

TIDINGS

IRVING PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH
3938 W. BELLE PLAINE AVE. • CHICAGO, IL 60618-1997

Vol. 32, No. 9

September 2005



IPLC

Inviting in God's Name
Proclaiming the Gospel
Living in Fellowship
Caring for others

A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

As I am writing this I am in my second week as your Interim Pastor. So far it is going well. I am just about finished with exploring the building, finding out where everything is, getting the Office in order, and other start-up tasks. I will be asking a lot of questions as I seek to discover how you do things. Like you, I am waiting for all the renovation work to be finished and to see how wonderful the church will look. My request of you is that you tell me your name for a while when we meet so that over time I will know who you are. Thanks

On a more personal note, my wife, Ruth, and I live in Niles. We have two adult children and 4 grandsons. I retired a little over a year ago and have been doing Interim ministry for the Synod since. I served at St. Philip in Glenview, and St. Luke's in Park Ridge, where we are members.

My plan is to be in the Office at church on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday mornings. I will be attending Council meetings and some other meetings as well to get acquainted with you all. I will also be working with Confirmation. I will be presiding at worship on Sundays. I will be doing visitation as needed and all other Pastoral responsibilities. Please call me if you are in need of the Pastor or know someone who is. I am scheduled to work 20 hours a week but am available as needed. I hope to be able to provide you with continuity during this "interim" period.

In my first sermon with you I talked about the interim as being a "space", a "time between", a time to think, pray, reflect, and seek God's leading as you move into a new future. My sense is that you have a lot of exciting ministries going on and new ideas that you want to develop as you reach out to your community. You have a deep commitment to ministry here at IPLC, carrying forward the journey of over 100 years of ministry. I am happy to have a small part in your continuing journey while I am with you.

Interims are times of challenge as well; the challenge to stay engaged and active when it would be easier to take a "back seat" for a while; the challenge to continue financial commitments; the challenge to believe in the future; the challenge to continue to proclaim the good news of Christ in word and deed. I invite you to take up these challenges during this interim period.

God's peace be with you. I'll see you in church.

Pastor Stone

FROM THE DESK OF NORMAN CLEARFIELD MINISTRY PROJECT COORDINATOR

I hope that most of you have been enjoying the summertime. Despite the more laid back pace and many vacations, the ministry teams have been hard at work during August on several different projects.

The IPLC council recently approved a recommendation of the Service Team to use the ground floor apartment at 4112 North Harding for housing of an immigrant/refugee family. The Service Team is currently working with Interfaith Refugee and Immigration Ministries (IRIM) to identify a family for placement.

While we envision providing several types of support services, our initial focus will be on preparing the apartment for occupancy, which will involve two major tasks: cleaning of the apartment, and filling the apartment with furniture and other supplies. Our goal is to have the apartment ready for occupancy by October 1, 2005. A complete list of items which are needed and the dates which have been scheduled for apartment cleaning and drop-off of donated items can be found in a separate article in the Tidings.

Also on the immigrant and refugee family front, through a generous offer from the Elmer Haneberg family, we were able to respond to an emergency housing need for an immigrant family. Henry Akumbe-Njiwah, his wife, and four children, have temporarily moved into a house which the Haneberg family has made available at 4041 North Pulaski, while we work on a more permanent housing strategy for this family.

As I mentioned in the August tidings, we are continuing to work with the CAPS team from the Chicago Police Department which, under the auspices of the Community Policing Leadership Development Institute, has developed a partnership with faith-based organizations who are interested in working in the neighborhoods of Chicago.

On August 4th, a group of approximately twenty people participated in a training session conducted by Christopher Wright, the CAPS community organizer for the 17th police district. Chris provided lots of good insights into the process of how to conduct neighborhood interviews. During the month of September, several teams of people from IPLC will be involved in conducting interviews in the neighborhood around the church. More information about this process is included in a separate Tidings article.

Please mark your calendars for September 25th, when the Irving Park Ministerial Alliance is planning a very significant community event. We will be providing food, entertainment, games, and information about local community organizations as a way of reaching out to our local neighborhoods. Please note that the time and location of this event has been changed to the parking lot at IPLC from 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. on September 25th. Musical entertainment will be provided by Faith and the Interfaith Children's Choir of Irving Park.

During the last week of August you may have noticed the gym at IPLC being used to host a basketball camp for youth. The camp is run every summer on a volunteer basis by Jim Mondala, a local probation officer. I am continuing discussions with several people about various strategies for using the IPLC gym for ministry work to local youth.

