



Village Voices



Straight from the Hart

By Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

2 Corinthians 5:7 For we walk by faith, not by sight.

Last month was a bad "public relations" month for Christianity.

First came a study that seemed to indicate prayer does not work. Then a series of "missing links" that purported evolution was proven as true. Then a so-called Gospel of Judas was found that called into question the Gospel stories, as we know them.

Christians that have been around a while know that these "headline" discoveries almost always have much that needs to be discussed and are usually printed as "titillating" headlines designed to sell papers or grab attention.

But many of us did think, "What does this mean?" as we read the articles.

On Wednesday, May 10th at 7:30 pm I will be hosting a special Bible study called "What does it mean if..."

We will look at some of these troubling issues like the Gospel of Judas and studies on prayer.

Of course one short evening will not be nearly enough to answer or understand the issues entirely, however we can look at the issues, see what the Bible says and discuss the issues as sisters and brothers in Christ. We can also remind ourselves what faith is all about and how faith and sight have often not gone together in the life of faith.

The greatest PR moment of April was one that is not new. Jesus Christ was celebrated as risen as billions of Christians around the world rejoiced at new life.

As the troubling issues of faith and sight play out around us, may you be filled with the joy of Christ's resurrection!

That's a thought about Judas, prayer and faith by sight that is straight from the Hart

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Good News Christian Coffee House*
- *Festival Ascension Day Service*
- *New: Evangelism Corner*
- *May Confirmation*

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VLC Bible Study / Prayer Opportunities

LWML Bible Study

The next LWML Bible Study will meet on June 3, *Fruit of the Spirit - Kindness*. Please join us for our last Bible Study of this season. We will meet at 8:30 am in the Friendship room. Please bring a light breakfast item to share. Coffee will be provided.

Daytime Bible Study

Join VLC Adjunct Pastor Allen Kebschull for an informative look at the Messianic Prophecies. The study meets on Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m. in the Friendship Room.

FESTIVAL ASCENSION DAY SERVICE

With the Concert Handbells of Concordia University, Irvine CA

Thursday, May 25, at 8 PM

Ascension Day marks the end of the 40-day period when our Risen Lord appeared to the frightened community of believers, made plain to them how God's plan of salvation had been fulfilled, and gave them the "great commission" to go and preach the good news to all the world. Our observance this year, on Thursday, May 25, will be a special musical celebration with the Concert Handbells of Concordia University at Irvine, CA. Pastor Hartwell will be preaching on the Ascension story from the book of Acts.

In addition to a time of glorious worship, we will also be able to share in a time of fellowship. There will be a potluck supper with the handbell ringers before the service and volunteers are needed to provide housing for 29 students plus 2 directors. If you would be willing to prepare a dish for the supper and/or host any ringers, please contact Deborah Reiss at 914-337-0207, ext. 1018 or DREISS@VLC-NY.ORG. A sign-up form will also be available in the Sunday bulletin during the first 3 weeks of May.

May Worship Opportunities

The month of May brings many other special worship opportunities, and we invite you to be a part of them as you are able.

MAY 6/7

- Fourth Sunday of Easter
- Good Shepherd Sunday

MAY 13/14

- Fifth Sunday of Easter
- Mother's Day Total Family Worship (no Sunday School)

MAY 20/21

- Sixth Sunday of Easter
- Confirmation at 10:45 a.m.

MAY 25

- Festival Ascension Day Service at 8:00 p.m.
- Musical celebration by the Concordia-Irvine Concert Handbells

MAY 27/28

- Seventh Sunday of Easter
- Memorial Day Total Family Worship (no Sunday School)

Chapel School

Our annual Chapel School Golf Outing is all set for Tuesday, June 20, 2006 at Leewood Golf Club. **EVEN** if you do not golf, join us for dinner. The WPLJ/ABC team of Todd Pettengill and Bill Evans will be our hosts and masters of ceremonies for the dinner/raffle drawing/ and auction. Make your reservations early as we are expecting a capacity crowd. RSI Sports Memorabilia will again be offering great silent auction items. Some friends of the VLC & CS have already stepped forward to sponsor parts of the outing, however, we are still looking for more sponsors, raffle prizes and, of course, players. If you are interested in sponsoring, or if you know of someone or some company who might be interested, please contact Jim Dhyne at 337-3202.



It is not too late to order your tickets for the Lutheran Day At Shea game!

Shea Stadium Day Information: Watch the NEW NY Mets

NY Mets vs. San Francisco Giants

Saturday, June 3, 2006, 1:20pm.

\$18.00 per ticket Upper Deck

Deadline to order tickets Wednesday, May 3, 2006



Please make checks payable to the Chapel School. All members from the VLC & Chapel School will be seated together. Come and have a great time. Transportation to the game is the responsibility of each person/family. The Lutheran Schools Association directly benefits The Chapel School. This is a great opportunity to have a good time and support Lutheran Quality Education at the same time.

