



# THE WELCOME PLACE Mount Carmel Lutheran Church

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA  
8424 West Center Street • Milwaukee, WI 53222-4798  
The Reverend Richard W. Johnson • The Reverend Pamela A. Lange

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Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m.-Noon; 1-5 p.m.

## Tidings Monthly Newsletter - February 2012

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Morning at 8:30 & 10:45

*Holy Communion offered  
at both services each week*

Education Hour 9:40-10:30

- Sunday School
- Adult Forum
- Adult Choir

- Nursery care available during worship and the education hour
- Coffee fellowship between services



### MISSION STATEMENT

Mount Carmel  
is a Welcome Place  
that proclaims the Good News  
of God in Christ,  
through word and deed,  
to serve all people.



### VISION STATEMENT

God's Work—Our Hands  
Believing Christ calls us to  
SERVE,  
we act with LOVE,  
inspire HOPE,  
VALUE others  
and CARE for the world.

### MONTHLY MUSINGS FROM PASTOR JOHNSON

If I were to ask you what the most prominent Christian symbol in the world today is, you probably wouldn't need to think too long or too hard to identify the Cross as that symbol. Would it surprise you to find out that the Cross was not always the most prominent symbol of the church?

Before 300 AD, there were very few crosses used as symbols of the faith. Instead, in those ancient days the most prominent symbol of the church was the FISH or *ICTHUS*. The *ICTHUS* was an acronym for an ancient description of Jesus: JESUS CHRIST SON OF GOD SAVIOUR. Each letter of the word *ICTHUS* in Greek served to remind the followers of Jesus of his title among them.



Christians, afraid of persecution or death as a follower of Jesus, would often trace the sign of the *ICTHUS* on the ground as a secret symbol to identify themselves to others as Christians. There were high stakes in following Jesus in the ancient world.

It is interesting how dialogue about Jesus has changed in 2000 years. Today, we might more readily be asked: "Do you believe in Jesus?" In other words, do we believe in the power of salvation that Jesus brings? Do we believe that we will find eternal life by trusting in his name? These are important questions for sure, but they are not the questions that the earliest Christians were asking.

For those Christians, it was less about *believing in* Jesus, and much more about *following* Jesus. They realized that the power of being a Christian was living by the example that Jesus demonstrated in his life. In Galatians, Paul speaks of the fruits of the Spirit of Christ in these words: "Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control." These words all describe a lifestyle of following an example.

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## MONTHLY MUSINGS FROM PASTOR JOHNSON

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**On Sundays in Lent**, we will explore what it means to follow Jesus in 21st century America. Each week we will begin worship with a time of reflection, using an illustration of how famous and not so famous Christians serve as an inspiration for us to *follow* Jesus. The African American Spiritual, “**I Want Jesus to Walk with Me**” will serve as a liturgical focal point in worship to help us explore discipleship in our own lives.

**On Wednesdays in Lent** we will use the hymn, “**Listen...Listen, God is Calling**” to frame our worship. Several persons from our community have been invited to describe how God has called them to follow Jesus in their life. These persons include: Linda Ertel (Tosa Cares); Marge Johnson (Reformation); Ron Bohrer (Mount Meru Coffee); Pastor Pam Lange; and Pastor Dick Johnson. Each week we will explore the unique ways that God has called people to service in *following* Jesus.

There is a yearning in our world today for people who simply and profoundly want to follow Jesus by both their words and their deeds. How is Jesus’ message calling you to a deeper, more complete life in him? How is Jesus seeking you to live a life reflecting the “gifts of the spirit” as a strong, impassioned example in your neighborhood and workplaces? These are important questions we will explore during Lent.

**Soup suppers on the five Wednesday evenings in Lent will be again offered by the Congregational Life Committee.** Everyone is welcome to enjoy a light supper of soup, bread, beverages and dessert in Fellowship Hall anytime between 6:00-6:30 (worship begins at 6:45). A freewill offering will be accepted. Donations of baked goods for dessert are needed and appreciated! If you are willing to provide a dessert, please sign up in the Narthex.

