The Times, They are a Changin’

The Church Council read an article recently: Urgent Church: Nine Changes We Must Make Or Die. It’s written by Thom Rainer. Rainer points out that the pace of congregational death is accelerating. It’s something we see, as we witness congregations of every denomination consolidating or closing.

First, he says, “We must stop bemoaning the death of cultural Christianity.” Going to church is simply not the cultural norm it once was. He points out that the Great Commission Jesus gave us is more about “going.” It’s less about waiting within our buildings for people to come. Certainly Edison Park Lutheran has realized this, and the expansion of our outreach ministries has been phenomenal. We give thanks to all who support the ministry financially, and all who give time and energy to taking the love of Jesus Christ beyond our walls.

Rainer would have us see the church less as a place of comfort and stability in the midst of rapid change. Hebrews 13:8 reminds us that Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today, and forever. We do find comfort and assurance in the fact that God is constant and unfailing in grace. Still, the methods and approaches of reaching people for Christ do change with the times. Rainer writes: “Indeed, we must learn to be uncomfortable in the world if we are to make a difference. ‘We’ve never done it that way before,’ is a death declaration. ‘We attempt to hold to a center here, in worship and congregational life, but we do change things up based on feedback, and the realization that how we’ve done things in the past may not as readily meet the needs of each generation. As we do, the hope is that everyone can take delight in what they love, and be accepting of what may be uplifting to another.

In his article, Rainer also stresses that the church is not a country club where you pay your dues, and so get perks and privileges. “It is a gospel outpost where you are to put yourself last.” He uses the biblical imagery of being willing to die to self, for the sake of the gospel.

It’s a thought provoking article, and he ends by pointing out that around 200 churches will close this week. His is a call to action, and he stresses the urgency of our cause. Being the church in the 21st century is no easy task, but then it has never been easy to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Still, the reality that surrounds us is real, and Edison Park is doing all it can, with God’s help, to remain strong, vital, and life-changing as we move into the future. Your positive spirit, and generous support, is a treasure.

Here at Edison Park we attempt to honor history, as well as continually make changes as the world shifts. Sometimes the changes are difficult. We all appreciate the familiar. It is a journey. When I was young I came to the conclusion that “becoming comfortable with being uncomfortable” is a necessary thing in life. I think the same is true for the church today. God does not call us into comfort, but into mission. The chaos we find is real but, when we are open to the Holy Spirit’s work within us, the peace of Christ will hold us.

Above all, our goal as God’s people is to bring the good news of Jesus Christ into people’s lives. Rainer ends by writing: “Time is running out. Please, for the sake of the gospel, forsake yourself and make the changes in God’s power.”

In Christ,
Pr. Michael Sparby

Worship Times
Through Labor Day—Sept. 2/3
Sat. 5p and Sun. 9a and 10:30a
Block Party Weekend
September 9/10
Sat. 5p and Sunday 10:30a ONLY as kick-off to the picnic

Summer Worship: Saturday at 5p and Sunday at 9a and 10:30a.
**Church Office Hours**
8:30a-10:30a—Sunday
8:30a-3p — Monday through Thursday
8:30a-12:00p—Friday
Office closed Monday, July 3 & Tuesday, July 4

**Opportunities to Serve**
Worship Participants—serve one Sunday a month

**Memorials**

Edison Park Lutheran Church is grateful for the following:

In celebration of Marge and Chuck Doud’s 50th Anniversary to the EPLC Foundation from Kathy and Alan Schmuttenmaer

In memory of Jimmy Sorensen to the Music Fund from Barbara Smith

In memory of Edwynn Dunn to the General Fund from the Weickart Family, Joyce and Ron Leslie, Sara and Mark Dopke, Steve Gregory, Dorothy Hedberg and Diane Neff

In memory of Lenora Schafer to the Music Fund from Barbara Smith

In memory of Yvonne C. Stuart to the General Fund from Kenneth Stuart, Sandra and John Covey and Susan and Richard Langmaack

