



THE  
**Messenger**

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Washington, DC

IN THE SUMMER EDITION

FROM THE MESSENGER TEAM..... 1

FROM OUR PASTOR ..... 2

PRESIDENT’S NOTE..... 3

FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY ..... 4

FROM OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS ..... 5

EAR OF CHRIST ..... 9

LOOKING AHEAD ..... 12

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](http://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/messengerarchive.html](http://www.christlutheran-dc.org/messengerarchive.html)

Have something for the next edition? Send it to [CLCMessenger@gmail.com](mailto:CLCMessenger@gmail.com)

Make the MESSENGER part of your summer reading

**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](http://www.christlutheran-dc.org).

## I'M BACK!

by Pastor Renata Eustis

It was interesting to see people's reactions when I would tell them I was on a month-long sabbatical. One person said, with amazement, "I didn't know anybody did that anymore." Almost everyone seemed envious. Almost everyone asked me what I was going to do.

I was so clear going into this time that I didn't want to *do* or produce anything, so for the first time in my life I didn't feel defensive when asked. I said that I was going to the Festival of Homiletics in Minneapolis for a week and that our family was going to the beach for a weekend. I had some plans to get together with friends (most of whom are pastors). But I had no goals for reading or writing.

What I wanted to do was step back and reflect on how I live my life and do my work as a pastor. I did this through conversations, through meditation and prayer, through art and reading the psalms. But what made all the difference for me was having the space to step out of the role for a month. Like many people, I spend so much time and energy thinking about how to get done what I need to get done that I never think about whether I should be doing it in the first place.

As I shared in the Congregational Meeting, I got clarity about two things I really wanted to do that I'm not doing. One was to offer something for people who would like to talk with others about faith (which is now happening on four Thursday evenings in July). The second was to offer a Bible study on Revelation for teens (something they've been asking for). I'm working on that for the Fall.

Thankfully, I also got some leading about what I could stop doing. I realized that what was wearing me out was "picking up the pieces." As everyone gets busier, there is less time for church members to give. Over the years, I've tried to smooth things over and fill in where the needs are. No one ever asked me to do that and I came back from sabbatical ready to give up that way of working.

On the very last day of my sabbatical, I was at Gettysburg Seminary on a personal mini-retreat. I woke up very early in the morning and couldn't get back to sleep—I guess a part of me wanted to enjoy every last minute. My plan was to write a closing reflection in my journal. I started by reading Psalm 25. These were the words I needed to hear:

"To you, O Lord I lift up my soul, O my God, in you I trust. . . Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. . . All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness."

Then I wrote this reflection: "I want to live and work this way. I know being a good pastor or using my time most "effectively" isn't something I can really figure out. God, help me to lift everything up to you. Let me trust that you are holding me and everything and everyone else in my life. Teach me your ways of doing things, teach me the truth of love of faithfulness. Help me learn, O God, that this is the truth that matters most. Center my life—and my heart—in it. There are many paths of love and faithfulness, help me to see the way that you have made for me."

I am so thankful for this grace-filled time of Sabbath. My hope and prayer is that, in some way, you might each have time to step back and see where God is leading you.

## UNITED IN CHRIST, UNITED IN ACTION!

*By Marilee Rist, President*

Ray and I are in the process of selling our home and buying a new one. What an ordeal. On some days, I feel as though I'm playing an old-fashioned game of "whack-a-mole," with new glitches and issues popping up, one after another.

How wonderful, by contrast, to see the unanimous vote approving CLC's FY2012 budget, taken at the June 12 congregational meeting! Our united front didn't happen by magic, of course. Behind it stands several months of discussion and deliberation, starting with our congregational retreat at Mar-Lu-Ridge in early February; followed by questions and conversations in Council and at Committee meetings; and highlighted by our joint meeting of the Council and committees where we dug deep into the CLC mission and the three "guideposts for action" that came out of the congregational retreat.

We wanted those Three Big Ideas – **Faith Formation, Faith in Action, and Faith Transformation** – to be incorporated in the budget that will undergird our work as a congregation for the 2012 fiscal year.

