



## "FROM THE PASTOR"

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July is the day we celebrate our United States' independence from Britain. Scholars will debate that this is the real date of our liberty. Some say it was sooner, and others say it was much later. Nevertheless, the 4<sup>th</sup> is the day we recognize as our freedom to live free. Free as we want.

What sort of freedoms do Americans enjoy? We free to live securely in our persons and property. No one can *lawfully* take our possessions and property without due cause and process. We can vote for whomever we want for all manner of offices. We can freely express our thoughts and ideas, without fear of payback. The freedom we enjoy is being tested. How far is too far? Fred Phelps of the ... Baptists has pushed the boundary of expression. He takes advantage of our nation's religious freedom and freedom of expression to further his own causes. Our nation's founders did of course foresee men such as him doing what he is doing. It is a necessary sacrifice we must endure to enjoy the freedoms we enjoy.

We Christians enjoy an even greater freedom: freedom from eternal damnation. Jesus has won us from hell with his sacrifice on the Cross.

But, we are still bound to sin. And Jesus died for that very sin so that we can freely live for him and our neighbors. Live free and love freely.

Peace to you,  
Pastor Ben

### **QUIPPING INSERT**

**June 2, 2010**

#### **The Future of LHM Outreach Training: 'MISSION U'**

Where will you now find brand-new materials to strengthen your daily witness? The answer is MISSION U. This new project from Lutheran Hour Ministries features a 21st-century university theme with detailed curriculum, seminar-style presentations, expert speakers, in-class and online student interaction, and take-home study resources and practice. A course catalog of curriculum options gives congregations choices from which to tailor their own mission strategies.

Coming under the umbrella of MISSION U will be Equipping to Share: Everyday Evangelism (MU-101 in the catalog), LHM's successful witnessing-training program. It has been presented more than 400 times over the last five years with more than 17,000 individuals participating. Among its goals has been to sharpen participants' sensitivity to other people's cultural and social backgrounds, systems of belief, and even the biases they may encounter on the street.

Other MISSION U course offerings will be "MU-102. Witnessing Methods: Seven Styles of Faith-sharing"; "MU-201. Dealing with Tough Questions"; "MU-202. The Outreach-minded Church: Unified Vision and Mission"; and "MU-301. 'Christ Alone' in a Coexist World." Additional courses will be developed and offered in response to ongoing analysis of equipping needs across the church.

The educational outcomes of MISSION U will be achieved through take-home assignments that encourage hands-on practice of the concepts presented in the materials. A monthly Web broadcast will be held for follow-up training; "online office hours" will be held twice a month for questions and student discussion.

To learn more about MISSION U or to schedule a workshop, please contact Sarah Guldalian, manager of evangelism training, at 800-944-3450, ext. 4144. She can be contacted via e-mail at [missionu@lhm.org](mailto:missionu@lhm.org).

## **What's five14?**

Today's teens compose one of the most unchurched generations in American history. A February report from The Pew Forum reveals that 25% of adults under 30 describe themselves as unaffiliated, describing their religion as 'atheist,' 'agnostic' or 'nothing in particular' while no more than 19% of any previous generation identified themselves as unaffiliated.

As Christians, we have a responsibility to shine light in darkness. This is a particularly dark generation. For that reason, LHM has created a new witnessing-training program inspired by and designed especially for teens to train Christian teens to shine the light of Christ on their peers.

Matthew 5:14 says, "You are the light of the world. A city on a hill can't be hidden." LHM's new teen training program, five14, inspires and trains teens to boldly shine for Christ. It teaches them to share the message of hope with their friends and classmates in a relevant way. By realizing their unique God-given talents, they will learn to meaningfully impact their peers - all to the glory of God.

five14 will train teens to share Christ through a combination of cutting-edge media and in-person training by young presenters, who will in tandem serve as Christian role models. five14 will mirror the style of today's teens, attracting their attention aesthetically, and by offering events, which incorporate their preferred social learning style and entertaining social elements.

five14 will encourage dialogue that helps teens reshape their thinking from, "What can I get away with?" to "Will this action or word cause people to end up praising God?" as Matthew 5 calls them to do.

five14's cutting-edge media and Web site will be up and running in time for the LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July, where the program will launch. five14 events will also be available at each of LHM's upcoming Regional Outreach Conferences and at (larger) LCMS events nationwide.

