



THE M e s s e n g e r

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
Washington, DC

IN THE SEPTEMBER EDITION

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FROM THE MESSENGER TEAM

The *Messenger* is CLC's primary paper source for news about our congregation and community. The publication team works to make the newsletter informative and of value to our readers.

Want to go paperless and receive the Messenger electronically? Let the church office know and look for the *Messenger* on CLC's website www.christlutheran-dc.org/pdf/messenger.pdf.

Looking for an old *Messenger*? Back issues from July 2008 to the present are on our website www.christlutheran-dc.org/pdf/messengerarchive.html

Have something for the next edition? Send it to CLCMessenger@gmail.com

Christ Lutheran Church is located at **5101 16th Street NW, Washington DC**.
Call our church office at **202-829-6727** or visit our website www.christlutheran-dc.org.



August 24, 2010

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

On a recent morning walk I reflected upon familiar words from Ecclesiastes, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1, NRSV). As I walked, I prayed and pondered about this time in the life of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). It is my prayer that we use this time for discerning and engaging; for repenting and reconciling; for restraint but not timidity; and for rejoicing.

A Time for Discerning and Engaging

Throughout the ELCA I hear people asking, "Is my voice heard? Will my voice be respected as we seek together to discern God's purpose for us?" The answer is yes. Nevertheless, people of deep faith and a desire to be part of this church wonder: Do we mean it when we say we can preach, teach and hold divergent views on sexuality and be full participants in the ELCA's life and witness? Again, the answer is yes.

My confident "yes" is predicated upon our shared commitment to be engaged together in discernment. This discernment is hard work. It must be grounded in the witness of the Scriptures and the Confessions, and it needs the voices of all the baptized. It calls for the Holy Spirit's guidance and our prayerful, disciplined and respectful listening to one another.

Even more, the source for my confident "yes" is God's gracious "yes" to us, spoken through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. The "yes" of Jesus empowers us to be passionately engaged. It frees us to ask questions, have difficult conversations and uncover differences and tensions. It calls each of us to be everyday evangelists, discerning together what the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ means for the world and for our common life.

Let our shared commitment be that our discerning together always will serve our proclamation of Jesus Christ in word and deed and our engagement in God's mission for the life of the world.

A Time for Repenting and Reconciling

The most powerful moment in the recent assembly of The Lutheran World Federation occurred when Lutherans asked for forgiveness from God and from Mennonites for the violence done to Anabaptist Christians in Reformation times and through the continuing legacies in Lutheran teachings. This public act of repentance, with many delegates on their knees, was a powerful witness to the healing of wounds in Christ's body, the church.

With tears in our eyes, we heard promises of God's mercy in Christ and words of forgiveness from Mennonite sisters and brothers as we received and shared God's gift of forgiveness and healing.

This experience of reconciliation is underscored for me in the fifth chapter of 2 Corinthians: the powerful announcement that if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation. This new creation rises from Jesus, who died rather than be in the sin-accounting business.

The implication for us of the gospel's transforming power is that we become ambassadors for Christ. God has entrusted to each of us the message and ministry of reconciliation.

As yet another Lutheran church body forms, we must ask how this separation in the body of Christ will serve the ministry and message of reconciliation entrusted to us by God.

The ELCA has and will continue reaching out to others for the sake of the gospel and serving our neighbor. Standing together, we are known as a church that rolls up its sleeves and solves problems, the church that is catalyst, convener and bridge builder. Our strong ecumenical relationships and global partnerships testify to that commitment. Yet before the ELCA can undertake any such efforts with a new Lutheran church body, I believe we must commit to obey the commandment against bearing false witness and commit to live its meaning in every setting, both private and public: "We are to fear and love God, so that we do not tell lies about our neighbors, betray or slander them, or destroy their reputations. Instead we are to come to their defense, speak well of them, and interpret everything they do in the best possible light" (The Small Catechism, Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p.1161).

A Time for Restraint but not Timidity

We live in a world that is plagued by incivility, willful misunderstanding and hurtful caricatures of those with whom one disagrees. Let us declare that such behaviors will stop with us. There is room in this church for lively conversations and disagreements about questions of faith and life. There is room in this church for vigorous dialogue that witnesses to faith without rushing to judgment and closing off discussion.

