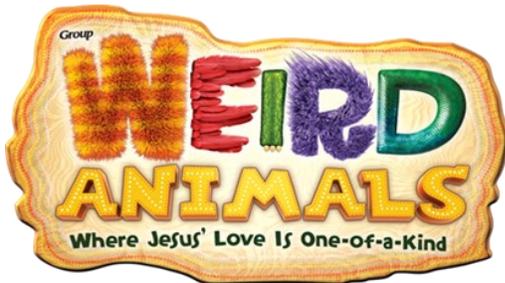




THE

# Saintly NEWS

Volume 37 Issue No. 6 / June 2014



All Saints Lutheran Church invites children to  
*Weird Animals Vacation Bible School:*  
*Where Jesus' Love Is One-of-a-Kind*  
July 21 – 25  
8:30 am to 11:30 am

Weird Animals VBS is for kids from preschool through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Students in 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are encouraged to attend to help with the younger kids.

At Weird Animals, kids will learn about some of God's most creative creations! They'll participate in memorable Bible-learning activities, sing catchy songs, play teamwork-building games, make and dig into yummy treats, experience cool Bible adventures, collect Bible Memory Buddies to remind them they are one of a kind, and test out Science like-Fun Gizmos they'll take home and play with all summer long. Plus, kids will learn to look for evidence of God all around them through something called God Sightings. Each day concludes with The Tail End—a celebration that gets everyone involved in living what they've learned. Family members and friends are encouraged to join in daily for this special time at 11:00 am each day.

Kids at Weird Animals VBS will be invited to bring an offering to join an international mission effort to share God's love by providing water for school children in India.

For more information, call Gretchen Nelson at 815-979-0829.

## Saint John's Bible

All Saints, along with all the congregations of the Central Conference, has been given the opportunity to house a replica of the Saint John's Bible. The volumes will be on display in the fellowship hall through June 15th. This was the first handwritten and illuminated Bible commissioned by a Benedictine Abbey in more than 500 years. It is a seven-volume collection, with each book 2 feet tall by 3 feet wide when open. It features more than 160 illuminations and numerous special text treatments in 1,150 pages.

The Bible took five years of planning, 11 years of creating, and 9 years to release the replicas ... a 25-year history in all. Wartburg College housed the full exhibit for 6 weeks on campus and had more than 1,000 visitors come and see it ... from pre-schoolers to senior Bible study groups. The coordinator of church relations on campus, Gail Sexton, said of the Bible, "The more I see it, the more I want to curl up with one volume and read it cover to cover. It brings God's word to life in so many ways."

## Coming Soon Famous Car Wash!

Youth and Adults, come help us at our famous car wash and have some fun...

Where: Byron Fire Station

When: Saturday June 21st, 2014  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Why: to raise money for youth gathering in July, 2015

What to bring: your dirty car  
Cost: free will donation



Sunday Worship 8:00 and 10:30 am  
Whole Family Education Hour

Responding to the Gospel  
to carry out God's mission



Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS****PRESIDENT**

**Kay Johnson**  
[allsaintswelca@aol.com](mailto:allsaintswelca@aol.com)  
 C: 815-262-8789

**VICE PRESIDENT & EDUCATION**

**Dennis Cassens**  
[dennis.cassens@gmail.com](mailto:dennis.cassens@gmail.com)  
 H: 815-234-2110

**SECRETARY**

**Sonja Stoker**  
[sonyak99@gmail.com](mailto:sonyak99@gmail.com)  
 C: 907-841-2177

**WORSHIP**

**Troy Rahn**  
[tardc1013@gmail.com](mailto:tardc1013@gmail.com)  
 C: 815-441-2335

**FINANCE**

**Steve Reid**  
[swreid1@comcast.net](mailto:swreid1@comcast.net)  
 H: 815-234-4942  
 C: 815-988-3046

**OUTREACH**

**Rebecca Heaslip**  
[rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com](mailto:rebecca.heaslip@gmail.com)  
 C: 815-509-0465

