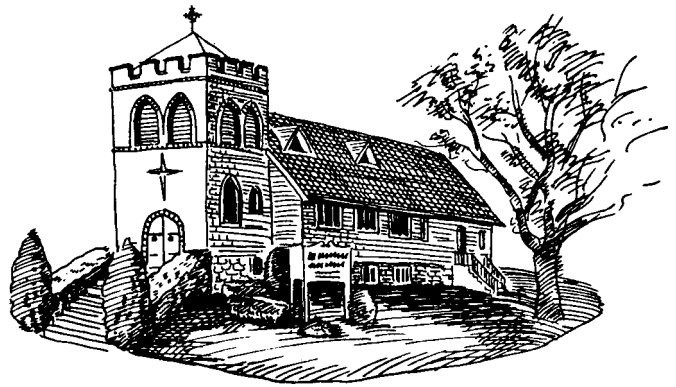
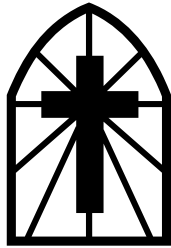


# The Ambassador

*Pentecost 2008*



St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
1746 S. Clinton Ave.  
Trenton, NJ 08610  
[www.stbartlutheran.org](http://www.stbartlutheran.org)  
(609) 393-6060 (office)  
(609) 383-4013 (fax)



## SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Worship  
10 AM  
June 1 – August 31



## Rainforest Adventure Vacation Bible School

July 21-24, 2008  
6:30 - 8:30 PM  
Mark you calendars now!



**WOMENS PICNIC**  
August 19th

*Farewell Celebrations for  
Pastor Sonja and family*

*June 20<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 pm during  
Fellowship Dinner*

*God's Speed on Sunday June 22<sup>nd</sup>  
10 am worship*

Dear Members and Friends,

As my family and I prepare to leave St. Bartholomew in a few weeks I want to thank you for what a blessing you have been in my life the last seven years. You welcomed me and helped me grow into the pastor I have become. St. Bartholomew is a unique congregation. People are accepted for who they are with all their gifts and all their faults as well. You have a heart for ministry and for welcoming those who God sends you. People in the congregation come from a variety of different backgrounds but these are a cause for celebration at St. Bart's. It is such a gift to serve a congregation which embraces diversity in a world that seeks conformity. At St. Bart's you celebrate that each person has been given gifts for ministry and you seek to use these gifts to glorify God.

In the time I have been here we have grown together. You have grown in numbers. You have doubled in worship attendance and are only one of a handful of congregations who has been able to come back after a time of decline. More important than numbers increasing you have grown in spiritual depth. There is a strong foundation of word and prayer as more people are in worship each week, many of you are in the four Bible Studies and adult education classes that are offered and we see people are praying in worship, prayer chains, and meetings. Being grounded in Word and prayer will give you strength for the days ahead.

You are entering a time of transition for the congregation. During this time you have been blessed with strong leaders. Each month there are 16 members of the congregation who lead a variety of ministries who come together to make sure that the ministry of St. Bart's is all working together for the common good that God desires. You have a gifted council president as well as New Jersey Synod Staff who will help lead you in this time.

The Holy Spirit has led us these last seven years together. We have done things that I never would have expected when I came here, but God's plans were different (and better). God continues to have a plan for St. Bart's. Already God is preparing someone to come and lead you.

As difficult as it has been for me to accept, it is clear to me and my family that God is calling us to a new place and new ministries. St. Bart's will always hold a special place in my heart. You were my first congregation. No one can ever be that again. You are the place that gave me the strong foundation to become the pastor that I am. I will never forget how each of you touched my life. For that I am truly blessed and cannot thank you enough. Even though I will be far away in distance we will always be brothers and sisters in Christ.

In Christ,

Pastor Sonja

**Please contact the church office at 393-6060 whenever you are in need of pastoral care or are aware of others who may be in need of pastoral care.**

This includes:

- sickness
- hospitalization
- times of crisis when things are out of control or down times
- times of decision when you are not sure of what to do
- when someone is near death
- when there has been a birth
- when contemplating marriage

If no one is in the office the machine will leave a phone number of who to call in an emergency.

