

The Lutheran Light

Volume VIII Issue I December 2013

Special points of interest:

- Sermon/devotions
- Finance
- **Events**
- **Activities**
- Insights

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Indescribable Gift

Pastor Dusan Tillinger

Dear friends, this is the time of year when we are concerned about choosing just the right Christmas gifts to give to special people. But have you ever received an indescribable gift? Have you ever received a gift that was beyond description?" - I thought about that for a while last week. What kind of gift would it have to be that we would call it "indescribable?"

In 2nd Corinthians chapter 9, Paul is writing about human gifts. The church in Corinth is taking up offerings to give to poor Christians in Jerusalem. He commends them for their eagerness to help. -Then, in the verse 15, he shifts his attention from human gifts to God's gift of sending Jesus to earth for us. And he cannot find words to describe that. He simply says, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable

gift."

First of all, Paul calls Jesus "indescribable" because of His nature. How do you describe Jesus? How do you describe a baby born of a virgin? How do you describe God in flesh, walking upon our earth? -How do you describe God who is all powerful? And how do you describe the eternal? -Paul says that we can't. Words

God said, "I know. I will send a baby. Babies don't frighten people. Babies are so tender, soft, and helpless. Maybe they will experience my love if I send a baby."

aren't adequate.

Secondly, Paul called Jesus indescribable because couldn't explain enough the purpose of His coming to earth. - The angels announced to the shepherds, "Today in the Thirdly I think - cont'd pg 4

town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord." - When God looked at our world He knew that our greatest need is not for more wealth, nor better education, not even a better social system. Our greatest need is for a Savior because we all are in a big trouble. The sin separates us from God.

During Christmas celebrate the fact that Jesus came into our world to save us. He knew that this rescue operation would dangerous and He had to lay His life down for people who didn't deserve it but He did it anyway. - How do you describe that? How do you put into words what God accomplished when He sent His only begotten Son into the world?

How our children are growing for God. Jennifer Grammenz

A peek into the lives at Sunday school

.Most parents would say that their children are the most valuable thing in their lives. We do our best to protect them and help them grow to be capable individuals. Our best ally, in protecting and raising our children would be the Lord. He is the fortress that our children need. Encouraging them to learn the Word, and understand that Jesus is our ultimate Savior, is the true way to make sure that our children will have the skills to be secure and succeed in life.

A new Christ based adventure has been set up in our church. A nursery for children ages 0 - 36 months, iunior Sunday school ages 3 - 5 years, intermediate ages 5-9 and senior Sunday school ages 9 and up. The idea is to allow - cont'd pg 2

How our children are growing for God.

A peek into the lives at Sunday school

... cont'd from page I

parents to have an option of keeping their children with them during the service, or being able to have their children attended to, in a Christian environment downstairs.

The nursery will be mostly play based with supervision. Opportunities will be provided for the nursery children to join in during prayer, bible story time, coloring, and other Sunday school activities if they wish. There will also be a snack provided.

As the children grow and move from the nursery into Sunday school, a more structured programme will be set. The Sunday school programme will be filled with prayer, exciting Bible stories, Christian based activities and games. It will offer a wonderful learning experience to help our children grow a closer spiritual relationship to God. Snack time too of course ;)

We are working hard to spread the gospel into the lives of our children. You may notice at times, that the Sunday school stories reflect the lessons that were learned during the sermon for the adults. We encourage parents to talk with their children about their experiences of the day.

The children's ministry is important to the parents, children and our church family as a whole. This will open doors to allowing new families to our church, enabling all of us to hear the Word and not have to worry about our children's needs during the worship service.

In order for this nursery and Sunday school programme to work, we need our church family to work together, offering prayer support and physical time. We are looking for volunteers to watch children in the nursery, volunteers to teach Sunday school lessons and volunteers to help prepare lessons. If you are unable to help physically, we ask for your support in praying for the teachers and the children involved. We hope that you and your family will be able to be a part of this new and exciting experience.