Let us be restrained in our judgments and speak charitably with and about one another. Let us not be timid as we boldly proclaim Jesus Christ and participate in God's healing of the world. Let us generously, faithfully and courageously respond to the groaning of the creation and the cries of humanity.

A Time for Rejoicing

Even in the midst of great challenges in the economy and in the church, we can rejoice because the ministry in which we are engaged is a ministry of God's mercy and reconciliation in Christ. Our ministry is not about us, our shortcomings or our problems, for we proclaim Jesus Christ. We rejoice in the forgiveness that God offers at the font and the table, in public proclamation and personal assurance. We celebrate the reconciliation from God that breaks down every dividing wall of hostility and unites humankind in the bonds of Christ. We delight in the promise of the new creation that God is bringing to life in Christ. We joyfully embrace the world and all its inhabitants in love and service. What a cause for rejoicing!

By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful presence; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen. (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, p. 75)

In God's grace,

AWAKENING FAITH

by Pastor Renata Eustis

Over the last year, a group called “Enlivening Worship” has gathered sporadically to look more closely at our worship service. We have taken turns researching one part of the liturgy. Then these learnings and reflections have been shared with the group, as well as with the larger congregation. “The Sermon” was my topic (what a surprise!) The group suggested I share these reflections in one of my columns—so here it is.

The Lutheran Christian understanding of preaching is quite bold—frightening bold from my perspective. The sermon is nothing less than the word of God. Preacher Barbara Brown Taylor describes it this way: “A sermon . . . is an act of creation with real risk in it, as one foolhardy human being presumes to address both God and humankind, speaking to each on the other’s behalf and praying to get out of the pulpit alive.”

The sermon is a response to the Word of God that has been heard in the reading of the lectionary scriptures. It’s an attempt to interpret what that Word has to say to our particular situation and to the moment in which we are living. Traditionally, Lutheran preaching follows a Law/Gospel format. The “Law” part is showing how far we fall short of what God wants for us and how much we need God’s help. The Gospel is that no matter what we have done or failed to do, through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are loved, forgiven and given the chance to start fresh. I think most of us are already overwhelmed by our failings, so most of the time my emphasis is on the Good News of God’s forgiving love.

In a place where education is so valued, I imagine that people are hoping to learn something from the sermon. For some, being entertained—by good stories or jokes or interesting ideas—is what makes a good sermon. Some people are looking for practical advice about how to handle difficult situations. There is nothing wrong with any of these and I hope some of this happens in the sermon but as helpful as they may be, the central purpose of the sermon is not educating, entertaining or advising.

The purpose of preaching is to awaken faith. This can happen in various ways (and certainly not only through the sermon). Faith is trust in God’s goodness, believing that God is for us. Sometimes faith is awakened by a word of comfort, sometimes by a reminder of God’s vision for the world and sometimes by a call to return to the Lord with all your heart.

Awakening faith through preaching is a much bolder purpose than keeping people awake (though I would agree that keeping people awake is an important goal.) One of the things I can say about preaching is that it has brought me to my knees—both literally and figuratively. I pray my way through the process of preparing and giving the sermon. I deeply trust that the Holy Spirit is active, in and through me, as well as covering for my deficits. I give thanks to God for awakening my faith and yours, too.



**HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION:
STEPHEN LEADER TRAINING, PITTSBURGH, AUGUST 1-8, 2010.**

By Karin Klingman

There were approximately 450 other people from around the US, Canada and even Australia who spent the week in the Pittsburgh Hilton Ballroom at the Stephen Leader Training. Our day started at 8:18 AM (don't ask) and ended usually by 6 PM, though for 3 evenings we went until 8:30 PM. The program was run well, with good speakers, some entertaining stories, and fun stretch breaks.