I am also involved in discussions about restarting a soup kitchen ministry in the Irving Park neighborhood and strategies for how we can do a better job of ministering to the homeless population in our community. Did you know that the Irving Park Food Pantry provides food to over 400 families in our community every month?

I continue to be very grateful to the many people at IPLC and beyond who have taken an active interest in our ministry work and look forward to continuing our journey together as we explore the many blessings that we have to offer the world.

In Christ's Love,
Norman Clearfield

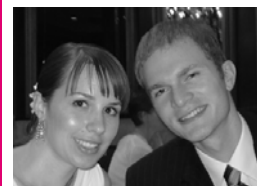


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Magic Mushroom 2005 was a huge success! This year our program enrolled 85 students from the community, representing over 21 different churches. We had record turnouts for the Campfire Sing-a-long (90+) and the Closing Program and Potluck (200+)! At the closing program, the children sang many wonderful songs and the oldest children (the Lions class) surprised us all with their skill and creativity with a fantastic drum circle! During the program, the children also checked out safari animals at the Lincoln Park Zoo, knocked down pins at the bowling alley, and created beautiful projects in a safari theme. In addition, they raised over \$600.00 for orphaned children at Emmanuel's Lutheran Orphanage near Matongo, Kenya. They also raised a truckload of school supplies for the Irving Park Community Food Pantry. Many thank yous to our outstanding staff of directors, teachers, teachers' aides, parents and congregation for another fabulous year! Praise the Lord!

CONFIRMATION CLASS OF '92 IS MARRIED

In separate, private weddings the class of '92, Valerie Wadycki and Scott Propst were wed.



Valerie and Nels Overgaard-Cook were married in Chicago July 5.

Scott and Eva Reichard were married in Las Vegas on July 15.



Both families were attendance at the nuptials.

DEAR MEMBERSHIP OF IRVING PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

As we begin to experience this new phase of our lives, among that which we have unpacked are the memories we took with us from our years in Irving Park. None are more vivid and to be cherished than those memories of our closing weeks and our final Thursday and Sunday worship services with you.

The beautiful vase is placed prominently upon the piano where it is noticed by us daily and by all who notice a fine piece of art glass.

The financial gift was unexpected and overwhelming. And yes—even though as I remarked to Gina before the congregation upon receiving the check I noticed it was made out in my name, the truth is as she replied to me before the congregation, she controls the checkbook. Use of the gift—being negotiated.

The T-shirts presented us with, as we wear them now and then, continually bring to mind the many Midweek services we attended, the 'Faith' singers and players, the potlucks, and the many memorable experiences,

insights and messages shared by various participants of that special group of Midweek worshippers.

Items from the church council's bag of tricks both remain and are long gone. The wine is gone. The box of coffee-hour cookies is still going, the signed hymnal is at the piano, and the mugs are in their place. As for the tree ornament—well, it's not yet Christmas. But, rest assured this one of IPLC's legendary ornament collection will be hung appropriately during the holiday season.

The choir party presentations. Let's see, I must confess a couple of them I think got accidentally misplaced during the move. The aprons, though, are almost too good to be used. The hand warmers are extra insurance should the heat go out in mid-winter and loving though aging arms around one another require help. In case the pastor runs out of interesting ideas for the daily menu, it's a good thing he now has a cookbook he can summon at moment's notice. The additional fun surprises of that night will serve to remind us of the fun and funny people of the IPLC choir family.

Last but not least, Sunday's service and reception. Thank you for the music. Again, the gifts. The

attendance of many. And for the wondrous reception in Victory Hall—no one tops this congregation's capacity for reception presentation. Unlike the interim pastor at IPLC before our arrival (Rev. Roger Nelson) who said, in referring to the congregation's expertise in this regard, he "leaves in a bigger body", I did not. But this does not mean I remained completely unaware of how good are the goodies served at IPLC, as I happened to notice over the years other bodies, IPLC-nourished, growing.

For the years and the memories, the privilege of ministry with you, use of the parsonage, and your many kindnesses and thoughtfulness, Gina and I will always think fondly of our years at Irving Park Lutheran Church.

The news printed in the August Tidings, along with council president Larry Lunquist's writing and the Fine Arts brochure enclosed, signal your promising future.

As for us as this phase of our lives begins, we enjoy walks together weekday mornings and sitting together weekends at last in the worship service.

Best wishes and Godspeed,
Pastor and Gina Suter

Fall is quickly approaching and so does the return of our Midweek Worship Service and Bible Study. Midweek will celebrate 4 years of an alternative service, designed for all who wish to worship during the week, accommodating the spiritual desires of your heart.

