

MINNESOTA SENIOR ADULT MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER

"I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the Lord forsake the righteous...." Psalm 37:25

E-mail: brucetalso@comcast.net

Web Site: www.mnaog.org

November 2015



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR - Another year is soon to be history! Looking back over the year, we see that attendance at our events has been growing. The spring luncheon, seniors' luncheon during family camp, the St Croix luncheon cruise, fall retreat, and fall foliage bus trip all saw excellent participation. Thank you for supporting these events! I will be visiting our sectional pastor's meetings this fall and winter with the intent of making our pastors aware of the need for local seniors' ministries in their churches. (Many of our churches do not have a structured senior's ministry) **I will also be looking for SAM "Field Representatives"; people who will coordinate seniors' activities in their sections and local churches. I have 6 people who have indicated their willingness to serve in this capacity so far. Still looking for more! If you have interest in helping, please give me a call (763-427-7162) or e-mail me at the above e-mail address.** I am especially pleased with the two "**Seniors on the Go**" events that we scheduled for our seniors that had such good response. Several of you spoke with me at the Fall Retreat, asking why you could not have such events in your 'neck of the woods.' My response was; "You can! We just need folk who would be willing to facilitate those events," hence, the need for our Field Representatives. Another one of my goals is to see what we used to call our sectional "**Fellowship Meetings**" resume. Even a semi-monthly time for churches to gather together would be a great time of fellowship and blessing. More about this in our next newsletter. **On behalf of our SAM Committee, I would like to wish each of you a blessed Thanksgiving and a warm and cheerful Christmas season. To God be the glory; great things He has done!**

Bruce Talso, MN SAM Director

'SENIORS ON THE GO' FALL FOLIAGE TOUR



SONGS OF THE SEASON
Special Christmas Concert and Dinner
At North Central University
Saturday, December 5, 2015
5:30 pm Dinner / 7:00 pm Concert

A Delicious Italian Dinner for only \$15
North Central is providing FREE Concert
tickets for our Minnesota Seniors!
Free parking at NCU Ramps

We invite you to join us for an evening of fellowship and musical enjoyment!

Call Myrna Gunderson at 763-533-2278
to reserve your ticket.

Make your check payable to
"MN SAM" and mail to:

Myrna Gunderson
6632 Edgemont Blvd No
Brooklyn Park MN 55428

Deadline for
Reservations is
November 28



Split Rock Lighthouse



The "Light Keeper" and His 'daughter'



Bemidji who were celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary! Other highlights included a visit to Split Rock Lighthouse, Duluth City Tour and of course a stop at Betty's Pies!

31 seniors enjoyed a delightful trip "Up North" to the Duluth and Two Harbors area taking in fall colors as we traveled. One of the highlights was having dinner on top of the Radisson Hotel in Duluth. Pictured here are Mary & Jerry Hubert from

IS JESUS IMPORTANT?

By Pastor Howard Googins, SAM Committee Member

Who, Why, What did God do for us? John 3:16 tells us: *“For God loved the world (us) so much that God gave, God did not just send, God gave His only son that anyone who believes on Jesus might be saved. God did not send His only son into the world to condemn it but that through His only Son the world might be saved (delivered from destruction).”* The word of God says in Ephesians 1:3, 4 which was penned by the Apostle Paul: *“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. For He chose us in Him before the creation of the world, to be holy and blameless in his sight”.* Then in John 1:1 we are told again that Jesus was there at the very start: *“In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God and the Word was God.”* Biblical scholars believe that the Word as used in this passage refers to Jesus who has been with the Father from the beginning. Jesus was sent to make a way for us and no one else would do. Because Jesus willingly came to earth for us we have hope today! Through Jesus and the gift of the Holy Spirit within us, the scripture in Acts 4:12 says that the only way we can get to heaven is through Jesus.

There are those today who want to downplay the importance of Jesus but I think it is good for us to recall often what the Father himself said about Jesus. Jesus took a couple of the disciples with Him to a mountain top and what happened is recorded in Matthew 17:2-5; *“There Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and John. Jesus face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Just then there appeared before them Moses and Elijah, talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here. If you wish, I will put up three shelters—one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah”. While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice (It is understood that this is the voice of God) from the cloud said, “This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!”* Mark 1:10-11 also recounts God proclaiming his pleasure with Jesus: *“Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”*

So today, I want to remind you that Jesus the only Son of God came to earth so that we could have fellowship with Him and an eternal relationship with the Father and that is the best gift a loving Heavenly Father could have given us!

SENIOR RESOURCES

A one stop for Minnesota seniors
1-800-333-2433
www.MinnesotaHelp.info

Minnesota Good Age Magazine
Published monthly
Subscriptions \$12 a year
Minnesota Good Age
1115 Hennepin Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403



SENIOR'S FALL RETREAT

250 seniors from across Minnesota enjoyed a special time of inspiration and fellowship at Lake Geneva Christian Center, September 11-13. Dan Betzer of Fort Myers, Florida blessed us with some great preaching and singing. We have received many good comments on the retreat. Thank you for supporting this event. Jean Siirila has supplied us with a pictorial overview of the retreat. Find them at www.mnaog.org Click on 'Ministries' and then 'SAM,' then 'newsletters.' Click '2015 Retreat Pictures' and you will then be able to relive our retreat with Jean's exceptional pictures. (Thanks, Jean!)



Our early morning walkers were eager to begin a busy retreat day!

All four workshops presented were well attended.



SAM Director Bruce Talso Introduces Dan Betzer

“An Outstanding Retreat in Every Way!”

SPECIAL THANKS TO WES AND NANCY VAGLE



who served as our SAM Directors for the last two years. Our SAM Committee has tried to get both Wes and Nancy together to present them with a gift of our appreciation for their leadership, but alas, we just could not get them together in one place at the same time to make a presentation! Our committee decided to present our gift to Nancy at a recent board meeting. (Wes was in Europe) Wes Wold, our Assistant Director made the presentation. Again, we extend thanks to two great people! Nancy continues to serve on our SAM Committee.

**OUR SAM SPRING LUNCHEON
WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, APRIL 2nd
At Cedar Valley Church in Bloomington
Watch for further details in our next newsletter**

