket for the game and feed them using the concession stands. These tickets are \$8ea. Please include the number of children's tickets needed on the sign up sheet and include with your payment. There are envelopes on the table in the narthex for use when paying. Thank you.

BRING YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES!

Book Club

The Book Discussion Group will meet on **Friday, August 28 at 7 pm** to discuss the book, *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult. Get the tissue ready as you dive into this tale of a family in which one daughter suffers from leukemia and their youngest daughter was created to provide bone marrow and more for the sick daughter.

The riveting book should provide us with lively discussion. You can also see the movie which has

movie --- and come for the discussion. Before the book discussion there will be a brief meeting to determine the direction book club will take. How can book club fill your reading needs? Bring suggestions for books to read and discuss.

RESURRECTION RALLY DAY & CHURCH PICNIC



This year we will combine Rally Day and our church picnic on **Sunday, September 13** at Central Park (behind the Park District Building). A special service will be held at the park.

There is a large pavilion with tables, grassy area for games, washrooms and especially a play yard for the kids. The church will supply the entrée and everyone is asked to bring something to share, i.e., salad, fruit, dessert etc. Mark your calendars and join us. Don't forget to ask your families to join us.

LCR "SUMMER" CAMP OUT

Well the camping trip in May was a wash out let's hope everything dries up by August. Join us for the annual LCR Summer Family Camp Out **Friday thru Sunday, August 7-9** at Hi Tide Campground in Leland, IL. The cost is \$37 per night (\$74 for the weekend). Bring the children...bring the grandchildren. A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Make your reservations today.



A deposit is due ASAP and the balance due upon arrival at camp ground. If you have any question please see Michelle. See you there!

PARISH EDUCATION

Jim Boland, chairperson.



83 YOUTH LEARNED to build their lives on the ROCK: Jesus! at RESURRECTION.....

A HEARTY "THANK YOU" and congratulations, to all our adult volunteers, youth "mentors" and to our generous congregation for a successful VBS. It was an unforgettable week! This week we made the difference in the lives of 83 youth.

VBS MISSION PROJECT ~ This year our mission project is the *ELCA's World Hunger "God's Global Barnyard."* The monies collected go to purchase various farm animals for countries less fortunate. Through out the week the children brought in money to help support this great cause. Our weekly total was \$750 plus \$100 matched by Thrivent. This is enough to buy chickens, turkeys, pigs, goats, and even a cow!! WHAT A GREAT GIFT!

SonDay Youth Education

RALLY DAY is September 13th!

We'll meet during the Sunday School hour and plan our activities for the Rally Day/Church Picnic service. Be ready to have some fun as we begin a great new school year.

Are you the SonDay School Leader we've been waiting for? We are still looking for a Sunday School Superintendent to coordinate our activities and lead our openings on Sunday morning. There are also opportunities for teachers to bring the "good news" to the children of our church family. Call Jim Boland 597-1078 or see him for more details.

STEWARDSHIP

Lorin Kirksey, chairperson

Visitors Sunday 2009!!!

Many were invited but only a few came. Normally that would not be a good thing, but as it turned out the amount of people that chose to visit us that day was just perfect. I knew that there was power in an invitation, but I (we) had no idea that we would have 154 people worshipping God in our little church on that given day. We saw the crowds, but what we didn't see is the hearts that were touched. If we were a blessing to anyone of our guests and I know we were, they too will be a blessing to someone else. Yes we may see some of those fruits and many we will not, but surely that will be God's will and not ours. I am still overwhelmed by your efforts in making Christ known to all. When I heard the bell choir playing during communion it seemed as if a little bit of heaven had also dropped in for a visit. When I heard Jerry Centner singing his heart out it made me realize how much we love this church and how incredibly proud we are to be a part of it.

Congratulations to everyone that participated in this year's event. The food gifts that were prepared for our family and friends were just that, simple wonderful gifts. Thank you.

If I had to guess the man that prepared our main dish would rather not have his name mentioned, so I won't. But his wife's name Jami, his son's name is Justin and his daughter's name is Jessica. There are not many men that would offer to get up at 2am for anything let alone to prepare a feast for an unknown amount of possible guests. Thank you Bob (sorry I couldn't help myself) for your commitment to making Christ known to all.

Thanks again to everyone!

Lorin

RMC Resurrection Men

Next RMC meeting will be on *Saturday, August 15.*

MEN'S BREAKFAST will be at Lumes Pancake House on 159th in Orland on *Thursday, August 27 at 7:15am.*

EVANGELISM

GARDEN MINISTRY....

DON'T FORGET TO WATER
AND WEED WHEN NEEDED!



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Cathy Kush, chairperson

The next meeting of the Prayer Shawl Ministry will be *Saturday, August 1 at 9:30 AM* in the conference room. All who are interested in this ministry are invited to attend this meeting. We spend time together — we share our projects, we work a bit, we chat a bit, and we pray!!

Please remember that Prayer Shawls are available for you and your extended family. You can make a request from a member of the group or you can ask Michelle (in the church office). As each prayer shawl is created, prayers are said. Prayers are woven into the stitches of each unique shawl. Each shawl is a reminder of the love and warmth of our loving God. Hope to see you at the August meeting.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY & TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY continues through the summer. The Tuesday evening study is at 6 pm. and the Sunday study is between services. These groups continue their study of the Book of John w/ Pastor Tony.