We are excited about the spiritual growth and future for Midweek. This year, we will introduce new musician Rob Clearfield, son of Norman Clearfield (our new ministry coordinator), to the Midweek Musicians Roster, (check out his bio on the IPLC web-site).

For the month of September, join us for our weekly worship service beginning Thursday September 15th, and culminating with our monthly potluck supper on Thursday, September 29th, (this month only). Midweek Study, which follows the worship service, will return in October, so mark your calendars! The sign up sheet will be posted in Victory Hall for those wishing to Lector, read the prayers of Community or provide the welcome address.

Here is the regular line up for Midweek:

Midweek Worship, Thursdays at 7:00 pm (enter side door)
Midweek Study, Thursdays immediately following service
Pot luck generally Thursdays are the 4th Thursdays of the month (exceptions will be noted and begin in September) Potluck begins at 6:00 pm in Victory Hall

and is followed by a musical worship service at 7:00 pm with "Faith". There is no Bible Study on these days.

Midweek takes a vacation during Lent, worshipping on Wednesdays during this special season. You can check out the Midweek calendar on the IPLC website.

Coming Attractions!

- Midweek presents; "Faith in Concert" November 2005 (date TBA), celebrating the musicians of Midweek in a dinner fundraiser
- Christmas with "Faith" December 15th (celebrating the season with Christ through music)
- A journey through history, (A celebration of Black History) with Imagination Theater in February
- Let's dance! A follow up to our very popular Sock Hop in the spring of 2006 (TBA)

We hope you will join us throughout the year, and remember; Bring a willing spirit, Bring a Friend and Much Prayer, Much POWER! Midweek is on the move!!!!!!

Your Midweek Worship Coordinator,
Ms. Dwan K. Buetow

As we near the end of our hot summer of relaxation, rejuvenation and IPLC sanctuary restoration, it's time to dream of the future – and reflect on the past.

Here are a few IPLC morsels to ponder the next time you enter Victory Hall:

While our church was founded on Dec. 30, 1903, it took almost a year to finalize construction plans for our first church building. With blueprints in hand, our church founders constructed our first frame building in less than two months during the winter of 1904-1905. The church doors opened on Feb. 5, 1905, and the church was dedicated on June 18, 1905.

The church entrance faced Belle Plaine, and the church ran parallel to the alley. The IPLC pioneers built the tiny church on the back of the lot so they would have plenty of room to build a bigger church in the future. That dream became reality in 1917.

So the next time you're in Victory Hall, face the kitchen and try to visualize our church brothers and sisters bowing their heads in prayer from the same spot exactly 100 years ago.

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

And, to give you a taste of life in the small frame church a century ago, the next eight paragraphs are an excerpt of one of the first items written in English and recorded in our "Tidings" predecessor, the "Forsamlings-Bladet" of April, 1909. The headline was "The Luther League Banquet."

"One of the most successful, and at the same time enjoyable, evenings ever spent by our Luther League was when the members banquetted of the evening of the fifth instant.

"Invitations had been sent out to the members and as many as were interested, and about sixty responded to the invitations. The church had been beautifully decorated in the national colors, and with the long tables in harmonizing effect, presented in all a very beautiful appearance.

"The first part of the evening was spent in getting acquainted, and it was interesting to see the many new faces who were presented. Then followed a short musical program.

"'Japanese Love,' song by Miss Halvorson. Vocal Duet by Rev. J. Oden and Miss Halvorson. Readings by Miss Lydia Johnson.

"Miss Johnson is a splendid reader, and her selections were all well-

received. The musical numbers were good, especially Miss Halvorson's solo.

"After the musicale, all were invited to the tables where a four-course spread, daintily served by the 'confirmation girls,' was partaken of. Much credit is here due to Mrs. Lindberg, Mrs. Johnson and Mrs. Lindquist. When this was finished, the following members responded to toasts: Rev. J. Oden, Toastmaster. Miss Esther Borg – 'Our Parents.' Mr. Einar Carlson – 'The Girls.' Mr. Einar Johnson – 'Some things to remember.' Miss Signe Carlson – 'Our Church.' Miss Jennie Halvorson – 'The Boys.' Miss Esther Linberg – 'The Relation of our Luther League to our Church.' Remarks – Toastmaster.

"The toasts were short but good and spicy. Each one did his or her part well. The banquet was closed by evening prayer and the singing of 'Nearer, My God, To Thee,' and all went home feeling that the evening had been one of enjoyment as well as one of benefit.

