

# College Hill Crier

Newsletter of  
College Hill Lutheran Church  
and Brammer Student Center

## THE LOST IS FOUND

“My Son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’” Luke 15:31, 32 NIV Series C Gospel for the Fourth Sunday in Lent

The Gospel lesson for the Fourth Sunday in Lent is the familiar Parable of the Prodigal, or Lost, Son and sometimes called the Parable of the Waiting Father (Luke 15:1-3, 11-32). In this parable, Jesus clearly shows how much the heavenly Father cares for His children here on earth and does not want to see any of them lost eternally.

As we continue in the Lenten season of the Church Year we are reminded through the Word read and preached that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto Himself. During this time we are also busy as a congregation proceeding through the steps necessary in calling our new pastor. The Rev. Dean Rothchild was with us on Sunday, February 11 to preach the Word and then to lead us through a brain-storming session called “SWOT”. He led us through a process of identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats of our congregation and its members.

We had six tables of 5 or more people spending at least ten minutes on each area. Pastor Rothchild has compiled the raw data and then has written a summary of the session. He wrote: “The people present had a very clear understanding of what their ministry is about.” He then quoted the new mission statement and then further commented: “They recognize their opportunity to spread God’s Word to those who are not part of the church.”

In my own experience with the congregation over these past three months, there are dedicated lay members and student leaders who are very much concerned about the need to reach out to both the campus and the community. Leaders in both areas are looking at ways in which we as a congregation can be more effective in doing the Lord’s work and building on the progress of the past.

In that process, we all, pastor and people, look to the Word of God and know our sinfulness from the hammer of the Law but also hear the precious promises of our Savior in the Gospel that His death and resurrection avails for us all and gives us forgiveness of sins, life and salvation.

A new hymn in our new hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*, (being ordered by our congregation) written by Stephen P. Starke copyrighted in 1992 and set to a new tune written by Jeffrey N. Blersch copyrighted in 2003 expressed these thoughts this way:

As rebels, Lord, who foolishly have wandered  
Far from Your love—unfed, unclean, unclothed—  
Dare we recall Your wealth so rashly squandered,  
Dare hope to glean that bounty which we loathed?

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March 2007

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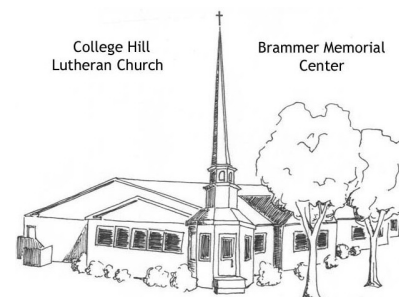
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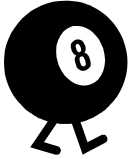


## Louisiana Here We Come

A Spring Break Meeting is planned for March 4 at 6:00 p.m. We will have a supper and go over all the items for spring break. If there are questions, bring them. We will have what we will be doing and a schedule for the trip. We will want all the release forms then. Everyone that is going is encourage to attend.



## LSF Fun Night



Come one; come all to the LSF sponsored game night on Friday, March 30 at 7:00 p.m. The LSF will be hosting a competitive challenge to all college students. We have invited the other campus ministries to join us. The competition will in-

clude: pool, foosball, air hockey, as well as possibly some board games. Refreshments, fellowship, and friendly atmosphere will be provided. Admission is free and the only requirement is that you have fun with your friends.

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## Guest Preacher in Pastor's Absence

Pastor Wegener will be traveling to New Orleans with the students over Spring Break. He will be gone from March 9 to March 16. During that time you may contact the Rev. Donald Pooch at 232-5789 for pastoral needs. He also will be our guest preacher for Sunday, March 11 and the midweek Lenten service on March 14.

## Thank You from LSF

The students wish to thank everyone who attended the Dinner Theater. Your support is greatly appreciated. Also thank you to Thrivent for the matching funds gift of \$750. The money will assist in funding our Servant Event trip to Louisiana.

## The Students are Traveling Again

The students are leaving for spring break on March 9 and coming back on March 16, so remember them in your prayers for the week.

If you would be interested in dropping off treats for them to take on the trip, they would appreciate that. Please bring treats to the kitchen by March 8.

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*(Continued from page 1)*

Still we return, our contrite words rehearsing,  
Speech, that within Your warm embrace soon dies;  
All of our guilt, our shame, our pain reversing  
As tears of joy and welcome fill Your eyes.

A feast of love for us You are preparing;  
We who were lost, You give an honored place!  
"Come, eat; come, drink, and be no more despairing—  
Here taste again the treasures of My grace."

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn 612*

Rich blessings in Christ as you are strengthened by His Word,

Rev. Thomas C. Wegener  
Vacancy Pastor

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## Food Drive

March is another great time to think about other people who have needs that many of us have never experienced. Once again we will be doing a food drive for the Northeast Iowa Food Bank. Instead of bringing food items we ask that you consider a donation of money \$1.00 can buy \$13.31 worth of food. (And during March the food bank will receive additional matching money from the Alan Feinstein Foundation)

Please consider giving to this worthy cause during the month. Money donations may be put in your Sunday envelope with a note telling the counters how much money is to go to the food bank. Or you may give you donation to Madeline Bruce or Marcia Stirler. Thank you in advance for showing the community that College Hill Lutheran Church cares about the community.

## LADIES, JOIN US!



Ladies, the study of "Miracles, Signs of God's Glory" is proving to be interesting and challenging. All women of the congregation are invited to attend on Thursday mornings at 9:30 in the church library. The first Thursday of the month, a brief LWML (Evening Guild) meeting will be held to discuss activities for the month. See you then.

All women are invited to the next Evening Bible Study on Thursday, March 15. We will meet from 7-8 p.m. We will be taking a look at Hannah. What lessons can we apply to our own lives from her story? We will meet in the fellowship hall. Hope to see you there!

