



### MAY 2014

### PASTOR ANTHONY'S RIPPLES

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! The long awaited celebration of Easter has finally arrived. We have made it through the season of Lent and the 40 days of focusing on repenting of our sins. The season of Lent ends on Maundy Thursday as we move into the most holy time of the year. Now our celebration of the Resurrection of Our Lord did not end on Easter morning. Easter is not a day celebration, it is a season celebration. We celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord not for 1 day, but for the 50 days after Easter. It is 50 days full of alleluias and joyous celebrations. And after all, it doesn't make any sense that the most holy day of the church would be celebrated for just one day of the year. The Resurrection of Our Lord from the dead is a very special and important event for us. It literally is the difference between death and life for us. Because Jesus overcame death by rising from the dead, we too are promised life in his name. Now which sounds better: 1) celebrate this most joyous event 1 out of 365 days or 2) celebrate this most joyous event 50 out of the 365 days.

This year for our 50 day Easter celebration, we are going to be focusing on the epistle letter, 1 Peter. 1 Peter 2:9 has been our theme verse this year, "But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light." Since September we have been talking about this verse as we work to define who we are as Circle of Faith Parish. Our councils (your elected leaders) have been working hard at answering this question. We are now starting to come up with some answers and so we are coming to the end of our focus on this theme verse.

As a way of celebrating the 50 days of Easter and concluding our focus on 1 Peter 2:9, we are offering a 5 week Bible study on the letter of 1 Peter. This Bible study will actually begin during the regular worship service on April 27, May 4, May 11, May 18 and May 25. The focus during these worship services will be on the different characteristics we have as God's children (testing people, trusting people, called people, holy people, proclaiming people). After the characteristic is introduced during the Sunday morning worship service, you are invited to attend a Bible study group in which you can dig deeper into the topic that was introduced at the worship service. Each week there will be a group meeting at:

St. Peter following the Sunday morning worship service

Todd and Susan Rathman's house on Mondays at 6:30 pm

Trinity on Wednesday's at 7:00 pm

On Facebook throughout the week

Get join the Facebook group either send a message to Pastor Anthony or search for the group "God's Own People – Circle of Faith"

The discussion topics will be posted on Mondays

Then you post comments and questions throughout the week

Discussions each week end on Saturday

Please join us for celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord for the next 50 days!

Blessings to you in this Easter Season!

In Christ, Pastor Authory



## Wednesday, May 7 5:30—7:30

Host is Delano Bergemann 301 Kruse St, Welcome.

From Hwy 263, turn West on 3rd St. Go across Dugan St. and go 2 more blocks. Delano's is on your right, corner of Kruse and 3rd St.



### WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Is there interest out there to start a Women's Bible Study?

Let's toss around some ideas, times, etc. for this.

If this sparks your interest—contact either Pastor Anthony or Pastor Eric, and we will see where we go from here.

### The gift of this day.

This is the beginning of a new day. God has given me this day to use as I will. I can waste it or use it for good. What I do today is important because I am exchanging a day in my life for it. When tomorrow comes, this day will be gone forever, leaving in its place something that I have traded for it. I want it to be gain, not loss; good not evil; success, not failure, in order that I shall not regret the price I paid for it,

### **MAY Worship Schedule**

Sunday Worship Services

Date	St. Peter – 8:30 am	Trinity – 10:30 am	Waverly – 10:30 am
May 4 – Communion	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Anthony Confirmation Sunday	Pr. Eric First Fruits Sunday
May 11	Pr. Eric	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony
May 18 – Communion (at StP)	Pr. Anthony Confirmation Sunday	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric
May 25 - Communion	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Anthony	Spring Choir Cantata

### Part Time Administrative Assistant Position.

Must have excellent computer, people and phone skills.

Will be working in a Church office.

Please send resume to:

Circle of Faith Parish

P.O. Box 328

Welcome, MN 56181 or

by email to achristoffels@circleoffaithparish.org

## **New Bible Study Coming**



A new Bible Study is coming to Circle of Faith! We will begin this 5 week study after Easter. The topic each week will be introduced during the regular Sunday morning worship service. Then participants will meet in a small group sometime during the week to discuss the topic in greater detail.

