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August 2020

Stromsburg Cor News

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Rocky Railway - An Endeavor of Faith

Judy Hanson, Julie Hennessy, Neeli Noyd, Crystal Berggren, Amber Seim, and Leah Lonsdale may not be household names to everyone receiving this newsletter, but their names in OUR household are getting nothing but love after taking a lion's share of the leadership of "Rocky Railway" Vacation Bible School at our church this past week.

Judy (with Kohen Hier helping as "Ananias" on Monday) gave the Bible lessons during four mornings, with Rev. Neil Kloppenborg of the United Methodist Church helping on Thursday. Julie oversaw the "Imagination Station" (IS), portion of VBS, and also showed her acting chops as Engineer, Cam Track, during the "Sing and Play Express."

Neeli's leadership skills up front with teaching and leading the songs during Sing and Play Express and the Rocky Wrap-up were integral, but she also helped us 'recruit' a few helpers when we were short on crew leaders—her daughter and nephew!

Crystal (who oversaw "Loco Motion Games") and Leah had been the Salem Lutheran connection that did so much coordination on site and behind-the-scenes while Amber (also from Salem) made sure snacks were taken care of each morning. Pat Everingham was the registrar, Eleanor Greenwall helped with logistics, and Kohen Hier was available each day to help with audio/visual stuff in the sanctuary. Madi Hennessy assisted mom with the IS, Sue Lehn lent a hand during games, and a handful of other youth led the crews daily: Korah Hier, Emily Noyd, Austyn Ostrom, Josi Noble, Ashton and Carter Seim, Shea Corwin, Mikayla Quilhot, Talia Nienheuser, Landon Berck, Bricelynn Larson, Brett Williams, Reese David, and Halle Goosen.



Julie Hennessy (as Cam Track) and Neeli Noyd lead the "Sing and Play Express" each morning at VBS

There were a number of others (Johanna Nielsen, Jan Randell, Dale & James Hennessy, and Shayla Hier among them) not able to help during VBS mornings that either created rocks for the stage or decorated the rooms or walls along with the other Hennessys the Sunday before VBS began. Ken Everingham was a big hit on Friday when he conducted a mini train full of children. Others, including Linda Johnson and Jan Randell, helped take down decorations on Friday. Many others from all three churches assisted by purchasing or loaning items or giving donations.

On a few of the days, I was able to watch from the back porch as kids enjoyed the game times with their game leaders and counselors. And, although our family had to self-quarantine during VBS week, Pastor Mary did a great deal of logistical work ahead of time and from home during the week, along with coordinating a slide show that was seen by kids on Friday morning. If you've counted the participants mentioned, it's over 30. And we had about as many kids that week, most of whom were part of all five days.

VBS was a ministry worth doing – that's what was communicated four months ago when

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Rocky Railway... (continued)

reps from the Methodist, Covenant, and Lutheran churches initially met to discuss summer VBS – but there were plenty of things that could've "derailed" things completely. The initial timeframe of late May came and went and it wasn't until June when we finally made the call to set a VBS week for late July. And, as it turned out, for various reasons, none of the pastors who'd initially discussed VBS in May were on site when it occurred two months later. In light of everything, God's grace was evident in the coordination of things. We have heard that some of the stories of Acts were particularly poignant to the kids. And a few closing time analogies about how God strengthens our efforts in faith hit home too.

Thanks for all you did to support us. Along with work done before and during VBS, a potato bar with a free will offering before our semi-annual business meeting July 12th, netted over \$200 and others added to that total, providing necessary funds to buy materials for VBS.

Looking at the story of this endeavor is much like re-reading one of my favorite books as a kid, *"The Little Engine That Could,"* which told of a train that saw a mountain of an obstacle, but repeatedly told itself (with God's help), *"I think I can, I think I can; I know I can, I KNOW I can."* In our case it could be called *"The Little Community That Could,"* as it took involvement from more than 3 churches to make it happen. This is the body of Christ at work folks and it is a beautiful thing to behold.

