



Voice of Victory

Christus Victor Lutheran Church
7510 Palomino Drive • Apple Valley, MN 55124
P: 952-454-6927 • F: 952-454-0300 • www.christusvictor.org

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 4

APRIL 2009



Sundays

8:30 & 11:00 am

Education Hour 9:45 am

Fellowship Hour 9:45am

Alternating between Traditional and Contemporary services.



Easter Week Services:

Maundy Thursday 7:00pm
5th Graders 1st Communion
Good Friday 7:00pm
Stations of the Cross
Easter Sunday
7:00am
8:30am
11:00am



- 2 Pastor Kent's Sabbatical
- 3 Adult Ed / Spirit Bound
- 4 May Newsletter / VBS
- 6 Mid-Wife Kits
- 8-12 Youth / TEC
- 13-14 Ideas for Parents
- 15 Calendar

Christ's Resurrection Appearances

"For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me."

1 Corinthians 15: 3-8

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" This is our Easter shout of joy, our proclamation of faith, and the article of **first importance** to our life as Christians: Jesus Christ is risen from the dead!

I still remember my parents getting me up early on Easter morning to go to church to sing in our youth choir at the sunrise service. As we processed in to worship, the pastors called out, "Christ is risen!" With the wondrous smell of the Easter flowers swirling around us, we all cried together, "He is risen indeed!" Then the brass musicians started their introduction to "Jesus Christ is risen today; Alleluia," and the celebration of Easter got into full swing. How I loved and still love Easter.

What I conveniently left out of my fond memory is the fact that I was a grumpy, surly kid that my parents had to wake up and get dressed in my Easter best in time to get to church. No time to eat the ears off my chocolate bunny, and with only a few jelly beans in my mouth, my parents **MADE ME** go to church. They did it, because they had something important to hand on to me, namely their faith and hope in Jesus Christ. They wanted me to know and experience for myself the mystery and power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. And not just on Easter Sunday, but every Wednesday night at church, Sunday mornings for Sunday School, worship, and singing, summer church camps, church retreats, and volunteering at Loaves and Fishes and other service projects through the church.

You see, it turned out that the risen Lord had not only appeared to Peter/Cephas, the twelve, those 500 brothers and sisters, and the apostle Paul, he had also appeared in many and various ways to my parents, and they wanted me to know Christ Jesus too. And appeared He has in many big and small ways throughout my life. I know Jesus Christ and the power of His resurrection! It is now my turn to pass on the faith that has been handed to me, not only to my children and family, but to everyone I can, from Christus Victor to the Dominican Republic, to the Mlowa Parish in Tanzania, and beyond! "Christ is risen!"

Won't you come and celebrate Christ's resurrection with us this Easter? Who do you need to bring along to hand on to them your faith in Jesus Christ?
Alive in Christ,
Pastor Kent

Participate in Pastor Kent's Sabbatical – 3 learning groups

I need your help! For this sabbatical time to benefit the whole congregation, I am asking you to not only pray for me during my time away, but to participate in my learning and growing. I would like to invite you to consider joining one of three different groups of church members to do your own reading and reflecting on the same books I will be reading and reflecting on over the course of my sabbatical this summer.

- One group made up of junior and senior high youth and their parents will read and reflect on Frogs Without Legs Can't Hear, by David Anderson and Paul Hill. I hope that this will compliment the work that will be going on around the Youth Ministry Management Plan with Tentmakers, and the great work that Pastor Laura and the Children and Family Ministries Committee is doing.
- A second group made up of young men and older men will read and reflect on Adam's Return: the Five Promises of Male Initiation, by Richard Rohr. I will actually be participating in this Male Initiation, and so will bring fresh, real life experience to the discussion and be eager to hear what others are thinking about Male Spirituality.
- A third group of adults will read and reflect on The Contemplative Pastor: Returning to the Art of Spiritual Direction, by Eugene Peterson. If you are interested in prayer and spiritual direction, this would be a great book for you.

In the two months after I return from my sabbatical I will be meeting with these three groups separately to discuss with each other our reflections and ideas that come out of our shared reading. This will give me a chance to share with a wide spectrum of people from the congregation, in an intimate and less formal setting, some of my experiences and discoveries from my sabbatical time. It will also provide some common ground for discussion around ideas and thoughts on how we can improve or change how we pass on the faith from one generation to another and from one person to another through the ministries of our church.

