



# ST. THOMAS ENLIGHTENER

June, 2009

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**We wait for the blessed hope –  
the glorious appearing of our great  
God and Savior, Jesus Christ ....**

Titus 2:13, NIV

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*“Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds his people both now and forever” (Psalm 125.1-2).*

The challenging times continue. While the stock market may be up, so are gas prices and unemployment. Predictions of how and when we will come out of our economic situation may vary, but no-one is saying it will be quick.

Good things take time – and effort. This is true for economic recovery, marriage and family relationships and spiritual maturity.

Spiritual maturity? The Good News is that Christ has died for us. In the waters of baptism God washes away our sin and covers us with the righteousness of Jesus. And with that the battle begins within, between the “new person in Christ” and the “old person without Christ.”

While God does surround and protect his people (see Psalm 125 above), the resources he provides to help the “new person in Christ” daily come forth stronger and stronger are his Word and Sacraments. It is through the disciplines of devotions, Bible study and weekly worship that God continues his good work in us – leading us toward wholeness and maturity in Christ.

STL is here to share that strength, and the hope and peace it brings. We share it in our weekly worship services and in all our Bible studies. We also are ready, willing and able to come to your home (or where-ever) and share it with you personally.

We want you, and all, to live with the same assurance we have, that *those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever.*

Blessings, Mark W. Hetzner, Senior Pastor

PS: How can we serve you? Inside you will find many opportunities. However, if you do not find what you are looking for, give us a call.



**Every Good & Perfect Gift Is From Above...**

**J a m e s 1 : 1 7**

JOIN US FOR MONDAY VESPERS

7:30 p.m. every week

A less formal setting for hearing God's Word  
and  
receiving the Sacrament of the Altar

(Yes, we will be here on July 6)

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILDREN

9:45 – 10:45 a.m.

We meet in the church for an opening devotion *then latch-key room for the summer.*  
and then are off to classes.

Classes are for children aged three and older.  
Childcare is available for children under three.



Sunday School

*The setting is warm and friendly – the lessons invaluable – the opportunity very important for your children's growth and development. We encourage you to join us this Sunday.*

***For more information, contact Elizabeth Kruse, through the church office.***

JOIN ONE OF OUR BIBLE CLASSES ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

**LARGE GROUP BIBLE CLASS – school lobby**

Join us for a study on Ephesians.

**FAITH BASICS – conf. room 1**

Faith Basics class focuses on Jesus Christ and covers the teachings of the Lutheran Church. Although there is no obligation to join our church, this class is the avenue through which you may become a member of St. Thomas if you so choose.

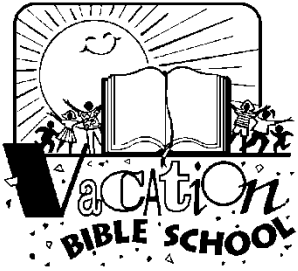
**YOUTH BIBLE STUDY – youth room**

For 6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders.

Da Vinci Code vs Gospel

**GIRLS FOR GOD – meet in the sanctuary then Grade 5 Classroom**

Small group discussion of relevant issues for young women of faith (girls entering grades 6-9) – fun and fellowship – Sundays at 9:45 a.m. meet in the sanctuary starting June 14. For more information contact Emma Kruse or the church office.



*“Welcome to Gadget’s Garage”*

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL IS COMING  
July 20 – 24, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Gadget and Gizmo’s adventures introduce kids to five *incredible* Bible stories that show the wonders of God’s world, His *indescribable* love in Christ and His *unshakable* Word in the Bible. Gadget will help children remember that God’s Always Doing Great, Exciting Things through Jesus, our Savior and Lord!

*Vacation Bible School is a five-day morning program for children aged three years old through those entering the sixth grade.*

*If you are interested in volunteering, contact the church office  
(586-772-3370 or stl-eastpointe.org)*

**Register me for Gadget’s Garage Vacation Bible School**

One form per child, please.

