



Welcome to E-DiBS! E-DiBS stands for
“Electronic Daily Individual Bible Study”.

Do you struggle with personal devotions?

When, where and what?

E-DiBS is for you. We are sending out a daily (Monday thru Friday) e-mail devotion to anyone interested. The e-mail is delivered to any e-mail address at about 12:15 a.m., so when you wake up, or go to work, its in your Inbox first thing! There is a short (8 minute) devotion based on a verse by verse study of the Bible. You can watch the video, or print and read the transcripts... or both!

Here is what some recipients are saying...

I get the E-DiBS devotionals sent to my e-mail address at work. When I have a few minutes to sit and catch my breath, I find the devotionals to be very helpful for refocusing my day on Christ, where it should be all the time. I use the printed version so as to not interrupt any of my co-workers at their desks. The message is always Christ-centered and relevant to our daily lives at work, at home, and out in the community.

- Brett

I like the daily email devotionals. Both the content and the fact that it is right there in front of me so I can't be too busy to do it myself. I think a big reason why people fail to do daily devotions is "time" and the second is "I don't know how." The video devotionals fulfill both of those "dilemmas."

- Karen

Last name _____ First Name _____

E-Mail Address _____

E-Mail Address _____

Sign up today! Fill this out and return it to us.

Helpers Needed!



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St. Andrew Lutheran Church
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Houston, Texas 77055

The Net

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“But the Lord is with me like a mighty warrior!”

Jeremiah 20:11

One of everybody’s favorite summertime activities is watching Fourth of July fireworks! Sitting on lawn chairs or lying on blankets, our stomachs still filled with grilled hamburgers and cold watermelon. The anticipation as you see the shells rocketing skyward, wondering what kind of color or style or noise this one will make! Then the explosion followed by the spectacle of sight and sound cascading out of the nighttime sky, and the obligatory “oohs” and “aahs” of wide-eyed children!

It’s easy to forget, but of course the fireworks are meant to reproduce some of the sights and sounds of old-time military shells used in deadly battle. They are the “rockets red glare, the bombs bursting in air” that Francis Scott Key was referring to in our National Anthem. That’s also why every once in a while you hear of those who decry using The Star-Spangled Banner because, they claim, it glorifies war and so should be replaced with something less violent.

Regardless of how you feel about this matter, I’m sure every generation hopes for a world without war. Following World War I, the League of Nations was formed with the hope that now countries would pursue peaceful resolutions to their conflicts. But just a few short years later, World War II dashed that hope. Still people dreamed of lasting peace, and after the war the United Nations was organized in an attempt to make peace last. Then came Korea and then Vietnam, not to mention the seemingly-endless Cold War. By the 1990s it was said that a “new world order” had arisen, ensuring harmony around the globe. Wrong again.

Please Notify the Church Office When...

- ◆ You or a member of your family is hospitalized.
- ◆ You have a change of address
- ◆ Your phone number has changed.
- ◆ Your email address has changed.
- ◆ Your board or committee changes a meeting date or time.
- ◆ Members of your family are students attending school away from home or are living at a different address

Your help with all of the above is very much appreciated!

Immanuel Lutheran Church, 306 E. 15th St., is looking to hire a full-time church secretary. Computer skills are required (Microsoft Word and Excel especially) and website design skills would be a plus!!! If you are interested or know someone who might be interested, please call Immanuel Church office at 713-864-2651.

LUTHERAN STUDY BIBLE – For Lutherans, reading the Bible is never merely an intellectual exercise. It is an act of devotion by which the Holy Spirit actively works in our lives, strengthening our faith and empowering us to live that faith by His guidance. While there are many Bible versions and translations available, sometimes it's hard to know which to use. So you should know that later this year, Concordia Publishing House will begin making available the Lutheran Study Bible!

This new Bible is the first in English to be developed from the ground-up with notes that are distinctively Lutheran, prepared by Lutheran theologians and pastors from over twenty Lutheran church bodies. Current Lutheran scholarship, insights from the Church Fathers, and rich devotional commentary provides meaningful perspective for both young and mature Christians.

To learn more, go to www.cph.org and look for the link to "The Lutheran Study Bible: Life By His Word" on the home page. Though not scheduled for release until Reformation Day, October 31st, they plan to begin taking pre-orders in February.

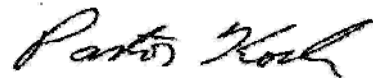
And remember when the world used to look forward to the Year 2000 with such hope and optimism, as though mankind would certainly achieve Utopia by then? Instead, the terrorist attacks of 9-11 brought fear home in a whole new way. And for the past several years we have found ourselves embroiled in conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan that still seem a long way from a happy ending. And to be totally realistic, Jesus spoke of "wars and rumors of wars" continuing until the end of time (Matthew 24:6).

What should we do when we find ourselves weary of war, our hearts heavy with a dread that things may never get better? Look to the Warrior!

