



# The Spirit of Our Lord's Lutheran Church



*"Called to Share Christ's Love with All"*

Volume 45, No. 1

January 2012

## WEEKEND WORSHIP THEMES:

### "LIGHT OF THE WORLD"



Dec 31-Jan 1:  
"Expected"  
(Luke 2:22-40)

Jan 7-8:  
"Empowered"  
(Mark 1:4-11)

Jan 14-15:  
"Misunderstood"  
(John 1:43-51)

Jan 21-22:  
"Called"  
(Mark 1:14-20)

Jan 28-29:  
"Astounded"  
(Mark 1:21-28)

## WHAT'S INSIDE!

- About People.....9
- Anniversaries & Birthdays.....9
- Calendar of Events.....11
- Church Festivals.....2
- Coming Events.....5
- EDUCATION.....3
- FELLOWSHIP.....4
- In Sympathy.....9
- The Larger Church.....4
- Lay Ministry.....6
- Prayer Requests.....10
- SERVICE.....5
- Treasurer's Report .....2
- WORSHIP.....2
- And More!

## From Your Pastor

### A "NEW BEGINNING" AGAIN AND AGAIN

If you are like me, it is exciting—at first—to look forward to a New Year. The start of the New Year always seems so full of possibilities.



We often put our best intentions forward with New Year's resolutions to convince ourselves to make progress on those things that we know we "should" be doing.

We believe on January 1<sup>st</sup> that we can, by our own sheer willpower, let go of some things in our lives that are not working for us and resolve earnestly to make renewed efforts to "do better."

Sometimes our desired changes are realistic, yet we fail to achieve them. Sometimes the changes that we hope for are unrealistic, and there's no way that we could make them happen.

When either realistic or unrealistic expectations fail, the message of God's eternal love and forgiveness embodied in the Christ Child is crucially important to hear.

As people of faith, our identity in Baptism is grounded in the New Reality that we are welcomed by God simply because God desires to be gracious and merciful. That is always the core of Jesus' message.

That ancient but always New Reality in the New Year, energized by the power of God's own Spirit, does make New Beginnings happen in ways that we have not yet fully imagined.

Blessed New Year!

Pastor John Lottes

## NEW YEAR'S WEEKEND

- **Contemporary Worship** (Saturday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 5:00 pm)
- **Alternative New Year's Eve Party** (Saturday, Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 pm)
- **First Sunday of Christmas** (Sunday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 am only)
- **New Year's Brunch** (Sunday, Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00 am)

**CHURCH FESTIVALS**



Listed on our **JANUARY** calendar is this Church Festival that is on page 15 (with Scripture Readings and Prayer on pp. 54-55) of our Hymnal:

- 1 – **THE NAME OF JESUS**
- 18 – **CONFESSION OF PETER**
- 25 – **CONVERSION OF PAUL**

On page 15 of the Hymnal, you will also notice other Commemorations of martyrs, missionaries (**Timothy, Titus, & Silas**) church leaders, teachers, renewers of church or society (**the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**), hymn writers, and musicians, scientists, and more.

**Treasurer's Report**

**November—2011**



Expenditures exceeded receipts by (4,198.37)  
 YTD expenditures exceeded receipts by (15,960.69)

Cash - Unrestricted 24,498  
 Cash - Replacement Reserve 28,015  
 Cash - Designated for specific purposes 10,706

Venturing In Faith contributions 2,849  
 Cumulative since campaign inception 373,720

Total Principal Paid on Mortgage 2,143  
 Remaining Principal balance on Mortgage 554,571

Submitted by Matt Anderson

**ADMINISTRATION**

**NEWSLETTER DELIVERY BY E-MAIL**

Let the church office know if your e-mail address has changed, so that we can let you know when the electronic version of the Newsletter is available. Thank you for your support in this change as we try to be better stewards of our resources.

**WORSHIP**

(For more information and details, see our "Worship Opportunities" brochure or visit our website: [www.ourlords.org](http://www.ourlords.org))

**NEW YEAR'S DAY**

Holy Communion (*One Service*)  
**Bring Bells to Ring during Carols**  
 Sunday, January 1, 2012, 9:00 am  
*Brunch, 10:00 am*  
 Worship Center Sanctuary

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP**

Holy Communion  
 Sundays, 8:00 & 10:45 am  
*Hospitality Hour, 9:15-10:30 am*  
 Worship Center Sanctuary

**CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP**

Holy Communion  
 Saturdays, 5:00 pm  
*Hospitality Hour, 6:15 pm*  
 Worship Center Sanctuary

+++++

**THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

Each year from **January 18-25**, many Lutherans and other Christians observe "**The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.**" This special week encourages Christians of all denominations to talk about the parts of their faith that they share in common.