**SOCIAL MINISTRY**

**Jim Wilcox**  
[sgtjim271@yahoo.com](mailto:sgtjim271@yahoo.com)  
 H: 815-234-2365

**PROPERTY**

**Bob Branson**  
[RDB8537@aol.com](mailto:RDB8537@aol.com)  
 H: 815-234-5875

**STEWARDSHIP**

**Steve Jones**  
[sub\\_insignia@yahoo.com](mailto:sub_insignia@yahoo.com)  
 H: 779-537-4006

**YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY**

**Sarah Krug**  
[sarahkrug@comcast.net](mailto:sarahkrug@comcast.net)  
 H: 815-234-4288

**PASTOR**

**Pastor Marilyn Hanson**  
[pastor@allsaintsbyron.org](mailto:pastor@allsaintsbyron.org)  
 C: 815-762-0963

**SUNDAY MORNING COORDINATOR**

**Marlene Roberts**  
 C: 815-218-1134

**YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY LEADER**

**Audrey Adams**  
[adamsdavid5@aol.com](mailto:adamsdavid5@aol.com)  
 C: 815-509-2682

**TREASURER**

**Carolyn Niederer**  
[rjn2cjn@comcast.net](mailto:rjn2cjn@comcast.net)  
 H: 815-234-3296

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY**

**Michel Williams**  
[neffam@comcast.net](mailto:neffam@comcast.net)  
 815-262-2963

**OFFICE SECRETARIES**

**Karen Larson**  
**Cindy Beitel**  
[Office@AllSaintsByron.org](mailto:Office@AllSaintsByron.org)  
 815-234-5277  
 Fax 815-997-1300

Deadline for the July Newsletter is June 13th. Please send articles to Yvonne Anaya  
[yward1973@yahoo.com](mailto:yward1973@yahoo.com)

**Dear Friends in Christ,**

Change is in the air ... and for kids that means the end of another school year. Summer fun is just ahead. For graduating seniors, it means the end of what is old and familiar and the start of many new adventures. What a great time of year it is!

For most of us, however, our routines may not vary all that much. We still head to work each day or keep up with our volunteer activities and the same old daily household chores and repair jobs await us. Yet, with warmer temperatures and longer daylight hours, the outdoors beckons us to take some time to step out and enjoy God's marvelous creation. Summer seems to give us permission to change our pace a bit and take time for some rest and relaxation. I hope you'll do just that.

I hope also that you'll join us for worship this summer at All Saints and that if you have children, you'll bring them to Vacation Bible School in July. Our Tuesday evening Bible study will continue to meet each week and most of our other groups will also be meeting throughout the summer. There are plenty of opportunities for you to join in the fun, fellowship and faith formation events we offer at All Saints.

Summer comes and reminds us that change is in the air. On June 8, the church will be observing the Day of Pentecost, a day that is all about change as well. The followers of Jesus had just experienced a very big change in their lives. Although Jesus (after his resurrection) had been telling his disciples all along that he was going to be leaving them and ascending to the Father, it was tough for them when it really happened. They felt the loss of his presence. They felt sad and powerless when he was no longer with them.

Then, along came Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit descended upon them. The Spirit was to be the ongoing presence of Christ in their lives. The Spirit was to be their advocate, guide and comforter ... and the Spirit was. The Spirit blew in among them and the once weak, fearful, timid disciples of Jesus were suddenly transformed ... changed ... into strong, powerful witnesses for Christ. In that moment, the Church of Jesus Christ was born! The Holy Spirit continues to live and work within the Church today and within us individually ... blowing where it will ... creating and enlivening the faith within us. Do you feel that "wind" blowing through you today? If so, where is the Spirit beckoning you to go? What are you being called to do this summer, this fall, in the year ahead?

This is my prayer for you this summer ... that the Spirit might blaze its way anew into your heart and set it on fire ... so that the Word of Christ might bring light into the lives of many through your witness.

A blessed Pentecost season to you,

*Pastor Marilyn*

**Pastoral Acts - April 30 - Memorial service for Shirley Bull**

**God be with you, Marddi .....Marddi Rahn**, wife of Troy and mother to Trevor, Allison, Cortni, Harlei & Sydney Rahn, will be departing the Byron community on July 11 to report to her final duty station at the Naval Hospital in Twenty-nine Palms, CA. Marddi will be working in the Family Practice Clinic providing medical care for active duty, family members and retirees of mainly the USN and USMC. She has obtained the officer rank of Lieutenant Commander and will have 19 years of active duty service in June of this year. Join us on Sunday, June 29 when we'll have a special prayer and blessing for Marddi at the 8:00 am service.