If this sounds interesting to you, please contact me at either (952) 454-6927 or youthrev@pro-ns.net and let me know which group you would like to participate in. I am also looking for people who would be willing to lead these small groups while I am away.



Sabbatical Blog

Stories and reflections of a "pastor on the loose!"

Starting on Friday May 22, I will be on sabbatical until Monday, August 17. In previous newsletters and public forums I have shared at length my plans for refreshing and reenergizing for ministry. But being the kind of person who needs to process and share their experiences and discoveries, I will be writing a regular BLOG that people will be able to access via the Christus Victor website.

The "pastor on the loose" blog will include reflections, book reports, and interviews with pastors and church leaders, worship reviews of other churches I will be visiting, and maybe a picture or two as well. I hope those who read the blog will be challenged and encouraged in their own growth and learning.



Thursday Morning Adult Bible Study
10:00 am in the Art Room

Bring your Bible and join us for a rousing journey into God’s Word. You don’t need to know anything about the Bible, just a willingness to read, ask questions, and learn. Just show up at 10:00am on Thursday mornings, we’ll provide the coffee!

Current Book: 1 & 2 Thessalonians



Book of Faith - Small Group Updates

Nine small groups are continuing to meet in April and May, working together through the Bible studies in “Opening the Book of Faith.” Many are going to keep connected through the summer (did someone say, “BBQ?!”), and then start again in the fall.

Group members are building new and deeper friendships with other church members. Participants have told me they are excited to be learning new tools to open the Bible for greater understanding and stronger faith in God.

Here’s what some of the small group members have said:

“I’ve enjoyed learning from others’ ideas and insights. And the fellowship with good food.”

“I love the discussions.”

“My favorite part is getting to know new people and how their take on faith in God stretches and helps me.”

“It’s been fun meeting with other people who share an interest in learning more about the Bible and God.”

If you were not able to be part of a small group this fall, just wait until the fall! We will start organizing and planning more small groups starting in late summer.



Spirit Bound Drama – “Dead or Alive”

This year’s Spirit Bound drama is based off of the following verses from Ephesians 2: 4-7.

“But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Jesus Christ.”

A lot of people today are living in limbo, and you might even mistake them for the “living dead,” or zombies. They’ll even tell you that they don’t feel alive. It is strange to say, but there are Christian “zombies” who are not really alive in Christ. All of us at some time in our life find it hard if not impossible to believe we can be truly alive in Christ and with Christ. The Good News is that even when we were dead, God made us alive with Christ. We have been saved by grace and raised from death to life through God’s love in Jesus Christ. We are alive with Christ! Do you believe it?

Come experience this powerful music and drama of Spirit Bound on Sunday, May 17, at both services.



Blessing of the Bikes

Get your motors runnin, get those pipes a hummin, and get on down to Christus Victor for a Blessin. Save the date of May 16th at 11:00AM. We along with the Christian Motorcycle Association and the AME church are hosting our first annual Blessing of the Bikes. There will be more information to follow. Don't be roaming the highways and byways without it. If you would like to help please call Scott Berg @952-431-6114 or e-mail sberg92062@aol.com



May Newsletter

Change can be scary, especially for us Lutherans, but we'd like to try something new with the CVLC newsletter. Instead of asking you to provide the content for the May newsletter, we're turning members of the CVLC Communications Task Force into reporters. Forward your best, most newsworthy story ideas to the CVLC Communications Task Force. Then, our team of ace reporters will go out and cover them. These changes will take effect beginning with the May newsletter – the deadline for article ideas will be April 5. We look forward to working with you to make this our best issue yet!

CHILDREN'S BOOK DRIVE: Children & Family Ministry will be collecting new and gently used books to help replenish the library at The Lewis House. There will be a collection box located under the coat racks outside the nursery. Our future plans include reading books to the children at the Lewis House and Dakota Woodlands (Women/Children shelters in Dakota County). We will keep you posted of these upcoming events. Questions: Sandra Tranby (952) 686-8910 (out of town through April 1) or Stacey Klein (952) 431-9124.



VBS? Yes you read it right, VBS. Many of you are starting to plan your summer vacations. You dream of sitting by the pool, or fishing at the lake. Well, before you book anything, mark your calendars for July 26-30, 2009 for VBS.