We're used to picturing Jesus as our gentle Shepherd, a Prince of Peace, bringing us comfort and security. But our Savior is also a warrior for us. More determined than any soldier, the Lord would not be deterred from confronting the devil face to face. Braver than anyone who has won a Purple Heart, Christ wasn't afraid to get His hand dirty – or bloody! – in battle. In fact, as His holy hands were nailed to the cross, He was our ultimate warrior.

To the world He didn't look like much of a warrior at Calvary. But the real war wasn't with mocking religious leaders or Roman soldiers. The real war was with the old evil foe, and defeating him was no simple matter. But defeat him He did, along with sin and death – the triple whammy! – all in one fell swoop!

So this Fourth of July as you enjoy the fireworks, remind yourself of the cross. That's where the REAL fireworks took place! That's where our TRUE freedom was won!



pastor@standrew-lcms.org

July Birthdays

| | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Deborah Koch | 16 Jessica Farmer |
| 3 Stephen Emmott | 19 John White |
| 4 Lorna Bruce | 20 Elaine Ziegler |
| 6 Andrew Brown | 25 Hilda Boerger |
| 10 Beulah Swenumson | 25 Jerry Chandler |
| 12 Robin Emmott | 25 Rebecca Rogers |
| 12 Ally Fleischhauer | 28 Lynette Wilson |
| 12 Kevin Murray | |

July Anniversaries

| |
|---------------------------|
| 6 Monica and Kevin Murray |
| 20 Irene and Dick Peyton |



Be sure to let the church office know if your mailing address, your email address, or your phone numbers change. Thanks!

Some Items We Need for VBS

- ★ **Cakes, cupcakes, brownies** for Friday's carnival- (please put on disposable plate/tray)
- ★ **Wrapped candy** (no chocolate) for pinátas
- ★ **Bicycles, bicycles** -any size, any condition- label with your name - we need lots of bicycles to decorate the Won Way center (hang from ceiling)

Bring donations to church between now and VBS (July 20-24)! Call **Monica Murray** or the church office if you have any questions!



BICYCLES, BICYCLES, BICYCLES

Mark Your Calendars!



ACOLYTES SCHEDULE

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 st Sunday – July 5 | Deborah Koch |
| 2 nd Sunday – July 12 | Ally Fleischhauer |
| 3 rd Sunday – July 19 | Remi Emmott |
| 4 th Sunday – July 26 | Cara Dudley |

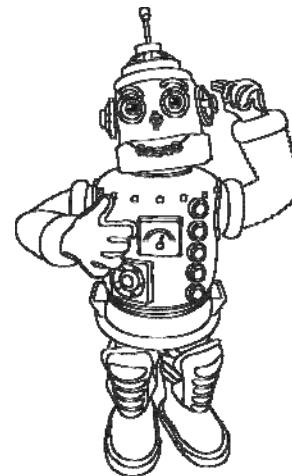
E-DiBS – By now you have heard of the new electronic Bible Study, E-DiBS, that is being made available to all St. Andrew members free of charge. Produced by LCMS Pastor Paul Stark, they are sent out Monday through Friday directly to your email address. There is a short (approximately 8 minute) devotion based on a verse-by-verse study of the Bible. You can watch the video, or print and read the transcripts. Access it anywhere there is a computer: at home, work, away on vacation... Each sending also includes information about St. Andrew events, but no ads of any kind. Nor will you receive any spam or junk emails from this. If you haven't yet, contact the church office with permission to receive E-DiBS. There is no risk, and you can unsubscribe anytime you wish for any reason.



WE NEED YOU! Through the dedication of our members and friends who volunteer at VBS, we minister to 200+ children each year with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you aren't part of VBS yet, why not call today? If you can help some days, just one day, everyday, or in advance, we have many levels of involvement to suit your schedule and interest.

We would love your prayers for Gadget's Garage, our VBS being held on **July 20-24**. Ask God to bring children to meet our program so they can know and grow in Jesus, who makes all things new! Please pray for God to provide leaders and helpers for this important mission.

Call **Monica Murray or Gail Wanja** for more information. Helpers are needed in the following areas:



- ★ 6/9 Pre-school Teachers/Helpers for 3yrs & 4yrs
- ★ 2/2 Kindergarten Teachers/Helpers
- ★ 1/1 Leader/Helper for each grade 1st - 5th grade
- ★ 1 Leader for Jr. High field trips
- ★ 4 Registration
- ★ 4 Snacks
- ★ 4 Crafts
- ★ 1 or 2 Music
- ★ 1 or 2 Missions
- ★ 2 or 3 for Bible Stories
- ★ 1 or 2 Bible Challenge leaders



Texas District Church Extension Fund

A ministry of the Texas District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Rates for May 2009

| Investment Rates | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Investment Type | Rate | Annual Percentage Yield (APY) |
| Save-by-Mail | 1.250% | 1.26% |
| Fixed-Rate Term Note - 1 year | 2.000% | 2.02% |
| Fixed-Rate Term Note - 3 years | 2.250% | 2.27% |
| Fixed-Rate Term Note - 5 years | 2.500% | 2.52% |
| Floating-Rate Term Note - 1 year | 1.000% | 1.00% |
| Floating-Rate Term Note - 3 years | 1.375% | 1.38% |
| Floating-Rate Term Note - 5 years | 1.875% | 1.89% |
| Congregation Savings Account | 2.250% | 2.27% |
| Building Fund Account | 2.500% | 2.53% |

