

Table Talk

Sundays • June-August
9:50 a.m. in Bethel Hall
A Class for Adults
The 12 Habits of Faith



Nazareth Financial Statistics - May 2009

General Fund:	
Budgeted for May	\$116,142.00
Gifts Received for May	\$172,118.41
Budgeted YTD	\$735,566.00
Gifts Received YTD	<u>\$746,074.39</u>
As of May 31, 2009	+ 10,508.39

Lighthouse Project:	
Monthly Loan Payment	\$ 19,599.30
Gifts Received for May	\$ 14,768.26

Capital Improvements:	
May Gifts	\$ 21.00
Gifts Received YTD	\$ 2,730.00

Nazareth Attendance Statistics - May 2009

Five Sundays in May

8:30	9:50	11:10
1866	1628	1152

9:50 Worship Ensemble CDs Available for Purchase

The 9:50 Worship Ensemble has made a commemorative CD as a going-away present for Pastors David, Cheryl and Bob. CDs are available for \$10 each at the Information Desk on Sundays or at the church office during the week. Proceeds from the CDs will go to charities selected by the pastors.

Sofa Sought for Pastor Hougen

A sofa is needed for Pastor Phil's parsonage. If you have one that you would like to donate, call Bernie Huss at 268-1015.

Volunteer Opportunities at Nazareth

Blessed Beginnings Room Prep

Volunteers are needed to **tear out carpeting** in a Blessed Beginnings classroom from 3:00-5:00 p.m. and **paint the room** beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 30. If you can help with either or both of these activities, please contact Stephanie Brown at 266-7589 ext 31 or stephanie.brown@naz.org.

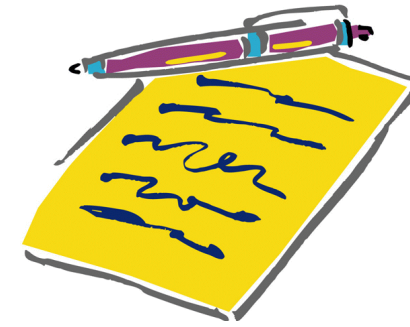
Sunday Morning Set Up (Summer Months)

Prepare Nazareth to welcome members and guests to worship. Arrive at 7:45 a.m. and finish by 8:35 a.m. Make coffee, place flowers, ready Information Desk, distribute signs. Set your own schedule: you can help one Sunday a month, every Sunday for one month, or whatever works best for you! If you like working behind the scenes, then don't miss this great volunteer opportunity! Training available. For more information or to volunteer, contact Pat Dove at 266-7589 ext 27 or pat.dove@naz.org.

July Messenger Deadline
Thursday, July 9 at 8:00 a.m.
nancy.woodford@naz.org

M Nazareth Lutheran Church The Messenger

June 15, 2009 Volume 56 Number 4



A Message from Pastor Hougen

As I begin my time as interim senior pastor at Nazareth, I want to express my thanks to God and to all of you for the opportunity to minister among you. This congregation is full of wonderful people, has a great heritage, and, I believe, is called to a powerful future in service to our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the days I have been here so far, I have spent most of my time visiting one-on-one with staff members and lay leaders of the congregation. The leadership of Nazareth is spiritually mature, extremely committed to their callings, and very talented. The staff displays a healthy sense of unity and has welcomed me warmly as a new leader among them. Congregational Council members are gifted with a variety of strengths which enable them to be faithful and effective leaders.

During my meetings with staff and other leaders, I ask them to tell me about themselves, their faith journey, their jobs or roles, their experiences at Nazareth, and their hopes for this interim time. The conversations have been rich.

I thank Pastor Wallace and other leaders for the opportunity to begin my time at Nazareth before Pastor Wallace left. I have been able to observe Pastor Wallace's ministry and have had time for the significant conversations with staff and leaders.

My role as interim pastor is partly to help Nazareth move on from Pastor Wallace's ministry and to help prepare the congregation to receive a new, regularly called pastor. It is good to recognize that all ministries are "interim." Some last longer than others, but they all have a beginning and an ending. There were people who came here before us and people who will come after us. That's how it is in the Body of Christ, which is the Church. The Church is a communion of saints which is universal and eternal. The Church triumphant has no bounds of space or time.

