

NOTES and NEWS

First German Ev. Lutheran School

www.firstgerman.org

September 4, 2009

BRING THEM UP!

Do you remember the account of the boy Jesus at the Temple? Joseph, Mary, Jesus and a slew of relatives went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. They celebrated the festival and then started home. Mary and Joseph assumed the boy Jesus was with them. They soon learned he wasn't! Jesus was in the Temple, studying God's Word and impressing the teachers.

We often breeze over one detail in this account. It's found in the first verse of the story: "Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover" (Luke 2:41). Mary and Joseph were good Jewish believers. Every year they went up to the Temple, just as God's Word commanded them. They recognized the command of God and the need to hear the precious Word. Without godly parents Jesus would not have made it to the Temple as he did. Mary and Joseph played an important role in salvation history. They brought Jesus up. They were entrusted with the Son of God!

God has entrusted all parents with their children. In fact, children are a reward and gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3). God the Father gives all mothers and fathers their children and the responsibility to "bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord" (Ephesians 6:4). Our school is one way we carry out the Lord's command. But don't forget the most obvious way to carry out God's command: to live the command at home. What you do makes a difference!

A study released last year showed that teenage girls who eat regular family meals are 66 percent less likely to have eating disorders, use drugs, or be promiscuous. How much more important is a steady diet of God's Word! A family who regularly feeds on the Bread of Life, Jesus, will see benefits and blessings from God. Boys and girls need to see parents who care about them and about the Savior. Christ has forgiven our sins and empowers us to bring up our children to know him as our Savior. Christ has promised us: "If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever." Think about reading God's Word with your kids. Where to start? The book of John is a good place or read one of the other gospels. There we see the Lord Christ in action and hear his words to us. This is one way you and I can "bring them up" at home.

Pastor Schaefer

FOCUS!

How was your summer? Are you ready for school to start? Chances are these are a couple of questions that you have answered in the past few weeks. Now, what was the first few words you gave as a response? To the first, maybe hectic (with emphasis in your voice), and perhaps a resounding "YES!" to the second question. Life can get pretty busy, even during the "down" summer time. I know my "summer vacation", as it is sometimes referred to, was no vacation at all. The word, whirlwind, is perhaps a bit more accurate, and I could extend that beyond summer to the beginning of the school year as well.

But, the reality is that it doesn't matter what season of the year it is, it is simply a busy time of year. That is life for most of us. Get the kids to school, run the errands of the day, pick the kids back up, get homework done, go to practice or games, get in dinner, sleep. If you eliminate a couple of those items, hopefully not sleep, it is still a busy and stressful day. So what do we do?

FOCUS! Don't let life blur your vision of what our life is really all about. Notice in the list of daily activities there was nothing that FOCUSED on God. It was full of stuff, but not stuff that is going to build me up and make me more capable of dealing with the stressful things of life. But, when do I have time to add another 20 minutes for reading my Bible or reading a Meditation. Luther once said that every morning he would pray (reading the Bible and praying) for an hour, and on busy days he would do it for three. Wow, that is focusing on the important things in life, Jesus. Start your day with prayer and meditation and watch the difference in the stress of the day. Yes, it is still going to be busy, but with focus it doesn't need to be a terrible hectic day. As Jesus told his disciples before their lives were to turn upside down "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing but the body is weak." Remember the only way to stay FOCUSED is when we FOCUS our eyes on God. It is a daily exercise!

PHONE SYSTEM EXTENSIONS

We know that parents and families need to call school from time to time. Please follow these procedures when calling to make sure that your message gets to the right person.

When calling church or school, wait for the secretary's voice, then dial the extension of the location you are trying reach.

Please use this method to get messages directly to your child's teacher. Sometimes messages get lost in the Principal's mind so it is better to speak directly to the teacher. Thanks.