Here’s what the schedule for Lent will look like:

**Ash Wednesday, February 22**

- 11:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes
- 6:40 p.m. A short program of Lenten music featuring the lovely voice of Dina Kaye, a well-known soprano in the Milwaukee area
- 7:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes

**Mid-Week Worship Services & Soup Suppers**

- Wednesdays: February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28**
- 6:00 p.m. Soup supper & fellowship
- 6:45 p.m. Worship

*Child care will be available in the nursery each Wednesday from 6:00-8:15 p.m.*

**The dedication of the Cindy Eske Soerens Memorial Youth Room will take place in worship on Sunday, February 19th.** Cindy was the beloved daughter of Marjorie and the late Harold Eske. Cindy passed away about two years ago after a valiant battle with cancer. While growing up in the Tosa area, she was actively involved in youth ministry at Mount Carmel. She often said how her youth at Mount Carmel shaped her life as an adult. Cindy’s husband, Bob Soerens, thought a wonderful gift in her memory would be to provide a vibrant space for Mount Carmel youth to explore and discover the power of God’s love in their life today. The recently completed state-of-the-art Youth Room will be used for study, service and fellowship purposes. It has been created in a section of Friendship Hall located on the lower level. In addition to the dedication during worship, **the high school youth will host an open house in the new Youth Room between services on Sunday, February 19th.** Everyone is invited to stop on down to take a look at their beautiful new space.

**Dr. Barbara Rossing, international biblical expert on the Book of Revelation, will be at Mount Carmel on Sunday, February 19th for preaching, leading Adult Forum and a luncheon presentation. Please mark your calendars NOW!**

I have been told that: *The world is going to end in 2012. Is it true that Jerusalem needs to be in the hands of Christians—and when that happens—Jesus will come back? Things are really falling apart in the world today. Is this a sign of the end of the world? There are so many floods, earthquakes and tsunamis, God must be ready to end the world as we know it, right?* I hear these questions all the time, more now than ever before. Maybe you are hearing them, too?

These are fear-filled times for many and we are looking for answers. And when we look for answers, many of us turn to the Bible to find them. The Book of Revelation is one of those ancient books of the Bible that has been used to answer these types of questions which, unfortunately, has often times resulted in being misunderstood and misinterpreted.

For our Theologian in Residence Program this year at Mount Carmel, we have invited one of the most prominent authorities on the Book of Revelation in the entire country. Dr. Barbara Rossing of the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago is often used on national network television to give insight and understanding to the types of questions that we see above.

On Sunday, February 19th, Dr. Rossing will preach at both services, lead Adult Forum in Fellowship Hall at 9:40 a.m., and make a luncheon presentation in Fellowship Hall at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend any or all of Dr. Rossing’s presentations. *Child care will be available in the morning and during the luncheon presentation.*

## COMMUNITY LIFE

Adult Forum**Sundays, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall**

Adult forum provides an opportunity for learning and discussion, to relate faith to contemporary issues, and to grow in understanding of the church and world. Grab a cup of coffee and treat, then join others for the following forums:

**February**

**5th** "Understanding Islamic Faith" PBS video & discussion

**12th** No Forum—SHARE Mobile Market

**19th** Dr. Barbara Rossing: The Book of Revelation

**26th** Bob Connolly, President of "Common Ground"

**March**

**4th** "Falling into the River" - Lenten spiritual practices

**11th** No Forum—SHARE Mobile Market

**18th** A new look at Reformation Lutheran Church

Presented by Pastor Steve Wohfeil

**25th** "What is Sin?" - A deeper understanding from The Lutheran magazine  
Reception of New Members

Prayer Group**Note new day & time change!****☞ Wednesdays at noon on the Stage Lounge**

Come for as long as you are able; leave when you must. Bring along some lunch or a cup of coffee, if you like. Our time together each week will begin with the invitation to share briefly those things on our hearts that day. As that conversation ends, we enter into a time of offering prayer for fellow church members, family, friends and the world. We lay before God the joys, blessings, sorrows and concerns of the life we share in Christ. Those prayers are spoken aloud by either Pastor Pam or one of the volunteer prayer leaders. Other prayers may then be offered by those who wish.