Would you love to be on a committee but making the commitment seems a little long term and overwhelming. Well, Children and Family Ministries are still looking for a few people who would be willing to join a mini committee for VBS. We will start meeting in April until VBS is done. You can't get much more short term than that. Please talk to Stacey Klein 952-431-9124 if you are interested. We could really use your help.



**Food shelf items for the month of April are
Canned tuna fish, chicken, salmon, mackerel, pork or beef**





Thanks to all 34 of you who came to the Bloodmobile Drive and donated blood on February 24th. We exceeded our goal of 30 units of blood – way to go Christus Victor!



BWCA TRIP DATES CONFIRMED

Adult trip (age 21 or over): July 11-19, 2009; Entry Point 24 (Fall Lake); Cost: \$360 inclusive of everything except meals on the road & souvenirs; sign-up sheet & information will be on the Information Desk. Contact Kathy Wittnebel at 952-890-8286 or email at kwittnebel@comcast.net.

Women only week-end: July 31 (leave by noon) - August 4, 2009; Entry Point 30 (Lakes One, Two, Three); Cost: \$195 inclusive of everything except meals on the road and souvenirs; sign-up sheet & information will be on the Information Desk. Contact Kathy Wittnebel at 952-890-8286 or email at kwittnebel@comcast.net.

Church clean up day

Saturday May 2 at 8:00a.m.

Sign up at the Information desk starting April 5. Projects will depend on the weather: examples are window cleaning, yard clean up, polish woodwork, scrub tables and chairs.



Crew leaders needed for the following items

1. Raise the gutter splash pads
2. Buckthorn and tree stump removal
3. Paint 4 bathrooms
5. Paint garage
6. Parking lot hole repair
7. Carpet cleaning

For questions and/or details call Lois Stark 952-432-5098.

FINANCE COMMITTEE QUESTIONNAIRE – Thank You!

Are you curious about: Who authorizes payment of bills? How benevolence is allocated to recipients? How the organizations are chosen? How to become part of the committee?

In order to make the Quarterly Update meaningful, we would like to answer any questions you may have regarding Christus Victor’s finances. Please state them below and place the form in the offering plate or in the office. The committee will respond on the April 19th temple talk.

Social Ministries Showers Tanzania Mothers with Medical Necessities



Saturday May 9th will be a very special day for Mothers in Tanzania. CV Social Ministries Committee is planning a large-scale baby shower for the mothers-to-be in Tanzania through their annual Midwife Kits project. Each year, donations are collected to create kits used by Midwives in Tanzania to aid in the sterile birth of newborns. As frontline health providers, the Midwives attempt to provide mothers, babies and children with the services they need.

They witness firsthand the families who struggle to reach health facilities and hear from men who have helped their laboring wives make the long trip to the health facility by wheeling them on bicycles through the night. There are clinics forced to make a list of supplies for prospective mothers to bring in, as they are so very short on various essentials such as gauze and gloves. Overcrowding is a huge problem with some facilities with only 10 beds for 60 mothers. Astounding facts considering more than half of Tanzania’s mothers deliver their children at home. Studies have shown the use of a midwife or traditional birth attendant and assuring sterile birth conditions, like the supplies provided by our Midwife Kits, help to greatly improve the infant mortality rate.

Gift giving for baby showers in the U.S. has been simplified with the numerous gift registries available. Your gifts to the mothers of Tanzania that are needed:

- ◊ Bath Towels (new or used)
- ◊ Receiving Baby Blankets (new or used)
- ◊ 2-½ gallon Ziploc Bags (available at Target)
- ◊ Bath Size Ivory Soap
- ◊ Baby T-Shirts (new or used)

Our donation cradle will be set up to receive your gifts April 19th-May 8th. The families of Tanzania may confront many health challenges in their lifetime, it is a privilege to be one of the solutions.

Come join us Saturday May 9th at 9am in the Fellowship Hall.

We’ll be packaging, boxing and shipping our shower gifts to the Mothers-to-be in Tanzania
Join us in sharing God’s love!