The **goal** is not a blurring of our distinctiveness, but an affirmation of similarities and an honest yet cordial discussion of differences as well as what we can learn from one another, so that we all can grow in our understanding of other Christian faith traditions.

+++++

**PRAYER VENTURES**

The two pages of monthly prayer support for ELCA ministries, formerly printed in our newsletters, will be available in printed copy in our Worship Center and Life Center or accessed at [www.elca.org/prayerventures](http://www.elca.org/prayerventures).

## **Annual Meeting & Report**

The Annual Meeting is Sunday, January 29 after the late service.

We would like to hear from all of our ministry teams to find out how the year 2011 went with your ministry.

Please submit a short report about your team and its activities for the past year, list your team members, and maybe even extend an invitation to anyone who might like to join your team. There a lot of amazing things going on at Our Lord's and we would like to hear about them all.

Please either email or turn in your report to the church office by Friday, January 6, to be included in the annual report. Thank you.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **WEEKDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY**

Topic: "Overview of the Books of the Bible"

Scope: One Book of the Bible Each Week: Highlights, Key Passages (*January: Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel*)

Time: Wednesdays at 5:15 pm

Location: Worship Center Conference Room

Leader: Pastor John

### **SATURDAY MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

Topic: "Issues & Concerns"

Food: Doughnuts, Juice, & Coffee

Time: Saturdays at 8 am, other than Men's Club Saturdays

Location: Worship Center Commons

Leaders: Pastor John & Steve Hoelscher



## **EDUCATION**

(For more information and details, see our "Adult Education Opportunities" and "Children & Youth" brochures or visit our website: [www.ourlords.org](http://www.ourlords.org))

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH**

Ages: Age 3 to Grade 3

January Topics: Wise Men, Jesus at the Temple, Jesus Is Baptized, The Fishermen

Time: Saturdays, between Children's Sermon and Communion

Location: Worship Center Conference Room

Leaders: Saturday Children's Church Team (Beth, Katie, Erick, Susan, Dana)

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Ages: Pre-K to Grade 5

January Topics: Jesus' Baptism, The Disciples, OLLC Retreat, The Lord's Prayer

Time: Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am

Location: Life Center Fellowship Hall & Classrooms

Leaders: Sunday School Team (18 teachers & assistants)

### **CONFIRMATION CLASS**

Ages: Grades 6-7-8

January Topics: Baptism I & II, Holy Communion I & II

Time: Sundays, 9:15-10:30 am

Location: Life Center Conference Room

Leaders: Confirmation Team (Pr. John, Ed, Laura, Amy, Lori, Greg, Barb, Harry, Shelly)

### **HIGH SCHOOL SUNDAY CLASS**

Topic: "Choices, Choices, Choices: Managing My Life"

Time: Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am

Location: Worship Center Youth Room

Leaders: Debby Gunderson & Dona Racich

### **SUNDAY ADULT BIBLE CLASS**

Topic: "The Story of Jesus" (History Channel DVD Series)

Time: Sundays, 9:30-10:30 am

Location: Worship Center Fellowship Hall

Leader: Sunday Adult Ed. Team (Jim, Brian, Karen)

### **TWO WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDIES**

#### **Morning Glories Bible Study**

Topic: "To Follow & to Serve"

Time: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays at 10:00 A.M.

Location: Life Center Conference Room

Leader: Debby Gunderson

#### **Questions Bible Study**

Topic: "Great Figures of the New Testament"

(Video series by Prof. Amy-Jill Levine, Vanderbilt)

Time: 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 10:00 A.M.

Location: Life Center Conference Room

Leader: Dona Racich

Time: Wednesdays at 5:15 pm

Location: Worship Center Conference Room

Leader: Pastor John

## FELLOWSHIP

(For more information and details, see our "Fellowship Ministries" brochure or visit our website: [www.ourlords.org](http://www.ourlords.org))



### **ALTERNATIVE NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY**

Our Lord's members and friends are invited to a v-e-r-y informal "Alternative New Year's Eve Party" immediately after Saturday Contemporary Worship on New Year's Eve, December 31. Bring your favorites in appetizers, non-alcoholic beverages, DVDs, and games to share. For more information, contact Pastor John.

+++++

### **SECOND ANNUAL CHURCH FAMILY RETREAT**

Our second annual retreat, "Spiritual Expressions," will be **Saturday and Sunday, January 21-22, 2012** at Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville, IL. There will also be an optional additional evening of recreation after 4:00 pm on Friday, January 20. See the Retreat Flyer and Registration form in this Newsletter! Deadline: January 13.

