

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS



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JANUARY 2009
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

A HAPPY
NEW YEAR

Message from Pastor Scott Johnson

*"I can do all things through Him
who strengthens me."*

—Philippians 4:13

Sunday Worship

9:00 a.m. Traditional
10:30 A.M. Blended

9:20 p.m. Sunday School
(right after
Children's Sermon)



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The congregation at Philippi in Macedonia was the site of the first congregation Paul had established on the European continent. The congregation was a joy to Paul and the feeling was apparently mutual. The letter was primarily one of thanksgiving and encouragement, and this statement from Paul in his letter to the Philippians not only applies to us as individuals but also to the church.

It is a new year, an opportunity for new beginnings, new ministries, and—new challenges. Paul's bold statement reminds us that it is not in our own doing whether or not we advance the Gospel, but through Christ himself. It is a stark reminder that in all things we must first seek the Lord's counsel—as individuals and as a church.

As a church, many things were achieved this past year, the details of which I will share at our annual meeting. As individuals, I witnessed growth in faith and an eager willingness from more people, especially new members, to become involved in our ministries. Because of our struggling economy, there will be challenges ahead as we embark on this new year. But through faith in Christ,

if we pull together and seek the Lord, we will once again be able to testify to Paul's words, "I can do all things through Him."

Paul's letter to the Philippians was indeed one of praise and I praise God for sending every one of you to Lutheran Church of the Cross. Like all of the snow that has been sent to us, may God's blessings this year fall ever so gently on all of you and our church.

Happy New Year,

Pastor Scott



NEWS & EVENTS

Food Pantry

Sign Up to Help Pantry push 1st Sunday of the month. All food donations welcome!

Helping Hands Ministry

Just a reminder that we frequently have members of our church family who need assistance with rides, meal delivery or small chores. Accomplishing these tasks can seem insurmountable especially to those who are recovering from hospitalization. If you can help by cooking or providing a "helping hand" in another way, please sign up on the poster in the fellowship hall.

Lay Reader Volunteers

It is time to update the list of Lay Reader volunteers! If you want to share your reading talent, please contact Ryann Uden at ryann@uden.org to be added to the reader rotation.

Bible Study every Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the LCC.

Book Study starting January 7 at 6:30pm, we will continue to study the book, "If You Want to Walk on Water, You Got to Get Out of the Boat", by John Ortberg.

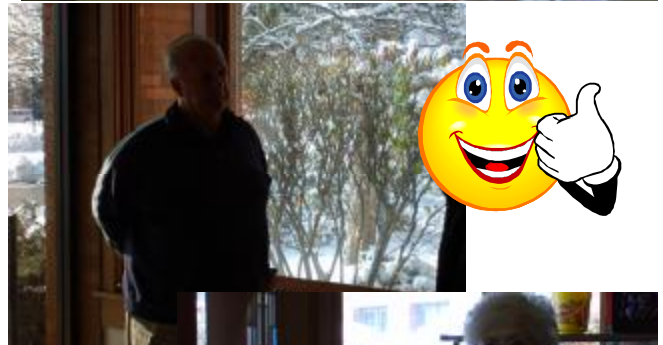
Children Sunday School resumes on January 4 right after Children's Sermon (appx. 9:20 a.m.)

Nursery located down the North hallway is open to infants and toddlers during worship services. If you find it necessary to leave the Sanctuary, there is also a speaker system in the Narthex for your convenience.

A BIG Thank You to Philips Lighting for the Christmas gift donations!



Our Dedicated Food Pantry Volunteers on Tuesdays!





W.E.L.C.A.

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

WE LEARN . WE LOVE . WE SERVE

JANUARY SCHEDULE

Sunday, 11th, Rebecca Circle Fellowship Hosts

Tuesday, 13th, 6:30p.m. dinner at Olive Garden, at Joyce Johnson's for dessert and study.

Wednesday, 14th, 6:30p.m.

Christmas dinner at Michael's Restaurant, Mt. Prospect

Friday, 16th, 7:00p.m.

Meet at Linda Sosnowski's house to wrap gifts for St. Matthew's

Sunday, 18th, Esther Circle

Fellowship Hosts between services.

Sunday, 18th, 1:30p.m.

Meet at St. Matthew Center for Health in Park Ridge, to distribute birthday gifts and play bingo.

READ TO LEARN Literacy / Volunteer Program

Spring 2009 Schedule

February 10, 17, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 31
(No Class on 24 Spring Break)

April 7, 14, 21

W.E.L.C.A. Committee Members:

Financial Committee: Phyllis Olson, Jill Kummer, Myrna Salazar, Virginia Lloyd, Muriel Tripp, Lynnea Semasko, Debbie Paddack. Communication Coordinator: Virginia Lloyd. Please join us: See Lynnea Semasko, Jill Kummer or Myrna Salazar.