<u>February month-end</u>			
Financial Statement			
<u>Balance Sheet</u>		<u>Income</u>	
Current Assets	\$119,008.07	Total Budgeted Receipts	\$73,292.34
Fixed Assets	\$1,507,981.67	Total Actual Receipts	\$70,609.49
		Difference	-\$2,682.85
		<u>Expenses</u>	
		Total Budgeted Expenses	\$83,027.00
Current Liabilities	\$31,518.69	Total Actual Expenses	\$87,761.42
Long Term Liabilities	\$346,077.16	Difference	-\$4,734.42

Questions may be directed to any member of the Finance Committee: Michael Rand,
Rodney Carlson, Kerry Baubie, Kathy Wittnebel or Stephen Nierengarten

Munchkin MinuteMarvin the Marble

Marvin the Marble is a marble of red
 He rolls
 Without
 A sound
 In fact, his favorite thing to do
 Is roll
 Along
 The ground
 Marvin and the ground are together all day
 Best friends
 They are
 These two
 Marvin wonders what would happen if the ground went
 away
 What
 Oh, what
 Would he do?



Then one day...

Barry Balloon, all puffy and round
 Went sailing one day high up from the ground
 "Hey, Marvin," he called to his red friend below
 "Come flying with me. Come on. Let's go!"
 So Marvin took a breath, lots of air he sucked in
 To make himself puffy and float like his friend
 Then little by little up and up he went
 Till the air inside was used up and spent
 Then bit by bit he headed straight down
 And who did catch him? His good friend the ground
 With a *crash* and a *Thud* and an "Ouch!" And an
 "Oww!"



Marvin hurt just a little, but he wondered this now:
 "Did the ground that I love cause the pain that I feel
 Or is my terrible stunt the culprit for real?"
 Barry Balloon, watching high from the sky
 Called out to poor Marvin for just one more try
 "Come on, Marvin. Try again and you'll see
 Nothing beats floating. No. Not anything."

But Marvin said...

"I don't do well in the air, you see
 Rolling on the ground is the life for me
 You take the sky
 I'll take the ground."
 So he rolled along
 Without a sound.

Taffy the Top spins around with glee
 From morning to night she spins merrily
 "Hey, Marvin," she called to the one who rolls
 "Come spinning with me, it's how everyone goes!"
 Marvin closed his eyes and he tried to spin fast
 'round once, 'round twice, then spinning at last
 But he got so dizzy, so woozy, so *Yuk*
 Then he noticed quite clearly that he hadn't moved
 much
 Then he bumped and he thumped into this wall and that
 He nearly crashed into a big sleeping cat!
 Marvin stopped and stood still, still dizzy a bit
 Then he made up his mind and he screamed, "That's it!
 No more spinning for me. Oh, dear. Oh, my head
 I've been moving so much but have gone nowhere
 instead."
 Taffy the Top watched Marvin swaying
 Then called to her friend, called out saying,
 "Come on, Marvin. Try again and you'll see
 Nothing beats spinning. No. Not anything."



But Marvin said...

"I don't do well spinning around like this
 Rolling on the ground is the life I wish
 You spin in place
 I have places to see."
 Then he rolled along
 He rolled merrily

Marvin the Marble is a marble of red
 He knows
 Where he
 Belongs
 He's happy, he's content with his life on the ground
 Rolling
 Is his
 Life song



The end



Our Youth Ministry Management Plan

The Progress so far...

We began our plan by talking about the overall agenda for our Youth Ministry Management Plan and what people hope to get out of it. The plan is designed to recognize where we are at currently in our youth ministry and then take us to where we want to go. Think of it as a river where the head of the river is where we are at currently and the mouth of the river is where we want to go. On one bank of the river is our mission statement and the other bank are our ministry philosophies. Basically, our mission statement and ministry philosophies help contain our plan and course our direction.

Next we moved on to establishing a mission statement. A mission statement should answer the question of “Why does youth ministry exist in our congregation/community?”

It should be:

- Clearly Stated
- Concise
- Contagious
- Indicate a Relationship with God
- Indicate a Relationship with others.

As a group we came up with three proposed mission statements:

- Empower the congregation to inspire today, our youth in hope and relationships for Christ.
- Inspiring our youth to follow their call to serve God and all people
- Making a Christ – centered faith alive in youth.

From those three mission statement proposals, we pieced together a tentative mission statement that we’ll continue to adjust. **“Create Christ-centered Life in Youth.”**

We also talked about ministry philosophies, which are concrete concepts that will help us get a firmer grip on our ministry. In other words, they are the core values that we want, which couldn’t fit into our mission statement. A ministry philosophy is “The way we do youth ministry.” We’ll attempt to pick 10 ministry philosophies and define what they mean for our youth ministry.