Since I was alone, I sat in a different place each day in order to meet people from different congregations, denominations and places. It was a diverse group. I was impressed with the caring spirit that was present in the room and the investment people had in their church's Stephen Ministry Program. Most people came from congregations with more Stephen Ministers than ours-usually 6 or more, and at least 2 Stephen Leaders, and not always from larger churches than ours. It was difficult for me to really process everything, and I have a file cabinet full of materials to sift through with the help of Pastor Renata, Linda and Debbie these next few months. I came away with more questions than answers from the training. I did come to realize that we, the Stephen Ministry team, will need the congregation's help to develop our Ministry. We need to determine where we are going to take this caring ministry over the next few years. We certainly need investment from the congregation from the purely mechanical sense of providing volunteers to become Stephen Ministers and also offer themselves as care receivers. More importantly, we will need congregational support in other ways.

I came away from the training more convinced that Stephen Ministry provides us with an exciting opportunity to grow in our faith and as a community. Being a Stephen Minister is about showing God's love by caring for others. We, as Stephen Ministers, care for others by listening, being there, and being non-judgmental. It's not just for the big horrendous stuff that happens that we can use our caring skills. It's also for the seeming smaller nagging situations that drag us down too, sometimes almost as much. Stephen Ministers provide tangible proof to our care receivers and to everyone that God is also walking with us. If we make a choice as a congregation to embrace this form of compassionate care giving, the blessings of Stephen Ministry will touch all of us.

The current Stephen Ministers are Debbie Coker, Karin Klingman and Linda Ott.

The Music Program and a Financial Challenge Largely Met

by Mack Ott

At a special Congregation Meeting on 29 August, 2010, a tri-partite proposal by Christ's Music Director, Gerry Coleman, was overwhelmingly approved. In summary, the congregation

- approved the establishing of a Music Ministry Committee to include members of the Council, the Music Director, choir members, and others to address the broader CLC music program involving worship and outreach for youth and adults;
- authorized the Music Director to hire four choir section leaders to provide strength considered essential to the choir's continued regular performances and to participate in each Sunday service and weekly rehearsals beginning in September over a period of 8-9 months at a total cost of up to \$19,500;
- approved the conditional funding of this expenditure through pledges by individual contributors for the purpose of funding four choir section leaders. These pledged contributions will be received over the current fiscal year, with the understanding that initial approval is provided for the approximately 20 weeks (4½ months) and will be continued if the directed contributions projected for the current 2011 fiscal year are deemed to be sufficient to meet the annual costs.

This congregational action followed three Council meetings devoted to determining how this complex proposition could be shaped for the Congregation's consideration and how to suggest its funding without further exacerbating the \$31,000 deficit in the FY2011 CLC budget.

In the event, Music Director Coleman presented the central component of the proposal—hiring four section leaders—as a method both to strengthen the choir and more generally, by releasing time, to allow Gerry's participation in a broadening of the Christ Lutheran Church music program. This latter effort was the rationale for establishing the Music Ministry Committee on which Gerry will be a member, but not the primary motive force.

The Music Director's vision was also elaborated by choir member Cheryl Beversdorf, a vision with which most choir members contacted by the Council seemed to concur.

The budgetary impact and why directed giving to the Choir Fund should not—must not—reduce general contributions was articulated by Stewardship Committee Chairman Howard Bell. Howard reminded us that CLC faces substantial financial challenges in the years ahead, particularly in FY2012 when, presumably, we will invite a Vicar to join us, reducing CLC's rental income that will be received in this fiscal year from renting the Vicar Hilton.

Howard's message was clear and ominous. Yet, there was good news both on the approval of the proposal and on the more general financial issues that Howard enunciated. One of Christ's long-time members rose to the challenge and pledged a substantial amount to help close the deficit over the indefinite future.

We are blessed in many ways at Christ Lutheran Church, both in the asking and in the receiving. Thanks be to God!

NEWS FROM FEYI @ MOREHOUSE

By Feyi Odebode

This summer was one of the more eventful summers that I have had. As many of you know my sister Mubo and I went to France for 3 weeks to visit our brother Ope, his wife Estelle, and our 14 month old nephew Ethanael. When we arrived we stayed in Paris for the day, then we went to our brother's house in Angouleme, which is about 4 hours west of Paris. We were there for a week, during that time we visited famous castles, famous local monuments, and went hiking around the city. After our stay in Angouleme Ope, Mubo and I decided to go to visit Spain for a couple days. During our visit of Spain we went to San Sebastian Beach, watched the Bull Run in Pamplona, and went touring around Madrid. Coincidentally, we were in Spain during the semi-final round of the world cup. There is no word to describe the elation of the Spanish people as their team won, all the citizens of Madrid, young and old, celebrated in the streets until 4 A.M., and miraculously they were able to go to work the next morning. After our stay in Spain we went back to France and we all stayed at a bed and breakfast in a small town near Angouleme, for the remainder of our time in Europe. After our stay at the bed and breakfast we went back to Paris so Mubo and I could catch our flight back to the U.S. Unfortunately we were not able to see all of Paris, but we did walk along the Champs Elysees, and visit L'Arc de Triomphe.

