

# You Otto Know

*We are a family of believers living, sharing and celebrating the love of Jesus in our community and throughout the world.*

Pastor Charles Schultz

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## The Real Thing?

As I am writing this article the temperature is hovering around 90 and the dew point is near 70. Don't you just love summertime in St. Louis? It is certainly a day in need of refreshment. Just to the left of my computer monitor sits a large glass of ice cold Coca-Cola. The condensation from the glass is forming a small puddle on the coaster which was a gift from a young member. You know they used to call Coca-Cola the "Real Thing". I'm not so sure about that as some say that all the sugar and caffeine it contains isn't good for my body. Even so, it is my "little addiction" and I find it refreshing.

Yet there is even something more refreshing. King Solomon wrote these words; **<sup>5</sup>Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. <sup>6</sup>In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. <sup>7</sup>Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord, and turn away from evil. <sup>8</sup>It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.** (Proverbs 3:5-8, ESV) Trust and fear in the Lord brings refreshment. Trust that He loves you, died for you, redeemed you, and prepares a place especially for you in His kingdom. Respect His power and live in awe of His majesty and glory for He alone is the almighty and Holy One. Trust and fear, they're not works that earn us anything but rather they are responses to what our Lord has already done for us as revealed in His holy Word.

The Real Thing! Real Refreshment! You can't find it in a red labeled bottle or can. You can only find it on the pages of Scripture. You can only find it in the deeds and promises of our God.

Don't forget to bring your vacation bulletins to the office. The map in the narthex has a few more posts on it yet there is still room for yours. On September 7<sup>th</sup> we will celebrate all the ministries that were visited over the summer months.

Blessed to be a Blessing,

*Pastor Schultz*

## Rally Day Sunday, August 24 Imperial Bowl

Join us Sunday, August 24 at 12:00 p.m. as we celebrate our Sunday School students!

This will be a time of fellowship, food, and bowling.

Lunch is provided.

(Free will donations will be accepted.)

### Schedule of Activities

12:00 p.m. Bingo  
12:25 p.m. Presentation of Certificates  
12:30 p.m. Lunch  
Bowling to follow lunch.

A sign-up sheet will be in the narthex



## FROM THE SECRETARY

### JUNE STATISTICS ATTENDANCE:

Date	7:45	10:00
6/1	13	77
6/8	28	56
6/15	22	65
6/22	12	65
6/29	21	68

### Monthly Average:

19      66

### Yearly Average:

(both services): 91

## Worship Assistance Teams

Worship Assistance Teams have been assigned to each week of the month. Simply check to see which team you are on and that is the week you will serving.

Team 1 - Week 1 (August 3)

Ushers - Sonya & Bill Jeffries, Jeff Nahlik, Lloyd Linhorst

Greeters - Mary Nahlik, Faith Nahlik, Ginny Todd

Acolyte - Zach Jeffries

Sound Board - Jason Nahlik

Youth Group - Week 2 (August 10)

Team 2 - Week 2 (August 17)

Ushers - Virgin & Diane Benson, Justin Benson, Murel Warren

Greeters - Michelle Benson, Colleen Schultz, Diane Benson

Acolyte - Ben Warren

Sound Board - Ben Weibrecht

Team 3 - Week 3 (August 24)

Ushers - Charlie Friedman, Becky Vogel, Nathan Aiello, Alec Aiello

Greeters - Cap & Vi Miller, Jerry & Betty Vogelsang

Acolytes - Lexi Mueller, Adrian Cantu

Sound Board - Jacob Vogel

Team 4 - Week 4 (August 31)

Ushers - Jason Schaub, Bill Weeke, Jerry Burchett, Nancy Brooks

Greeters - Bill & Carol Weeke, Nancy Brooks, Arlie Ehlmann

Acolytes - Lexi Schaub, Nick Frank

Sound Board - Joey Frank

## MITES ON A MISSION FOR JESUS

The May & June collection of "Mites" showed a total of \$335.52, with that amount sent in to the LWML District Office for our second payment of 2014. Our next collection will be the first Sunday in October, which is LWML Sunday.

***Put your mission pennies in your Mite Box small,  
Send them out to labor when the missions call.  
Pennies soon are collars if we all chip in;  
Dollars help our missions precious souls to win.***

St. Paul's ladies Aid appreciates your support of this worthy mission project.

**TO GOD BE THE GLORY!**

Arlene Marschel, Mite Chairman



## Culvers Nights

Tuesday, August 12

@ 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Arnold Culvers Restaurant



Come support our Youth Group as you enjoy some great Culvers food.