Ministry Philosophies that we can choose from are:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| • Christ-centered ministry focus | • Foundation of Prayer |
| • Relation vs. Activity or Program-centered | • Memorable |
| • Student Leadership | • Rites of Passage/Initiation |
| • Service/Missions | • Self Discovery |
| • Mentoring/Inter-generational Ministry | • Fun |
| • Impact Events | • Worship |
| • Parental Involvement | • Continuity |
| • Team Approach | • Vocation/Call |
| • Development of a Long-range Strategy and Plan | • Outreach |
| • Leaders as Role Model, Recruiter, and Equipper | • Fellowship |
| • Setting Up Volunteers to Succeed | • Faith Nurture |
| • Safe, Affirming Environment | • Active Learning |

Get Involve in this Investment:

Wednesday, April 1st - 8:00 to 9:00 pm (Youth Only, Determine what Qualities they want in Youth Ministry)

Saturday, April 4th - 9:00 am to Noon (Develop a Vision, Goals, and Ownership for a Fruitful Ministry)

Sunday, April 5th - 12:15 to 2:15 pm (Finalize Youth Ministry Management Plan and Strategy)



"I am telling you the truth: A grain of wheat remains no more than a single grain unless it is dropped to the ground and dies. If it dies, then it produces many grains."
 John 12:24

Minnesota Metro Lutherans Teens Encounter Christ mission is to draw youth together to explore their faith, experience God's love and develop a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ through a dynamic and meaningful ministry with their peers.

What is TEC? TEC is a program aimed at teens and the challenges they face in their faith. It is a time for renewal and strengthening of that faith. TEC aims to show teens what a life lived in God's love can be like. The weekend (3 days) is centered on God's grace. TEC does not aim to introduce a new kind of religion, but to expand on and reinforce what is taught in Sunday school, confirmation and from the pulpit of their own church.

The Weekend: The weekend begins at 4p.m. on Friday afternoon. This is "Die Day". It is a time of personal reflection as the weekenders participate in Ash Wednesday, Lent, Good Friday services and Stations of the Cross. Saturday is Easter, "Rise Day". It is a celebration of the newness of life through Christ's resurrection. Sunday, "Go Forth Day", the participants prepare to go home and meet the challenges of sharing Christ with those around them. The typical weekend ends around 6:00pm on Sunday afternoon. The weekend is a peer lead ministry, teens leading teens. Adult advisors and spiritual directors are also serving on the weekends to help and guide the youth. There are nine talks given over the three days. Seven talks are given by youth who have previously gone through a weekend and two by clergy serving on the weekend. Small table discussions follow each talk with presentations given to each speaker. In addition to the talks and worship opportunities, the weekend is filled with singing, music, and time for fellowship, laughter, food and prayer.

Who can attend? TEC is open to youth in 9th through 12th grade and up to one year post high school graduation. The weekend is limited to 42 youth. An enrollment fee of \$40 is asked of each attendee. Full or partial scholarships are available to those in need.

The next two scheduled weekends are:

April TEC #103

April 17th - 19th, 2009

Shepard of the Hills

3920 N. Victoria Street

Shoreview, MN 55126

651-483-5419

www.shepherdhills.bizland.com

November TEC #104

November 13 - 15, 2009

Minnetonka Lutheran Church

16023 Minnetonka Boulevard

Minnetonka, MN 55345

952-935-3419

www.mtkalutheran.org

For more information: Please visit our website @ www.MMLTEC.org



MMLTEC Weekender Application

You may download/print this application for the purpose of applying for an MMLTEC weekend retreat. Please fill it out completely and have it signed by your parent(s) and Pastor/Youth Director.

Send it to:

MMLTEC, c/o Mike Montesinos, 11455 Galtier Drive, Burnsville, MN. 55337

Weekend applying for (date): _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name called by: _____ Grade: _____ Sex: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Home Congregation: _____

Special needs: Medical, Dietary, Etc.: _____

Registration Fee \$40.00 should accompany this application and must be paid two weeks prior to the weekend. Make checks payable to TEC. Full or partial scholarships are available based on need. Payment or arrangement for scholarship must be made prior to the weekend.

