

# The Beat

Rejoice! Lutheran Church

www.rejoiceomaha.org

Omaha, Nebraska

June/July, 2010

## Save These Dates for R! Camp (Vacation Bible School)



June 21-25, 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

3 year olds - 5th grade (2009/10 school year)

Cost: \$15.00 per child, maximum of \$45.00 per family

Music! Bible Stories! Crafts! Games! Registration forms are available on the website and in the commons on Sunday mornings. **Register on or by June 6 for a free CD.**

### Volunteers needed:

- ◆ Set up: Saturday morning, June 20, and/or Sunday afternoon (after lunch), June 21
- ◆ Help during R! Camp, 1-5 days
- ◆ Clean up: Friday, June 25 (immediately following R! Camp)

### Items needed (by June 20 please):

- ◆ Faux greenery (vines, leaves, plants, trees-no flowers please)
- ◆ Jungle themed stuffed animals (monkey, frog, leopard, butterfly, toucan)
- ◆ Tubes from rolls of wrapping paper, egg cartons

Contact Jenny Faiman with questions or if you can help.

## Watch for a Confirmation Mailing this Summer

We will send a mailing in July to all families with 6th grade students. This mailing will contain registration forms and information about our confirmation program that begins on Wednesday, September 8. If you have any questions about confirmation and/or would like to serve as a confirmation guide, please email Cheryl at [cheryl@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:cheryl@rejoiceomaha.org) or call her at 334-1999.

**Parents : If you have a 7th grader who has not been in confirmation, please notify the church office so that we can add your child's name to the mailing.**

## “Special Projects” Help Needed

A pair of high cost maintenance projects are needed at Rejoice! including:

- ◆ Parking lot repair, seal cote and re-stripping at an estimated cost of \$13,000.00.
- ◆ Air conditioning unit replacement for both the sanctuary and fellowship hall at an estimated cost of \$50,000.00.

Please consider an additional gift to help us defray these costs. Make your check payable to Rejoice! and **mark the memo line: “Special Projects.”**

## Save The Date

Tuesday, July 13, 9:00-1:30 p.m.

Women's Bible Study Retreat  
“Pray Always”  
(led by Pastor Heather)



Sunday, August 8, 2:00-4:00 p.m.



Children's Ministry Fair &  
Ice Cream Social

Sunday, August 22  
Celia Whitler Concert



Adult Fellowship Road Rally  
Sunday, August 29, 2:30 p.m.



## Sponsorships Needed for Senior High Summer Trips

Could you help sponsor the Senior High youth who are attending the work camps at Ethete, WY and Morris, MN? 140 youth and adults will attend these events and your sponsorship would be greatly appreciated. A full sponsorship is \$100.00, but sponsorships of all amounts are welcome. Place your donation in an envelope marked Senior High Summer trip and place it in the offering plate, drop it off in the church office or give it to Cheryl Griess. These contributions are tax deductible. Contact Cheryl with any questions.

## Church Council Members Elected

Church Council members were elected, and council president and staff reports were given at the annual program meeting on May 16, 2010.

The newly elected church council member is Jennifer Bush. Glen Hass and Joel Hovdenes were re-elected. Thank you to Jan Anson for her service on the Church Council.

Copies of the annual program reports are available in the church office.