We are looking for a handful of people that are willing to host and lead a small group once a week for five weeks. There will be minimal prep time required for this and all of the necessary information for the study will be provided for you. If you are interested in leading and hosting a small group please talk to Pastor Anthony. Signup sheets for the small groups will be available in April.

Faith sees the flower in every seed.

### Circle of Faith

Parish Council Meeting Minutes— April

Meeting was called to order at Trinity Lutheran in Welcome at 6:09 pm by President Steve Williamson. Other members present: Merle Burmeister, Marilyn Cheever, Jody Franck, Jon Helvig, Joel Rabbe, Kirsten Rabbe. Clergy present: Pastor Anthony Christoffels & Pastor Eric Midthun.

Joe asked to add 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2014 Income Statement & Budget analysis to the agenda under the Treasurer's Report. Motion by Jon H, seconded by Jody F, to approve agenda as amended. Motion passed.

Pr. Anthony led devotions, based on I Peter 2:2-10. "The mission will keep moving forward." We have to have complete trust in the Spirit moving through this place.

Kirsten R. presented the Secretary's report for the March 11, 2014 Parish Council meeting. Motion by Joe R, seconded by Marilyn C, to approve the Secretary's report as presented. Motion passed.

Joe R. presented the March 2014 Operating Statement, and the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter financials and budget analysis. Motion by Merle B, seconded by Jody F, to approve the Treasurer's report as presented. Motion passed.

#### **PASTORS' REPORTS**

### Pr. Anthony Christoffels report

Framing our Unique Ministry (MAPS congregations) this coming Saturday. Pr. Anthony will attend.

New Bible Study starting in the end of April. 5 weeks on the book of I Peter. Sign up sheets available at each church. Received correspondence from Carl Rabbe regarding his work with us this summer.

Synod Assembly will be June 13-15, at Gustavus. Circle of Faith will be featured in the video during the convention. Will need pulpit supply on June 15<sup>th</sup>, as both pastors will be attending.

### Pr. Eric Midthun report

Will be attending the Festival of Homiletics (continuing ed) May 19-25, 2014. Will need pulpit supply on Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

Looking into forming a monthly Circle of Faith bible study for women. Let Pr. Eric or Pr. Anthony know if you have any ideas or input.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Second Parish Administrator Job Description**

Joe reported for the Finance Committee reported that they are working on revising the Parish Administrator's job description, in anticipation of hiring a second person to share the position with current Parish Administrator, Lisa Wohlhuter. Exec Board must approve, then interviews will start. Hope to begin interviews within 30 days.

### **Parish Agreement revisions**

Marilyn presented the Administrative Committee's recommendations for the revision of the Parish Agreement. Copies were given to the Congregational Councils for their review, asking for suggested changes or revisions to be reported back to the Parish Council at our June, 2014 meeting. The final revised Parish Agreement would then have to be ratified by the congregations at their 2015 Annual Meetings.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Communications Team report**

The Communications Team reported that their first meeting was very successful. Immediate priorities will be to survey the members of Circle of Faith Parish, verify that current contact information is correct and up-to-date, and determine members' preferences for the message and methods of communication. Questionnaire is being developed, anticipating mailing it out in April or May. Also of immediate interest is to create a template for a Circle of Faith Parish sign, based on our logo, that can be installed outside of every COF church, a sign large enough to be clearly visible from the road. Sign placement will ultimately be determined by each congregation, but the signs would be standardized.

Discussion on how to promote, after the fact, the visit from the ELCA and the Bishops, by putting something in the Sentinel and other area publications. The Communications Team will look into it.

The next Circle of Faith Parish Council meeting will be May 13, 2014, 6:00 pm, at Trinity in Welcome.