School Phone 682-7021

Here is the list of extensions:

- Ext. 101 - Mr. Leckwee
- Ext. 102 - Mrs. Schaller (PreSchool Room)
- Ext. 103 - Mr. Menk
- Ext. 104 - Mrs. Fischer (Kindergarten Room)
- Ext. 105 - Todd Seefeldt (janitor room)
- Ext. 106 - Mr. Siegler
- Ext. 107 - Miss Wordell
- Ext. 108 - Mrs. Korte (1st & 2nd Grade Room)
- Ext. 109 - Mrs. Korte (Learning Center)
- Ext. 110 - Mrs. Holschbach (Library)
- Ext. 111 - Mrs. Jachimstal (Church Office)
- Ext. 112 - Pastor Rosenow
- Ext. 113 - Pastor Schaefer
- Ext. 114 - Pastor Lee
- Ext. 202 - Lunch Room
- Ext. 203 - First Aid Room
- Ext. 204 - Hallway (1st Floor)
- Ext. 205 - Fine Arts Room
- Ext. 206 - Hallway (2nd Floor)
- Ext. 214 - Heritage Hall (church basement)

WEEKLY NOTES & NEWS

The "Notes and News" is our weekly newsletter to help keep you informed with what is going on in the school and in your child's classroom. As you will see each teacher has a section to explain what is going on in their classroom. There will also be reminders and points of importance throughout the rest of the article. Any corrections or additions to the calendar will be made in the "Notes and News". Any parent groups, pioneers, or any other church group may use this to make announcements, but you need to get your information in to Mr. Leckwee by Wednesday. We hope this is a useful tool, and it helps you stay in tune with everything going on in the school. We will be sending this out electronically for your convenience, or you can download it at the First German website: www.firstgerman.org.

MONTHLY CALENDAR

At the end of each month, the principal will send home a school calendar for the next month. It should have all of the correct information for that month on it. ***This monthly calendar will also contain any changes to the calendars that were included in the parent handbook.*** If you know of an event that should be on the school calendar, please contact Mr. Leckwee.

CPO MEETINGS - FIRST ONE - SEPT. 13th!!

We will be holding our Christian Parent Organization Meeting/Bible Study on Sundays again this year. This year, we will meet each Sunday morning between services in Mr. Leckwee's classroom.

To begin things off this year we will be doing a Bible study entitled "***God's Word - The Foundation for Our Parenting.***" This study helps us to recognize that while sin threatens to destroy healthy relationships, God's Word provides weapons to combat such a threat. We will start with a review of God-given roles in marriage and later discuss topics such as the struggle to discipline children in a God-pleasing way and the roles that God calls parents to fill as ambassadors of Christ.

We will also discuss school matters. These discussions will not follow a specific agenda, but will rather have an open forum type atmosphere.

We want to use the CPO meetings as another avenue for you to grow in faith through this Bible study. We never mature to the point where we don't need to study God's Word, and we hope you take the opportunity to grow in that Word with us on Sunday mornings. Don't forget that Pastor Rosenow is having a Bible study in the Heritage room at the same time. We are purposely trying to have multiple opportunities for to grow in the Word. Don't worry about your children, there is Sunday School for them where they too will be learning about God's Love for them and growing in the Word.

We hope and pray that each family would take on the responsibility to attend one of the Bible studies.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Each week, the children of our school bring in a Mission Offering on **Wednesday** morning. Parents are reminded to look for and use the envelopes that have been sent home on the first day of school. This wonderful stewardship on the students' part is always put to good use. This year's mission offering will be divided between two different organizations.

The first half of the school year will focus on Martin Luther College or synods teacher and pastor training school. More information on this project can be found on the bulletin board in the school hallway and by watching the *Notes and News*.

As always we want to encourage the kids to remember their Savior through their thoughts, words, and actions, and of course we can show that by remembering him with the blessings he has given us and giving some of that money for the furthering of His Kingdom.

MISSION FESTIVAL SERVICE

Mission Festival Service will be held on Sunday, September 27th at 9:00 a.m. There will only be one service that Sunday. At 10:15 a.m. there will be a Mission Presentation in place of Sunday School, CPO, and Bible class. Everyone is encouraged to attend. There will be a potluck following the presentation, so please bring a dish to pass.

PIONEER YOUTH MINISTRY

We are beginning a new year in our Pioneer ministry with a revised program. This year we will have one meeting night per month and one special activity. The groups for Pioneers are Sunbeams / Buckaroos for children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade; Lutheran Pioneers for boys in grades 3rd - 8th; and Lutheran Girl Pioneers for girls in grades 3rd - 8th. We ask you to encourage your children to become part of this youth ministry at First German. For more information, please contact any of the following people: Sunbeams / Buckaroos - Ralph and Jean Schwark; Lutheran Pioneers (boys) - Jeff Schwede, Matt Menges, Arle Koeppe; Lutheran Girl Pioneers - Julia Schwark, Marilyn Siegler. We can always use additional adult or high school student assistance on a regular or occasional basis.