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## Address Changes

**Scott & Jennifer Athy**  
1325 S 177 St.; 68130

**John & Tina Dwyer**  
2044 Prince Dr.  
Naples, FL 34110

**Kelly & Summer Fahnholz**  
5427 N 160 Ave. Cir, 68116

**Tom & Priscilla Francis**  
18229 Pasadena Ave; 68130

**Kristi Mihulka**  
106 Natchez St.  
Memphis, NE 68042

**Tim & Angie Petersen**  
11615 S 198 St., Gretna; 68028

**Mark & Cindi Peterson**  
16309 Madison St; 68135

**Mike Sassen & Kim Yaeger**  
821 S 129 Ave; 68154

**Traci Siler**  
PO Box 451126; 68145

**Mike & Kimberly Tidball**  
900 Preston Court  
Cortland, NE 68331

**Lisa Wiemers**  
8304 Sheffield St.; 68122

**Rod & Linda Williams**  
4552 S 191 Ave.; 68135

## Baptisms

**Duncan David Evert**  
son of John & Stacey Evert

**Gage Samuel Smith**  
son of Dave & Chris Smith

**Drake Wesley Petersen**  
son of Tim & Angie Petersen

**Emery Allison Prusmack**  
daughter of John & Kristin Prusmack

**Grant Benjamin Bilka**  
son of Tami & Dan Bilka

**Kennedy Ann Matthes**  
daughter of Kenneth & Robin Matthes

**Adam Fischer Pospisil**

**Kyle Stuart Pospisil**  
sons of Stuart & Sherry Pospisil

**Oliver Scott Johnson**  
son of Clint & Jill Johnson

## Hospitalized

Joann Slater  
Carrie Cunningham, boy  
Wilma Martin  
Mark Anson  
Mike Terry  
Peter Nelson

## Attendance

	Worship	SCS
May 1/2	1214	120
May 8/9	757	144
May 15/16	754	134
May 22/23	711	

## Weddings

Ben Retzer & Lisa Ulrich  
Alex Bigando & Matthew Cade

## Condolences

Condolences are extended to Ryan Metcalf in the death of his father, LeRoy Fuglsang in the death of his father, Stu Pospisil in the death of his father and Sheila Washburn in the death of her mother.

## Give the Gift of Life!



The American Red Cross will be onsite for blood donations Sunday, July 11, 7:00-11:00 a.m. (Please note the date change.) Help Rejoice! reach it's donation goal, and more importantly save lives! Sign up at the display table in the commons or online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) using sponsor code 725. Volunteers are needed to help at the registration table the morning of the drive. Contact Patti Hovdenes if you can help.

## Novice or Experienced Painters Needed

Rejoice! will participate in Brush Up Nebraska Paint A Thon for the 8th year! Painters (novice or experienced) are needed to help paint a house on August 21. Watch for a sign up sheet. Contact Marti Welch, 334-2580 or Wayne Mattson, 334-2253, with questions.



Monthly Publication of:  
Rejoice! Lutheran Church  
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Omaha, NE 68144  
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Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Pastor

Associate in Ministry

Director of Membership

Director of Music Ministries

Director of Christian Education and Children's Ministry

Office Administrator

Financial Secretary

Keyboardist/Senior Choir Director

Maintenance/Cleaning

Lawn Maintenance

Rev. Kenneth R. Wittrock  
[kwittrock@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:kwittrock@rejoiceomaha.org)

Rev. Russ McDowell  
[pastorruss@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:pastorruss@rejoiceomaha.org)

Rev. Heather Grell

Cheryl Griess - [cheryl@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:cheryl@rejoiceomaha.org)

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Chuck Nash - [chuck@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:chuck@rejoiceomaha.org)

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Bonnie Bailey - [bonnie@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:bonnie@rejoiceomaha.org)

Sandy Sanchelli - [sandy@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:sandy@rejoiceomaha.org)

Ray Swartz

Steve Landon - [steve@rejoiceomaha.org](mailto:steve@rejoiceomaha.org)

Courtney Edwards, Marcia Fogerty

Amy Monzingo

Orville Von Seggern

## Small Groups

The *Page Turners* will meet Monday, June 14, 2010, 7:00 p.m., to discuss *The Last Algonquin* by Theodore Kazimiroff. Contact Gail Fuss, 493-8714, with questions. This will be the last book discussion until fall.

**Parents & Tots Play Group** - This group for parents and children ages newborn through preschool meets Tuesdays at various locations. Contact Kim Massara, 393-5323, with questions.

**Rejoice! Men in Mission Pancakes and Praise** - The men meet for breakfast on Saturday, June 19, 7:30 a.m.

**Resuming this fall:**

**Senior Luncheon**

**WEBS** (Women's Evangelical Bible Study)  
**Young Adult Bible Study Group** (ages 23-35; single or married)

## Would You Like to Complete a Half-Marathon?



Join us as we prepare for and complete the Omaha Half-Marathon. We will run as a group on Saturday mornings beginning July 3rd and add a mile each week until we are ready to go the 13.1 mile distance on September 26. An information meeting will be held on Saturday, June 19. If you have questions or are interested in joining this group please contact Patti Hovdenes or Jenny Faiman.