**Prayer Requests (as of 6/25/17)**

◊ Vi Angell
◊ Rich Bake (John Cherry’s cousin)
◊ Karen Bartel
◊ Judith Benson (Tom’s cousin)
◊ John Bimmerle
◊ Rob Burke
◊ Francine Byrne
◊ Fred Chipman (Mary Hanson’s brother)
◊ Linda Christensen
◊ Millie Cummings (Shelley Schwartz’ friend)
◊ Dan Brown (Rick Brown’s brother)
◊ Viola Collins-Brown
◊ Mae Dumas
◊ Bob Franden (Cindy Anderson’s friend)
◊ Bill Frenk (Barb Sanders’ friend)
◊ Kay Grassl
◊ Floyd Halversen
◊ Craig Heffernan
◊ Shaunna Juarez (daughter-in-law of Toni and Juan)
◊ Les Kinney
◊ Diane Knutson
◊ Ralph Kudsk
◊ Rose Lewis (Cindy Andersen’s friend)
◊ Julie Linnekin (Phyllis Doyle’s niece)
◊ Dick Pence
◊ John Rose
◊ Diane Rumsfield
◊ Richard Sears
◊ Pat Schwager (friend of Maureen Cassaro)
◊ Clarice Smoot (Marilyn Baalson’s sister)
◊ Chuck Spargrove (Barb Williams’ brother)
◊ Gary Spickerman (Marilyn Cook’s brother)
◊ Infant Rue Stacy (Great granddaughter of Barb Kruse)
◊ Susan Stacy
◊ Kathy Tobin
◊ Amy Vullmahn (Arlene’s niece)
◊ Payton Williams (Barb Williams’ granddaughter)
◊ Those serving in the military from our congregation: John Minelli
◊ The sympathy of the congregation to the Specialle family on the death of their niece, Abbey.

**Life & Growth**

**Wedding:**
May 27—Amy Zielinski & Dave Paul
June 16—Lyz Schnauffer & Shawn Watson

**Baptism:**
June 4—Sofia Grace Ramunni
June 18—Davieanna Davis

**Christian Sympathy**

Sympathy to the families of:

Betty Perschke
Lenora Schafer
Edwynn Dunn
Ralph Harris

**Thank you!** — Thank you very much for the Easter Lily that was delivered to me. Charles Stain

**Thank you** to Julie Payne for her years here as a Preschool Teacher — best wishes to you and your family, Julie!

**Scheduling a Baptism?**
Contact the church office to begin the process.

**Scheduling a Wedding?**
Contact the church office to get your date on the calendar, and we’ll help you in the initial stages. A Wedding Director will be assigned to help with the details of your special day.

**Thanks to all** who took a member survey!
Leadership

Some of what is covered in this Ministry Area:
Church Council; Finance; stewardship; property; synod and ELCA; All Saints Memorial Garden; etc.

Benevolence
Kindness, Compassion, Generosity, Goodwill

Mission of the Month for July

Kid’s Summer Meal Program w New Hope Food Pantry—Free healthy, nutritious summer lunches are available to children 18 years and younger throughout the summer break. New Hope works with the Greater Chicago Food Depository, Presence Resurrection Medical Center, and St. Cornelius Parish. The meals are served at St. Cornelius, 5430 W. Foster Ave., June 26 – August 3, from Noon to 1p Mon.—TH. Volunteers are also needed. Mark your gifts New Hope Kid’s.

Mission of the Month for August
Holy Family School—Looking ahead, we’ll be doing another summer fundraiser for the cause of education.

From the Treasurer:

I’d like to start this report with a thank you to the congregation for the generous giving that has been done for the start of the year. I need to report that the giving is down close to 15% from the budgeted amount which was a more conservative number than last year and we are down $15,000 year to date for the same time period last year. There is good news in the numbers. Simply giving and credit card giving have both increased substantially from last year and is definitely a program that we are hoping can grow further in the next year to try to make a more stable base of giving that is there even when we all cannot make it to worship to drop off our gifts. Please consider setting up a regular giving program for yourself that is private and is given on a regular basis so that God’s work can be done without interruptions.