Motion by Jon H, seconded by Kirsten R, to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 pm. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Kirsten Rabbe—Secretary

### **Seminarian's Letter Home**

To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish:

Greetings to you all from Evanston, IL! And, by the way, "Alleluia, Christ is risen!" It feels so good to be able to say that after a long season of leaving the alleluia behind. It's also hard to believe that my first year of PhD studies is nearly over. As most of you have heard by now, I will be returning to Circle of Faith for a while this summer, to help out while Pr. Anthony is gone. I'll greatly look forward to seeing you all again!

During the next fifty days, we'll be hearing the phrase, "Alleluia, Christ is risen!" a lot, and will answer with the words, "Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!" We call this the Easter acclamation. But does anybody know why we say it? It's not just to celebrate fifty days of resurrection after a long Lenten fast.

In the earliest days of the Church, which we'll hear a lot about as we read the Book of Acts during this season, Christians were persecuted. So, they developed secret codes and symbols to identify themselves to each other, some of which endure to this day. The best known one is the sign of the cross. The Easter acclamation was the password to identify oneself when coming to a house where a group of Christians were meeting for Eucharist. You would knock on the door, and be challenged with the first line. If you answered correctly, you were recognized and welcomed. Easter then grew into a time during which we talked about living the Christian life, bearing the sign of the Crucified One, and wrestled with the question of what one had to do to gain access to God's mysteries. Thankfully, we also came to realize that we don't need to do anything to gain entry to God's love. That's the whole point of Easter. The stone is rolled away, and the Risen One comes out to us. So, for fifty days, let us keep that joyful feast!

As we travel through Eastertide, let us pray for God's blessing, using these words:

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name, and lead us to safety through the valley of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, Easter 4A]

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Your fellow member and pilgrim, Carl P. Rabbe, M.Div.



TUESDAY MORNING COFFEES

Starting: May 6th @ Trinity in Welcome 8:30—10:00 am

## ST. PETER RIPPLES



April meeting was held April 27, following church. Minutes next month.

Women ELCA

Next meeting: Wed. May 7 at 1:30 pm

Hostesses: Bernice Lehmann and Ardis McKean

Bible Study: Session 9 from Gather Magazine—Rahab, A Faithful Businesswoman

On April 5, Jeannine, Rosemary, Bernice, Lorrene, and Janice attended the Spring Gathering at First Lutheran, St. James. Attendance was 67 women from 13 units. Marie Hendriksen told the faith stories of women from the bible, with the use of a beautiful quilt.

The Synod Convention will be held on Saturday, May 3rd at American Lutheran Church in Windom. Jeannine and Janice will be attending. Thank you to all who bought supplies for the various kits or gave cash to purchase articles needed. Kits taken were Personal Care, School, Baby Care and Fabric Kits. More details next month. Christian Literature was also sent.

Balance as of April 14 is \$2,068.70

From the 'News & Notes' we received at the Spring Gathering we unites are encouraged to donate to Katie's Fund that supports Women of the ELCA ministries of global sharing, leadership and living theology. The goal is to raise \$1 million by July 24, 2014, by the start of Triennial Gathering in Charlotte, NC Think and pray about it.

Tuesday—June 10 we will be helping at the Lutz Birthday Party. Jeannine has Altar care for May. Group 2 has next work duty. May Birthdays: Lola Hagen—10th JoAnn Wink—23 Confirmation Sunday is May 18

Happy Mother's Day—Blessings, Janice.

Ingham Lake Bible Camp—Ice Cream Social—Sunday , June 1. Program at 3:30. Maid Rite meal—4—6 pm. Pie Auction at 6 pm.



SUNDAY May	USHERS
4	Jeannine Rasmussen and Shirley Schmidt
11	Bob Nelson and John Schmidtke
18	Larry R Schmidt and Larry W Schmidt
25	Neil and Marilyn Cheever
JUNE	
1	Roger and Joan Rezac

# TRINITY RIPPLES



### Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting - April 8, 2014

Meeting called to order at 7:32 by President Phil Burgess.

Opening devotions by Pastor Anthony.

