



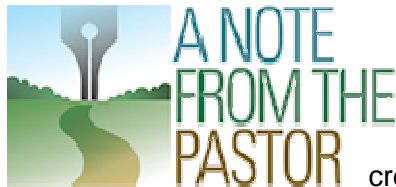
# FOR PETE'S SAKE

St Peter's Lutheran Church  
Zurich, Ontario

Pastor: Rev. Nadine Schroeder-Kranz

Ministers: The People of St. Peter's

September / October 2011



Does the phrase "act of God" still appear in homeowners' insurance policies? In the insurance world the phrase refers to natural disasters. Tornados, for example, or tsunamis, floods, hurricanes, earthquakes. As an insurance term, I suppose it's fine. As a theological construct, it's troublesome at best. Yes, God created the universe and all its laws and physics, the tectonic plates and how they move together and apart. But does God really decide to send disaster? I can't believe in a God that would.

The Bible raises the question over and over of why bad things sometimes happen, from the book of Job to the Gospels. And it never gives us an answer. Like so many things of God, the 'why' question remains a mystery. So, what do you think? Are there acts of God when a natural disaster occurs? Absolutely! The acts of God are when someone provides shelter, when food is shared, when people donate money or goods, when neighbours use their bare hands to dig through the rubble, to clean up, to repair damage, when prayers are lifted out of desperation or hope. God is working in community to bring healing and life. Is God present in disaster? You bet! Thanks be to God.

*Merciful God, when storms rage and threaten to overtake us, awaken our faith to know the power of your peace. Deliver us from our fear and ease our anxiety. Help us to endure the time of uncertainty and give us strength to face the challenges ahead. Give us the assurance of your presence even in this time so that we can cling to your promise of hope and life shown to us through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord. Amen (ELCA)*

## Choir Practice



Choir practice will resume on Sunday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, after the worship service. New members are always most welcome, so consider joining the choir as they prepare for the Thanksgiving and Reformation services.

God has given each of us gifts and talents and the ability to share them, so why not use your music talents as we worship God together.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS:

Rally Sunday and the opening of Sunday School will take place on **September 25<sup>th</sup>**. Sunday School teachers will be installed at the worship service. The congregation is invited to attend the potluck lunch and participate in all the activities following the worship service.

Regular classes will begin on October 1<sup>st</sup> beginning at approximately 10:15. The children will be dismissed after the Children's Message.



## ZURICH COMMUNITY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011, was another happy time for the children and youth of this community.

Through the theme, Son/Surf, and stories, games, crafts, memory and music, emphasis was on the children and their learning of Jesus' love for all. It was obvious by Friday that these experiences of each day had impressed the children in a good way. When questioning some younger ones about what they had learned in the previous days, their answers were "right on" the messages conveyed to them. Moreover these youngsters were enthusiastic!



The on-line pre-registrations and a few extras at the start of V.B.S. numbered about 175. The average daily attendance was 154 children. Grades 7-10 registrations numbered 32 and their average attendance was 28 which we thought was noteworthy. This age group (including a couple from our church) still enjoys and benefits from V.B.S. activities.

Although Zurich V.B.S. is available "free", we do rely on donations from the churches, families and individuals to offset expenses (approximately \$35.00 per child) to operate. Thank you to St. Peter's Lutheran Church for honouring this commitment of support for this community endeavour. The children's free-will offerings amounted to over \$635.00. A bit of topping up has occurred since and a good sum will be sent to Japan. Half of this amount will be sent through Canadian Lutheran World Relief and the balance via The Mennonite Central Committee. To help the children see how their offerings were growing, we used origami paper cranes (hand-made). For every \$5.00, a crane was hung.

Our special thanks to volunteers from St. Peter's who gave much time and effort. They were: Pastor Nadine in the Memory room, Jenni Boles and Michele Haberer as well as Jenni's friend, Janet Clarke from Exeter, in the busy Craft area. Kelsey Haberer and Shannon Laporte were also appreciated as Guides with the younger children. Marilyn Heimrich has completed a three year term on the Planning Committee as our church's representative.

On the Monday following V.B.S., this year's volunteers were treated to a "Thank You" supper served by the St. Boniface ladies. It was bountiful and tasty and enjoyed by all who could attend.

*Submitted by Marilyn Heimrich*



Derek Bornath will be furthering his education at the University of Windsor in the Human Kinetics (Kinesiology) program this fall. Derek received an Eastern Synod Scholarship for \$1000 which recognizes church and community involvement as well as academics.

Natalie DePaepe will be attending Georgian College in Orillia beginning in September.

Derek and Natalie will be beginning a whole new phase of their lives with many challenges and changes. Good luck to both of them in the coming year!



At the August 24<sup>th</sup> Church **Council Meeting** the following motions were approved.