## Pre-Call Meeting

The Rev. Dr. Gary Arp, President of the Iowa District East of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, will be with us on Sunday, March 18 following the worship service to talk with us about the Call procedures as we move forward seeking the Lord's guidance as we look forward to having a new pastor. A potluck meal will follow this

meeting. Ham, potatoes, drinks and table service will be provided. Congregation members are asked to bring either a salad or a dessert to share. Students will be our guests. All are encouraged to attend this important meeting.

## Your Help is Needed

Brrr! It's cold! Are you eating Campbell's soups/products?

Bethseda appreciates receiving the labels. Actually, they now need only the bar codes from the labels. Whole labels are still welcome.

Used postage stamps and General Mills Box Tops for Schools are also wanted.

Labeled boxes for all 3 of the above items are in the church kitchen.

Thanks for your help.

*Thank You!*

Virgil and Doris Mauer wish to thank our College Hill family for your concern, support and prayers for Virgil's healing. The power of prayer is never to be underestimated. God's blessings to you all.

Virg and Doris

## LLL News

Iowa District East International Lutheran Layman's League Convention will be held at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca. Dates are April 20 and 21, 2007. April 20 is social time at the camp. The actual meeting is held on April 21, 2007. Mark your calendar now and watch for further information.

"Life . . . revised" is the new program sponsored by Lutheran Hour Ministries. "Life ... revised" shares healthy ways to combat life's challenges. Co-hosts "Dr. Mark" Hannemann and Michelle Bauer provide wise and lively discussions about family, health, financial, and other issues with Christian integrity, street smarts, and compassion. Dr. Mark is a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod pastor, a professional mental health practitioner, and director of a Christian counseling center. Michelle, a talented media professional and mother of three, provides a fresh female perspective to the discussions. Listen each Sunday at 7:30 a.m. on KXEL 1540 AM.

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## Thrivent Members Make Your Contribution Go Further.

It is a new year and you have another opportunity to support the Lutheran Student Fellowship at College Hill Lutheran Church and Brammer Student Center by participating in the Thrivent GivingPlus program for 2007. Individuals age 16 and older who are benefit members' of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, or who own Thrivent Mutual Funds accounts and/or Thrivent Life Insurance Company products, are eligible to participate in the GivingPlus program.

You may contribute more than once a year to a maximum of \$600. A gift form is required for each donation. Donations are matched \$1 for every \$2 contributed. If you contribute 25 or more hours of volunteer service, Thrivent will contribute an additional \$25. You may contribute to two qualifying organizations per year.

New forms are now available on the table by the bulletin board in the gathering area.

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## It's Time to Order Lilies Again.

Watch your Sunday bulletin for cost and deadline to order lilies for Easter. Make your check out to College Hill Lutheran Church and note that it is for the lilies. There will be a form to fill out if you wish to have an acknowledgment

in the Easter bulletin. Complete the form (found on the table in the gathering area) and turn it in along with your check.

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## Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca News

### Family Event

"The Baptized Home in Christ: Living and Growing Together" event will be held at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca on Saturday, April 28, 2007 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. See the bulletin board in the gathering area for more details. Registration forms are available from the table under the bulletin board.

### Summer Camp Registrations Available

There are new Summer Camp programs for both youth and families this summer. Registration forms are now available on the table under the bulletin board in the gathering area.

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## March 2006 Volunteers

### GREETERS

- 4 Brad Brons & Lawrell Birk
- 7 Denise Tjarks
- 11 LaDawn & Ivan Hankins
- 14 Flora Brewster
- 18 Jim & Lil Lonergan
- 21 Bev Bolte
- 25 Madeline Bruce & Miriam Krallman
- 28 Dianne Gutknecht

### USHERS

- 4 Richard McBurney & Tim Gamble
- 7 Tim Tjarks
- 11 Dennis Adolphs & Nick Anderson
- 14 Marvin Brewster
- 18 Kevin DeVries & Brent Gernant
- 21 Bob Bolte
- 25 Keith Macomber & Paul Schmellik
- 28 Bob Gutknecht

### FINANCIAL RECORDERS

- 4 Suzanne Riehl & Johanna Baedke
- 11 Darin Alwardt & Denise Tjarks
- 18 Denise Tjarks & Suzanne Riehl
- 25 Carla Christensen & Johanna Baedke

### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

- 4 & 18 Kevin DeVries

### ALTAR GUILD

- 4—11 Carla Christensen & Erna Blankenhagen
- 18—25 Flora Brewster & Dorothea Berning

*Thank you for your help in serving the Lord  
and College Hill Lutheran Church.*





## March

- 3 Dorothea Berning
- 8 Conrad Hutcheson
- 9 Charla DeVries
- 17 Jacob Christensen
- 22 Nancy Ott
- 28 Amanda French
- 30 Lori Dove
- 30 Sheri Orth
- 31 John Kane



- 1 Nancy & Orlan Ott 32 years
- 21 LaDawn & Ivan Hankins 15 years

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
4 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship With Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 6:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> Spring Break Meeting	5	6	7 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship	8 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	9	10
11 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 	12 Newsletter Deadline 5:00 p.m. Board of Lay Ministry	13	14 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship	15 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Evening Bible Study	16	17
<b>LSF</b> Servant Event Trip to New Orleans, LA						
<b>LFY</b> Spring Break Retreat March 12—14						
18 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship With Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Pre-Call Meeting 12:30 p.m. Meal	19	20 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors' Meeting	21 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship	22 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	23	24
25 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	26	27	28 5:30 p.m. Confirmation 6:00 p.m. Lenten Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship	29 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	30 7:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> Fun Night	31