



# The Tie That Binds

The Newsletter of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

## UPDATE - Elevator Project

**W**e are all stewards in the eyes of God. Stewardship begins and ends with the understanding of God's ownership of all: "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it." (Psalm 24:1)

Congratulations and THANK YOU to all our congregational brothers and sisters in Christ who have demonstrated great generosity and commitment to this important project. We are getting closer to making an elevator in Beautiful Saviour Lutheran Church a reality. To date we have raised \$10 000 in cash donations and approximately \$25 000 in pledged donations. The goal remains set at \$55 000 therefore, if you haven't yet, it is never too late to make a donation or submit a pledge. Everything counts.

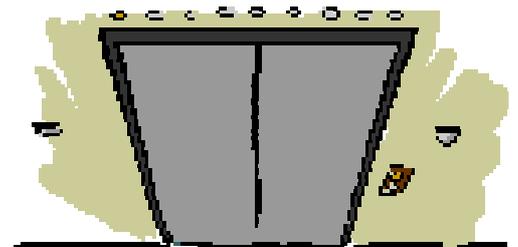
It is said that in Christian tradition stewardship can be the manner in which time, talents, material possessions, or wealth are used or given for the service of God.

Our next steps will involve approaching governments and organizations for grants and contributions. If all goes well we could even begin construction this fall. All Christians have the responsibility to maintain and use wisely the gifts that God has bestowed and together we are "rising" to the challenge!

*"To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it." (Deuteronomy 10:14)*

Yours in Christ,

Pierre Cronier



## Stewardship June 2010

### Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church Council Members, etc.

#### Chairman

Howard Slater

#### Youth

Sandy Katyrynuik

#### Building & Grounds

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#### Christian Education

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Gail Wise

#### The Tie That Binds Editor

Gail Wise

[wgail@mts.net](mailto:wgail@mts.net)

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*The Tie That Binds* is produced by and for the members of Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, and any opinions expressed are those of the author. If you have comments, questions or concerns about *The Tie That Binds*, you can contact any of the council members or write to:

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church,  
1541 St. Mary's Road,  
Winnipeg MB R2M 3V8

### **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat at Rainbow Stage**

Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm.

The Biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colors comes to vibrant life in this delightful musical parable.

Joseph, his father's favorite son, is a boy blessed with prophetic dreams. When he is sold into slavery by his jealous brothers and taken to Egypt, Joseph endures a series of adventures in which his spirit and humanity are continually challenged. He is purchased by Potiphar where thwarting advances from Potiphar's wife lands him in jail. When news of Joseph's gift to interpret dreams reaches the Pharaoh (wryly

and riotously depicted as Elvis), Joseph is well on his way to becoming second in command. Eventually his brothers, having suffered greatly, unknowingly find themselves groveling at the feet of the brother they betrayed but no longer recognize. After testing their integrity, Joseph reveals himself leading to a heartfelt reconciliation of the sons of Israel. Set to an engaging cornucopia of musical styles, from country-western and calypso to bubble-gum pop and rock 'n' roll, this Old Testament tale emerges both timely and timeless.



Are you interested in going? If we buy 14 or more tickets up to 24 for a show, we can get 10% discount. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex.

## Confirmands' Essays

It's too complicated. That is why I'm atheist. How do you know it's true?  
Are you sure there is really a God?

These are all statements that my friends have actually said to me at one point or another. My simple answer is FAITH. At which point they are even more confused.

I suppose I could have taken those opportunities to tell them about how I was baptized into Christ's family, or how I attend church and youth group regularly to learn about God. I know that Jesus died on the cross and rose from the dead for me, so all my sins, no matter what, they are forgiven. God means everlasting life and when I am sad, angry, afraid, happy, overwhelmed or confused, I know that God is by my side and always with me. This is my faith.

I didn't say any of these things to my friends, but I did do something. I reached out to them by taking them to church gatherings and youth group activities. It's a small start, but I showed them that being a Christian is fun and is about fellowship and being with others who share the same faith.

***by Jacob Cronier***

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Being a Christian is probably one of the best feelings in life because I know God is always there for me even if I do something wrong. He will still love me and never change His mind about me. When I need Him all I need to do is just say a prayer. Then when I'm feeling scared or sad I can say a prayer too and I already start to feel better. I can't even imagine what it would be like to go to heaven, but when I read from the Bible it sounds amazing. I'm also very thankful because I know that Jesus died on the cross for me so that all my sins, no matter what they are, will be forgiven and I know He will always be there for me.

***by Jordan Phillipoff***

Um.... Well O.K. here I go. (smile) Please bear with me I going to try something new.

