

Bethany Lutheran Church

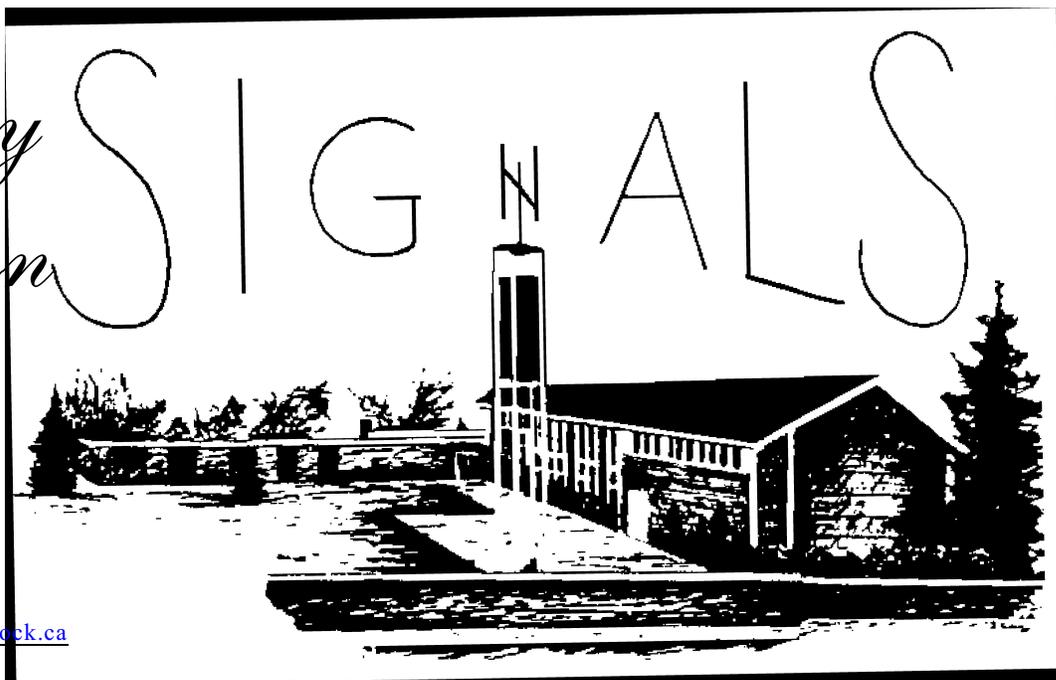
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Rev. Ed Bastian



Volume XIX, Number 10

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Novemberfest



Tickets are now on sale for Novemberfest, which is a fundraiser for Bethany projects, on **November 16th**. Ages 11 to adult are **\$15**, ages 6 - 10 are

\$5 and children ages 5 and under are free.

Please see Liz Park, Shirley Hickey, Rose Francis, Kris Hadland or Art Robinson for tickets. A **service of celebration** will be held at **4 p.m.** led by Pastors Ed & Elina and there will be **no service at 10 a.m.** that morning. The **dinner will start at 5:30 p.m.** and include cabbage rolls, ham, scalloped potatoes and dessert. The tickets will be on sale until Sunday, November 2nd. Please come out to enjoy some fellowship and **support Bethany!**

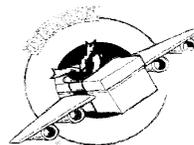
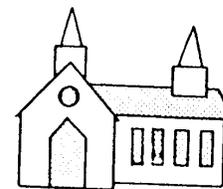
DAY LIGHT SAVINGS TIME

Day Light Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. on **Sunday, November 2nd**. Please turn your clocks back one hour on Saturday night, November 1st, before you go to bed, or you will be very early for church on Sunday and can help the choir practice!



Heating System

We have heat and hot water! Rick's Heating and Cooling has completed installing our high efficiency boilers and water heater at a cost of **\$23,580.00 + GST**. Thank you to everyone who helped with cleaning out the furnace room, painting it and washing the floor! **Please continue to contribute to the Building Fund to help cover the cost of Bethany's capital projects.**



CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES

We will be filling shoe boxes with Christmas gifts for overseas children again this year. Please remember not to include items that can melt (chocolate), leak (toothpaste) or accidentally harm the children (scissors). There will be brochures in the narthex with acceptable and unacceptable items listed in them. The brochure also includes the tag that you must attach to the top of your shoe box indicating the sex and age of the child who will receive your box. **Boxes must be in to the church by Sunday, November 23rd**. Thank you for supporting this wonderful project!