Registration and medical release forms may be picked up in the school library starting on Tuesday, September 8th. They need to be returned to the school library by Friday, September 11th along with the permission slip for the Fall Hike. A check for \$15.00 should accompany the form, which covers most of the activities and project materials. Pioneer youth who have registered in a prior year do not need to fill out new forms unless information has changed.

Registration Night will be on **Monday, September 28th**, in the school lunch room beginning at 6:30 p.m. There will be a Bike Hike in October and information will come out in next week's newsletter.

VOLLEYBALL NEWS

The volleyball season has also begun with the first game on Friday, September 11th at Brillion. On the following Friday, September 18th, they have a home game at 4:30 p.m.

The B-team will be going to Wayside on the 17th to compete in a couple scrimmages at 5:00 p.m. We would love it if you could come and help support them with your cheers.

SOCCER NEWS

Our soccer teams have begun practice already. We will be practicing at MLHS from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays till our final tournament in New Holstein.

So far, we have a game scheduled for September 16th against Brillion at MLHS, our tournament on September 19th at MLHS, and the final tournament on September 26th in New Holstein. The kids would love the support if you could make it to any games and cheer them on. See the blue calendar for September for the times.

LIBRARY NEWS

Our school library will open Tuesday, September 8th. We have a full crew of librarians this year. However, if anyone is interested in helping out in the library, please come see Mrs. Holschbach. When you visit, please offer your thanks to the librarians for their time they are donating.

BOOKS ARE FUN

There is a display set up in the school entry. Please take the time to look at the items displayed. These items are sold at a reduced rate for school families and they really make excellent gifts. The display will be available until Thursday, September 10th.

FUND-RAISING PROGRAMS

Thank you to everyone for helping with these programs. They really help us to obtain things for the school that are not in the budget. Your continued support for these programs are greatly appreciated.

From the *Campbell's Labels for Education*, we now have 8,510 points in our account that can be used for items through their catalog. We have used 6,850 points to order a replacement printer for one of our teachers. Please continue to save these labels for us. ***Just a reminder, we do need the entire label.***

From *Boxtops For Education* we have received a total of \$1,160.28 for the school year. We play games with the school children to promote participation and we appreciate the efforts from the entire congregation. There are a lot of items that have these symbols, so be sure to save them for the school.

For saving the milks caps, which are worth 5¢ each, we received checks for a total of \$367.75. The caps we save are *Golden Guernsey*, *Morning Glory*, *Kemps* (they also have UPC codes on cottage cheese which also qualify) and *Kwik Trip* (glazer donuts price ovals are worth 10¢ and juices have the Moola caps and don't forget the bag tops need to have the cow with the 5¢ symbol).

We recycle used toner and ink cartridges. From *Cartridges For Kids* this year we received a check for \$97.80. We also recycle with *Cartridge World* here in town. We receive a school discount for refills.

We appreciate you for saving these items for us. They can be dropped off at school anytime throughout the school day and also when you come to Sunday services. Just leave them in the school entry or by the table in the church lobby. Thank you.

CLASSROOM NEWS

Sonshine Preschool Notes from Mrs. Schaller

A very warm welcome to all the new little ones and their families. The three year olds are simply getting used to being in a school setting, listening to the teacher, following directions, and getting along with each other. We have been listening to the Bible story "God Creates Our Beautiful World" in both the three and four year old classes. The four year olds were ready to jump right in this week and are working on the colors black, brown, and red. Next week the Bible story will be "God Creates Adam and Eve" and the fours will be working on the colors yellow, blue, and white. Have a great weekend. Mrs. Schaller

Kindergarten Notes from Mrs. Fischer

I am happy to report that there are 7 children in Kindergarten. They are Katie Ungemach, Patricia Leckwee, Emma Kolar, Ryllie Kiss, Tyler Jeffers, Adam Lindemann and Levi Van de Grift. I feel very blessed to be their teacher.

The Bible lessons for this school year will be from the New Testament. That is why we are starting out with the birth of Jesus.

In Math, the children practiced the numerals 1 and 2. The 2 can be a little tricky to print so extra home practice would be good. They became acquainted with the teddy bear counters and realized that there are many different ways to group them.