"God doesn't exist!"

"Well, yes he does."

"Well, where then?"

"All around us."

"I can't see him."

"He's there alright. My Sunday school teacher told me that God is everywhere."

"Ha! he must be lying."

"It's a she and no, she isn't lying."

"Well why can't I see him then?"

"Because he's invisible."

"What! God has super powers?"

"Sure does. He created everything just by thinking about it."

"Are you sure? Cause if he made everything why did he make us like this?"

"Because he loves us, silly."

"Uh, O.K."

"You should come to Sunday School with me next weekend. I'm sure my Sunday school teacher can answer more of your questions."

"O.K."

God is a powerful force. If only I had been able to talk about God so openly. Maybe then my Uncle would believe me when I say God is real. Then he wouldn't be so nervous about coming into church today. Unlike the child in my story I wouldn't have that much courage or wisdom to explain God in such a way. A superhero with all the powers you could imagine, but also a father who loves and cares for all. Sometimes I forget what God has done and turn away, but here today I believe and remember all he has told me. I believe in God and in turn he helps me in more ways than I will ever know. May God bless the world.

***by Stacey Katyrynuik***

## *Lutheran Women's Missionary League News*

On May 1st, 4 ladies of BSLC LWML-C attended the Spring Renewal in Morden. Pastor Richard Beinert was the guest speaker who gave a presentation on the 'Oromo Outreach & Mission Work within Canada'.

**“Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the Eunuch said “See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?” then Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.” So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the Eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the Eunuch saw him no more.”**  
**Acts 8:36-39b**

The Oromos are a nomadic, farming people. 30 million Oromos live in Ethiopia alone (34.5% of its population-2007 stats). Due to the political circumstances, many also live as refugees & exiles in Kenya, Uganda, Sudan and Somalia. The people were hit hard by the famines in the 1990s. The Oromos speak Cushitic language.



Two influential leaders in the African mission were Pastor Louis Harms (1809-1865) and Onesimus (Hika) Nesib (1856-1931). Pastor Harms founded the Hermannsburg Mission society in Hannover, Germany. He had a passion for saving the lost. Harms developed a strong concern that the Gospel be taught plainly & according to the Lutheran Confessions. He established mission stations from Ethiopia to South Africa and sent missionaries to other parts of the world. Harms' mission strategy included a more personal approach to missions & pastoral care; a strong emphasis on charitable work and training of teachers, who would conduct a large part of the outreach & instruction. Onesimus translated the Bible and Luther's Small catechism into Oromo. The impact of Onesimus' translations resulted in the Oromo cultural & religious identity being developed as a Lutheran identity and the Lutheran Christianity among the Oromo people being strongly connected to social & community celebrations and events.

The work of the German & Swedish Lutheran Missionaries resulted in the establishment of the Lutheran Church in South Africa. They translated European hymns & customs into native languages and used native hymnody & worship forms.

There are currently 4 Oromo congregations in Canada (Toronto-Oromo Christian Church, Winnipeg & Edmonton-Oromo Christian Fellowship and Calgary-Oromo Evangelical Lutheran Church), as well as 2 mission stations (Ottawa-Kanata and Halifax). The history of the Oromo's relationship with Lutheran Church-Canada began in 1990s when the Edmonton group started worshipping independently at St. Peter's Historic Lutheran Church in downtown Edmonton. In 2003, the Winnipeg group approached Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church to have some of their children baptized. Supervision of the group was taken over by Pastor Dan Abraham, (Good Shepherd) and later Pastor Richard Beinart (Immanuel). The Oromos began meeting at Our Savior's (ELCIC) in downtown Winnipeg. The Calgary group began meeting at Foothills Lutheran Church in the 2000s. And in 2009s attempts were made to connect the Halifax mission with faith Lutheran Church in Dartmouth.

Recent decisions to allow for the ordination of homosexuals and the blessing of same sex couples within the ELCA, gave the Oromo churches a decisive push to seek stronger ties with the LCC over the ELCIC.



In Canada, Assefa Aredo has been training for the pastoral ministry through LCC's Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT) program since the fall of 2008. At his current rate of progress, he will complete his studies by the fall of 2012. The Edmonton & Calgary congregations have submitted a request through ABC District Office to join LCC. A second Oromo PAT student has been approved to begin studies in association with the Toronto congregation. In Winnipeg, the leadership of Immanuel Lutheran has extended an invitation to the Oromo congregation for them to merge together into one

congregation, but they are still awaiting their formal response.

