

# Nicholas News

The happenings of Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church,  
an ELCA congregation



LOVE GOD,

LOVE OTHERS,

TEACH AND LEARN,

SERVE THE WORLD

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*June 2011*

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[www.saintricholaslutheran.org](http://www.saintricholaslutheran.org)



Growing and empowering disciples of Jesus Christ for the ministries of God's work in the world

Ministers: People of Saint Nicholas

# 2010 MINISTRY ORGANIZATION

## LOVE GOD

Contact: Open

Council Liaison:

Ministries: Altar Care, Choirs, Nursery, Stewardship, Worship Planning



## LOVE OTHERS

Contact: Open

Council Liaison:

Ministries: Congregation Care, Evangelism, Fellowship, Prayer, Special Events, Stephen Ministry, Youth



## TEACH AND LEARN

Contact: Vicki Williams

Council Liaison: Kay Aronhalt

Ministries: Confirmation, Discipleship, Education, VBS



## SERVE THE WORLD

Contact: Kathy Dangin

Council Liaison: Sherie Cooper

Ministries: Benevolence, Community Service, Work Camp



## ADMINISTRATION

Contact: David Hickin

Financial Secretary: Tom Blatt

Ministries: Audit, Church Archives, Communication, Facilities, Finance, Newsletter, Nominating, North Wing Task Force, North Wing Décor, Policy, Web

## COUNCIL

### Executive:

- President : David Hickin
- Vice President : Sean Demme
- Secretary : Kay Aronhalt
- Treasurer : Amare Merz

### At Large:

- Alyson Griese
- Sherie Cooper
- Edith Crane
- Christine Hogan
- Colleen Hyland
- Sid Kolbe
- Karen Phelps



Reverend Ray Michener

Office: 410-257-5683

[pastor@saintnicholaslutheran.org](mailto:pastor@saintnicholaslutheran.org)

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## Pentecost Proclamations and Committed Confirmands

On Sunday, June 12, we will celebrate the confirmation of nine young members as they answer, for themselves, the three creedal questions asked of their parents and sponsors at their baptisms. Do you believe in God the Father? Do you believe in God the Son? Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

This Pentecost celebration is the culmination of two years of work, studying such things as all that is in Luther's Small Catechism (no small task), confusing Biblical texts (including Hebrew and Greek word origins), and some rather complicated moral and ethical issues of the day. Some confusion arose at times. For example: It's not easy to remember if the pastor reads from the *missal* on the altar, or the *missile* on the altar – a rather dangerous difference. Or how about who or what wears the *paraments*, and who or what wears the *vestments*?

Putting all of that aside for the moment, the two things I asked these young theologians to do as they delved into their confirmation journey was to think about and question their understanding of the Christian faith and what it means to them at this time in their lives. What I discovered as I read their faith statements this past week is they did just that! Even more exciting is that you will get to hear some of them on Pentecost Sunday during the confirmation service.

Pentecost is, of course, the day we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles as they tell the story of Jesus to many and various people gathered to hear them. It is the birthday of the Church, and a time of celebrating the gift of the Spirit to all who name Jesus as Lord. For our nine confirmands it is also a day when they will stand and proclaim their personal affirmation of faith. This is a big step for them as they also become voting members of the family here

Continued on next page

at Saint Nicholas. Let us welcome them once again as we did at their baptisms and encourage them to continue their faith walk along with us as we celebrate the risen Christ and his message of grace and love.

In Christ,  
Pastor Ray

P.S. The pastor reads from the missal on the altar and wears vestments. Only furniture wears paraments.



## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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**ALTAR CARE TEAM:** A new team member is needed to assist with altar care at the 9 am service on the first Sunday of each month. Altar care involves working with another team member to set up the altar before the 9 am service, clean up after the service, and set up the altar for the 11:15 am service. If you like hands-on, behind the scenes work that helps our worship service run smoothly, this is the job for you!