More pray-ers are always welcome and needed for this powerful and important ministry, but you need never even speak a word aloud to participate fully. You must simply be willing to offer a loving, caring and prayerful presence.

*"Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God."  
(Philippians 4:6)*

Tuesday Morning Bible Study**10:00-11:00 a.m. Fellowship Hall**

Join other adults on Tuesday mornings as they are led by our very insightful Pastor Johnson on a journey of faith. Come once and you'll desire to come back every week! Bring a friend, neighbor, or a family member.

Ham & Rolls**Sunday, February 5th, 9:30 a.m., Kitchen**

Yummy for the tummy! Pre-order one pound of hot Bunzel's sliced ham and six Nino's buttercrust rolls by using the pink forms and envelopes located on the signup table in the Narthex. Only \$6! Pick up after first service, during the education hour, or after the second service. Extra packages are ordered, but usually go fast! Preordering is the way to be sure your ham will be ready for you to pick up. Proceeds benefit Youth Ministry.

Lutheran World Relief Quilters**Mondays, February 6th & 20th, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Fellowship Hall**

The ladies have gotten 2012 off to a great start and extend an open invitation to anyone who would like to join their friendly, busy group. If you are unable to participate as a worker bee, please remember them with contributions of cloth, sheets, drapes, tablecloths, etc. It is your kind, generous contributions that allow them to continue their important work for others.



Prayer  
Shawl  
Ministry

Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Wednesday, February 8th, 6:30 p.m., Stage Lounge**

**Sunday, February 19th, 9:40 a.m., Stage Lounge**

Old and new members are welcome as participants continue their knitting.

Blessed prayer shawls are a great source of strength and gift of support when given to members and non-members in need. If you know of someone that could benefit from receiving a shawl, you can access one anytime the church is open from the cabinet with the sliding glass doors in Fellowship Hall. There are also prayer shawls available in a small, wooden shelving unit in the Narthex (near the Chapel). If you don't knit or crochet but would like to support this ministry, donations of yarn are always welcomed. Please call Joyce DesChane 414-732-9809 or Jan Colson 414-254-2671 with questions.

SHARE Food Buying Co-Op**Sunday, February 12th, 9:30-11 a.m. Fellowship Hall**

Purchase fresh produce, frozen meats, as well as canned and dry goods for about half of supermarket prices! This is not a fund raiser and ANYONE can buy food at the Market, so be sure to tell your neighbors and friends. Or, consider purchasing non-perishable food to donate to Reformation Church's food pantry. (There will be baskets at the checkout area.) If you buy groceries and like to save money, then SHARE is for YOU! Cash, credit cards or QUEST cards (*sorry, no checks*) will be accepted for payment. If you can help out and volunteer that morning, or distribute flyers in the neighborhood the week before, please sign up in the Narthex or contact Diane Roznowski, 414-258-8893 or [diane.roznowski@gmail.com](mailto:diane.roznowski@gmail.com)

## COMMUNITY LIFE

- continued -

Sisters in the Spirit

**Study & Share Group with Pastor Pam**  
**Saturdays: February 11, 18, 25, March 3**  
**9:00-10:30 a.m., Stage Lounge**

*Sisters in the Spirit,*  
*what are YOU waiting for?*

As women, we often find ourselves waiting for something: the birth of a child...the maturation of our children...work or better, different, more fulfilling work...respite from the demands of our lives...financial stability...the resolution of a health issue...the shift in a relationship...the healing of a broken heart...the 'what next?' in our own faith journey.

Women are invited to join Pastor Pam for coffee and conversation as we read together "Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting" by Holly W. Whitcomb. You may recognize this author as the leader of Mount Carmel's 2012 Women's Retreat. In this work, Rev. Whitcomb identifies those seven gifts as patience, loss of control, living in the present, compassion, gratitude, humility and trust in God. "Waiting," she writes, "contains some of our richest spiritual opportunities if we are conscious enough and courageous enough to name them and live into them."