Of special interest in the budget discussion and vote were the following items:

- **Cost Increases:** Modest expense increases over our FY2011 budget are attributable to our commitment to a concurrent vicar, who will be with us part-time for two years. We also approved modest salary increases for our pastor, sexton, and office administrator.
- **Revenue:** Offsetting some of the above new costs are modest rent increases from the three groups that share our space -- Transitional Housing Corporation, the Medhane (Ethiopian) Congregation, and the Vision of Faith Latino Congregation. Envelope giving has also increased significantly in the past year – thank you!!
- **Yard Sale Fund Changes:** The budget incorporated the separately conducted vote approving the proportion of funds distributed to THC, Synod, and other Social Ministries activities. It also took note of the change in Thrivent's matching contribution.
- **Music:** The special fund of off-budget contributions – which have supported four paid voices to sustain and strengthen the choir—will continue in the 2012 fiscal year.

At our June meeting, we also heartily welcomed Pastor Renata back from her month-long sabbatical and announced her upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with CLC. (Please let me know if you'd like to serve on the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee!)

Finally, acting on Council's recommendation that a "Communications Working Group" be formed, volunteers were solicited to start thinking through the vehicles and tools we have available to us in communicating with members and guests. (Again, please raise your hand via email, phone, or in person if you'd like to serve on this group!)

We heartily thanked Linda Ott for her long service as *Messenger* editor and CLC website guru. Indeed, this is the last *Messenger* issue she'll be working on. If you'd like to step in as the new editor, please let me know!

Thank you for your commitment to the mission and to the all-important work of sharing CHRIST with the world!

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Do you have a bit of time and energy to throw into any of the following activities?

**Communications Working Group**--Join an awesome group of communications thinkers and doers to look at the strategies and tactics we're using to reach out to members and guests! We hope to convene an initial meeting soon.

**Messenger Editor and/or Website Manager** – Not to put the cart ahead of the Communication Working Group's horse, but we'll want to publish an early fall issue of the *Messenger*. Also needed: A "web guru" with thoughts on refreshing the website and keeping it up to date.

**Pastor's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** – Special service, special music, reception.....do you have some good ideas for thanking Pastor Renata for a decade of service to Christ Lutheran? If so, please step up and volunteer for the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee!

If any of these possibilities resonates, please contact Marilee Rist at [marileerist@comcast.net](mailto:marileerist@comcast.net) or 571-225-4821 (cell). We need you now!

## FROM STEPHEN MINISTRY



### STEPHEN MINISTRY UPDATE

by Karin Klingman

### DOES ANYONE CARE?

That's an awkward question. Aren't we supposed to care for each other? But if that were really true, then why are so many people lonely, or feel that no one is listening? So do we really care?

The answer we know to be true is most people do care—about something, or someone and about many things. We also know it is true that there are only so many hours in a day, only so much time to devote to the many things or people we care about. At any moment, you might not be listening to the person in front of you because you have things going on that distract you – maybe your own things that need listening time. Or—and we've all been in this situation—a friend or loved one wants you to listen, but you can't anymore. You've heard it all before: you can't fix it, or you don't know what to say, and so you passively listen, or you change the subject, or you tune them out. Now reverse the situation. How does it feel when you are the one with the need and it seems no one is listening, or you are too scared or embarrassed to share what is on your mind? You get angry or anxious. Then of course, there is the advice that "caring" people sometimes give you, along with judgment. That is almost worse than feeling ignored.

Caring and listening are complicated. Most of the time, when we are troubled, we just need someone to listen, to show us that they care. We usually aren't looking for someone to swoop in to solve the problem. And when we are the person listening, we sometimes need help focusing on listening. It takes thinking about the situation and empathetic listening. Sometimes it takes listening to realize you can help the

most by helping them find someone they can talk to—a pastor, a therapist, a Stephen Minister. Then, after the crisis is over your friend or loved one says to you, you really helped me, and you say, I didn't do anything, I just listened. And that's the funny part: you realize there is no "just listening." Listening is important, and it's sometimes all we need to do to show that we care.

We have Stephen Ministers at our church—caring people trained to listen. If you want more information about Stephen Ministry or are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister speak with Karin Klingman or Pastor Renata.

## FROM OUR CHURCH COMMUNITY AND FRIENDS

### **RWANDA SCHOOL PROJECT PRINCIPAL IS COMING TO CLC ON AUGUST 16TH!**

*By Hetty Irmer*

One of the outcomes of the church retreat was to seek ways in which church members could become more involved with Yard Sale beneficiary organizations. With that in mind, I am happy to announce an opportunity for us to host Robin Strickler, the principal of the Rwanda School Project, on Tuesday evening, August 16th.