However, the Church on earth is both a divine creation, called into being by the Holy Spirit, and a human institution, marked by sinfulness and failure. We have not achieved the Kingdom of God in the Church on earth and we never will. Our ministries are always flawed and limited. The Body of Christ, which is the Church, is a broken body. But God works salvation through this broken body of Christ.

During my time with you as your pastor, I pray that we will grow together. I have much to learn from you; I pray that my leadership will serve God's purposes. Interim ministry gives congregations space and time to discern God's will for the future. Change is sometimes difficult, often undesirable, and always inevitable. Not all change is progress. We pray that we as individuals and as a congregation will change in God's pleasing ways. We pray together for discernment of God in the calling of new pastors to lead into the future.

My first Sunday providing the teaching in the worship service will be Sunday, June 21. I am grateful for the opportunity to proclaim the Gospel among you. The gracious invitation of Jesus for us to be in relationship with him is the greatest gift given to us and the best thing we can offer to others. The rich tradition of worship at Nazareth and its present choices of different worship styles give us a great opportunity to share Christ's love with this community. I feel privileged to share that opportunity with all of you.

Philip L. Hougen, Pastor

Church Council Highlights – June 2009

- Motion passed to proceed with the urgent priority items on the capital repair list and to draw on the line of credit up to \$50,000 to supplement the available resources in the Capital Repair Fund, allowing for summer completion of the projects.
- Motion passed to ask the Capital Repairs Task Force to share their findings in the form of a written report to the congregation and to invite dialog with the congregation.
- Council continues the search for an Interim Associate Pastor. Motion passed to accept basic compensation package as recommended by Personnel Committee.
- Motion passed to approve an unpaid worship intern position and his responsibilities as presented.



Flood of 2008 Remembered

All Nazareth members who were affected by the flood of 2008 or who volunteered with sandbagging or recovery efforts are invited to attend a community-wide flood commemoration event at North Cedar Elementary School on **Wednesday, June 24 at 5:30 p.m.** An **ice cream social** will highlight the activities. The event will be hosted by The Church of the Nazarene. For more information, contact Pastor Pete Hall at 939-5123.

Love INC Meeting Planned for July 10

Love INC (Love in the Name of Christ) is coming to the Cedar Valley. Love INC is a cooperative effort between churches and community agencies to provide effective help for the disadvantaged. Love INC believes that churches working together across denominational lines are well-equipped to meet the many needs that exist in our community.

An in-depth informational meeting will be held **Friday, July 10 at 6:30 p.m.** at First United Methodist Church, 723 Washington Street, Cedar Falls.

If you are interested in learning how Nazareth can become involved in this outreach opportunity and would like to attend the meeting, or if you are interested in Love INC but are unable to attend the meeting, please contact Pat Dove at 266-7589 ext 27 or pat.dove@naz.org.

Missionaries to Visit Nazareth on June 28

Nazareth-supported missionaries Shannon and Lisa Sandquist will visit Nazareth and share their story on Sunday, June 28 at 9:50 a.m. in Room 158.

The Sanquists have served with The Navigators in Singapore for more than 2 ½ years. Their family includes Emily (18), Eric (16), Naomi (14) and Natalie (11). Shannon and Lisa grew up in Iowa; Lisa is from Waverly and Shannon is from Newton. They met at Luther College and ministered with The Navigators at UNI for 12 years.

In Singapore, Shannon leads the ministry focus of The Navigators at Nanyang Technological University by reaching the students with the love of Christ. Their powerful witness draws unbelievers to the Gospel.

Please join us for this special event.

Red Cross Blood Drive Wednesday, July 22 • 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall

Look for sign ups in Fellowship Hall on July 12 & 19. Opportunities will be available to donate blood and to assist in other ways.

Small Group for Those With Chronic Illness, Disability Tuesdays • 2:00 p.m. in Room 158

The Chronic Illness Small Group invites anyone with a chronic illness or disability to join them in their study of the book, *One Month to Live: Thirty Days to a No-Regrets Life*. Through this life-changing journey, readers learn to embrace their own mortality and live their lives more fully. For more information about this small group, contact Roberta Spring at 266-2557.

Short-Term Medical Mission Trip to Jamaica January 30 - February 11, 2010

Sponsored by the US/World Mission Committee

Medical professionals and non-medical volunteers are needed to provide medical, dental, and spiritual care to the people of Jamaica. The team will provide care through the government clinic system and will work with Catholic missionaries to provide care to residents of two orphanages and a nursing home.