Chapel School will once again be offering a Summer Program this coming summer. Our program will be offered to children ages 3 through 10. Mrs. Lynn Lena is our Director of Summer Programs and a number of Chapel School faculty members will be working with her. There will be 8 weeks of flexible scheduling throughout the summer. Brochures are available in the office.

There are still limited openings for certain grades at The Chapel School next year. If you know of anyone who might be interested in having their child attend The Chapel School next year, please encourage them to call the school for information.

MAY CONFIRMATION

On May 21st, five Confirmands will receive the Rite of Confirmation. Please join us in praying for and celebrating the faith of:



David Blanco
Christine Jahnke
Katherine Maxeiner
Eric Nelson
Max Pettinati

ROSE SUNDAY



ROSE SUNDAY will be held on Saturday, June 24 and Sunday, June 25 at all services. This special Christmas in June service will feature special music and a beautiful display of roses from the gardens of VLC and Chapel School families. Please mark the day and keep your roses in shape for the big day.



TO THANK AND PRAISE THE LORD
Your Place in the VLC Music Ministry

CHANCEL CHOIR will sing at the 9:00 a.m. service on May 7, 14 and 21 and will be off on May 28 for Memorial Day Weekend. Regular rehearsals are Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. in the church, except that we will NOT rehearse on May 11.

YOUTH CHOIR Regular rehearsals will be on Thursdays, May 4, 11, 18 and 25 in the Multi-purpose room from 7-8 p.m. On Sundays May 7, 14 and 21 we will rehearse at 8:15 a.m. and sing at the 9 a.m. service.

VILLAGE BELLES will ring in worship on May 21 at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Regular rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. in the church, except that we will NOT rehearse on May 10.

FAITHWALK will prepare for the next service on June 18 at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Rehearsals will be scheduled during the preceding two weeks depending on availability. Watch for further details to confirm.

INVITATION TO SING FOR MOTHERS' DAY: All interested women are invited to sing with the Youth Choir at 9:00 a.m. on Mothers' Day, May 14. The anthem is a beautiful and easy-to-learn setting of the Magnificat (Mary's song) by David Haas. If you would like to sing, please contact Debbie Reiss at 914-337-0207 (x1018) to get a copy of the music. There will be one rehearsal on THURSDAY, MAY 11, at 7:45 p.m. and a warm-up before the service.



THANK YOU

Thanks to all who brought in their LWML mite box money. The LWML Atlantic District is pleased to report that they were able to meet their goal and fund ALL the mission grants set for this year. What exciting news! You can help to support more mission grants by bringing your loose change, or bills, and placing them in the large purple mite box that is once again located in the Multi-purpose Room. The funds will help with the next set mission grants which will be voted upon by our two delegates, Betty Roberts and Rosemarie Boecker, at the LWML convention on May 6 & 7. Also, please consider joining the next Women's Bible Study on June 3 at 8:30am.

BOOK FAIR 2006

The 25th Annual Chapel School Book Fair was a huge success thanks to all the support of family book buyers and the many volunteers. We sold over \$14,000 worth of books and other fair products resulting in a profit of over \$3500 which was divided between books and cash for classrooms, the Library and our Accelerated Reader program. Heartfelt thanks is extended to the numerous Book Fair and Family Event night volunteers from Chapel School and the VLC.

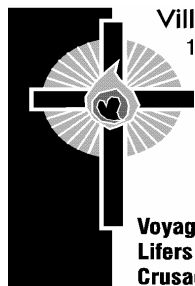
After 25 years of volunteering her services to coordinate the Chapel School Book Fairs, Mrs. Peterson is now retiring from her leadership position. Hopefully the Book Fairs will continue under new leadership.

The "Village" Seniors



The next Senior Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, May 9th, in the Multi-purpose Room.

All are invited and asked to extend the invitation to friends and family for a lovely afternoon. Reservations are required and can be made by filling out the tear off slip from the Sunday Bulletin or by calling Charlotte Vogt (914) 422-5646.



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Village Youth

Voyagers ~ Grades 3-6
Lifers ~ Grades 7-8
Crusaders ~ Grades 9-12

2005-2006



May
2006

This year the Youth Groups remain unchanged.

The Voyagers Youth Group consists of 3 - 6 grade and is run primarily by Erika. The Confirmation II (7th Grade) and Confirmation III (8th Grade) constitute the Lifers Youth Group. Pastor Hartwell, Pastor Taylor and Michael Schultz will be the primary leaders of this group. Finally, the Crusader Youth Group is 9 - 12 grade, and will be led by Erika and Michael.

