



TAPROOT *Today*

A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE TAPROOT CLUB

Nearly \$30,000 Raised at Taproot Dinner Event

Once again, the Taproot Club delivered. Proceeds from the Taproot Club Dinner event on September 12 at Breaking Bread has raised nearly \$30,000. Approximately 115 attended Lutheran High’s second biggest fundraising event of each school year. “Endowment earnings may be down and unemployment may be up,” said Executive Director, Jim Pingel, “but Taproot Club continues to remain faithful to Lutheran High. We give thanks and praise to God for this.”

Many Taproot Club members had never dined at Breaking Bread restaurant before and enjoyed the food and fellowship. Others laughed heartily with and at the entertainment for the evening, which was provided by comedy improv group, Fish Sticks.



Executive Director Jim Pingel thanked Taproot Club members for their prayers and financial support and also gave an update on the state of affairs at Lutheran High. Among other things, Pingel noted that Lutheran High met its annual fund goal last year (\$90,000) and that 60% of Lutheran High families receive some sort of tuition assistance. In addition, Lutheran High graduates from the Class of 2009 received over one million dollars in scholarships—tops in Sheboygan County. “As impressive as our student achievements are,” said Pingel, “that is not what defines Lutheran High. Our mission—*Preparing Christian Leaders*—compels us to teach our students about the hereafter as well as the here and now...Along with our churches and

Christian homes, Lutheran High provides the third leg of a Christian education stool that raises our kids in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.”

Longtime supporter, Jenny Backhaus, was also honored during the evening as Lutheran High’s twelfth Christos Service Recipient.

Next year’s Taproot Dinner Event will take place on Wednesday, September 1st at Champions Restaurant at the Bull in Sheboygan Falls.



Taproot Club Notes from the Executive Director

Dear Taproot Club Members,

Thank you for a very successful Taproot Club Dinner event. Between the guests who attended, and those who could not but still supported the club financially, the Taproot Club raised nearly \$30,000 through our dinner event. To God be all praise and glory! Moreover, if the last few years are any indication, Lutheran High will continue to receive Taproot Club donations right up until Christmas. (If you were not able to attend the Taproot Club event this year, this is our open invitation to support the Taproot Club with a donation!). What a blessing the Taproot Club continues to be for the financial security and stability of Lutheran High operations.



As we noted during the evening, next year's Taproot Club dinner event will be on a weekday (Wednesday, September 1st at Champions Restaurant at the Bull to be exact). We have many reasons for moving the Taproot Club Dinner event off of Saturday night. For starters, we have run into too many weddings in September—many club members have had to choose between a wedding of a dear friend and the Taproot Club Dinner event. We wanted to eliminate those competing interests. Second, the dinner costs are higher at area restaurants on weekend nights. If the purpose of the Taproot Club is to raise funds for Lutheran High, we need to lower the cost of a plate, while still choosing high quality entrées and establishments. Third, many halls or restaurants will not give us their big dining halls as they hope to land a huge wedding reception of 300+ people because it is more financially lucrative for their businesses. Finally, many people enjoy life up at their cottages in September and are out of town. For all these reasons and more, we have decided to try our Taproot Club Dinner event on a Wednesday next year. Hope you can mark this on your calendar and join us.

While we are on the subject of next year's Taproot Club event, allow me to just say that we welcome your input and ask for your help in preparing future Taproot Club Dinner events. Over the last few years, we have tried to offer a variety of Taproot Club Dinner experiences—from Vince Lombardi Jr., to the Jesus Painter, to Fish Sticks, to Doris Christopher, etc. We know that most Taproot Club members would support us and come out for the Taproot Dinner Event if it was just a meal and some nice Christian fellowship. Yet, we have been blessed with great speakers who are living the mission—serving as Christian leaders in their vocation and the world—or people who simply help us to enjoy a good laugh. What kinds of speakers or programs would you like to see at future Taproot Club Dinner events? We would welcome your input. Keep in mind the goal of the Taproot Club is to bring in funds to Lutheran High, not pay for exorbitant guest speakers.

Finally, please know how much we rely on you as a foundation—a pillar—for the good of our school and mission. Thank you for being moved to joyfully support the Taproot Club and Lutheran High! Keep inviting others to attend the Taproot Dinner with you. It was so nice to see some new people at the event—folks that Taproot Club members went out of their way to invite. We would love for the Taproot Club membership to grow. You can help us with that more than any entertainment or speaker we provide.



Thank you again, Taproot Club members, for all that you do for God's school—Sheboygan Area Lutheran High.

In Jesus' name,
Jim Pingel

Taproot Members 2009-2010 *(as of October 1)*

Platinum Leaf (\$5,000)

Lifetime Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Roger T. Fischer
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Hake
Mr. and Mrs. James Hermann
Dr. and Mrs. James Nicholson
Rev. and Mrs. James A. Pingel
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Poth
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rindt
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Rindt
Mr. and Mrs. David Zimmermann
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zimmermann
Mr. William Zimmermann

Gold Leaf (\$1,500 - \$4,999)

Mr. and Mrs. Myron Buss
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Lastusky
Mr. George Marthenze

Silver Leaf (\$750 - \$1,499)

Mr. Robert Beninger
Mrs. Lois Bolgert
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Buss
Mr. and Mrs. Mark McCabe
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Mockert
Rev. and Mrs. Bryan Osladil
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Otte
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Pingel II
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Senkbeil
Mrs. Sandra Yinko

