



A NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE TAPROOT CLUB

Taproot Club Delivers Again

You cannot beat an event that provides fine dining, terrific fellowship, moving student testimonials, and a great motivational speaker. This past September, the annual Taproot Club Dinner event provided all of these things and more. Over \$25,000 were raised for the school—the primary purpose of the Taproot Club.

Most attendees truly enjoyed the student testimonials provided by senior students Emily Mech, Nick Redeker, and Katie Herrmann. They also enjoyed the message of Dr. Beverly Yahnke.

Executive Director, Jim Pingel, was truly appreciative of the support from Taproot Club members. "Each and every year, Roberta Laska (LHS's Development Assistant) and I are just truly overwhelmed by the generosity and financial support from the Taproot Club," Pingel said. "Many of these folks just continue to faithfully remember Lutheran High. They don't know how much their support means to us. Thank you Taproot Club members."

Next years Taproot Dinner event will take place on Wednesday, September 12th. We have a great treat for members as nationally renowned speaker, Dr. Micah Parker (aka "The Trust Guy") will be the keynote speaker. Mark the date on your calendar!



Next Year's Speaker

Dr. Micah Parker

"Dr. Parker is a Faith-led, Spirit-powered, Gospel-centered, Story-filled, Light-hearted Gift of God who has a winsome way of sharing his faith! He will excite, entertain, teach, and touch you in unique and powerful ways."

Dr. Rich Bimler, President
(Retired), Wheat Ridge
Ministries



Emily Mech



Nick Redeker



Katie Herrmann

Productive Paranoia and God's Word

Dear Taproot Club Members,

By God's grace, I consider myself a faithful (and flawed) servant of the Lord. By this I mean that I know and believe that God will take care of my family just as He will take care of Lutheran High no matter what I do (or in some cases despite what I do). Nine out of ten nights when I come home, I feel confident in the promises of the Lord. "I gave my all today to Lutheran High Lord. It feels good to serve in your name," I say to myself. Lutheran High is in good hands.



However, there is that one night out of ten where my flesh and Satan get a hold of my heart and mind and plant doubt. Indeed, I have some confessions to make to you: I sometimes worry about how Lutheran High is going to be funded in the future. I worry about paying our teacher, administrator, and support staff salaries and health insurance costs. I worry about how we are going to meet the needs of our students and families in the future. I worry about how families are going to be able to afford a Christian education. I worry. I doubt. I worry about why I am worrying. And then I lose energy just worrying about all of these things.

Then, by God's grace, the Taproot Club enters the picture. In a tough economy, in a time where many people do not set aside or even think of giving their first fruits to the Lord, in a time where people do not necessarily want to come to an event and give up their time as well as their treasure, Taproot Club members inspire me anew with their generosity and gifts of love. I sincerely mean that. Each and every year, I am humbled and overjoyed with the faithful support of Taproot Club members.

There is a great new book out by renowned researcher Jim Collins (2011) called *Great by Choice: Uncertainty, Chaos, and Luck—Why Some Thrive Despite Them All*. Collins talks about how successful leaders thrive in tough times because they engage in "productive paranoia." Productive paranoia is where leaders take effective action in a daunting climate. Productive paranoia is enormously functional for the leader and organization because fear is channeled into extensive preparation and calm, clearheaded action. I try to serve in this manner as the chief fundraiser and development director for Lutheran High.

That's why nine out of ten nights, I feel good about Lutheran High. And yet I still worry on that one day...



The Bible offers even better words of advice than Jim Collins. Perhaps Taproot Club members remember the words of Scripture a little quicker than I do. "Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad." 1 Corinthians 7:32 states explicitly: "I want you to be free from anxieties." In Matthew 6, Jesus tells us, "And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?...Do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for



itself" (Matthew 6:27). 1 Peter 5:7 tells us to cast "all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you." Philippians 4:5-7 says that "The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

God's Word gives me great comfort about the future of Lutheran High. He has been with our school for over thirty years. I know His plans for Lutheran High are good and grand.

