



First Impressions

Worship God, strengthen His people, and reach out
with the Love of Christ

Volume 16 Issue 9

September 2009

Flowing From the Heart

“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.” - John 7:38

Passion – Webster defines it as *the state or capacity of being acted on by external agents or forces*. Another definition is *the intense, driving, or overmastering feeling or conviction*.

Now, taking the first definition into account, I can burn your ears to no end with this “external, worldly desire” description – a 1965 candy-apple red Corvette convertible with a white convertible top, 327 V-8 engine with three 2-barrel carburetors sitting on top of the engine in the middle of chrome plated manifold covers. Oh yeah, I can’t leave out cruising around the countryside with the top down on a pleasant, sunny Sunday afternoon. So much for the external agents and forces operating on me.

The second definition, that *intense, driving, or overmastering feeling or conviction*, puts somewhat of a different spin on the word passion, doesn’t it. When we place that into a spiritual context, then we really have something to think about. Spiritually speaking, what is your overmastering feeling or conviction? Quite often we get worldly things and spiritual things crossed up. We let the “red corvette” lead the way when the Holy Spirit tells us different. We give a stronger priority to the things of the world than we do to Jesus. We overlook the gift that has been given us – the fountain from which *“the streams of living water flow”*. This Fountain and Source is the one sure thing that gives us comfort in a failing “red corvette” world - a world that is filled with clogged carburetors and disappointments.

Now, one more question: ***What is your real passion – what is the desire of your heart?*** Jesus says, *“Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”* This living, flowing water is the Holy Spirit – the gift given to each of you at your baptism. The source within you is manifested even more in your lives by being in His Word and regularly receiving His body and Blood. Strengthened and nourished daily by Word, partaking often of His body and blood and remembering your baptism, this ***passion*** will flow even more out of you as a stream. Others will see and hear it as they are nourished by your words and actions – the love of God given in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Are you ready? Do you have a burning desire to tell someone who may not know Christ about him? Are you willing to share your ***passion***?

...and my daily prayer for each of you is that the Holy Spirit will instill such a deep ***passion*** within in your hearts and minds and that the love of Christ will flow from you as living streams for others to see and hear.

Remember, God answer’s prayer. Standby!

Living waters will flow - ***Share this passion!***

Pastor Tom, Ptl

- 4th Noah Drews
- 12th Lisa Whittington
- 13th Frank Brown
- 14th Flo Fischer
- 16th Linda Brown



- 16th Derek Basden
- 21st Mike Golchert
- 24th Jim Campbell
- 26th Ann Hajduk
- 27th Terry Shiflett
- 27th Joseph Mayhew



- 2nd Frank & Judy Brown
- 6th Bob & lee Hunter
- 13th Wayne & Donna Speegle
- 20th Eric & Jody Kilbourne
- 24th Dave & Andrea Otte



The Prayer Team will begin meeting again every Wednesday night in the Library at First from 6 pm to 6:30 pm beginning September 9th. If you are interested in being a part of this Ministry, please contact Myra Grund or just show up at our meetings. We will focus on prayers for the Church, our Pastor, and leaders during this time.

Choir rehearsals begin Wednesday September 9, 2009. We meet at First/Emmanuel from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary. Interested folks who have not sung before, or have not sung in awhile, should contact Bob Collier at 595-6421. Otherwise, Bob expects all choir veterans to be in attendance!



Our 5th Sunday of the month potluck re-started with a Rally Day picnic lunch at the Zoo. The next scheduled dinner is Sunday, November 29, 2009. We meet in the Fellowship

Hall after worship service and everyone brings a dish to share. For more information, contact Donna Speegle or anyone on the Board of Fellowship.



We are in need of replenishing our Christ Care Fund. If you are able to contribute to this most worthy and needed cause, please place your checks in the offering plate and mark 'Christ Care' in the memo portion. You may also mail contributions to Stan Weir c/o First Lutheran Church.



THE REGULARLY SCHEDULED COUNCIL MEETING HAS BEEN MOVED FROM SEPTEMBER 7 TO SEPTEMBER 14, DUE TO LABOR DAY CELEBRATIONS.