- For: Members and Friends of All Ages
- Goals: Fun, Friends, Relaxation, Recreation, Worship, and Much More
- Activities: Hands-On Learning, Climbing Wall, Indoor Pool, and Gym just for starters

+++++

### **RETREAT SCHOLARSHIPS NEEDED**

Donations are needed to help make the retreat more affordable for families and young people wanting to attend. If you are able to financially support the retreat with a scholarship or a partial scholarship, please make your check out to "Our Lord's Lutheran Church," put **SCHOLARSHIP** on the memo line, and place your donation in Dana Callahan's mailbox in the Commons area. Your gift is greatly appreciated! If you have any questions, please contact Dana at 972-3955 or [layministry@ourlords.org](mailto:layministry@ourlords.org).



### **OUR LORD'S . . . AT A GLANCE**

In addition to the University of Life "mini-brochures" (Worship, Adult Education, Children & Youth, Fellowship, and Service) in the Narthex of the Worship Center and in the Lobby of the Life Center, see the summary brochure of ongoing ministry opportunities entitled, "Our Lord's . . . At a Glance!"

## **THE LARGER CHURCH**



### **ELCA NEWS**

For more information and current news releases, see the ELCA website: [www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org).

+++++

### **Lutheran School of Theology Announces Winter Term Courses**

**Lutheran School of Theology** offers biblical and theological courses for everyone, from interested lay persons wanting to learn more, to professional church workers and students. You are cordially invited to enroll in the following upcoming Winter term courses beginning January 11: "**The Pursuit of Happiness: Psalms, Discipleship and the American Dream**" (Dr. Clint McCann), "**This is What We Believe!? How We Got the Creeds and Are They Still Necessary**" (Rev. Dr. Warren Crews), and "**Being the Church in Polarized Times: Lessons From History, Part II**" (Dr. Mark Ruff). Brochures with registration forms are on the LST poster in the narthex. You may also call 314-725-9710 or email [registrar@lststl.org](mailto:registrar@lststl.org) or register online at <http://www.lststl.org>.

+++++

### **PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

**Goal:** fellowship of Christians who get together to craft prayer shawls for those in need of comfort.



**Date & Time:** Second & fourth Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Worship Center Youth Room.

**Contact:** Mary Goodwin encourages all who sew, knit, crochet, or want to learn.

**PREVIEWS OF COMING EVENTS**

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events and special observances:

**February**

- Theme: "Love to Share!"
- Souper Bowl of Caring, Feb 4-5
- Youth Spaghetti Dinner, Feb 11
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, Feb 21
- Ash Wednesday, Feb 22
- Midweek Lenten Dinners & Evening Prayer, Feb 29-Mar 28

**March**

- Theme: "Journey with Jesus" (*Lent*)
- Birthday of Dr. Seuss, March 2
- West Central Conference Assembly March 4
- Midweek Lenten Dinners & Evening Prayer, Feb 29-Mar 28

**April**

- Theme: "New Life in Christ" (*Easter*)
- Palm/Passion Weekend, Mar 31-April 1
- Holy Week, Apr 1-7
- Maundy Thursday, Apr 5
- Good Friday, Apr 6
- Easter Vigil, Apr 7
- Easter, Apr 8
- Earth Day, Sunday, Apr 22

\*\*\*\*\*

**January Men's Club**

There will be no official Men's Club meeting in January. However, Ginger Trucano could use help in taking down all the Christmas decorations. Watch for Ginger's request for helpers.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Day Trippers**

Our Lord's DayTrippers will meet on Thursday, January 12, at noon in the WC Fellowship Hall. Come and beat the winter blahs by joining in for a Pizza Party plus entertainment. Please sign up on the WC bulletin board so we know how much pizza to order. **Call Marcine at 692-8217 for more info**

**SERVICE**

(For more information and details, see our "Service Ministries" brochure or visit our website: [www.ourlords.org](http://www.ourlords.org))

**UN-GREENING OF THE CHURCH**

On Friday, January 6 at 9:00 a.m. **Ginger Trucano** invites your help in taking down the Christmas decorations at the Worship Center. Many hands are needed to remove greenery, manger scenes, and the many other items to be put away. Help with the outside decorations and the high window decorations is especially needed! Contact Ginger for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*

**LAY MINISTRY**

**JODI BECKER TO LEAD THE PRAYER BOARD MINISTRY TEAM**

The Steering Team is pleased to announce that member, Jodi Becker, has initiated a charter for The Prayer Board Ministry Team. Jodi saw a need for our congregation to be aware of who in our church family we are praying for when prayers have been requested. If you would like to help Jodi keep the prayer board updated, please give her a call or let Dana know. Thank you, Jodi, for seeing the need and acting upon it!