I did also want to mention that the council is excited that Philip Mauro was hired for the Youth and Family Minister Director. He is a member of EPLC with his family and the council was able to meet and discuss his excitement about getting started. He’s going to need the congregation’s support and prayers. I attended the confirmation ceremony this year and I was so impressed with the young members of our congregation. God is at work in all of us and it can be seen on their faces. It can be heard in the music and the singing in worship.

We have an audacious goal to aim for as we reach the children of Holy Family School. We need YOU! We hope to raise enough for 37 Chromebooks for 8th graders, and staff. The cost per Chromebook is $281.46/ea. Mark your gift Holy Family. With God, all things are possible. Let’s reach this goal of $10,414.02 for our partner in ministry since the mid-1980s.

A great cause, for a great school that changes countless lives in our city. Thanks!

We Need Your Help, To Help Us Serve

Please remember to contact Deacon Carole Edwards when you’re hospitalized, or whenever you’d like a visit. Hospitals usually don’t let the church know. Even if you don’t want a visit, we would appreciate the opportunity to pray for your healing. We’d love to visit you in your home, or meet you somewhere for coffee anytime. Please let us know you would like a visit. Pastor Sparby and Deacon Edwards always welcome the opportunity to visit you. We have a great pastoral care team consisting of Deacon, Pastor, Stephen Ministers, and many others who are eager to visit when there is a specific need, or just for conversation. Call Deacon Edwards at 773-580-3617 or cedwards@edisonparkchurch.com, or Pastor Sparby at 773-580-3607 or msparby@edisonparkchurch.com.

To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.
Worship

Some of what is covered in this Ministry Area:
Worship services and all things connected to worship life; choirs, tech, altar care, guest musicians, praise team; etc.

Worship Schedule through Labor Day

Saturdays
5:00pm – Evensong
A calming blend of traditional and contemporary music, liturgical elements and multi-media.

Sundays
9:00 am & 10:30am – New Song
A mix of litanies, liturgies, traditional and contemporary music, a children’s time, scripture, sermon, and communion each week.

Summer Choir

July 2nd and August 13th at 9:00 am Worship
Summer Choir will gather in the Sanctuary at 8:15 on selected summer Sundays to learn an anthem based on a well known hymn or tune.

Sunday Morning Music @ 9 am Service
Join us for special music Sunday mornings during the summer at the 9am service.

July 2—Summer Choir
July 9—Shannon Suty, Soloist
July 16—Summer Ringers
July 23—Nancy Erstad and Marilyn Baalson, Vocal Duets
July 30—Viola Collins-Brown, Soloist

August 6—Woodwind Soloists
August 13—Summer Choir
August 20—Synoma Hays, Soloist
August 27—LaVerne Myers, Handbell Soloist

Thank You!
A heartfelt thank you is extended to everyone who was involved with our spring musical, The Feast of Life! It was such a wonderful way to showcase the over 50 musicians who together make up our Music Department. An extra-special thank you to Synoma Hays and Bruce Moore, our outstanding soloists! Their dedication and commitment has allowed us to continue providing high quality music experiences that affect many deeply. Thank you!

Did you know?
Of the 26 children in our children’s choirs, only 13 of them are members of Edison Park Lutheran. Half of the members come from churches other than Edison Park but still come to weekly rehearsals and assigned Sunday mornings. It is quite an outreach to our community!

Our Children’s Choir is a great place for children to learn some basics of music, gain confidence to sing in front of people, make new friends, and have fun—all while growing in their faith. While choirs don’t start until after Labor Day, consider planting a seed in a neighbor’s mind of the possibility of children’s choirs for their children!

Worship Participants Needed!
There are many ways to serve — as an usher, communion assistant, assisting minister or altar care team member. You can sign up to be a part of our monthly rotation OR you can sign up to be put on a substitute list. Contact Mary in the office for more information.

On Being a Lector
Lectors needed at 9am
Lectors proclaim the Word of God through bible readings during a service. We believe that the words of the Bible come to life in our lives, and are the living, breathing way that God directs our steps.