The Rwanda School Project was the recipient of CLC Yard Sale funds in 2009 and will be a beneficiary again this year. The Rwanda School Project (RSP) is the nonprofit corporation that directs the Rwamagana Lutheran School in eastern Rwanda, with the support of the Lutheran Church in Rwanda. Robin Strickler founded the school with the vision to bring the hands-on "Expeditionary Learning" model of education (a similar model to Outward Bound) to Rwanda as the country continues to recover and rebuild from the 1994 genocide in which 1 million people were killed in 90 days. The Rwandan government has expressed a need for secondary education, citing it as one of the top five priorities in the next ten years, but lacks the needed funds.

Over the past five years, RSP has made remarkable progress. To quote from their recent newsletter, "We have formed an organization, received our 501(c)3 status, organized both U.S. and Rwanda school boards, purchased the land, and built a 10-classroom two-story building. We have assembled a team of dedicated teachers who are bringing Expeditionary Learning to Rwanda to transform the future! Best of all, we are open for business and have 45 students eager to learn! In order to fill our classroom building, our next major need is to build a dormitory." The school recently celebrated their grand opening in May.

Brian and I were able to get to know Robin and her husband, Rwandan Lutheran pastor John Rutsindintwarane, when we traveled to Rwanda with Luther Place Memorial Church in 2006. At that time, Robin's vision for the school was just beginning to come to fruition. Brian and I were impressed with Robin's clarity of purpose and dedication to the project. Her energy and leadership have created a powerful example of impacting the world for good and living out the Gospel.

What draws me to support the RSP is the opportunity to participate in a venture that is making a direct impact on the lives of young people in a country across the globe, and which is grounded in the Lutheran faith that I share. It is exciting to me to be able to connect directly with a student, with a board member, and with the principal of the school, so that the financial support that we are able to offer is enriched by a personal relationship with those we are supporting. There are many opportunities for Christ Lutheran Church to support the RSP in concrete ways, and to develop a personal relationship with the school. For example, we can talk with Robin about how the Yard Sale funds can be put to best use at the school. We also have the opportunity to sponsor a student. (Brian and I are sponsoring a student and we are looking forward to our letters back and forth with her.)

I invite you to attend an evening event on Tuesday, August 16th, to meet Robin Strickler and hear her presentation about the Rwanda School Project. The specific details of the evening are being ironed out; please watch the bulletin for details or feel free to email me: [hettyirmer@yahoo.com](mailto:hettyirmer@yahoo.com)

## REMEMBERING MY FATHER

*By Tonya Holland*

Over the past several months I've reflected on my life with my father and I wanted to share these thoughts with you today.

### Background:

Unlike many of my closest friends, I met my father at the age of 7. My mother had introduced me and it appeared at our first moments we were "connected"—not by blood but by the hope of love. I have a biological father who helped give me life but I was missing a father who could love me in the present and future—who could help me grow into a resourceful, independent woman.

Little did I know as a child that "Dad" would be chosen as my earthly father who would influence my life. His personality was large, gregarious and generous. He was firm, strict but understanding, personable yet commanded respect. Everything he did for me throughout my life was laced in love and concern about my future. He was a gentle but firm sergeant in my life. He was my personal "Sarge."

### Reflections:

Many of you have stories about my dad but I want to reflect on my spirituality with my father. Though he did not always attend church, he believed in our living God. Both he and mother encouraged me to always come to them in times of trouble and triumphs but to remember my heavenly Father as I journey through life. It is a lesson that remains with me today.

As I was losing my father it was only appropriate to get counsel from God on how to handle his illness, my fears, and duties as a daughter.

For those in the world that question God's love during times of trials and tribulations such as these moments, I can personally attest that we are surrounded and guided by His holy hand. From the first time I found out how serious my father's illness was to moving him to Detroit, planning travel from South Carolina to Washington, DC to be with him—my every step was divinely ordered down to the last moments of my father's life. Even at the very end, I was blessed with the timing to be in Detroit. I spent the last hours of my father's life in his room talking to him about everyday mundane topics—going over all the dreams he wants for me in the future while understanding that this may be my last time seeing him. I believe he heard me and felt content to let go—felt safe to "disconnect", to rest and be at peace—knowing that I would be ok navigating in this world without him.

In close, I would like to share my favorite bible verse that has given me comfort:

### Ecclesiastes 3: 1-5: A Time for Everything

"To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: a time to be born, a time to die; a time to plant, and time to pluck up that which is planted; a time to kill and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

I believe my Dad—with all of his love for me would want to dance and laugh at the memories of our life together as father and daughter; to celebrate our connection and to remember the blessing of being put together by God in this life. Thank you.