Upcoming Culvers Nights

Tuesday, September 23

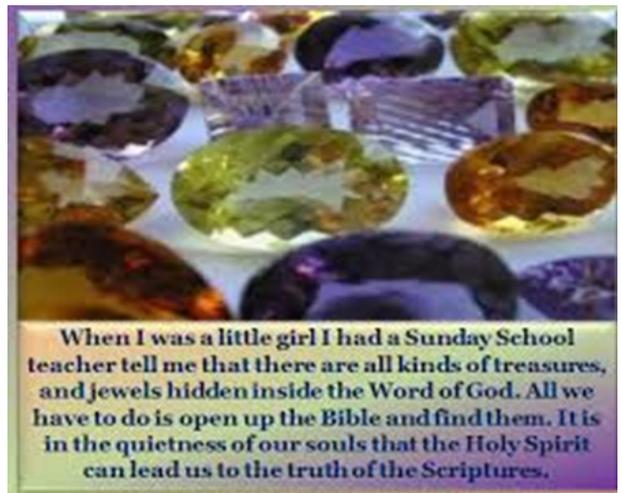
Tuesday, October 28

## Scrip Cards are Available!

Orders for Scrip Cards are due the first Sunday of the month. See Melanie Weibrecht to place an order or to purchase one of the many cards available for weekly purchase.

## Join Us for Yoga

Yoga classes are held weekly on Monday and Wednesday evenings. We are currently meeting at 6:30 p.m. both days during the summer. Fall times will be announced soon.



**The Flower Chart** is missing from the narthex! Thanks to all who signed up to provide flowers for the church for the year. There are only a few days left, September 28, October 26 and December 7. If you would like to provide flowers for one of those days, please call the church office and let us know. Thank you.

## Stewardship of Time

StewardCAST



As generations pass, many things change. Succeeding generations seek to improve upon or rebel against the priorities and accomplishments of those who have gone before them. As a result, change becomes a way of life. If we reflect on the last 50 years of life in the United States we can get a glimpse of how not only how much things have changed, but the frighteningly increasing pace of that change. In 1964 the latest technology was color television. Today we can stream programs though the air in such vivid color that it looks even better than reality. Telephones that were once on the “party line” are now smartphones that are in almost every pocket or purse in the land. Our communication is different. Our transportation is different. Our clothing is different. Our communities are different.

This pace of change has had an effect on stewardship as well. Amid all the progress that we have seen over the last 50 years in many aspects of our life in the United States, there has been a regression in the area of stewardship. This is true in every aspect of the life of a steward. Since a steward is called by God to the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes, any regression in stewardship is a serious matter. It can be seen in fewer dollars being offered to the work of the Lord in the local congregation, the district, and for Synod’s work nationally and internationally. This presents a serious challenge to our stewardship of the Gospel.

This regression in stewardship, and the challenges to our faithful use of all life’s resources, also can be seen in other aspects of stewardship as well. The stewardship of time has become an ever-increasing casualty of the change in stewardship culture in this current generation. With all of the advancements in technology there has come with it a commensurate increase in the pace of life. Schedules of families that once revolved around the ebb and flow of the parish life and parish ministry now have many other demands and temptations. Congregations a generation ago would plan congregational projects that were driven more by the labor of the people rather than their financial commitments. Now a generation later, many congregations find that their member families would much rather write a check than invest any of their unscheduled times for the work of the ministry.

While it would be easy to condescendingly assign this challenge to the self-inflicted wounds of too many soccer camps, baseball teams and annual trips to see a mouse in Orlando, this caricature might not serve the Gospel faithfully. There are far more substantial claims that are being placed on the time of a family than ever more. For those who are blessed to have full-time employment, the demand for more productivity from workers have made work hours increase and deviate from the former cultural norm of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. As the availability of fulltime employment decreased because of the expense of benefit packages to employers, more families are spending more hours cobbling together a living out of multiple part-time jobs. This leaves fewer moments for the vocation of spouse and parent, and even fewer moments for the vocation of servant in the local congregation, day school or mission society.