Please contact Jennifer Grammenz if you are able to provide support in any way. jengrammenz@sympatico.ca

'Halloween' Party at Christ Lutheran

Debra Champagne

October 26th, 2013 we hosted a Dress-Up Party at Christ Lutheran Church. This year's theme was "Noah's Ark". There were a dozen booths in our animal filled ark. Children enjoyed games, food, dancing, crafts, balloon animals, a photo booth and a magic show

There were about 50 in attendance and the children had a great time.

Thank you to our wonderful children

who invited their friends and helped spread the word.

Thank you to our many amazing volunteers. This event would not have been possible without them.



Family Fun Fair

Meghan Grech

On June 8th, 2013 we had our second* annual Family Fun Fair at Christ Lutheran. This year was even bigger than last year. We had a variety of activities for kids to enjoy, including 2 Bouncy Castles, Petting Zoo, Pony Rides, Games, and Face Painting & Field Activities. No Family Fun Fair would be complete without a BBQ. Jafa the

Clown kept everyone entertained with her magic and balloon animals. There was something for everyone! Many people returned from last year and many came after seeing the advertising on our Church sign. Everyone had a great time interacting with people from our community. We look forward to seeing more members of our congrega-

tion come out and interact with our community. The Family Fun Fair allows Christ Lutheran to spread the word of Christ to our community, while letting families enjoy time together.

Editors note: *second successfully organized by Meghan - Family Fun Fair has a long history in our church

Congregational Meeting - December 1, 2013

Sam Jones

The agenda for our December 1st congregational meeting included a report on our finances, as at October 31st; a report on the insurance funds that we received through our insurance claim as the result of our spring basement flood; a short presentation on development of the Church property, and the introduction of our Board of Directors for the period 2014 to 2016.

A separate report on our October 31st finances is included in this newsletter. Our insurance claim, through the efforts of Bob Ernst and Mike Gondosch, resulted in us receiving, after payment of the remedial costs, approximately \$33,000. As per a request from Pastor Dusan the mem-

bers in attendance agreed to allocate \$3,000 towards a new sound system with the balance of the insurance funds being held in trust for further consideration of other needs yet to be determined.

The members in attendance ratified the Board's decision to appoint Bob Ernst as our project lead regarding the development of the Church property. Bob will be asking a number of the members of the congregation to join his development committee. An update regarding the development of the Church property will be made at the Spring congregational meeting.

After prayerful thought and discussion with Pastor Dusan the fol-

lowing individuals,

- Bob Ernst
- Mike Denman
- Andreas Grammenz

have offered to serve as members of our 2014-2016 Board of Directors.

Please keep Bob, Mike and Andreas in your thoughts and prayers as they lead us in doing God's work here at Christ Lutheran.

Sam Jones, Vice President

Editors Note: Installation will be in January, date to be announced.

Stewardship

Sam Jones/Mike Gondosch

To those of you who the Stewardship Committee were able to visit over the past year "thank you" for allowing us the opportunity to visit with you and inviting us into your home. Members who had committed to a visit but have not been contacted to confirm that visit we apologize to you for not being able to make that commitment. Unfortunately, personal issues beyond our control took up most of our time over the past six months. But by no means have you been forgotten and a Stewardship visit is still on the horizon.

When the members of your Stewardship committee first committed to this new program and the visitations necessary to remind us all of our "commitment to Christ" through the individual use of our own time, talents and treasures we never saw this commitment as being only for a short period of time. We realized during our six

months of planning and preparation that Stewardship doesn't stop one day and then continue the next day. It is ongoing from the day we accept Christ's message of salvation for all and the way we use, as an individual Christian, our time, our talents and our treasures to do his work.

As we mentioned over a year ago our emphasis as believer's and stewards of Christ must focus on giving one's heart and self to God before the giving of time, talent and treasures. But once the Stewardship seed has been

planted it is our responsibility to mature it and help it grow through the devotion of time, the giving of our individual talents where needed, and finally giving back to Him his share of the treasures He has provided to us.

Is our Stewardship committee alive? It certainly is! And in the months to come as those visitations resume His spirit will move us all to make better use of the time, talents and treasure's that He is asking all of us to share to-day and tomorrow.

WHEN WE, THROUGH FAITH, GIVE GOD OUR FIRST AND BEST, WE KNOW THAT GOD IS HONORED.