VOYAGERS: GRADES 3 – 6

Meetings: Voyagers will meet Thursday nights from 6:00-7:00 p.m. We will usually meet in the Multi-Purpose Room. Please enter the building through the main school doors. In May we will meet on the 4th, 11th and 18th.

LIFERS: GRADES 7 – 8

Meetings: The Lifers regular meetings for Confirmation I and II classes are on Thursdays from 6 - 7:00 pm. We will usually meet in the Art Room. In May we will meet on the 4th, 11th and 18th (8th grade only).

Confirmation Rehearsal and Pictures ~ Thursday, May 18, 6 – 7 pm. Please meet in the church.

Confirmation ~ Sunday, May 21 at the 10:45 am Service. More information will be given during class time. 7th Grade will be responsible for the reception following the service.

CRUSADERS: GRADES 9 – 12

Meetings: The Crusaders regular meetings will be held on Sundays. Sometimes after the 9:00 am service and sometimes on Sunday evenings. In May we will meet on the 7th at 10:15 for a meeting.

Next Summer our Mission Trip is to New Orleans, July 16 – 21st. All youth going to New Orleans, please make sure you received the packet of information with the form that needs to be completed by May 15th. If you did not, please contact Erika ASAP.

Tag Sale ~ Saturday, April, 29th 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. We will have set-up for this on Sunday, April, 23rd 5:30 – 7:00 pm, and Thursday the 27th from 4 – 8 pm. (Please bring a bag dinner.) Please arrive for the Tag Sale by 8:45 am and plan to stay until 3:00 pm. (Bring a lunch with you.)

Mother's Day Brunch ~ Sunday, May 14th 10:15 am – 12:30 pm. Please plan to arrive by 8:30 am to help with set-up and cooking.

ALL YOUTH

Annual Easter Egg Hunt ~ Saturday, April 15th. Many THANKS to all helped make this event a success!!

Happy Mothers Day



Evangelism Corner

“But the angel said to them... ‘But go tell His disciples and Peter’..... they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.” Mark 16 selected parts of verses 6-8

We remember these words from the Gospel reading from this past Easter Sunday. Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome are heading to Jesus’ tomb to finish preparing His body for burial. They get to the tomb and find the stone already rolled away and an angel in the form of a young man who tells them that Jesus has risen. He is not there. Then the angel tells them to go and tell Jesus’ disciples, but we are told, they were afraid and told no one.

This may be the same reaction we have when someone comes to speak with us about evangelism. Yikes! Go and tell????!! Me??? We are thankful to God that He loves us and forgives us and grants us new life, but as far as actually having to speak with someone about it??.... Now that’s asking a little too much!

This is understandable. We are taught that one should not speak about religion or politics because you may offend someone and cause a perfectly fine relationship to break apart. We may also feel that others may think we are some kind of nut or religious fanatic. We may just want to be seen as an ordinary neighbor, with no other titles attached to us. If we start talking with others about the “God Thing” it may change everyone’s opinion of us.

If we look however beyond Mark’s gospel and hear the words from the other gospels we quickly discover that these women did go and tell, and did spread the message to the disciples, who in turn did speak of the wonderful things Jesus did, even though at times, they too were afraid.

One way to work through the fear is through prayer. God encourages us to pray and seek His guidance and strength. He also promises to give us what we need to accomplish what He desires us to do. What a wonderful resource we have in God, prayer!

Another approach is to seek ways to become more comfortable with sharing our faith. In the coming months, there will be opportunities for just such an occasion, where you can learn how better to share God’s love for you and others with the people around you. I would encourage you to first pray about this and seek the Lord’s guidance and strength to become better equipped to share His love with others. It’s truly what God has called each of us to do – and God promises to be with us and never forsake us! What a wonderful God we have!!!

Pastor Deric Taylor

Associate Pastor



Check out the VLC & Chapel School Piano Bookshop in the Friendship Room.

On Sale: **Selected Sermons of Norman Nagel** (Now \$15), **Tame Your Fears** (Now \$10), **When I Lay My Isaac Down** (Now \$12), **Esther** (Now \$12).

New at the bookshop: **God’s Politics** (\$22), **Chronicles of Narnia Set** (\$33), **The PDL: What Am I Here For?** (\$16), **A Family Guide to Narnia** (\$13), and books for that special Mother or Father.



Mother’s Day Brunch

On May 7th The Crusaders Youth Group will hold a special Mother’s Day Brunch from 10:15 - 12:30 pm. Please bring your family and join us for a very special fund raiser.

Parish Health News

What is Back Pain?

Acute or short-term low back pain generally lasts from a few days to a few weeks. Most acute back pain is the result of trauma to the lower back or a disorder such as arthritis. Pain from trauma may be caused by a sports injury, work around the house or in the garden, or a sudden jolt such as a car accident or other stress on spinal bones and tissues. Symptoms may range from muscle ache to shooting or stabbing pain, limited flexibility and range of motion, or an inability to stand straight. Chronic back pain is pain that persists for more than 3 months. It is often progressive and the cause can be difficult to determine.