On Being a Communion Assistant:
Assistants needed at 9am & 1030 am
Communion Assistants distribute the communion elements to the congregation. This will be in the form of the red wine and the white grape juice. We believe that in Holy Communion the Body and Blood of Jesus is received with the Bread and Wine for the forgiveness of sins and strengthening of our faith.

On Being an Usher
Ushers needed at 9am & 1030 am
Ushers are ministers of hospitality. Their task is to serve all those who have come together to worship - to serve them with hospitality, allowing them to worship God and to enjoy Christian community. It is an important duty, that makes both visitors and members feel welcome and wanted.

On Being an Altar Care Member
Altar Care needed at 9am & 1030 am
Altar Care members are responsible for preparing the communion elements—the bread and the wine. The wine and bread are prepared and placed on the altar prior to the service. After worship, elements are cleaned and either prepared for the next service or put away for the week.

Complete job descriptions for each job are available through the church office.
Member Survey Summary and Next Steps – 2017

The survey results are in – we had a fantastic response rate with 117 respondents, which is 47% of our 2017 YTD average attendance. Typical surveys consider a 15% survey response rate good and a 30% response rate great.

Many thanks to our members that participated. Over the course of the next few months, our goal is to share with you how we are using the feedback received in the survey.

Of note, the survey responses are confidential. The survey was conducted by an outside consultant that is not a church member. No names were provided and only Pastor and council members have direct access to the survey results.

It should come as no surprise, but one thing the survey shows us, is that opinions and priorities vary and that likes and dislikes are opposites for many members. However, there were a number of common themes:

- Our MUSIC program keeps people coming back
- Many respondents identified YOUTH and SUNDAY SCHOOL as an area that requires focus
- There were many comments that PEOPLE, FELLOWSHIP and COMMUNITY make our congregation special

There is a subset of council that is working to distill the feedback so that it can be shared anonymously with the congregation. Feedback is being categorized into the 4 Ministry Groups: Growing, Worship, Leadership and Outreach. The feedback areas that garner volunteers to act on them will develop into task forces. Sign-up sheets are located in the Welcome Center near the back of the sanctuary.

- Monthly Social Events / Out and About (city trips/events) Task Force
- Family Events Task Force
- Adult Bible Study Task Force
- Fellowship for 30-50’s Task Force
- Youth Ministry Task Force
- Sunday Van Transport Task Force
- Widow/Widower Support Task Force
- Caring for Bereaved Task Force
- Property Task Force
- Women’s Ministry
- Sunday School
- Intergenerational Activities
- Worship, Music, and Arts

When you sign up for a task force, you are stating your interest, and your willingness to help bring that ministry to life. If a group materializes with passion for a ministry, the task force will be convened by a staff person, or someone who has offered to take the lead. Task Forces, by nature, are action groups. At times someone may bring forth an idea. It may draw interest and passion for the community. At other times ideas are shared, but may draw no interest at that time. The Spirit moves in different ways and at different times. Feedback is a gift. Please be sure to identify yourself and participate in the task force opportunities that call you so that action can be taken on all of this great feedback. We look forward to sharing progress reports.

Respectfully submitted, Vicki Evers, Church Council Member

Church Council 2017:

June New Member Reception

Viola Collins-Brown
Jordan Collins-Brown
Don and Gerri Huffman
Lin Henderson
Glenda Sayre

No pictured:
Ruth D’Ambrosio
Jenna Huffman
Jeff and Cathy Rizzo, Henry and Charlotte Fran Rizzo
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**Office Closed: 4 Fourth of July**

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Edison Park Lutheran Church — August 2017
Growing
Some of what is covered in this Ministry Area: Education for children, youth and adults; programming for children, middle school, and senior high; Bible studies; forums; guest speakers; preschool; etc.

Preschool
Congratulations to our Preschool Director! Jennifer was recognized again this year by the Chicagoland Lutheran Educational Foundation with a “Dream A Little Dream Award”. She will be purchasing STEM kits to be used in the preschool classroom with the award.