Jesus said, "Freely you have received, freely give" (Matthew 10:8).



Indescribable Gift? ... Cont'd from page I

that Jesus, God's gift, is indescribable because of the grace by which Jesus is given. – You know, every gift that I give this Christmas will be given because the recipient of that gift has some claim on me. – Now you might not like that idea, but that is as frank as I know how to be. – I'll buy a gift for my wife because she is my wife. I'll buy gifts for my children because they are my children. We buy gifts for family members because they are family.

Now if I buy a gift for you and you are not in my family, it is probably because you bought a gift for me last year and I didn't buy one for you. So I owe you one this year, and thus the cycle continues. – If people give a gift to feed the hungry, or clothe the naked or take care of the homeless, they most certainly do it because down deep inside they

recognize that they have a debt to humanity. – That is what makes God's gift so special. He doesn't owe us anything. Indeed, we are in constant rebellion against Him and His will for our lives.

God gives a gift, not because He feels obligated but because His love is so overwhelming. – And when you stop at the manger in Bethlehem and look at the baby Jesus, you must realize that He is a gift of love. And there are no words adequate enough to describe God's grace towards us in Jesus.

When God looked at our confused world over 2,000 years ago; when He saw people looking for peace, and meaning in life, He urgently wanted to communicate His love. – But how? – He must have thought, "If I stand before the

people in all my glory, they'll be frightened and will never feel that they can come to me and talk with me. – If I speak, and they hear the thunder of my voice, they may never grasp the words of my love."

My friends, how in the world do you describe that which is indescribable? God said, "I know. I will send a baby. Babies don't frighten people. Babies are so tender, soft, and helpless. Maybe they will experience my love if I send a baby." – So in the fullness of time God sent His only begotten Son to redeem those under sin, that we might receive the full rights of (His) sons. (Gal 4:4-5)



Treasury Update

Sam Jones for Mike Gondosch

As of October 31st, our total income from all sources was \$66,669.00 while our total expenses for the same period totalled \$82,396.00. A loss of \$15,727.00.

When we prepared our 2013 Budget in January of 2013 we had projected a loss of \$10,664.00 for the period January to October. Even though our loss at the end of October is greater than estimated your Board of Directors still feel very confident that by year's end, December 31st, that our loss will be as originally budgeted.

Now, as any financial manager will tell you a continued loss over a period of time is never good. However, I would ask everyone to remember that we had anticipated this loss and had prepared for it through our delayed Pastoral call. So although one might suggest that things don't look good for us from a financial perspective and that there are no

roses growing in the garden that is certainly not the case. Each Sunday we see new families in our midst ready to serve Him and share Christ's love for

Currently, our monthly expenses exceed our monthly income by approximately \$1,000 per month

all. Each Sunday we hear a strong message from Pastor Dusan about salvation for all. And each Sunday we see to the three T's of stewardship, namely "Time, Talent and Treasurers" by our members.

Currently, our monthly expenses exceed our monthly income by

approximately \$1,000 per month. I would ask each member of the congregation, where possible, to prayerfully consider their monthly offerings as we move forward into 2014 with our ongoing message of "Christ's love and salvation for all".

Yours in Christ Sam Jones Vice President (for Mike Gondosch)

Editors note:

For your convenience - online giving is available:

www.blessauora.com/support-ourmissions.html

A special Christmas service

for those mourning or remembering those who passed away

Call to Worship (from Isaiah 9)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who lived in a land of deep shadow a light has shone. For the yoke that was weighing upon them, and the burden upon their shoulders, thou hast broken in pieces O God, our Renewer.

Opening Prayer

God of Mercy, hear out prayer in this Advent Season for ourselves and our families who live with the painful memories of loss. We ask for strength for today, courage for tomorrow and peace for the past. We ask these things in the name of you Christ who shares out life in joy and sorrow. Death and new birth, despair and promise. Amen.

Responsive psalm 121

One: I will life up mine eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

Many: My help comes from God who made heaven and earth.

One: God will not suffer your foot to be moved. The one who keeps you will not slumber.

Many: Behold the one who keeps Israel shall not slumber or sleep.

One: The holy one is your keeper. The Holy one is your shade on your right hand.