## FAITH STATEMENTS FROM OUR CONFIRMANDS

On June 5 and June 19 we heard the faith statements from our six confirmands: George Nwanze, Jr., Nicholas Nwanze, Maria Nwanze, Caroline Nwanze, Noah Dakaud, and Malcolm Coker, Jr. We have printed their faith statements made available by this edition. Their statements were thoughtfully written and presented with humble and referent poise by each of them. We pray for them as they continue on their faith journeys.

### FROM NOAH DAKAUD

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. I believe that God's love for the world and the human race is extraordinary. I think it is important to talk about God's grace. I believe that God's grace is important because it is the love that is gifted to me not earned by me.

I think that the most significant part about God's grace is the fact that I do not have to earn His grace. God's grace never ends and is unconditional. Given to me along with His love. However, the fact that I do not have to work for it does not mean I can take it for granted. It does not mean that I can sin and expect good outcomes from it. In order to know and experience God's grace, I believe that I must embrace it and share it with others.

One personal example I have of experiencing and sharing of God's grace and love is when a few other members of this church community and I participated in a community service activity. We prepared and served breakfast to homeless people at Community Family and Life Services located in Trinity Lutheran Church. This experience ties together with the sharing of grace. The reason this ties together is because while we all had more privileges compared to the many homeless people we were aiding, we did not keep God's grace amongst ourselves, we spread it. I believe that grace is a tool which I was meant to share and spread to less privileged people. Even if it means giving a little of what I have to the little they have. Even if it seems at times that God's love and grace is not present in my life, I think back to all the times in which it was present, and that reminds me that His love and grace will always be with me no matter what the condition.

God shows His grace in different shapes and forms. For instance I recognize His grace when a stranger holds the door for me even though I might be a good distance away from the door. Also when asking for directions a stranger will not only tell me how to reach my destination but he/she will personally take me there. One of the simplest but greatly meaningful examples is when you may be walking and a complete stranger will say "hello" or "good morning".

God's grace extends from God's love. Without His love and grace, we would be lost. This is expressed in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13:

"If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing."

Being a Christian makes a difference in how I live. Having faith in God and praying gets me through the many difficult times I have. For example, if I am struggling with a subject in school or if I am not feeling well, knowing that He is always there for me gives me reassurance.

Being a Christian affects my priorities in life and what I was meant to do or accomplish. As a Christian, I think it is important to consider other people and not to just live to benefit myself. I think a lot about how I can extend myself to others in need and about the difficulties that less fortunate people face. I don't think Christianity changes me as a person but rather changes my actions as a person.

Participating in my school's vestry gave me motivation throughout the school year. For those of you wondering what the vestry is, it is a group of students at my school that are lead by our Reverend. During

the school year, we meet at least once a week, and we organize and conduct chapel services for my school. This was very important for me because it brought me closer to God as I helped run chapel services and read from the Bible in front of the school. My participating on the vestry demonstrated to others my Christian leadership and how being a Christian can make a difference. It also offered me a chance to contribute to chapel services and served as an opportunity to pray when I needed a break from the schoolwork.

In closing, I would like to say that I believe that despite religious differences, we are all very similar. We are all children of God. We may have different intentions and motives in life but our basis is the same, regardless of the religion we choose to follow. We are all human beings and are equal. We should view our diversity as a one of God's gifts. Despite the fact that we are all different, we are all still equal. Our role as Christians is to recognize and embrace these basic facts. Grace and love are essential to life, and we should share our grace and love with all people, Christian and non-Christian.

### **FROM MALCOLM COKER, JR**

Good morning, my name is Malcolm Coker, Jr. I believe in God, the Father and creator of all. I believe in Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, who died so that I will live. I believe that God is my creator, my father, my provider, my healer and my friend. I believe that God loves and cares about me. Some of you have known me since I was a baby, coming to work with my mom for the first six months of my life. I am going to share with you my life's experience and how my faith and belief in God has and is still helping me through it all.

I was born on April 18, 1996, 10lbs. 5oz. Almost the end of my kindergarten year, I got home one afternoon after school with a slight pain above my heel. Little did I know that my life was about to be changed. I was admitted at the Prince George's Hospital Center where they conducted several tests, to include lumbar puncture on Christmas Day. That was the last thing you want to do for fun on Christmas Day. The doctors and nurses waited after I had opened my present and Santa Claus had visited my room before performing the test. All the results came back negative. I was sent home not knowing what was happening. Just as I thought that things would get better, I had Bells Palsy for two weeks and lost 50% of my hearing on both ears.

