



LIGHT TIMES

October, 2010

Lord of Light Lutheran Campus Ministry Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

Worship: Sunday @ 11AM • Wednesday @ 8:30PM

734.668.7622 • lordoflight.org • A Reconciling in Christ Congregation

Pastor's Column

In an episode of **The West Wing** entitled, "Celestial Navigation," Deputy Chief of Staff Josh Lyman is being interviewed about working in the White House. The interviewer asks, "Josh, why don't you start by telling us about a typical day at the White House?" To this he replies:

Well, the first thing I'll tell you is there's no such thing. There's a schedule and there's a structure to be sure, and to a certain extent it starts out as a 9-to-5 job but you can pretty much count on it being blown to hell by 9:30.

With the exception of the 9-to-5 part, much the same can be said about the ministry. And that was particularly true yesterday, September 29.

I began the day in typical fashion - by checking in with Susan Salmerón, who graciously reminded me of the things I needed to accomplish before the day was through. (I'd be LOST without her!) Then, I sat down at the computer and, well, what Josh said happened.

Campus ministry colleagues were checking in following the shooting at the University of Texas and requesting prayers for Dwight Clark, a student at Western Washington University who has been missing since early Sunday.

When I logged into Facebook, I was bombarded by posts from friends on both coasts in the wake of Anderson Cooper's Tuesday evening interview with Michigan assistant attorney general Andrew Shirvell.

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Update on Little Lucy

As many of you know, Lucy Kramp recently underwent a liver transplant. This unwelcome but necessary adventure has taxed her family – physically, emotionally and financially. In order to alleviate some of the financial burdens, LOL wants to host a fundraising event in November. (We will be seeking matching funds from Thrivent.) If you'd like to be on the planning team, please contact Pastor Sue. Thank you!

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LORD OF LIGHT LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <h3>Happy Halloween</h3>					1	2 9AM-2PM Free Shredding @ Recycle A2 UM Football at Indiana 3:30
3 11AM Worship <i>Bryan Weinert Preaching</i> Noon Coffee and Brunch 5PM Blessing of Animals: Diag	4 Pastor's Sabbath	5 7PM Images of Indians Part II	6 7PM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Mid-week Eucharist	7	8	9 TBA UM Football vs. MSU
10 11AM Worship Noon Coffee and Brunch 2PM Crop Walk @ Zion, A2	11 Pastor's Sabbath	12 7PM We Shall Remain, Native American History (Part 2)	13 7PM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Mid-week Eucharist	14 2-4:45PM Round Table on Native American Culture, Gender, Healing	15 8:45-12:30 2-4:45PM Round Table on Native American Culture, Gender, Healing	16 3:30 UM Football vs. Iowa Homecoming <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Fall Break</div>
17 11AM Worship Noon Coffee and Brunch	18 Pastor's Sabbath	19 7PM The Scalpel & the Silver Bear (Conclusion)	20 7PM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Mid-week Eucharist	21 7PM LOL Council Meeting	22	23
	Fall Break					
24 11AM Worship Noon Coffee and Brunch	25 Pastor's Sabbath	26 7PM Speaker TBA	27 7PM Choir Rehearsal 8:30 Mid-week Eucharist	28	29	30 7PM Practicing our Faith @ LOL 8PM UM Football at Penn State
31 11AM Worship <i>Nathan Berkas Preaching</i> Reformation Sunday						

FALL RETREATS AT MICHI-LU-CA



Women's Retreat

October 1-3, 2010

Led by: Lisa Jeffreys

Cost: \$75 for meals and accommodations

Calling all busy women! Do you need a few days away to just relax, breathe and be with other women? This lightly structured retreat is for women who want to just get away, meet some new friends and have time of their own with very little responsibility or programming. Bring your favorite books or crafts and find a spot in the woods of your very own.



Greening Our Spirits, Greening Our Congregations

October 8-10, 2010

Led by: Kim Winchell

Cost: \$75 for meals and accommodations

Calling all congregational "green team" members, or clergy and laity who are interested in beginning a congregational earthkeeping group! Come for a time of renewal, encouragement, and support for leading/maintaining congregational earthkeeping efforts. This retreat offers time for group discussion and the sharing of helpful ideas and resources, plus time for reflection along the Camp's special hiking trails. Members of the N/W Lower MI Synod's EarthKeeping Opportunities Team (EKO Team) will also help with this retreat.



FREE SHREDDING EVENT!

Saturday, October 2nd

9AM – 3PM

Recycle Ann Arbor (recycleannarbor.org) will host a FREE shredding event at its Drop-off Station located at 2950 E. Ellsworth, Ann Arbor. You may bring up to 100 pounds of paper for shredding. Time for that fall clean up!