**SUMMER COMMUNION BREAD PROVIDERS:** During the summer we give our bread bakers a break and ask other members of the congregation to bring King's Hawaiian bread for communion. You may participate in this ministry by signing up to bring two loaves of bread on one of the Sundays during the summer, starting on June 12. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Don't forget, June 19 is



# LOVE GOD



Ministry Teams  
Altar Care, Choirs  
Nursery, Stewardship, Worship Planning

Contact: Open

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## A LOOK AT OUR STEWARDSHIP

Attendance				
	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22
7:45 AM	17	25	26	24
9:00 AM	60	64	81	78
11:15 AM	47	61	41	36
<b>Total</b>	124	150	148	138

Finance		
	April	Year to Date
Operating Income	\$24,790	\$90,406
Building Fund Receipt	\$8,791	\$32,525
Building Fund Transfer	<u>+2,459</u>	<u>+12,475</u>
Mortgage	11,250	45,000
<b>Total Income</b>	\$36,040	\$135,406
Less Operating Expenses	<u>34,627</u>	<u>154,650</u>
<b>Difference</b>	<u>+\$1,413</u>	<u>-\$19,244</u>
Total Restricted Receipts	\$2,436	\$3,924
Additional Bldg Fund Recpts	\$0	\$0

# LOVE OTHERS



## Ministry Teams

Congregation Care, Fellowship, Prayer,  
Special Events, Stephen Ministry, Youth, Evangelism

Contact: Open

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We pray that our Lord will bless those listed, as well as those in your heart, with a sense of peace and assurance through the abiding presence of God's Spirit.



## IN NEED OF PRAYER

Ron & Jeanne Olinger  
Vivian Smetana  
Susan Cagle  
Judie Sheffer  
Meredith Dalzell  
Norman Whittington  
Austin Smith  
Greg Phillips  
Dylan Klink  
Edith Page  
Wallace Weaver

Ruth Cagle  
Jim Rupert  
Tommy Oves  
Mark Knepp  
Abigail Leach & Family  
Laurie Campbell  
Pat Skinner  
Louis Baptista  
Lisa Fagotti  
Curtis Ulery  
Jakob Reinhardt

Sally Brown  
Carol Deiso  
Jacob Brand  
Patricia Yost  
Olive Woods  
Doris Ivey  
Joann Singleton  
Mike Lee  
Elaine Charney  
Brooks Family

Contact Kay Aronhalt at 301-855-1656 or [karonhalt@comcast.net](mailto:karonhalt@comcast.net) for *prayer team* requests.

Contact Anna Kitzmiller, office administrator, for additions to the *spoken prayers at services*.

## LOVE OTHERS

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# June Birthdays

Balderson, Faith	06/01	Neri, Tyler	06/16
Balderson, Ava	06/01	Stump, Bonnie	06/18
Olinger, Jeanne	06/01	Aronhalt, Kay	06/19
Demme, Nicholas	06/02	Blatt, Carol	06/21
Regner, Dianne	06/02	Hyland, Erik	06/21
Savage, Zachary	06/02	Proctor, David	06/21
Gray, Victoria	06/03	Balderson, Kathleen	06/22
Owens, Sherry	06/03	Flynn, Colin	06/22
Berche, Madelaine	06/05	Schmale, Bruce	06/23
Carroll, Maggie	06/05	Scopel, Don	06/23
Hogan, Howard	06/06	Bang, Debbie	06/24
Neri, Dylan	06/07	Hanson, Lisa	06/24
Proctor, Gregory	06/08	Stuart, Melissa	06/28
Gebhardt, Mary	06/09		
Moser, Wanda	06/10		
Cooper, Harris	06/12		
Dalzell, Brietta	06/12		
Peyton, Michael	06/12		
Opheim, Kristina	06/13		
Dalzell, Meredith	06/14		
Card, Jennifer	06/15		
DeVere, D.Scott Jr.	06/15		

## LOVE OTHERS

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### SPIRITUAL GIFTS

By Barbara Harris

One of the favorite verses for a coordinator of ministry has to be one that we often read at Pentecost, 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7: "Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. **To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.**" The snippet of commentary printed in our bulletin one year noted that the Spirit gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We **need** one another's diverse spiritual gifts. Your gift is one that is **needed** either here in the church family or out in the wider world. As you hear about ministry opportunities, whether in the newsletter, Weekly, by announcement, or face-to-face, prayerfully consider whether the call is for **your** gift.

### YADA-YADA BOOK CLUB

By Barbara Harris

An Autobiography, by Agatha Christie, is our June book for discussion. This marvelous book captures the era in which Agatha Christie grew up: when wealthy men did not work and when young ladies did not go to school but finished their education at finishing schools and trained in endeavors such as singing. As an adult, Agatha Christie had fascinating adventures in the Middle East, working at archeological sites in Iraq. I recommended this book to our group because of the beautiful writing and the amazing events described. Join our group on June 22. Contact me for more information.