The unit for Social Studies is called *All About Me*. They will be decorating a person shape to look like themselves and printing words on them that are self describing. Look for them in the hall way next week.

For Reading class, the children are working on the sound and shape of the letter *C*. For a motion to help them remember the sound represented by *C*, I have them use the pointer and middle finger on the right hand like a scissors. They say, "Letter *C*." Then they open and close the "scissors" and move it toward the left hand while saying the sound of *C* 3 times. (They will only be using the hard sound for *C*, not the soft sound like you hear in *city*.) On the 3rd time, the "scissors" hits the palm of the left hand and they say the word *cat*. They should be able to make a quick association between the letter *C*, the sound for *C* and the word *cat*. The letter stick for *C* also has a picture of a cat on it.

In the Art Center, they worked on making Curly the Caterpillar. This gave them practice of cutting out circles. All their circles will be joined together to make a giant caterpillar. I will be sending home small colored circles for them to cut out and to print a *c* word on each

one or a picture of something that begins with *C*. Please use a dark colored crayon or a marker so the words can be easily seen. They should bring the circles back on **MONDAY** so they can glue them on to the caterpillar.

In the Writing Center, they drew a picture of themselves and printed their names in their Drawing Journals.

In the Reading Center, they had to glue pictures of things that begin with *C* into a sort book. They also used an alphabet computer program and listened to a story about Clifford, the dog.

I would like to thank Mrs. Lindemann, Mrs. Van de Grift and Mrs. Kiss for coming in to help with the Writing Center.

Thank you for a great beginning to a new school year!

1st and 2nd Grade Notes from Mrs. Korte

Welcome to the new students in our room. We have Steig Mason, Kendal Peitersen, Zane Reif, Jacob Schmitz, and Lorin Stecker as our First Grade students. The Second Grade students have all returned and are eager to learn. What a blessing from God!

Thank you for working with your child on the memory work. Some of the upcoming passages are a little difficult. Please let me know if your child is really struggling to learn the memory work.

Today a Scholastic order form came home with your child. This is up to you whether you want to order a book for your child. Please don't feel obligated to do so. We have many books in our library that are suitable for your child to read. However if you are building your child's library then by all means place an order. The orders will be due by September 23, 2009.

Thank you also for getting all of the supplies that your child needed for school. We do have a few students that don't have their coins here yet. This is just a reminder. If you have lost the sheet with the listings of which coins your child needs, please let me know.

Soccer C and D practices don't start until Monday, September 14th. Your child will need to be at Manitowoc Lutheran High School by 4:00 p.m. that day. If there is a problem with transportation, please contact me. There are many other parents that will be going out to the school that night and would be willing to take your child along.

Have a great weekend! God's blessings to you. Mrs. Korte

3rd and 4th Grade Notes from Miss Wordell

Welcome to another school year. The fourth graders are being good and helpful friends to the third graders. The third grade students are quickly picking up on the classroom routines. The weather has been wonderful for the first week of school – no hot and muggy days so far! We welcome Clara Leckwee to our

classroom. She is a great girl and is making many friends.

As many of you know, Ryan has severe **nut allergies**. Please do not send birthday snacks or other treats that contain any kind of nuts. He no longer has to watch out for corn products, so that has broadened his menu choices quite a bit. Thank you for your cooperation!

The third and fourth grade class will be going to Manitowoc Lutheran High School for a **field trip** on Thursday, September 17th. If you would be able to help transport us to and from MLHS on that afternoon, please let me know. See more information on the permission slip that was sent home today.

As you look ahead to each new week, please check the **assignment list** at the end of this article. In each issue of Notes & News, I will try to give you a schedule of upcoming assignments and important dates. Keep an eye on the memory treasure assignments, and the bright pink reading log sheets. *Thank you, parents, for laying good groundwork for successful study habits!!!!*

Next Thursday, we will have our first **Science test**. Some simple study notes will be sent home on Tuesday and Wednesday. A short review at home will be needed. I will keep it simple to help the third graders get in the swing of taking a test.

Next week Friday, I will be sending home the first **book report** information sheet. Look for it. Most likely, students will need to go to the Manitowoc Public Library that weekend or early in the following week.