Thank you Taproot Club members for living the faith. Thank you for your support. Thank you for curbing my anxieties. And thank you for helping us *Prepare Christian Leaders—One Student at a Time*.



In Christ,
Dr. James Pingel II
Executive Director

Friends of Taproot Club Endowment Fund *Exciting Times!*

Just recently out of the clear blue, an alum wrote a sizable check to Lutheran High. She wanted a significant portion of her and her husband's gift to be designated for the Friends of Taproot Endowment Fund. We were blown away by this couple's generosity. You just never know when someone will give or how the Holy Spirit moves people. This couple, like so many other Taproot Club members, have no idea how much their gift energized those of us in the office who handle these records. Gifts given in love and unsolicited truly inspire in so many ways.



When someone gives a donation to the Friends of Taproot Club Endowment Fund, they are supporting the mission and ministry of Lutheran High today and for the future. Indeed, the earnings from the Friends of Taproot Club Endowment are used to contribute to the overall goal of the Taproot Club—which is to provide annual operating dollars for the school. The more money raised by the Taproot Club, the less tuition increases for current parents and future parents of Lutheran High. Created just five years ago, the Friends of Taproot Club Endowment Fund currently stands at \$642,850.

To God be all Praise and Glory!

Taproot Members 2011-2012 (as of November 1)

Platinum Leaf (\$5,000)

Lifetime Membership

Mr. and Mrs. Myron Buss
Christopher Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Roger T. Fischer
Mr. and Mrs. Randall Hake
Mr. and Mrs. James Hermann
Mr. and Mrs. George Marthenze
Dr. and Mrs. James Nicholson
Mr. and Mrs. David D. Pingel
Rev. Dr. and Mrs. James Pingel
Dr. and Mrs. James Pingel II
Mr. Mark and Dr. Jennifer Pingel
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Poth
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Rindt
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Rindt
Mr. Edwin Wiegand
Mr. Arthur Zimmermann
Mr. and Mrs. David Zimmermann
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zimmermann
Mr. William Zimmermann

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

Mr. and Mrs. Randall Buss
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Mockert

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

Ms. Germaine Erdmann
Rev. and Mrs. Bryan Osladil

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Senkbeil
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scheele
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Shircel

Bronze Leaf (\$500 - \$749)

Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Bawden
Mr. and Mrs. Mark McCabe
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nelson
Mr. and Mrs. Roger Strenger
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Van Dixhorn

Copper Leaf (\$200 - \$499)

Mr. and Mrs. John Arends
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
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Feile
Mr. Allan Feld
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Fors
Mr. and Mrs. Kurt Gruben
Mr. and Mrs. James Heinecke
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Heling
Mrs. Lorraine Hermann
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Heronemus

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Herrmann
Ms. Luaine Herzog
Mr. and Mrs. Al Holzheimer II
Mrs. Shirley Honold
Rev. and Mrs. Frederick Jabs
Ms. Sarah Jabs
Mr. Willard Jost
Mr. and Mrs. David Kanz
Ms. Margaret Kelch
Mr. and Mrs. David Lang
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Lampe
Rev. and Mrs. Greg Laska
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Lastusky
Mr. and Mrs. Mark McCabe
Rev. and Mrs. Tim Mech
Mr. and Mrs. Tim Muth
Mr. and Mrs. Will Olsen
Ms. Lori Prichard
Mr. and Mrs. Jon Rindt
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Roggentin
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Rusch
Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sabrowsky
Mrs. Barbra Schulze
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Staff
Mr. Gerald Striegel
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Van De Kreeke
Mr. and Mrs. John Wallrich
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Winkler
Mrs. Florence Zabel
Mrs. Earlene Zastrow
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Zeuner

There is still time to join Taproot for 2011-2012.

Your gift will make a difference!