Many: The sun shall not hurt you by day nor the moon by night.

One: Our God shall preserve you from all evil and shall preserve you soul.

Many: Our God shall preserve your going out and ;your coming in form this time forth and even for evermore.

Read: Matthew 1 and 2

The story of the first Christmas is not really a happy story but a story about life in the real world. Mary of Nazareth, who is engaged to the carpenter Joseph, discovers she is pregnant. Joseph does not want to embarrass Mary and plans to break the engagement privately. This was not an easy time for this couple. Their country was under Roman occupation and King was not an easy time for this couple. Their country was under Roman occupation and King Herod who ruled Palestine for the Romans was known for his cruelty. These are not exactly ideal conditions for bringing a child into the world. In the midst of their turmoil, an angel-God's messenger- speaks to Joseph in a dream and tells him to proceed with his marriage to Mary.

Read: Matthew 1:18-24

In the midst of Mary and Joseph's joy over the safe birth of their son Jesus, a new crisis looms. King Herod orders the death of all children under 2 and so the Holy Family have to flee as refugees to Egypt. There they live for several years until King Herod dies and it is safe to return. Mary and Joseph felt God's presence with them through all the hardships they had to face.

Read: Matthew 2:7-23

John 1

Matthew and Luke describe Jesus' birth Bethlehem with stories of visits from shepherds and Magi. But John's gospel speaks of Jesus as God's word for all humanity, as God's word spoken through this one born into a hurting world. He also describes Jesus's birth as light in out darkness. "Before the world was created, the world already existed; the word was with God and was the same as God. From this very beginning the word was with God.

Through the word God made all things. Not one thing in all creation was made without the word. The word contained life and this life brought light to all people. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never overpowered it. The true light that enlightens all people was coming into the world. And the word was made flesh and lived among us; and we saw his glory, full of grace and truth."

A Liturgy of Remembering (Using the Advent Wreath Candles)

One: This first candle we light to remember those whom we have loved an lost. We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice, the memory that binds them to us in this season. (Pause while the first candle is lit)

All: May God's eternal love surround them.

One: This second candle we light is to redeem the pain of loss; the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health. (Pause while the second candle is lit.) We pause to gather up the pain of the past and offer it to God, asking that from God's hands we receive the gift of peace.

All: Refresh, restore, renew us O God, and lead us into your future.

One: This third candle we light is to remember ourselves this Christmas time. We pause and remember these past weeks and month; the disbelief, the anger, the down times, the poignancy of reminiscing, the hugs and handshakes of family and friends, all those who stood with us. (Pause while the third candle is lit.) We give thanks for all the support we have known.

Psalm 100 v1 - Make a Joyful Noise unto the Lord

Bob Ernst

After breaking for the summer, the choir reassembled in September for another season of practice and performance. Nathalie has graciously offered to lead us again, but this year wanted to challenge us with some trickier musical arrangements. This would of course mean more practice, and so we agreed to practice every Monday evening instead of just having three or four practice sessions before each performance. We also discussed putting two or three numbers together for each of two special performances this year in addition to performing on a few special Church year occasions. As this article is being written, we are all practicing hard and looking forward to our first special performance on Christmas Eve. However, as you read this piece, you will already have heard it, and we hope that you enjoyed listening to our presentation of Carol of the Bells as well as our special rendition of Silent Night, which we sang with piano accompaniment from Nathalie and a beautiful flute part by one of our choir members, Galina Novoselskaya.

Our gracious Lord has been answer our prayers for new members and we are pleased to welcome Gillian Gondosch, Nune Sagsozing, Sara Bonham and Nushik Hakobyan into our group. Together, they sure have turned up the volume in our treble clef - - but we are still praying for more pipes in our tenor and bass department! (We do have one

prospect!) So, please consider coming out and giving us a try. Our practices are enjoyable, and the performances are quite rewarding – and a wonderful way to give back of your talents to the Lord. Talk to any of us if you feel moved to join in, even if only for a try!

As always, we thank Nathalie for her cheerful and dedicated help for both our adult choir, and also for our children - - a true blessing from our Lord.