# Thank You!

- ❖ Thank you **Lisa Adcock, Kris Andrejco, Julie Chase Gwen Childs, Rosalie Conover, Mary Cooper, Barb Fletcher, Mildred Marcelle, Elsa Metcalfe, Crystal Mura, Virgie Plantier, Toni Raider, Jody Wylie, Kathy Wylie and Marion** from Redeemer Lutheran., for bringing soup and bread for the *Lenten Soup Suppers*. We had some great homemade soups and wonderful dinner fellowship.
- ❖ Thank you to **Edna Browne** who makes the Servants in God's Family volunteer schedule each quarter.
- ❖ Thank you to **Kris Andrejco, Edna Browne, Caroline Elmer, Elsa Metcalfe and Virgie Plantier** who have so graciously offered to send out birthday and anniversary cards to our members so that each member can be honored on their special day.
- ❖ Thank you to **Barb and Jack Fletcher** for all their work on the flower bed.
- ❖ Thank you to **Virgie Plantier** for setting up for Lenten worship services.

## *Thank You for a Great Sunday School Year*

A big thank you to **Howard and Lisa Adcock** who taught the 5<sup>th</sup> – high school, to **Jack and Barb Fletcher** who taught the 1<sup>st</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> graders, to **Katrina Andrejco Gwen Childs, Danielle Mura, Barbara Schendlinger, and Vickie Sobke**, who taught the pre-school and kindergarten children. Because of their commitment to teaching others more about God's work in each of our lives we have a quality youth Sunday School program. Thank you also to all the parents who brought their children to Sunday School. Thanks to all who participated in Adult Education to learn more about our faith.

**THANK YOU!**

*Mark your calendars*

*Sunday School begins again on September 7th*

Dear St Bart's Bell Choir,

Thanks so much for going to the Silver Lake Center and playing for Bill Gretton and the other residents. With all of your busy schedules it was nice to take the time and do something for my dad. Thank you very much, Diane Cronan

## World Hunger Appeal

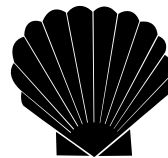
During Lent we had a World Hunger Appeal. The offering from the Wednesday Evening Lenten Services went to world hunger. Together we raised about **\$300**. Thank you to all who gave to help those in need!



## PRAYER CONCERNS

Please keep in your prayers:

- **Bill Gretton** - who has just entered into hospice care.



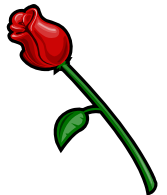
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*sm*

We rejoice with the Graziano family at the baptism of **Gary Graziano** on May 4th, 2008. Gary was born on Oct 24 2007. Gary is the son of Gary and Stefanie Graziano, and is a relative of Jack Fletcher

## *Deaths*

We offer our sympathy to the family of **Adam Teschke** who died on March 15<sup>th</sup>. Adam was a long time member who was confirmed at St Bartholomew in 1935.



We offer our sympathy to the family of **Margaret Niedt** who died on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Marge was a member of St Bartholomew for almost 70 years.

## *Confirmations*



On Sunday May 11<sup>th</sup> we confirmed four youth from St Bartholomew, **Frank Festa, Virginia McNulty, Quashaun Prince, and Cody Raider**. We rejoice with these youth on this joyous occasion as they affirmed their faith in Jesus Christ.



# Fellowship Small Groups

## Women of the Bible Women's Bible Study Group

The Women's Bible Study group, will continue looking at various women in the Bible and how their lives changed the lives of others. We have started at the beginning with Eve and will continue working through the Women of the Bible. We are currently discussing the women from the New Testament. Jenn Sullivan is taking over leadership of this bible study in Pastor Sonja's absence.

Join other women of the congregation for fellowship, refreshments and Bible Study on **the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.** in the lounge.

### Meeting Times

Tuesday, June 3, 2008  
Tuesday, July 7, 2008  
Tuesday, Aug 4, 2008

## Youth Musical Ensemble

All youth are invited to join us on the **2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month from 3 - 5 p.m.** as we learn new music together. Anyone from age 6-18 is welcome to come and learn an instrument or use the instrument we all have been given from God, our voice.

## Senior High Breakfast Club

All entering or in the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join us the **second Saturday of the month** at 9:30 am for a homemade breakfast and conversation. We will meet in fellowship hall **June 14, July 12, Aug 9, and Sept 13.**

### THURSDAY NIGHT

Bible Study  
Thursdays 7:30 – 9 p.m.

The Bible Study is hosted by Jack Fletcher and meets at his home at 1444 S. Clinton Ave. on Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. We discuss various books of the Bible and are currently studying the Gospel of John.