### LUNCH BUNCH

By Kay Aronhalt

We had a one of our largest groups of the year, and certainly one of the most exuberant, at Three Brothers Italian Restaurant in May! We even celebrated Ken Puzey's birthday! We're sorry for those who missed it, but we cordially invite you to join us next month on **Thursday, June 9, 12:30 P.M.**, at the **Olive Garden in California, Md**, just over the Thomas Johnson Bridge in St. Mary's County. After you cross the bridge, go left at the first traffic light and watch for the Olive Garden on your left. It's not far! Let Kay Aronhalt know that you can come and our tables will be waiting 301-855-1656 [karonhalt@comcast.net](mailto:karonhalt@comcast.net)



## **Who's in the Pew?**

**By Dick West**

*Our featured members this month are Dick and Louise West.*

Dick and Louise West joined Saint Nicholas in 1998, when the congregation was meeting across the street at Plum Point Middle School.

While Louise was raised Lutheran, Dick was brought up in the Episcopal faith. The two young people met at the University of Maryland, where Louise was pursuing a nursing curriculum and Dick was in the Liberal Arts program preparing for seminary.

The couple were married on June 13, 1959, one week after Dick's graduation from college. He was accepted at Berkeley Divinity School (an Episcopal seminary) in New Haven, Connecticut, and in the fall of 1959 they moved to New England. While in seminary Dick also held a part-time job as a teller in the New Haven Savings Bank. By the time graduation from seminary occurred, their first two children (Laura and David) had been born and the walls of their one-bedroom apartment seemed to be bursting at the seams.

Dick had accepted a position as Associate Pastor of a small church in Meridan, Connecticut, but God had other plans for him and his family. On the day they were to select the paint colors for the walls of their new home, Dick received a call from the Dean of the Seminary informing him that he had not passed the canonical exams required for ordination. It seemed that the world had collapsed around them.

Moving back to the Washington area, Dick and Louise settled into a new home in Temple Hills and joined Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, where shortly thereafter Dick became the church treasurer. He served in that capacity for the next eighteen years. His part-time work in the New Haven Bank served him well, and he was able to secure a job with Suburban Trust Company, where he began as a teller and worked up to Assistant Vice President and manager of several branches.

In 1964, their third child (Donna) was born, and Louise found her niche as a stay-at-home full-time Mom. When the children reached high school age, Louise began volunteering at the Oxon Hill Branch of the Prince George's County Library System, working in the circulation department and helping to set up a used book store. Later she worked three years part time, and then fifteen years full time as a circulation assistant, eventually retiring in 1998.

*Continued next page*

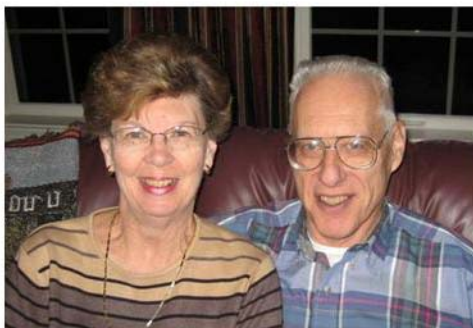
## Who's in the Pew?

*Page two continued*

With the children all grown and married, the couple moved from Temple Hills to Huntingtown in 1997 and joined Saint Nicholas shortly thereafter. On the afternoon of their first visit to the church they attended a congregational meeting where, among other things, an election was being held for new council members. One of the positions for which no candidate had been identified was that of Treasurer. . . and the rest is history! Dick raised his hand, stated his prior experience as a church treasurer, and a motion was made and passed to make him the next church treasurer as soon as he became a member of the church. Dick held that position for the next ten years.

In 2008, Dick and Louise moved from Huntingtown to the Asbury-Solomons Island Continuing Care Retirement Community in Solomons, Maryland, where they enjoy their river view apartment. They drive north to Saint Nicholas each Sunday, where Louise enjoys singing in the choir. Dick continues to be very active in the Lions Club, having been a member since 1970. In 1982, he served as District Governor of the 3,200-member Dist.22-C, which includes the District of Columbia and five counties in Maryland (Montgomery, Prince George's, St. Mary's, Charles, and Calvert.) He presently is affiliated with the Calvert County Lions Club, and yes, you guessed it, he is serving as the club's treasurer! The Wests have become very active in many of the activities at Asbury, and enjoy all that is offered there. Dick surprised everyone by joining the Asbury Vesper Choir with Louise. While not a reader of music, he enjoys singing what he calls the "base melody."

Prominent in their busy lives at this point in time are six grandchildren, and an expected great grandchild come December. Thanks for sharing your lives with us, Dick and Louise!



