

The Announcer

The Monthly Newsletter of Pilgrim Lutheran Church

July 2010

Musings — Someone has suggested that listening intently with one's mouth shut is a basic communication skill. Think about your own communication patterns. Do you listen? How much of what is said by someone else do you hear? Do you use the time you are not speaking to listen to what the other person is saying and understand it, or are you thinking about what you are going to say next? Are you thinking about how angry you are with that person and so you can't hear past your anger? Or do you think you already know what the other person is going to say, and so you just wait for them to stop talking so you can set them straight? We can affirm each other and broaden our views, and we can hurt, belittle and anger one another. It all depends on whether and how we listen. We can improve communication or place greater roadblocks in the way. It all depends on whether we are willing to give each other the service of listening and understanding.

There must be a lot of frustrated people out there, a lot of people who feel like they aren't listened to, a lot of people throwing up their arms and saying, "You just don't get it, do you?" Where there are hurt feelings and conflict, I suspect there is a real lack of listening going on. Organizations are especially prone. Lack of attention and respectful listening can be costly - leading to mistakes, misaligned goals, wasted time, hurt feelings, angry outbursts, and lack of teamwork.

This is why I am using this newsletter space to talk about basic communication skills. We all know we can improve. And we can work together better if we learn to listen and understand one another. You can't plan unless you understand where our communication is self-defeating; we can't create a common vision unless we understand each other's dreams and motivation; and you can't gain team consensus unless you understand each team member's feelings about the issue at hand. In all of these cases, you must listen to others.

However, listening is less important than *how* you listen. By listening in a way that demonstrates understanding and respect, you cause rapport to develop, and that is the true foundation from which you can sell, manage or influence others.

"I like to listen. I have learned a great deal from listening carefully. Most people never listen." - Ernest Hemingway

Following are some keys to listening well:

1. **Give 100% Attention:** Prove you care by suspending all other activities. "Multi-tasking" while hearing a person may work for you, but it sends a message: "What you are saying is not important enough for me to stop what I'm doing."
2. **Respond:** Responses can be both verbal and nonverbal (nods, expressing interest) but must demonstrate that you received the message, and more importantly, show how it had an impact on you. Short comments like "uh huh," "right," or even "I hear you" indicate you are with them, and encourage them to continue. They'll know they are getting through and don't have to keep repeating.
3. **Demonstrate understanding:** To say "I understand" is not enough. People need some sort of evidence or proof of understanding. Prove your understanding by occasionally paraphrasing, restating the gist of their idea or by asking a question which proves you know the main idea. The important point is not simply to repeat what they've said to prove you were listening—a parrot can do that. You want to demonstrate that you understand; that you "get it." The difference in these two intentions transmits remarkably different messages when you are communicating.
4. **Demonstrate respect:** Show that you take other views seriously. Don't be condescending. It seldom helps to tell people, "I appreciate your position" or "I know how you feel." You have to prove it by being willing to communicate with others at their level of understanding and attitude. We do this naturally by adjusting our tone of voice, rate of speech and choice of words to show that we are trying to imagine being where they are at the moment.

Listening to and acknowledging other people may seem deceptively simple, but doing it well, particularly when disagreements arise, takes true talent. As with any skill, listening well takes plenty of practice.

Worship at Wildwood/Picnic at the Park — Be sure to put on your calendars our Church Picnic and Worship Service, Sunday, July 11th, at Wildwood Park shelter house in Granville. Service at 10:30, potluck to follow. We have the shelter house from 9:30am to 2:00pm. In case of rain we go back to the church for service and indoor picnic.





Vacation Bible School 2010

"Let's Build an Ark!"

July 12 – 16

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.

Serving age 3 – 6th grade.

"Let's build an Ark!" is the theme for this year's Vacation Bible School week. Guess who we're going to be learning about! You got it! "Old Noah, he built himself an ark, there's one more river to cross. He built it out of hick'ry bark, there's one more river to cross."

"The Lord said to Noah, 'There's gonna be a floody, floody...'"

PLUS! We all get to help build a six-foot Ark.