WOMEN'S 4 S STUDY GROUP will resume their meetings in September at which time we hope to see YOU there.

SARAH CIRCLE will not meet during the summer. They will start up again on *Thursday, September 3rd.* Claris Okon is hostess. All ladies of the church are invited to attend.

SARAH CIRCLE is again collecting old jewelry. Your donation may be let in the basket in the narthex. Your donation may be left in the basket in the narthex.

They will begin meeting in August on Thursday mornings to prepare the jewelry for sale at the Fall Craft Fair in October.

LADIES BREAKFAST The “Church Ladies” will meet at The Original Pancake House (159th & Laramie in Oak Forest) at 9:00 AM. All women of the church are invited to meet at the restaurant for fellowship and food.

PRAYER MINISTRY



Come and join *Elsie Burk, Micheline Pfeiffer, Ruth Millis, Gloria Thorne Sr., Jean Bowser, Alvina Tymuse, Fran Hofbauer, Cindy Rodriguez, Valerie Dusso and Anna McCoy.*

Become a PRAYER PARTNER by participating in our “PRAYER CONNECTION”. There are no meetings to attend. We simply ask that you include in your daily prayers each name and the needs listed in the weekly prayer list. If interested please contact Anna McCoy.

PEOPLE NEWS

Please Keep members of church and our extended family in your prayers.



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1st Dana Erickson
- 2nd Kevin Tregoning
- 8th Carolyn Fabing
Elli Vergara
- 14th Joan Tobbe
- 18th Jim Sneed
- 19th Sandy Sneed
- 20th Francis McSherry
- 20th Ray Piepenbrink
- 21st Diane Morehouse
- 23rd Zackery Zwiers
- 25th Michelle Sowa
- 26th Chuck Hofbauer
- 27th Sue Centner
- 28th Sara Andrasco
Sara Brown
- 30th Kelly Piepenbrink
Dave Lyon



JULY ANNIVERSARIES

- 13th Wally and Diane Gerhardt
- 16th Vic and Gail Bell

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST



COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

2nd 8:30 Kathleen Domzalski
11 Lorin Kirksey
Michelle Sowa
9th 8:30 Larry Parvin
11 Lorin Kirksey
Jim Sneed
16th 8:30 Terry Baeder
11 Lorin Kirksey
Fran Hofbauer
23rd 8:30 Ann Plutz
11 Lorin Kirksey
Sara Brown
30th 8:30 Elsie Burk
11 Patti Tregoning

LAY READERS

2nd 8:30 Kathleen Domzalski
11 Michelle Sowa
9th 8:30 Sue Centner
11 Sandy Sneed
16th 8:30 Karen Baeder
11 Fran Hofbauer
23rd 8:30 Lee Travis
12 Michelle Sowa
30th 8:30 Elsie Burk
11 Dan Tregoning

USHERS

2nd 8:30 Larry Parvin
11 Keith Rybolt
9th 8:30 David Rhoads
11 Dan Tregoning
16th 8:30 Jerry Centner
11 Vic and Gail Bell
23rd 8:30 Ed and Jean Melbourn
13 Jim Sneed
30th 8:30 Kathleen Domzalski
11 Bob and Tania Downen

ALTAR GUILD

2nd Fran Hofbauer & Patti Tregoning
9th Cathy Kush & Ruth Millis
16th Claris Okon & Marietta Sullivan
23rd Anna McCoy
30th Claris Okon & Marietta Sullivan

ALTAR FLOWERS

2nd Paulette Fisher and Connie Shellberg in celebration of their sister, Dolores's birthday.
9th Alvina Tymuse
Norma Campbell
16th Jim and Sandy Sneed; their birthdays
Rich and Connie Shellberg; memory of Rich's dad's birthday
23rd Lee Travis; loving memory of Helen Travis and Jan Ravetto.
30th Roberta Katamay; memory of her mother

ACOLYTES

2nd David Rodriguez
9th Joseph Collins
16th Jacob Pechtlo
23rd Manny Gelfo
30th Rachel Andrasco

NURSERY ATTENDENTS

2nd Kristyn Larson and Cathy Kirksey
Helper: Lillian Greyhair
9th Valerie Dusso and Lynn Lyon
Helper: Manny Gelfo
16th Tania Downen and Jami Harling
Helper: Justin Harling
23rd Sharon Barta and Marietta Sullivan
Helper: Kendra Sowa
30th Patti Tregoning and Sandy Sneed
Helper: Allison Tregoning

CLEANING TEAMS

August 1 Dan and Patti Tregoning, Bob and Ann Plutz, Ron Scartozzi
August 8: Lorin Kirksey, Lee Travis, Jim and Sandy Sneed, Vic and Gail Bell
August 15 Bob and Jami Harling, Jim Boland, Claris Okon
August 22: Dave Rhoads, Carolyn Fabing, Larry Parvin, Jerry Centner, Paulette Fisher
August 29: Pastor Dusso, Bob and Tania Downen, Dianne Bogard

COUNTERS: Tania Downen and Stan Sowa



FOR THE SEPTEMBER

NEWSLETTER IS SUNDAY, August 16.