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Mon., Sept. 7 -**Begin the Reading Logs!**

Thur., Sept. 8 -**Science Test Ch. 1**

Fri., Sept. 11 -**Spelling Test #1**

-Book Report Info sent home

Mon., Sept. 14 -Reading Log #1 is due,
& begin Log #2

Thurs., Sept. 17 -School Picture Day (AM)

-MLHS Trip (PM)

-Book Report Approval Deadline

Fri., Sept. 18 -Spelling Test #2

Sun., Oct. 4 -8:00 a.m. Church Singing Gr. 3 & 4

Sun., Oct. 11 -10:30 a.m. Church Singing Gr. 3 & 4

5th and 6th Grade Notes from Mr. Siegler

We're baaaaack! None of the 5th graders went home crying the first day of school, and only half of them went home crying the second day, so we've had a good start to the year.

Please note that the 5th and 6th grades sing for church on both the 13th and 20th of September. We need each and every voice. Please mark those two Sundays on your calendars so we can do the best possible singing. Thanks.

On a personal note, thank you for your prayers during my illness this summer. I am getting better and stronger all the time. I am now really looking forward to teaching English class, because I am now an expert in using a semicolon.

Tests and quizzes for 9 - 7 to 9 - 11

Mon. Calendar quiz

Tue. Catechism quiz Q 6 - 8

Wed. No tests

Thur. Spelling pretest

Social studies test

Fri. Catechism quiz Q 9 - 12

Science test chpt. 1

7th & 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Menk

What a great start to the week! Students have been prepared, work has been well done, and we've already got some of the routines figured out. May the Lord continue to bless all of our efforts for continued success.

A few **extra art supplies** are needed for specific class projects. Would you be willing to help put money towards their purchase? If so, let Mr. Menk know so he can place the order. Thank you for your generosity.

Grades 7 & 8 **sing in next week's 10:30 a.m. service**. They will sing from the balcony in between the bible readings. Students will rehearse the song at 10:15 a.m. in Mr. Menk's room. Please be on time to warm up. Thank you for your help in making this possible.

Our first **book report** is due on September 21st. Students should have already chosen their book and begun reading. A model of the completed book report is found in the student handbook and in our classroom. Acceptable index cards are size 4 x 6. Mr. Menk has many available at school so just ask for one.

7th & 8th Grade Notes from Mr. Leckwee

Adjustments. That is the word for this week. The kids have to adjust to the way Mr. Leckwee wants things done in his classroom that is probably different from previous years. And I am adjusting to my "new" room and schedule. Over all the adjusting has gone quite well.

We are already running with our classes, learning about the early Americans in History and what science really is in our science class. Even in Math we have taken off with a quick start. Although, I hope it has been a relatively soft start as far as content and work load is concerned. We like to review the concepts we have learned before, and then work on the new material. So if the "this is so easy" phrases start to come out of your child's mouth, realize it should be short lived.

We are going to be starting Football in Physical Education class. We will learn the names of all the positions, the jobs of each position, how to throw a football, catch a football, how to run patterns, and the basic rules of the game. It should be a lot of fun.

PIANO LESSONS

Mrs. Schwede - Piano Lesson Schedule - WED.

<i>Time</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Room</i>
9:30 a.m.	Earl Oswald	Fine Arts
10:00 a.m.	Sam Oswald	Fine Arts
10:30 a.m.	Emily Schaller	Fine Arts
11:00 a.m.	Tresa Koeppe	Fine Arts
11:30 a.m.	Cole Zivko	Fine Arts
12:00 p.m.		
1:00 p.m.	Alex Koeppe	Fine Arts
1:30 p.m.	Ryan Wendt	Fine Arts
2:00 p.m.	Travis Pekarske	Fine Arts
2:30 p.m.	Abby Liermann	Fine Arts

Mrs. Menk - Piano Lesson Schedule - TUE.

Just a reminder that lessons start Tuesday, September 8th. Please check the schedule below so you will know when and where to go for your lesson. Please bring along all your books and last year's assignment notebook. See you soon!

<i>Time</i>	<i>Student</i>	<i>Room</i>
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Josh Steckmesser - 5	Fine Arts
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.	Olivia Kolar - 2	Fine Arts
9:30 - 10:00 a.m.	Sam Martinez - 7	Fine Arts
10:00 - 10:30 a.m.	Maddy Leckwee - 5	Fine Arts
10:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Clara Leckwee - 3	Fine Arts
11:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Alex Strzyzewski - 8	Fine Arts
		Mr. Menk's room
11:30 - 12:00 a.m.	Jonathan Menk - 5	Fine Arts