HOLY EUCHARIST AND BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Sunday, October 3rd

5PM on the Diag

Once again, we will join with Canterbury House and the Wesley Foundation to host the annual Blessing of the Animals on the Eve of St. Francis Day.

Bring your pets, their photos or plush stands for the blessing. We'll share the Eucharist, bless the animals and then walk over to Canterbury House for a *free* dinner.



THE ANN ARBOR CROP WALK

Sunday, October 10th

Steps off @ 2PM @ Zion

Slip on your **MICHIGAN/EASTERN LUTHERANS** t-shirt and head on over to Zion (1501 E. Liberty, A2) for the annual CROP Walk in support of Church World Service and local social service organizations. Rick Durance, Pastor Sue, Barry and Eli will be there along with people from all faith traditions. We hope you'll join us for this GREAT interfaith event! To sponsor Rick, send him a note at: rdurance@umich.edu. A great meal follows.

Are You Ready to Step Up to the Plate?

Worship, fellowship and brunch are major weekly endeavors at the heart of our life together. But nothing happens by osmosis! Consider what God may be calling YOU to do:

Worship Leaders

The Altar Guild tends to the details of worship, including the care of linens and paraments and preparation of the elements for the Sacraments.

- + **Greeters and Ushers** are among the first folks newcomers meet. Do you have the gift of hospitality? If so, consider serving as a greeter or usher.
- + **Lectors** proclaim the Word! If you have a passion for scripture, serving as a lector is the ministry for you!
- + **Assisting Ministers** offer prayers and assist the pastor in leading worship. It's a great way to learn more about worship!
- + **Choir members and instrumentalists** lead worship through the ministry of music. Make a joyful noise!

Training and support are provided for all of these roles.

Are you called to the ministry of hospitality? If so, consider hosting coffee time or brunch. It's really not difficult and you can always ask for help. In fact, PLEASE ask for help! These are community endeavors, after all:

Coffee Time

Consider facilitating fellowship and helping people to feel welcome by hosting coffee hour. It's pretty easy, really. It involves bringing some treats (healthy or otherwise), minimal set up, serving and clean up. And there are always folks to help!

Brunch

Is an important time for people to connect in meaningful ways. Coordinating brunch is a great way to get better acquainted with others and practice the skill of delegation.

Many hands make light work! God bless you!



A Roundtable on Native American Culture, Gender & Healing

Thursday, October 14: 2-4:45PM
Friday, October 15: 8:45AM-12:30PM & 2-4:45
School of Social Work, 1080 South U, A2

This program convenes Native American traditional healers, clinically trained service providers, and cross-cultural mental health researchers for a public roundtable exchange. The purpose of the roundtable is to advance professional knowledge concerning the integration of indigenous healing practices and conventional mental health/substance abuse treatments in community-based services for American Indians. Each session will include individual presentations, facilitated conversation and audience exchange with invited participants, including:

Chenoa Bah Stillwell-Jensen (Diné/Navajo); **Patrick Calf Looking** (Blackfeet); **Jerilyn Church** (Minnecoujou Lakota); **Anthony Davis** (Odawa); **Lyena Fish** (Blackfeet); **Larry Ground** (Blackfeet); **Richard Ground** (Blackfeet); **Ethleen Iron Cloud-Two Dogs** (Oglala Lakota); **Lorenzo Jim** (Diné/Navajo); **David Johns** (Diné/Navajo); **Richard Katz** (Saskatchewan First Nations University); **Laurence Kirmayer** (McGill University); **Tania Lafontaine** (Métis); **Mary Lee** (Plains Cree); **Danny Musqua** (Saulteaux); **Lyle Noisy Hawk, Jr.** (Oglala Lakota); **Mona Stonefish** (Pottawatomie/Mohawk); **Richard Two Dogs** (Oglala Lakota); and **Regina Zapinski** (Mescalero Apache).

Sponsored by the Institute for Research on Women and Gender, the Fetzer Institute, Native American Studies Program, Office of the Provost, Department of Psychology, UM's National Center for Institutional Diversity, Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research and School of Social Work. Events are free and open to the public.

Following up on the discussions of the decisions made at Churchwide in 2009:

I'm writing to say thanks once more for sharing your [thoughts on the ELCA](#). We were impressed by both the volume and depth of the responses, and have used what we learned to develop a new online project that reflects the breadth of perspectives and experiences on the vote's impact. [That project is now online.](#)

You will find stories at many points along the spectrum, from anguish to relief; from families and communities that have been split apart, to those that have come together. You'll also find a [map](#), [video highlights](#) of a recent forum, and stories from trusted news partners (like [this one](#) from Salt Lake Tribune Religion Writer Peggy Fletcher Stack).