# SOFTBALL TEAM

By Tom Blatt

## RECENT RESULTS

May 1	vs Grace Chapel Ministries	W 16 - 4	L 5 - 13
May 15	vs First Baptist 'B'	W 17 - 0	W 11 - 4
May 21	vs Our Lady Star of the Sea	W 10 - 6	L 8 - 12
May 22	vs Dunkirk Baptist	L 9 - 19	W 22 - 17

2011 Record so far: 5 - 3

## JUNE'S SCHEDULE

Sunday June 5	4:30 PM	@ Hallowing Point # 4	vs Trinity UMC
Sunday June 12	4:30 PM	@ Hallowing Point # 1	vs Emmanuel Baptist
Saturday June 18	7:00 PM	@ Dunkirk # 1	vs Friendship Baptist
Saturday June 25	7:00 PM	@ Hallowing Point # 1	vs First Baptist 'A'





# TEACH AND LEARN



Ministry Teams  
Confirmation, Discipleship  
Education, VBS

Contact - Vicki Williams - fredis2adog@comcast.net  
Council Liaison - Kay Aronhalt - karonhalt@comcast.net

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## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Make your reservations now for Shake It Up Café! We will be cooking up a lot of fun from July 18 through July 22 here at Saint Nicholas as our little chefs carry out God's recipe. We will take a bite out of the Bible everyday from 9 to 12 while enjoying heaping portions of stories, music, crafts, games and snacks. If you have a hankering to join us, please let Lizzie or Vicki Williams know

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School is on summer hiatus. Thanks to our wonderful teachers for another year of exploring the word of God. We are so blessed by the time, dedication and love that they give to their students: Sherry Owens, Laura Owens, Evvie Schwartz, Heather MacDonald, Shannon Walsh, Lori Walsh, Lizzie Williams, Lara Rosetto, Susan Groff, Anna Kitzmiller, Andre Dangin, Kathy Dangin, Tim Schwartz, Sarah Kolbe, Erika Demme, Jean Wolf and Glenn and Ann Wolfgang.

## TEACH AND LEARN

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### ADULT EDUCATION

Keep your eyes and ears open in August for announcements on the classes that we will be offering next fall!

### CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

**JUNE 12**

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Cecilia Coley**

**Rachel Dangin**

**Jordan Frick**

**Collin Griese**

**Alissa Hogenson**

**Kirsten Niosi**

**Austin Owens**

**RJ Ross**

**John Williams**



# SERVE THE WORLD



## Ministry Teams

Benevolence, Community Service,  
Work Camp

Contact - Kathy Dangin - kdangin@live.com

Council Liaison - Sherie Cooper - smdcooper@comcast.net

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## FATHER'S DAY

You may provide for others as your father provided for you. In honor or memory of your father, or another loved one, an animal from ELCA World Hunger can be donated to the needy. Please fill out the form in the bulletin, or call or email the church office. The following are available to choose from:

\$10 for 10 Chicks

\$25 for 1 Turkey

\$30 for 1 Pig

\$50 for 1 Goat

\$250 for a Fish Farm

\$500 for 1 Cow

Please make checks payable to Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church; in the memo line write Father's Day and place it in the offering plate. A card will be sent recognizing your gift with wishes for a Happy Father's Day!

## RELAY FOR LIFE

Please consider spending a few hours on Friday night, June 17, at Hallowing Point Park. Come and experience the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. You don't have to be a team member to be a part of the event! Come and see all of the survivors take the first lap, the second lap of caregivers, and the carnival atmosphere that lasts until sundown. Then join us as we memorialize loved ones who have passed with the solemn luminaria ceremony as the evening falls. All are welcome!

## SERVE THE WORLD

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### THORNE MEMORIAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 13th Annual Thorn Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Friday, June 17, 2011, at Twin Shields Golf Club in Dunkirk, MD. To keep alive the memory of outstanding students and compassionate people Cara and Eric Thorne, a scholarship fund was established to benefit students at their school—Calvert High in Prince Frederick, MD. The Thorn Memorial Scholarship has now been opened up to students from all the public high schools in Calvert County: Northern, Patuxent, Huntingtown and Calvert. Since 1999, thousands of dollars in scholarships have been presented to students who have achieved the academic and personal excellence that Eric and Cara epitomized. To register, please visit the website [www.bcf.org/OptionsforGiving/GiveNow/ThornFundGolfTournament](http://www.bcf.org/OptionsforGiving/GiveNow/ThornFundGolfTournament)

### PROJECT ECHO

Please consider helping to prepare dinner for the residents of Project ECHO on Sunday, June 26. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Please contact Jean Smetana [jrshistory@yahoo.com](mailto:jrshistory@yahoo.com) or Karen Phelps [Karen.s.phelps@comcast.net](mailto:Karen.s.phelps@comcast.net) if you can help.

