

# The Proclaimer

July 2010

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## A Word from Our Pastor

**W**e are coming upon the time of year where there are cook outs, flag displays, ice cream socials, community parades and gatherings in parks, social establishments and yes, even churches. It is July 4th where we celebrate our independence as a country and our freedom that is so precious to all.

Even though, we do not have a festival worship service that recognizes this important place in the history of our nation, we need to give thanks for our country and ask God to continue to direct us in His will for all mankind to be free and able to love, care and serve Him without tyranny. It is our God and Father that has provided us this environment in which to live our lives and to be able to live out our calling of the gospel.

We then should especially celebrate this week, that we



are children of God with the opportunity to worship, pray, and work together out in public or in private, to bring about His kingdom for all. A Happy July 4th to all!



If you are traveling this week keep your church in your prayers, as we will you. There is activity here at St. **John's**. Camp Agape is alive and well, we share a glass of lemonade on Sundays, plans are being made for our summer VBS, the talent

show for July 11 (do not miss) is in the works, and our worship services offer praise to our Lord.

**Come make St John's a part of you life, you will be glad you did.**

God bless you.

*Pastor John*

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# NC Synod Assembly Report — 2010

## Assembly Theme: Light and Hope in the Midst of Brokenness

The assembly held June 3-5 at Lenoir Rhyne University was opened with a communion service and an offering of over \$7,000 for world hunger.

Behind the altar, and at the back of the stage, hung a lighted 5 foot cross made from broken pottery to represent the Light and Hope in Brokenness.

Pastor Jones served on the election committee and has been appointed to serve on **“The Book of Faith” training** initiative in congregations.

We were welcomed to LRU by President Powell and assured that LR was doing fine financially, and with an increase of 200 students this past year.

There were 524 persons in attendance; 470 voting members and 54 guests—down from previous years.

In the first business session, a budget of \$3.7 million for 2011 was approved; down 22.5% from the 2010 budget—reflecting an anticipated decrease in revenue.

Generally, there has been in past years, 12-15 resolutions for consideration; this year



there were only two.

The first was to thank Dr. Gary Wendt for his service as secretary for the past several years, but also to thank him for the Memorial he developed which was sent to **the 2007 ELCA’s Church Wide Assembly (CWA)** on the Interpretation of the Scriptures, which resulted in **the “Book of Faith Initiative”**. The other was to thank Bishop Bolick for his leadership given to the Synod.

**The Bishop’s Reflections**, or as he referred to it, *the State of Synod Address*, was the anticipated highlight of the assembly. First he reflected on the brokenness part by

sharing his honest and humble assessment of the NC Synod and the ELCA. He stated that this past year has been one of joy for some, and sorrow for many others, as a result of the actions taken at the ELCA CWA in August 2009. Those actions have created financial difficulties for synods and congregations and also have fractured our unity, causing division and pain.

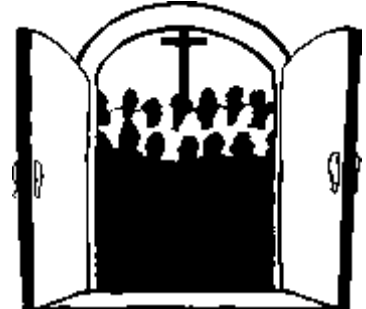
Even though there were many positive aspects of the CWA, they were drowned out by the human sexuality issues that were approved. Bishop Bolick stated that these issues have resulted in several different responses from congregations in our synod. Twenty congregations have amended their constitutions or made declarations against these adopted policies; fifteen churches are withholding mission support to the Synod; 15 more are sending only designated support like ourselves; four (4) congregations have been approved by the Synod Council to withdraw from the ELCA—those are Mt.

*(Continued on page 3)*

# Important Congregational Meeting

Sunday, July 25 at 9:45 AM

Council voted to have our first vote to disaffiliate with the ELCA on Sunday, July 25. We will have the vote in the sanctuary at 9:45 a.m., between the services. As specified in our constitution, a letter will be sent out with more information, in mid-July. If you would like a copy of our constitution, call the church office. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the church council.



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Herman—Statesville, St. Paul—Salisbury, Spirit of Joy—Matthews, and Well of Hope—Pineville. These have all gone to LCMC-Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ which now has around 400 congregations in its church body.

Other congregations have already taken their first vote, which passed by a 2/3 margin, to disaffiliate from the ELCA; a few have failed on the first **vote. He stated that “the unity of our synod is challenged” but that he feels over 200 of our 250 congregations will remain in our synod and the ELCA.** He took this time to thank his staff for their work and commitment to the synod.

Bishop Bolick concluded with the joy and hope within the synod found in the Light and Hope in Christ. The synod

council and the staff have adopted five ministry goals which will focus on prayer, worship and the development of new leaders.

The keynote speaker was Rev. Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore who concentrated on the **assembly’s theme by** reflecting on the Apostle Paul and his relationship with the people at Corinth, and with God. She reminded us that for Christians, brokenness, life and hope are always mingled together.

