

OPEN ARMS

Volume XIV, Issue 14

October 2005



FROM PASTOR BRAUN

Recently, as I reviewed 30 years of parish ministry, the playful piece printed below was the result. Expectations placed upon pastors can be wide ranging and even wacky. I offer this list to you as encouragement to recognize that your new pastor will need understanding and support. My guess is that, with God's grace, he or she will be able to do anything Living god requires, but, no, not everything. I pray

that you will be partners in ministry.

Top Ten List of Pastoral Duties Never Mentioned in Seminary

[Note: I am not making any of this up.]

10. Scalping tickets on the steps of the stadium when, at the last moment, people cancel out of Lutheran night at the Phillies.

9. Piloting a bobcat front end loader to lift frozen piles of snow that have been shrinking the perimeter of the parking lot.

8. Diving into the dumpster when all of the sheets of scripture lessons for the Sunday bulletin mistakenly get taken out with the trash.

7. Picking up a new tube of denture adhesive, as per request, on the way to an otherwise routine hospital visit.

6. Changing the proper altar hangings [which clash with the gowns of the bridesmaids] to please a one person MOB [Mother of the Bride].

5. Stepping between the husband and the brother of the de- (continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

<i>An Enduring Influence</i>	2
Announcements	2
A Letter of Christ	3
The Origin of World Communion	3
October Calendar	4

Tithing Is A Gift Of Love

It is important to remember that tithing is an attitude of giving. The amount you give or how it compares to the gifts of others does

not really matter.

What matters is that when you give, you give of yourself, all you loving concern, your affirmation of devotion to

God, your good will to humankind, and your service to Christ. When you give with this spirit, then you are giving

(Continued on page 2)

Inspirational Message by Philip Schaff

An Enduring Influence

Jesus of Nazareth, without money and arms, conquered more millions than Alexander, Caesar, Mohammed, and Napoleon; without science and learning, He shed more light on things human and divine than all philosophers and schools combined; without the eloquence of schools, He spoke words of life such as never were spoken before or since, and produced effects which lie beyond the reach of any orator

or poet; without writing a single line, He has set more pens in motion, and furnished themes for more sermons, orations, discussions, learned volumes, works of art and sweet songs of praise, than the whole army of great men of ancient and modern times.

Born in a manger, and crucified as a malefactor, He now controls the destinies of the civilized world, and rules a

spiritual empire which embraces one-third of the inhabitants of the globe. There never was in this world a life so unpretending, modest, and lowly in its outward form and condition, and yet producing such extraordinary effects upon all ages, nations and classes of men. The annals of history produce no other example of such complete and astonishing success.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Risbon heads the fundraiser, but everyone's contri-

Our 10th Fall Festival is scheduled for Saturday, October 1st. Liz

butions and help make it a success. Thank you.



Remember to turn your clocks back on Saturday, October 29th.



Membership Class

Anyone interested in becoming a member at Living God Lutheran Church is invited to attend the New Members Class on Sunday, October 9th at 9:15 AM.

Tithing Is A Gift Of Love (continued from page 1)

the fullest capacity of your spiritual, physical, and mental resources.

A true gift is a portion of your self. When you give in this manner, you become an

instrument of God. It is the gift of love.

This October, once again, we must evaluate and commit our financial support to our church and its missions and

ministry. The pledges that we make this month and into November will help the Church Council outline our annual budget. Remember to pledge your *Gift of Love*.

FROM PASTOR BRAUN (CONTINUED)

Ceased who is lying nearby in a casket at funeral parlor where the two men are threatening to trade punches.

4. Driving through six states twice in a day to retrieve stranded youth group skiers when the church van dies in Vermont.

3. Returning to Vermont four weeks later to collect the van, with its rebuilt engine, and hear the mechanic say, "Don't drive over 50 mph for first 500 miles," and also, "If you have any problems, you know where we are." [That was the

problem.]

2. Carrying a second grader clinging to a cushion from his sofa into the local elementary school at the desperate request of his mother, who felt she would be fired if she missed another day of work over the boy's refusal to go to school.

1. Trying to teach a dog with a dim bulb that those large interior spaces of the church building are *not* the out of doors.

It has been great fun filling in as interim pastor at Living God for a few weeks. Nothing remotely like the adventures in my list developed. I thank God and all of you for the opportunity to share briefly in the life of this lively parish. There is no doubt that marvelous days of mission and ministry lie ahead of you.

A Letter of Christ

St. Paul gave a wonderful compliment to the church at Corinth. "You show," he wrote, "that you are a letter of Christ . . . Written not with ink but

with the Spirit of the living God . . . On tablets of human

hearts" (Corinthians 3:3, NRSV).



Would you consider yourself to be a "letter of Christ?" Whatever the case, shouldn't that be an ambition of us all?

The Origin of World Communion

Sunday, October 2nd is World Communion Sunday. This tradition dates back to 1933.

In 1933, a Pittsburgh pastor, Hugh Thompson Kerr, had a unique idea. What if churches all



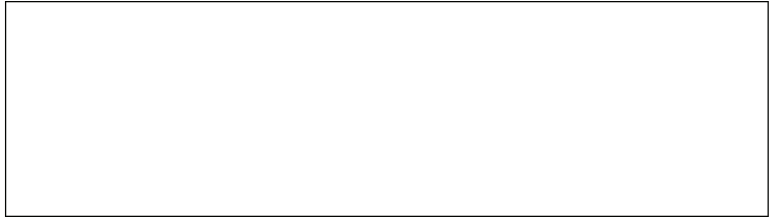
around the world celebrated Holy Communion on the same Sunday? He contacted leader of various denominations worldwide. His idea was met with such warm enthusi-

asm that celebrating the sacrament on the first Sunday of October is now an annual affair. It unites Christians throughout the world, or in the word of the popular hymn: In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north; But one great fellowship of love Throughout the whole wide earth.

LIVING GOD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Primary Business Address
 3200 Horseshoe Pike
 Honey Brook
 Pennsylvania 19344

Phone: 610-273-9383
 Email: living_god@verizon.net



Extending Open Arms

We're on the web:
www.livinggodchurch.org



Saturday, October 1st from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM	LGLC's 10th Annual Fall Festival
Sunday, October 2nd	Single Sunday Worship Service @ 10:30 AM World Communion Sunday
Thursday, October 6th @ 7:30 PM	Church Council Meeting
Sunday, October 9th @ 9:15 AM	New Member Class
Sunday, October 9th @ 11:45 AM	Worship Team and Playground Committee Mtgs..
Monday, October 10th	Columbus Day Observance
Thursday, October 13th @ 7:00 PM	Christian Education Meeting
Sunday, October 30th	Reformation Sunday Day Light Savings Time Ends
Monday, October 31st	Reformation Day