Stay tuned Your Choir



Sausage Making - 101 Bob Ernst

Most everyone has enjoyed a sausage or two, no doubt on many occasions – but have you ever tried to make one? Well, you had an opportunity to do just that on Saturday, Nov 2, 2013. And for those who took the opportunity, they had a great time transforming 300 lbs of pork shoulder into some of the best sausage you'll ever eat.

For me, it started on Friday afternoon with a call from Pastor Dusan asking if I could meet him at the church in 20 min or so. He had just picked up 300 lbs of pork shoulders at Highland farms, and needed some help getting it into the fridges at church. We met at the church, lugged it downstairs and loaded it into the fridges which were then so jammed we had to tie the doors shut!

Next morning, about a dozen of us assembled at the church as planned, and under the skillful guidance of Pastor Toth, began the six hour transformation process. Pastor Toth had been at work on this project much before we started, sourcing the pork shoulder, pulling together all the ingredients in his recipe, and helping Pastor Dusan

with the purchase at Highland Farms. That in itself is a story which I'll leave to the Dusan Team.

So the team got to work, trimming and boning out the pork shoulder and grinding it up using the new grinder purchased for the event. We kept weight records as the ground pork kept piling up on the mixing tables. When finally finished, Pastor Toth tallied the weight, and then carefully measured out his secret concoction of spices, salt, and preservatives which he poured out on the ground meat. Then the mixing began. More tutelage from P Toth on mixing technique and we all dug in with scrupulously clean hands - squishing and turning - squishing and turning, until our fingers were blue from the cold meat, and our sausage mentor felt it was ready for the next step - the taste test.

A large pattie of the sausage meat was formed by our leader and cooked in a fry pan. All had a chance to give it a taste test, but only a nod from the sausage guru signaled time to move on to the next step – stuffing the casings! All the while, a special team had been at work in the kitchen preparing the casings. One again, we used a brand new stuffer purchased for the occasion.

More technique training from you know who, and we stuffed casings and formed sausages endlessly as the pile of meat slowly became over 275 lb of sausage, hanging on make shift poles.

6 hours later, we were busy cleaning up and weighing out sausages into portions which had been ordered. A good portion of the sausage was transported to Peter Schneider to be smoked to order . . . thank you very much Peter! Our Pastor Dusan had the task of keeping track of orders and making sure they were all filled – a job very well done!

We agreed on a very reasonable price of \$3.50 /lb which generated a tidy surplus over the cost of meat and supplies. This surplus, along with the surplus from the first trial event, and special contributions received from members has pretty well offset the cost of the new equipment. So, our next event will begin to generate funds which we can use for other purposes.

A special thank you goes out to Pastors Toth and Tillinger for their work in making the event a success! The proof is in the sausage – and the sausage is terrific. If you missed this event, – be sure not to miss the next one!

A special Christmas service

for those mourning or remembering those who passed away ... Cont'd from page 5

All: Let us remember that dawn defeats darkness.

One: This fourth candle is lit to remember out faith and the gift of hope which the Christmas story offers to us. (Pause while the fourth candle is lit.) We remember that god who shares out life promises us a place and time of no more pain and suffering. **All**: Let us remember the one who shoes the way, who brings the truth and who bears the light.

Prayers of the People

One: In the spirit of this season let us now confidently ask God for all the things we need; For ourselves as we participate in whatever way we can this Christmas. God hear our Prayer...

All: And in your mercy answer.

One: For our families and friends that they may continue to help and support us. God, hear our prayer....

All: And in your mercy answer.

One: For the person we have loved that has died. For all the losses that we know, that all may be redeemed by you Easter promise. God, hear our prayer.

All: And in your mercy answer.

One: For all our family and friends that they may know love and peace and happiness in you. God, hear our prayer.

All: And in your mercy answer.

One: For the peace proclaimed by the Christmas angels, to come throughout the whole world. God, hear our prayer....

All: And in your mercy answer.

One: God of great compassion and love, listen to the prayers of these you people. Grant to all, especially the bereaved and troubled ones this Christmas, the blessing we ask in the name of Christ who

taught us to pray together saying: Our father,

who art in heaven.....