Ope, Estelle and Ethanael are doing well. When Mubo and I were in France Ethanael was 13 months old and even though he wasn't able to walk yet he was able to stand up with assistance. Ethanael took his first steps while we were there, and we recently learned that as of two weeks ago he has started walking. He is so adorable and ahead of his age, and it was tough having to leave them. Mubo and I plan on going back to France within the next two years

As of today I have been at Morehouse for a full week, and I like it a lot. We are now finishing our orientation period, tomorrow is the first day of class and for the first time in my life I am excited for classes to start. I have made it a personal goal of mine to get straight A's this year. It is really nice here, but it is going to take me a while to get used to the southern culture, and the southern heat! I really appreciate the scholarship money that the church has given me, and I know that I would not have made it this far if it was not for the support and encouragement that I have received from the church and members of the congregation.

HIV AND STIGMA AT CLC

By Kendall Bentz and Karin Klingman

The dust has settled on the "God's People are Tested" (GPAT) HIV Testing Day that we held at CLC on June 26th with support from a dozen other church partners, especially St. Stephen and the Incarnation at 16th and Newton, NW, which also was an HIV testing site. We tested 40 people between the two sites – a very successful turn out. At CLC, several members of our congregation received HIV testing, as did many from Sixth Presbyterian, First Trinity and Luther Place. We were especially encouraged to see many people come for testing who simply responded to the announcement on our church sign on 16th street..

A youth program created and run by MetroTeen AIDS and Lutheran Social Services, held in the CLC undercroft, was also a success. It was a thought-provoking program for the kids and adults alike. It was also uplifting to see the enthusiasm on the faces of the volunteers from Whitman Walker (who provided testing at CLC), Blair Underwood, Unity, and Carl Vogel clinics (who had volunteers at St. Stephen's).

Before the testing day event, Mark Rohrbaugh, Kendall Bentz, and Vicar Joel Richter proudly carried our GPAT banner during Washington, DC's Annual Gay Pride Parade. The banner slogan was the brain child of Karin Klingman. She also designed the banner which Alice Meyer produced. It was noticed and cheered by many there, and got good reviews. In the days following the parade, Joel became the "banner master," installing banners with our "God's People Are Tested" slogan and logo at several of the partner churches. Ann Marie Nelson, Gerry Coleman, Pastor Renata Eustis, Pam Sieving, Mack Ott, and Paul McLaughlin helped contribute many ideas during our planning and worked behind the scenes to problem solve while we worked toward the testing day.

Moving forward, we are aiming to become more involved with the D.C. Government's HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, STD and Tuberculosis Agency's Places of Worship Advisory Board. They are organizing a day-long HIV multi-faith conference entitled, "One in the Spirit." The event will be held Saturday, November 6th at the Washington Convention Center. The youth program is now a teaching tool that can be used by LSS and MetroTeen AIDS with other church groups. We plan to use portions of the DVD that was shown during the testing event in our confirmation class to discuss these issues more deeply with the confirmands. Kendall wrote a wonderful Pastoral Letter that is currently circulating among the various churches and groups and we hope to have 100 signatures from D.C. clergy by World AIDS Day on December 1.

We intend to continue our education campaign on stigma and discrimination surrounding HIV/AIDS, which remain significant barriers to getting people tested for HIV, getting people into HIV care, and even in getting people to use effective HIV prevention. We are seeking venues that will provide us with opportunities to discuss ways people of faith can address stigma issues. The new National HIV/AIDS Strategy for the US was unveiled by the Obama administration a few weeks ago. The role of faith communities in working to eliminate stigma is highlighted in this policy. The ELCA has also announced its strategy on HIV and AIDS (available on ELCA website). We are being called upon to address HIV in this country and in our local community. We continue to need your help, support and ideas to keep our initiative moving forward.



