

The Christian Crusader

Published bi-weekly for members and friends of Child of God Lutheran Church and School

Sharing the Savior; Living His Love

May 4, 2010

Volume 1, Issue 7

Three Confirmed in Faith at Child of God

On Sunday, May 2, members of Child of God Lutheran Church were once again blessed to witness the confirmation of three young people who stood before God's altar and publicly declared their faith and their intent to live as God's children and as His servants.

A happy day; a solemn promise. When we watch the young people in our lives make this important, life-changing commitment to God, we might be reminded of the day when we made the same promise. In the years following, life experiences have taught us that verbal promises are easy to make and very challenging to keep.

Consider Paul's words to the young pastor Timothy, in II Timothy 3:12: *"In fact, everyone who wants to live a Godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."*

By the time Paul wrote these words to Timothy he had been stoned, left for dead, beaten, put in prison, driven out of cities and labeled as an enemy — all because of his faith and his unflinching devotion to God.

As modern-day Christians we have not been stoned, imprisoned or forced to leave someplace because our

faith. But we have faced persecution.

Many of us have faced ridicule and rudeness because we publicly profess our faith. Certain "friends" have turned their backs on us because we are too "goody-goody." We don't know how to have fun. We are in the world but not of the world. We are stuffed shirts, pious, uppity, holier than thou...the list goes on and on. All because we believe in God and dare to stand up for what's right and wrong in His sight.

We could lie and say, "sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will

never hurt me."

But the words do hurt. The actions hurt, too, when friends avoid us, or make fun of us. Admittedly, it's light duty compared to what Paul and the early Christians faced, but we still feel the pain. But that's not important. What is important is that we keep our eyes focused on the One who gives us strength, courage, unfailing love and grace, and the promise of eternal life with Him.

When we are nestled safely in the arms of our Savior, He will protect us from all hurt and heartbreak.



Congratulations to our Confirmands, shown here with Pastor Klaus: Ky-Lee Suttmoeller, Corey Fischer, and Asia Randolph.

COG Core Values

Worship

Service

Faith Development

Outreach

Excellence

Family



Looking Ahead...

Are you ready to get "Bugged?" Be sure to mark your calendars for Friday, May 14, when COG first through third graders present the musical, "BUGZ." The time is 6:30 p.m. Join the fun!

Stewardship Note *by Roy Zirges*

Weeding in the Garden of Life

When you grow a garden, you grow some weeds! When you make a commitment to plant in the garden of life, you can expect some weeds to grow in that garden! I'm sure that every God directed commitment that you have made to plant seeds in the garden of life brought on a spurt of weed growth in that same garden. Weeds of doubt, weeds of fear, weeds of despair, weeds of worry, concern, failure, anger, resentment and so on!

But there is no need to feel the weeds will take over your garden of life. In May we will be celebrating two special church year events: Ascension Day on May 14 and Pentecost Day on May 23. These two very important events help to encourage and empower us as God's stewards. On Ascension Day our Lord returned to the right hand of the Father, not to escape

from the world, but rather to serve as our Advocate to the Father.

Pentecost Day reminds us of when the Holy Spirit descended upon the first apostles and empowered them to be renewed servants of Jesus who became bold and effective witnesses of the good news of salvation in Christ Jesus. Pentecost Day also reminds us of the new birth of faith in us through the marvelous, yet mysterious, working of the Holy Spirit. For most of us that started with our baptisms. That new life continues as the Holy Spirit works through His Word and the sacrament of Holy Communion to strengthen and equip us to be effective stewards. As God's stewards we have the promise that the Holy Spirit empowers us to do what we otherwise could not do.

In the garden of life, we all have an unseen enemy, and when it comes to the Stewardship of Life,

that "unseen enemy" is the devil who wants you to stop planting seeds of faith in the garden of life. He wants you to grow the "weeds" instead of the abundant crop! The two events in May encourage and empower us to plant seeds in the garden of life. One thing that I believe God wants us to know, whatever measure we learn to plant with, will be the measure that is used to produce our abundant crop! When we have done enough Godly investing in the Stewardship of life the weeds will be squeezed out by the abundant crop.



COG Ministry Featured at Mid Rivers Mall Craft Fair

Once again we have the great opportunity to tell our community about the Child of God mission during a craft fair at Mid Rivers Mall this weekend, May 7, 8 and 9.

We will have a table full of information about

COG and need volunteers to serve as hosts during the three-day event.

The craft fair will be open from 10 a.m.—9 p.m. on Friday, May 7 and Saturday, May 8, and from 11 a.m. — 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 9.

If you can volunteer to spend a couple of hours at the craft fair to handout information about our school, please sign up on the following website:

<http://www.volunteerspot.com/login/entry/62-61925022872>

Let's all work together to spread the news about Child of God Lutheran Church and School.