Contact Us

Texas District Church Extension Fund
 7900 East Highway 290
 Austin, TX 78724-2499
invest@texascef.org
 Phone: 512.926.4272 Toll-Free: 800.951.3478 Fax: 512.928.9365

Please call for an appointment.

www.texascef.org/

Bible Download

A free audio New Testament Bible download is available on the Synod's Web site at www.lcms.org/ablaze as part of the *Ablaze!* Bible Listening Project. This amazing resource—perfect for sharing God's Word with others—is brought to you through a partnership of Hosanna/Faith Comes By Hearing and LCMS World Mission. You can also go directly to www.lcmsbibledownload.com to download an audio Bible in one of 311 languages! The first download is completely free and for subsequent downloads, you just have to provide some basic contact information. Download your copy today to help you share God's Word with others!



If We Know, We Tell...

Brett Martin, former member of St. Andrew and grandson of Carol and Ray Bruhn has just received the unanimous honor of “All District” first baseman in the Katy School District. Brett is a junior at Taylor High School and also had a batting average of 485. He has also been chosen by baseball coaches and scouts to be on an “all star” team from the city of Houston. The team will play an “all star” game at the University of Rice Reckling Field on June 17. Congratulations Brett!

Kyra Chandler, former member of St. Andrew and granddaughter of Jerry and Glenda Chandler, received two firsts and a second place in her first swim team tournament for the Cinco Ranch swim team this past week.


Thank you

Dear Friends of Bethesda,
Bethesda Lutheran Homes and Services,
Good Samaritan Campus want to express our heartfelt thank you to all the members of St. Andrew who spent so much of their time and worked so hard to make the annual barbeque a success. Thank you for a great day of fellowship and as always, delicious food!

The proceeds from the dinner and matching funds from Thrivent in the amount of \$2105.70 will go far in funding the needs of the individuals whom we support.

We are fortunate to have the support of St. Andrew and ask that you please keep this ministry in your prayers as we continue to serve individuals with developmental and intellectual disabilities.

Michael Code, Administrator - Gulf Region



Our Prayers

“I urge, then, first of all, that requests, prayer intercessions, and thanksgiving be made for everyone...” (1 Timothy 2:1)
Please remember the following people in your prayers:

- ✠ PASTOR SUN MOON LEE
- ✠ ELAINE ZIEGLER
- ✠ GERRY FRIEDEL
- ✠ DOROTHY WILLIAMS
- ✠ EVELYNE MCELVEEN
- ✠ DOROTHY JACKSON
- ✠ COY BOSWELL
- ✠ GLADYS MCCULLAR
- ✠ MYRTLE CARPENTER
- ✠ BARBARA HANSEN
- ✠ JIMMY VANCE

“Freed to Live”

On July Fourth we pause as a nation to reflect on the meaning of “Independence Day.” The Declaration of Independence was written to begin the process of gaining freedom from being a colony of England and chart our own course as a nation. But freedom is not something that you simply declare and it happens. Our freedom is something that was purchased at a high price. From the time of the Revolutionary War after July 4, 1776 to our war today in the Middle East many brave men and women have laid their lives on the line to fight for and defend our freedom as citizens of the United States of America. Thousands upon thousands of those brave soldiers shed their blood and gave up their tomorrows so that we can be freed to live our todays and tomorrows in the greatest country in the world and enjoy freedoms that millions of people in the world can only dream about.

As that old saying goes, ***“freedom is not free.”*** It is fitting and proper for us to remember and honor those who have given their all not just on July Fourth but throughout the year. They made the ultimate sacrifice so that we can be free! We also do well to remember and honor our brave men and women who continue to put their lives on the line so that we may be free to live.

It is also fitting and proper for us to remember and appreciate our spiritual freedom from sin, death and eternal condemnation. That freedom is not something that the strongest army in the world could obtain. That freedom is not something that we can earn or even deserve. It is the

free gift of God who loved the world so much that He gave up His one and only Son who shed His holy precious blood so that we might have a peace that passes all human understanding and freedom that will last for eternity.

Our fitting and proper response for all that God has done for us in Christ is to live our lives in ways that honor Him and bless others. We call that proper response to God’s love ***Christian stewardship***. As redeemed stewards we, in cooperation with and encouragement from fellow redeemed stewards, freely and joyfully manage all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes. God delights in loving and giving and sends us His Holy Spirit to empower us to also grow in our loving of God and others and our giving of time, talent, treasure and any of the other blessings God has entrusted to us.

***“Lord of glory, You have bought us with Your life blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones that tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly, hope to stay our souls on You;
But, oh best of all Your graces, with Your love our love renew.” (LSB 851)***

Continued on page 9