Child’s name \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Entering \_\_\_\_\_

Birthday \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Parents’ names \_\_\_\_\_

Home address \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate phone \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact person \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to student \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate phone \_\_\_\_\_

Food allergies Y N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Medical concerns Y N List: \_\_\_\_\_

Family doctor \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor’s phone \_\_\_\_\_

Siblings attending VBS (names and ages) \_\_\_\_\_

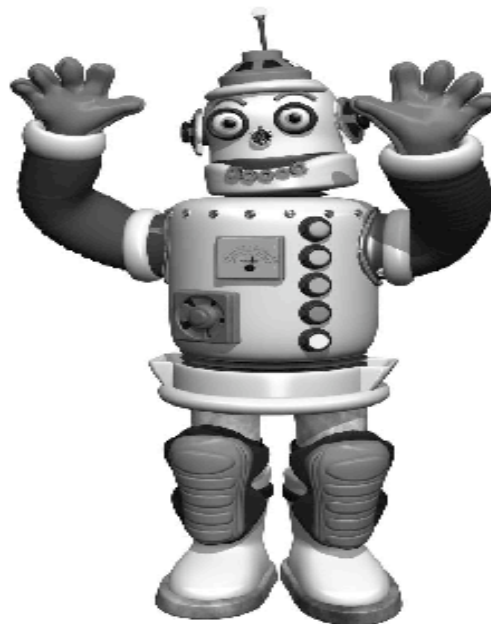
Church affiliation \_\_\_\_\_ Church membership at \_\_\_\_\_

People who may pick up the child \_\_\_\_\_

Attendance 1 2 3 4 5

VBS leaders have permission to photograph/film the minor (s) designated above in any manner or form for any lawful purpose associated with this VBS program.

Parent’s signature \_\_\_\_\_





## SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

# SOUP AND SANDWICH SATURDAY A DAY TO REMEMBER

**PEOPLE WERE WAITING IN LINE BY 10:15 am** as we opened our doors AND our awesome greeters welcomed our guests at our 9<sup>th</sup> Soup and Sandwich Saturday. Our walls were once again bursting at the seams! We had a fantastic response - largest ever for June attendance as 200 people (not including our team of volunteers) of all ages came to enjoy our homemade soups, grilled hotdogs and hamburgers, homemade breads, and desserts. Not to mention our signature decorating decked out in Hawaiian splendor (without the heat)! Our decorating team is so dedicated and willing they spent over 10 hours turning an ordinary gym into a Hawaiian picture.

**WE SAW MANY FAMILIAR FACES** as they returned to attend their 9th luncheon, AND over 50 new guests attended. Berry and Erin Manor guests in Eastpointe have become some of our regular attendees and help make this day of fellowship a day to remember. One-on-one conversations have become anticipated, expected and enjoyed by our guests. Along with the GOOD EATS AND LIVE MUSIC.

**GRATITUDE FILLED OUR GYM** as our wonderful dining room volunteers served our guests, carried their trays, cleaned up in a flash, and had special conversations with special people. It was said by many that are not able to grill where they live, that they were delighted with the grilled hotdogs and hamburgers done to perfection by our expert grillers! **Gratitude filled our gym** as our new kitchen leader and team joyfully and generously fed the multitudes, made a special trip for more food, but all this time made it look like they were feeding a small family of 2.

**CONTINUED BLESSINGS AND SUPPORT CAME FROM** - **Total Transportation** – who transported over 25 people, gratis. Those guests would not be able to attend without their wonderful generosity that is extended at each SASS event. **Andary's Restaurant** who donated two five gallon containers of soup, which received raves from the guests. Flyers were distributed to local residents and apartment units and **Our World His View** radio announcements. **But it has to be said that the people who attend**, return, and invite a friend are our best support and the reason our attendance keeps growing!

**AND MORE BLESSINGS AS OVER 100** people contributed time, talents and treasures to help make this day possible. One member donated so much, she could have had SASS at her home! We continue to access, evaluate, and fine-tune. And God continues to bless.

**WHAT MORE CAN BE SAID BUT ...**



**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**  
**NEXT SASS OCTOBER 17.**


**Grief Share**  
*Grief* *Recovery*  
**Support Group**  
**APRIL 27 @ 6:00 p.m. - Conference Room 1**

*Please contact the church office  
for more information @ 586-772-3370.*

**Each session begins with a video featuring personal stories  
of people who are grieving the death of a loved one  
and expert\* insights on topics important to grief recovery**

\*Grief Share experts: Kay Arthur, Precept Ministries; Joni Eareckson, author, artist;  
Anne Graham Lotz, AnGel Ministries; Barbara Johnson, Spatula Ministries;  
Dr. Norman Wright, grief therapist; Dr. Larry Crabb; New Way Ministries;  
Dr. John Trent, Strong Families & The Center for Strong Families;  
There are over 40 experts sharing their personal grief struggles  
with their insightful walk to healing and restoration.