To find out more about five14, contact Sarah Guldalian, manager of evangelism training, at [five14@lhm.org](mailto:five14@lhm.org) or 800-944-3450, ext. 4144.

## **Thought of the Day**

"You are the light of the world. A city on a hill can't be hidden. People don't light a lamp and put it under a basket but on a lamp stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before people in such a way that they will see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:14-16

## **Tips for Sharing**

Forgiveness is one of the most primary characteristics of God. His forgiveness is ongoing.

As Christians, we are called to be as God is, which means we are called to forgive ... and forgive ... and forgive. After all, it's God's love and kindness that leads us to repentance.

This week, ask God to help you release unforgiveness and to replace it with God-like love and kindness in your injured relationship.

## **LUTHERAN HOUR PROGRAMMING**

**July 4 “Salvation is Near”** Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

God uses preachers and preaching to share salvation's story. People may or may not listen, but preachers have to preach. (Luke 10:8-11)

**July 11 “Out of Hell; Into Heaven”** Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

A teacher of [the law](#) asked Jesus, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" The unspoken question is, "How can I avoid eternal death and damnation?" (Luke 10:25-37)

**July 18 “Against Indifference”** Speaker: Rev. Dr. Ken Klaus

God's gifts aren't usually taken from people by force, they're given up through indifference and apathy. (Luke 10:42b)

**July 25 “TBA”**

### **LHM Looking for Dynamic Presenters**

Interested in making a bold and substantial difference in the lives of others? If so, here's an excellent opportunity: Lutheran Hour Ministries is looking for presenters to lead witnessing workshops for teens and adults at venues around the country.

Ideal candidates will be energized in the areas of personal evangelism and social outreach and highly motivated to apply their God-given talents and expertise in sharing the Gospel. Public speaking experience will be essential, as will be the ability to comfortably make media presentations. A sound understanding of theology, particularly as it is grounded in Lutheran confessional theology, will benefit the successful candidate. A degree in Lutheran studies, however, is not necessary.

There will be two days of training in St. Louis, for which travel expenses will be paid by LHM. If selected, volunteer presenters will travel at Lutheran Hour Ministries' expense and receive an honorarium for their hard work and dedication.

If interested, contact Sarah Guldalian at [sarah.guldalian@lhm.org](mailto:sarah.guldalian@lhm.org) for an application. The application deadline for this opportunity is June 15.

### **PLANET ZOOM, Where Bold BEE-lievers ZIP, ZAP, and ZOOM for JESUS**

Vacation Bible School was a great success THANK YOU all who donated items and money to this endeavor! THANK YOU Dennis and Marlene Bucholz, Jason Ling, Kari... Gayle Baumgard, Rev. Marv and Lynn Soulek, Larissa Rucker, Linda Ling, and Sandy Obermoller for giving your time and talents. THANK YOU... for the delicious meals. ... Many kids have learned about Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

**BETHEL Neat Sheet** ~ As finances have not allowed us the luxury of having a janitor; the voters are hoping all of the congregation will join together in helping with the task of keeping our church clean. If a person sees something that could be picked up, or a spider web that needs to be swished away, we hope that extra second it takes to do that, will lessen the burden of the cleaning, and remind us that Bethel belongs to all of us. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Thank you for giving this your attention

**GAME TOURNAMENT** ~ You read that right GAME TOURNAMENT. Bethel will be having a Wii game tournament on July 16<sup>th</sup>. Various games and groups will be playing for fun and prizes. There is no entry fee and all are welcome.

