

Pastors' Report
November 16, 2011

- **Bible Study:** Pastor Mary led Women's Lunch bunch study. Pastor David is leading a 4-session Book of Faith Bible study on Galatians with 10 attending. That study is currently considering options for what they will study next.
- **Education:** We both taught Confirmation. Pastor Mary met with Confirmation leaders to purchase Bibles for next year's class. She is also participating with BBB on upcoming classes for children with special needs, including looking at curriculum for the younger special needs class.
- **Adult Forum:** Pastor David met with Kathy Eckert to plan out Adult Forums. With Kathy Eckert, Pastor David continues to lead Adult Forum sessions on *Making Sense of Scripture* by David Lose, dealing with important and vital questions about the Bible.
- **First Communion:** Pastor Mary taught 1st Communion classes with First Communion taking place on Reformation Sunday, the weekend of October 28-29.
- **New Members/Inclusion:** Pastor Mary has followed up with visitors and prospective members. She worked on Trunk Or Treat, with many visitors attending (75+ kids and 30+ adults). She attended the new member luncheon and gave a tour of the building to new members. She presided over the baptism of Mazie Bea Carter on October 29. Pastor David presided over the baptism of Stan Clark on November 13. He also helped lead the Rooted in Faith classes. Pastor Mary has also sent out e-mails and cards to members, writing some letters to a few members.
- **Gifts and Graces:** Pastor David helped lead the Gifts and Graces campaign with the declaration of "***God gives to us generously; therefore we are called to live generously.***" We received Faith Promises on the weekend of November 5-6.
- **Pastoral Care:** We have made visits to the hospital and members' homes. Pastor Mary met with the Caring Ministry Team.
- **Service Team:** Pastor Mary attended the Service Team meeting.
- **Wings and Prayers:** November service will take place on Sunday, November 20.
- **Goal-setting:** We worked on goal setting and presented initial goals with members of Council and Personnel Team.
- **PMC:** Pastor David participated in a conference call with Our Savior's Lutheran and First, Decatur, to clarify some questions and issues about the Letter of Agreement. Though we struggle with how Church Innovations has dealt with preliminary matters, we remain encouraged about the PMC process and in particular the excitement and momentum that is already taking place with the Steering Team.
- **Worship Team:** Pastor David met with the Worship Team. We both worked on Advent and Christmas preparations, which included helping to pick out materials and preparing the themes for "The Journey to Bethlehem." Pastor Mary worked on the Thanksgiving Eve Service.
- **Personnel Team:** Pastor David along with the Personnel Team continued to work on job descriptions.
- **Other:** We both worked on budgets for a variety of groups. We both helped prepare our final sabbatical report for Wheat Ridge.
- **Finally:** We will be gone on Thanksgiving Thursday and Friday. We will also be out of town from Tuesday, December 27, until Tuesday, January 3.

In Christ,
Pastors David and Mary

Ministry Leader for Spiritual Formation Report – November 16, 2011

Partnership for Missional Church

- Steering Team gathers; personally invites Listening Leaders; commissioned for the journey.
- Check out the new PMC video at www.rlcgarden.wikispaces.com Kudos to Michelle Harris!
- Pick up a Prayer/Dwelling in the Word card and join in 100 Days of Prayer.
- Set sail by signing your name on the prayer “passenger list” in the narthex.
- Our Savior’s in Normal signs Letter of Agreement.
- First Cluster Meeting with partner congregations on December 2-3, 2011.

Baptismal Building Blocks

- “The Little Drummer Boy” Veggie Tales movie will be shown Sunday, November 27 at 9:30 a.m.
- Family Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 11 at 10:45 a.m. features children of all ages, LYO band, adult choir, and a Nativity pageant.
- Special rehearsal on Saturday, December 10th at 9 a.m. with Christmas party following.
- Christmas Jam youth band practices, Mondays at 6:15 p.m.
- Planning meeting on curriculum for special needs Sunday school.
- Additional teachers needed for 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday school classes.

Adult Forum

- Taught three “Making Sense of Scripture” sessions. The material is great fun!
- Coming Nov. 27th - “Journey to Bethlehem” Bible study/devotional/video series for adults and youth featured throughout Sunday and Wednesday Advent services.

Fellowship

- RLC Tailgate Party honors new members, with great grilled food and friend-ly atmosphere.
- Crank up your crock pots for the RLC Chili Cook-off Contest in January on Annual Meeting Sunday. The winner gets their name on outdoor sign and picks the next week’s sermon topic!

Caring Ministry

- Team begins calling, visiting, and sending cards.

Small Groups

- Kick-off for “Meal and Mingle,” a new group for parents and their small children.

Women’s Ministry

- Girlfriends’ Arts and Crafts Fair, Dec. 3 and 4. A portion of proceeds benefits “Adopt-A-Family.”
- Immanuel Bible Foundation’s Christmas Celebration on December 10 at the Marriott in Normal.
- Retreat Team meeting. Mark your calendars for SeaSide Escape – Jan. 27-28, 2012

Community Involvement

- Led a “Spiritual Practices” workshop on Christian Yoga at Bro Menn Hospital.
- Attended ELCA Northeast Clergy Conference in Roberts.
- Tutor weekly adult ESL classes; attended in-service workshop at ROE 17.

Be Encouraged,

Kathy Eckert, Associate in Ministry, Resurrection Lutheran Church