WORSHIP WORKERS



FIRST & EMMANUEL LUTHERAN

Children's Church –

- September 6 - Abby Cahill
- September 13 - Kate Cahill
- September 20 - Carol Lackey
- September 27 - Myra Grund

Readers:

- September 6 - Wilson Whittington
- September 13 - Donna Speegle
- September 20 - Carol Lackey
- September 27 - Toby Cahill

Altar Guild: Jeri & Becky Troullier

Candles: Carol Lackey

Communion Assistants:

- September 6 - Charlie Hayes
- September 20 - Charlie Hayes

Ushers: Toby Cahill, Mike Grund,
Mike Twiss, Jim Campbell.

Worship Assistant: Wilson Whittington

Nursery: Meg Callahan

Harvest - Graham and Victoria Sisson go through the Bible one chapter at a time.

Small Group - Topical Bible study for a limited number of participants, taught by Rachel Mudd.

Adult Bible Study - General Bible study taught by Mike Grund.

Children's & Youth Sunday School Classes:

Pre-School - for kids 2-5 years old who cannot read.

Early Elementary - for kids in 1st - 3rd grade with limited reading skills.

Upper Elementary - for kids in 4th - 5th grade.

Middle School - for youth in 6th - 8th grade.

High School - For youth in 9th - 12th grade.



9/6 - In honor of

Frank & Judy Brown 's

42nd Wedding Anniversary.



Retirement Home: Dorothy Adair

Recovering: Leona Boehme, Edna Grund, Delores Goehler, Flo Fischer; Leo Perry, Hildegard Wesson, Annie Harrell, & David Cybul (Krista Wants' brother)

Thanks & Praise: Healthy birth of Abbigail Ruth Kilbourne & Cheryl

Schuetze's niece, Evangeline Belle DeFluiter

Illness: Floyd Seibert (Charlene Seibert's brother), Gene Duncan (co-worker of Pastor Tom & Heather Lackey), Judy Drew's brother-in-law, Steve Norby (brain tumor), Michael Flick (5 year old with lung cancer).

Mourning: Family of Janice Eulitz (Mike Grund's sister; Edna's daughter), Neil Jefferson.

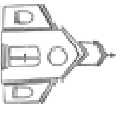
Missionaries: Meg Tumbleson (China), Bible Faith Lutheran Seminary (India).

Members who have lost their jobs.

Those Serving in the Military: Joel Lackey deployed to Iraq.

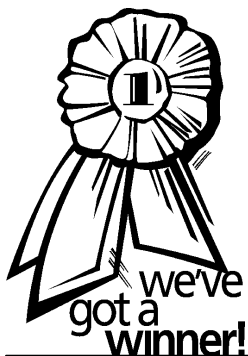
SEPTEMBER 2009

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	<i>Rally Day at the Zool</i> 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 1:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	31	1	2	3	4	5
6	Secretary out-of-office 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 1:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	Secretary out-of-office 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 1:30 AM Worship 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM - 1:30 AM Worship 1:30 AM - 1:00 PM Youth Group 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First	21	22	23	24	25	26
27		28	29	30	1	2	3



The Pastor Will Be Absent

Pastor Tom on vacation
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM Sunday School
10:15 AM - 1:30 AM Worship
1:30 AM - 1:00 PM Youth Group
7:00 PM - 10:00 PM Alcoholics Anonymous @ First



THE UGLY TIE CONTEST

Our first fundraiser was a great success - we were able to raise \$113.13. Our first and second place winners were Tie # 1 and Tie # 4. These ties were joined together to create a Stoll for Pastor Tom, who wore it proudly on Sunday, August 16. Thanks to everyone who voted for their favorite tie.

Youth Pool Party!



All youth are invited to attend a pool party on Sunday, September 13, 2009 following morning worship. Please bring \$5.00 for lunch, your swim suit, towel, flip flops a floating device (if so desired), sun block, and perhaps a change of clothes.

Contact Becky Troullier for more information.

YARD SALE – Saturday, October 3rd, 2009 at our Hwy. 119


Location - The Youth are presently looking for donations of books, toys, baby items, children's & baby clothing, kitchen items, jewelry, glassware, furniture, household items, electronics, tools, sports equipment, practically anything you can think of (except adult clothing) and more to be sold at a yard sale. We are asking that all donations be clean and priced. Also, think about signing up to volunteer for set up, tear down, handling cash, large and/or small



TAKE STOCK IN OUR YOUTH (2010 NYG Fundraiser)

Over the next 11 months the youth will be selling shares of stock in a continued effort to raise funds for the 2010 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

Shares, which may be purchased from our youth, are \$10.00 each and the shareholder will receive a stock certificate. This certificate entitles the shareholder to a dinner and special presentation where the youth will share their experience(s) upon returning from the Gathering.