## Commitment Corner

### 2010 General Offering

YTD Targeted Offerings	\$472,000.00
Received through May 24	\$364,700.00

### 2010 Building Offering

YTD Targeted Offerings	\$63,000.00
Received through May 24	\$66,000.00



### Contribute regularly

means practicing our stewardship on a daily basis. By doing so this becomes a lifestyle. Paul instructs us:

**“On the first day of every week, each of you is to put aside and save whatever extra you earn.”**

As baptized members of the body of Christ, we gratefully confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We boldly proclaim the gospel as the Word of God. We clearly recognize the gifts that God has first given us through grace, and we joyfully accept our role and responsibility as stewards.

John H. McNaughton reminds us that, “Christian stewardship has come to mean ‘what we do with what we have, all the time.’”

The apostle Paul, writing to the church in Corinth, highlights this as 10 Stewardship Principles. Principle 8 is we “contribute regularly.” Give prayerful consideration as you “contribute regularly”—appropriately using time, talent and treasure.

## Rejoice! Participates in Habitat for Humanity Build



This is the 17th year that Rejoice! will participate in the Faithful Builders Coalition for Habitat for Humanity. The build will take place in late July and early August. Watch for a display and sign-up information in the commons. Contacts; Les Ory, 330-6271, and Lon Larson, 330-0138.

## Coming to Omaha Qwest Center “Imagine”

**Women of Faith 2010  
 August 13/August 14**

Speakers! Fun! Music! Friendship!

Check out the website  
[www.womenoffaith.com/omaha](http://www.womenoffaith.com/omaha)

See Patti Hovdenes for tickets or for more information.



## Very Limited Theatre Tickets Available

**Beauty and the Beast**

**Orpheum Theatre**

**Sunday, June 27, 7:30 p.m.**

**Cost: \$50.00**  
**orchestra seating**

Contact Cheryl Griess if interested.

## Please Welcome the New Members of Rejoice!

**Aamot, Beulah**

4447 S 173rd St, 68135; 933-9278

**Charvat, Doug & Mallory**

5210 Magnolia St, 68137; 290-2564

**Fleming, Ed & Lynn**

Nicole, Anna, Victoria  
 2039 S 85th Ave, 68124; 955-0181

**Geer, Scott; Chase, Brandon**

8203 Q St, #3, Ralston, 68127; 305-2149

**Hamilton, Sydney & Sarah**

2540 S 153rd Cir, 68144; 720-7389

**Hohenstein, James & Jill; Brandon**

16705 Pine St, 68130; 330-5766

**LeBlanc, Raymond**

17514 Renfro St, 68135; 670-9131

**Sledge, Michael & Karol; Haily, Kayla**

13942 Arbor Cir, 68144; 556-7113

**Steiner, Matt & Lexi**

4230 N 164th St, 68116; 680-1726

## Service Opportunities

**8th Graders will NOT go to Project Hope over the summer!**

### High School

**Siena Francis House** - Meet at the church on Sundays, June 13 and July 11, 8:15 a.m. Sign up at the Youth Information Center.

**R! Camp** - June 21-25, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Please call Jenny if you can help one morning or all five!

**New for 6th-7th Grade!**  
**A Week of Hope**  
**June 21-25**  
**9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

This new event in 2010 for **6th and 7th graders** (2009-2010 school year) coincides with R! Camp. Meet at Rejoice! each morning and travel to different community organizations to work. Limited space!

**Monday** - Montclair Nursing Home

**Tuesday** - Omaha Food Bank

**Wednesday** - Open Door Mission

**Thursday** - Project Hope

**Friday** - Breakfast (included in registration fee) out for discussion and evaluation.

**Cost: \$15.00.** Pick up a registration form and return to Cheryl. Parent sponsors/drivers needed.

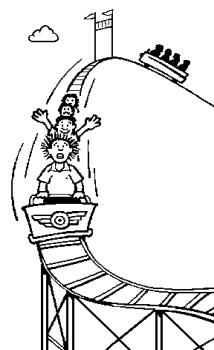
## Youth Events



**8th Grade** - Meet at Cheryl's house on **Wednesday, June 9. (6:00-8:00 p.m.)**. Cheryl will provide the hamburgers, just bring a side dish to share. Don't miss the fun! Sign up at the Youth Information Center.

**Graduating High School Seniors** - Meet at Cheryl's house on **Wednesday, July 28 (6:30-8:30 p.m.)**. Cheryl will provide the hamburgers and hot dogs; you bring the side dishes to share. Let's meet for food and fun and then we'll talk about "Living the Ten Commandments in our College Communities." Sign up at the Youth Information Center.

