

Focus on Christ

July 18, 2010

June Trip East

by Pat Cosgrove

Christ Lutheran Church

A Christ-caring
community

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Have you ever had a nearly perfect vacation? I recently traveled to the East Coast to visit the Vergun family, catch the final performance of "Brighton Beach Memoirs" starring Matthew Vergun, visit with Michelle Viise, and spend some time with my sons in NYC, before Nathaniel (age 26) heads to the Dominican Republic for 27 months as a member of the Peace Corps. All in 10 days! That sounds pretty near perfect to me. Apart from the air

travel, which always seems to give me trouble, I had a delightful time. It was so full, so evenly paced, so balanced.

Matthew's performance was just right. He seemed very comfortable on stage and seemed to be enjoying himself. We'll be looking for more of this behavior. Elisabeth, Michelle, and I had 45 minutes all to ourselves my first evening there. You've probably heard of speed dating. Well, this was "speed visiting." Michelle continues to enjoy her work at the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard, and has found some friends while working on the Obama campaign. She recently bought a new guitar and is spending some quality time with that. She has a trip to Ukraine planned for the fall and hopefully a trip out here to see us in October.

The Vergun family is doing very well. As much as I miss my dear friends from El Cerrito, they are so well suited to their lives in Rhode Island, I can't help but feel happy for them. I spent two full days with the whole family, a mini vacation for them. Paul's work continues steady with Wells Fargo, Elisabeth's work as the administrative assistant of Pilgrim Lutheran Church has expanded to include hospital visits on occasion. Isabella is beginning to look at colleges while playing her guitar, composing songs, and spending spare time drawing on the computer. Matthew is spending some time this summer with a jazz camp where he can practice his saxophone.

I took Amtrak where I met up with Nathaniel and later with Tyler and began a week in The City (the other one). We watched some soccer, weeded Tyler's garden (in Brooklyn), and rode bicycles through Brooklyn. Tyler took us to some new "finds" for several memorable meals, and what trip would be complete without the three of us going to see a movie together? Of course it was *Toy Story 3* in 3-D.



(continued on back...)

The weeks to come

Mon., July 19	9 AM – 2 PM	Senior Center
	4:30 PM	Cub Scouts
	7 PM	Yoga
Tues., July 20	1:30 PM	UCC Bible Study
	3:30 PM	Vale Service
	4:30 PM	Girl Scouts
	7 PM	AA meeting
Wed., July 21	6:30 PM	Worship
Sat., July 24	9 AM	Yoga
	6 PM	AA Meeting
Sun., July 25	9 AM	Adult Faith Discussion
	9:45 AM	Singing
	10 AM	Worship Service
	11:30 AM	Steering Team
	12 PM	UCC Mira Vista
	7 PM	Al-Anon
Mon., July 26	9 AM–2 PM	Senior Center
	7 PM	Yoga
Tues., July 27	1:30 PM	UCC Bible Study
	3:30 PM	Vale Service
	7 PM	AA meeting
Wed., July 28	6:30 PM	Worship
Sat., July 31	9 AM	Yoga
	6 PM	AA Meeting
Sun., Aug. 1	9 AM	Adult Faith Discussion
	9:45 AM	Singing
	10 AM	Worship Service
	12 PM	UCC Mira Vista
	7 PM	Al-Anon

Souper Center's Food Drive

On a daily basis the GRIP Souper Center provides 3 free meals for the hungry. The cost of food is very high and GRIP is asking that participating churches help to meet the need by bringing in the following items on a regular basis:

- Seasonings: salt, pepper, garlic powder, onion powder
- Beef & chicken broth
- Fresh onions
- Chopped garlic
- Canned foods of all kinds

CLC and Mira Vista are teaming up with this project. There is a food box located in the Narthex.

Financial update as of 07/11/2010

General: actual \$85,077, needed \$84,222

HARP: actual \$4,260, needed \$5,169

CLC wants to celebrate YOU...

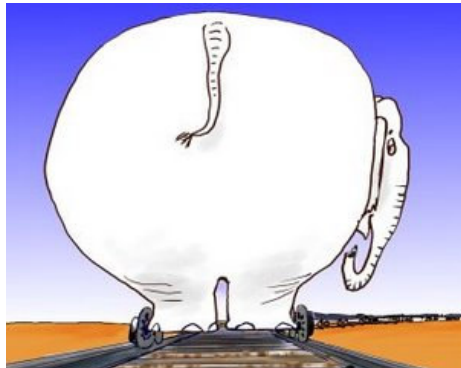
Aug. 1	Eric Fosselius	Aug. 17	Soren Rohrbach
Aug. 4	Lori Bjelland	Aug. 21	Ryan Finch
Aug. 5	Donna Andrews	Aug. 25	Virginia Mueller
	Gladyce Gustafson	Aug. 26	Kevin Osman
Aug. 10	Anniversary of: Brian Reynolds & Saraswati Lama	Aug. 27	Margaret Lawrence
		Aug. 28	Anna Horby-Merrifield



A Change in Childcare

Ariella Bjelland is off to college. Thank you, Ariella for all your time serving the children.

Welcome Rafaela Rohrbach. Rafaela will be handling the childcare on Sundays and we are very excited to have her.



Senior Center White Elephant Sale

The White Elephant sale was a success. Between the sale and the volunteers who helped with the games we made about one thousand dollars. This will be shared 50-50 with the St. John's Senior Center as the director and participants from there also

worked this event. It was a lot of work collecting, sorting pricing and selling the donations. Bertha Rohrbach and Sylvia Gott helped quite a bit in the pricing, sorting, and selling.

Thanks to all of you who donated so many wonderful things. A big part of doing this was the exposure to the public. We need to get our name out there so more people will in our area will know about the senior centers and that we are sponsored in part by the Richmond Unified Adult School.

--Carol Kehoe

June Trip East (continued from front page...)

On my own, I visited the Guggenheim and Nathaniel and I were fortunate enough to see "The Winter's Tale," one of Shakespeare's lesser-known comedies, at Shakespeare in the Park (Central Park, of course). I also reconnected with some old friends from my days in New York (the mid to late 70's). These are folks who knew Chuck way back when. It is so wonderful to walk down that lane of memories again.

As I said good-bye to my sons I knew that I had no idea when I might see them again. But that's okay. They are both doing well, enjoying their journeys and making their mother proud as they continue to develop into fine young men.

Tyler called the other day to say that his guys had just signed the lease on a second location for Dos Toros and he expects to be involved in the plans from the ground floor up. I haven't spoken with Nathaniel since my return two weeks ago and am just about to give in to temptation and call him. He leaves for the Dominican Republic sometime around the 19th of August. He'll spend 10 weeks with a host family, immersing in the language and culture before getting his assignment and beginning his Peace Corps work in the field of Public Health. When I know more, I'll write again. In the meantime, send good thoughts my way for Christmas in the D.R.