Preschool concluded with a Graduation Celebration. All parents gathered in South Hall for a performance put on by the children, led by Mr. Matt

Itty Bitty Bible Camp was another fun adventure where we learned all about Baby Moses!

Children’s Ministry
Thanks to all the kids who participated in Sunday School this year! Hope to see you in the Fall — registration forms are available at the Welcome Center.

There is a Sunday School Task Force forming now, to work with ideas and planning. We’re always seeking ideas, passion, energy, and participation. Interested? Sign up at the Welcome Center.

Family Event Pioneer Park—Sun. Aug. 6th @ 2p
Pioneer Park is located at the corner of Harlem and Touhy @ 7135 N. Harlem in Niles Everyone is welcome to join us for an afternoon of mini golf, batting cages and food! The cost is $8.00 per person. Please sign up at the Welcome Center

Youth Sunday Nursery Help
We are looking for responsible High School and Junior High kids looking to work in our nursery. There will be a mandatory training session on Sunday, July 30 @ 11a in the nursery. sign up at the Welcome Center.

National Gathering planning has begun! “This Changes Everything” is the theme for the 2018 ELCA gathering in Houston, TX, June 27—July 1, 2018. Registration is beginning soon, so pray about it. Talk with your parents—and parents talk to your kids. These events are often life-changing and spiritually transformative events in the life of our young people. You’ll be hearing more from Phil Mauro soon, as he’ll hit the ground running on this and other youth and family ministry here. *Youth will also be doing some fundraising projects to get them to Houston. Be looking for these, and if you have any ideas or questions, speak with Phil. pmauro@edisonparkchurch.com.

Best Wishes to our graduating High School seniors:
Jon Calder, Iowa State University, Ames
Kirk Cherry, University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Ava Clafford, Marquette University, Milwaukee
Ian Clafford, DePaul University, Chicago
Karen Hemm, Ball State University
Alexandria Johnson, Harper College
Michael Minelli, United States Air Force
Catherine Niewinski, Oakton Community College
Grace O'Shea, Elmhurst College
Katharine Perschke, Colorado State, Fort Collins
Shannon Suity, North Park University
JC Tiberi, Oakton Community College

Junior High/Confirmation
All youth going into 7th and 8th grade in the fall! Confirmation begins again Wednesday, September 6 with a BBQ at Pastor’s for youth and parents at 6p. Do you have neighbors and friends searching for a church home? Invite them! Bring a dish to pass, hot dogs, burgers, and drinks will be supplied. Mark your calendars!

Congratulations to the following confirmands who were confirmed on May 21:
Danielle Ammentorp, Meghan Brown, Joseph Calder, Griffin Davis, Kelly Gaertner, Kai Kelly, Joseph Killmer, Aidan Lawrence, Gabriella Randerson, Joseph Scarpelli, Emily Skifano

Senior High Youth

2018 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
JUNE 27 - JULY 1 - HOUSTON, TX

FOR BY GRACE YOU HAVE BEEN SAVED THROUGH FAITH, AND THIS IS NOT YOUR OWN DOING, IT IS THE GIFT OF GOD. — Romans 12:6

Mark your calendars!
Staffing Update
Welcome, Philip Mauro, Youth and Family Ministry Director

Good news! Philip Mauro has accepted the position as our new Youth and Family Ministry Director. Philip and Christina have been members of Edison Park since 2012. They have been very active in our children’s ministry, along with their three boys – James, Frankie, and Austin – during that time.

Phil has over twenty years of experience working with children in various capacities (coaching, officiating, teaching and administration, and also brings the perspective of a parent). Currently he’s working as athletic director at Faith, Hope & Charity, in Winnetka, as a physical education teacher at Brickton Montessori, and also as a long-term substitute physical education teacher at Faith, Hope & Charity.

Philip has a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies, Physical Education/Health Concentration from Northeastern Illinois University.