INN OUT OF THE COLD

Inn Out of the Cold will open in the second full week of November 2008. The shelter is located downstairs in Old St. Paul's Anglican Church, 723

Dundas Street, Woodstock and it runs from 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. - 7 days/week. Volunteers are required for two shifts one in the evening and one over-night. Training will be provided. For more information call Stephen Giuliano, or Steve Martin at 519-539-3361.

Non-perishable food items are required with the following suggestions: nighttime snacks - peanuts, popcorn, cheese and crackers; Kraft dinner, canned pasta, tuna, salmon, cookies, ready to go soups; also needed - coffee, tea, hot chocolate, sugar, coffee filters; peanut butter, jam, honey, cheese whiz; canned fruit, apple sauce; margarine; meals in a can, example: stew, ravioli; \$2 gift certificates to Tim Hortons, Lysol spray and dish soap.

A box has been placed in the narthex of the Church for your donations.

The Sunday School and the choir will be joining together to present a Christmas cantata, "A Thrill of Hope" on Sunday, Dec. 14th at 10 a.m.



Please note the **Sunday School** will be practicing for this every Sunday morning at **9:40 a.m.** in the choir room from now until the concert, so that class time is not interrupted. Notes will be sent home with dress rehearsal times.

The Sunday School will be making Advent wreathes on Sunday, Nov. 30th to bring into church. The service will be followed by a hot dog lunch provided by the Sunday School teachers. Everyone is welcome!



Tyson Kenneth Reibling was born to Brad & Jennifer (nee Witzel) on October 4th. He was 8 lbs. 8 oz. Happy siblings are

Lauryn & Ben. Proud grandparents are Marylou & Richard Witzel.

Please change in your church directory:

Liz & Lloyd Brenneman
Caressant Care Retirement Home
81 Fyfe Avenue, Rm. 241
Woodstock, ON
N4S 8Y2

Martha Szulc, Elizabeth Muller and Lloyd Brenneman were in the hospital in October.



Please let Pastor Ed know when you, or a loved one, are in the hospital so that he can visit. Due to the privacy laws, he can't look at a list of names from the hospital to see who's in there.



Pastor Clyde William Wentzell passed away on Saturday, Oct. 18th. His funeral was held at Trinity, Walkerton on Tues. October 21st at 1 p.m. and interment

followed at the Walkerton Cemetary.

Memorial donations may be made to Trinity Lutheran Memorial Fund, L.A.M.P. or Global Hunger as expressions of sympathy. Bethany, as a congregation, has donated to GHDA.

We pray for comfort for his family.

9 women attended our October meeting at which Muriel Carder gave a fascinating talk on her



many years in India. She taught at an interdenominational college, worked with the Leprosy Mission, worked on the Bible Society's translation committee, visited in the villages and was involved in many other projects. She showed us photographs, service books in Tamil and traditional Indian clothing. Barb presented her with a 2009 Friendship Book with daily readings, as a thank you from our group.

Laura and I served a snack with a Thanksgiving theme.

Our next meeting is on **Wed. November 5th at 7 p.m.** Please come out and join in the fun and fellowship. **Everyone is welcome!**

"KEEN AGERS"

19-10

14 Bethany members met on Tues. September 23rd at 11:30 a.m. and again on Tues. October 21st. They ate, prayed, talked, listened, debated and enjoyed each other's company.

A few decisions were made: their new name is the "Keen Agers", they will meet once a month from 11:30 - 1:30 and bring a lunch, they will choose a chairperson within the next couple of months and they brainstormed some things that they wanted to do. For a full report, please see the bulletin board. The next meeting is Tues. November 25th at 11:30 a.m.

Food for Life: Recipes and Stories on the Right to Food is a compilation of recipes, stories and table



What's Cooking

blessings from different contexts and cultures that can be used to prepare global dishes and to lift up the work of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF).