As a child, I did not understand what was going on, but what I remembered was that I prayed to God all the time to make me normal again. As Jesus is a healer who healed many people in the Bible – the deaf, the blind, the lame, I believed and knew that He heard my prayer and would heal me. There are times when things happen that we have no control of and we would ask God to help us. If you invite Him into your life's situation, He will help you. Even though I was a baby when I was baptized, I knew that since that day, God had claimed me as His son. I invited God into my life and my unknown sickness that had invaded my body. I knew that He will not allow any bad thing to happen to me.

When I was admitted at the Children's National Medical Center for three weeks, I was moved from ward to ward and floor to floor. I had a second lumbar puncture, two bone marrow biopsies, countless blood tests – all the results came back negative. No one knew what was happening to my little body, except God. I kept losing weight. Thanks to some members here at the Church, they visited me at the hospital, even Ms. Carla who is now with the Lord. All through this ordeal, my parents did not know what the outcome would be. Because the doctors did not know what was wrong, no medication was given to me. All through that time, I knew God was beside me, holding my hand during those painful tests. One night in the hospital, I told my mom that even though I knew God loves me, but why did He let such happen to me, why He let me lose my hearing. I asked my mom to pray and ask God to make me normal again, and that my hearing would come back. By the time I was discharged from the hospital, I was using a wheel chair – my legs were so weak that they could no longer carry me. I got home and had to crawl like a baby. During bath time, I would touch my water and say a simple prayer: "Lord, I want to start walking and be normal again." I would do that every time I had a bath. Guess what? God answered my prayer! It took the doctors two years to know what was wrong, and after a kidney biopsy was performed. By that

time, my Bells Palsy was totally gone and I was walking again. I was then diagnosed with sarcoidosis, which normally attacks people between the ages of 20 – 50, and I was only 9 years old. I had it everywhere – eyes, kidney, lungs, you name it. I took steroids which caused me to double my size in a week. I developed high blood pressure, taking double dose medications. The school nurse checked me twice a day to make sure my blood pressure was normal. The kidney doctor looked at me one day and said “Malcolm, we pray for you every Sunday at my Church.” I asked him whether he believed in God like me and he said yes. I was confident that I was surrounded with people that love God and that their prayers will help me. After being admitted once a month in the hospital to take a heavy dose of steroid, Dr. Jones was confident that she had the disease under control and that I was a good candidate for a cochlear implant as my hearing aid was not helpful; I could hear nothing – I depended upon lip reading. In July 2003, I went to the fireworks and heard nothing. I had my surgery on April 24, 2004 and that July when I went to the fireworks, I had to turn off my cochlear, as the noise was so loud – I screamed out with joy “I heard it; I heard it - that was loud.” I continued to take an injection twice a week up until 2007. I realized that healing comes in different ways and through the healing of medical science; I am able to hear from my right ear. Nobody but God gave me the strength and courage through this. I may not hear as normal as you all present here today, but I know that my God hears me when I asked him to help and heal me. I am still praying that my hearing gets better. At times, I do ask Him why He made me go through this as a child. I may not have the answer, but I believe and know that He will never hurt me. I also believe that because of all the stripes he received at the cross, I am healed today.

Today is another step in my faith and belief in God. The fact that I am here today makes me believe that I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength. Am I sad that I got sick and lost my hearing? Yes. Am I sad that I have to depend on a cochlear implant to hear every day and if my three batteries run out, I cannot hear another word? Yes. But one thing I am not sad about is the fact that I know and believe that God loves and cares for me and He will continue to be my special friend. He was a good man, did nothing wrong, but He died on the cross for me and you. He could have disappeared like superman, but He chose not to. That alone makes me want to know Him more and have a special relationship with him. How can someone care for you so much that He died for you – that is the God I know, what about you?

## EAR OF CHRIST



### RACE FOR THE CURE PUTS US ONE STEP CLOSER

*By Janet Kelly*

Thank you to the many members of Christ Lutheran Church who supported the Holy Cross Hospital Team in the 2011 Komen Global Race for the Cure® either by generous cash donations or registering for the team and participating in the Race on Saturday, June 4 on the National Mall in Washington, DC. The weather was spectacular and the turn-out tremendous! The Holy Cross Hospital team had 233 members and raised an additional \$3,065 in donations! There were 40,000 walkers and runners who raised \$5 million - another step closer to ending breast cancer forever! Among the Christ Church family members to turn out were Janet, Dean, Bryan, Sharon and Zachary Kelly, Bob, Sara and Eric Sylwester, and former members Marie Williamson and Roberta Pittman.

