

May 18, 2008

New to St. Mary's? Welcome—we're blessed by your presence with us today. If you want to learn more about us, you'll find information to take home to read at your leisure inside the front door or on our website. Or sign up for a member visit or our newsletter, using one of the forms in the offering plate. Or just ask any of us...our church is unique, and we love to talk about it!

ST. MARY'S EXCEEDS 2008 MDG GOAL to Habitat for Humanity. Our children, in honor of "Good Shepherd Sunday" agreed that the gift of sheep would be appropriate, although some of the boys thought a share in a water buffalo would be a good idea! We raised enough for three sheep and three shares of a water buffalo.

The **Education for Ministry (EFM)** group is looking for new members to join us in the fall. EFM is a program of theological education-at-a-distance of the School of Theology of the University of the South. Students sign up one year at a time for this four-year program. It covers the basics of a theological education in the Old and New Testaments, church history, liturgy, and theology. We meet once a week for two hours in a seminar under the guidance of our trained mentors, Eunice and Pat. The program grants a certificate at the completion of the four years and 18 Continuing Education Units for each year. Please talk to Pat or any of the current members of the group if you would like to know more about the program, or pick up a brochure by the front door.

The next event at the Mary Brown Environmental Center will be a **Men's Retreat: Canoe and Fish Weekend** from May 30 to June 1. Join experienced BWCA fisherman Roger Weaver for a great day of canoeing and fishing near Ely. Gather by the fire Friday evening and sleep at MBEC. Head for the water early Saturday morning and paddle and fish most of the day. Back at MBEC for supper (hopefully fish) and an evening of tall tales. Those who must can return home Saturday evening. You may arrive any time between 5:00 and 11:00 PM Friday, as your schedule permits. Supper is served from 6:30 to 8:00. Dessert from 8:00 until whenever. Leaders: the Rev Roger Weaver and the Rev Tom Harries. Cost: \$60 per person, meals not included. If you

wish to participate, please send an e-mail to mbec@env-steward.com or call the Rev Helen Hanten (218-728-2000)

The **Preacher's Group** will meet on the third Wednesday of each month from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The next meeting is Wednesday, June 18 at the Mary Brown Environmental Center. Newcomers welcome—see Pat for more information.

The next meeting will of the **Adult Forum** be on Wednesday, May 21, 12-1 at 1st Pres. We will talk about the first half of James Loewen's book, LIES MY TEACHER TOLD ME. Copies of notes and quotes will be emailed in a few days and copies will also be available at the meeting. However, please bring your own thoughts to share if possible. If the book didn't "grab" you or you didn't get one, please still feel welcome to join in one of our spirited discussions! Call David Kess (3928) for more information. Newcomers and drop-ins are welcome!

Our next **Adult Education** meeting will be held on June 8, following a potluck after worship. The discussion topic is ecumenism. All are encouraged to attend.

The next **Bishop's Committee** meeting will be held on May 28 at the Mary Brown Environmental Center in Ely, beginning at 7:00. Everyone interested in the business of the church is invited to attend.

The next **team meeting** will be held on June 8, following adult education. All total ministry team members should attend.

Going on vacation? Please let Gail know if there are any Sundays in the next few months when you know you will not be in church. This information will be posted on the on-line calendar to help with planning church events, lector assignment, meetings dates, etc.

**Worship Leaders
May/June 2008**

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Lector</u> | <u>Prayers of the People</u> | <u>Children's Chapel</u> |
|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| May 25 | Dick | Dick | Gail |
| June 1 | Sue | Eunice | |
| June 8 | Carol | Julie | |
| June 15 | Gail | Peter | |
| June 22 | Eunice | Pam | |
| June 29 (MP) | Pam | Carol | |

PLEASE NOTE! If you are unable to attend the service for which you have a responsibility, please arrange for a substitute. Thanks!

If you have any **announcements, news, reports, good web links, or other items of interest** to the church community that you would like to include in this bulletin, please e-mail or call them in to Mary-- groenima@hotmail.com or 365-3364.