DONATIONS FOR REFUGEES

We are at our busiest time of year welcoming refugees to our community, and we at LSS/NCA need your assistance providing for their needs. We have a family of eight and a family of five arriving in the next two weeks and several more coming in the next six weeks. Please help us welcome our new neighbors to the area. Below is a list of critically needed items:

- pillows: 25
- toothpaste: 15
- feminine hygiene products: 15 packs
- shampoo: 15
- alarm clocks: 15
- light bulbs 15 packs
- toilet paper: 20 packs of 4
- shower curtain rings: 10 packs

You can drop off donations on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 9am and 5pm at our Northern VA office in Falls Church.

Spread the word and post the wish list in your congregation's bulletin!

Questions or comments? Contact Summer Parrish in the Office of Development at ParrishS@Issnca.org or call (703) 698-5026, ext. 138.

SPRINGHOUSE WISH LIST

by Alice Meyer

As you probably know, two of our members, Rita Stroberg and Herb Turvey, live at Springhouse Assisted Living in Silver Spring. Eartha Bober, the Activities Director and Volunteer Coordinator, is always happy to get the following items:

- Yarn for the Charitable Knitting Group
- Greeting cards, note paper, etc.
- Puzzle books (crosswords, wordsearch, etc.)

If you have questions about other items, let me know (301-650-2292 or bannerz@starpower.net) and I'll find out. You can give items to me, and I'll take them to Springhouse.

In addition, she would love to get more volunteers. Eartha can be reached through the Springhouse switchboard at 301-495-7366.



Vicar Joel, Rita Stroberg, and Herb Turvey at Springhouse



ON the July 17th Judge **William Pryor** was inducted into the Washington Bar Association's Hall of Fame. Generally, this honor was described as follows:

Washington Bar Association Hall of Fame History

"We pause to salute the efforts of all persons who participated in constructing a bridge from slavery to freedom, as well as those still constructing a bridge from freedom to equality.... The demand for equal justice under law is simply a demand for equality under law for all citizens.... Frederick Douglass posed the equal justice question, which is still relevant in 21st Century America, when he asked: 'whether American justice, American liberty, American civilization, American law, and American Christianity could be made to include and protect alike and forever all American citizens in the rights which have been guaranteed to them by the organic and fundamental laws of the land.' We salute the answer provided to this question by the lives and careers of ... the cadre of lawyers, judges and others who have embraced a living Constitution."

Bill Pryor is the longest seated judge in the DC Courts and has done many wonderful things as a judge.

Hi, Everybody!

I've been chasing my best friend Mary since last October and finally caught up with her. I was an

attendant in her wedding many years ago. She'll get ahead of me again soon, but for now we are both 90!



It was a great celebration on July 25, the 90th anniversary of my baptism, on the very day, since I was born on a Monday and baptized when I was 13 days old at the same font we use now, but in the old church. AND here is another serendipitous thing: Easter Sunday was April 4 this year and I recently found it was also on April 4 in 1920, the year I was born. Just wonderful!

Thanks to all of you, but especially my dear Debbie, Gerry, Doug, Mark, Linda,

Renata, Paul, Marilyn, Geoff and Anna. Oh dear, I cannot name everyone, can I? I'll stop naming names with my top ten.

Love and blessings to all of you for helping to make my big nine-0 so happy! – **Elise Fisher**

For all those who didn't hear us shout the news from the highest mountain top or steeple, **Bob and Sara Sylwester** are thrilled they are going to be first-time grandparents. Son **Eric** and daughter-in-law **Tammie** are expecting their first baby in January 2011. Recently one of our Sunday's Old Testament readings included God's promise to Abraham of many descendants beginning in his old age....the age part didn't exactly escape us and while not comparing the Guinness World Book of Records to the Bible, we have wondered if we might make the record as the oldest, first-time grandparents! No matter, we are so happy to share the news - What a Blessing!