Through partnerships with CLWR and the LWF, members of the ELCIC practice spirited discipleship around the world in projects of compassionate justice that strengthen food security in many different parts of the globe.

Food for Life is available for purchase through Augsburg Fortress Canada at www.afcanada.com. Priced at \$14.00 plus shipping, this book makes a great gift any time of year.



Pastor's
Notes

Moving from "children learn,
adults worship"

Jackie Nunns, the Eastern Synod director for learning ministries, offers in the video, *In Mission for Others*, that we need to move on from this

mistaken perspective. Our children know this need already.

Children have a need for worship, just as adults do. This is not to deny differences, but rather to accommodate them, utilizing everyone's gifts. And if ever there has been a time when the church needed the special

joy and unencumbered enthusiasm children bring, this is it!

Accordingly, our confirmation program will this year move toward inclusivity. Confirmands will be expected to attend worship and encouraged to participate in it. The future church is, in truth, the present church. No one is excluded from it based on their level of understanding. It isn't that one size fits all, but that everyone finds that they fit in. We are one as Christ prayed we would be.

Confirmation classes will be held on "PA" days so as to encourage participation, alongside their other activities. On November 4th, lessons will be on the 10 commandments. December 5th, we'll learn about the Apostle's Creed and on January 5th we study the Lord's Prayer. Finally, on April 24th we'll talk about the sacraments of Holy Communion and Holy Baptism. The London conference pastors are also attempting to offer an overnight confirmation retreat in late spring with various learning opportunities combined with fun and fellowship. In this way, too, we hope to encourage possible life long contacts with other Lutheran youth, much as some may remember from Luther League.

Bethany has approved the participation of all the baptized in Holy Communion, but has been slow, it appears, to endorse the practice. I urge you all and especially the parents of pre-confirmation age children to consider its benefits for our children and our church. We teach that proper reception demands faith. Jesus taught that there is much we can learn about faith from children's expression of it. Their faith is much less threatened by the test of reason than ours. Please be clear that I am not, as Paul wrote, presenting this as a demand. I am hoping you'll see the promise in it and freely take part in it.

My suggestion, then, is that we teach about Holy Communion regularly both in worship and, as opportunities present in our Sunday church school. I'm certainly open to meeting any and all about this ministry so that you can feel confident of its adherence to our teachings and practice.

I've grown to love the faces of eager, joy-filled children coming down the aisle for communion. They are happy, excited, full of

Building Fund

love. In particular, I remember a very small little girl, who used to place her tiny hand inside her mother's to receive. While they could not pass a test of knowledge some would require for reception, it has been my experience in several congregations that the majority of adults would fail such a test, as well. The test for worthy reception is, according to our confessions, faith and simple trust in God. In this, we can learn from small children. More than almost anything, I wish to see a worshipping community reflective of all the ages of life. I trust that this can be done here, too, while still demonstrating respect and appreciation for our SCS teachers and their excellent program.

Concerns about the appropriateness of children's reception of wine can be addressed by adding grape juice to our Eucharistic menu (or by thoughtful pouring, communion in one kind or use of intinction).

Many are concerned about the future of our church. If your treasure is the church, I invite you to consider fully supporting as a way of sharing the gospel in our time. I hope that you will put the best construction on this plan and hopefully be a part of our movement toward being more fully the body of Christ.

Thanks for listening so well now and each Sunday!

Pastor Ed



Church Council and the committee chairs enjoyed a planning retreat on the afternoon of Sunday, October 5th. Thank you to Inga Hansen for opening her home for the meeting and to Ken and Shirley

Hickey for making the delicious lunch!

Pastor Ed presented many helpful recommendations, issues were discussed and plans formed. A Council meeting followed the retreat. Rev. Rick Pryce and Janet Weber will be talking to Council on Tues. November 4th at 7:00 p.m. concerning the Benevolence Vision, following the Council meeting at 6:30 p.m.

For an excellent summary of everything Council, Pastor Ed and the committees are doing, please read the Council minutes posted on the bulletin board.

Anyone wishing to donate to any of the building improvement projects, renovations, or capital expenditures at Bethany is invited to use the "other" line of your offering envelope and mark your donation "Building Fund". There are also envelopes available in the narthex marked "Building Fund", but please write your **envelope number** on these envelopes.