As much we have tried to show the many facets of this story, there will inevitably be things we missed. We want to hear about it. After you've had a chance to look at what we've put together, [click here and share your reactions with us.](#) This is, after all, a living story. We'll add to it as it evolves and as we learn more. In fact, if you'd like the media in your town or state to be part of the project, please forward a link to the project and encourage them to contact me.

And, lastly, consider this part of a longer conversation. We'll be asking for your experiences and insights on other stories as part of the [Public Insight Network](#) -- a large community of knowledgeable people who help us and our trusted partners cover the news. To help us better understand what questions and topics are relevant to you, [tell us more about what you know.](#)

Thanks again, we look forward to learning more from you.

Best,
Andrew Haeg, Editor, Public Insight Network
American Public Media
ahaeg@americanpublicmedia.org



PRACTICING OUR FAITH

Saturday, October 30 @ 7PM @ LOL

At this month's POF, Sonja Page will lead a discussion of KAIROS - A moment of truth: A word of faith and hope from the heart of Palestinian suffering.

Written by an ecumenical group of Palestinian Christians including the Rev. Dr. Munib Younan, Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land (ELCJHL) and the Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, Pastor of Christmas Lutheran Church in Bethlehem, this booklet is about 18 pages long and comes with an ELCA analysis prepared by the Peace Not Walls team at the ELCA Churchwide offices in Chicago.

The hope is that the document will be used throughout the ELCA. Copies are available at LOL.



[Lutheran Campus Ministry Pilgrimage](#) Now on ELCA Website

After discovering that **another school's** trip was posted on the ELCA website, we worked with the Peace Not Walls staff who graciously made certain that our trip was also well represented.

Trivia Note: The Peace Not Walls staff is hoping to post Pastor Sue's "Holy Land Travel Basics" booklet on its site. We'll let you know if that happens ☺

Pastor's column, continued...

[For the past several months, Shirvell has cyber-bullied and directly harassed Chris Armstrong, the President of the Michigan Student Assembly (MSA), who is openly gay.]

After clarifying some misunderstandings with regard to the nature of Michiganders, Wolverines and Ann Arborites, I watched the interview (which I had missed) and then began to respond on behalf of LOL/LCM by:

Sending Chris a message expressing the support of LOL/LCM

Contacting the Director of the Spectrum Center to offer our support and assistance

Asking that LOL/LCM be added to the signatories of an ad in support of Chris, to be published in the *Michigan Daily* by Expect Respect.

Andrew Shirvell's behavior has been atrocious and rightly caused outrage not only on campus but across the nation and beyond. Fortunately, Chris Armstrong is made of pretty tough stuff. When he addressed the matter at Monday's MSA meeting, he said, "I will not back down. I will not flinch. I will not falter. I will not succumb to any unwarranted attacks. What I will do is I will carry on with the utmost pride and vindication." **

I am grateful for the people who have nurtured in Chris such a sense of self that he will not be deterred from his purpose even when under vicious attack. I am grateful to be part of a faith community in which it's un-necessary to have a meeting to decide whether and how to respond to something like this. And I grieve those who haven't received the kind of affirmation Chris has – young people like Tyler Clementi, Seth Walsh, Asher Brown and Billy Lucas.

Tyler Clementi, a freshman at Rutgers, committed suicide after his roommate and another student secretly webcast his intimate encounter with another male student. Ironically, news of Tyler's death came on the same day Rutgers launched, "Project Civility," a campaign to teach students the importance of civility – especially in the use of technology.

Seth Walsh, 13, committed suicide after years of being bullied. After interviewing some of the students who had harassed Seth, police concluded that the bullies' actions were not criminal in nature.

Asher Brown, also 13, shot himself after being harassed at a middle school in Houston. His parents indicated they had complained to school authorities but no action had been taken. The school denied having received any complaints.

Billy Lucas, 15, hung himself after being bullied. While he never said that he was gay, his peers admitted that they teased him because they *assumed* he was gay.

It breaks my heart that these young people have been so brutalized by their peers' thoughtless cruelty that they saw no other option than to end their lives. And somehow, no one bears responsibility for these tragic events.

Of course, gay youth aren't the only ones subject to hate-speech and harassment. Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, racism, xenophobia and political hate-speech are rampant today. People seem eager to define themselves by what (or whom) they oppose rather than by what (or whom) they support. Honesty no longer seems relevant and boundaries with regard to what is acceptable - and what is not – seem virtually non-existent.

In 1999, Yale law professor Stephen Carter published, [Civility: Manners, Morals and the Etiquette of Democracy](#). Sadly, in the intervening years, his call for civility has been all but drowned out by the cacophony of hate.

When I find myself asking, Who is going to turn the tide on this seemingly relentless trend? A single phrase echoes in my heart and mind:

"If not us, who? If not now, when?"

Pastor Sue

* Season 1, Episode 15, Original air date: 2/16/2000.

** *Michigan Daily*, September 28, 2010.