Dear Christ Lutheran Staff,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you once again to **Karin (Klingman)**, one of your members who took the time out to help a stranded traveler last Sunday. My car had run out of gas on busy 16th Street there in front of the church, and Karen took time out from her place of volunteering at the HIV testing clinic to run me to a local gas station. This wasn't a small thing, either, because we could not initially find a gas station that had a gas can. Finally, we did, and I was able to get underway again.

Not once in all that time, zooming around in her blue BMW, did I ever get a sense of judgment for my silliness in running out of gas (gas gauge was stuck). And I also learned a lot of what the church was doing in reaching out to the HIV community. I was sincerely impressed with Karen's Christian example, and wanted to say thank you once again.

I thank God for you, Karin!
Sincerely blessed,
Larry Lie



REMEMBERING SHIRLEY VOGTS

By Joanne Noll

Shirley Maxine Meyer was born June 16, 1926 in Wibaux, Montana. Her parents, Max and Laura, were homesteaders. When Shirley was 9 her father died and she and her mother moved back to Wisconsin. When she was 18 she moved to DC to be with her much older sister, Dorothy. Shirley attended the Alexandria School of Nursing and graduated in 1948.

Shirley married Lyle C. Vogts (aka Ricky) on July 1, 1948. They, along with Dorothy, moved to 14th Street, NW, and joined Christ Church. Shirley was a member for the rest of

her life. David and Laura were born. Ricky was a cabinetmaker and built the small altars in the Sunday School rooms.

Shirley loved children and worked for pediatricians Drs. Allan and Raymond Coleman for 45 years and retired at age 75. In 1965 the family moved to Musgrove Road, then in the country. Ricky had diabetes, then kidney disease. Shirley placed him on a kidney machine three times a week for 4 years while watching him slowly fade. Ricky passed away October 2, 1970 when David & Laurie were teenagers. Later she also took care of her sister, Dorothy Meyer, who had Alzheimers. Dorothy died February 26, 1999. Laurie moved back to this area from Florida after her son Nicholas was born. Shirley took great joy in Nick and her other grandchildren who live out west.

Shirley was well-read, fun loving, comforting, devoted, determined and compassionate. She loved Christ Lutheran Church, the Wednesday Bible study group, and the Yard Sale. An oral infection that traveled to her brain took her from us on June 9, 2010. Her Resurrection Celebration was June 19, and her ashes rest in the CLC Memorial Garden. We still expect to see her in church. By God's grace will all see you again, Shirley

We love to share your news in the Messenger through the Ear of Christ! Please send anything you'd like to have included to clcmessenger@gmail.com and look for your news here in upcoming editions.



REMEMBERING CHALMERS BREWBAKER

By David Blakemore & Joanne Noll

Chalmers Leslie Brewbaker, Jr. was a member of Christ Church for many years. He was born August 2, 1929 in Baltimore, MD and was received into membership at CLC in 1932 with his mother, Henrietta, who raised him as a single parent. Chalmers' father died before he was born. Chalmers was confirmed at Christ Church in 1943 by Dr. Wenchel.

Chalmers was a 1953 graduate of West Point. He served in the US Army for 10 years and ended his army career with the rank of Captain. This accounts for his powerful posture and military bearing we remember. While serving in Germany he married and had a son, Clifford. In 1995 his grandson, Collin, was born. His family still lives in Germany.

While at Christ Church after his military service, Chalmers was an active member. He served on the Church Council as a deacon and as Financial Secretary. He was chief usher for many years. He worked in D.C. as a plumber, and after he retired he served as the CLC sexton for several years. He was devoted to his mother and took care of her in her later years. He was an avid reader of both history and fiction.

Chalmers' breathing became labored. He couldn't do the work of a sexton anymore. In 1995 he decided to move to Greencastle, PA where he spent summers as a child and still had aunts, uncles, and cousins. After he moved to PA, David Blakemore would pick up Robert Heitmuller in Gaithersburg, then Frederick, and go up to have lunch with Chalmers. David did this for 15 years, also taking Vicar Joel with him this past year. While they were still alive, Larry Hartwig and Carmen Blakemore, David's father, also joined the pilgrimage to Greencastle. Everyone enjoyed those days together!