In his cover letter Philip writes: “I promise to bring a commitment to learning and living the Word of God. My K-12 upbringing in Lutheran schools has provided a strong moral base and passion for helping those in need. As a member of your parish for the last 6 years, many there have already seen my positive and energetic work approach along with my ability to create meaningful, long-lasting connections with children and their families.”

Thank you for your prayers, patience, and help throughout this transition. It will be great to be at full strength again in what is our strong commitment, and vital ministry, to children, youth, and families. Philip will begin his work with us in July.

Adult

Bible Conversation takes place Sundays at 8a
We meet in the Conference Room. All are welcome!

Deacon Carole Edwards
Join us!
Hospice and Palliative Care: The Last Reward, Not the Last Resort—North Hall
Monday, August 7, 2017 at 6:30p
Speaker: Vicki Scalzitti, Rainbow Hospice

Please join us for an informative discussion of the profound value that hospice and palliative care can bring to an end of life experience. Hospice care, when sought out at the right time in a terminal or life-limiting illness, can provide both a patient and his or her family with the very best in quality of life – physically, emotionally and spiritually. While it’s true that hospice is about the end of life, in many unexpected ways it’s about living fully in each day we have.

Isn’t calling hospice giving up?
When’s the “right time” to call hospice?
What can hospice do for us when he’s so ill and we’re so stressed?
I heard that patients often live longer with hospice care. How could that be true?

Vicki Scalzitti, Family and Community educator for Rainbow Hospice and Palliative Care, Mt. Prospect, is a grief specialist working in hospice care for over 20 years. She has led the Rainbow Hospice Good Mourning Program for Grieving Children and Families since 2004. Vicki is the author of The Road to Good Mourning: Growing Resilient Children through the Loss Experience and co-author of 10 Steps for Parenting Your Grieving Children. Through her personal and professional experiences with loss and grief, Vicki has developed a deep appreciation for the impact of faith at the most profound crossroads of our lives and she especially enjoys opportunities to discuss how faith informs our actions as we seek to provide care for others at tender and critical times of life.

Book Club!

Thurs., July 13 and August 10 @ 7:30p in the Atrium
Join us in July to read and discuss Can’t Wait to Get to Heaven by Fannie Flagg. You will meet many characters who will make you wonder if you are actually enjoying a bit of heaven right here on earth. I can’t wait to read this wonderful, positive book. It’s a “must read.” Join us July 13.

We are searching for the ship of a pirate who was more notorious than Blackbeard in the 17th century for our August 10th book selection. Join us on the underwater search as we read Pirate Hunters: Treasure, Obsession, and the Search for a Legendary Pirate Ship by Robert Kurson. It sounds like a spell-binding selection.

To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.
Outreach

Some of what is covered in this Ministry Area: Caring ministries; Outreach to neighborhood, metro area, USA, and international; all hospitality ministry; inviting and evangelism ministry; new members; all things fellowship; etc.

Movie Night—is taking a break for the summer. See you in September!

It Takes a Village—Thank you! So many people were involved in welcoming our partner congregation visitors from San Lucas. Planning the visit and arranging for host families, the warm welcome at the Red, White and Blue pot-luck dinner, the handmade gifts for our visitors, driving the van to different activities, welcoming students/teachers into your homes, transporting teachers to and from Luther North, accompanying our visitors on sightseeing trips and dinners, and your generous donations to the visit over the past months all were integral in making the students’ and teachers’ visit such a positive one.

Your willingness to pitch-in and say ‘yes’ when asked is nothing short of amazing! THANK YOU for opening your hearts to our visitors from Argentina and giving them the experience of a lifetime!

Men’s Breakfast Second Saturdays at 7:30 a.m.
Just Like Home Restaurant, 8501 W. Dempster St. in Niles. Casual, good food, good friends, good fellowship!

Argentina Partnership

OUR NEXT TRIP TO VISIT SAN LUCAS is in the beginning stages of being planned. Would you like to go? Contact Pr. Michael Sparby at msparby@edisonparkchurch.com.

