

The Ev. Lutheran Church of Our Savior
204 Wayne Avenue
Corner of Wood Lane and Wayne Avenue
Haddonfield, NJ 08033

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Haddonfield, NJ 08033
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DON'T BE LATE FOR WORSHIP
MAR 9 – SET CLOCKS AHEAD

Everything seems earlier this year, including when we are to set our clocks ahead by one hour. Don't be an hour late for the worship you typically attend as the nation "springs forward" by one hour on Saturday night March 8. Otherwise we'll see you at the next worship or offer you a blessing after the late service.

March Messenger
Time Sensitive Material Enclosed - Mailed February 26, 2008



MARCH, 2008

NEWSLETTER OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR, HADDONFIELD, NJ

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SATISFY MORE THAN ONE'S SWEET TOOTH

On Easter of 2007 there were actual snow flurries that fell after the last worship let out from celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord. This year there's an even greater chance it could happen with Easter falling on one day shy of the earliest it could ever be and the earliest it's been since 1905! Despite some may be wearing winter coats over their new Easter dresses and corsage the worship opportunities during Holy Week are sure to enliven one's faith if attending all or most of them. Over the decades worship attendance on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday has declined to the point where the Passion of Our Lord is now read on Palm Sunday. This is to insure the majority of those worshipping a week later at Easter hear the "whole" story and not just the triumphant ending. One cannot experience the true meaning of the resurrection without also knowing the crucifixion.

Holy Week is the most meaningful time in the Christian year despite the hype Christmas gets from the stores, radio, and television. If your faith needs to be strengthened or nurtured there is no better time in the Church year to receive it than during Holy Week. Here are the list of worship opportunities and each one's focus.

March 16 Palm/Passion Sunday (8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM): Palms are distributed to all attending and a palm processional begins the worship. The reading of the Passion (Christ's crucifixion) according to Matthew is read by various people in the congregation as well as worship leaders. Due to the larger attendance worship times are slightly different than usual and the style of all three worship opportunities is identical. A sign-up for readers will be posted two weeks prior.

March 20 Maundy Thursday (7:30 PM): This is the first of what the ancient Church considered a three part worship that moves from Maundy Thursday to Good Friday to the Vigil of Easter or Easter celebration. There are three foci for this evening worship, Confession and Forgiveness, Jesus' new commandment (mandate or Mau datum) to love one another, and the institution of the Lord's Supper. Worshippers are invited to receive the laying on of hands for the forgiveness of sins at the beginning of the worship and those sixth graders who have participated in the instruction classes during Lent will receive their First Holy Communion during this worship. The stripping of the altar concludes the service as a reminder of the stripping and whipping Jesus received on our behalf on the night he was betrayed and arrested.

March 21 Good Friday (Noon Ecumenical at Haddonfield United Methodist): This three hour community wide worship focuses on the seven last words of Christ found in the various four gospels. Pastors from within Haddonfield share in the preaching the seven sermons and a choir with opera quality singers offer a musical interpretation of the same words from the cross. It is inspiring whether you attend for all or part of the worship.

March 21 Good Friday (7:30 PM Tenebrae at Our Savior): This "service of shadows" places extreme emphasis on the cross of Christ and is marked by a somber tone. Lights are dimmed as the candles representing Christ's last words are extinguished and the congregation again leaves the worship in silent and meditative reflection.

March 23 The Resurrection of Our Lord (8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM): All three worship offerings will be identical with Holy Communion offered at all three. The alleluia of song returns to the liturgy and hymnody after a long absence during Lent. Those attending the 8:00 worship also participate in a brief component of the Vigil of Easter worship where the light of Christ symbolized as the Christ Candle enters our lives at the beginning of this worship. The baptismal font also returns to front and center in the chancel as the life giving waters of the Resurrection now begin to flow again.

Every Christian owes it to him or herself to participate in the various worship opportunities of Holy Week. Your faith will never be the same if you do.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that worships Jesus as our Lord,
proclaims and shares God's Word, welcomes all people, serves human needs,
and nurtures personal and spiritual growth through fellowship all to the glory of God.



