

Chronicles

Home Fellowship Experience

In response to a call from the Stewardship Committee last summer to implement a Small Group Ministry at COR, we formed a Home Fellowship group, and met once-a-month for the purpose of Bible Study, prayer, and yes.....fellowship! Our group was formed according to where we lived within a basic geographical area, and over a seven-month period we were able to meet five times. We chose a short Bible study called "Loving God and Others: The Heart of True Faith". We chose this primarily because it fit our time frame, and it provided a simple guide for thought, prayer and discussion.

Overall, we as group agreed that this was a positive experience—one that allowed us to strengthen our bond as fellow church members simply by getting to know one another better. It is our hope that this ministry will continue. Our main suggestion to future groups is: *be flexible!* Being flexible with meeting time, leadership, and course of study will allow the group to try a few options, to re-evaluate the group's direction at time intervals, and to "see what works best" for the mutual benefit of the group.

Our Strategic Ministry Plan has cited Small Group Ministry as a primary means of "Proclaiming the Love of Christ". It is our prayer that we at COR embrace all opportunities for fellowship for the purpose of knitting our congregation together, interceding for one another and our church, studying, growing and proclaiming His love for all...together.

Barbara Thiele, Stewardship

Dependable Strengths—Discover Your Call

Each of us has a unique pattern of strengths. You might call them gifts or spiritual gifts or talents. Whatever the term you use, they are unique to you. Everyone has such individual gifts. But we don't always recognize them or know how to use them.

On Friday evening and Saturday, June 18 and 19, I invite you to join me in discovering and exploring your strengths—your Dependable Strengths®. After this twelve-hour (or maybe less) workshop you will have a clearer sense of how to live out God's call in your daily life; you will more easily recognize opportunities for growth and development; you will make better choices and commitments at home, work, school and church. This is a very positive experience. I like to call it "affirming." It is *not* a threatening experience!

If you are interested, contact Dianne Koenig. Both Pastor Meyer and Pastor Hafer will gladly share their feelings about this workshop and highly recommend it. Below, Tim Williams shares his experience. Brochures are available in the office and the narthex.

Dianne Koenig

One Member's Experience

I was recently involved in Dianne Koenig's workshop "Discover Your Call". I attended with several other members of the congregation and feel it is something everyone should plan to attend. It is a process where others in the group help to identify your individual strengths based on your real life experience. By looking at some successful events in your past, the others in the group are able to help pinpoint the personal strengths that brought about those successes. This insight can provide valuable guidance in many areas of our day-to-day lives and help us develop a lifetime of successes, as well as learn how and where we can best serve our congregation and community. Dianne does a wonderful job in guiding the process and asks only for a free-will donation to cover supplies. I urge everyone to take advantage of this program. I know all who do will come away feeling it was time well spent and will have a fresh outlook on life.

Tim Williams, President-Elect

From Our Pastor

Bad News

A theological thought occurred to me while we were watching the TV show “Chuck” the other night. If you haven’t seen it, “Chuck” is about a common, everyday guy who accidentally becomes an agent for the CIA. His life is more exciting and much more dangerous as he faces lots of bad guys. That night when I was watching, after Chuck succeeded in his current mission, defeating one more set of bad guys, it occurred to me what a boring show this would be if there were no bad guys.

I thought of my preaching of the Gospel each Sunday. Hopefully you have noticed by now that sermons include more than just the love of God in Jesus Christ. They also include “Law”, meaning not just rules or commands but things like lack of love and trust in God along with despair and death that go along with that lack of love and trust. Like Chuck without bad guys, the Gospel without the Law would be boring. There would be nothing for the Gospel to do and no reason for us to confess our sins, to rejoice in Christ’s forgiveness, to receive Holy Communion, or to be in church or call ourselves Christians. The good news for Chuck is that there will always be bad guys. I hesitate to call it good news, but the truth is there will always be bad news. They taught us in seminary to preach in such a way that we “necessitate Christ”. That means that preachers have the job of telling the bad news so accurately that the only possible solution is that Christ died and rose again for us. If we preachers fail to do that, we have preached neither Law nor Gospel, and the result is a lot worse than a boring episode of “Chuck”. We remain in our unrecognized and un-repent sin apart from Christ and from the life God would give us.

Our very first strategy in the Strategic Plan that will be presented to the congregation in June is this: “Design a process through Bible studies, sermon series and small groups so that every member of the church can define and proclaim the Gospel and what it is to be a ‘Lutheran.’” Listen for the bad news and rejoice in the Good News in Jesus Christ. Church will never again be boring.

Pastor Meyer

God is Good!

“God is Good”—this is a new section where we invite you to submit a story about a *WOW* moment in our church or school that exemplifies how God works positively in our midst.