**Mission Sunday July 18<sup>th</sup>** ~ We celebrate and give glory to God for his gift of missionaries. We will have no speakers that day, but we will be taking up a collection to go to our donation to the Minnesota South District's Mission work. Please plan your giving appropriately.

**Family Nights** ~ All summer long, Bethel will be having family nights on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fridays of the months, to entertain and have fellowship. We will be enjoying movies and good times. Our next is July 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:00pm. All are free, and if you want you can bring a snack to share. And invite a friend.

Many thanks to the people who have taken the time to help clean the church. A "**Spring Cleaning**" day is being planned for Sat July 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am. Bring your scrub bucket and a dish to pass. We plan on being done by noon and will grill burgers and enjoy fellowship. *Please save the date.*

**BETHEL CHURCH RETREAT** ~ Bethel's Church Retreat will be July 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Baumgard Lake House in Lake Park, and July 24<sup>th</sup>, beginning at Round Lake Park for breakfast and a workshop at the church. This year we welcome Bruce Manzey who will lead our retreat. Friday night will be fun and fellowship and a study led by Bruce. Saturday we meet for breakfast at Round Lake Park and then continue at the church for a witnessing workshop. This is an immensely important workshop for Bethel. God has been pleased to direct us in reaching out to those in Round Lake who do not yet know Jesus, or who are seeking a church home. May God bless this wonderful endeavor. Please be sure to register for the retreat and the workshop if you plan to attend by putting your name on the sign-up posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex.

## **Prayer for MAY**

### **Dear Heavenly Father,**

Dear Heavenly Father, Thank You for removing us from darkness and for bringing us into Your wonderful light. Help us radiate Your light and shine on those still living in darkness. May Your name be glorified in all that we do. In Jesus Holy Name we pray, Amen.

**BETHEL LIGHT UPDATE** I am trying to get an updated mailing list and e-mail addresses put together. If your address or that of a child away at college has changed in the last 3 months please send me an e-mail or leave a note in my mail box at church. If you are not on the e-mail list and have e-mail please send your address to me at [gjschuck@frontiernet.net](mailto:gjschuck@frontiernet.net). We are doing this to save the church money for postage and paper. Thank you, Janice





2010



Happy Birthday

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 11 – Angela Schieck     | 18 – Stephen Heimgartner |
| 19 – Lance Baumgard     | 22 – Court Baumgard      |
| 22 – Kelsey Ling        | 23 – Dennis Reed         |
| 23 – Barb Hovde         | 23 – Pastor Rucker       |
| 24 – Kristen Rucker     | 25 – Rayna Rucker        |
| 27 – Janice Schuck      | 27 – Sandy Reed          |
| 29 – Rose Mary Schumann | 31 – Jami Buntjer        |



Happy Anniversary

- 6 – Lee & Renae Ober  
7 – Gary & Diane Larson  
9 – Bryce & Vickie Wendling  
21 – Jason & Julie Boerger



Baptismal Birthdays

- |                    |                      |                    |                           |
|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 – Gayle Baumgard | 2 – Jeffrey Spessard | 3 – Matthew Koster | 6 – Wayne Mohns           |
| 7 – Clifford Huehn | 12 – Michael Feehan  | 21 – Betty DeBerg  | 21 – Zacheary Ahrenstorff |
| 28 – Amy Nickel    | Lorriane Huehn       | Connie Schieck     |                           |



Readers and Greeters

- 4 – Michael & Amy Bah  
11 – Glenn & Janice Schuck  
18 – Jason Ling & Family  
25 – Court & Gayle Baumgard

Elders

- July – Brian Johnson



Acolytes

- 4 – Alexi Rucker  
11 – Kristen Rucker  
18 – Haley Sanwick  
25 – Cody Frodermann

Communion Assistants

- 4 – Court Baumgard & Dennis Bucholz