Save the Date—“God’s Work, Our Hands” — September 9/10 ELCA congregations around the country will be participating in service projects in their communities this weekend. Let’s join together with 4 million members, nearly 10,000 congregations, and 65 synods, for a dedicated weekend of service and show our community the vitality of EPLC and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America! Look for further information in the upcoming announcements regarding the service opportunities that will be offered that weekend.

“Dinner for Eight” Groups To Begin Forming for Fall Start

This is our third year of offering “Dinner for Eight” groups. Last year we had four groups of eight that took turns hosting and preparing the main course for a meal, with the others bringing appetizers, salad, side dishes, dessert, etc. to compliment the meal.

There were four meals during the year, occurring about every other month. It was a wonderful time to enjoy delicious food and great fellowship! After meeting over the course of a year, it’s time to mix up the groups and provide more opportunities to get to know other EPLC members. We’d love to expand our numbers this year and include YOU!

You say you’re not a gourmet cook? This is not meant to be a gourmet club!

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You say you’re not a gourmet cook? This is not a gourmet club! Some menu suggestions could include comfort food, a summer barbecue, soup and sandwiches, pizza or everyone just brings appetizers and dessert. If you are single, you are welcome to find a partner to join you, or we can match you with another interested single, so don’t let that deter you! We had many singles in our groups last year.

There will be an organizational meeting on Sunday, August 27th at Edison Park Inn from 5-7p, across the tracks from church. We will discuss the format of the dinners, and volunteers will be recruited to hold the first gatherings at their homes within the next two months.

Sign up at the Welcome Center for this event (55 per person donation towards pizza is required and can be given at the Welcome Center when you sign up.) Everyone will purchase their own beverages.

If you can’t make the organizational meeting, but still want to participate in the Dinner for Eight groups, no worries! Just let us know at the Welcome Center. Bon appetit!
Holy Family School Supplies/Bucks for Book Collections Takes a 21st Century Turn

The end of July has traditionally been a time when EPLC has collected school supplies for Holy Family School for several years. As sales on school supplies begin appearing in newspaper flyers, you may want to pick-up a few items that always appear in the supply list such as crayons, markers, one-subject notebooks, 2-pocket folders, pens and pencils. The past couple of years, we have also supported a grade level purchase for much needed textbooks. (Last year, we helped the primary department purchase reading materials.)

We have an audacious goal to aim for as we reach the children of Holy Family School. We need YOU! We hope to raise enough for 37 Chromebooks for 8th graders, and staff. The cost per Chromebook is $281.46/ea. Mark your gift Holy Family. With God, all things are possible. Let’s reach this goal of $10,414.02 for our partner in ministry since the mid-1980s.

A great cause, for a great school that changes countless lives in our city. Thanks!

FEAST every Saturday for dinner Have you been looking for an opportunity to get to know people better? Here’s an opportunity. After Sat. 5p worship you are invited to walk over to one of the nearby restaurants for dinner—good conversation, food, friends—old and new! We get separate checks. If you worship on Sunday, just come for dinner, but call, text, or email Deacon Carole or Pastor for location where you can meet us.

Out and About Possible Outings!

There is a sheet with a number of possibilities for EPLC outings in the coming months at the Welcome Center. Please stop and pick one up and complete and return to Judi or the Welcome Center.

Each outing includes transportation, lunch and the show. Here is a preview:

| White Fence Farm      | The Chairman’s Board          | July 27th |
| Marriott Theatre      | Bridges of Madison County     | July/August |
| Drury Lane Theatre    | The Gin Game                  | July/August |
|                       | Rock of Ages                  | September/October |
|                       | Newsies                       | October/November |
|                       | 42nd Street                   | December   |
| Fireside Dinner Theater | Miracle on 34th Street       | December   |
| Mercury Theater       | Christmas Schooner           | December   |

Cost will be determined by the number of participants and the type of transportation we use.

Save the Date! Block Party—Sunday, September 10th! We will have the Saturday 5p service and the Sunday 10:30a services ONLY this weekend.
We learned all about baby Moses in our Itty Bitty Bible Camp this year!