**THE LARGER CHURCH**

**LUTHERAN SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM**

Lutheran Summer Music [[www.lutheransummermusic.org](http://www.lutheransummermusic.org)] (LSM) is a four week summer music program for band, orchestra, choir, keyboard and organ students grades 8-12. Open to students of all faiths, the program is committed to strengthening and expanding the Church's heritage of excellence in music. For more than 30 years, LSM has seeded thousands of organists, choir directors and leadership musicians into the Church. The 2012 Academy will be held on the campus of Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, from June 24 to July 22.



At LSM, students have an opportunity to explore both spiritual and musical growth as well as deepen their understanding of traditional worship liturgies and the hymnody of the Lutheran Church. Young musicians in grades 8-12 at Our Lord's are invited to explore this very special opportunity. In addition to exploring the website (above), you may also call toll-free at 888-635-6583. *Financial assistance is available!*

\*\*\*\*\*

**Late Boomers Chili Supper**



**Late Boomers January Event**

Hello all you frosty Late Boomers! Time to come to warm up at the Williams home with Chili on January 28 beginning at 7 pm. Bring sides to share, games to play, beverage of choice and lots of great ideas for the months ahead of more fun with this lively group. RSVP to Mike or Loretta. Remember - Late Boomers is a group of folks that are from that Baby Boomer generation, and other friends (known or new) are welcome! Join us for a fun time!

## Peace Lutheran Congregation Marching On

By Mike Pound The Joplin Globe, Wed Nov 30, 2011, —Joplin, MO

Katharine Redpath didn't know it, but she was destined to come to Peace Lutheran Church.

Katharine — or Pastor Kathy, as she prefers to be called — was serving as the pastor at the Lutheran church in Mankato, Kan., when church members began discussing leaving the Lutheran church. Two and a half years out of the seminary, Pastor Kathy figured she might want to think about finding a new church to lead.

When the bishop's office suggested that Pastor Kathy consider coming to Peace Lutheran in Joplin, she was a bit taken aback. After all, Peace Lutheran had been getting by with a part-time pastor for several years, and — oh, by the way — the church itself had been slammed in the May 22 tornado.

But the more she thought about it, the more Pastor Kathy became intrigued with the idea of coming to Joplin. See, Pastor Kathy knows a thing or two about tornadoes. The first home she owned, in Ohio, was destroyed by a tornado in the early 1970s. She knows what it's like to crawl out of a shelter see rubble where a home once stood.

On Aug. 21, Katharine Redpath was officially installed as the pastor of Peace Lutheran Church. Since the storm, I've spoken with several people from Peace Lutheran. In early June, I wrote a column about a fundraiser the church had planned for the Joplin Neighborhood Adult Literacy Action organization. I wrote that despite not having an actual standing church, the members of Peace Lutheran were going ahead with the fundraiser. Rather than sit around and feel sorry for themselves, I wrote, the folks of Peace Lutheran went to work helping others.

Mary Schultz, chairwoman of the Church and Society Committee at Peace Lutheran, told me then that no one in the church ever thought about backing out of the commitment to Joplin NALA. Helping others, Mary said, is "what our congregation is all about."

When I mentioned that story to Pastor Kathy, she said that attitude among the church members was one of the things that drew her to Joplin.

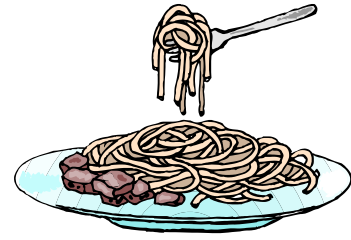
"They just have a spirit about them," she said. "They have no intention of laying down and playing dead."

Since the tornado, church members have been sharing space at Bethany Presbyterian Church as they make plans to rebuild their own church. Pastor Kathy, by the way, couldn't say enough about the generosity of the folks at Bethany.

"They are just wonderful," she said. "Very accommodating, very welcoming."

I think that's pretty cool, by the way. Sometimes it seems that some people talk about doing the right thing on Sunday, and then Monday through Saturday they sort of forget that talk. The folks at Peace Lutheran and Bethany Presbyterian seem to be walking the walk, as it were.

(Continued on page 8)



## Youth Spaghetti Dinner and Play

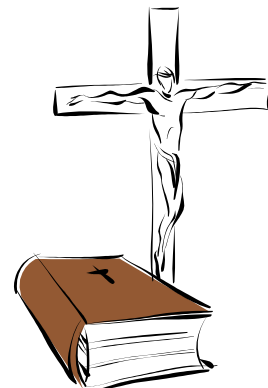
The 11th Annual Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner and Play will be February 11, 2011 immediately following the Saturday night service in the Life Center Fellowship Hall. Tickets will be for sale after the church services beginning January 21. Adults \$9.00, Children \$5.00 and under 5 free. Ginger Trucano will be making her delicious sauce once again..."Cosi Buono" (so good).