## FELLOWSHIP NIGHT

Join members of all ages of our congregation for dinner and a program or activity the **3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month from 6:30 – 8 p.m.** Dinner will be potluck or covered dish or if you would like you can contribute money to a church provided dish. Each person or family unit is asked to bring something to contribute for dinner – a main dish, side dish, or dessert that will feed 6-8 people. It doesn't have to be anything fancy or expensive.

Summer Dates and Program:

June 20 – Farewell Celebration for Pastor Sonja  
For information contact Lisa Adcock at 298-9209.  
July 20 – To be Determined  
Aug 18 – To be Determined

Fellowship planning night meeting Wednesday June 4<sup>th</sup> at 8pm. Anyone interested in giving input is invited.



## Crafting through God's Love

Instead of having a specific project each month we will continue to work on the three projects as each person desires – Premie Hats for Mercer NICU, Chemo Hats for St. Francis, and Baby Items for Home Front.

Join us on the **2nd Saturday of the month from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.** as we make crafts together for ourselves and others.

Upcoming Dates:

**June 14, July 12, Aug 9, Sept 13**

## Bible Basics and Fellowship Saturday 9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

Join us on **Saturday mornings from 9:00 – 10:30** in the Church lounge. We come together for fellowship and sharing as well as studying the scripture for the upcoming Sunday's worship and what they mean to each of us in our daily lives.

# Church News

## Thrivent Builds Saturday, June 21<sup>st</sup> & Aug 16<sup>th</sup>



We are building our third house as a cluster of Lutheran Churches in Mercer County.

There are lots of ways you can lend a hand.

Please contact Howard

Adcock our congregation champion if you are interested in working on this important ministry.

WELCOME  
NEW MEMBERS

**Paul and Madeline Porubski** – Paul is semi-retired.

He had his own business in upholstery and drapery. He has closed his workshop but continues to work on his own for current clients. Madeline works part time at Alexander's Pharmacy. Paul was raised at St. John Lutheran Church in Trenton and Madeline was raised

Catholic. They were married at St. Bart's over 40 years ago. They are transferring their membership from St. John's Lutheran Church. They live at 12 08 S. Clinton Ave.

**George Mount** was raised Catholic and was very active in his church. He and Cristin Hough were married almost a year ago. They wanted to worship together as a family and so he is joining St. Bart's. They live at 88 Tecumseh Trail in Browns Mills.

**Jose Cuevas** worked for many years for the NJ prison system. He currently works as selling men's suits. Because of us his job he worships with us every other week but is active in other areas already such as the Youth Ensemble, Fellowship Night, and Bible Study.

He is interested in counseling and speaks fluent Spanish. He lives at 13 E. Front St. 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl.

## Rainforest Adventure

*Vacation Bible School*

Come celebrate with us as we learn more about God each day at Rainforest Adventure! Vacation Bible School will provide fun, memorable Bible-learning activities for kids of all ages. Each day kids will sing catchy songs at Treetop Tunes, play Green Tree Games, , , create Canopy Crafts, and join in Sky High Storytelling.

**Vacation Bible School will run**

**July 21-28**

6:00 pm Dinner for Kids & Families

6:30 pm – 8:30 pm Bible School Program

Children ages 3 to 5th grade.

**Registration form included in newsletter.**

**Register early to assure a spot!**



**Trenton  
Thunder**

Lutheran Night at the Trenton Thunder is **Friday,**

**July 11, 2008.** The game will be at 7:05 pm against the Binghamton Mets . Seats are \$9.00 for the pavilion and \$6.00 for the terrace.

Proceeds will benefit Interfaith Caregivers of greater Trenton. Tickets must be ordered by June 11<sup>th</sup>. Please speak with Pastor Sonja if you are interested and get your money to her by June 15<sup>th</sup>. Checks may be written to Central NJ Chapter of Thrivent Financial

## Worship and Sanctuary Changes

They are here! We have 65 new Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymnals. Come and listen to the music from the new hymnals. While you are here enjoy the new air conditioning given by the Farr family in memory of Collette Farr.

# Katrina Benefit Concert - Reconstruction

Performers: Blawenburg Community Band  
Blawenburg Dixieland Band

When: Sunday, June 22

Time: 5:30pm

Where: German American Club  
215 Uncle Pete's Road  
Yardville, NJ

Free Will Offering to support reconstruction efforts along  
the Gulf Coast.