Application endorsed by: _____
Parent/Guardian Signature

Pastor/Youth Director Signature

Acceptance letters will be mailed approximately two weeks prior to the weekend.

VOICE OF VICTORY

Youth Ministry

WAPO Fundraising

Another summer of bible camp is only a few months away and that means campers are in full fundraising mode to help cut the cost for camp. It costs 4th - 8th graders \$360 to participate in WAPO's week program. This year campers and their parents have slew of creative fundraisers planned for the months of April and May. Here's how you can help support campers going to WAPO and receive tasty treats in return.

- Sunday, April 5th: Coffee and Yummy Treats Hospitality
- Thursday, April 9th: 3rd Annual Maundy Thursday Spaghetti Dinner
- Saturday, April 18th: Babysitting
- Sunday, May 10th: Mother's Day Carnation Sale
- Sunday, May 17th: Annual Rootbeer Floats Gala

If you cannot support the fundraisers, you can still make a difference through prayer. Prayers are need for our campers as many are going for their first time. Pray to God for a safe camp experience and that the campers can see God during the week.

Middle School Information

Confirmation - *Wednesdays at 6:00pm, in the Youth Room*

April 1st - Soup/Small Group/Lent Worship

April 8th - No Confirmation

April 15th - Small Group Service Projects

April 22nd - Confirmation Class: Taste & See

April 29th - Confirmation Class: Meal & Sending

DeKaF - *Sundays at 9:45am, in the Youth Room*

April 5th - SWAT Team Sunday: The Beatitudes

April 12th - No DeKaF

April 19th - Outdoor Worship Prep

April 26th - Field Trip (Outdoor Worship)

Up Coming Events

Youth Ministry Management Plan - April 1st
from 8:00 - 9:00 pm

Birthdays

Jason Edman	April 9 th
Sarah Youngner	April 17 th

High School Information

Up Coming Events

Youth Ministry Management Plan - April 1st
From 8:00 - 9:00 pm

Youth Group - *Wednesdays at 8:00pm, in the Youth Room*

April 1st - Youth Ministry Management Plan

April 8th - Pop Tab Devotional

April 15th - Infection/Grif Ball

April 22nd - Human Knot

April 29th - Buffalo Wild Wings Challenge

Birthdays

Dylan Pritchard	April 4 th
Kyle Johnson	April 27 th
Becky Selser	April 29 th

Bible Study - *Sundays at 9:45am, in the Office*

April 5th - Revelations Bible Study

April 12th - No Bible Study

April 19th - Revelations Bible Study Close

April 26th - Breakfast at Original Pancake House

VOICE OF VICTORY

*S.W.A.T. TEAM***SPOTLIGHT: DAN BERG**
AREA OF SERVICE: CONFIRMATION

Why did you join the SWAT Team?
I thought it would be a lot of fun.

What is your favorite part of being involved in SWAT Team?
Making friends with all of the confirmation kids and fellow SWAT Team members.

What is your favorite memory from SWAT Team?
Fellowship events for confirmation.

What has been the biggest challenge being a part of the SWAT Team?
Trying not to act like the kids and be more of an authority figure.

What would you say to a High School or Middle School student thinking about SWAT Team?
DO IT!!! It's a great chance to meet new people, grow in your faith, and learn leadership skills.

What have you taken away from your SWAT Team experience that you can use in college?
I learned how to make friends easier, and I'm slowly reaking out of my shyness.

Thanks Dan, for taking the time to share about your experience in SWAT Team. Next month we hear from Sara Fischer about her years involved in SWAT Team serving Faith Trek, bops, and DeKaF.

The SWAT Team meeting scheduled for April 5th has been moved to April 19th to accommodate the Youth Ministry Management Plan. We'll be taking a look at the topic of integrity





ideas for parents

Easy Ways to Build Assets for and with Your Child

FAST FACTS

**ASSET #38:
Self-Esteem**

Youth are more likely to grow up healthy when they have high self-esteem.

52%

*of youth surveyed by Search Institute have this asset in their lives.**

What Are Assets?

Assets are 40 values, experiences, and qualities that help kids succeed. "Self-esteem" is one of four positive-identity assets.