Is there any treatment?

Most low back pain can be treated without surgery. Treatment involves using over-the-counter pain relievers to reduce discomfort and anti-inflammatory drugs to reduce inflammation. The goal of treatment is to restore proper function and strength to the back, and prevent recurrence of the injury. Medications are often used to treat acute and chronic low back pain. Effective pain relief may involve a combination of prescription drugs and over-the-counter remedies. Although the use of cold and hot compresses has never been scientifically proven to quickly resolve low back injury, compresses may help reduce pain and inflammation and allow greater mobility for some individuals. Bed rest is recommended for only 1–2 days at most. Individuals should resume activities as soon as possible. Exercise may be the most effective way to speed recovery from low back pain and help strengthen back and abdominal muscles. In the most serious cases, when the condition does not respond to other therapies, surgery may relieve pain caused by back problems or serious musculoskeletal injuries.

What is the outlook?

Most people with back pain recover without lasting functional loss, but individuals should contact a health care provider if there is not a noticeable reduction in pain and inflammation after 72 hours of self-care. Recurring back pain resulting from improper body mechanics or other nontraumatic causes is often preventable. Engaging in exercises that don't jolt or strain the back, maintaining correct posture, and lifting objects properly can help prevent injuries. Many work-related injuries are caused or aggravated by stressors such as heavy lifting, vibration, repetitive motion, and awkward posture. Applying ergonomic principles — designing furniture and tools to protect the body from injury — at home and in the workplace can greatly reduce the risk of back injury and help maintain a healthy back.

What research is being done?

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) and other institutes of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) conduct pain research in laboratories at the NIH and also support pain research through grants to major medical institutions across the country. Currently, researchers are examining the use of different drugs to effectively treat back pain, in particular, chronic pain that has lasted at least 6 months. Other studies are comparing different health care approaches to the management of acute low back pain (standard care versus chiropractic, acupuncture, or massage therapy). These studies are measuring symptom relief, restoration of function, and patient satisfaction. Other research is comparing standard surgical treatments to the most commonly used standard nonsurgical treatments to measure changes in health-related quality of life among patients suffering from spinal stenosis. (Source: NINDS/NIH)

Yoga classes are offered on Monday evenings at 7 pm, in room 207, and are on a “drop-in” basis. Classes are \$10 each. If you have questions, please call Faith Forliano at (914) 723-8035 .

Arthritis Walk - Sun., May 7, at Purchase College/SUNY: For the last three years, the New York Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation has held a Walk in Battery Park. It has been the number one walk site nationwide for the Arthritis Foundation. This year they are expanding that effort and are having three locations in the NY metro area for their Walks. Village Lutheran Church's team, Blessed, will be participating in the Walk at Purchase College/SUNY. Walkers have the opportunity to follow a 1 mile or 3 mile course. Participating in the Walk is a great way to help improve the lives of children and adults with arthritis while getting involved in your community. The money raised from this event will help fund innovative arthritis research, patient services and educational programs. If you are interested in walking, please see Pastor Hartwell or Julie Taylor.



Fellowship News

Good News

**Gourmet Christian Coffee House
Join us for Warm Fellowship and Fun
on Saturday May 13, 2006**

Christian recording artist Sienna will present a concert in Bronxville at the Village Lutheran Church's Good News Christian Coffee House. The Coffee House opens at 6 pm with Green Mountain Flavored Coffees and pastries from the Bronxville Pastry Shop. The Concert begins at 7 pm sharp. Cost for the Coffee House is \$5 per person. College and High School Students and Seniors get in free with valid ID. A love offering will be taken for the band. The Village Lutheran Church is located on Route 22 in the Village of Bronxville, across from Concordia College at 172 White Plains Road. The Coffee House is handicapped accessible. For more information call 914-337-0207 or www.vlc-ny.org.

**Please join us for worship:
Saturdays at 5:30 pm,
Sundays at 9 am and 10:45 am.
Sunday School is held during the 9 am service.**

Non-Profit Org.
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Bronxville, NY 10708

Memorial/Honored Voices

Memorial Gifts were received from

Nina Fellerman

In Memory of Kenneth, her husband.

In Memory of Hans Hover

Richard & Carlette Allen

George and Mary Lou Grundman

Constance Conway

Dr. Biagio Iannace, DDS, MS

Paul Grand Pre

Georgine Read

Joseph & Linda DeMarkey

Ruth Recker

Johanna Kmetz

Ronnie Rushneck, Jr.

In Honor of Ryan & Jack Voges

Drs. Peter & Vera Voges

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