“BEING FREE TO WORSHIP FROM THE HEART”

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

It had been a moving worship experience. The congregation had sung the hymns with gusto. I had preached a passionate sermon. The choir had sung a deeply spiritual anthem. And as I stood at the back of the church singing the last verse of the hymn I could not have been less prepared for what would happen next. After the organ stopped and before I could offer the dismissal one of the congregants began to raise her hands and began shouting praise to God and Jesus. “Thank you Jesus! God you are so wonderful and merciful. We praise you Lord Jesus. You are an awesome God!” Clearly the worship experience had moved her to joy and praise that her heart simply couldn’t contain.

I on the other hand was thrown off guard. Caught up in my own routine of leading worship I didn’t see “Shouts of Joy and Praise” listed in the bulletin and so I wasn’t quite sure what to do next. So when she was finished (about thirty seconds later) I said, “Go in peace. Serve the Lord”, which of course she had already begun. I also remember thinking, “We certainly aren’t God’s frozen chosen anymore!”

After worship some parishioners thanked her for sharing her response. Others commented to me as they shook my hand “I don’t know who that woman is but you might want to tell her this is a Lutheran church and we don’t do that here.” I responded, “On the contrary, we can and isn’t it wonderful that she felt free to do it!” Later, she even wound up joining our congregation, becoming a reader and member of the Altar Guild and tithed her meager income to God’s work in the world through our congregation’s ministry.

People express their heartfelt faith in God in many and various ways. Some seem to be associated more with one denomination over against another. Baptists baptize by immersion, but then again so are a growing number of Lutheran churches. Roman Catholics bless themselves with the sign of the cross in remembrance of their baptism and so are some Lutherans, including myself after focusing more on why I was doing it. Pentecostals raise their hands in prayer as a way of giving glory to God and as an expression of intimacy with God, and in some rare worship celebrations I’ve even seen Lutherans do this. The point is each expression is always a heartfelt and faithful response to God’s grace and love. And when a person is able to freely express their faith from the heart in a congregation they feel welcome in that faith community as well.

That doesn’t mean everything is fair game when it comes to expressing our faith. Certainly if our actions distract from worship or are done out of habit rather than a faithful response we need to reevaluate why we’re doing what we do. For instance, clapping in worship is an expression of our joyful reception and affirmation of what has just occurred, e.g. an anthem, rather than a polite acknowledgement often heard after a speech or performance. However, there are times when the Spirit compels us to clap.

In the end the more welcoming we are as a congregation to the various expressions of faith in the Church, the more welcoming we are to the people we bring with us to worship and who come through our doors. At times those expressions may unsettle us and cause us to think, “That’s not Lutheran.” But if being Lutheran means being free to express our faith from the heart then maybe those expressions are merely options available to everyone. May this always be a church that welcomes all people who long to worship God and receive Christ’s grace from the heart, regardless of how that is done from faith with dignity and grace.



EASTER LILY MEMORIALS 2008

Each year, the altar is decorated with lilies for Easter Sunday services. If you would like to donate a lily in memory of a loved one, please fill out the form below and enclose a check for \$15, made payable to “LCOS Altar Guild” and mail or bring to the church office by **March 16**.

Name of Person(s) giving Memorial:_____

In Memory of:_____

Relationship of Donor to Memorialized one(s):_____

ATTENTION SENIORS!
SENIOR GAME DAY
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, AT NOON
BINGO PINOCHLE BRIDGE ~ COME OUT AND HAVE FUN!
FOOD AND DRINKS (SODA) SERVED
BEST OF ALL . . . IT'S FREE!
RSVP: RUTH IACONA, BETTY KEENE,
OR ELEANOR GAINES

SIMPLY GIVING

A Simple Choice - A Generous Response

Simply Giving is an automated giving program from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. It's designed to help you conveniently, consistently and joyfully give financial gifts to our congregation's ministry.

By participating in Simply Giving, you can use electronic funds transfer to give your weekly, semi-monthly or monthly offering to our congregation.