**Cheryl's address: 5402 No. 149 Ave. - on the corner of 149th & Fort.**



## 6th-12th Grade Worlds of Fun Trip

**June 8, 2010**  
**6:30 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.**

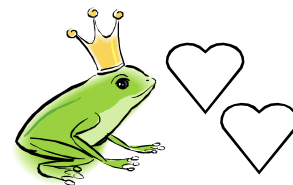
Meet in the Rejoice! parking lot to board a motorcoach for Worlds of Fun. Bring a sack lunch and money for snacks and dinner. Permission forms are available at the Youth Information Center. Return it to Cheryl with your \$60.00 (checks payable to Rejoice!) ASAP! This event is for the 2009-2010 school years 6th-12th grade. Friends welcome. **Cost: \$60.00.**

## F.R.O.G.

We will learn to be  
Friendly, Reliable, Optimistic, Giving  
 at

Summer Sunday School  
 July 11, 18, 25 and August 1  
 9:30 a.m.

Grades 1-5 (2009-10 school year)



Volunteers are needed to assist as small group leaders. Please contact Jenny Faiman to serve.

## Youth Are Confirmed

The following youth were confirmed on Sunday, May 2, 2010.

*Noah Leo Albrecht*  
*Britney Marie Bernstein*  
*Jared Donald Bithell*  
*Tristan R. Brown*  
*Taylor Nicole Cavaliere*  
*Hannah Claire Codling*  
*Sidnee Brianna Dudley*  
*Mason Ryan Ebner*  
*Jacob Ryan Grady*  
*Palmer Donnelly Haasch*  
*Thomas Ian Haggstrom*  
*Elizabeth Grace Hewett*  
*Jordan Rose Housh*  
*Emily Ann Jensen*  
*Ethan Michael Jensen*

*Katherine Ann Kastrop*  
*Cynthia Alice Keep*  
*Keenan James Kelly*  
*Lindsay Mary Koltas*  
*Mackenzie Danelle Kottwitz*  
*Alexis Emelie Larson*  
*Andrew David Lee*  
*Hayden Bradley Lehr*  
*Katherine Karel Lindgren*  
*Emily Chase Lines*  
*Gretchen Louise Lusso*  
*Alec Christian Maas*  
*Broc Mikel Mason*  
*Paige Elizabeth Mueller*  
*Brian Lewis Mulert*

*Mick Shaw O'Donnell*  
*Nathan James Pettid*  
*Hunter Isabel Phipps*  
*Becky Ann Rasmussen*  
*Elizabeth Ann Sander*  
*Alexsei Rose Schiltz*  
*Maxwell Lee Sealer*  
*Ryan Scott Sederburg*  
*Amanda Faith Semroska*  
*Haily Lynn Sledge*  
*Kolyn Wade St. Aubin*  
*Shawn Michael Sullivan*  
*Jackson Charles Weidenfeller*  
*Joseph Richard Whitman*  
*Aaron Michael Zandt*

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Pastor Kenneth R. Wittrock  
Pastor Russ McDowell  
Pastor Heather Grell  
Cheryl Griess, AIM

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## AFTER+WORD

Like this spring, there are many things which fall into the category of “**already but not yet.**” The “Kingdom of God” is an example. We claim with Jesus that the kingdom is **already** among us - **but not yet** as fully realized as it will someday be. Our **salvation** is another example. Likewise, **our new life in Christ.** All of these aspects of the Christian ethos are currently present in our world - yet the promise is that they will someday be even more pronounced and more, well, real.

An example from nature may serve to simplify this somewhat heady notion: Where we live on the Great Plains the calendar has told us it is springtime. Yet it has not been what we have come to define as “spring-like” at least **not yet.** So it is **already** spring, but **not yet** as spring-like as it either can be or (we hope) will be.

A child is **not yet** the fully realized human being that he or she will someday become. Yet the child **already** has an individualized identity, unlike any other.

This idea is important because it opens the way for the possibilities of growth and change and future and most importantly: hope. Without the **already and the not yet**, the world is stagnant and determined. It is the world before the breath of God blew upon the waters of creation and changed what was “formless and void” into the Garden of Eden.

The “**already and not yet**” enables us to realize what the future may hold without waiting until ...

AFTER+WORD