Physicians, nurses, dentists, dental hygienists, dental assistants, pharmacists, physical therapists, construction workers, musicians, and general helpers are needed.

Applications for health care professionals must be received by September 15, 2009. For more information, contact Barb or Bob Ericson at 277-1880 (home) or 319-493-5039 (Barb's cell).

WELCA Leadership Opportunities Available

Nazareth Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELCA) is seeking women from the congregation who want to become active in our mission work. Leaders are needed for Nazareth WELCA Mission Growth, Mission Action, and Mission Community committees and Nazareth WELCA Vice President. Contact Cheryl Moore at 234-5837 for additional information and to place your name in nomination. Circle membership is not required for these leadership opportunities.

Help Build the Habitat House

Wednesdays and Saturdays (*except July 4*) at 324 Oneida Street in Waterloo from 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Lunch provided. For more information, call John Tucker at 268-0064.

Help Provide Lunch for Habitat Workers

Volunteers are needed to provide lunch for Habitat for Humanity workers on July 11, July 25, July 29, August 5 and August 12 at 324 Oneida Street in Waterloo.

Lunches include a main item, a salad or fruit, relishes, chips, cookies, and cold drinks. Volunteers also provide tableware and hand-washing supplies. Lunch is served at Noon. For more information or to volunteer, call Sandra Heller at 266-8668.

Do Day Marathon

Monday, July 13

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

Men, women, and children (10 years or older) are invited to attend the Do Day Marathon to assemble quilts and kits for Lutheran World Relief.

No special skills are needed to help with these activities:

- Tie quilts
- Cut fabric
- Design quilt tops using pre-cut squares of fabric
- Pin quilts
- Assemble sewing kits, health kits, school kits, and layettes



**Join us for an hour or for the entire day
Snacks and lunch will be provided**

Regular Do Day takes place Tuesday, July 14
9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall

Special Marathon Project: School Kits for Lutheran World Relief

Every year, Lutheran World Relief distributes school kits to children in need throughout the world. A school kit may provide the only supplies for children returning to school after the disruption of war. School kits help parents continue their children's education even while living in refugee camps. A school kit may also be used in adult literacy classes.

Do Day will collect items for school kits on July 5 & 12

Collection barrels will be available in Fellowship Hall

Kits will be assembled at Do Day Marathon on July 13

Update from the Call Committee

The Nazareth Call Committee has moved into the interview phase of the call process. On May 28, the committee received the names of six candidates for Senior Pastor from the ELCA. The names received were suggested by the ELCA and the Nazareth congregation and were screened for availability and interest in Nazareth. One name was withdrawn before we began interviewing after the individual received a call. Because of the strengths shown by the 5 remaining candidates, the committee began scheduling and conducting interviews with each in June and expects to continue through the summer.

We do not know how long this process will last, but please pray for God's leadership and our discernment of God's will. The Call Committee is getting to know each candidate and helping them learn as much as possible about Nazareth. We also ask your prayers for the candidates who are open to a call. It is a major decision for them to seek consideration.

Even though we are interviewing candidates, please feel free to suggest names to any member of the Call Committee. We are always open to your suggestions.

Members of the committee thank you for your prayers, support, and words of encouragement.

Call Committee Members: Del Carpenter (Vice-Chair), Mike Christason (Chair), Larry Fox, Diane Heindl, Craig Johnson (Recorder), Victor Ochoa, Renee Steffens, Dave Welter

Lutheran World Relief School Kit Item List

**Collection Dates
July 5 & 12 in Fellowship Hall**

Spiral notebooks

- Wide-ruled paper
- 8 ½ x 11"
- 150-200 sheets

Blunt scissors

Rulers

- 12 inches
- Centimeters on one side, inches on the other

Pencil sharpeners

Pencils with erasers

- #2
- New and unsharpened

Erasers

- 2 ½" long

Crayons

- 24-count boxes

Thank you for your generous donations to the Lutheran World Relief School Kit collection. The items you give will make a difference to children in Afghanistan, China, Peru, Sierra Leone and anywhere else that poverty, natural disasters, or war create upheaval and distress in people's lives.