Benediction:

The Irish Blessing (in unison)
May the road rise up to meet you,
May the wind be always at you back,

May the sun shine warm upon you face, and the rains fall soft upon your fields;

and until we meet again,

May you be held in the warmth of God's hand. Amen.



Vacation Bible School – Greece

Marcia Karagiannis

What a fabulous trip we had to Ancient Greece! Dancing at the Parthenon, strolls in the Marketplace, even playing in the Olympic Games. Best of all, sharing that time with old friends and making new ones!

Re-creating Greece in the church basement for this year's VBS was a lot of fun. Hard work and long hours but so worth it! Having an awesome team made the days go quickly and easily while setting up. Then the first day when all the kids arrive, curious, asking questions, "What are we going to make? What is this? What do we get to

do in here? Their enthusiasm was empowering.

Having an opportunity to share God's love with all the wonderful kids attending and praying with them was such a special blessing! This year's VBS taught the children how to openly talk about Jesus and share the Good News with other people who didn't already have a relationship with Jesus. The kids were challenged each day to build a relationship with the shopkeepers, share their knowledge about Jesus and by the end of the week, and invite them to participate in our Christian based



Opening and/or Closing Ceremonies which was a foreign event for the shop-keepers. The kids did an amazing job witnessing for God and winning over the shopkeepers' hearts for Jesus!

This wouldn't have been possible without all of the incredible volunteers! They did an excellent job role playing the ancient shopkeepers, pretending to believe in only the Ancient Greek gods. This was a fabulous and realistic way for the children to put into action all of the practical lessons they had been learning all week. Equipping them for real life situations today.

- Cont'd page 8

Vacation Bible School – Greece

Cont'd from page 7

I want to thank each person who helped make this year's VBS a success! For the months of prep work, donating/lending items or money, setting up and decorating, participating in the camp for the 2 weeks and also the chore of



taking it all down...thank you!

I would like to send an extra special thank you to Tatiana and Jan for travelling all the way from Prague and my Mom, Donna, coming from Michigan

just so they could share their God given

talents with these kids.

I pray that many more will be inspired to reach out to God's youth and children. To share your talents with them that they may benefit from what God has blessed you with. Marcia

Caregivers - Lecture by Pastor Dusan Toth

Jen would say:"I will never

doubt my Lord and Savior,"

"He is the ONE healing

me daily."

Erika Lamm

Saturday, Dec. 7. - Seven of us participated in a great lecture with Pastor Dusan Toth. The theme of the lecture was something, most of us will or have experienced in the past.....a friend is diagnosed with cancer or any other severe illnessdo we visit him....what should we say / talk about. We finally have the courage to go & visit him at home or in the hospital.....on the way, we try and prepare ourself what to say, But the minute, we see him, we know, IT

WON'T WORK! So Pastor Toth gave us many personal samples from years of clinical pastoral service, the Do's and Don'ts. Example: a 47 year old patient was admitted to palliative care, he wanted to be friendly and happily welcomed to the floor.....needless to say, he was "cursed" and brushed off.

Or entering his room, by saying "how are you"; will only get you a short answer "Good", and NO further comment. But if you would say, " how are you

y", it opens the detersation. Pastor Tot

today", it opens the door to a further conversation. Pastor Toth also stressed, often, you don't need to say anything, rather listen or just sit at his bedside AND hold his hands. Never stand at the bedside, always sit close by. There were many more samples he gave us, BUT we too were able to share some of our "experiences" with loved ones or friends. Twelve noon came far too soon and we had to leave. We would like to thank Pastor Toth for a true life lecture.

Aurora's 5th Prayer Breakfast

October 22, 2013 - Erika Lamm

The preparations for Aurora's 5th Prayer Breakfast started early in March with monthly and later weekly meetings. We knew since last year, that we would not have it again at the "Mansion" in Aurora. (too many complaints) The new Catholic H.S. on Wellington St. had offered us their cafeteria;

but it needed a lot of planning / organization, for example how to fit 45 tables (what shape & size) into the room!! Parking was a BIG headache......I found myself counting "available" parking spaces to the (R)

& (L) of the school at 2 small plazas and across at Home Hardware. At the end, it ALL worked out beautiful, with NO complaints. We got great help from the H.S. students (all well-organized) and it gave them "community" hours a "win - win" situation!! Our speaker

was the "Barrick" family, coming all the way from Lynchburg, Virginia - to proclaim "God's amazing grace". They minister together as a family with "Hope out loud" Their passion is to help people, who are "broken" and hurting, find hope and healing in the

truth of God's Word - using every possible means.