**After each video small group support interaction  
You'll stay with the same group of people for the 13 GriefShare sessions  
It's likely that you'll begin to see the people in your group as "family"**

*Is it okay for me to grieve? How long will my grief  
last? How do I deal with these overwhelming  
emotions? Where is God in all this? Why do I  
feel so alone? Why is the pain so  
intense an immobilizing? Am I taking  
too long to grieve?*



**Join our GriefShare Support Group for  
Community, Understanding, Support and Encouragement**  
*Grief Share is non-demoninational featuring Biblical teaching of grief and recovery topics.*

# **MACOMB COUNTY ROTATING EMERGENCY SHELTER TEAM**

## **THE HOMELESS MINISTRY OF MCREST WILL BE AT STL June 28 – July 5, 2009**

### **7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MCREST**

**St. Thomas Lutheran will be hosting its 7<sup>th</sup>** Annual MCREST week this summer from June 28 to July 5. We will be taking in approximately 30 homeless people, which will include men, women and children. Our goal is to provide them with a safe and clean haven where they can get a good night's sleep, three square meals, transportation, and basic hygiene. We also want their week to be as pleasant as possible.

MCREST stands for "Macomb County Rotating Emergency Shelter Team." It is a non-profit organization that has over 80 churches that house the homeless year long. Counselors from MCREST will be working very closely with us during our week. A counselor will be present each evening as guests check in. Homeless people who participate in the MCREST program must abide by a lot of rules governing their conduct. This is necessary for the safety of the other MCREST guests as well as the volunteers of the host churches. Each MCREST guest is given a breathalyzer test each day by the MCREST counselor, and also subject to random drug testing. If they fail these tests, or fail to abide by any other program rules, they are immediately removed from the program. MCREST guests and their belongings are thoroughly searched each day when checking in to ensure they are not carrying drugs or weapons.

Since most of us are blessed enough to have our own homes and transportation, we may take for granted all of the elements that are required for daily living. The MCREST week will be a challenge for STL because the Lord's house is not set up for daily living. Consequently, we will need a lot of help from church members to make the week successful. We have had a great response from church members in past years.

If you plan to be out of town during the MCREST week, you can still help out. We still need a great deal of monetary support. We need hundreds of dollars toward bus tickets, since the guests are required to leave the church every day at 8:00 a.m. and also need to return at 6:00 p.m. A few guests will also have their own vehicles, and we will need money to provide them gas vouchers. We also still need hundreds of dollars toward food and laundry expenses, as most laundry will be done at a local laundromat. If you wish to contribute monetarily, checks should be made payable to St. Thomas and indicate MCREST in the memo, and can be dropped off at the church office.

I believe that our MCREST week is a wonderful way to serve the Lord. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Kelly Walker at 313-550-2950. Thank you for your prayers and support.



• S U M M E R •

# TRAVEL BINGO

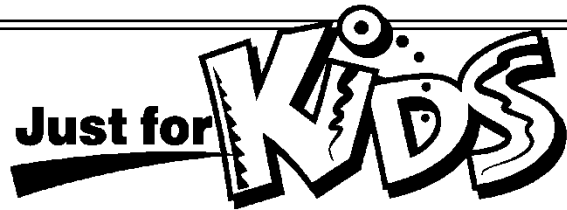
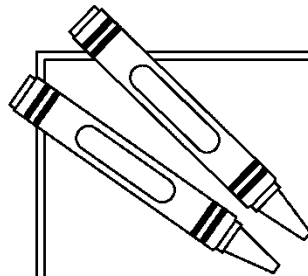
Summer travel is fun, but sometimes getting to the destination can take a long time. Try this homemade bingo game to entertain you and your family while you vacation this summer.

**What you need:**

- Sheets of 8½" x 11" paper (one for each player)
- Stickers (16 for each player)
- Pencil, pen, marker or crayon

**What you do:**

1. Before your trip, list different things you might see as you travel.
2. Take each 8½" x 11" sheet of paper and fold it in half, from top to bottom. Fold it in half again from top to bottom. Then fold it in half from side to side and then again. Unfold the paper and you should have 16 equal-sized squares, four across horizontally and four down vertically.
3. Family members write one thing from the list in each of the 16 squares. They can place them in any order. For non-readers, someone can draw pictures in each square.
4. Put the sheets and stickers in the car in an easy-to-reach place.
5. While traveling, when you see an object that's on your card, say it out loud. Put a sticker in that square.
6. The first person to get four in a row wins the first round. The first person to fill two rows wins the second round. The first person to fill the entire sheet wins the game.