## Six Flags Great Adventure - Lutheran Day June 30, 2008

All are invited to Lutheran Day at Great Adventure.  
The cost is \$38 and you receive:

- 1) Admission to both the Great Adventure and Safari
- 2) An all you can eat buffet lunch
- 3) Free return ticket to the park anytime during the 2008 season!

Other options and costs:

- Lunch only ticket for season ticket holders \$15,
- Parking Pass \$11;
- Water park ticket for that day \$10;
- Water park ticket for any day \$15

Come anytime on June 30<sup>th</sup> and stay all day.  
To order tickets talk to Pastor Sonja. The final  
deadline to order tickets is *Monday, June 9<sup>th</sup>*.

## Women's Picnic

All of the women of St. Bartholomew are  
invited to a summer picnic. Come for food  
and fellowship.

*Place:* The Schendlinger Residence  
20 Heather Drive  
Ewing, NJ 08638

*When:* Tuesday, August 19

*Time:* 6:30 p.m.

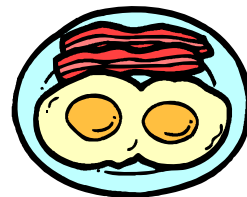
Please RSVP to Barbara Schendlinger at  
771-9267 for directions and to coordinate  
food.



## High School Breakfast Club

It's back. **High School Breakfast Club.** We  
meet on the second Saturday of the month at  
9:30 a.m. for breakfast with other high school  
youth in fellowship hall.

Come for hot breakfast and a time to hang out  
and talk about what is  
going on in our lives and  
how our faith relates. Let  
Katrina Andrejco know  
your favorite breakfast  
food. Dates June 14<sup>th</sup>, July  
12<sup>th</sup>, Aug 9<sup>th</sup>, Sept 13<sup>th</sup>.



## *Farewell to Pastor Sonja*

We want to celebrate the past seven years of  
Pastor Sonja's ministry and send her and her  
family off to Colorado with lots of good wishes  
and memories.

On Friday June 20, during the Fellowship Night  
dinner, we will celebrate the Pastor and family  
with a pot luck supper in their honor. Please  
contact Lisa Adcock by 6/8/08 to let her know if  
you are attending and what food item you would  
like to bring. Lisa's phone number is 609-298-  
9209 or email her at [lisalisa0422@comcast.net](mailto:lisalisa0422@comcast.net).

On Sunday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be a Special  
Coffee Hour in fellowship hall following Pastor's  
final service at 10:00 am. Barbara Schendlinger  
is coordinating this event and may be contacted  
at 609-771-9267, for this or any questions  
concerning Pastor's farewell activities.

## *Choir Concert at Redeemer*

Sat June 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm at The Lutheran  
Church of the Redeemer, 189 S Broad Street,  
Trenton. Tickets are \$10, all proceeds to  
benefit HomeFront of Mercer County. To  
Order tickets call 609-396-2411.



## Natural Church Development Update

We are well into our third cycle of Natural Church Development (NCD) here at St. Bart, working in the area of Loving

Relationships. The ten new initiatives we developed to help us improve in this area are now in various stages of completion.

- Pastor presented a service program during Lent that helped us to consider the scriptural foundations for forgiveness, and she has covered additional topics related to loving relationships and church community in her Sunday morning sermons.
- The leaders of all of our small groups and ministries are now meeting as a group each month to discuss topics of common interest and to better coordinate our ministries.
- Representatives from the church leadership attended a workshop with a church consultant to begin to define and consider how to live out our Church Mission, and we will all be exploring that topic further at our annual congregational retreat in November.
- We are beginning to use "The 3 Colors of Love", an NCD resource that helps congregations to improve their loving relationships, in selected small groups and ministries.
- Our Mutual Ministry Team has scheduled training with the NJ Synod in the art of dispute resolution, in order better assist the congregation in resolving interpersonal concerns.
- We are putting together special "Welcome Bags" to give to all new worshippers, and we are looking for individuals for our new "Welcome Teams," who will greet new worshippers and make them feel comfortable the first time they visit us.
- And we're getting ready for a complete "do-over" of Fellowship Hall. We're ordering new round tables with tablecloths to give us a cozy atmosphere. We're in the process of setting up a new "Church Community" board with the pictures and names of our worshippers. And we're also setting up a new "Praise Report" board on which you will be able to sign up to do a praise report during service, or to post a written praise report to share with the congregation.