To learn how you can participate in Simply Giving, contact Monica Ebbenga in the church office.

Let Simply Giving help you build better stewardship by turning a simple choice into a generous response.

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

204 Wayne Ave., Haddonfield, NJ 08033
(856)429-5122 (voice) (856)429-7245 (fax)

www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org

Worship 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 AM
Nursery Provided 9:15 & 10:30 AM

CHURCH COUNCIL

Rich Amme	Worship & Music
Kim Anderson	Youth
Brian Bell	Property
Jack Berrigan	Treasurer
Bill Cowan	Secretary
Charles Coleman	Christian Education
Mike Fallon	Congregational Resources
Larry Friant	Vice President
Dale Kredatus	Financial Secretary
Betsy Kuehn	Social Ministry
Deb MacBride	Christian Education
Bobbi Newsham	Fellowship Development
Juhan Runne	Personnel
Kathy Simpkins	Seniors
Hans Underwood	Youth
Eric Woltz	Worship & Music
Dave Wyche	Communication

MEMORIAL GIFTS BOARD

Cathe Bare
Jack Berrigan, ex-officio
Paul Clark
Paul Knauer
John Laughlin
Bob Mirabello, ex-officio
Laura Oakes
Stacey Shaw
Elizabeth Woltz
Wayne Zschech, ex-officio

STAFF AND VOLUNTEER LEADERS

Wayne Zschech, Senior Pastor
Glenn A. Englehardt, Associate Pastor
Monica Ebbenga, Parish Secretary
Eric Ebbenga, Organist
Patricia Shaw-Green, Dir. of Music
Linda Powell Cherub Choir
Bob Knight, Custodian
Jeff Gross, Night Lockup
Shirley Bramble, Nursery Care
Eleanor Gaines, Acolytes
Beth Hill, Altar Guild
Bonnie Richards, Sunday School Supt.

MARCH WORSHIP LEADERS

Altar Guild: Sue Tharp, Janie Braccio, Joan Johnson
Counters: Eva Shaw, Debbie Roncace, Stacey Shaw

March 2

Coffee Hour: Faith Circle
Readers: 8-Arlene Stolarick **10:30**-Bill Cowan
Communion Assistants: **10:30**-Dale Kredatus, Deb MacBride
Ushers: 8-Jim & Jane Evans **9:15**-TBA
10:30-Craig Roncace, Harvey Shaw
Acolytes: 8-Caite Ebbenga, Rob LaBarge, Mary Pat & Robbie Reiter
9:15-Scott DiCrescenzo, Emily Donovan **10:30**-John Eckert, P. & M. Miller, Allison Gensel, Karen Graeber

March 9

Coffee Hour: Senior Game Day Committee
Readers: 8-Tom Cheney **10:30**-Becky Bogina
Ushers: 8-Jim & Jane Evans **9:15**-TBA
10:30-Craig Roncace, Harvey Shaw
Acolytes: 8-Rob LaBarge, J. Kiernan, Brie Zschech
9:15-Holly & Kelly Harrington **10:30**-Jesse Gralish, Julia Gross, Kelly Haswell, Chris Heinze, Nicole Fallon

March 16 - Palm Sunday

No Coffee Hour
Palm Sunday Readers
Ushers: 8-Jim & Jane Evans **9:30**-TBA
11-Craig Roncace, Harvey Shaw
Acolytes: 8-Rob LaBarge, Mary Pat Reiter, Morgan Sehdev
9:30-Patrick Brennan, Ben Swan, A. Fabian, Rebecca Windle
11-Jon Maniaci, Luisa Masclans, Steven Peterson, Ethan & Noelle Quanci

March 23 - Easter

No Coffee Hour
Readers: 8-John Oakes **11**-Colleen Gross
Ushers: 8-Jim & Jane Evans **9:30**-TBA
11-Craig Roncace, Harvey Shaw
Acolytes: 8-Rob LaBarge, Ricky Tredinnick, Daniel Wolf
9:30-Rebecca Windle, Mike Wolf, Kelly & Holly Harrington **11**-Jackie Stillwell, John Finnerty, Sarah Barrett, B & Sh. Bobo