We had to start fundraising immediately so they were able to share their "message of hope ", not just at our prayer break-

fast, but also at 2 church services in Barrie, at 2 H.S. assemblies and an interview with Huntley St. & taping it. (It was broadcasted on Global last week -Nov. 2006, the whole family -Andy, Linda, Jen, then 15 and Josh 11 -were struck by a drunk driver at 80

tained life - threatening injuries. Jen was not expected to live through the night. GOD miraculously intervened. She was in a coma for 5 weeks and had severe traumatic brain injuries and skull fractures. As she was emerging from her coma, she was praying out loud and singing praise songs. (That evening Jen came from a choir practice). She could not remember that 2 + 2 = 4, or did not remember her brother; however, she knew every word to every praise song and many scripture readings. It was amazing! Jen would say: "I will never doubt my Lord and Savior"; "He is the ONE healing me daily"

miles/hr. with no headlights. All sus-

Since this tragic accident, the Barrick family's commitment to serve God & proclaim His Faithfulness is stronger than ever. www.hopeoutloud.com

Advertising by members of the congregation



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Winter camping starting December 27, 2013 — Summer season May 23, 2014 Contact: Elke Schlichte — simplytipi@gmail.com — (705) 706-7126



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Best Wishes for a Peaceful and **Blessed Christmas**

Brenda Ernst

Sales Representative Coldwell Banker The Real Estate Centre, Brokerage

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Ancient Greece meets 21st century (Athen's VBS)

This picture got the most hits ever on our ${\bf Face book\ page}$





ABC of Soccer Camp



VBS Greece in July





Pastor Dusan Tillinger 7 Lacey Court Aurora, ON L4G 5H2

Phone: (905) 727-3311 Cell: (905) 400-1225

Email: blessaurora@gmail.com Web: http://blessaurora.com

Board: Bob Ernst Mike Denman Andreas Grammenz



MISSION and VISION

We, at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church in Aurora, transformed by God's redemptive work, desire to grow in mission. With God's guidance we will reach out to those who do not recognize Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Worship

As a response to God's love, grace and mercy we encourage others to live a daily devotional life. We desire to establish at least 3 working ministries and increase the number of worshippers to 100 people per Sunday by end of the year 2015.

Fellowship - koinonia

Motivated by Jesus we endeavour to establish an environment of love, care, understanding, and encouragement. We desire to establish at least 3 working ministries focused on equipping the saints for the work of ministry and we will recruit 20 committed individuals ready to lead in serving Jesus Christ and people around us ... by end of the year 2015.

Outreach

Commanded by the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by identifying and using our spiritual gifts we long to take the Gospel into the communities of Aurora, Newmarket and surrounded areas. We desire to establish at least 3 working ministries focused on outreach activities and bring at least 10 de- and unchurched families and 20 individuals to Jesus Christ by end of the year 2015.

What's up

DEC 24—Christmas Eve Service 7 p.m.

DEC 25—Christmas Service 10:30 a.m.

DEC 31—New Year's Eve Prayer 7 p.m.

JAN 01—New Year's Day Service 7 p.m.

WORSHIP SERVICES

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

HOLY COMMUNION

1st and 3rd Sunday in the month

SUNDAY SCHOOL

every Sunday during the service

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Sundays 9:30 a.m.



BIBLE STUDIES

Sundays 9 to 10 a.m. Tuesdays 10 to 11 a.m.

ADULT CLASSES

Wednesdays by mutual agreement

CHOIR PRACTICE

Every Monday 7 to 8 p.m.

HOME WORK CLUB

Please check for 2014 schedule

PASTOR'S VISITATIONS

Thursdays

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 6 to 7 p.m. (Closed Dec 30)

The Lutheran Light Newspaper Editor: Elke Schlichte