How shall the Church respond? The response to the self-inflicted stewardship of time wounds could well be handled with some pastoral conversation. It is good, right and salutary to point out that a child’s gymnastic skills, puck handling skills or experience at Disney will not create a relationship with Jesus that will bless and keep them eternally. There are indeed ways in which we can respond with direct preaching of God’s Word to call people to repentance when they are guilty of crowding their schedules with so much clutter that it keeps them from the Word of God. In these cases it really is a matter of bringing God’s Word to bear on the priorities of the family. We can fairly and honestly ask if these families are indeed seeking first the kingdom of God. But it is critical that we not only call them to repentance but also give them the resources needed from the Scriptures to help them order their offering of time and talent to the Lord. This would be a great place for the teaching of our baptismal vocation to be set within a time management framework, all the while asking the question, “Are you using all of your time in your life in a manner in which it freely and joyously works for God’s purposes?”

*Article Continued on Next Page*



This year the Youth Group attended the Higher Things:

Crucified! Conference. Over 1300 youth and leaders invaded the Concordia University - Wisconsin campus for four days of Worship, Plenaries, Catechesis, and Fellowship.

We started our trip on Monday morning, leaving by 8:00 a.m. for the seven hour ride to Mequon, Wisconsin. Once we arrived, we were treated to a barbecue at the house of Colleen Schutlz's parents. THANK YOU!!!

The conference started Tuesday afternoon with a Worship Service with Holy Communion. The chapel at Concordia University is beautiful. Check out some of the photos Nancy Brooks took to see the place we worshipped in everyday.

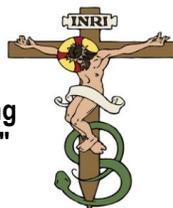
Each day we attended Plenary sessions, two of which were led by Missouri Synod President Matthew Harrison. We also had the opportunity to attend several Catechesis each day. Some of the topics included College Life and Faith, Doctor Who and the Gospel, the Meaning of the Liturgy, Dating and Relationships, and much more.

We worshipped several times during the week. Services included Matins each morning, Vespers each afternoon, and Evening Prayer each evening. We also closed with another Worship Service with Holy Communion.

Our trip came to a close on Friday. Once again we got into the cars - this time for the eight hour trip back. (Traffic was bad in Milwaukee.) We all arrived back home to church by midnight on Friday to be picked up by our families.

For more information on the Higher Things conference, make sure to attend the late service on August 10th. We'll be incorporating some of the Youth's favorite parts of the Worship Services. We'll also have a brief slide show of photographs from the trip.

**"For I decided to know nothing among you except Christ and Him Crucified."**  
1 Cor. 2:2



## Stewardship of Time (Continued)

But how do we handle our brothers and sisters whose stewardship of time is limited not simply by a matter of bad time management? How do we handle those who have been given vocations by God that do not allow for easy alignment to the traditional schedule in the life of a local parish? We are stewards of the Gospel and it becomes imperative that the congregation know the people that the Lord has already gathered into the local congregation AND the people in the community that the congregation is called to reach. This may well mean alternative times for worship services and Bible studies. It also may lead to the congregation offering alternative service times for those who work odd hours and days.

These lost modern day sheep of the Lord are in need of a shepherd. For them the Lord calls us to be all things to all people. This may put more burden on the pastor and leaders in the local congregation to become more creative with their time as they serve the Lord by serving their neighbor. To demand time from families like these is no different than asking a family that has nothing to dig a bit deeper into their empty wallet or checking account. These families who would love to be more active in many cases but can't because the circumstances in which they find themselves.

The faithful pastor and congregation will address the challenge of time stewardship carefully. They will faithfully exegete both the text of Scripture and the people whom God has put under their spiritual care. This will take an investment of time on the church's part. The Good Shepherd has called us to know the sheep He has placed under our care. There may well be a contingent of those in the congregation whose stewardship of time is lacking because of self-inflicted wounds. They should be handled like any other stewardship matter. It is a matter of speaking the whole counsel of God. It is calling them to repentance lovingly and gently. In this we will bring to bear the wisdom of the psalmist in Ps. 90, "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom."

As we learn more about the sheep who lack time stewardship, and how the issue is far more complicated than we once believed, it will require more willingness by the congregation to serve. But this is a sacrifice that is made because, as Paul would say to the Corinthians, "I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings."

A faithful congregational ministry cannot exist without good stewards. This is true of treasure. It is even truer of our stewardship of time. Matters of financial stewardship are easier to solve. Addressing the issue of the stewardship of time is a call to faithful vocation. In some situations it is a matter of reminding people of their Baptism. In other situations, it may well be a matter of bearing with one another in love. But in every situation it is a matter of faithfully handling the Word and the people entrusted to us by God.