March 30

Coffee Hour: Monday/Wednesday Bible Study
Readers: 8-John Wenzel **10:30**-Walt Haswell
Ushers: 8-Jim & Jane Evans **9:15**-TBA
10:30-Craig Roncace, Harvey Shaw
Acolytes: 8-Caite Ebbenga, Rob LaBarge, Brie Zschech, J. Kiernan
9:15-Patrick Brennan, Scott DiCrescenzo **10:30**-Nicole Fallon, Gianna Buonpastore, Ken & Kyle Carpenter, Justin DeBeradinis

March 2008							
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Sat	1	Diakonia, 9 AM
Sun	2	Worship, 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Confirmation Learn Event, 6 PM
Mon	3	Don Keck Memorial, 11 AM Prayer Group, 7 PM Pastor's Bible Study, 7:30 PM
Tues	4	Lenten Service@Grace, 12:05 PM Social Ministry Committee, 7 PM Executive Committee, 7:30 PM
Wed	5	Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30 AM Children's Choir/Bells, 3:45/4:15 PM Cherub Choir, 4:30 PM Lenten Soup Dinner, 5:30 PM 1st Communion Class, 6:15 PM
Thurs	6	Youth Choirs, 7/8 PM Working Arm, 9:30 AM Mother's Group, 10 AM Adult Choirs, 7/8 PM
Fri	7	Youth Committee Mtg., 5 PM
Sat	8	Diakonia, 9 AM
Sun	9	Worship, 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Daylight Savings Begins Christian Ed Mtg., noon Confirmation Huddle, 6 PM Summer Mission Trip Mtg., 7 PM
Mon	10	Prayer Group, 7 PM Pastor's Bible Study, 7:30 PM
Tues	11	Lenten Service@Grace, 12:05 PM Church Council, 7:30 PM
Wed	12	Pastor's Bible Study, 9:30 AM Children's Choir/Bells, 3:45/4:15 PM Cherub Choir, 4:30 PM Lenten Soup Dinner, 5:30 PM 1st Communion Class, 6:15 PM
Thurs	13	Youth Choirs, 7/8 PM Mother's Group, 10 AM Adult Choirs, 7/8 PM
Fri	14	Father/Son Movie Night, 6 PM
Sat	15	Diakonia, 9 AM
Sun	16	Palm Sun. Worship, 8, 9:30 & 11 AM Confirmation Learn Event, 6 PM
Mon	18	Faith Circle, noon Prayer Group, 7 PM
Wed	19	Children's Choir/Bells, 3:45/4:15 PM Cherub Choir, 4:30 PM Youth Choirs, 7/8 PM
Thurs	20	Mother's Group, 10 AM
Fri	21	Maundy Thurs. Worship, 7:30 PM Good Friday Svc. @ Methodist, noon-3 PM
Sun	23	Tenebrae Service, 7:30 PM
Mon	24	Easter Worship, 8, 9:30 & 11 AM Easter Monday, church office closed Prayer Group, 7 PM
Tues	25	Senior Game Day, noon
Wed	27	No Choirs
Thurs	27	Mother's Group, 10 AM No Choirs
Sun	30	Worship, 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM Confirmation Learn Event, 6 PM
Mon	31	Prayer Group, 7 PM

THE FIVE LANGUAGES OF LOVE FOR ADULTS AND CHILDREN IS OUR MIDWEEK LENTEN THEME

'To love and be loved; what could be more important? Each of us feels loved when others speak our primary love language. The love languages in human relationships are a reflection of divine love. Since we are made in the image of God, then we would expect to find all 5 love languages (physical touch, words of affirmation, quality time, gift giving, and acts of service) expressed in the character and nature of God.' So we will be using Biblical texts to enhance our insights and discussion.

How do you (and those closest to you) experience and reflect love? Come and learn with us on the Wednesday nights in Lent (March 5 and 12); schedule is as follows: 5:30 PM Lenten Soup Dinner (includes hot dogs for children) 6:15 - 7:00 PM Lenten Program (5 love languages) children and adults will be learning in separate areas while Pastor Wayne is giving First Communion instruction to 6th Graders.

