

## The Bishop's Road Show – The Season of Pentecost

June 29, 2010

Dear Friends:

Today is my first day in the synod office following a week's vacation and a week at Camp Luther. Both were very good weeks of rest and ministry.

Even though I was away, ministry and changes in this synod continue to occur.

Last Sunday, June 27, 2010, **St. John's, Davis, WV** rededicated their worship facility. After several hundreds of thousands of dollars, like bringing the electric up to code and the removal of asbestos, they were ready to celebrate. Pastor Fred Soltow, one of their former pastors, served as the preacher.

As noted in an earlier road show, June 27 was also a special date as we had two congregational votes to extend calls to pastors. St. Thomas, Charles Town and St. Paul, Huntington issued calls. **Pastor Lee Brumback**, a son of St. John, Martinsburg received and accepted the Call to be the next pastor of St. Thomas, Charles Town. Pastor Lee is in hopes of moving and beginning his new call on or about August 15. I am still awaiting word from the second pastor as to whether or not they will accept the Call to St. Paul, Huntington.

Prior to June 27, **Pastor Marjorie Lauver** resigned as pastor of St. Paul, Aurora, WV and St. John, Red House, MD, effective June 26. Pastor Marjorie has applied for and been accepted into a year long Clinical Pastor Education program that will begin on August 16, 2010.

**Pastor Roger Harms** has reported to me that he will begin a new Intentional Interim Call to Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church, Brecksville, Ohio effective August 1, 2010. You may recall that Pastor Roger was the Intentional Interim Pastor at First, Parkersburg for nearly 18 months.

**Pastor Brian Nunnally** announced to Christ the King, on Sunday, June 27 that Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church, West Alexandria, Ohio issued him a Letter of Call that he has accepted. He plans to begin at Salem on August 1, 2010.

Two weeks from now, St. Mark, Clarksburg will vote on whether or not to extend a Call to **Pastor Linda Muhly**. Pastor Linda is in the midst of a two-year intentional interim call that we agreed could be renewed. The Call Committee has held their interview and voted that the Council vote upon this possibility on July 11, 2010.

Now, for all of you on the baby watch, Pastor Brian and Mary Lynn Bennett's daughter, Dorothy Elizabeth was born yesterday, June 28. Dorothy weighed more than her brothers at 10 pounds 8 ounces, and she was 22 inches in length. Pastor Brian noted his wife Mary Lynn's relief that Dorothy has finally made an appearance especially due to this heat. We share our congratulations with the Bennett's who have been waiting.

Maureen has at least one other item to add to this Road Show. Just so you know, I will be in Chicago tomorrow for the "Stewards of Abundance Table" meeting. The ELCA has received a Lilly Grant to examine the debt of seminarians. There are three tables of leaders, each working upon a different aspect of this situation. Part of the purpose of my tables meeting is in creating "more effective financial

wellness education for seminarians.” Presently we are defining financial wellness and looking at a study group in which to collect data. If my flights are on time, I will return home tomorrow night around 11:30 p.m.