Bronze Leaf (\$500 - \$749)

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Baker

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bawden
Mr. and Mrs. Brian Hasenstein
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Hermann
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lampe
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rusch
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Strenger
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Van Dixhorn
Mr. Edwin Wiegand

Copper Leaf (\$200 - \$499)

Mr. and Mrs. John Arends
Ms. Jenny Backhaus
Mr. and Mrs. William Bahr
Mr. and Mrs. John Ballhorn
Mr. and Mrs. David Begalke
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Begalke
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Benedum
Rev. and Mrs. Darrel Bergelin
Ms. Michelle Buss
Mr. and Mrs. Earl Constien
Mr. Ralph Dottai
Ms. Lori Dudek
Ms. Germaine Erdmann
Ms. Debra Fale
Mr. Allan Feld
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Fors
Mr. and Mrs. Chad Grasse
Mr. and Mrs. James Heinecke
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Heling
Mrs. Lorraine Hermann
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Herrmann
Ms. Luaine Herzog
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Holt

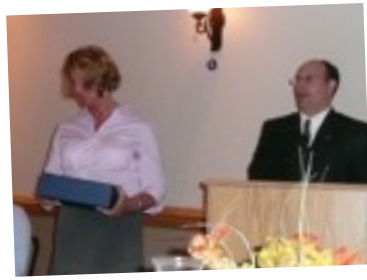
Mr. and Mrs. Al Holzheimer II
Rev. and Mrs. Joel Howard
Rev. and Mrs. Frederick Jabs
Rev. and Mrs. Don Johnson
Mr. Willard Jost
Mr. and Mrs. David Kanz
Mr. and Mrs. David Lang
Rev. and Mrs. Greg Laska
Mrs. Ruth Lutze
Rev. and Mrs. Tim Mech
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Muth
Mr. and Mrs. Will Olsen
Ms. Alice Perronne
Mr. Timothy Rindt
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Roggentin
Mrs. Geraldine Rusch
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sabrowsky
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scheele
Mrs. Barbra Schulze
Rev. and Mrs. Andrew Shanholtz
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Staff
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Stielow
Mr. Gerald Striegel
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Van De Kreeke
Mr. and Mrs. Norman Voigt
Mr. and Mrs. John Wallrich
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Winkler
Mrs. Florence Zabel
Mrs. Earlene Zastrow
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zeuner

Additional Gifts

Mr. & Mrs. Jay Divine
Mr. and Mrs. Victor Pautz

There is still time to join Taproot for 2009-2010!





Christos Service Award

Recipient: Jenny Backhaus

The Christos Service Award is given to an individual or couple who does not currently have a son or daughter attending Lutheran High, but retains a sincere love and servant heart for the ministry and mission of Lutheran High. Ms. Jenny Backhaus was recognized as Lutheran High's twelfth Christos Service Recipient at this year's Taproot Dinner Event.

Jenny has been an integral part of Lutheran High for 15 years. Her two sons, Eric and Kyle, graduated from Lutheran High in 2000 and 2006. She is currently serving on the Board of Directors and continues to give of her time, talent, and treasure to Lutheran High in so many ways. Indeed, Jenny has chaired the student recruitment committee as well as served as a volunteer at open houses, HarvestFests, Dinner Auctions, the Packer Project, capital campaign committees, and in many other capacities. In addition, she has been a persuasive and influential ambassador of Lutheran High at St. John, Sherman Center.

Through all of her gifting and giving, Jenny has displayed great joy and enthusiasm for the ministry of Lutheran High—what it has done for her family and what it will continue to do, by God's grace, for future families and students at Lutheran High.

Executive Director, Jim Pingel, added during the presentation of the Christos Award:

"I have the utmost respect and admiration for Jenny as a single parent and talented professional in her own right. Her work ethic, integrity, caring heart, and sense of humor are exemplary. Not only is Jenny fun, but she is, more often than not, the smartest person in the room even though she never acts like it. Jenny usually comes to Lutheran High from work in West Bend. That's a long drive through many winter storms and business meetings gone long. She never complains and usually perks up any meetings she is a part of. Lutheran High is so blessed to have Jenny Backhaus in our midst."

Last Few Months to Take Advantage of GivingPlus—Forever!

Thrivent Financial will be ending the GivingPlus program at the end of this calendar year and replacing it with a new program called Thrivent Choice. If you are a Thrivent Financial policy holder, make sure you take advantage of the GivingPlus program during these last few months if you have not already done so.

GivingPlus allows you to make your donations count for more to Lutheran High! Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will add \$1 to every \$2 you donate to Lutheran High, up to a donation of \$600. Lutheran High could get as much as \$300 more from your gift when you use the GivingPlus program.

Simply fill out a GivingPlus gift form and drop it off at the school (or mail it in), along with your donation check payable to Lutheran High. To obtain a copy of the form, visit www.thrivent.com. Click on "Fraternal Programs," "Church and Community Programs," and then the "GivingPlus Program." Or simply call the Lutheran High office (920) 452-3323 or laska@lutheranhigh.com and ask us to send you a form.

Turn \$2 into \$3 for Lutheran High and increase the impact of your gift by using the GivingPlus program. The mission and ministry of Lutheran High is worth it!

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 6:21