## May Church Council Highlights

- Decided to no longer staff the nursery for the 8:00 am service (effective June 1) and will seek to staff it for the 10:30 am service only with Confirmation students and parent volunteers.
- Reviewed and approved all reports that were presented.
- Approved the names of those authorized to write checks on behalf of All Saints.
- Appointed the Executive Committee members to serve as the Memorial Fund Committee, making recommendations; decisions on how memorial funds are disbursed.
- Heard that Media Support training will be held on June 1st and Eucharistic Ministry training will be held on June 15.
- Heard that Vacation Bible School will be held the week of July 21-25, with Gretchen Nelson serving as the Coordinator this year.
- Approved taking an In-Kind offering for the Synod Assembly.
- Heard that Neysa McCammond has resigned as our regular keyboardist for the second Sunday of the month. She played for All Saints for 20 years.
- Learned that All Saints will house the replica of the Saint John's Bible for a month.
- Approved the purchase of a new lawn mower for the church.
- Discussed displays for the ministry fair May 18.

## April Finance Report

General / Facilities Giving	\$15,623.41
General / Facilities Expenses	\$22,546.61
Mortgage Reduction / Capital Campaign Giving	\$ 4,249.00
Mortgage Balance	\$255,373.74

## Call Committee Update

The call committee has completed two interviews with candidates. We thoroughly enjoyed meeting the candidates and sharing All Saints Lutheran Church with them. Committee members are in the process of attending services led by the candidates and will continue to keep the church updated on any progress made with this important decision.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rachel Niederer*, Recorder

## Financial Help

Thank you to those who have been able to add a little extra in their Sunday offering to help with paying bills. WELCA's donation to VBS and Sunday school material helped to clear those bills. But we are still left with over \$1380 of overdue bills as well as being behind in our mission support to the Northern Illinois Synod by over \$4500. As we enter the summer season, our monthly bills continue, so it is our prayer that our members will continue their financial support to All Saints.

## Scripture Texts



### June 1

#### –Seventh Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14  
Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35  
1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11  
John 17:1-11

### June 8 –Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21  
Psalm 104:24-34; 35b  
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13  
John 20:19-23

### June 15 –The Holy Trinity

Genesis 1:1-2:4a  
Psalm 8  
2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20

### June 22 –2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Jeremiah 20:7-13  
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18  
Romans 6:1b-11  
Matthew 1:24-39

### June 29 –3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

Jeremiah 28:5-9  
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18  
Romans 6:12-23  
Matthew 10:40-42

## Tuesday Night Bible Study

All are welcome to attend as often as you are able. We will use the Gospel lessons for Sunday as our study material from the site [www.ELCA.org](http://www.ELCA.org). (Please use the South entrance.)

### 06/03/14

Esther Chapter #6  
Recognizing Unrighteousness

### 06/10/14

Esther Chapter #7  
Character No Matter What

### 06/17/14

Esther Chapter #8  
Praising God's Faithfulness

### 06/24/14

Esther Chapter #9 & #10  
Remembering &  
Celebrating



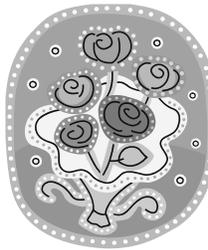
### Women's Spring Luncheon

Everything was perfect! The weather was beautiful, the lunch delicious, the fellowship couldn't have been better, the music was just the icing on the cake, the fashion show hilarious, pansies and mugs the best, devotions great!! These are just a few of the comments heard after the Annual WELCA Luncheon. If you weren't there, you missed a great afternoon. A BIG, BIG THANK YOU to our models, servers, photographer, and pianist for making this great day. Watch for upcoming WELCA events.

### In Memoriam

The newsletter staff is saddened by the death of our staff member, Julie Eads. Her contribution of taking our stream of articles and making it into the newsletter you read was so important. Each month

Julie used her talents and creativity to make the newsletter interesting to read for all the members. She was always upbeat and positive and understanding of our needs and deadlines. We will miss her.



### Blooming Colors

Thanks to those who contributed to the landscaping and flowers that are beautifying our church now that the warm weather has arrived. As we remember Pentecost on June 8<sup>th</sup>, we enjoy the gift of beauty of the outdoors.

### Welcome New Members!

New member reception will be held on June 29. Watch Sunday announcements for more details.

For pastoral care while Pastor Marilyn is away June 7 and 8, please contact the church office at 815-234-5277. After hours, contact Council President Kay Johnson at 815-262-8789. We will contact a pastor who is covering emergency pastoral care to assist you.