At the request of the family, donations received in memory of Art Miller will be forwarded to the 150th anniversary committee to be used towards the rehabilitation of the original St. Peter's Cemetery.

The church office telephone is having an extension installed so that anyone calling the church will have the option to contact Pastor Nadine and the church office exclusively, leaving a message if Pastor is not available. The church telephone number will remain the same.

St. Peter's church clock should be working again by the end of September. The restoration is being completed by members of the Southwestern Ontario Chapter of the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors. Tim Manuel of RR # 2, Zurich is a local member of this group and the clock is now located in his shop just north of Zurich. If anyone is interested in viewing the clock prior to its reinstallation in the tower, contact Doug Thiel to arrange a visit.

The south roof of the church will be replaced in the next few weeks as weather permits. The roof was damaged by wind in early June. Our insurance company has approved replacement of the roof and has waived the deductible for this claim. We are responsible for the HST (\$825).

#### Church Thermostat settings

There are 3 areas in the complex that are heated & cooled by different furnaces.

These areas are

- (a) the narthex, sanctuary & basement
- (b) the offices, washrooms & adjacent hallway
- (c) the fellowship hall & kitchen.

We are trying to separate these areas when vacant by closing doors that separate them. This should make it more efficient to heat & cool the building.

Fan setting – Always select Auto (with Run the fan never shuts off).

Temperature setting – Set for comfort when the room is not in use. A summer setting for A/C could be 75F and for winter heating 60F

### **ST. PETER'S FINANCIAL UPDATE:**

#### **Current Account: as of August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Actual Income Received to Date:	\$53,896.34
Expenses Paid to Date:	<u>\$57,881.91</u>
Balance (under budget)	\$ 3,985.57

#### **Missions: (Benevolence) as of August 20<sup>th</sup>**

Commitment for 2011	\$9,000.00
Amount received to date	<u>\$2,305.00</u>
Balance Outstanding	\$6,695.00

**Thank you** to Ross Cordell, Tracy Lather and Peter Bornath for conducting the worship services while Pastor Nadine was on vacation.

### **ST. PETER'S ANNUAL PORK SUPPER:**

The annual pork supper (with all the trimmings) will be held Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Although tickets will become available from the Parish Life Committee and the church office at a later date, it is not too early to tell your neighbours and friends to keep the date open for this popular yearly event.

**CONFIRMATION CLASSES** for all grade 7 and 8 students will begin **September 18<sup>th</sup>** following the worship service. Parents are invited to this class to help confirmands register and discuss scheduling, resources and completion requirements.

**USHERS** please note there will be a meeting on **Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>** following the worship service. The attendance of all ushers would be appreciated.

**HELP WANTED:**

There is an urgent need for more lay readers and communion assistants. Please contact Jen Schellenberger or Pastor Nadine to volunteer.

There is still a great need for more teachers for the coming year. Please reconsider this opportunity and contact Jenni Boles to volunteer.

## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SATISFACTION?

Do you enjoy getting out and about?  
Can you spare a couple hours twice a month and maybe the  
occasional Saturday night?

**ST. PETER'S WANTS YOU!**



### The benefits for you include:

great joy, and satisfaction,  
an awesome network of friends,  
lively music  
and you get to explore your faith on the job as you hang out with young people  
who are eager to discuss Christianity and how it applies to our lives today!

Your job title: YOUTH ADVISOR.

Want more info or to volunteer?

Contact Tracy Lather evenings and weekends at 519-228-6532

**Generations of Faith  
St. Peter's Lutheran Church  
Celebrates 150 years in 2011**

St. Peter's 150 Anniversary Homecoming Weekend on October 29 and 30 is fast approaching. Invitations have been mailed / emailed out inviting members and all confirmands from past years to this celebration. If you know of someone else who might like an invitation, please contact a member of the anniversary committee.

Please mail or give Michele Haberer your responses and cheques (made out to St. Peter's Lutheran Church) for the Celebration Dinner at Hessenland by September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Replies for the Sunday Luncheon following the Anniversary Service are also required so the committee knows how many to prepare for. Bishop Michael Pryse will be delivering the sermon on that day.



Information about the restoration of the first cemetery was included in the mailing to members and confirmands. Letters were also mailed to businesses in the community, businesses associated with the church and also to the descendants of persons interred in the pioneer cemetery. We are waiting on the results of the Ontario Trillium Foundation grant application. If we begin the project and make financial commitments before we know the results of this grant, the funds we commit will be deducted from the amount of the grant we receive. Therefore we have not yet begun the project.

There have been several positive fundraisers this past year, the most recent one being the golf tournament held at Bayview in August. 40 plus golfers enjoyed a fun afternoon on the course. Thank you to the Jan and Bruce Junker and Doug Deichert for organizing this event. Thanks also to all those who sponsored holes with gifts and donations and donated food for the barbecue.