"We were very glad to welcome many new members to our League. We hope that this membership will be of mutual benefit to us all."

–Ralph Greenslade

NEIGHBORHOOD INTERVIEW PROCESS TO START IN SEPTEMBER

IPLC recently began participating in a community outreach program which is being conducted by the CAPS arm of the Chicago Police Department, with participation from experts in asset-based resource management at Northwestern University. The program, under the auspices of the Community Policing Leadership Development Institute, seeks to identify faith-based organizations who are interested in working in the neighborhoods of Chicago.

The first step in our participation in this program will involve interviews with neighborhood residents, business leaders, community organizations, and others in the neighborhood around IPLC to identify assets of the neighborhood and to inventory the concerns and needs of our neighbors. We have currently identified an approximately four-square block area around the church as our target neighborhood, including the area bounded by Montrose on the north, Ridgeway on the east, Grace on the south, and Keeler on the west.

On August 4th, a group of approximately twenty

people from IPLC participated in a training session conducted by Christopher Wright, the CAPS community organizer for the 17th police district. Chris provided lots of good insights into the process of how to conduct neighborhood interviews. During the month of September, several teams of people from IPLC will be involved in conducting interviews in the neighborhood around the church.

We are in the process of forming at least a dozen teams of two individuals from the IPLC community who are interested in working on this interview project. Each team will ideally consist of one IPLC resident from the neighborhood and another non-resident. Teams will be working during September to conduct approximately five interviews in a specifically designated block near IPLC. Interview forms and questions have already been developed and tested.

If you are interested in participating in this project or need more information, please contact Norman Clearfield or the church office at IPLC.

SEPTEMBER 2005

- 1 Jeremiah 17:5-18
- 2 Revelation 3:1-13
- 3 Psalm 17
- 4 Ezekiel 33:7-11, Psalm 119:33-40
Romans 13:8-14, Matthew 18:15-20
- 5 Leviticus 4:27-31; 5:14-16
- 6 Deuteronomy 17:2-13
- 7 Matthew 21:18-22
- 8 Leviticus 16:1-5, 20-28
- 9 Romans 13:1-7
- 10 Psalm 119:65-72
- 11 Genesis 50:15-21, Psalm 103:1-13
Romans 14:1-12, Matthew 18:21-35
- 12 Genesis 37:12-36
- 13 Genesis 41:53—42:17
- 14 Matthew 6:7-15
- 15 Genesis 45:1-20
- 16 Romans 14:13—15:2
- 17 Psalm 133
- 18 Jonah 3:10—4:11, Psalm 145:1-8
Philippians 1:21-30, Matthew 20:1-16
- 19 Genesis 27:1-29
- 20 Genesis 28:10-17
- 21 Matthew 19:23-30
- 22 Isaiah 41:1-13
- 23 Romans 16:1-20
- 24 Psalm 106:1-12
- 25 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32, Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13, Matthew 21:23-32
- 26 Judges 16:1-22
- 27 Judges 16:23-31
- 28 Matthew 9:2-8
- 29 Joshua 4:1-10, 19-24
- 30 Philippians 1:3-30

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please welcome into God's family two newly born.

Karen and Michael Lurie are the proud new parents of Margo Faith Lurie, born on July 25.

Jessica and Daniel Bacoulis welcomed Nicholas Jayson on June 23, Janet Biggs is his grandmother.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- Mary & David Badinger – September 5, 1987
Karen & Paul Helgeson – September 6, 1987
Deann & Bill Sherlock – September 7, 1991
Ann & Tom Smith – September 10, 1949
Kris & Ray Helgeson – September 15, 1951
Nancy & Gerard Curtis – September 16, 1995
Gloria & Walter Rucinski – September 16, 1972
Doreen & David Welch – September 19, 1992
Marie & Gunter Grunst – September 24, 1988
Dawn & Mitchell Benson – September 26, 1992
Katharine & John Johnson – September 26, 1992

YOUTH BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

- Aidan Badinger – 9/1/90
Harrison Raygor – 9/22/02
Adrian Raygor – 9/27/00
Emma Helgeson – 9/28/97
Lucas Helgeson – 9/28/97

BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Deborah Jennison, Khalil Ryan-Jetha
- 2 Allison Freels
- 3 Norma Monroe
- 6 Roger Bingaman
- 8 Eleanor Barrett
- 11 Annette Beltran
- 12 Sue Geisler
- 13 Charnitha Patton, Anthony Raygor
Armond Raygor
- 15 Andrew Weir
- 16 Fred Glure
- 18 Richard Plambeck
- 21 Kylie Nieves
- 24 Bruce Anderson, Carl Nelson, Benjamin Bole
Erik Haneberg
- 26 Mary Badinger, Donna DaMask
- 29 Gavin Brodersen
- 30 Katrina Grunst