The ELCA representative was Myrna Sheie, assistant to ELCA Bishop Hanson. She showed a video which was opened by Hanson. She was complementary of the strength of the NC Synod in its partnership with the ELCA.

The new Dean for the West Central Conference is Rev. Lewis Murdock-Reformation Lutheran in Taylorsville. Many of the normal forums were

held on Friday afternoon. I attended one on the three ways to interpret scripture concerning the homosexual issue, presented on video by Dr. Mark Powell. I have a copy of the video if you wish to view it.

Elections were held for the normal offices, boards, and for the voting members for the 2011 CWA.

The Bishop and his staff are to be commended for a well planned and conducted assembly. It was kept upbeat even in trying times.

This will be the last NC Synod-ELCA Assembly I will be attending. I want to thank you for the opportunities you have given me over the past ten or so years.

Respectfully submitted;

John Karriker

# Women of the ELCA



## Executive Board Meeting Saturday, July 10

The Executive Board of the Women of the ELCA is scheduled to meet on Saturday, July 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All officers, committee chairs and circle leaders are asked to attend and present a report. If you cannot attend, contact Brenda Dunn and give her your written report.

## Bi-Annual Fellowship Saturday, July 31

**“Flip-flop, Faith and Friends”** is our theme for this day of fun and fellowship. Dress is casual – come at 11:00 a.m. for a time of relaxing and renewing friendships. More details will be in the Sunday bulletins. Save this date!



## Fall Gathering Saturday, October 2

**St. Mark's** – Mooresville will host the Fall Gathering on Saturday, October 2. There will be more details in the September newsletter but in the meantime, please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

Please save

Please continue saving your pennies.



Whenever you can, roll your pennies before turning them in to Ann Bejcek. Also – save your Campbell UPC codes, fronts of greeting cards, cell phones, eyeglasses and tabs from beverage cans.

## Fall Retreat – November 12-14

The N.C. Women of the ELCA have planned a Fall Retreat on November 12-14 at **Lutheridge in Arden**. **“Sister take my hand. Dance with me!”** is the theme. It invites us to listen to our Holy Spirit and rejoice in the **dance**. **Don't miss this joyous** gathering for praise, worship and movement. This will be an excellent time to share ideas and meet new friends. Registration forms are on the Women of the ELCA bulletin board.



## Health Kits

**Please don't forget that the collection of items for health kits is an ongoing project.** Items needed are: one hand towel (dark color recommended), one washcloth (dark color recommended), one bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap (in its original wrapping), one adult-size toothbrush (in its original packaging), one sturdy comb (remove packaging), one metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached and six Band-Aids® (or **similar brand**), preferably  $\frac{1}{2}$ " to  $\frac{3}{4}$ ", **secure** together with a rubber band.

All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap smaller items in the washcloth; wrap washcloth and remaining items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags. A box **marked “Health Kits”** is **beside the church** office for your donations. Any of the above items that you can donate will be appreciated.

## Talent Show & Ice Cream Social

Sunday, July 11

5:00 PM



Get ready! The Evangelism Team and Social Ministry Committee are sponsoring another fun event! On Sunday, July 11, we will have a Talent Show & Ice Cream Social. This will be held in the fellowship hall at 5:00 pm.

Plan to join us for an evening of fun, talent and home-made ice cream! Featured entertainment will be: Harmony for Fun, Barbershop Quartet, with Ronnie D. Miller on the guitar and The Wesley UMC Clowns (see article below).

If you have a talent to share, please contact Gail Pope or Sandi Rabe. We are in need of ice cream makers and toppings for the ice cream. If you can help out, contact Gail or Sandi. See you there.

## Wesley UMC Clowns

The Wesley Memorial UMC Clowns were **founded on Corinthians 4:10; "We are fools for Christ."** Clowns serve as symbols for Christian paradoxes. One such paradox is that hope always follows tragedy. Prior to the 12th century clowns performed in the Church. They acted out the gospel meanings and were mirrors through which people could see themselves.

Today, clowns portray humanity in a variety of human relationships, including a relationship to God. We may think clowns are strange creatures, but remember that Jesus told his

disciples to do strange things such as love their enemies, turn the other cheek and pray for those who persecute you and that you must die in order to live.

Clowns bring to people **God's** gifts of love and laughter. They show their messages rather than telling them.



## DEAR ST. JOHN'S FAMILY,

My life has been blessed more than I could have ever imagined. Since my brain surgery on May 7 that removed the benign brain tumor on my left side, I was able to come home within a week. I have had so many loving church friends who have visited, prayed, or fed my family, including *John & Renee Karriker, David & Gail Pope, Frances & Bill Coffey, Chuck Lindler* and the choirs, and gracious friends *Susan Free*, my lifetime friend, and *Marianne Wiegman*. Especially to *Pastor John*, who came to visit and pray for me *both at the Carolina's Medical Center hospital and at home, and to Tom & Anne Corbell*, who were there numerous times



at Iredell Memorial and CMC. **To know that St John's family** has continued to think of me and pray for me has been a blessing I will never forget.