The Youth Bake Sale before Thanksgiving was a huge success. We made a total of \$781.50. Thank you to those who made deserts for the sale and those who bought. The generosity of this congregation is overwhelming.

On-Going Fund Raisers Reminders: 1) The youth group collects aluminum which is stored by the garage at the Life Center. 2) If you shop at Schnucks and would like an E-Scrip card please let Steve or Kathy know...3% of your purchase goes back to the youth group. This year we have collected \$845.00 through this wonderful program.

The youth will take a field trip in January to Pottery Hollow to paint ceramics. Date to be determined.

\*\*\*\*\*





**Our Lord's Church Family Retreat**  
***Spiritual Expressions***  
**Lake Williamson Retreat Center, Carlinville, IL**

*January 21 beginning at 9 a.m. to January 22 at 1 p.m.*  
*January 20 from 4 p.m. – Optional Evening of Recreation*

Rest & Relaxation  
 January 2012  
 Worship & Prayer  
 Fellowship & Fun



Intergenerational Workshops  
 Bible Study & Reflection Time  
 Games, Pool & Wally Ball

Sunday School, Singing & Worship

**Price Includes One Overnight Stay in Hotel-Like Room & 4 Meals**

Adult Rates (per person)

Single Occupancy- \$95; Double Occupancy-\$90; Triple Occupancy-\$85

Youth (12-22 years) \$65; Children (6-11 years) \$50 & Children Under 5 Free

**OUR LORD'S SPECIAL FAMILY RATE**  
**\$200 for Families with 3 to 6 in the Same Room**

**Scholarships Are Available!**

Reserve your spot today by filling out the attached REGISTRATION FORM!  
 Make checks payable to Our Lord's Lutheran Church. Place your registration form and check in Dana Callahan's mailbox in the Narthex. Payment plans are available—see details on the registration form. All fees are due by January 15.

**Please note that Lake Williamson does NOT refund due to bad weather!**

Contact Dana at 972-3955 for scholarship information, option for arriving on Friday night, or other questions regarding the retreat.

## Boy Scout Trivia Night

Boy Scout Troop 1039 is having their first annual Trivia Night on Saturday, January 14, 2012 at Our Lord's Lutheran Church in Maryville, IL. There will also be a silent auction. Tables are on sale now.



If you are interested in attending or if you have an item we can use for the silent auction, you may contact the Scoutmaster, Brian Johnson, at 618-604-9463 or the Fundraiser Chairman, Susan Johnson, at sbj7424@hotmail.com.

The Cutoff for ticket sales and silent auction donations is 1/9/12.

## Christian Humor

It seems that there was a little old church out in the countryside, painted white and with a high steeple. One Sunday, the pastor noticed that his church needed painting. He checked out the Sunday ads and found a paint sale. The next day, he went into town and bought a gallon of white paint. He went back out to the church and began the job. He got done with the first side. It was looking great. But he noticed he had already used a half gallon. He didn't want to run back in town and being the creative person that he was, he found a gallon of thinner in the shed out back, and began to thin his paint. It worked out great. He finished the remaining three sides with that last half gallon of paint. That night, it rained: it rained hard. The next morning when he stepped outside of the parsonage to admire his work, he saw that the first side was looking great, but that the paint on the other three sides had washed away. The pastor looked up in sky in anguish and cried out, "What shall I do? "A voice came back from the heavens saying, "Repaint, and thin no more!"



## Peace Lutheran Congregation Marching On

(Contd. From page 6)

Bethany Presbyterian seem to be walking the walk, as it were.

Pastor Kathy said Peace Lutheran is doing just fine. She said the church will be rebuilt with the future in mind. Early on, there was a sense among some church members that rebuilding efforts should have begun right after the storm, but Pastor Kathy has been preaching a more measured approach. She said the church is assessing its "core values" and exactly what its mission going into the future should be.

"When we decide what our core values are and then decide what our mission is, then we can decide what type of building we need," she said.

I have faith that the good folks at Peace Lutheran will make the right decision. I have faith that they will rebuild and that they will continue to be a strong moral presence in the city of Joplin.

Like Mary said, it's what they are about.

+++++

## Thank you

Thanks to the congregation of Our Lords for all of the prayers, cards and support during this time for our family. Although I have only been with the congregation for less than a year, I feel I have the support of a warm, caring family behind me.