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Beginning 9/18

9:00 am-Chapel, Sunday School,
Adult Studies

10:30 am-Traditional Service

MID WEEK WORSHIP

Thursdays at 7:00

SING TO THE LORD

As you may or may not know, Solveig Olsen, John Predny and Chris Richard are paid professional singers for our Chancel Choir. The Worship Team needs to raise funds to pay their salary. We will do that this year by presenting the three singers in concert on Sunday, September 18 at 2:00 pm. They will be singing their favorites from Opera, Music Theater and Song. Please join us and help to keep our soloists.

SEPTEMBER 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 8:00 Alkies Only	3 10:30 Basketball
4 9:30 Worship	5 Labor Day	6	7 10:00 Staff meeting 4:30 ICCIP 7:00 Bells, Stewardship 8:00 Chancel	8 10:30 Hope 7:30 Basketball	9 8:00 Alkies Only	10 9:00 Set up for Rally Day 10:30 Basketball
11 9:00 Potluck Breakfast 10:30 Rally Day Worship 11:30 Executive Committee	12 7:00 Scouts 7:30 Council	13 7:00 Scouts	14 4:30 ICCIP 7:00 Bells, Girl Scouts 8:00 Chancel	15 7:00 Midweek 7:30 Basketball	16 9:00–12:00 Cleaning Day of 4112 N. Harding 8:00 Alkies Only	17 9:00–12:00 Cleaning Day of 4112 N. Harding 10:30 Basketball 10:00 Confirmation parents meeting
18 9:00 Chapel, Sunday School 10:30 Worship Kaitlyn Monday Baptism 1:00 Jupiter Lodge (Luther) 2:00 Fund Raiser Anderson/Nelson	19 7:00 Scouts 7:30 Miriam Circle (Victory Hall)	20 7:00 Scouts	21 10:00 Staff Meeting 4:30 ICCIP 7:00 Service Team Bells, Girl Scouts 8:00 Chancel	22 7:00 Midweek 7:30 Basketball 8:00 Nieves Rehearsal	23 8:00 Alkies Only	24 10:00 Confirmation 10:30 Basketball 3:00 Nieves Cotillion
25 9:00 Chapel, Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:30 Ensemble 2-5 Ministry Alliance Event (Parking Lot)	26 7:00 Property, Scouts 7:30 Worship Team	27 7:00 Scouts 7:30 Learning Team	28 4:30 ICCIP 7:00 Bells, Girl Scouts 8:00 Chancel	29 6:00 Potluck 7:00 Midweek 7:30 Basketball	30 8:00 Alkies Only	

Please Check weekly bulletin for updates.

TIDINGS

SEPTEMBER 2005, VOLUME XXXII, No. XIV

Visit our Website: <http://www.iplc.org>

Rev. Paul Stone, Interim Pastor
E-mail: pstone@ameritech.net

SERVICE SCHEDULE

(Until September 11, 2005)

Sunday 9:30 Holy Communion

(After September 11, 2005)

Sunday:

9:00 am Sunday School, Chapel and

Adult Studies

10:30 Holy Communion

Thursday, Midweek Worship

7:00 pm

CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Bruce Anderson

Phil Bole

Sarah Connelly

Sharon Iverson

Larry Lundquist

Richard A. Plambeck

Bill Sherlock

Lee Stein

Holly Van Essen

Roger Bingaman

Dwan Buetow

Allison Freels

Eleanor Kepp

Noel Nape

Anthony Raygor

Lynette Schroeter

Sandra Stumme

COUNCIL PERSON EMERITUS

Lloyd DaMask

Gordon Johnson

Richard Wielock

STAFF

Dawn Benson

Church Secretary, Bookkeeper

Roger Bingaman

Office Manager/ Dir. Of Music/ Tidings

Editor rbingaman@ameritech.net

Norman Clearfield

Ministry Project Coordinator

nclearfield@ameritech.net

Richard Plambeck

Custodian

Lynette Schroeter

Volunteer Sunday School

Superintendent

gilschro@aol.com

Dwan Buetow

Mid-week Worship Coordinator

DKB826@hotmail.com

Bill Gordon

Director—Interfaith Children's Choir of
Irving Park

gordon_william@hotmail.com

Address Service Requested

From Irving Park Lutheran Church
3938 W. Belle Plaine Ave.
Chicago, IL 60618-1997

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