Adult Education 2009 January 11, 18, and 25

THREE FAITHS, ONE GOD: Judaism, Christianity, Islam

This ground-breaking documentary compares similarities and differences in religious beliefs and practices that Islam has with Christianity and Judaism. It also examines how people of goodwill in the Abrahamic faith communities are coming to terms with historical conflicts that impact their lives today, the crisis of the fundamentalist approach to religious pluralism and tearing down barriers to understanding and respect. Facilitated by a Rabbi, a Pastor, and an Imam.

It proposes to answer the following questions:

What stereotypes does each Faith faces?

Do Jews, Christians and Muslims worship the same God?

Does the Lord's Prayer appear in the Koran?

Do Muslims believe that Jesus died on the cross?

How are Jewish law and Islamic law similar?

How do Muslims view the Trinity?

How is Ramadan parallel to Yom Kippur and Lent?

Do the "Five Pillars" of Islam have a biblical basis?

Do Muslims pray differently from Jews and Christians?

Some of the Quotes:

"It is a marvelous resource for deepening understanding about the Abrahamic faiths with congregations, schools and community groups." Rev. Clark Lobenstine, Executive Director of Interfaith Conference of Washington.

"Excellent ... Doesn't propose simplistic and unrealistic answers." Rabbi Reuven Firestone of Hebrew Union College, LA

" ... an emergent symbol of hope for the peoples of the books." Sulayman Nyang of Islam in the Public Square.

" ... a major work whose time has come ... It will cause people to think in new ways." Bishop John Chane of National Cathedral, Washington DC

School-Age Care Program



First, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who have given their support and encouragement these past two and a half years as this program finally becomes a reality. The School-Age Care Program at Lutheran Church of the Cross is now licensed to operate.

Getting our program off to a good start when school reopens is now my top priority. I would be very grateful if anyone in the congregation who knows a family whose children attend Forest View Elementary, Holmes Middle, or John Jay Schools to give them one of our coupon flyers. The flyers are located on the entrance table in the Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to take as many as you need.

Sharon R. Stephan

Director



Four facts you need to know about stroke prevention ...

- 80% of stroke victims had no apparent warning signs.
- Ultrasound screenings can help you avoid a stroke.
- Stroke is a leading cause of death and permanent disability.
- Screenings are fast, painless, affordable and convenient.

Screening at the Lutheran Church of the Cross sponsored by Northwest Community Hospital on Monday, January 26, 2009.

Pre-registration is required.

Please call 1-800-690-6313.



LCC Annual Meeting

January 25 after the 10:00a.m. worship. There will only be one service on Sunday of the annual meeting.

Ministries at Lutheran Church Of The Cross

Adult Education

Chapel Service at
Friendship Village

Christian Education

Drama Team

Evangelical Team

Fellowship Team

Helping Hands

Home Communion Team

Outreach Team

Prayer Ministry

Small Group Bible Study

Social Ministry

Worship and Music



JANUARY 2009 WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

	4TH	11TH	18TH	25TH
COMMUNION SETUP and ASSISTANTS	Bob Lempkowski Lynnea Semasko	Ken Miller Rainey Koga	Greg Paddack Carl Malin	Anne Wurfel Dick Bukowski
ACOLYTES	Christine Lekas Danielle Lekas	Mike Garbis	Ron Ecklund	Brad Ecklund
GREETERS	Carol Campbell Mary Teppen John Teppen	Klaus Schuetze Gail Schuetze Anita Lambert	Jim Martin Joyce Johnson Jean Bukowski	Herb Hanson June Hanson Doris Olson
EXIT GREETERS				
NORTH	Karl Becker	Jean Hineman	Don Finney	Greg Paddack
SOUTH	Greg Paddack	Ken Miller	Stacy Uden	Karl Becker
LAY READERS	Greg Paddack	Sue Jay	Ryann Uden	Marilyn Anderson
LITURGICAL ASSISTANTS	Tom Gnoyke	Carolyn Ohman	Lynnea Semasko	Carl Malin
COUNTERS	Tom Gnoyke Greg Rabus	Marilyn Anderson Carolyn Ohman	Klaus Schuetze Phyllis Olson	Greg Paddack Joyce Johnson
USHERS	Janice Fedanzo Ernest & Anne Wurfel	Don Finney Tom Fedro Sue Miller	Klaus & Gail Schuetze Jean Hineman	Jody Check Greg Paddack Joanne Szukala
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	June Hanson	Rebecca Circle	Esther Circle	Jean Bukowski

If you are not able to serve on these dates, please call another member or youth to trade with, and notify the church office of the change. Tel: 847-437-5141 Thanks!