Becky Garrison



## January Birthdays

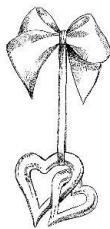


- 3 Gary Sides  
Denise Tiemann
- 4 Bob Rinkle  
Mike Williams
- 5 Letitia Downen
- 9 Matthew Erdman  
Catie Reynolds
- 10 Dave Gocken
- 12 Rhonda Comrie
- 13 Donna Beauchamp  
Zoie Blakeburn  
Beth Giese  
Drew Klingsick  
Erin Van Middendorp
- 15 Jodi Becker  
Barb Carver  
Tim Nyland  
Russ Roland  
Jo Steele
- 16 Alex Peterson
- 17 Stacey Taylor
- 18 Joette McNeilly
- 19 Jenny Van Middendorp
- 19 Felicia Crabtree
- 20 Kris Lowe  
Karen Hammond  
Chelsea Lang  
Carol Taylor
- 21 Connie Reynolds
- 23 Dominic Signorino  
Octavia Wagner
- 25 Elena Lowe
- 26 Kelly Stottler
- 28 Erik Larsen
- 29 Nicole Soehnl  
Lynn Lang

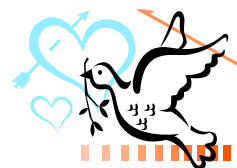


## January Anniversaries

- 3 Dennis & Bonnie Eberle
- 18 Bob & Georgia Rinkel
- 19 Chuck & Marcy Rak
- 24 Mike & Kris Lowe
- 29 Greg & Sue Perkins



## The Spiritual Gift of Faith



During the last two years, we have reviewed a different spiritual gift each month in the newsletter. Through the process of identifying our spiritual gifts and switching to the team form of ministry, we have learned that a person who is working within a ministry area they are gifted for will be more effective in that ministry than one they are not gifted for. It is no surprise then, that the Spiritual Gift of Faith is the most common gift possessed by the community of believers known as Our Lord's.

The Spiritual Gift of Faith gives the believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it might lead. Many opportunities to use the Spiritual Gift of Faith await us at Our Lord's. The sky is the limit when it comes to doing ministry – there are so many needs in this world! Think outside the box and explore some new ministries in the New Year. Make a New Year's resolution to explore starting a new ministry or try serving on one of the many Ministry Teams already in place at Our Lord's. The Steering Team is anxious to help you organize and recruit!

## Within our Church Family

- **In Sympathy**  
Please remember these members, friends of Our Lord's, and their families as they grieve their loss and share the sure promise of the resurrection:  
  
**Joan Vail & Family** (at the death of husband Bob Vail on December 4, 2011)
- **Thank You** to Alan, Sue, and Martin Kramer for hosting a wonderful Christmas Party for the Adult Choir and the Bell Choir and for starting a new tradition.
- **THANK YOU TO HELPERS FOR "WONDER"**  
The Children's Christmas Program on December 18 was a very beautiful telling of the "Wonder" of Jesus' birth. The children told the story of God coming to us in the form of a baby, Jesus. The angels, shepherds, sheep, donkeys, and wise men all made an appearance. Introducing the Christmas story were members of the family from the Bethlehem Inn. The event was a remarkable celebration by the more than thirty children who had speaking, drama, instrumental, or singing parts. Many parents and other helpers provided key help in a variety of ways. Thank you to all who participated so helpfully!
- Congratulations to Jacob Callahan who got the part of Harv Fremont in the production of the 2006 musical, *Curtains*, at the Looking Glass Playhouse in Lebanon, IL. Performances will be January 26-29 and February 2-5. Ticket information can be gotten at the website: [www.lookingglassplayhouse.com](http://www.lookingglassplayhouse.com).



**During the week ahead, please pray for our brothers and sisters and for those afflicted in**

**mind, body or spirit, especially remembering:**

**Kathy Acton & Family**  
**Edna Anderson**  
**Sandy Anderson** (Vicki Lottes' relative)  
**Jennifer Antinette** (Beauchamp's friend)  
**Tom Arnottie** (Erick Larson's friend)  
**Shirley Bauer** (Greg Becker's friend)  
**Gloria Becker**  
**Greg & Jodi Becker**  
**Cindy Berry** (Eric Berry's mother)  
**Bill Brice & Family**  
**Clarence & Darlene Bruhn** (Darrell Bruhn's brother & Sister-in-law)  
**Stacey Budke** (Becky Garrison's daughter)  
**Dana Callahan**  
**Marty Cavanaugh**  
**Cathy Clyde** (Lynn Kempf's aunt)  
**Barbara Cooper** (Karen Eastby's cousin)  
**Corinne Comrie** (Scott Comrie's mother)  
**Don & Dee Corbett**  
**Kelly Cruse** (Lori Messina's cousin)  
**Danny Davison**  
**Chuck Diggs**  
**Pamela Downour** (Christina Shields' friend)  
**Dorothy Eden**  
**Ellen Eden** (Lynn Thiel's cousin)  
**Helen Flaxbeard**  
**Greg & Lori Fremder**  
**Norm Fuesting & Family** (Mary Goodwin's friend)  
**Margie Gardner & Family** (Vicki Lottes' sister)  
**Morgan Gardner** (Vicki Lottes' nephew)  
**Bob Geiler, Jr.** (Margie Geiler's son)  
**Bucky Gruber**  
**Dorothy Gunderson** (Brian & Krissy Gunderson's grandmother)  
**Amanda Gunningham** (Julie Russell's friend)  
**Linda Hall & Family**  
**Carroll Hammond**  
**Nancy Hanson & Family** (Carol Gocken's cousin)  
**Bill Hardy** (Cindy Pugh's father)