Members present: President Phil Burgess, Pastor Anthony, Pastor Eric, Henry Borchardt, Jean Schock Eileen Morrow and Larry Phillip.

**Pastor's Report** – Confirmation will be May 4<sup>th</sup> with 8 confirmands.

Secretary's Report - Reviewed.

Treasurer's Report - Reviewed.

Financial Secretary Report - Reviewed.

TWELCA - none

Youth & Board of Ed - none

**Deacon's Report** - nothing to report

**Trustee's report** – still working on plumbing quotes.

Henry moved to accept the reports, Larry seconded, motion carried.

### **Old Business:**

The trustees are checking into updating the sign in the front of the church. They will get quotes to fix or replace the lettering system for the sign.

The city sign on the north side of town has been tabled for more information.

We will get quotes for replacing the windows in the pastor's office before the semi-annual meeting.

### **New Business:**

The turkey dinner is April 27th. Signup sheets are displayed for donations.

### **Discussion:**

Eileen moved to allow Phil, trustees and volunteers to prepare and seed the lawn north of the church and work on repairing the sidewalk. Jean seconded. Motion carried.

Henry moved to adjourn, Jean seconded, Motion carried.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Eileen Morrow, Secretary

Next meeting will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 following the Circle of Faith Parish Board meeting at 6 pm.

Today is God's gift to us; what we do with it is our gift to Him.



- April 9, was a Unit meeting. We had discussion on a few changes:

First: to give the children going to camp an added \$50.00 per child.

Second: "NO" greeters on Sunday morning except for special occasions.

We also talked about the May Coffees coming up. The first one is May 6th. You will be contacted for baked goods—working or a donation of money. Everyone is being asked to help.

We are invited to Fairmont Methodist May Salad Luncheon. Thursday May 1st. The speaker will be Nancy Mason, representing "House of Hope" - a residential treatment program located in Fairmont. A free-will offering, designated for Lakeview Health Care Center will be received at the door. A Bake Sale will be held from 10:30 until lunch and again afterwards. Paper products will be accepted for the Emma Norton Home in St. Paul.

Please RSVP to Connie at the UMC office, 235-5579 or umcfmtconnie@gmail.com.

The Trimont Nursing home is asking for 2 or 3 volunteers, 2 dozen cookies and 2 dozen bananas. Call Connie at 764-2053 of you can help.

We thank Cheryl Schwieger for putting up new curtains on the steps leading down to 'the pit'. We also thank Julie Schultz for helping her.

Don't forget the Salvation Army box or 'little red kettle'.

Happy Spring—Connie



Our sympathies and prayers to the family of Alvin Schultze Sr, Alvin passed away on Monday, April 21 and his funeral service was held at Trinity on Friday, April 25.

MAY	USHERS	COMMUNION SERVERS	ACOLYTES
4	Dallas and Tami Rasmussen family	S-Lonnie Moffitt H-Bob Moffitt	Zane Borchardt Jordan Wolter
11	Joel and Becky Detert		Austin Holm Mason Mosloski
18	Jon and Jen Saxen		Carlene Hand Sarah Justice
25	Norman Schley Phil Burgess	S-Bob Moffitt H-Lonnie Moffitt	
JUNE			
1	Loren Schultz Delano Bergemann	S-Brian Burmeister H-Velma Schaal	

## WAVERLY RIPPLES



President Peterson called the Waverly Council to order on April 8, 2014 at 7:30 p.m., following the Parish Council meeting.

No secretary's report as the council did not meet in March.

Treasurer's report was given. Year to date income minus expenses is -\$7,050.22. Motion by Bob, second by Rosie to approve the report. Motion carried.

### Deacon's Report

Work on blending Waverly's constitution and the ELCA constitution continues, with Bylaws to follow.

### Trustee Report

Sound system discussed, and one bid received thus far.

The church lawn will not be sprayed.

The piano in the basement will be removed.