The 2012 Race® will be Saturday, June 2. The 2012 Holy Cross Hospital Team is already open online, so plan to join/support our team again next year and join in the fun! Go to [Globalraceforthecure.org](http://Globalraceforthecure.org) to register, donate or for more information.



**Mary Hamer** sends this message: "I'm improving. Thank you for all the good things you've done for me because you surely have!" Mary is currently in rehab at Ingleside Rock Creek. She would really enjoy calls (202-363-8310, ext. 2042) or visits. She is in room 091. The address is 3050 Military Road NW, Washington, DC 20015. She is expected to be there about two weeks.

From **Karen Christian**: Dear CLC family, I want to thank you for voting for the substantial salary increase. It should just about be enough to cover tuition payments for Asia's school. This, along with the generous gift from David, and the Archdiocese contribution we should just make it. I was really stressing as to where the money would come from and once again, God heard my prayer. I do know that if you take one step God will take two. Today I am very grateful for the steps God has guided me through.

Once again, thank you so much.

**Michaela Lewis** received her Doctorate in Physical Therapy from George Washington University in May. She now has an apartment in Arlington and has begun a job at Children's Hospital, having passed her Boards and received her license to practice.

**Joanne Noll** drove to Fort Wayne in early June for the graduation of Michaela's brother, **Broderick**, from Concordia Lutheran High School.

**Alexandra Schultz**, daughter of **Paul and Marian Schultz**, received her BFA in Interior Design from Savannah College of Art and Design on June 4. Alex is moving back to DC to begin the process of launching her career. I'm sure folks remember Alex as a baby and in her acolyte days!! Congratulations, Alexandra, on this milestone accomplishment!

**Marty Jewett** is in Hungary with Habitat for Humanity and plans to make a stop in Bratislava to visit Jana and James and their girls.

**David Blakemore** and a hiking partner recently spent ten days hiking in Slovenia. At the end of the hike they spent two days in Venice, where David got to meet up with **Ope Odebode**, who had come over from France by overnight train. It was a delight for them to get together and catch up. Ope feels like he has finally gotten on top of French, he is doing responsible and rewarding work as a supervisor for electrical installations in new buildings, and he and Estelle are expecting their second child on Halloween, or Reformation Day for you Lutherans.



**\*\*\*ST OLAF'S COLLEGE GREAT CHORAL MUSIC\*\*\*\*\***

For great choral music that matches the Sunday's Biblical readings, go to web site "[www.singforjoy.org](http://www.singforjoy.org)". Click on "Listen" and then click on "PLAY". The site is hosted by St. Olaf's College and you can choose the music associated with the readings for the next Sunday or the previous week. Choral groups from around the world are featured and the program is truly "Grand Music Gracious Word" as noted in the heading of their monthly newsletter.

**\*\*\*\*\*COOL SUMMER RECIPE from the Ott Kitchen\*\*\***

**Easy Chillin' Gazpacho**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2 cans diced tomatoes                      | ½ cup of water                        |
| 2 T extra virgin olive oil                 | 3T lime juice                         |
| Dice into small pieces:                    | Fresh parsley                         |
| 2 Persian cucumbers or 1 seedless cucumber | Fresh basil                           |
| ½ red pepper                               | 2 8-ounce cans V8                     |
| ¼ cup or less red onion                    | Hot sauce, to your taste              |
| 2-3 cloves of garlic (optional)            | Fresh ground pepper and salt to taste |

Put 1 can of tomatoes, olive oil, and water in blender for a few seconds to puree the tomatoes. Add other half red pepper, puree to break it up a bit, then add the other can of tomatoes, parsley and basil and puree a few seconds more. Add the pureed mixture to the diced veggies, add the V8, hot sauce, lime juice salt and pepper. Chill for an hour or two to allow flavors to blend. The colder you serve it, the better it is.

# LOST and FOUND



Have you ever felt lost  
and wanted to be found?  
Have you ever celebrated  
finding something new?  
Then VBS is for you!

We'll meet people from the  
Bible who were lost AND  
found, sing and serve,  
make art, play games..  
and have lots of fun!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

PHONE: 202-829-6727

E\_MAIL: [clcoffice@verizon.net](mailto:clcoffice@verizon.net)

WEB: [christlutheran-dc.org](http://christlutheran-dc.org)

Christ Lutheran is located on the  
corner of 16th and Gallatin Streets  
in Northwest Washington, DC

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**Christ Lutheran Church**  
**JULY 18 - 22, 2011 6 - 8:30 PM**