One such moment occurred this month when Gayle Miller worked to find a new property insurance provider for COR. Her work resulted in our getting a better policy for a lesser price, saving us over \$10,000 in insurance premiums! Thanks, Gayle!

Linda Tolley,

President

Vacation Bible School Needs You!

We are planning a very exciting Egypt-themed VBS. We would love to see many of our Christ Our Redeemer church members get involved this year. We have many ways you can serve: storytelling, preparing and serving snacks, leading music, helping with crafts, and/or being a group leader. You can volunteer for an hour, a day, or for the week! We would like to see our VBS be a church-wide outreach to our community. Please contact Julie Doyle at corleducation@gmail.com if you can help out.

VBS is June 28–July 2

9:00 a.m. to noon

The Chronicles

Vol. 18, Nos. 6 & 7

June and July 2010

Published monthly except in July for members of
Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran Church and School

304 Druid Hills Road

Temple Terrace, FL 33617

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E-mail: corlutheran@corlutheran.org

Web site: www.corlutheran.org

Pastor: Rev. Waldemar Meyer

Pastor: Rev. Richard Hafer

Principal: Beth gray

Director of Christian Education: Julie Doyle

Choir Director: Nancy Schild

Organist: Betty Chester

Parish Administrator: Vickie Sufka

Bookkeeper: Dan Bowdish

Sunday Worship Services

8:00 A.M.

10:30 A.M.

Sunday School and Bible Study

9:15 A.M.

Newsletter editor: Dianne Koenig

Next Deadline: July 16, 2010

The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Treasurer's Report Through April, 2010

	Year To Date		Prior Year
	Actual	Budget	
Church			
Income	\$419,882	\$379,790	\$378,967
Expenses	\$383,476	\$371,738	\$357,514
School			
Income	\$527,533	\$513,046	\$641,787
Expenses	\$526,414	\$512,313	\$579,797

The operating results of the church are significantly affected by the receipt of \$58,000 from the will of one of our members. This was an unrestricted bequest and was recognized as income in March. Our church council decided to tithe 10% of this to the Florida-Bahamas Synod and that payment has been made. As of the end of April the church is approximately \$14,000 behind plan from normal operations. This is due to lower than anticipated giving and unexpected expenses such as the roof repair on the sanctuary.

Net Deficit Position:

June 30, 2008	(\$239,096)
December 31, 2008	(\$208,585)
December 31, 2009	(\$110,091)
January 31, 2010	(\$96,267)
February 28, 2010	(\$106,931)
March 31, 2010	(\$65,278)
April 30, 2010	(\$73,770)

The gift we received in March made a spectacular improvement to our deficit position. I think it is safe to say that none of us believed that we would see this much improvement in our financial position in less than two years. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our staff, teachers and congregation members we had reduced the deficit by more than \$130,000 prior to receipt of the bequest.

There is still work to be done. We have retired each of the member loans as they have come due but still need an additional \$30,000 by the end of November to compete this feat.

John Bauder, Treasurer

Thanks, Pastor Meyer

I would also like to take a minute and give a special "Thank you" to our pastor. Those of you in attendance already know and, those who were not should hear, what a wonderful job Pastor Meyer did at Robin Roberts's memorial service. Over the years I have attended quite a few memorials, but the service for Mr. Roberts was by far the largest. Our church was in a very prominent "spotlight", and with an extremely packed sanctuary, Pastor delivered a service that was personal and uplifting to not only the family but all in attendance. It was just one more reminder of why I love my church.

God Bless,

Tim Williams, President-Elect

VPK Offered at CORLS

Christ Our Redeemer Lutheran School participates as a provider for the *free* Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) program, an effort to prepare all four year-old children for kindergarten.

Children who participate in the VPK program learn the fundamentals of letter sounds, numbers, shapes and colors, in addition to important social and emotional skills—all to prepare them for success once they enter kindergarten. VPK classes at CORLS begin at 8:15 a.m. and end at 12:00 p.m. Parents are responsible for paying for any additional hours if their children remain in the afternoon.

To register for the program, parents visit a registration site with proof that they live in the state of Florida and the child's age. Once parents have received their Certificate of Eligibility they can enroll their children in the VPK program at Christ Our Redeemer by visiting the school Monday – Friday from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. To find out more information about the registration process, parents can visit www.vpkhelp.org. For more information about the VPK program at Christ Our Redeemer, e-mail school@corlutheran.org, or call Dottie Ashley @ 988-4025 x132.