### Did You Fill Out New Time & Talent Forms?

At the Ministry Volunteer Fair the new Time and Talent Forms were available for Church members to acknowledge what activities they would like to help with in All Saints Mission and Ministries. We hope each member of the Church fills one out. Scheduling for the upcoming year will be done exclusively from these returned forms. The form has been simplified a bit and reduced to two sides of one sheet of paper.

There are the traditional sections for:

- Fellowship- activities related to Congregational socialization
- Leadership- areas of Church leadership activities
- Education- listings of opportunities to get involved with different Christian Education activities
- Organizations- the various sub-committees and small interest groups at All Saints
- Practical Service- areas requiring a related skill
- Sunday Service Attendance- which service you most often attend
- Witness- activities where the volunteer works and evangelizes outside the walls of All Saints
- Worship- activities related to our Worship Services
- Youth Ministry- activities related to our youth

The Stewardship Committee and Church Council have worked to remove duplication and repetitive sorts of activities but to still provide an in-depth listing for the congregation to choose where they would like to apply their talents. If you have not yet filled out a form, please complete the yellow form included in this month's newsletter, and place it in the box in the narthex or return it to the church office by June 29. If you need additional forms, please pick them up on the oak table in the narthex.

Your In Christ,

*Steve Jones,*

**Stewardship Chairperson**

Byron Postal Food drive was a great success and received a large amount of donated food items. A special thank you to Kealie and Jim Wilcox for volunteering and giving their time to such a worth cause.

### Book Club

The book club does not meet in the months of June, July and August. Enjoy reading over the summer - there are lots of good books in our church library. Plan to come back in the fall and share some of your favorite books!



**Hats off to our teachers!**

We have just concluded another wonderful year of Sunday school for our children, confirmands and adults. We are very grateful to all of our teachers who said "yes" to the call to teach this year. Thanks for your willingness to give of your time to share your faith with our students. Special thanks to parents and grandparents who faithfully brought their students to Sunday school each week, and to Alisha Fortener who has served as our Superintendent.

**Confirmation Class**

Many thanks to Mike Reibel for coordinating and teaching Confirmation classes throughout the year.

Confirmation make-up classes will be held on June 8 and June 22, both beginning at 5:00 P.M. The schedule of make-up classes to be conducted on June 22 will be released following the last regular Confirmation class.

For second-year students planning on being confirmed in the Fall (Sunday, October 26, 2014), there will be three transitional classes this summer as follows:

- Sunday, June 22 @ 9:15 A.M. - Stewardship of Time
- Sunday, July 13 @ 9:15 A.M. - Stewardship of Talent
- Sunday, August 10 @ 9:15 A.M. - Stewardship of Treasure

Looking ahead in 2014:

- Sunday, October 19 – Confirmation Rehearsal & Photos (Students & Parents need to attend) 9:15 am
- Sunday, October 26 – Confirmation Sunday, at either the 8:00 am or 10:30 am service

**Farewell to Neysa McCammond -**

After 20 years of faithful service, Neysa has resigned as one of our regular keyboardists to assume that duty at her home church on a full time basis. We appreciate the dedication she has put into making our worship services come alive with music and wish her well as she shares her talents with others.

Worship Attendance				
	8:00	10:30	Total	Sunday School
April 27	70	56	126	
May 4	77	66	143	51
May 11	75	59	134	39
May 18	91	57	148	45
Total	313	238	551	135
Average	78	60	138	45



**YouthNEWS**

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

~Jeremiah 29:11

**It now is required that there are 2 responsible adults at each youth event. This is done out of concern for liability for the church, the volunteers, and youth as well. If you are interested in helping with our youth programs, please consider volunteering by contacting Audrey Adams. Thank you.**

**June 8<sup>th</sup> ...Youth Nite /Game Night** We will meet at church from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. All age youth are welcome to come and meet together for snack and play some outdoor games. **I do need an Adult to help with this event.**

**Thanks!**

**June 9<sup>th</sup>-August 9<sup>th</sup> LOMC Summer Camp** ...Come out and enjoy *God's Word in the World of God*. There are summer brochures available in the narthex.

Summer months always seem so busy for all of us with all the things we want to do, so, we will plan our Youth Nites together once a month to share stories, have fun, and enjoy one another.

## Youth Assembly at Augustana College

Thursday, June 12th @ 9:00 am to Friday, June 13th @ 10:30 am. Students will be housed in dorms. \$50 payment includes all housing, meals and programming. You must be going into high school or already in high school to attend. The band LOST AND FOUND will be at the youth assembly. A registrations form, medical release form and consent need to be filled out. I will be going so let me know!!! Deadline date for me to know names and have papers filled out is Thursday, June 5th Contact Audrey (815-509-2682) if you want to go and to get forms! What a great opportunity to get away, meet other youth your age, have some fun and grow along the way!