**John Havenstrite Family**  
**Terri Hoef** (Carole Callahan's friend)  
**Vicki Hoxey**  
**Patti Hudak** (Dana Callahan's friends)  
**John**  
**Ted Johnson** (Mary Goodwin's cousin)  
**Mel Jones** (Erick Larson's friend)  
**Bob & Marlene Kanoy** (Roberta Maue's aunt & uncle)  
**Arkie Kantola**  
**Brian Kassing**  
**Lisa Kelly** (Lori Messina's sister)  
**Nel Kennedy** (Loretta Williams' sister)  
**Robin Kitterman & Family** (Caitlyn Williams' friends)  
**Judy Klein** (Dona Racich's friend)  
**Xavier Kurre** (Sue Green's grandson)  
**Kylie Jo**  
**Jake & Melissa Leveque**  
**S.A.M. Michael Lewis** (at his death)  
**David Lottes** (Pr. John & Vicki's son)  
**Mary Lottes** (Pr. John's mother)  
**Vicki Lottes**  
**Vicki Lowrie** (Judy Dunne's friend)  
**Rachel & Emma Lucco**  
**Nancy Lutz**  
**Dee Mann** (Bill & Linda Mann's sister-in-law)  
**Roland & Theresa Martell** (Joette McNeilly's parents)  
**Lula Messina** (Tom Messina's mother)  
**Helen Meyer** (Mary Ann Fritz's mother)  
**Sue Mixdorf**  
**Sara Nannie** (Cindy Pugh's niece)  
**Alicia Nichols** (Lisa White's neighbor)  
**Kathy Oltmanns**  
**Bekah Perry**  
**Gertrude Peters** (Carol Gocken's mother)  
**Cyndi Peterson**  
**Joyce Pick** (Peggy Pick's mother)  
**Betty Jo Presley** (Sharon Bruhn's friend)  
**Debbie Pugh** (Cindy Pugh's sister-in-law)  
**Ken Redetzke**  
**Connie Reynolds**  
**Georgia Rinkel**  
**Eric Rinkel** (Bob Rinkel's great nephew)  
**Megan Sallee**  
**Mark Sardyga** (Erick Larson's friend)  
**Donna Schlechte** (Kassing Family friend)  
**Julie Schieter**  
**Sandy Schuler**  
**Michael Schuman** (Grace Bergstedt's son-in-law)  
**Ron Senters**  
**Virginia Sides** (Gary Sides' mother)

**Diane Stewart** (Lynn Kempf's friend)  
**Jeanette Svoboda** (Greg Becker's friend)  
**Tom Szczeblewski** (Lori Fremder's cousin)  
**Stacey Taylor**  
**Ginger Trucano**  
**Matt Turcol** (Tilashalski's friend)  
**Lexis Tutor**  
**Diane & Ralph Uchitjil** (Linda Mann's sister & brother-in-law)  
**Pr. Glen Vanderkloot**  
**Alan Vesper** (April & Stefanie Vesper's father)  
**Starlene Villareal** (Loretta Williams' friend)  
**Lori Walster**  
**Pr. Guy Warke**  
**Lisa White**  
**Chase Wildhaber** (Carole Callahan's nephew)  
**Eric Wilson** (Greg Becker's friend)  
**Libby Woodward**  
**Tyler Wyvell**  
**Jason Zotalis** (Wannen's son-in-law)  
**Zachary Zwaga** (Dan & Sue Homes' nephew)