All in all, we've made significant progress toward improving our loving relationships, and there is much to look forward to as we finish this cycle of NCD. If you are interested in taking part in any of these initiatives, please let me know. Your input and participation do so much to make our efforts successful.

Thank you for your continued support.  
Barb Fletcher, Chairperson, NCD Spiritual Health Team

## ST. BART "GOOD NEWS KIDS CLUB"

Introducing the "St. Bart "Good News Kids Club"! We are very excited about our brand new youth group model. We have just finished a five-session starter program meeting every two weeks after service, and we've had loads of fun with the kids.

The program is based on the successful children's ministry that our own David Jallah founded in Africa. David's ministry was dedicated to ending the violence passed from generation to generation in Africa, by breaking the cycle and introducing the love of God and teachings of Jesus Christ into the lives of the children. David's vast experience in this area has been a blessing to our children, as we've developed a way to use his model here at St. Bart. During our first five sessions, the kids learned about the "Wordless Book," an exciting tool they can use to teach others about Jesus and the "Good News" of salvation. On June 8, the kids will be presenting the "Wordless Book" to the congregation during the "Kids in Christ" time.

Working with the program and fine-tuning it over the past ten weeks, we believe we have developed a good model to use going forward. Like a mini-VBS day, there are active games and songs, memory verses, Bible lessons, and crafts. Our vision is to expand this ministry as an outreach into the community, by involving children from the neighborhood. With the constant increase in gang activity in our communities, the potential for violence in America is really not so different from what David addressed in Africa, and it is our hope that God will bless this ministry and our efforts to break the cycle here as well.

We hope that you will consider participating in this important ministry. Our children are our future, and it is so important for them to have Jesus in their life. There are many ways in which you can help. Please ask David Jallah, Barb Fletcher, Jack Fletcher, Danielle Mura, Howard Adcock or Gwen Childs for more information. And please pray for us as we undertake this important work.

# RAINFOREST ADVENTURE

## VBS Registration

(one per child)

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
July 21- 24, 2008

6:00 Dinner

6:30 – 8:30 Program

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Cell telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Home e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Last school grade completed: \_\_\_\_\_

In case of emergency, contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother: \_\_\_\_\_

Father: \_\_\_\_\_

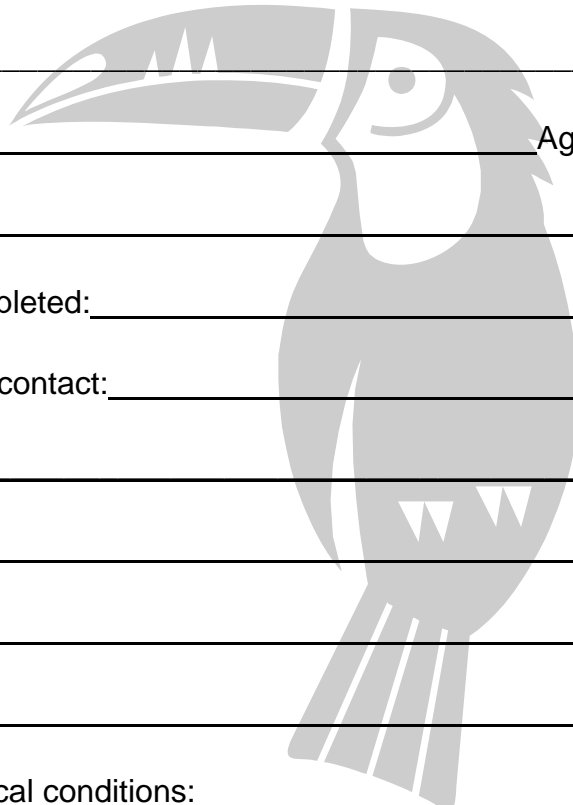
Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies or other medical conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Home church: \_\_\_\_\_

Safari Crew number (for church use only): \_\_\_\_\_

Name of a special friend your child might like to be with: \_\_\_\_\_



**REMINDER!**  
**Summer Worship Hours**  
**Start Sunday – June 1<sup>st</sup>**  
**Worship with Holy Communion at 10 am**

**Summer Worship Schedule**  
**June 1 – August 31, 2008**

St. Bartholomew Lutheran Church  
1746 S. Clinton Ave.  
Trenton, NJ 08610

**DATED MATERIAL**