

News from the Women of the ELCA

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday and is looking forward to another exciting year of caring and growing together. If you are not attending one of our circle meetings, I encourage you to come and join us. We have a wonderful time together no matter what we are doing. Please make note of these dates and times.

Lutheran Women in the Fast Lane meet on the 2nd Sunday of the month in the Lounge at 12:30PM.

St. John's Circle meets at 1:00PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Lounge.

Mary/Martha Circle meets at 7:00PM on the 3rd Tuesday of the month in the Lounge.

And don't forget we have other opportunities for coming together as women of St. John's. We have an Arts and Crafts group, an additional Wednesday Bible Study and a Book Club. More information follows. We also have an active Prayer Chain. If you would wish to participate or call in a prayer request let Linda Riley know (304-263-4402).

Before we move on to the New Year, I did want to report on the disbursements from last fall's fundraisers in case you didn't get to see an Annual Report.

Funds disbursed so far:

Hess Family	\$500
Prison Ministry (Social Ministry Comm.)	100
Warm the Children	500
Bill Bland	200
C/CAP-Loaves and Fishes	500

These items were not included in the Annual Report:

Synod Challenge	\$100
Bishop's Fund	100
Scholarship Fund for Women Seminarians	100

During the year we also disbursed the following:

Family and Friends Group (East Ridge-Grove Center)	\$500
Hearts and Hands Together (Women's Shelter Project)	250
Tour de Revs	200
Friends Feeding Friends	500

THANK YOU AGAIN TO THE CONGREGATION FOR ALL THIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOUR HELP!!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

ATTENTION ALL PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS: We will try to have a meeting in February. I will be in touch. This is a chance to look ahead to the New Year. And, of course, any women of the church are welcome to join us! We are always open to new ideas and suggestions and we would welcome any input from you to help make us better.

WE WILL AGAIN PARTICIPATE IN THE HOSPICE VALENTINE COOKIE DRIVE. Close to 300 boxes containing 5 dozen cookies are delivered to Hospice supporters in four local counties. Please consider baking a batch or two of cookies and saying thank you to those who help in a very special way in our community. Sign-up sheets will be in the narthexes and the Lounge. I will let you know when to have them at church.

REMEMBER FEBRUARY IS THE BLANKET FUND APPEAL

Envelopes are enclosed with this newsletter!

For every \$5 received Church World Services can purchase a wool or cotton-blend blanket. To a child shivering in the cold, a warm blanket can mean the difference between life and death. To a family whose home lies in rubble, a sturdy blanket offers a small measure of shelter and security.

It is so easy to take something as simple as a blanket for granted, however, to a family in need it truly can be the difference between life and death. See the envelope for other options of giving

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THIS ABSOLUTELY VITAL PROGRAM OF MINISTRY!

The Glad-Abouts Arts and Crafts Group meets every Tuesday at 10:00AM in the Lounge. New crafters are always welcome!

The Wednesday Bible Study Group continues to meet at 1:00PM in the Lounge. We are now studying the Book of I Samuel.

Attention MARY/MARTHA Circle members: If you wish to order our new Bible Study Book, *Cultivating a Life of Character*, by Elizabeth George, please see Linda Riley as soon as possible. The cost is \$8.99.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES

February 14 – Lutheran Women in the Fast Lane meet at 12:30 PM in the Lounge.

February 16 – St. John’s Circle will meet at 1:00PM in the Lounge.

February 16 – Mary/Martha Circle will meet at 7:00PM in the Lounge. This will follow the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 28 – The Book Club will meet at 1:00PM in the Lounge. We will be discussing the book *Leaving Yesterday* by Kathryn Cushman. Some of us bring a bag lunch and share a time of fellowship after 2nd service. Come and join us!

Watch the next newsletter for information about our Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner!

TEA TIME WITH GOD Library

A special thank you is extended to all who continue to support our library in memory of Jean Couchman. The following people have made recent donations. I again have to thank the Church Council for their contribution of \$500 from the church budget.

Karin Wainright

In Memory of Ruthie Benner by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley

In Memory of Ruthie Benner by St. John’s Women of the ELCA

In Memory of Clarence “Bud” Leber by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley

In Memory of Luvina “Dudy” Frye by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley

In Memory of Sally Schendel by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley

In Memory of Sally Schendel by St. John’s Women of the ELCA

Dan and Kim Agee

Sam Boynton

Christmas - 2009 – In Memory of James and Mildred Riley, Peter Overko, Jean Couchman, Avanelle King, Margaret Wilson and Marie Esswein by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley

Christmas – 2009 – In Honor of Helen Overko by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley

In Honor of Bill and Doris Agee by the Good News Class (Thank you for the cole slaw for the Pizza Party)

In Memory of David Albright by Jim, Linda and Lauren Riley