**Nathaniel Brown**  
Lt. **Tom Buller**  
Lance Cpl. **Clayton Campbell**  
Major **James Carmichael**  
**Dustin Crone**  
**Jeff Crone**  
Capt. **Blake Crosby**  
Airborne Ranger **Keegan Crosby**  
Staff Sgt. **Tyson Crosby**  
**Brent Deemers**  
**Charles Homes**  
**Zach Huff**  
**Shane Lee**  
CPO **Shawn Lee**  
PV2 **Courtney Ligibel**  
Major **David Mann**  
Staff Sgt. **John Maroney**  
**John Meyer**  
Airman **Nick Muller**  
**Kurtis Neubauer**  
**Zachary Neubauer**  
Major **John Perrine**  
**Josh Pace**  
**Scott Prengel**  
**Jack Scoles**  
Staff Sgt. **Skipper Smith**  
**Haley Wagner**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1 EXPECTED</b> <b>THE NAME OF JESUS</b> 9 - Worship 10 - New Year's Brunch	<b>2</b> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<b>3</b> 10 - Questions Bible Study 11 - Staff mtg.	<b>4</b> 5:15 - Adult Bible Study 6:30 - Bell Choir 7:45 - Adult Choir	<b>5</b> 10:30 - Office Angels 6 - MOC Board Mtg. @ St. Luke's UMC	<b>6</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>7</b> 9 - Altar Guild 3:30 - Praise Band 5 - Worship w/Children's Church: "Empowered"
<b>8 EMPOWERED</b> 8 - Worship 9:15 - Confirmation 9:30 - Family Ed. Hour 10:45 - Worship 5 - HS Youth @ Hoelscher's	<b>9</b> 11 - Staff Mtg.	<b>10</b> 7 - Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>11</b> 5:15 - Adult Bible Study 6:30 - Bell Choir 7:45 - Adult Choir	<b>12</b> 9 - Morning Glories Bible Study 10:30 - Office Angels Noon - Day Trippers/ Pizza Party	<b>13</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>14</b> 8 - Men's Bible Study 3:30 - Praise Band 5 - Worship w/Children's Church: "Misunderstood"
<b>15 MISUNDERSTOOD</b> 8 - Worship 9:15 - Confirmation 9:30 - Family Ed. Hour, Brendel Farewell & Godspeed Reception 10:45 - Worship	<b>16</b> 11 - Staff Mtg. 6:30 - Church Council	<b>17</b> 10 - Questions Bible Study 7 - La Leche League	<b>18 CONFESSION OF PETER</b> 5:15 - Adult Bible Study 6:30 - Bell Choir 7:45 - Adult Choir	<b>19</b> 10:30 - Office Angels 7 - Women's Book Club	<b>20</b> Pastor's Sabbath 4 - Retreat - Early Beginning	<b>21</b> 9 - Retreat Begins 3:30 - Praise Band 5 - Worship w/Children's Church: "Called"
<b>22 CALLED</b> 8 - Worship 9:15 - Confirmation 9:30 - Family Ed. Hour 10:45 - Worship 1 - Retreat Ends 5 - HS Youth @ Hoelscher's	<b>23</b> 11 - Staff Mtg.	<b>24</b> 7 - Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>25 CONVERSION OF PAUL</b> 9:30 - Newsletter Assembly 5:15 - Adult Bible Study 6:30 - Bell Choir 7:45 - Adult Choir	<b>26</b> 9 - Morning Glories Bible Study 10:30 - Office Angels 6:30 - MEHCCA Mtg.	<b>27</b> Pastor's Sabbath	<b>28</b> 8 - Men's Bible Study 3:30 - Praise Band 5 - Worship w/Children's Church: "Astounded" 7 - Late Boomers @ Williams'
<b>29 ASTOUNDED</b> 8 - Worship 9:15 - Confirmation 9:30 - Family Ed. Hour 10:45 - Worship Noon - Annual Meeting & Luncheon	<b>30</b> 11 - Staff Mtg.	<b>31</b>				

# January 2012

## **Staff**

**The Rev. John D. Lottes**, Pastor  
**Dana Callahan**, Lay Ministry Coordinator  
**Dr. Rhonda Comrie**, Organist  
**Dave Geiler**, Praise Band Director  
**Andrea Giese**, Nursery Attendant  
**Dr. Christina Shields**, Bell & Vocal Choir Director  
**Chery Sides**, Organist  
**Loretta Williams**, Administrative Assistant

## **Church Council Members**

**Tim Schoenecker**, President  
**Chuck Pugh**, Vice President  
**Rhonda Comrie**, Secretary  
**Matt Anderson** - Treasurer  
**Laurie Hensley**, At Large

## **Steering Team**

**Beth Giese**, Education  
**Don & Elaine Baden**, Service  
**Tim Nyland**, Worship  
**Ed & Laura Foppe**, Fellowship

Called to share Christ's love with all

## ***"The Spirit of Our Lord's"***

**Our Lord's Lutheran Church**  
**150 Wilma Drive**  
**Maryville, IL 62025**  
**(618) 345-5692 (Office Bldg)**

**January 2012 Newsletter**

**Becky Garrison - co-editor**  
**KaLonny Short - co-editor**  
**[newsletter@ourlords.org](mailto:newsletter@ourlords.org)**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

NON-PROFIT ORG. US Postage Paid Maryville, IL 62062 Permit #2
--