

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12: 1 & 2

### To facilitate growth in commitment to Christ and in connection to people through the church

#### Synod Assembly - OLYO Convo

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>

It's not too late to tell me if you want to serve as a delegate if you do it right away. But, I want to invite each of you to come Friday night at 7:00 p.m. to the Hilton to hear a wonderful speaker, Shane Claiborne. Shane has written several books that explore living faith fully in your daily life. In case you want more information, his website is [www.thesimpleway.org](http://www.thesimpleway.org).

#### Senior Quilt Presentation

June 5<sup>th</sup>

The Emmaus Quilters have created two wonderful quilts to present to our two seniors. Please come to honor Gary Florence and Christopher Maske as they graduate from high school and move on to new challenges.

#### Our Redeemer Confirmation

June 5<sup>th</sup>

For the last 3 years, we have had confirmation classes with students from Our Redeemer. Thomas Meinzen, Cessna Westra, and Sarah Winterstein are being confirmed on June 5<sup>th</sup> at Our Redeemer. Our confirmation students and their families are invited (and encouraged) to worship at Our Redeemer that Sunday. The service begins at 10:00 a.m. and we can arrange carpools.

#### Pentecost Brunch

June 12<sup>th</sup>

Fifty days after Easter, the Church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday. Make sure you come for worship on Pentecost. Then stay for the brunch following the service and hear about our ongoing commitment to the building program here at Emmaus. The Brunch is catered, and it's free!!

#### Yard Sale Preparation

June 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>

We're collecting items for the annual yard sale, beginning June 13. As soon as stuff gets here, we're pricing it and setting it out for sale. All week long, we will be available to pick up stuff from people who can't get it here on their own. If you are going to Brooklyn, you need to work here at least 4 hours during the week and at least 3 hours on Saturday, the day of the sale. (You can also have a parent or friend work in your place.)

#### Papa's Pizza

June 15<sup>th</sup>

This is one of the easiest fund raising efforts you can make. Just pass out flyers (they'll be here at church or can be downloaded). Anyone can take a flyer into Papa's Pizza; our group will get a percentage of the sale. And yes, we will have pizza available for anyone working on Yard Sale stuff that night.

#### Yard Sale, Car Wash

June 18<sup>th</sup>

This is it. The day we all work very, very hard. We open the doors at 9:00 a.m. The sale lasts until 3:00. At 3:00, we'll arrange the stuff left so that we can sell some more on Sunday morning. After church on Sunday, we'll box up everything and donate it all to St. Vincent.

The car wash part of this day will start about 9:30 and go until there is a real drop in number of cars. Also:

- We will have a lock in on Friday night, so everyone will be here on time on Saturday.
- Even if you are not going this summer, you are welcome to work any amount of time. You will get credit towards the 2012 Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

#### Leadership Training School

June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

It's being held at Menucha Retreat Center on the Columbia Gorge. It's open to anyone in high school or going into high school next year. It's a great time of learning and developing your leadership skills. Let me know if you want to go.

#### Bake Sale and Blessing of Mission Trip Participants

June 26<sup>th</sup>

We are providing all the worship assistants this Sunday. That means you need to let me know if you want to be a greeter, usher, lector, acolyte or communion assistant. We are also serving coffee and having a bake sale. Plan on baking lots of goodies for sale and for samples.

#### Day Camp

June 24 to July 1

There are sign up sheets in the Gathering Area that explain the various areas in which you can help. Day Camp is held at Central Lutheran and a large number of volunteers are needed because this Day Camp is being offered at no charge to participants. BTW, this is a great way to get community service hours.

#### Fund Raising

Continue collecting CANS AND BOTTLES everywhere you see them. Since last July, we have made \$623.70, 62% of our goal. I think if we try hard, we can reach \$1000. Let's do it!!

144 ENVELOPES Thank you for soliciting donations from friends and family. Half the envelopes have been picked up, and there have been many repeats. We've have received \$3834 and I know that at least \$254 is still outstanding. That leaves only \$1132 to reach \$5220. Let's do it!!

*Congratulations,  
Graduate*



## Stuff from me

You're reading from Judges this month. Judges has some wonderful stories about Old Testament heroes, like Gideon and Deborah. It also tells us about some people with major flaws, like Samson. We can learn from these stories of people who served God even though they weren't perfect. We can learn what sort of temptations to avoid and how God can lead us through difficult times. But I think the most important thing for us to learn is to **just keep your focus on Jesus**. Even when other people fail, Jesus is the one who will never fail.

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It seems weird to mention this so early, but I'd like you to put these dates on your calendar. July 18 to 22, 2012 is the next ELCA Youth Gathering and it's going to be in New Orleans. I want all of you who are eligible to go to this Gathering. Plan on it now!!