Special thanks to those of you who have been so gracious to go to the store and run errands for us since we are quarantining. We have felt your love!

In Christ,

Pastors Craig and Mary



Financial Update:

2020 Budget Summary (1/1/20 through 6/30/20)

Needed Income:	\$64,385.00
Actual Income:	<u>\$47,623.65</u>
Difference:	\$16,761.35
Budgeted Exp:	\$64,385.00
Actual Exp:	<u>\$59,520.86</u>
Difference:	\$ 4,864.14



ONLINE GIVING: To make a one-time or scheduled reoccurring gift to our church, please visit: www.stromsburgcov.org and click on ONLINE GIVING.

Ministry Team Leaders:

Lead Team:

Dennis Nuttelman
402-366-9803

Fellowship & Hospitality:

Pat Everingham
402-764-0345

Outreach:

Dave Schram—402-710-8858
Shayla Hier

Worship Ministry Team:

Sue Rosenbaum
402-560-6759

Christian Formation:

Judy Hanson
402-764-6681

Properties:

Kent Erickson
402-765-6721



Brian Hier Jr.	8/6
Herman Gerdes	8/7
Doug Perdue	8/7
Jerry Rystrom	8/8
Eleanor Greenwall	8/12
Kohen Hier	8/13
Kyle Mentink	8/13
Mary Wadell	8/16
Connie Nuttelman	8/18
Parker Lovgren	8/20
Korah Hier	8/22
Doug Johnson	8/25
Pat Everingham	8/28
Austin Platt	8/29



Bob & Cindy Orsborn August 18
Rev Bob & Jodi Johnson August 24

August Ministry Partners

Sunday, Aug 5

Greeters: Dale & Julie Hennessy

Coffee: Hier Family

Scripture: Dennis Nuttelman

Worship Team: Dennis & Connie Nuttelman, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale & James Hennessy

Sunday, Aug 9

Greeters: Doug & Linda Johnson

Coffee: Doug & Linda Johnson

Scripture: Eleanor Greenwall

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne Nielsen, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, Kohen Hier

Sunday, Aug 16

Greeters: Dianne Nielsen

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Bob Orsborn

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Judy Hanson

Audio/Visual: Dale & James Hennessy

Thursday, Aug 20—Rescue Mission Meal

Eleanor Greenwall

Sunday, Aug 23

Greeters: Gaylen & Jeannie Ahlquist

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Jeannie Ahlquist

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, Kohen Hier

Sunday, Aug 30

Greeters: Bob & Eleanor Greenwall

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Mary Wadell

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Neeli Noyd, Judy Hanson

Audio/Visual: Dale & James Hennessy

Dates to Remember in August

Sunday, August 9, 2020—Worship with Communion
10:30 am

“Blessing of the Backpacks” during worship



Wednesday, August 12, 2020—Worship Ministry Team Meeting - 6:30 pm



Friday, August 14, 2020—First Day of School!



Sunday, August 16, 2020—Lead Team Meeting—6:30 pm

Lead Team Meeting





Prayer Concerns? Please contact Connie Nuttelman to have a request go out on the prayer chain or to be included in the bulletin. Connie's number is 402-366-9045 or you can send an email to

prayerchain@stromsburgcov.org.



AUGUST 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 9:00 Worship team 10:30 Worship service 11:45 Fellowship	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 9:00 Worship team 10:30 Worship with communion 11:45 Fellowship	10 	11	12 6:30 pm Worship Ministry Team Mtg.	13 	14 	15
16 9:00 Worship team 10:30 Worship service 11:45 Fellowship 6:30 Lead team mtg.	17	18	19	20 5:30 pm Rescue Mission Meal 	21	22
23 9:00 Worship team 10:30 Worship service 11:45 Fellowship	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 9:00 Worship team 10:30 Worship service 11:45 Fellowship	31					