**CHURCH
OFFICE
HOURS**

If you need to get hold of Pastor Ed when he is not at Bethany, his home number is 519-668-7546, his cell phone number is 226-268-7546 and his e-mail address is edbastian@hotmail.com

Our e-mail addresses are bethanyoffice@rogers.com for secretarial items and bethanypastor@rogers.com for personal messages for the pastor.

Our website, which is updated by Richard Eves, is www.bethanywoodstock.ca.

The church secretary is in the office Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. She also has an inbox on her desk in the pastor's study, as does the pastor.

Please put a copy of your committee's minutes in the secretary's inbox or e-mail them to the church, so that a summary may be included in the Signals and upcoming meetings may be noted on the calendar.

We will no longer be mailing out the Signals newsletters that are not picked up, due to the high mailing cost, unless you call the church office and request that we mail the newsletter to you. The newsletters will be available in your pigeonhole, on our website and in the rack in the narthex.

POP: Pre-authorized Offering Payment

Please consider becoming a POP donor, especially if you go away for several months each year.

Having regular monthly income from those who choose to have an amount withdrawn automatically from their bank accounts, greatly eases the month-to-month paying of the regular bills.

It's easy to become a POP donor. A simple application is completed with your bank information and the monthly amount you wish to contribute. For details, or to get started, contact Cindy Doering, Financial Secretary.

19-10

NEWS FROM SYNOD AND THE ELCIC

The September issue of the **CANADA LUTHERAN** has articles such as: Precious Imports - Making refugee resettlement our mission in the world, Slave Labour Pains, Engagement "I Do's", Welcoming the Stranger, The Face of Hope - national youth gathering draws more than 1,000 attendees for fellowship and fun and all the regular columns, synods' news and features.

There are copies of the Canada Lutheran in the brochure rack in the narthex to borrow and return.

The Sept./Oct. 2008 issue of the Eastern Synod Lutheran contains many interesting articles such as: Luther Place, Fredericton, NB to Provide Affordable Housing; Eastern Synod Welcomes New Pastor, Mei Sum Lai; Daniel Erlander Creates Anniversary Illustration for St. Mark's, Kitchener; Tanzania's Zion House a Gift From Zion, Maple, ON and much, much more.

There are copies available in the narthex to borrow and return.



Your Offering Envelope # May Change

So, you've finally memorized your offering envelope # and can write it on things without looking it up. Well, sorry to throw you off again, but **if you have a number over 160, your # will be changing for the 2009 year to something lower.** The boxes of offering envelopes will be laid out alphabetically in the narthex in late November and you will find out your new # then.

The year to date Budgeted Operations has a surplus of \$334.87.

Directed gifts of \$150 were sent to Global Hunger & CLWR in September.



Total September Inflows	\$ 14,348.45
Total September Outflows	8,459.16
Balance for September 2008	\$ 5,889.29

After adjusting for \$285 to the Memorial Fund and \$3,125 to the Building Fund, the **Operating Surplus for Sept. is \$2,479.29.**

Thank you for continuing to support Bethany with your giving.

Louis Eckert, Treasurer

CASH REGISTER TAPES

If you get groceries, you get cash register receipts. They're worth money! Not much, but for every \$450 at Zehr's and \$500 at Sobey's, the church will receive \$1.00. The only other participating stores are Independent Grocer.

Bring your tapes to the church. Boxes for them are located with the hymnbooks in the narthex. Jackie McDonald and Wendy Berg count these tapes, and then they are taken to the respective stores.

WORSHIP TAPES

We tape the service, and make copy tapes. Currently 4 tapes are distributed weekly. If you have difficulty getting to church and wish to listen to the service on tape, or want a copy of a particular service, please ask Pastor Ed. We keep copies of a service for about a month before reusing the tape.



Bethany is responsible for leading services at **Caressant Care on Sunday, November 2nd** at 2:00 p.m.; at **Woodingford Lodge on Sunday, November 9th** at 2:00 p.m. and at the

Woodstock General Hospital on Sunday, November 16th at 9:30 a.m. Please volunteer to Pastor Ed as soon as possible. He will help you to plan the service and supply the sermon, at your request.