### Worship Committee

The Children's Sermon team has expanded! May 4 will be 1<sup>st</sup> Fruits and Blessing of the Seeds April 27 is Confirmation Sunday for Lindsey Bettin

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

Discussed adding a baby changing station to the south wall in the "new" bathroom. Motion by Jack, second by Marleone to purchase a baby changing station for the south wall in the "new" bathroom, and trustee's install. Motion carried. Motion by Marleone, second by Rosie to approve Debbie Armbrust ordering the station and paying for it from the general fund. Motion carried.

Council meeting time was discussed and agreed to remain as is with discussion ongoing.

To date the Sunday school malaria project has raised \$1,266.00. April 25 – May 2, the ELCA will match funds up to \$100,000.00 for this project.

June 13-15 is the Synod Convention; please think about being a Waverly delegate!

The Luther Seminary Bible Initiative: Pass it On Project, will supply Bibles in pews for free with the intention to give the Bible away, and replace the Bibles when half gone for a reduced rate. Motion by Nancy, second by Rosie to participate in this program. Motion carried.

The end of May or beginning of June are being considered as possible Youth "lock in" dates.

Motion by Bob, second by Nancy to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Deborah Schneider

God's Love is like laundry, IT NEVER ENDS!!!

We're looking for additional Waverly worship servers!

- \* Altar/Communion preparers to set up for and clean up after communion, individuals or groups of two people
- \* Acolytes we need families or groups of 2 or more friends.
- \* Readers: anyone who likes to read is welcome!
- \* Children's Time presenters: Looking for people with a great story to tell our kids during worship.
- \* Video Camera operators: Someone to turn the camera on, make sure it is in focus, and turn it off at the end of the service. (The ambitious can play with the zoom.)

If you are interested, please contact the church office, either pastor, or any member of the Worship Committee (Laurie Sherman, Jodi Lueth, Kirsten Rabbe, Nancy Nordstrom, or Rosemary Atzenhoefer). Thanks for your willingness to serve!



Many thanks for sharing my Open House Birthday with me—by sending cards or attending my Open House—God Bless you all—love, joy and peace.

From me—Mary Peterson

1st Fruits and Blessings of the Seeds Sunday will be held May 4th.



Spring Choir Cantata—Sunday, May 25



MAY	READER	ACOLYTE:	
4	Sonja Haugen	Muriel / Al Armbrust	
11	Belva Peterson	Heidi / Brian Clow family	
18	Joanne Sherman	Emily Bettin	
25	John Sherman	Kendra / Daniel Helvig	
JUNE			
1	Don Nordstrom	Sonja / Susan	

### **MAY USHERS**

Erwin Atzenhoefer Brad Sherman Cliff Armbrust Phil Bettin Todd Rathman



# MAY



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Tim Peterson Mary Ann DeBus  Gary & Joyce Sathoff	3 Lindsey Bettin  Deb & Roger Geiger
<b>4</b> David	5	<b>6</b> Brian	7 Cody Wolter	8	9 Alice Scheff	10 Lola Hagen Morgan
Hartung Donna Hand		Burmeister				Wolter  Lon & Marilyn  Oelke
11	12	13 Beau Schultz	14	15	16	17
Jeff Lueth Ben Miller	Marisa Bettin	John & Denyse Borchardt Brad & Jennifer Hughes	Emily Bettin Randy Olson	Tammy Williams Marty Burmeister Marilyn Cheever	Kari Anderson Dale Hansen MiKenna Feely	Sarah Justice
18	19	20	21	22 Dale Leiding	23	24
Jean Schock Susan Borchardt	Dennis Krueger	Sonja Haugen Dustin Lyons	Merle & Shirley Burmeister	Katelyn Cheever Brian Clow Lea Lyons	JoAnn Wink	Dean Koehler Logan Wolter Carlene Hand
Sibyl & Doug Anderson	Dan & Jill Schwanz—		Scott & Vicki Smith—20	John & MaryAnn Frerichs	John & Charlotte Schmidtke	
25	26	27	28	29	30	<b>31</b> Lois Nelson
Sandy Newville Darcia	James Hatch Jeff	Don Nordstrom Levi Hansen	Jean & Ron Schock	Dale Duncan Kim Mosloski		KayLea Haggerty Brianna Morrow
Schmidt	Armbrust Linda Bakke		Larry & Holly Wiggins			Craig & Carol Senne



Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned toward him and said in Hebrew, "Rabboni!" (This means "Teacher.")