## TRAVEL BY DAY OR NIGHT

The way people travel has changed over time, but one thing has not changed — God was with people in biblical times just as He is with you and your family as you travel during your summer vacations.

Count the number of letters for each name, and then write the name in the spaces next to the verse that matches. (Hint: Besides counting the number of letters in the name, also pay attention to whether the person is from the Old Testament or New Testament.)

**NAMES** Paul Moses Joseph The Israelites Abram crowds Samaritan Jesus Naaman Angel of God

**VERSES**

“The \_\_\_\_\_ front of Israel’s army ....” Exodus 14:19

“And \_\_\_\_\_ went out from Pharaoh’s presence and traveled throughout Egypt.” Genesis 41:46

“Go in peace,” said Elisha. After \_\_\_\_\_ had traveled some distance ....” 2 Kings 5:19

“\_\_\_\_\_ traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem.” Genesis 12:6

“\_\_\_\_\_ traveled through that area, speaking many words of encouragement to the people, and finally arrived in Greece.” Acts 20:2

“\_\_\_\_\_ traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.” Luke 8:1

“Large \_\_\_\_\_ were traveling with Jesus.” Luke 14:25

“\_\_\_\_\_ traveled to the plains of Moab and camped along the Jordan across from Jericho.” Numbers 22:1

“\_\_\_\_\_ led Israel from the Red Sea .... For three days they traveled in the desert ....” Exodus 15:22

“But a \_\_\_\_\_, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him.” Luke 10:33

Answers: Angel of God; Joseph; Naaman; Abram; Paul; Jesus; crowds; The Israelites; Moses; Samaritan

## Worship Opportunities at a Glance

### JULY

Sunday, July 5----- Worship at 8:15 a.m., **Worship with Communion at 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, July 6----- **Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m.**

Sunday, July 12----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 a.m.**, Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday, July 13----- Worship at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 19----- Worship at 8:15 a.m., **Worship with Communion at 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, July 20----- **Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m.**

Sunday, July 26----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 a.m.**, Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday, July 27----- Worship at 7:30 p.m.

### AUGUST

Sunday, August 2----- Worship at 8:15 a.m. **Worship with Communion at 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, August 3----- **Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m.**

Sunday, August 9----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 a.m.**, Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday, August 10----- Worship at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 16----- Worship at 8:15 a.m., **Worship with Communion at 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, August 17----- **Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m.**

Sunday, August 23----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 a.m.**, Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday, August 24----- Worship at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 30----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 and 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, August 31----- **Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m.**

### SEPTEMBER

Sunday, September 6----- Worship at 8:15 a.m. **Worship with Communion at 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, September 7----- **LABOR DAY NO WORSHIP**

Sunday, September 13----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 a.m.**, Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday, September 14----- Worship at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 20----- Worship at 8:15 a.m. **Worship with Communion at 11:00 a.m.**  
 Monday, September 21----- **Worship with Communion at 7:30 p.m.**

Sunday, September 27----- **Worship with Communion at 8:15 a.m.**, Worship at 11:00 a.m.  
 Monday, September 28----- Worship at 7:30 p.m.



#### SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
 June 22 – August 14, 2009

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# ST. THOMAS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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## Worship

Sunday 8:15 a.m.  
11:00 a.m.  
Adult Education Hour 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday School - age 3 to grade 5 9:45 a.m.  
6,7 & 8 Grade Bible Study 9:45 a.m.  
High School Bible Study 9:45 a.m.  
Monday Vespers 7:30 p.m.  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Monday Alternative Worship)

## Ministry Staff Directors

Rev. Mark W. Hetzner  
*Senior Pastor*  
Mrs. Mary Joel Keller  
*Church Office*  
Mrs. Lori Stolzenfeld  
*Music*  
Mr. Jerry Corbett  
*Deacon*  
Mr. Rick VanBriggle  
*Deacon*  
Mrs. Susan Wensink  
*Parrish Nurse*  
Mrs. Jackie Sturgess  
*Assistant Principal*  
Mrs. Donna Vanick  
*Pre-School*  
Mrs. Dana Haenke-Adam  
*School Office*

St. Thomas Lutheran Church  
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**GOD'S BLESSINGS ...**