Our time together will take place on four Saturday mornings—February 11th, 18th, 25th and March 3rd—beginning at 9:00 on the Stage Lounge. The cost of the book is \$12. If you're interested in participating, please indicate so on the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Books will arrive soon and you will be notified when you can pick yours up at church.

*Whatever it is you are waiting for,*  
*let's wait in the company of God and of one another!*

Journeying Through Grief

**Sunday, February 19th, 9:30a.m., Chapel**  
**Kathy Czarniak, Facilitator**

Entering the red doors on 84th Street (below the *Welcome Place* sign) you will find the Chapel through the first set of doors on your left. Adult members and non-members who have experienced the death of a loved one are invited to attend. This is an ongoing group where you are safe to share your story or to sit quietly and listen. It is a welcoming environment where you will be supported no matter where you are in your journey toward healing.

Women's Book Group

**Monday, February 20th, 7 p.m., Sue Hamann's home**  
**(6745 Hillcrest Drive, Wauwatosa)**

This group is open to any and all church women and friends, and you are not required to attend on a regular basis. Come when you are can, even if you haven't finished the book selection (or read it at all—we're not picky!). There is always a lively discussion and warm fellowship to enjoy. The group meets on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at church or a member's home; watch the Sunday bulletin, newsletter & website for updates. Here's what we'll be reading in the months ahead:

February 20th "The Emancipator's Wife: A Novel of  
 Mary Todd Lincoln" by Barbara Hambly  
 March 19th "Await Your Reply" by Dan Chaon

SON-Shine Suppers

**Cooking Sessions and Food Ministry**  
**Monday, February 20th, 6:00 p.m., Kitchen**  
**Tuesday, February 21st, 1:00 pm., Kitchen**

The SON-shine suppers food ministry always welcomes new cooks to help us prepare meals. The recipes are selected, groceries are purchased, and it usually takes no longer than two hours – all you have to do is help with the cooking! Please consider joining us as we cook, laugh, and share fellowship while we stir things up in the kitchen. If you have questions about the cooking sessions, please contact Sue Skony, 414-536-4545 or sskony3@gmail.com.

The food ministry is in its second year here at Mount Carmel. We distribute meals to congregational members who have recently had babies, those who have returned home after hospitalization or rehabilitation, and others facing life's unexpected disruptions. We are encouraged by the continued positive comments made about this ministry. It is wonderful to know that you find the meals helpful and delicious. **If you would like to receive a meal, Please let the church office or one of the pastors know by calling (414)771-1270.**

Silent Auction and Reception

**Saturday, March 24th, 7:-00-9:00 p.m.**  
**At the home of Fred & Kay Austermann**

Mount Carmel is embarking on a new way to raise money to support the youth of our congregation. You may not realize this, but Youth Ministry is 90% self-funded. For many years, the Rummage Sale in March was the chief fund raiser to support the high school youth's summer trip. However, due to the significant diminishing return on the receipts of the Rummage Sale, it has been decided instead to have a Silent Auction on Saturday evening, March 24th from 7:00 -9:00. Kay & Fred Austermann have graciously offered their beautiful home in the Washington Highlands as the venue of this wonderful event that will include music and refreshments in addition to the Silent Auction.



To make this event successful, we need your support through donations as well as your attendance at the event. If you have something you would be willing to donate for the auction, i.e., sports tickets, gift certificates, theater or music venue tickets, a weekend getaway, a donated service such as painting, babysitting, gardening, etc., we would greatly appreciate it. Please indicate what your donation will be by picking up a form at the *Make a Difference Marketplace* or at the sign-up table in the Narthex. You will also be able to bid on youth services that evening. Please contact Dani Ovanin, Youth Ministry Coordinator, with questions, 414-771-1270 ext. 17 or dovanin@mountcarmelchurch.org

Thank you for your continued support of our youth!

