



Volume 26 Issue 6

July 2010

## A message from Pastor Quinn

### I Am the Way and the Truth and the Life

“Do you know where you’re going? Are we lost? Why don’t you stop for directions?” If you are setting out on a family vacation this summer perhaps you will hear those questions. Maybe you will even be the one asking them! The scene is familiar. Everyone is piled into the family station wagon travelling along the road. Dad misses an exit and thinks he knows another way to get back on track (even though he’s never been in this part of the country before). The family encourages dad to stop for directions. He refuses. Hilarity ensues as the family gets further and further off track. Eventually they get back on track. Does dad learn his lesson? Not even close. The next vacation the same thing happens.

It’s a bit that has been used in the movies and on television for decades because it’s true to life. Many don’t like to ask for directions. They think they ought to know the way on their own and so they easily get off track. Usually the consequences aren’t that severe (especially if we are only talking about a summer vacation). But what about when things get off track in life? Jesus’ disciples were not afraid to ask for directions. Even though they had been with Jesus listening to him preach, watching him do miracles, hearing about his purpose for coming to this world and how his time here would end, they still didn’t quite understand what was going on. So they asked Jesus to explain. They asked him for directions. They wanted to know the way.

**“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God; trust also in me. <sup>2</sup>In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so, I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. <sup>3</sup>And if I go and prepare a place for you, I**

**will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place where I am going.”**

<sup>5</sup>**Thomas said to him, “Lord, we don’t know where you are going, so how can we know the way?”**

<sup>6</sup>**Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well. From now on, you do know him and have seen him.”**

Because of Jesus we always know the way when it comes to the most important thing in life. Jesus is the way. A life lived with him, trusting him, following him is the only way to live. As God’s children we know that, but we still get lost. We still get off track when we decide to follow our own way. When this happens we are too often like the dad from the movies, refusing to ask for directions. How foolish we can be! Jesus has the answers. He is the way. He is the answer to our mistakes and failures. His perfect life and death covers over all sin. He is the answer to our present and future. The guidance we need now and what is in store for us is revealed in his word. His word is our itinerary in life, it is our map, our GPS. Return to it often so through it Jesus keeps you on the true way which leads to everlasting life. The consequences of getting off of this track are eternal. There’s no shame in going back and seeking the guidance you need. Do it every single day.

“Where do I go from here Lord? Show me the way.”

**“I am the way and the truth and the life.”**

## Coming up in July

July 4	Fourth of July Holiday
July 18	Mr Michael Fetcenko installed as our new Upper Grades teacher
July 20th	Voters' Assembly

## Meet Our New Upper Grades Teacher

His full name is Michael Joseph Fetcenko but he definitely prefers to be called Joe. He said, "When your great-grandfather, your grandfather and your father are all named Michael, you go for something a little different." And he laughed.

Michael Joseph Fetcenko was born on August 26, 1987 in Royal Oak, Michigan to Michael and Kathy Fetcenko. Four years later a brother they named William was added to the family. As is typical with siblings there was a certain amount of competition while they were growing up but the relationship has changed through the years. Joe says, "I love him with all my heart but growing up it was different."

Joe's dad Michael is a chemical engineer working for Energy Conversion Devices making batteries. His mom Kathy has always been a stay-at-home mother. He says, "She does more for us than you can possibly imagine."

Joe attended Martin Luther School in Madison Heights, Michigan from Kindergarten through the seventh grade. By then, his home church, Cross of Glory, had their own school and Joe attended eighth grade there. After graduation, he attended Michigan Lutheran Seminary in Saginaw. He decided on a teaching career in his last year at MLS.

He has a wide variety of hobbies and enjoys playing sports as well as watching them and he has always been a movie fan.

His mom and dad live in Rochester, although long residing in Rochester Hills. Joe says, "Rochester is a little town engulfed by Rochester Hills."

Although marriage is a long ways down the road, he does have a girl friend, Danielle East, who just graduated from Martin Luther College and will teach Kindergarten in St. Paul, Minnesota. Her home is in San Jose, California.

With a name like "Fetcenko" his Russian roots are obvious. His great-grandmother came from Russia (Today the area is known as the Ukraine.) and his great-grandfather was the first generation of Fetcenkos to be born in America.

We are looking forward to meeting the new teacher and hope he finds our small town of Midland and our school at Good Shepherd a pleasant way to begin his first year of teaching.

## Lost and Found

A number of winter articles have been found and are now next to Mrs. Tafel's classroom either hanging on a hook, setting on the floor or in a cardboard box. Please check and see if something belongs to you.

5 pairs of snow pants

1 pair white boots

1 pair black boots

1 MLS bag stuffed with clothing (needs washing)

1 pink T-shirt "Eastern Division" on the front

1 pair black gloves

1 pair black mittens

1 only black wool glove

1 pair sunglasses

1 Orca whale

1 Dinosaur

## **A Message from the Congregational President, Mike Krueger**

### **July Voters' Meeting – LES calls & scholarships**

The July Voters' meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM. In addition to membership transactions and reports, the agenda will include a recommendation from Council to accept Mrs. Rebecca Seeger's resignation and grant her a peaceful release from her divine call to teach the upper grades. In response to that resignation the voters will be asked to approve the emergency decision made by the Council to ask the Assignment Committee to assign someone for a one-year call to teach the upper grades. Mr. Michael J. Fetcenko was assigned to fill that call. The Council is also recommending that we call Pastor Quinn to serve a one year call as principal. These actions would fulfill our staffing needs for next school year and give us time to consider what we would like to do for permanent calls to staff our Lutheran Elementary School.