John 20:16

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My favorite story in Scripture is the account in John's Gospel of Mary Magdalene going to the tomb. It was the first Easter, but Mary didn't know that. She expected death. In her profound grief she couldn't recognize Jesus. It was only when Jesus called her by name that she was able to see the risen Lord.

Jesus saw Mary. Jesus knew Mary. Jesus spoke "Mary." It was being completely seen, utterly known and lovingly called that opened Mary Magdalene to the hope of the resurrection and into a deeper relationship with Christ. Because she was seen she could see.

This is Easter vision. We have been seen, known and called by God through the crucified and risen Savior and, having received the Spirit through baptism, we all can now see. We can see Christ, and we can see Christ in our neighbor. No one is invisible to God, and no one is invisible to us. What wondrous love is this!

So beloved, with newly opened eyes let us be bold to say, "Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah!"

Blessed Easter.

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton

Presiding Bishop

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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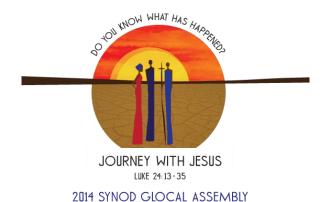
## MAY 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Juli			Wed	1114		Jat
	Office Hours	(TMC) Tuesday		1	2	3 WELCA
	Monday—	Morning				Synod Con- vention—
1st Fruits and	Friday	Coffees				American
Blessings of the	9 am —	8:30—10 am	7 pm			Lutheran
Seeds Sunday—	1 pm	at Trinity in Welcome	Bible Study @ TLC			Church in Windom
WLC ▼		Welcome	▼			villaoiii
4 D	5	6	<b>7</b> *1:30 pm	8	9	10
<b>S</b> Sunday		TMC	WELCA— StP			
At Trinity			*1:30 Dorcas			<b></b>
Sunday school—	6:30 pm	7 pm Mary	Circle—WLC (TSL)			
ALL (last StP)	Bible Study	Circle— WLC	SARÁGE 5:30 pm at			Bible study Facebook
Bible Study—StP	Rathman's		Delano's Bergemann's			discussion
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
matth a air		TMC				
mens		6 pm Parish				
		Council mtg				
Sunday school—	6:30 pm	7:30 pm				
TLC, WLC (last)	Bible Study	WLC / TLC	7 pm			Bible study Facebook
Bible Study—StP	Rathman's	Council mtgs	Bible Study @ TLC			discussion
<b>18</b> ⊓ √3	19	20	21	22	23	24
Confirmation		TMC		10 am		
Sunday At St. Peter				Pastor leading		
311 31. 2 0101				worship at		
Last day of Sun-		Ripples of		Goldfinch		Bible study
day school—TLC	6:30 pm Bible Study	Faith articles due	7 pm	Estates,		Facebook
Bible Study—StP	Rathman's		Bible Study @ TLC			discussion
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		TMC	9:30 am			
Spring Choir			Assemble Ripples of Faith			
Cantata—WLC			Mpples of Faith			
						Diblo atual:
	6:30 pm Bible Study		7 pm			Bible study Facebook
Bible Study—StP	Rathman's		Bible Study @ TLC			discussion

### ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

US Postage Paid Non-Profit Organization Permit No. 5 Welcome, MN 56181



June 13-15, 2014 Gustavus Adolphus College St. Peter

The assembly will be held June 13-15, 2014, on the campus of Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. For the first time, we will be hosting a Glocal Synod Assembly co-sponsored with ELCA Churchwide Global Mission. Glocal is the word used to describe God's work both locally and globally. (Posters on your bulletin board)

May 9, 2014 - Last day for early bird registration—save \$50.00