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*Vicki Andrew, Coordinator*

### Sunday School

I have a Sunday school teaching opportunity for team teaching our **1st graders** starting in the fall of 2012. Lisa King, who has faithfully served in that volunteer position for the last 15 years, is retiring. She would be happy to help you transition into teaching by offering her experience and wisdom if needed. If we have two teachers, you could work together weekly or trade off weeks.

There are many great reasons to consider this teaching ministry:

- ♥ Our 1st graders are great kids—bright, inquisitive and very sweet.
- ♥ The team-teaching concept works well for our busy volunteers. You can teach together or trade off weeks. There are many Sundays (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter) where there is no Sunday school.
- ♥ The curriculum is hands on and easy to understand and use. There are many project options to choose from.
- ♥ There is a long list of substitute teachers you can call to teach your class.
- ♥ You will be a Christian role model and mentor to the young students that you teach. The students will be taught about Jesus and continue on their journey in the Christian faith.

If every week sounds too overwhelming for your busy schedule, please let me know if once or twice a month may work for you. I'd be happy to consider your availability and make it work for you. Please, prayerfully consider the teaching ministry and let me know if you have any questions, concerns or interest. Feel free to call me on my cell phone 414-218-3241. Thank you!!

### Vacation Bible School

**Monday, July 30—Friday, August 3, 9-11:45 a.m.**

★ *S.k.y*

***Everything is possible with God.***

Mark 10:27

The Sky's the Limit! New friends, wild games, sky high crafts, lip-smacking snacks, surprising adventures and incredible music. No matter who, what, where, when or why....trust God! We can't wait to see you here for VBS!

### Volunteer opportunities

We need over 50 volunteers (6th grade – adult) who love Jesus and love children! We are currently recruiting for the following Pilot Crew leaders:

*Sky Jump Crafts; Sky Dive Diner; All Star Games; Wild Blue Bible Adventures; Sky High Movie*

Please email me at [vandrew@mountcarmelchurch.org](mailto:vandrew@mountcarmelchurch.org) with any questions or your volunteer preferences. I'm excited about sharing a week of **SKY, Everything is Possible with God!** with you this summer!!

## LIFE TRANSITIONS MINISTRY

*Kathy Czarniak, Coordinator*

*The mission of Life Transitions Ministry is to create spiritual, educational and social opportunities for senior congregational members and to inspire hope, and caring as they adapt to life-cycle transitions.*

**Who:** ALL Members and friends of Mount Carmel of any age!

**What:** Join us for our annual Valentine Party at Luther Manor's Lippold Faith & Education Center. Join us whether you are a resident of Luther Manor, family members or friends for this lovely afternoon of worship, fellowship, music and food! Pastor Johnson and Pastor Pam will lead worship and the Handbell Choir and members of the Adult Choir will entertain us. Food and fellowship to follow.



**When: Sunday, February 12th, 2:30 p.m.**

**Where:** Lippold's Faith & Education Center at Luther Manor, 4545 N. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street. Enter the North entrance driveway following signs to the parking lot. Parking is limited, so carpooling is recommended.

**RSVP:** No later than February 5th by signing up on the sheet in the Narthex or by contacting Kathy Czarniak 414-771-1270, ext. 26 or [kczarniak@mountcarmelchurch.org](mailto:kczarniak@mountcarmelchurch.org)

**Unfortunately, due to limited interest we will not be going to Door County in June. Please stay tuned for further information regarding day trips that will be taking place.**

♥♥♥

*“Love is the divine vitality that everywhere produces and restores life. To each and every one of us, it gives the power of working miracles if we will.”*

*-Lydia Maria Child, 1802-1880  
American abolitionist, writer*

## SERVICE TO OTHERS

### Mission of the Month Benevolence

Mount Carmel's February Mission of the Month benevolence recipients are **Crossways Camping Ministries** and **Lutherdale Bible Camp**. Both camps offer Christ-centered programming for campers of all ages to explore and affirm their gifts, build relationships with God, with one another, and with their faith community back home. Your generous donation to support the important ministries of Lutherdale and Crossways appreciated! *Be sure to check the counters at church for brochures from both places about registering for summer camp.*