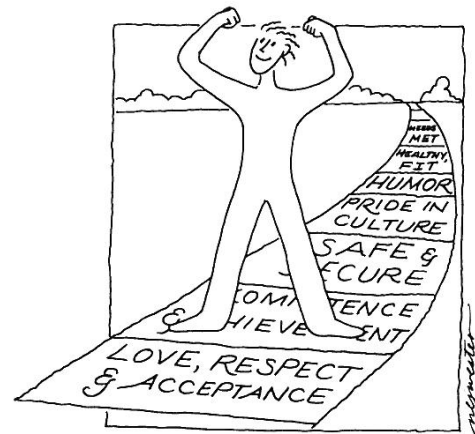
* Based on Search Institute survey of 217,277 6th- to 12th-grade youth throughout the United States during the 1999-2000 school year.

High Self-Esteem: Where Does It Come From?

We all know what pulls us down when it comes to how we feel about ourselves. Guilt. Prejudice. Rejection. Neglect. Disrespect. Put-downs. Ridicule. Failure.

But what pulls us up? Author and psychologist Dr. Louise Hart, a leading educator on self-esteem development, says high self-esteem comes from

- Love, respect, and acceptance.
- Being taken seriously.
- Being listened to.
- Having your needs met and taken seriously.
- Honoring uniqueness.
- Being healthy and fit.
- Having meaning and purpose in life.
- Having a sense of humor, laughing, and playing.
- Taking pride in your cultural heritage.
- Having choices and a sense of personal power.
- Having safety and security.
- Doing good.
- Competence and achievement.



Dr. Hart suggests families talk about their strengths and focus on positive things about each other. "We make healthy children by working from the inside out," she says, "by cherishing and accepting them as they are and nurturing their growth and development."

talk together

Questions to discuss with your child:

- Name three things you like about yourself and explain why.
- Think back to when you were younger. When did you feel really good about yourself? What was happening? When did you feel bad about yourself? Why?
- When you feel the best about yourself, what activities are you doing?



The Difference between Boys and Girls

Who is more apt to like themselves, think they have a number of good qualities, and be glad for who they are?

Boys are. Search Institute

researchers discovered that 56% of boys have a positive self-esteem whereas only 47% of girls do. Why do you think that is?

time together

Three ways to help your child feel better about her- or himself:

1. Compliment your child and let your child hear you saying good things about her or him to someone else.
2. On your child's birthday, give a gift that represents what you admire in her or him and state that admiration specifically.
3. Have your child create an "all about me" book. He or she can write about the family, activities of interest, favorite school subjects, proudest moments, etc. Include photographs, drawings, or special mementos.

Quick Tip:
Give your child lots of attention and compliment her or him.

More Help for Parents

Your Child's Self-Esteem by Dorothy Corkille Briggs. This book offers a formula for parents to help create strong feelings of self-worth in their children. (Published by Doubleday.)

Q & A about Self-Esteem

Q: Can a parent really affect a child's self-esteem?

A: Yes, says Jean Illsley Clarke, author of *Self-Esteem: A Family Affair*. "Life's positive and life's negative offerings are the areas in which adults have great power and opportunity to impact self-esteem," she writes in her book. She suggests parents can provide positive opportunities for their children to succeed; give positive messages to their children; love their children even when they make poor choices; and give specific alternative suggestions when they want their children to act in different ways.

FINAL WORD

"Giving children the feeling of being cared about for themselves, not just for their performance, is integral to their self-esteem."

—Richard Oberfield, M.D.

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APRIL 2009 CALENDAR

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

10:00AM Women's Reflection AA
5:30PM Youth Choir
6:00PM Confirmation
6:00PM Soup Suppers
6:00PM JIFY
7:00PM Lenten Worship
8:00PM Sr. Choir
8:00PM Youth Group
8:00PM Youth Ministry Mgmt. Plan

Thursday, April 2, 2009

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
7:00PM Lily of the Valley Study
7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
7:30PM AA Mtg.

Friday, April 3, 2009

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.

Saturday, April 4, 2009

7:30AM Spanish Leadership Trng.
9:00AM Youth Ministry Mgmt. Plan

Sunday, April 5, 2009

Spare Change Sunday
8:30AM Worship
9:45AM Education/Fellowship
11:00AM Worship
12:15PM Youth Ministry Mgmt. Plan
1:00PM Casa De Oracion
3:30PM Lily of the Valley SS
4:45PM Lily of the Valley
AME Church
5:30PM Troop 298 Committee Mtg.
6:30PM Spirit Bound
7:00PM Troop 298 Mtg.