The Oromo congregations have exuberant worship services; most are young adults; hard workers; actively involved in refugee sponsorship programs; reflect strong cultural & community values; and are excited about sharing Jesus with anyone who asks. LCC's opportunities include the Oromo people bring zeal & commitment to sharing their faith that our LCC churches often lack; Oromo people come with the ability to communicate in several languages; and by receiving them, LCC can expand its domestic mission work to new immigrant communities that we are unable to reach otherwise. LCC's challenges include adapting to new patterns of hymnody & worship; adapting to different forms of congregational governance; becoming involved in refugee sponsorship; reconnecting both Gospel/teaching ministries with social ministry concerns in our Canadian setting; and providing educational support for younger generations to facilitate a transition to Canadian churches.

**As members of LCC, we can pray for God's blessings on their labors as LCC seek to find ways of supporting the Oromo mission field; encourage this work through our words & attitudes; provide financial assistance to the training of new pastors, as well as for the Inter-Cultural Mission work within Canada; consider being a part of a sponsorship program through your own local congregation; be an active part of the merger process (in bringing the Oromo churches into LCC), as you are able; and be available to provide material support (basic household goods) for new immigrant families.**

**God is bringing the Oromo mission field to our front doorsteps. With the example to other major denominations, LCC stands alone as the 'Bible Believing Church' in Canada. Immigrant communities will increasingly look to LCC for pastoral leadership in the future. The seeds we plant today will bear fruit for the Gospel, which is God's promise.**

Lorraine Weir,  
President, Beautiful Savior  
LWML-C





## Vacancy Pastor's Message

*Rev. Dale Mohr*

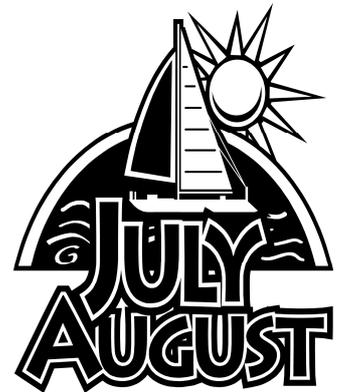
### ***WHEN THE LIVIN' IS EASY!***

The editors of *Christianity and Crisis*, a biweekly journal of Protestant opinion, recently announced the discovery of a new religion: Naturism. Actually it is as "old as the hills" but it keeps on reinventing itself with new vigor every summer. "At this time of year," said the article, "in places where there are cool breezes, mountain vistas, forest glades, sylvan lakes (how easily the phrases come to mind!) or even inviting fairways, the adherents of Naturism begin to go on a spiritual spree."

The article continued, tongue firmly in cheek: "The gods of Naturism usually receive full homage at the interfaith gatherings known as Summer Conferences. At such places there is usually a Cathedral of the Pines, in which worshipers are directed to meditate upon the beauty and straightness of trees rather than upon the Creator of the trees. At such places there is always an Inspiration Point . . . that takes the worshiper's breath away as they reverently watch the sunset over their favorite lake.

The journal offered a few of "the numerous cultic sayings and ritualistic practices by which the believers in Naturism can be distinguished." Among them:

- The familiar phrase 'Finding God through nature,' with its interesting implication that God has gotten lost."
- "The rubric, 'Kneel when you light a fire,' with its implication that you are thereby engaging in an act of reverence."
- "Campfirology, in which worshipers sit cross-legged in a circle (symbol of eternity) and gaze into the fire (symbol of transitoriness) and sing 'Vive la Compagnie' (symbol of fellowship)."



- "The Tee Cult: 'I believe (credo) that you can worship God better on the golf course than you can in church ...' Members of the cult demonstrate their devotion to the creed by making their Stations of the Course (18 in number) each Sunday morning."

Summer is a beautiful time, when, as the old song, "Summertime", puts it, "the livin' is easy" A time to change from the hum drum and draining routines and schedules of work, school, meetings and obligations.

It's great to put away the snow shovels and kick back with a cool one. Even Jesus, when things got pretty hectic, told His disciples to "come away and rest a while" and He Himself also had times when He withdrew from the incessant demands of the crowds.

But both our needs and our obligations continue. We need God's Word of forgiveness in Christ, even on the laziest days of summer. We need still to serve, honor and obey this God who never takes a vacation from us. We need still, to support His Church whose tasks continue every season. So enjoy your summer. Get refreshed and renewed. But don't "take a break" from God who never "books off" from loving you.



### **Calling all knitters (and those who would like to be)**

Let's get together and make some toques and mitts for the Warm Feet For The Street project. We have a very simple pattern and tons of wool. If you have never knitted and would like to learn, this is your chance. Talk to Gail Wise if you are interested.

# Cheesecake Café in Paris