CHURCH COUNCIL

Meet your new church Council! Keep this page handy in case you have a question or need.

First/Emmanuel's Church Council 2009 - 2010

President – Glen Thompson - 655-8634

VP – Graham Sisson - 595-3890

Treasurer – Stan Weir - 930-9722

Chairman Board of Deacons – Toby Cahill - 681-1157

Members = Graham Sisson, Mike Twiss, Wilson Whittington, Jim Campbell, Charlie Hayes, Brett Stiefel, Pastor Tom as ex-officio

Chairman Board of Education – Mike Grund - 655-8097

Members = Lisa Whittington, Judy Drews, Myra Grund, Becky Troullier

Chairman Board of Evangelism – Dee Mayhew - 937-9032

Members = Heather & Carol Lackey

Chairman Board of Fellowship – Kate Cahill & Donna Speegle -

681-1157/956-1801

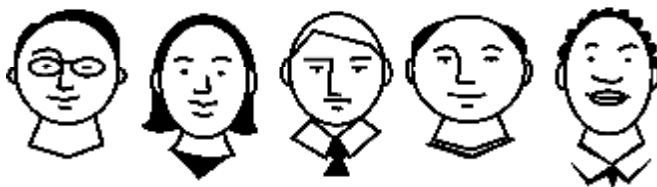
Members = Rachel Mudd, Julie Cvengros

Chairman Board of Stewardship – Judy Brown - 408-2958

Chairman Board of Trustees – Ray Cvengros - 542-2644

Member recruitment in progress – join the team!

From your Board of Deacons



As many of you know, the leadership of our church is gathering input from the Southern District leadership regarding two ministry options that may fit with our congregation's previous decision to sell both buildings and relocate to a new location. More information will follow, as more details are known. Your deacons support, and encourage our leadership in bringing these discussions to a speedy, but thoughtful conclusion.

We have been discussing several topics regarding our current practices, and will be keeping you informed as decisions are made. Here is a sampling of the ideas being discussed:

- Communion offered every Sunday
- Saturday evening worship
- Second, early Sunday morning worship
- Continued every member contact efforts

More deacon involvement in homebound visits with Pastor Tom

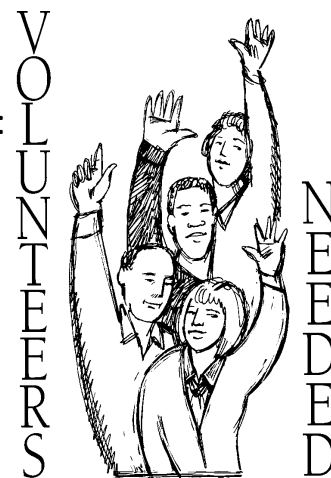
We encourage feedback from you, our members, and would appreciate any comments you might have, and would ask you to contact your deacon, or Pastor Tom, if you would like to offer an opinion.



How can I better serve the Lord and my church? By volunteering to be a worship worker! The Deacons are looking for the following:

Readers - one week at a time and rotate every 2 to 3 months;
Ushers - one month at a time and rotate every 3 to 4 months;
Greeters - a new position and time will be determined by the number of volunteers.

Sign-up sheets are at the back of the *Sanctuary* and on the *hall bulletin board*. For more information on duty responsibilities or restrictions, please contact Toby Cahill.





First Lutheran Church

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for Children & Adults
10:15 a.m. Sunday Worship Service
Communion Service 1st and 3rd and 5th Sunday

Emmanuel Lutheran Church

Sunday Morning Worship Service &
Sunday School for Children & Adults
Combined at First

First Lutheran Church

2507 Highland Avenue South
Birmingham, AL 35205-2497

Phone - 933-0380

Pastor's E-Mail: pastortom@firstlutheranbham.org

Bulletin E-mail: secretary@firstlutheranbham.org

Web Site: firstlutheranbham.org

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September 2009

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