



## Elbow Room

A new room's already been added to the commons.

Although we're pretty cramped for space, I've been impressed all year by the way folks work to share our new center for ministry. Our Sunday School teachers have about ten percent of the space they had at Corpus Christi, and the dividers they share are not nearly as soundproof as we'd hope - but they set up every Sunday morning before most of you get there and then swap it all out for coffee and conversation before you leave worship. That deluge of rain drove part of the Easter Egg Hunt indoors, and Tapestry's Tea and flower sales were big affairs, but by Sunday morning everything was spic and span and back in place. I see that kind of thing all week long, from Al Anon to Bible studies to work groups, I see the same work to share space, to clean things up, to put things back, to make the campsite a little better than the way you found it.

What delights me is that we still know how to camp out, even though we have a building now to camp in. What we're doing is practicing the Kingdom of God, practicing life together the way Jesus called us to live together. It's a tough way to live: to share space with courtesy, to share territory without being territorial, to constantly make room for each other. It's a way of life that runs counter to every rule of physics: we actually live like we believe that the space inside a finite building is infinite, that there really is always room for one more, that no matter how many people you pack inside there's another parking space, another seat, another plate at the table. There is always more room - not because we think there is, but because Jesus says there is.

That new room off the commons is a little hard to see - it's a bird's nest in the sprinkler head, in the bump out between the sanctuary and the commons. In a building where every inch counts, I'm astounded that the Grounds Committee would simply let it be - just as they mow around the Killdeer nests in the lawn. Yet that's what we believe, isn't it - that Christ made room in God's heart for us, like we make room for all of God's creation.

Pastor Jim

*In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.  
If it were not so,  
would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you?  
John 14:2*

## Site Plan

On the back side of the education page you'll find the site plan the Grounds Committee developed at its May meeting (it looks way cooler in color!). Priorities this year include installation of the play structure and a church sign, development of a children's garden, wood lot clean up, and plantings to screen the exterior furnaces off the mechanicals room. Long term plans include construction of a storage building and development of a community garden and a devotional walk. We will also be exploring the possibility of a columbarium, a contemplative area providing space for the cremated remains of loved ones.

We hope to fund the mechanicals plantings with memorial gifts for trees and shrubs. Watch the yellow pages for more information about opportunities for contributing.

### GOOD SHEPHERD'S MISSION

Centered in Christ, the Good Shepherd,  
we are called to  
WORSHIP with joy, EMBRACE with love,  
and EQUIP for witness and service.

## Life in the Body of Christ

### In Our Prayers . . .

- **The Baptism** of Myah Kemppainen, daughter of Debra and Ryan Kemppainen.
- **Comfort:** for the Brubaker-Kelley family on the death of Elizabeth & Tom's nephew, Will Kelley; Kerry Johnson and family on the death of Kerry's brother; Pastor Jan Hite and family on the death of Jan's mother, Audrey; for the family of Herb Payne, on his death; Joseph Wilson on the death of his brother; Carla & Jack Komarek and family on the death of Carla's mother, Janet Stegenga.
- **Thanksgiving** for new jobs for Kyle Wolff and Tyler Pearson!
- **Comfort, strength & healing:** Ray & Ruth Bergan
- **Seeking employment:** Bryan Blank, Kristina Charles, Kenneth & Melody Kyllonen, Kyle Kyllonen, Susan Moore, Lucky Vongphachanh
- **Serving our country:** Steve Dyke, Kaleb Essig, Richard Glumm, Colleen Smith, Darek Smith, Linsey Thomas.
- **Healing:** Stan Bergan, Dale Bergland, Karen Blank, Derick Brack, Diane Bruza, Jeff Bullers, Joe Enzweiler, Alan Faith, Kathy Green, George Hall, Pam Heckel, Peggy Hydorn, Arpad Jasko, Pam & Ron Kamphuis, Wayne Kamphuis, Viola Klynstra, Marcia Lievense, Carol Marvin, Pat McCormick, Bill Meyers, Barth Middleton, Kris Middleton, James Moore, Susan Moore, Mark Morningstar, Stacey Neumann, Andrew Pawlak, Herb Payne, Ruth Perkins, Bert Richards, Barb Robbert, Jerry Robinson, Casey Shumaker, Cheryl Somero, Larry Underhill, Joseph Wilson, Bonita Zielke.
- **In nursing home care:** Jessie McCormack, Kevin Middleton, John Staley.
- **For healthy pregnancies:** Stacey Boesenecker, Sheena Foster, Molly French, Heidi Lamphere, Emily Lopez, Christine Moore, Wendi Mulcahy, Lisa Pearson, Julie Yohe.
- **Prayer Partners:** Messiah Lutheran, Constantine; Christ United, DeWitt; Evangelical Lutheran Church, East Jordan; St. Paul & University Lutheran, East Lansing.

**To request prayer during Sunday worship**, call the church office by noon Thursday or the Worship Leader scheduled to serve Sunday. **To request confidential prayer through the Prayer Chain**, or become a member of it, call Lois Robinson at 399-4909 or Jerrold@chartermi.net.

## Website Critiques

Although we've been living out of our new building for a nearly ten months, sometimes it can seem like we left a page or two of our website back at the Corpus Christi Center. That's because the website itself is such a detailed communication tool, and try as we might, we miss an occasional reference to the change in site or an update on one of our ministries. We depend on our readers to provide ongoing feedback on our communications. If you happen to find an error or omission of any sort on the website (or for that matter, anything we generate), please don't hesitate to contact Nancy Morrison at nancy.gslc@sbcglobal.net or 772-4075.

## Welcome Tim!

After months of screening applicants and interviewing candidates and their references, Church Council has hired Timothy Oonk to fill the position of both choir director and pianist. Tim brings a wealth of experience and excitement to those positions. He is the owner of Timothy Oonk Music Studio in Zeeland, and the former director of choral activities at Zeeland High School. He has taught at Hope College, worked as an organist and pianist for Holland and Allegan area congregations for the last thirty years, and served most recently as the orchestra director for Ridge Point and the Holland Civic Theater. Tim will play once for us in June, then observe worship a few times in July before assuming "full time" duties in August.