We have received donations from members, confirmands, businesses and descendants. We look forward to receiving sufficient funds to cover the cost of the project. To date we have received approximately 60% of our goal.

For information on the original cemetery site: <http://www.wurm-hastings.com/showmap.php?cemeteryID=17>

**CONGRATULATIONS:** to Gwen and Pat O'Rourke on the birth of twin grandsons Atticus and Spencer. Proud parents are Erin O'Rourke and Randal Helsdon.

to Lois and Doug Thiel on the birth of their granddaughter, Willa. Proud parents are Sombra and Dan Thiel.



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES:** to Earl Deichert who will celebrate his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 28<sup>th</sup>.



- to Pauline Miller and her family on the recent death of Art who died on August 14th. May your memories give you strength at this time? Pastor Nadine officiated at Art's funeral which was held at St. Peter's.
- to the family and friends of Beatrice Mantey on her death on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Nadine officiated at her funeral held at McBeath Funeral Home.

The **BLUEWATER REST HOME** is hosting their annual Alzheimer Coffee Break on September 14<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. Two volunteers from our congregation are required to help with this event. Contact Michele Haberer if you are available.

## A Little Work That Helps The Environment

paraphrased from [Stacey Irwin in Green is Grand](#)

Soon we will have to rake the darn leaves in our yards. It's an unpleasant task that rewards us with a clean yard. However, we can choose to go about our fall yard work in an eco-friendly manner that will benefit us, our gardens and our neighbours.



#1. **Do not use a leaf-blower.** Yes, it saves time and is much easier, but did you know a gasoline-powered leaf blower generates as much emission in one hour as an automobile does in a 350 mile drive. At least with the car, the emissions are spread out over a large area; a leaf blower is leaving all of that in your yard. The Lung Association recommends that anyone suffering from respiratory problems to avoid leaf blowers and the vicinity in which they are being used. That's because as the blowers push the leaves off the property, they also push up dust, dirt, animal droppings, natural moulds and any chemicals that may be in the yard. Noise pollution is a real concern also. Noise above 85 decibels is dangerous and leaf blowers regularly roar up to 90 decibels and above. So please, rake **your leaves** (or help the local economy and pay a neighbourhood child to do it).

#2. Once they have been raked we can **choose not to burn them.** If we put a match to that big pile, not only are we creating a fire hazard but we are also producing particulate matter and hydrocarbons which contain toxic, irritant, and carcinogenic (cancer-causing) compounds. To top it all off, leaf smoke also contains carbon monoxide.

#3. Instead **bag them or mulch them.** Most communities offer yard waste pick-up, but there is also the option to make the pesky leaves useful by turning them into mulch or compost. We can mulch our leaves to keep our flower beds warm during the winter months or add them to our compost pile to help our gardens flourish in the spring...and we'd be reusing the leaves in the way I think God meant them to be used.

It may take a little more work but the rewards of eco-friendly yard work are well worth it.

## LABOURS OF LOVE FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER

### USHERS

Captain: Michael Schaefer  
Tom McBride  
Ryan Ralph  
Bob & Elizabeth Merner  
Wayne Keller  
Mark Taylor  
Marsha Taylor

### LAY READERS

September 4 Sharon Sanders  
11 Tracy Lather  
18 Charlotte Norton  
25 Andrea Schaefer

### ACOLYTES

September 4 Tamara Heimrich  
11 Michaela DeVries  
18 Courtney Heimrich  
25 Natalie Miller

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

September 4 Karen McLellan / Tracy Lather  
18 Diane Klopp / Harvey Norton

ALTAR GUILD Shelley Miller  
Diane Klopp  
Karen Rader

### COFFEE HOUR

September 4 Audrey Haberer  
11 Elizabeth Merner  
18 Sharon and Ted Sanders  
25 Rally Sunday....Potluck



# LABOURS OF LOVE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

## USHERS

**Captain:** Mark Heimrich  
Petra Aisenpreis  
Bob Fisher  
Ron Heimrich  
Karen Schade  
Carl Elg

## LAY READERS

October 2 Michele Haberer  
9 Pat O'Rourke  
16 Sharon Sanders  
23 Tracy Lather  
30 Charlotte Norton

## ACOLYTES

October 2 Ryan Miller  
9 Kara McBride  
16 Mitchell Schellenberger  
23 Tamara Heimrich  
30 Natalie Miller

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

October 2 Michael Schaefer / Karen McLellan  
9 Marg C. Deichert / Tracy Lather  
30 Doug Klopp / Harvey Norton

**ALTAR GUILD** Pauline Miller, Sharon Brokenshire

## **COFFEE HOUR**

October 2 Alice Deichert / Donna Thiel (Glen)  
9 Marg C. Deichert / Jen Schellenberger  
16 Gwen O'Rourke / Karen Rader  
24 Laurie Erb / Julie Heimrich  
31 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Luncheon