We need teachers to share the faith and enthusiasm of a little child! The classes will be divided this way: Pre-K, K, and 1st grade; 2nd and 3rd; and 4th through 6th. We will use 3 teachers or teacher teams, also, T-shirt makers, snack makers & servers, games leader, decorators, crafts leader, sign makers, and helpers for teachers or helpers to make and copy class materials. To date, our list of teachers and staff includes Bonnie Lamvermeyer; Lynn Ferne; Lee Ruff; Betsy Milleman; Stephanie Blaha; Valerie, Leah, Haley and Jared Starkey; and Pastor Ruff. Valerie Reetz will handle the music. VBS helps "train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it," a real job worth doing!

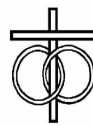
Please ask Lee Ruff where you can help or how to help in preparing for that week, 740-587-3453. Sign up children and their friends now by calling Lee at 740-877-4192, or the Church Office, 587-0345. Thank you, God always blesses the work done to share His Word with the children!

So mark the dates, get your kids and grand-kids, and the neighbor-kids and any others you can round up

Service Date at the Columbus L.S.S. Food Pantry



Our congregation has our next date to serve coming up this month. It will be on Tuesday, July 6. You can help by donating non-perishable food items, making a cash donation to Lutheran Social Services – Central Ohio, or by donating your time, your presence and your labor by serving at the Pantry.



July Anniversaries

Melvin and Donna Buckingham 22
Daniel and Lee Ruff 25

July Birthdays

Douglas Andrews 16
Tara Wright 22
Timothy Warner 22
Barbara Sellers 23
Ingrid Green 27
John Whittington 28



L.S.S. Day with the Clippers Saturday, July 24

6:00 p.m. Gates open for LSS Day participants.
Food and Fun begin at Huntington Park

7:05 p.m. PLAY BALL! Columbus Clippers vs.
Pawtucket Red Sox

A fireworks display will light up the sky following the game!

Special price Admission – \$5.00
Family Pack (6 Tickets) – \$26.00

Order tickets by calling Pastor Dan, or leave a message at the office.

Only your advance ticket orders benefit LSS Central Ohio.



The Announcer is the monthly publication of Pilgrim Lutheran Church of Granville, Ohio.

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Editor: Daniel J. Ruff, Pastor

Newsletter submissions are welcome and encouraged; due by the 23rd of each month. All submissions may be subject to editorial revision.

Annual Independence Day Parade Pop Sale

It's down to a matter of days now. We are requesting donations of soda-pop of all kinds, diet and "regular," also bottled water. We also need baked goods. And especially we need *****workers*****. Bring your donations and – if you can work-- yourself the day of the parade. We usually start selling around 9:00 a.m.

Parade Day is Monday, July 5

Bible Readings for the Month

Sunday, July 4 – 6th Sunday after Pentecost

- Psalmody: Psalm 66:1-7
- First Lesson: Isaiah 66:10-14
- Second Lesson: Galatians 6:1-10, 14-18
- Gospel: Luke 10:1-20

Sunday, July 11 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost

- Psalmody: Psalm 41
- First Lesson: Leviticus 18:1-5; 19:9-18
- Second Lesson: Colossians 1:1-14
- Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

Sunday, July 18 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

- Psalmody: Psalm 27:1-14
- First Lesson: Genesis 18:1-14
- Second Lesson: Colossians 1:21-29
- Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

Sunday, July 25 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost

- Psalmody: Psalm 138
- First Lesson: Genesis 18:17-33
- Second Lesson: Colossians 2:16-19
- Gospel: Luke 11:1-13



Remember to check us out on **Facebook** at: www.facebook.com/pages/Granville-OH/Pilgrim-Lutheran-Church/431848880482

Pilgrim's Computer Lab



We now have 5 computers set up for general use. They are set up for internet capability. At this time they are for the use of our members and friends. If you need some assistance with them, check with Pastor Ruff or Einar Groething. We do ask that you please sign in with your name and the time of use.