# S.T.A.T.I.C.

Students Taking Action In Christ

## Synod Assembly

Our Synod Assembly meets again this year at Augustana College on June 13th and 14th. We will have five members who will attend this important synod event. Let us keep these members and the Assembly in our prayers.

Lay Voting Members elected from All Saints: Kay Johnson, Michel Williams, Courtney Loomis (youth voting member)

Clergy Voting Member: Pr. Marilyn Hanson

Visitors/Guest: Audrey Adams

## Synod Assembly In-Kind Offering Donations From Our Congregation are Needed

This year's Assembly In-Kind Offering will benefit the children receiving services at Nachusa Lutheran Home, a ministry of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Nachusa Lutheran Home hosts two residential facilities. Choices, an adolescent substance abuse program, assists youth who are struggling with drug-related issues and Youth Emergency Shelter, or YES, which provides a temporary home to youth involved in the DCFS system who are awaiting permanent placement.

**Items Needed (all items must be new):** bath towels (preferably NOT white), washcloths, twin sheets, pillows/cases, and comforters. All Saints will collect these items through June 8th. Place your offerings in the basket designated for Nachusa, which is found in the narthex.

## All Saints members graduating this Spring are:



### College-

*Luke Bliton* is graduating with his Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Finance from the University of Illinois.

*Marddi Rahn* graduated from Northern Illinois College with a Master of Science Degree in Nursing.

*Ashley Whitlow* graduated from St. Ambrose University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

### Byron High School-

*Base Byers* will be attending Parkland College.

*Courtney Loomis* will be attending Rock Valley College this fall.

*Ben Reibel* will be attending Rock Valley College to pursue a major in special education.

*Nathan Schlagel* will be attending Rock Valley College to pursue a major in engineering.

*Tyler Sisouk* will be entering the working world.

*Trevor Watson* will be attending University of Wisconsin to pursue a major in Mechanical Engineering.

*Tyler Yoakum* will be continuing his endeavors in the working world.

### Belvidere High School-

*Courtney Cassens* will be attending University of Iowa at Iowa City to pursue a major in nursing.

### 8th graders include:

- \* From Byron Middle School in Byron - Jay Adams, Natalie Christian & John Perket
- \* From DL Rahn Junior High School in Mt. Morris - Richard Anaya
- \* From Forreton Junior High School in Forreton - Olivia Krecklow
- \* From Meridian Junior High School in Stillman Valley - Mattieu Morrison

We depend on families to submit graduate names. If you have a student who was omitted, please submit his/her name and information to the church office for inclusion in the July newsletter.

## Quilters

The quilters plan to meet on June 5th and June 19th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am at the church. We continue to work on quilts for people in need. The three layers are made of donated sheets and fabric, tied with yarn and machine bound. These 60" by 80" covers are made by persons all across the United States. Some of the All Saints quilts are given to people impacted by disaster in our country.

The majority of the quilts are sent to Lutheran World Relief to distribute in areas affected by disasters around the world. Others have been used as drawing prizes at the rummage sale, or carried by congregation members as they travel on mission trips. Working on the quilts is a work of love as we think about the needy people who will receive them. Thank you for all the donations for this worthy project.



## Library

June's list of books being added to the library includes:

**HE CHOSE YOU**, by Max Lucado is a book written for adolescents struggling to find their identity and desire to fit in. He reveals God's plan, gift of salvation and unconditional love.

**SIX HOURS ONE FRIDAY** by Max Lucado. Through Jesus' death our lives have purpose, meaning, peace instead of pain, confidence in crisis, hope that defies despair, and forgiveness of our sins.

**JUST LIKE JESUS**, by Max Lucado. God loves us just as we are, but he wants us to be just like Jesus with no guilt, no bad habits, no fears, and no anxiety about death. He wants us to have a heart just like Him.

**GOD'S STORY** by Anne Graham Lotz helps us find meaning through knowing God through chapters titled, I Am Your Creator, I Am Your Father, I Am Your Savior, I Am Your Redeemer.

**THE WILL OF GOD AS A WAY OF LIFE** by Jerry Sittser helps us find how to make a decision with peace and confidence. God's will is not hard to find or hard to follow.