### FOOD PANTRY

During the month of June, we will be collecting baked beans, sauerkraut, three-bean salad, and any other nonperishable items you'd care to donate. Please place your contributions in the basket in the narthex. Thank you!



# ADMINISTRATION

## Ministry Teams

Audit, Church Archives, Communication, Facilities, Finance,  
Newsletter, Nominating, North Wing Task Force,  
North Wing Décor, Policy, Staff, Web

Contact - David Hickin - [David.Hickin@wyle.com](mailto:David.Hickin@wyle.com)

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## TAKE TIME THIS SUMMER

About 35 folks came and shared in the Spring Fling. It was truly a nice time catching up with people I don't always get a chance to take time to chat with. The kids were eager to get on with the water fight; and once the bread was broken, they wasted no time in unleashing their fury! I think there were a lot of smiles from above! As we all departed and headed our separate ways (after figuring out what to do with our soaked children), I for one, reflected on all the folks that missed out on a nice relaxing afternoon (or wet in some cases). There were plenty more people that I would have loved to catch up with. Schedules are always crazy for our family, and I'm sure your schedule is no different. Try to take time out this summer and relax some and catch up with those that care about you. We're going to do this again in the not too distant future, there will be more opportunities to share in the love your church family has for you. So bring your squirt guns and show us some love!



## ADMINISTRATION

# CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

BY Kay Aronhalt

**Executive committee:** David Hickin, President; Sean Demme, Vice President; Kay Aronhalt, Secretary; Amare Merz, Treasurer.

**At large:** Alyson Griese, Sherie Cooper, Edith Crane, Christine Hogan, Colleen Hyland, Sid Kolbe, Karen Phelps.

### May Council Highlights

The Church Council of Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church met on May 11, 2011. The following are highlights of the session.

- The treasurer reported that \$800+ has been received through the Thrivent Choice program since we began participation early this year.
- Pastor Ray reported on the recent Synod Assembly that he attended, along with our delegates, Christine and Charlie Bauerdorf.
- Arrangements are underway for a new members welcoming event.
- Plans for a Spring Fling potluck lunch on May 22 are being finalized. The event is the first in a series, planned to encourage communication and camaraderie among attendees of all services.

**Note:** The full minutes of the most recent council meetings are posted on the bulletin board in the Narthex after approval by the council. Stop by and read them in entirety if you are interested, and please do not hesitate to ask any council member for more information if you have questions or wish to give input.

## ADMINISTRATION

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### 2011 COMMITTEES

#### CALL

Kathy Dangin, Chair (9:00 service)  
Ben Cooper (Youth Rep.)  
Angela Knepp (7:45 service)  
Sarah Kolbe (11:15 service)  
Keith Williams (11:15 service)  
Glenn Wolfgang (7:45/9:00 service)

#### FINANCE

Amare Merz, Chair (9:00 service)  
Tom Blatt, Financial Secretary  
Ed Aronhalt (9:00 service)  
Colleen Hyland (11:15 service)  
Deneane Proctor (9:00 service)

#### NORTH WING TASK FORCE

Sherie Cooper, Chair  
Diane Graham (7:45 service)  
Open (7:45 service)  
Donna Calautti (9:00 service)  
Norm Griese (9:00 service)  
Colleen Hyland (11:15 service)  
Steve Walsh (11:15 service)  
Amare Merz (SN Treasurer)

#### FACILITIES / PROPERTY

Harris Cooper, Chair  
Jim Felbinger, Custodian  
Tim Schwartz, NW Construction Manager  
Sean Demme (11:15 service)  
Stephen Groff (11:15 service)  
Susan Groff (11:15 service)  
Dennis Leary (9:00 service)  
Kurt Nielson (11:15 service)  
Bruce Schmale (7:45 service)  
Keith Williams (11:15 service)

#### NOMINATING

Ann Wolfgang (7:45 service)  
Paul Butz (9:00 service)  
Sherry Owens (11:15 service)

#### AUDIT

Appointed by Council



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Saint Nicholas Lutheran Church ([ELCA](#))  
1450 Plum Point Road  
Huntingtown, MD 20639

Sunday Worship - 7:45am, 9:00am, 11:15am

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