Pilgrim Staff and Officers

Pastor - The Rev. Daniel J. Ruff
Phone: (740) 587-0345
Office Hours: T-F 10:00 - 1:00

Executive Committee

- **President - Robert Warner**
Phone: (740) 587-1059
- **Elder, Treasurer(protem) - Einar Groething**
Phone: (740) 587-1377
- **Financial Secretary - Douglas Andrews**
Phone: (740) 924-2161
- **Recording Secretary - Lee Ruff**
Phone: (740) 587-3453

Deacons: Fellowship - Bonnie Lamvermeyer
Phone: (740) 924-2161

- **Education - Lee Ruff – pro-tem**
- **Evangelism – Einar Groething**
- **Trustees:**
Ruth Burdette (740) 928-6788
Douglas Andrews (740) 924-2161
Debra Warner (740) 587-1059

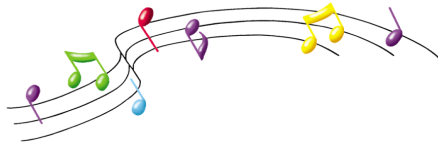
Custodian – Bonnie Lamvermeyer (740) 924-2161

Sunday School –

We thank Dr. Bonnie Lamvermeyer for being our substitute teacher! She was teacher recently when Miss Lee has been on vacation a couple of Sundays. Besides her many years of teaching experience and years of being a Christian, she loves children.



We hold Sunday School through the summer since it is hard for children to get plenty of Bible teaching and Christian learning. So when they are able to we want to be here for them. It is also very rewarding and fun. So if YOU could try teaching, join us Sunday morning at 9:15. And speaking of fun, Bonnie is also going to teach in Vacation Bible School. *Lee Ruff, Deaconess of Education*



Choir continues into the summer!!

We are few, but we have our fun! Do you have a God-given desire to sing? Then join us! Our Choir is **now rehearsing on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m.** We are preparing a couple pieces for July 4, and several through the summer. Come help us make a joyful to the Lord. Under the direction of Randy Ruffner.

The Rev. Peter Reetz, Em. Preaching on Sunday, July 25 –

Recently joined member Peter Reetz will be filling the pulpit in Pastor Ruff's absence this July 25. Peter served Zion Lutheran Church on S. High St. in Columbus, and most recently, Grace Lutheran Church in Naples, Florida, where he entered retirement. We are pleased to have him, and encourage you to come hear his message of the Gospel!



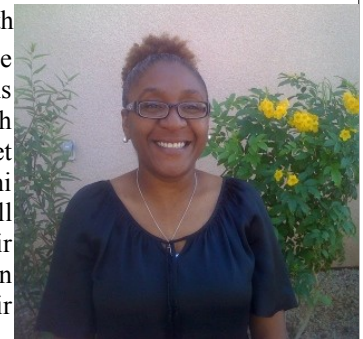
“41% of the formerly “churched” said that they would return to the local church if a friend or acquaintance invited them.”

Early September (date will be confirmed soon) we are going to try this bold statement out. It is called “Back to Church Sunday.” Statistics show that if you ask an un-churched person to come with you to church, most likely they will say “yes.” Most people who don't or no longer attend church simply haven't made time for it. They may be a simple “re-invitation” away. You'll be hearing more about the plans; you may even help in the planning and implementing of it. We are also working on getting the “Folk Legends of Central Ohio” to provide music for our worship, and maybe even offer a performance in connection with the social hour. Stay tuned for more details. Pencil **Sunday, September 12** in on your calendar, plan to come, and be thinking about who you might invite to **Come Back to Church that Sunday!**

Now remember, we are planning this for September, so we have time to be ready, and do things well. We hope to have you on board as we make ready!

GEO* missionary Shara Cunningham shares:

“This month was filled with school visits and the opportunity to form long-lasting relationships with the teachers at the schools in Ntshongweni. Part of my ministry is to ensure that the orphans are all attending school and to make sure that they are doing well. In order to accomplish this, Pastor Thwala, Julia, and I scheduled appointments with all of their teachers. We met with the principals and teachers at the Ntshongweni, Charles Memorial, and Lalelani Primary Schools and at Woza Moya High School. The teacher conferences went very well and all of the teachers are knowledgeable about each of the orphans. They offer their support the best way they can, considering that some of the teachers have 60-plus children in their class. Pastor Thwala, Julia, and I have pledged to support the teachers in their efforts to help the orphans get the best education that they can.”



**GEO stands for “Globally Engaged in Outreach.” GEO missionaries are new college grads and retirees; educators and people who simply have life experience. GEO missionaries focus on relationship ministry, often through English-as-a-foreign-language classes, but also through HIV education, homeschooling, and coordinating mission teams.*

Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not



inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. Galatians 5:19-23