Monday, April 6, 2009

9:30AM Women's AM AA Mtg.
7:00PM Valley Big Book Mtg.

Tuesday, April 7, 2009

12:00PM Men's Bible Study
6:00PM Casa De Oracion Study

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

No Confirmation
10:00AM Women's Reflection AA
6:00PM JIFY Play Rehearsal
8:00PM Sr. Choir
8:00PM Youth Group

Thursday, April 9, 2009

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
5:30PM JIFY
7:00PM Maundy Thursday Worship
Service
7:00PM Lily of the Valley Study
7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
7:30PM AA Mtg.

Friday, April 10, 2009

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.
7:00PM Good Friday Worship
Service

Saturday, April 11, 2009

Easter Decorating/Set-Up
7:30AM Spanish Leadership Trng.
8:30AM Men's Breakfast
10:00AM Quilters of CV

Sunday, April 12, 2009

Easter Sunday
7:00AM Worship
8:30AM Worship
11:00AM Worship
1:00PM Casa De Oracion
3:30PM AME Sunday School
4:00PM Casa De Oracion
Fellowship
4:45PM AME Worship

Monday, April 13, 2009

Office Closed
9:30AM Women's AM AA Mtg.
4:00PM Girl Scout Troop 50933
7:00PM Girl Scout Troop 52737
7:00PM Troop 298 ASM Mtg.
7:00PM Valley Big Book Mtg.

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

6:00PM Troop 345 Mtg.
6:00PM All Staff Mtg.
7:00PM All Committee Night

Wednesday, April 15, 2009

Small Group Service Project
9:30AM MOMS Club of AV
10:00AM Women's Reflection AA
7:00PM Upward Call
8:00PM Youth Group
8:00PM Sr. Choir

Thursday, April 16, 2009

Newsletter Article Deadline
10:00AM Adult Bible Study
10:00AM MOMS Club of AV MN N
6:00PM Troop 345
7:00PM TEC
7:00PM Lily of the Valley Study
7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
7:30PM AA Mtg.

Friday, April 17, 2009

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.

Saturday, April 18, 2009

7:30AM Spanish Leadership Trng.

Sunday, April 19, 2009

8:30AM Worship
9:45AM Education/Fellowship
11:00AM Worship
12:00PM Graduation FSS
1:00PM Casa De Oracion
3:30PM Lily of the Valley SS
4:45PM Lily of the Valley
AME Church
6:00PM Troop 298 PLC Mtg.
6:30PM Spirit Bound
7:00PM Troop 298 Mtg.

Monday, April 20, 2009

9:30AM Women's AM AA Mtg.
7:00PM Valley Big Book Mtg.

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

12:00PM Men's Bible Study
6:00PM Casa De Oracion Study

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

10:00AM Women's Reflection AA
5:30PM Youth Choir
6:00PM Confirmation
6:00PM JIFY
7:00PM Upward Call
8:00PM Sr. Choir
8:00PM Youth Group

Thursday, April 23, 2009

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
7:00PM Lily of the Valley Study
7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
7:30PM AA Mtg.

Friday, April 24, 2009

8:00AM AA Group Mtg.

Saturday, April 25, 2009

7:30AM Spanish Leadership Trng.

Sunday, April 26, 2009

8:30AM Worship
9:30AM Senior Brunch
9:45AM Education/Fellowship
11:00AM Worship
1:00PM Casa De Oracion
3:30PM Lily of the Valley SS
4:45PM Lily of the Valley
AME Church
6:30PM Spirit Bound

Monday, April 27, 2009

9:30AM Women's AM AA Mtg.
4:00PM Girl Scout Troop 50933
7:00PM Girl Scout Troop 52737
7:00PM Valley Big Book Mtg.

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

6:00PM Casa De Oracion Study
7:00PM Council Mtg.

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

10:00AM Women's Reflection AA
5:30PM Youth Choir
6:00PM Confirmation
6:00PM JIFY
7:00PM Upward Call
8:00PM Sr. Choir
8:00PM Youth Group

Thursday, April 30, 2009

10:00AM Adult Bible Study
7:00PM Lily of the Valley Study
7:00PM Alanon Mtg.
7:30PM AA Mtg.

Christus Victor Lutheran Church

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