Chalmers lived with emphysema for many years, but his cause of death was a cancer recently diagnosed in June. He died on his 81st birthday, August 2, 2010. Services were held on August 7, 2010 at the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Greencastle, PA where he was a member. He is buried in the church cemetery. Those who knew him will remember his great smile and hearty laugh. Go with God, Chalmers!

LOOKING AHEAD

You are warmly invited to a

Sunday School Open House

September 12, 2010

9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.

Christ Lutheran Church,

Lower level classrooms

All parents and children are invited to see what Sunday School is all about. There will be refreshments, games, a Bible story and a craft. You are encouraged to check out the Atrium, a Montessori-based program for ages 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 6 years, and our elementary class, which will be similar to our VBS program, for ages 7 years - sixth grade.

Come and be a part of this growing community!

Questions? Contact: Linda Ott, 301/589-4231 or Pastor Renata, 202/829-6727, clcoffice@verizon.net

31st ANNUAL YARD SALE, SEPTEMBER 25 and 26

by Joanne Noll

Thirty-one years of helping others through the Christ Church annual benefit YARD SALE. Wow! Our ability to help many non-profits has grown through the years as the scope of the sale has broadened. We have learned along the way and gotten to know about many great organizations. So....LET'S DO IT again! Keep bringing in your donations! Clothes on hangers, please!

Dates this year are **Saturday, September 25, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm** AND **Sunday, September 26, 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm**. The garage is full and the undercroft is filling up. After Labor Day the undercroft will be rearranged to pile up furniture, set tables, hang signs, etc. Ideally all donations will be delivered by "carry out" day, September 12.

We will need everyone on Saturday, September 25, and 30-40 people on Sunday, September 26, for half-price day. Last year we had lines each day.

The house clean-out/estate sale/delivery/garage crew has been working hard all year to build the inventory you see (and a lot you don't see). Helping so far are **Kendall Bentz, David Blakemore, Barry Esplan, Fred & Beth Mills, Joanne Noll, Wayne Noll, Linda & Mack Ott, Scott Pitner, Mark Rohrbaugh, Pam Sieving, Bob & Sara Sylwester, Desta Tesemma, Jackson Visser, Marilyn Zukel**. Members and friends have been delivering furniture, boxes, etc.

Here is the SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE:

SEPTEMBER 12: After church help CARRY OUT items from storage to tables in the undercroft. Coffee hour downstairs, too!

SEPTEMBER 13-17: Daytime and evening workers SORT donations into departments. Hours from 10:00 am until.... Bring a bag lunch. It's fun to see what's in the boxes! If you wish to work in the evening, please call ahead. The jewelry team needs helpers too! Call Janet Kelly at 301-593-4910 or 301-754-7059.

SEPTEMBER 20-24: Day and evening workers PRICE items for sale. We'll need lots of people every day. If you wish to work in the evening, call ahead to be sure you can get into the building.

SEPTEMBER 25: BIG SALE DAY, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Outside workers come at 8:00 am or before. Inside workers come at 8:30 am. NOTE THE EARLY TIMES (we'll have the coffee on). There will be loads of stuff to take outside from the big garage, undercroft, narthex, and Parish Hall. We need everyone! The lunch crew will be on duty!

SEPTEMBER 26: SECOND SALE DAY (HALF-PRICE DAY) 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm in the undercroft and probably on Gallatin Street. It's very hectic! We need all the help we can get! Coffee hour and lunch downstairs!

SEPTEMBER 27: CLEAN-UP days begin. Please come for a few more days to finish up. Non-profit gleaners will be here first thing Monday. Deli lunch on Monday provided by THC. The more help we have, the quicker we can get back to normal. If you have ideas for leftover donations, please contact **Joanne**.

Department SIGN-UP SHEETS will be available soon. Give jewelry to **Janet Kelly**. Step right up to your favorite department. LUNCH FOR WORKERS ONLY will be provided. **Tonya Holland** is organizing lunches. She needs at least one helper. Let Tonya know if you can bring a salad or dessert.

Beneficiaries and M&B budget this year: Transitional Housing Corporation, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, N Street Village, Bread for the World, Lutheran World Relief, Samaritan Ministry of Greater Washington, Washington Area Wheelchair Society. Metro DC Synod ELCA. Additional funding for this project is being applied for from Thrivent for Lutherans.