**AMONG US** by Larry P. Morris is filled with down-to-earth stories of worship and faith that open our eyes to God's presence.

**DISCERNING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS** by Lloyd Edwards describes some of the spiritual gifts we have been given: listening, healing, patience, peacemaking, and faith. He helps us to find what our talents and skills are.

Anne Morgart



## The GATHERING

At our last Gathering, the Fellowship Hall was filled with conversation and laughter while the ladies worked on their various handcraft projects. Lovely articles are being created. Thank you to Lois Lapp for providing yummy refreshments. Our next Gathering is June 10 at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.

Submitted by: Linda Hank



## Swedish American Cancer Center Update

Thank you to everyone for all the lap robes, shawls and hats. Each one is precious. Know that all is put to good use and so appreciated. Thank you again ladies - we're well known by the staff at the Swedish American Cancer Center.

God Bless  
Gloria Olsen



## Health & Healing

**Ethel Montgomery**  
**Al Olsen**  
**Sharon Provencher**  
**Mike Schlagel**  
**Bill Wittig**  
Kim Sherman  
Mary Dummer  
Francine Reibel  
Laura Logas  
April Roos  
Nancy Stout  
Charlize Soltes  
Dee Otto  
Randy Stilson  
Dan Grossen

## In the Military

**David Bishop**  
**Tyler Peterson**  
**Will Goreth**  
Stacy Seaworth

## Shut Ins

**Shirley Asher**  
**Lore Bogdanovich**  
**Eileen Carlson**  
**Bill Runnion**  
**Blanche Schroeder**  
**Eva Dieckbernd**

## In Sympathy

**Julie Eads**  
Caleb Harvel  
Sheila Hilden  
Betty Guajardo

“ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED”

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### A Prayer of Thanksgiving from Mike Schlagel

Mike Schlagel wrote the following Prayer of Thanksgiving for all who prayed, visited, or otherwise motivated him during his recent illness:

Oh Lord,

Please bless those who have prayed for me during these trying medical times. Their cards, letters and prayers have helped me thru periods where I felt alone and scared, and brought to me your love and brightened my heart.

Lord, bless and thank those who took time to visit me. Their small amount of personal time spent with me was multiplied many times to keep me motivated to continue on with my struggles, and waiting for a solution to my afflictions.

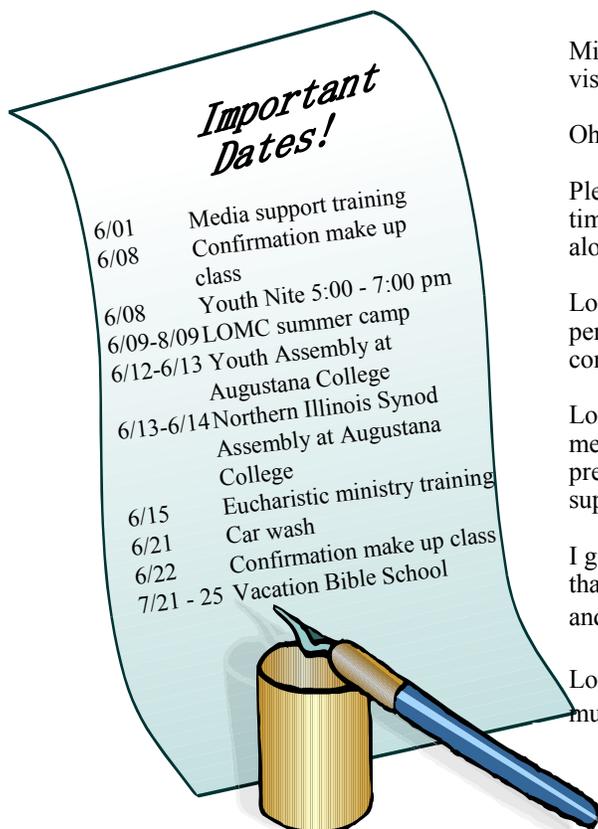
Lord, bless my family near and far who have helped me by encouraging, driving me to medical visits, giving me phone calls, and sending inspirational notes and presents. Without their love, I would not have made it so far without their support.

I give thanks for my church and for their support during this time. I also give thanks for prayers from those churches and prayer groups requested by friends and relatives.

Lord, again please bless those who have prayed for me. Give them blessings multiplied as thanks for their love and concern.

Amen

*Mike Schlagel 2014*



Office Hours - Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.