

# BELLA VISTA LUTHERAN CHURCH

## WEEKLY NEWS

Nov. 8-14, 2009

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### FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends in Christ:

And here is where All Saints Day intersects with Thanksgiving. Among the many things that we give thanks for is the witness of the saints of God who lived out their faith with many good works. Hebrews 12 speaks to us and states that:

*“Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, we are to throw off everything that hinders and the sin which so easily entangles, and run with perseverance the race that is marked out for us. In that process we are to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross and rose victorious from the dead as our Savior and King. As we modern day saints consider all that Jesus endured for us, we are encouraged to not grow weary and lose heart.”*

There are saints in our lives who have been an encouragement to us. These include grandparents, parents and other family members and friends who lived by faith and provided good examples for us to follow. We give thanks for them as well.

Living out our faith is what Christian living is all about. Scripture reminds us to live by faith in Jesus Christ, so that we may do the right things for the right reasons and strive for excellence in all we do. The way in which we manage all of our lives serves as encouragement for our children, and their children, as well as others who are influenced by our Christian examples. Surely we are to give thanks always to God whose Holy Spirit has worked saving faith in our hearts and enables us to do those things which are pleasing to God and beneficial for others around us.

We have celebrated All Saints' Day with joy and as we prepare our hearts and minds for Thanksgiving Day we take time to thank God for all He has done for us in Jesus Christ. As His saints we give thanks for the saints of God who lived out their faith in acts of love and obedience to encourage us to also be faithful, modern day saints of God. In Him, **Pastor Hass**

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**In Your Prayers**, please include:

**Our Members:** Ray Kunze, Bill Brauer, Jim Adamek, Georgia Roy, Fran Bloomer, Becca Ollek, Dave Schurman, Lois Rath, Walt Graupner, Don Wilkins, Ken Wood, Jerry Odell, Edna Opitz, Margaret Gruhn

**Missions:** Rev. Ted & Jacqueline Englebrecht and Yung Ting; Pastor J. P. Cima in Viet Nam; First Lutheran, Harrison; Judson American Baptist; Stamped With A Prayer Ministry

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**SUNDAY CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR 9:45 a.m.**

**Children's Sunday School**—ages 2 up to middle school will meet in Classroom A; middle school to high school meet in the Library.

**Adult Sunday School**—“*What Lutheran's Believe*” will continue with Pastor Hass in the Choir Room; “*The Lutheran Doctrine: Luther's Catechisms*” group will meet in Pastor's office; “*Exploring God's Word/Old Testament*” will be held in Classroom B—led by Rev. Bob Miskimen. “*What's So Amazing About Grace*” by Phillip Yancey will be held in the Fellowship Hall.

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### PRAYER CONCERNS

Please call Aletha Dammann at 855-6739 or the church office at 855-0272 with information for the Prayer Chain.

### THANK YOU

Pastor and Members of Bella Vista Lutheran Church: Thank you for the prayer line you had for us the first of August. The heart surgery went well. After a lengthy stay at a rehab. center and also at the hospital, Milford is now at home. It has been only because of God's grace and His love for us that we have come as far as we have. God's blessings and our love to all.

Milford and Verda Drinkgern

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**THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!**

Because of the overwhelming support of our congregation, Halloween Trunk & Treat was a fantastic success. We owe a debt of gratitude to so many folks; the 34 families who decorated themselves and their vehicles and provided treats, the Dwyers and their friends (Mark & Ginger) who with Deb Roesener's help saddled up their horses and provided kids of all ages a thrill, the guys and gals who directed traffic, monitored the inflatable jumpers and dished up popcorn and hot chocolate all evening. We served over 200 children and their families from the Bella Vista, Hiwasse, Gravette & Jane area. All those who registered for the drawings will be contacted by our team. The Children and Youth Ministry Team: Pat Eckart, Chris Holly, Dee Kincade, Phyllis Munster, Sally Pfluger and Kathy Hughes

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**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** meets on the 2nd & 4th Mondays in the Fellowship Hall starting at 1:30 p.m. We have a Bible study (our current one is on Genesis) which lasts approximately 1 hour and then have refreshments and visit. Feel free to stop in at our meeting **tomorrow. You'll like it!!** Call Ken Meyer with questions.

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### MEALS ON WHEELS NOTICE

January is our month to deliver meals on wheels. Our driver sign-up calendar will be in the narthex by Sunday Nov. 15. We will not deliver meals on New Years Day, Martin Luther King Day, or any day that the schools are closed because of inclement weather. Sign up early and get your choice of day or days to deliver. Hopefully we will have the schedules completed by Sunday, Dec. 21st before any of you leave for the Christmas Holiday. We will have a meeting for all drivers to answer questions you may have. Thank you. If you have questions contact Irma Miesbach - 855-7923 or Muriel Albers 855-9781.

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### CHRISTMAS CARD TREE

The “**Christmas Card Tree**” will be placed in the Narthex on Monday, November 16, 2009. The object of this tree is so that you may place one card on the tree for everyone in our congregation and then give a contribution to a charity of your choice with the savings from the purchase of multiple cards. Please indicate your charity of choice on your card. This tree will remain up through December 27th. After this date, we will provide a list of those placing cards on the tree and which charities benefited. This is a mission of your Children and Youth Ministry.

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Come explore the countries of the world at the 1st annual  
**BELLA VISTA'S INTERNATIONAL—EDUCATIONAL FAIR**  
Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 10 a.m.—2 p.m.

Riordan Hall

BVLC will be show-casing Vietnam.