Lift High the Cross

When Pastor Meyer thinks of those words, he remembers 6'8" tall Bob Liekefet holding the cross high above his head with outstretched arms walking down the center aisle at church. Bob has been serving as a lector and server since 1966. At that time, Pastor Seefeldt was here and the congregation was growing. Communion was taking too long since he was the only one giving it. Bob agreed to help by refilling the wafer tray and chalice while pastor gave communion. Before then, no lay persons, men or women, were allowed at the altar during worship. Eventually, we had the common cup and individual glass cups. Bob's wife, Ruth, was one of the first on the altar guild whose job was to wash all of the individual cups. (Our present altar guild workers are thankful we now have disposable ones.)

Bob has also served as liturgical assistant and served at every Christmas Eve and Easter service. He felt this was one way he could give back to the church and to God. Pastor Modahl remembers when they were hanging the sculpture behind the altar that as Bob was holding it, his finger tips were in the scars (holes) of Jesus feet. Bob said later there were no holes in Jesus feet. Bob has had to stop serving because of physical ailments. He is thankful that he was allowed to serve all these years and we thank him for his faithful service. To God be the Glory!

The Worship Committee

4th of July Bash!!

Come join us Saturday, July 3rd to celebrate the 4th of July. Come watch the parade with us and bring the family. We'll have Hot Dogs, Drinks, Kettle Corn, Sno-Cones and...Bungy Jump!!! Fun for the whole family! Party starts at 9 a.m. See you there! FREE parking!!

Allen Chester, fellowship Chair

Day School News

Beth Gray, Principal

As I write this I am planning to say goodbye to the eighth graders who will be graduating this year. It has been a great year and even as we are closing one year we are planning for the next year. Just this morning I was introduced to a new pre-three student. What a joy to see a young child excited about starting school, and in the same day see the young men and women saying good-bye and looking forward to a new chapter in their lives.

I would like to thank everyone for the very successful Night of the Arts. The students shined through their Art Work and Musical Talents. Mrs. Lopez and Mrs. Stokes did an outstanding job. Parents were very supportive in our dinner, baked goods and raffles. Way to go CORLS!

It is not too late to register your children for the 2010-2011 school year. If you would like more information on the school or to schedule a tour please call Dottie Ashley at 988-4025.

Strategic Planning at COR

The final draft of Christ Our Redeemer's Strategic Plan has been approved by the council and will be on the agenda of the congregation meeting on June 27. This draft will be mailed to you prior to the meeting.

Thanks to all the task force members who made this possible: Pastor Meyer, Linda Tolley, Tim Williams, Diana Lyles, Paul Woodbury, Beth Gray and myself, Dianne Koenig.

And a special thanks to all those who participated. Your comments and discussion helped mold the final draft. Without your input, we could not go forward.

Please do not hesitate to contact any of Task Force members if you have questions or concerns.

Dianne Koenig, Chair, Strategic Planning Task Force

Meet Erma's Challenge Erma's Challenge

This year Erma Hinze repeats her challenge to you—fill her car with food for Metropolitan Ministries in June. Last year we had 383 pounds; the need is as great this year as it was in 2009!

This a list of wanted items:

Beans, dry or canned	Milk canned or dry
Beverages/juice, dry or liquid	Pasta
Cereal, hot or cold	Peanut butter
Cookies	Potatoes, boxed or canned
Crackers	Rice, one pound bags
Jello	Soup, dry or canned
Macaroni and cheese dinners	Meat and tuna, canned
Fruit, canned	Vegetables, canned
Tomatoes, canned	Tomato sauce, canned

No glass, please. It breaks!

Two Trips to Haiti

The Lazarus Project will send **two** mission teams from COR to Haiti this year! From November 23rd through 29th the youth and their escorts will go to Village of Hope; another group will go from December 13th to 18th and Christmas kits will be prepared, labeled and distributed to the children and staff of VoH. There is room for additional people on each trip, so check your schedules and those of your family. The cost is approximately \$400; some scholarship assistance may be available. In the meantime, pray for all the people of Haiti and check out the website www.lazarusprojecthaiti.org.

Social Ministry Committee

Thanks from Members

Dear Friends,

I want to thank all of you who helped to make the beautiful book you gave me upon my retirement from scheduling. It was pretty much of a surprise although I had a clue when I got the bulletin for that Sunday as I was the liturgical assistant and it said something about the celebration for me. It was a wonderful celebration and I am so appreciative. I want to also thank the many servers, readers, liturgical assistants and acolytes who have volunteered so many hours of service when I called upon them. Without their unfailing generosity none of my scheduling would have succeeded. Thank you again so much!

Love, Bruce Winkler

Thank-You

We would sincerely like to thank all of you for your love, support, cards, visits, food and prayers when Kelly was diagnosed and received treatment for throat cancer. Your support and encouragement have demonstrated God's love. We have truly been blessed to have received these blessings.

