



The Lion of St. Mark's

SEPTEMBER 2008—SUPPLEMENTAL EDITION

This Sunday, September 14th will be a red-letter day for several reasons...

First, and most importantly, **we gather for Word and Sacrament at 8:00 and 10:30 A.M.**, as we do each Sunday. It is the crucial hour of the week when we who have been living out our discipleship are called together by the Lord Jesus to receive his Word, see clearly our failings, cherish his forgiveness, pay attention to his re-direction, and care for one another, and prepare for the next week's continuing work.

It will also be the occasion of the **first official visit of The Rev. Karl-John Stone**, Assistant to Bishop Driesen, to our parish. He will be **preaching at both liturgies**, and also will be fielding our questions and comments at a **Forum to be held in the Crossways Room during the 9:00 hour**. Pr. Stone is in his second call, having served in the western part of the Synod, in the parish now being served by the newly-ordained seminarians whom we hosted over the past several years, Prs. Matt and Lisa Schuster. What is happening in the wider portions of the church these days? Where have you lived over the years, and what is church like in those places? What things has Pr. Stone observed about the faith and life of the synod's congregations in his first year of service in this position? ...and all of the questions that each of us might add.

We send out with prayer those who will be serving in the parish in the office of **teaching in the Sunday Church School** in the coming year.

After the 10:30 service, the new group of persons beginning **The Way will have their first gathering**, will be introduced to their sponsors, and the whole process will be outlined.

And on other days of the week...

This Thursday we held the first session of **Divine Drama** study with 8 or more participants. It is a good and powerful thing. We will welcome starters this week yet, when we gather on Thursday at 7:00 P.M. in the Crossways room. (P.S. Messiah Church has 25 persons in their Thursday morning group.)

Rehearsals for our various musical groups is now underway. Please speak with Mr. Lakey and discover a spot for you in one of them.

Senior Choir meets on Thursday evenings at 7:30 P.M.

Adult Handbell Choir meets on Monday evening at 6:45 P.M.

Family Handbell Choir meets on Sunday afternoon at 5:00 P.M.

Kantorei meets on alternate Sundays beginning this week,
following 10:30 service.

Contemporary Choir meets on alternate Sundays, beginning
next week, following the 10:30 service.

CALLING ALL DRAMA QUEENS & KINGS TOO!



Release your Inner Scrooge...

...and have your friends and family applaud you for it!!

On Sunday and Monday evenings, September 14 and 15, 2008, at 6:00 p.m., auditions for Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* will be held in the Nave at St. Mark's.

Male roles being cast are (of course) Scrooge, Bob Cratchit, Fred (the nephew), Marley's ghost, and Young Scrooge. Female roles are Mrs. Cratchit and Belle (Scrooge's fiancée). Parts that can be played by men OR women are the Narrator, the Charity Collector, and the three Spirits of Christmas (Past, Present and Future). Children are welcome to audition for the roles of the Cratchit children (including Tiny Tim) and the Turkey Boy. We would like to see each congregation represented by a small group of carolers (children with adults are welcome). Those who are not comfortable singing are encouraged to audition for the character roles. Singers may also audition for some solo work (please be prepared to sing a capella).

Except for the man playing Scrooge, rehearsals will be limited to one a week until mid-November when the cast will meet as a whole 2-3 times a week. *A Christmas Carol* is adapted and will be directed by Bernadette Haas Jones. The dinner theatre performances are Friday and Saturday, December 5 and 6, 2008, in Fellowship Hall at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. All donations will go to United Campus Ministry.

At auditions, willing folk from all the congregations in LSM are welcome to sign up to assist with meal preparation and service, scenic construction and painting, costumes, props and other technical needs. We would like to see at least one person from each congregation assisting with the meal and each of the technical areas. Youth are needed to fill in the wait staff for one or both evenings. They

Sunday School kicks off on September 14th!



**Growing
in CHRIST™**

We hope you all had a fun, restful summer. It's hard to believe that summer is over and school is here already.

On Sunday, September 14th, we will kick off our new year with some praise and worship time in Fellowship Hall, followed by classroom time for our lessons.

This is our second year that we will be using the *Growing In Christ* curriculum. In a *Growing in Christ* Sunday School classroom, children hear the Good News of Christ's death and resurrection in every lesson and are exposed to a substantial scope of Bible stories from early on. This program teaches with age-appropriate lesson plans utilizing crafts, song, Bible reading and prayer focused on connecting the lessons with the children's everyday lives. The classes are divided into Pre K, K-1, 2-3 and 4-5. The teachers volunteer on a monthly rotation which keeps things fresh for the children and doesn't exhaust our volunteers.

Following the praise and worship time, students will meet in the following classrooms following the praise and worship time:

Pre K: Room 307

Kindergarten and First Grade: Room 311

Second and Third Grade: Room 312

Fourth and Fifth Grade: Room 309

Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grade: Room 308

Sunday School isn't just for the little kids! We also have a **High School Class** for students in 9-12th grade and two classes for the adults. The **Crossways Class** will be studying the books of 1 & 2 Peter which will focus on living out baptism. This week Pastor Karl-John Stone will lead a forum and then next week in the **Middle Lounge Bill Hill** will lead the group in a study of *People Who Met Jesus*, by Ron Lavin.

If you are still looking for ways to get involved with Sunday School, we still have openings to teach in the following classes:

Pre-K: December, March, April, May

K-1st: May

4th-5th: March, April, May

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU AT SUNDAY SCHOOL!

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Rev. Karl-John Stone
will be our guest preacher
this Sunday, September 14th
for both the 8:30 am & 10:30 am
Morning Worship Services.

At 9:15 am he will lead a forum study
in the middle lounge.

Please join us for these services and encourage
Pastor Karl-John by our presence.