### The Gathering Community Meal Program

**Saturday, February 25th, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall**

Mount Carmel youth and adults continue to partner with the Gathering and the Hunger Task Force on a pilot project at Mount Carmel to serve a monthly free hot meal. The event is open to the public, but targeted to low income residents in our community in particular. The food is supplied through the Gathering and Hunger Task Force and is prepared in our kitchen by volunteers and served between 11:30 and 12:30. The Gathering asks that we supply dessert and milk. If you would like to help, please drop off a dessert and or a gallon of milk in the church kitchen anytime before Saturday morning the 25th. For further information, please contact Dani Ovanin, 414-771-1270, ext. 17.

### Hillside Family Services

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a winter clothing drive for inner city kids connected with Hillside Family Services for another month or so. This organization deals with public housing, medical care, and day care for over 400 low income families the Milwaukee. The clothing Mount Carmel collects for them is always greatly appreciated and oftentimes the only items they receive from outside sources. Items needed are winter coats, hats, mittens, and scarves for kids of all ages and sizes. All clothing should be in good condition and clean. Collection boxes are in the Narthex (coat rack area) and near the Church Office.

### Tosa Cares

#### **Blankets & Diapers Drive**

We are continuing to collect new and gently used blankets, as well as diapers (sizes 2 or 5, especially), and diaper wipes. The Tosa Cares bin is in the *Giving Place* area waiting to be filled. Thank you for your continued support of this community ministry!

### Make a Difference Marketplace

#### **Lower narthex, Open Sunday mornings between services**

It's your one-stop shopping place for fair trade products including Mount Meru coffee, LWR chocolate, green cleaning products, Mount Carmel water bottles and mugs, and other items that will help you 'make a difference' with your purchases. To volunteer to staff the *Market*, speak with Ron Eide, our remarkable Marketplace manager.

### Serenity Inn Meal & Fellowship

**Wednesdays in 2012: February 29th, May 30th, August 29th and October 31st**

Thank you to everyone for your support of Serenity Inn in 2011, and especially in the month of December. I believe that we all have been touched in some way by the heartbreak and havoc that addictions to alcohol and drugs can cause in ourselves, our families, friends or others whom we work or associate with. Serenity Inn is a house of hope, new health and recovery for gentlemen who are seriously desirous of learning how to live a life of abstinence, responsibility and integrity. It is an opportunity for a new start in life.

If you would like to participate more actively in this ministry, our dates for service in 2012 are: February 29th, May 30th, August 29th and October 31st. We are to provide a simple, nutritious meal which includes a main dish, bread and butter, salad and dessert. We meet at church or drive from your home directly, arriving at Serenity Inn promptly at 6:00 p.m. and leaving promptly at 7:00 p.m. This is a wonderful opportunity to do some Twelve Step work! If you have any questions or would like to participate, please call me, Kathy Refsell, 262-251-5463. Sign-up in the Narthex. God bless your compassion and caring!

### Reformation Lutheran Church

#### **Food Collection through February 11th**

Currently, we are collecting food that will be distributed to hungry families in the Reformation community. There is a serious lack of food in the pantry right now and food is desperately needed. Take home one of the "reminder" grocery bags from a church pew (or use your own!). Bring your filled bag back to church and leave in the *Giving Place* by 9:30 a.m. February 11th. **Most needed: canned fruits and vegetables, soup, canned meals such as ravioli, spaghetti sauce, cereals (kid-friendly), packaged pasta meals, oatmeal, tuna, and macaroni & cheese.** On Saturday morning, February 11th, join a group of us carpooling from Mount Carmel at 9:30 a.m. or drive on your own to Reformation (N. 35th and W. Garfield) to help pack food bags. *All members, teens, families with kids welcome!* Please sign-up on the sheet in the Narthex.



#### **SOUPER Bowl Sunday! February 5th**

Another way you can support the Nurture and Nourishment Food Pantry is to bring one or more cans of soup to church next Sunday—“SOUPER Bowl Sunday”—and put them into in the large soup can in the Narthex or *Giving Place* area. We will deliver all of the soup to Reformation to help fill their pantry and someone's empty bowl—thank you!