Kelly and Diana Lyles

This page for June 2010 Calendar

This page for July 2010 Calendar

Sunday Worship Helpers June 6 – August 1, 2010

Date	Time	Pastor's Assistant	Lector	Servers		Acolyte	Usher Team	Greeters
6/06	8:00 a.m.	Melissa Williams	E. Pope	E. Pope D. Ballesteros	E. Durham T. Williams	C. McCullough	G	Barb & David Marquette
6/06	10:30 a.m.	Melissa Williams	R. Aspray	R. Aspray T. Clark	B. Reid G. Sunday	A. Fernandez	B	Barbara Thiele Jean Burriss
6/13	8:00 a.m.	Bruce Winkler	J. Johnson	J. Johnson G. Carrell	D. Olsen V. Sufka	G. Weesner	C	Jeanne & Richard Dixon
6/13	10:30 a.m.	Bruce Winkler	K. Koslow	K. Koslow D. Bowdish	F. Dunne M. Ross	J. Fernandez	D	Sara McMurry Vickie Sufka
6/20	8:00 a.m.	Dianne Koenig	G. Moenning	G. Moenning T. Moenning	M. Constantine M. Lay	H. Lay	E	Bekki Reid
6/20	10:30 a.m.	Dianne Koenig	M. Siedem	M. Seidem A. Scheib	T. Giombetti T. Anderson	E. Goltermann	H	Faith Dunne Helen Brown
6/27	8:00 a.m.	Greg Koenig	E. Durham	E. Durham D. Ballesteros	E. Pope T. Williams	M. Lay	G	Daye Aspray
6/27	10:30 a.m.	Greg Koenig	B. Reid	B. Reid R. Aspray	T. Clark G. Sunday	G. Golterman	K	Sigrid Wooley Judy Owens
7/04	8:00 a.m.	Sara McMurry	S. Huttig	S. Huttig G. Carrell	D. Olsen V. Sufka	C. McCullough	C	Barb & Dave Marquette
7/04	10:30 a.m.	Sara McMurry	D. Bowdish	D. Bowdish T. Anderson	K. Koslow M. Siedem	L. Anderson	B	Jean Anderson Grace Stewart
7/11	8:00 a.m.	Melissa Williams	T. Williams	T. Williams G. Moenning	M. Constantine T. Moenning	G. Weesner	E	Barbara Thiele
7/11	10:30 a.m.	Melissa Williams	S. McMurry	S. McMurry F. Dunne	K. Lyles T. Giombetti	T. Anderson	D	Melissa Williams Judy Owens
7/18	8:00 a.m.	Bruce Winkler	E. Pope	E. Pope D. Ballesteros	S. Huttig V. Sufka	H. Lay	G	Jeanne & Richard Dixon
7/18	10:30 a.m.	Bruce Winkler	T. Clark	T. Clark K. Koslow	R. Aspray B. Reid	A. Aspray	H	Jean Burriss Helen Brown
7/25	8:00 a.m.	Dianne Koenig	M. Lay	M. Lay M. Constantine	G. Moenning T. Moenning	M. Lay	C	Dian Olsen
7/25	10:30 a.m.	Dianne Koenig	M. Ross	M. Ross D. Bowdish	T. Anderson M. Siedem	A. Fernandez	K	Nancy Schild Elsie Brusick
8/01	8:00 a.m.	Greg Koenig	T. Williams	T. Williams D. Ballesteros	E. Durham S. Huttig	C. McCullough	E	Barb & Dave Marquette
8/01	10:30 a.m.	Greg Koenig	K. Lyles	K. Lyles T. Giombetti	F. Dunne G. Sunday	J. Fernandez	B	Shirl Ketterer Marion Allen

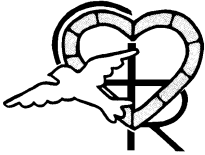
If you are unable to serve at the time scheduled, please trade with another person. You may call Bruce Winkler (worship servers) or Corinne Bowdish (greeters). You may also call the office. It is important that someone is present for each job. Thank you all for volunteering!

**Christ Our Redeemer
Lutheran Church and School**

304 Druid Hills Road
Temple Terrace, FL 33617
(813) 988-4025

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**Congregational Meeting
Sunday, June 27
June 27, 11:45 a.m.**

On the agenda:

Budget for 2010-2011
Constitution Amendment to Bylaws
Strategic Plan

Coming Up;

June 18-19	Dependable Strengths—Discover Your Call
June 27	Congregation Meeting 11:45 a.m. after late worship
June 28-July 2	Vacation Bible School
July 3	4th of July Bash
July 16	August <i>Chronicles</i> deadline