On Monday, June 7, I will be returning to work part time for about 4 weeks, but will not be able to drive. My oldest daughter, Monica, will be taking me to work for a while. I will see a neurologist

in about a month who will evaluate me to make sure that I can return to work full time and start driving again. My surgeon has told me that he does not need to see me for another year.

Remembering words, especially nouns and spelling, is a process that will gradually return. One of the ways I help with that is to read the dictionary. You will be tickled to know that my youngest daughter, Abi, loves to make fun of me for reading the dictionary!

**God's grace is abundantly available!**

*Julie Shuford*

## Contribution Statements

We will be sending out semi-contribution statements in the next week or so. Please check them over for accuracy and call Carol in the office if you notice any discrepancies or have any questions.

Be aware that checks written directly to the Sunday School classes, WELCA or the library will not be included in the statement.

We still have envelopes in the office that have not been picked up. If you would like envelopes, please call or stop by the office.

Reminder: printed on the envelopes are ways you can direct your funds to a specific area, if desired. All unmarked contributions go to the General Fund.

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We would like to thank the Luther Class for their generous contribution to the general fund which will help towards meeting our expenses.

## 11 AM Worship Assistants

### July 4

Comm. Asst: Brian Sutton  
 Altar Duty: Brenda Dunn  
 Crucifer: Daniel Dunn  
 Acolyte: John-Baron Davidson  
 Nursery: Christine & Christina Pavelock

### July 11

Comm. Asst: Roger Bejcek  
 Altar Duty: Frances Coffey  
 Crucifer: Keri Pavelock  
 Acolyte: Rachael Ryan  
 Nursery: Janice Mull, Sue Plyler

**July Ushers:** Bob Deal Team: Clyde Bebber, Frank Hager, Richard Hanson, Harry Lewallen, Charlton Lindler, Frank Mitchell, Glenn Winters

**Altar Guild Team:** Brenda Dunn, Sherry Tedder

### July 18

Comm. Asst: Larry Nichols  
 Altar Duty: Daniel Dunn  
 Crucifer: Tammy Combs  
 Acolyte: Gavin Combs  
 Nursery: Melody Neely, Janis Mills

### July 25

Comm. Asst: David Pope  
 Altar Duty: Marcia Lindler  
 Crucifer: Daniel Dunn  
 Acolyte: Brenda Dunn  
 Nursery: Tracy & Rachael Ryan



- July 1 Janet Wooten
- July 2 Pastor John Jones
- July 3 David Conine
- July 4 Geneva Bebber  
Linda Gillon  
Marianne Wiegman
- July 5 Ray Smith  
Vinson Smith
- July 6 Grace Tucker
- July 11 Pressley Hillard
- July 13 Bobby Sharpe
- July 14 Bill Tazelaar
- July 15 Barbara Hamiter  
Faye Hass
- July 16 Mary Beth Hall  
Rick Shuford
- July 18 Meghan Massey  
Mark Taylor
- July 19 Kathy Risso
- July 20 Christina Coffey  
Kirk Hager
- July 21 Paula Cress
- July 22 Eric Hanson  
Lauren Mills
- July 23 Barbara Gillon  
Mark Johnston
- July 24 John Williams
- July 25 Donna Tazelaar
- July 26 Frank Mitchell  
Larry Nichols  
Cookie Tilley
- July 28 Audrey Shoemaker
- July 29 Jim Henderson  
Halle Rainwater  
Alex Campbell
- July 31 Margaret Anne Eckley  
Charles Heye  
Hazel Sutton

## 8:30 AM Worship Assistants

### July 4

Lector: Ed Hall  
 Comm: Steve Horinka  
 Usher: Gary Dishman

### July 11

Lector: Jan McCanless  
 Comm: Barbara Rainwater  
 Usher: Laurie Dishman

### July 18

Lector: Marty Driggers  
 Comm: Ed Hall  
 Usher: Chris Dishman

### July 25

Lector: Patti Horinka  
 Comm: Karen Miller  
 Usher: Tina Mathews

## Worship Assistant Volunteers

If you cannot serve on the date assigned to you, please call Steve Horinka, for 8:30 a.m. worship services and Brenda Dunn for 11:00 a.m. worship services. Also, if you are able to service in this capacity, and aren't currently listed, call Steve or Brenda as

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
PO Box 943 † Statesville, NC 28687

Located at: 740 N Center Street  
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[www.stjohnsstatesville.org](http://www.stjohnsstatesville.org)

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JULY

August Proclaimer Deadline: July 26

## The Lake Junaluska Singers

Dr. Melodie G Galloway, Director

### In Concert

Sunday, July 25 at 7 PM

Broad Street United Methodist Church

This 16 member professional vocal ensemble, under the direction of Dr. Melodie Galloway, will present a concert that will feature sacred music, gospel favorites, patriotic selections and music from Broadway.