## WE EXTEND OUR APPRECIATION & CONGRATULATIONS

We are extremely grateful to the many kind, benevolent souls who assist with various projects (inside and out) around the church building and the parsonage, help with office tasks, and oversee some of our special ministries on a continual basis with their gracious gifts of time, talents, and resources. We especially thank:

...**Jaime Larson-McLoone and Jeremy Johnson**, for the work and time they spend updating the church website.

...**Mary Eide**, for fixing computer problems for the office staff.

...**Betty Henrich**, for coordinating the weekly altar flowers orders.

...**Bruce Efflandt**, for ALWAYS delivering last minute flower orders for church with the utmost pleasance, patience and understanding.

...**the many others whose names are not mentioned, but graciously and generously provide their time, talents and resources in many ways to continue and strengthen the ministries of Mount Carmel—thanks so very much!**



**Congratulations to Dick (Mary) Basham** on being inducted into Marquette University High School's Athletic Hall of Fame. Dick served as the school's varsity football and track coach, as well as athletic director.

**\*\* Please contact the Church Office if you have graduated from college or received a special award or recognition so that we can celebrate with you; this pertains to church members of ALL ages, whether you are a student or not.**

*Dear People of Mount Carmel Lutheran Church,*

*The day of my installation (Sunday, January 22nd) was a glorious day – and so very pink (my favorite color)! Thank you for rejoicing with me through your prayers, your presence, the special music offered by Paul Kasten, Trish Lindert, Wendy Traeger and the Choir. Deep thanks to our staff for their hard work to make the day so special and for the lovely reception organized by Sue Skony and her team. Thank you all, as well, for making my family and friends feel so at home in our midst. I am also very grateful to The Rev. Chuck Brummond, Director of Rostered Leadership for the Greater Milwaukee Synod, for his fine proclamation of the Good News of Jesus Christ which we celebrate whenever we gather, but especially on this milestone day for me. It is an honor and a privilege to serve as your Associate Pastor and, even though I have felt at home here since early on, I am praising God that it is finally official! And I am thanking God for the gift that Mount Carmel is to me.*

*+ Peace and Joy,  
Pastor Pam*

## FROM THE GREATER MILWAUKEE SYNOD Wide Conversations on Resolution #6

At the request of the 2011 Greater Milwaukee Synod Assembly, a task group of the Synod invites all members of the Synod for your participation in discussions regarding the role of the church in addressing the public employee collective bargaining debate in Wisconsin.

This debate has elicited strong feelings in many people, including the members of our churches. While churches are sanctuaries from some of the clutter of daily life, they are also the places where we are engaged by the Holy Spirit to be good leaven for the whole of society.

With this in mind, we invite members of the Greater Milwaukee Synod to join this discussion in one of two ways: face-to-face at one four-facilitated discussions around the Synod; or by written response using a link available soon on the Greater Milwaukee Synod website.

The goal of these discussions is simple: allowing for the respectful expression of a variety of viewpoints. These discussions are not designed to be debates with winners or losers; nor to forge consensus or change minds. As followers of Christ, our common blessing is that we can listen to each other and articulate the feelings behind our beliefs in a respectful way.

The majority of time will be devoted to facilitated discussion in small groups. We are NOT there to argue the facts as we see them, but rather to listen to each other and through the guidance of the Spirit, seek possibly surprisingly common ground. Please see the Synod website for more detail & information: [www.milwaukeesynod.org](http://www.milwaukeesynod.org).

### Session Dates, Times and Locations:

#### **Wednesday, February 15th**

6:30-8:30 p.m.

St. John's ELCA

20275 Davidson Road, Brookfield

#### **Saturday, February 25th**

9:30-11:30 a.m.

Cross ELCA

1821 N. 16th Street, Milwaukee

#### **Thursday, March 8th**

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Atonement ELCA

2915 Wright Avenue, Racine

#### **Sunday, March 18th**

4:00-6:00 p.m.

Grace ELCA

303 Green Bay Road, Thiensville