Also on the agenda will be a proposal from the Scholarship Committee on the amount of the scholarships to be given to members of Good Shepherd enrolled at our synod's ministerial education schools to encourage them to prepare for full-time work in the teaching or preaching ministry of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod. Currently that includes: Tyler Glessner, Cheyenne Lehman, Aaron Pretzer, Meredith Shaffer, Tosha Arthur, Sarah Fournier, Bailey Glessner, Grace Johnson, Jessica Riggs and James Westphal at Michigan Lutheran Seminary; Abbie Gawel, Michael Schwab and Paul Krueger at Martin Luther College and Joe Gawel at Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary.

The amount of the scholarships are set in July based on the number of students enrolled, the amount of money in the Scholarship Fund and the cost of education at the schools. The scholarships are paid in August so the recipients have the funds in time for their first payments to the schools in the fall. Gifts may be made to the Scholarship Fund at any time by designating the amount to go to the Scholarship Fund on your envelope or check.

All male communicant members 18 years of age are invited to become voting members of the congregation by making a request

## ***We study God's Word***

### **Scripture Readings for July**

#### **July 4 Pentecost 6**

1 Kings 19:14-21  
Psalm 62  
Galatians 5:1, 13-25  
Luke 9:51-62

#### **July 11 Pentecost 7**

Isaiah 66:10-14  
Psalm 66  
Galatians 6:1-10, 14-16  
Luke 10:1-12, 16-20

#### **July 18 Pentecost 8**

Deuteronomy 30:9-14  
Psalm 25  
Colossians 1:1-14  
Luke 10:25-37

#### **July 25 Pentecost 9**

Genesis 18:1-14  
Psalm 119a  
Colossians 1:21-29  
Luke 10:38-42

## ***We serve others in love.***

### **Our Shut-Ins**

Please see your paper copy of the newsletter, or call the church office for information on our shut-ins.

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

People love to have their birthdays and anniversaries remembered. How about sending a card to someone in July?

### **Birthdays**

July 2	Joe Shaffer
July 2	Hayden Farquharson
July 7	Danielle Browning
July 8	Lovell Kain
July 16	Joe Cummings
July 16	Theresa Lehman
July 20	Ethan Peil
July 25	Debbie Marquardt
July 26	Don Schwab
July 26	Abigail Ross
July 26	Dee DeLong
July 30	Paula Pretzer

### **Anniversaries**

July 17	Bob and Amy Lindesmith
July 28	Rod and Annette Gunsell

## **Cardinal Classic Golf Outing**

The MLS Foundation's Cardinal Classic Golf Outing is planned for Saturday, July 31, 2010 at the Beech Hollow Golf Course located in Freeland. Please visit [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org) for more details or call 989-793-7511

## **The Saginaw Valley Lutheran Chorale**

The Saginaw Valley Lutheran Chorale will hold its first rehearsal for the Christmas season on September 12, from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. If you have previously been a member, please come again! If this year would be your first year singing with us, we look forward to seeing you.

## **National WELS Women's Leadership Conference**

"Leading with a Christ-like attitude" is the theme of this summer's National WELS Women's Leadership Conference. It will be held in Mequon, Wisconsin from July 16th through July 18th. A three point program is planned:

- 1) Developing WELS women's gifts and abilities
- 2) Growing in Christian love, service, and leadership
- 3) Joining together in Bible study and praise

**A full schedule and details are online at [www.wels.net/women](http://www.wels.net/women).**

"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus."  
(Philippians 2:44,5)

## **In Focus Magazine**

Copies of the Martin Luther College In Focus Magazine are available on the table in the narthex. Please take a copy. Great photography and lots of information as this is the Year in Review 2009-2010 issue. See pages 10 and 11 for the winners of the Solus Christus Juried Art Exhibit. Held April 10-May15. Jonathan Mayer's "Behold the Lamb of God" is a visual depiction of something we hear all the time but to see it visually is shocking and gives new meaning to the words.

## **This Is the Threefold Truth**

**CW 406**

This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends  
And with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

On this we fix our minds as, kneeling side by side,  
We take the bread and wine, take him, the Crucified;

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

This is the threefold truth which, if we hold it fast,  
Changes the world and us and brings us home at last:

Christ has died!

Christ is risen!

Christ will come again!

## **Ladies Guild**

Ladies Guild of Good Shepherd meets the first Tuesday of each month September to June at 6:45. Dessert is served and a time of fellowship is enjoyed. This is followed by a bible study and then the regular business meeting.

Elections were held at the June 1 meeting. New officers taking up their positions in September are:

President: Marilyn Schwab

Vice President: Susan Pifher

Secretary: Joanne Atkinson (incumbent re-elected)

Treasurer: Diana Johnson (incumbent re-elected)

All women of the congregation are cordially invited to attend a meeting and we would be happy to add you to our current membership list.