If you have questions, please call the church/school office at 636/970-7080. We only need a couple of hours of your time!

Thanks for your help!



Child of God Financial Information and Statistics

Child of God

Profit and Loss Statement March 2010

Income	March 2010	Budget	+/-	July-March	Budget	+/-
School Revenue	\$ 27,280.81	\$ 57,594.00	\$ (30,313.19)	\$ 486,960.17	\$ 543,604.50	\$ (56,644.33)
Church Offerings	\$ 15,016.05	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 16.05	\$ 150,600.10	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 15,600.10
Mission Support (Immanuel, Our Savior, MO District)	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,083.34	\$ 166.66	\$ 11,250.00	\$ 9,750.06	\$ 1,499.94
Other Donations/Matching Gifts, etc.	\$ 63,999.31	\$ 3,333.34	\$ 60,665.97	\$ 157,785.90	\$ 30,000.06	\$ 127,785.84
Fundraisers	\$ 105.16	\$ 5,822.50	\$ (5,717.34)	\$ 25,936.68	\$ 47,580.00	\$ (21,643.32)
Total Budgeted Income	\$107,651.33	\$ 82,833.18	\$ 24,818.15	\$ 832,532.85	\$ 765,934.62	\$ 66,598.23
Expenses	March 2010	Budget	+/-	July-March	Budget	+/-
Salaries and Benefits	\$ 67,654.24	\$ 70,696.29	\$ (3,042.05)	\$ 671,387.06	\$ 628,512.81	\$ 42,874.25
Administrative	\$ 3,563.74	\$ 6,576.53	\$ (3,012.79)	\$ 61,877.73	\$ 54,463.77	\$ 7,413.96
School Instructional	\$ 792.00	\$ 840.00	\$ (48.00)	\$ 31,480.59	\$ 39,290.00	\$ (7,809.41)
Facilities	\$ 8,284.50	\$ 5,904.19	\$ 2,380.31	\$ 52,805.04	\$ 53,137.71	\$ (332.67)
Total Budgeted Expenses	\$ 80,294.48	\$ 84,017.01	\$ (3,722.53)	\$ 817,550.42	\$ 775,404.29	\$ 42,146.13
Budgeted Net Income	\$ 27,356.85	\$ (1,183.83)	\$ 28,540.68	\$ 14,982.43	\$ (9,469.67)	\$ 24,452.10
Unbudgeted Income*	\$ (1,884.28)			\$ 3,691.38		
Total net Income	\$ 25,472.57			\$ 18,673.81		

Journey of Miracles Campaign —\$1.2 Million Goal

Commitments Received (June 2008–April 27, 2010)	\$706,025.00
Incoming received against commitments (June 2008–April 27, 2010)	\$407,952.89

*The negative amount shown in unbudgeted income results is the transfer of milk fee funds to the lunch account. *If you have questions or concerns regarding this statement, please contact Jeff Wrozier, Child of God Treasurer at Jwrozier@charter.net or 636/544-1981.*



*We give Thee but Thine Own,
What e're the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee!*



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If you have questions or comments about the *Christian Crusader*, please contact the editor, Margie Schlinker, in the church/school office at 636/970-7080 or by email to mlschlinker@hotmail.com.

Church Volunteer Schedule —May 2010

	Church Set-up	Communion Set-up/Take down	Servers	Elder on Duty	Ushers	Acolytes	Sound/ Screens	Nursery
2	Schroeder Leyen Steckler Bryant Francis Smit Winscher (Steve) Huning Thai	Carole Smit Jacque Winscher	Paul Steckler Matt Luevano	Paul Steckler	Brad Buth Doug Buth	Patrick Buth Madison Story	Barb Cox Brian Borgstede	Donata Rolf
9	Chema Williams Borgstede Morgan Hansen Bailey Brinkman Ingold Watson			Tommy Klasener	Evan Steckler Jim Murphy	Peyton Hawkins Nathan Wilhelms	Jeff Wrozier Justin Wrozier	Donata Rolf
16	Klasener Wrozier Wenger Winscher (Kevin Nerney Hawkins (Jason) Shawmeker Jaegar Wren	Brenda Aubuchon Jamie Stuemke	Chad Bryant Tommy Klasener	Chad Bryant	Chris Wren Loyd Spurgeon	Alyssa Wrozier Corey Fischer	Jack Howell Brian Borgstede	Donata Rolf
23	Aubuchon Klaus Spurgeon Henderson Zilz (Dave & Kay) Murphy Gerard Kline Layton			Vern Schroeder	Justin Wrozier Dan Fischer	Asia Randolph Michelle Chema	Rick Vore Dave Fecht	Donata Rolf