Sunday School Registration

Join us for Sunday School

Family Name: _____

Mother's Name: _____

Father's Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____

Member: Yes No

Child's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

School Grade Fall 2008: _____

Child's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

School Grade Fall 2008: _____

Child's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

School Grade Fall 2008: _____

Child's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

School Grade Fall 2008: _____

Does your child require special accommodations?

Does your child have any allergies we should be aware of?

Please return registration form to the Education Ministry Committee mailbox in Fellowship Hall.

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Questions? Call: 847-437-5141

APPENDIX FORM IV

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

CONSENT FOR SINGLE SUPERVISION

I am aware that as part of the Child Sexual Abuse Prevention policy, Lutheran Church of the Cross strives to provide "dual supervision" for children and youth participating in classes and programming wherever possible. I am also aware, however, that single supervision to such events may be permitted with written consent of parents or guardians of the children involved in the activity.

With these guidelines in mind, I hereby consent to the single supervision of my child/children:

By Mr. / Ms. : _____

For the purpose of the activity known as _____

For the period of _____ through _____

(Signature of parent / guardian)

JANUARY 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 10:00 AM Traditional Worship 10:30 AM Sunday School 1:00 PM Disciple Church	29 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	30 9:00 AM Food Pantry 7:30 PM Bell Choir	31 8:00 PM Disciple Church	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!	2 8:00 PM Disciple Church	3 10:00 AM SDA Church
4 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Blended Worship 1:00 PM Disciple Church	5 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	6 9:00 AM Food Pantry 5:30 PM Worship & Music 7:30 PM Bell Choir	7 8:30 AM E-Team Meeting 6:30 PM Book Study 8:00 PM Disciple Church	8 6:00 PM Bible Study	9 8:00 PM Disciple Church	10 10:00 AM SDA Church
11 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Education 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	12 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	13 9:00 AM Food Pantry 7:30 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Rebecca Circle Outing & meet at Joyce Johnson	14 6:30 PM Book Study 6:30 PM Esther Circle Outing 8:00 PM Disciple Church	15 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Choir	16 7:00 PM Wrap Gifts for St. Matthews at Linda Sosnowski's 8:00 PM Disciple Church	17 10:00 AM SDA Church
18 9:00 AM Traditional Worship 9:20 AM Sunday School 10:15 AM Adult Education 10:30 AM Blended Worship 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church 1:30 PM St. Matthews Birthday Party	19 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	20 9:00 AM Food Pantry 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Bell Choir	21 6:30 PM Book Study 7:30 PM Council Meeting 8:00 PM Disciple Church	22 6:00 PM Bible Study 7:30 PM Choir	23 8:00 PM Disciple Church	24 10:00 AM SDA Church
25 10:00 AM Traditional Worship 11:15 AM LCC Annual Meeting 11:30 AM Confirmation Class 1:00 PM Disciple Church	26 9:00 AM LifeLine Health Screening at LCC 6:30 PM Chicago Bronze	27 9:00 AM Food Pantry 7:30 PM Bell Choir	28 6:30 PM Book Study 8:00 PM Disciple Church	29 6:00 PM Bible Study 6:00 PM Music Team 7:30 PM Choir	30 8:00 PM Disciple Church	31 10:00 AM SDA Church

SPECIAL EVENT

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT ST MATTHEW'S

JANUARY 18 AT 1:30 P.M.

Every year Esther Circle collects items to be given to residents at the St Matthew Center having a January birthday. We are again asking for your help in contributing birthday items and bingo prizes. We usually have about eighteen birthdays and like to give each person four or five items in a gift box.

We also play bingo and we make sure that every participant gets a bingo prize. Some of the items needed are small soft stuffed animals, small decorative pillows, small music boxes, small figurines, colorful scarves, long necklaces, pins, cologne (men and women), after shave, scented soaps and lotions, playing cards, games, wrapped hard candy, wrapped cookies, socks, slippers, wrapping paper and colored tissue paper. No candles, please.

Anyone wishing to donate items please put them in the box marked St Matthew above the mail slots or give them to Jill Kummer or Myrna Salazar. Esther Circle will wrap the gifts.

Please join us on Sunday, January 18 at 1:30 p.m. to distribute these birthday gifts and play bingo with us. We are usually there two to three hours and it is very rewarding to spend an afternoon with these residents. They particularly love seeing children. Please keep this date open.

Thank you,

Esther Circle

St Matthew Center for Health

(East of Lutheran General Hospital)

1601 N. Western Ave.

Park Ridge, IL

On Sunday, January 18, we will leave from church at 1:00 p.m. or you can meet us at St Matthew at 1:30p.m.