The soup dinners (which include rolls, hot dogs, chips, and beverages) will be coordinated by team leaders. If you would be willing to help team leaders these last two Wednesday nights please either come early (say 5 PM) to help set up or plan to stay for a short time following the program to help with the clean-up.

NOON COMMUNITY WORSHIP FOCUSES ON “7 LAST WORDS” Every Tuesday in Lent

This year the Haddonfield Council of Churches will host the Lenten mid-week worship on the theme, “The Seven Last Words from the Cross” starting February 12 at 12:10 and each Tuesday in Lent through March 18 at Grace Episcopal Church. While this is the same theme for the three hour community worship on Good Friday at the Methodist Church the suggestion was made that some are unable to attend that service and would value it being covered throughout the weeks of Lent. The worship is about thirty minutes long with hymns, scripture reading, sermon reflection, and prayer. It makes for a great way to keep one’s focus on God in Christ during a time when the Church reflects more deeply on our faith in the crucified and risen Jesus. Take time in Lent at lunch to keep your day centered in the Lord as we journey toward the cross and resurrection of Holy Week and Easter.



SUMMER MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING Mar 9 at 7:00 PM

On Sunday night, March 9, at 7:00 Pastor Wayne Zschech will host an interest meeting for both youth and parents on this year’s Summer Mission Trip (SMT) to North Carolina. Any youth who will be entering into or graduating from high school in 2008 is encouraged to attend along with their parents this highly informational meeting about an event that has literally changed the lives of youth and adults participating. The dates for the SMT are tentatively scheduled for July 12-19 and the group hopes to work again with the Goldsboro-Wayne Habitat for Humanity in Goldsboro North Carolina.

Last year five youth and Pastor Wayne traveled down in late June, just after schools let out for summer, staying overnight at Emmanuel Lutheran Church in Vienna, VA on the way down and driving back in one day the following Saturday. The group slept and ate at the Baptist church in town and got their showers at the end of the work day at the local YMCA where they could even workout (who had the energy?) or go for a swim in the Olympic size pool. Some in the group helped shingle a roof and install siding (restricted to youth age 16 and above) while others painted the interior of a home (work suitable for youth under age 16). At the time of the meeting we hope to have an idea what work might be available.

Parents ought to consider also participating in the Summer Mission Trip as we do not have a sufficient number of adults currently working with the youth who are able to attend. Being knowledgeable about home building or maintenance is not a requirement. Pastor Wayne has had some women advisors volunteer to shop and cook rather than hammer or paint in past years at other congregations. What is most important is parents who do participate understand their role is to be involved with the youth and their journey of faith in this setting, sharing their own faith and life experiences, rather than simply making sure they don’t get hurt like chaperones do on a school field trip. As mentioned above, it is a life changing event for any and all who participate. Come out on Sunday night, March 9 at 7:00 and find out how.



THROUGH FELLOWSHIP...

By Pastor Wayne Zschech

When I ask parents why it is important they raise their child or children in the faith community of the Church I often get the response, "So they can become better people as adults." This is a valid answer, and I usually hope that along with it they want their children to have a relationship of trust and faith with the God who created us revealed in the person of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. One of the best ways we come to have that relationship of trust and faith with God is to be in a relationship with God's people, the faith community otherwise known as the church. And one of the ways for us to grow in our personal and spiritual relationship with God and others is through fellowship opportunities that challenge us to share more of who we are and whose we are at a deeper level with others in the congregation.

Fellowship is more than just mingling among those drinking coffee and snacking on donuts before the late worship. It's more than simply attending a Riversharks baseball game or the Mother-Daughter Luncheon. Fellowship is what you do in the context of those events and activities to get to know other members of the congregation and the visitors attending at a deeper level than "Nice weather we're having, isn't it?" Like the old Christian hymn that proclaims, "What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms", we who have been claimed by Christ in the waters of baptism lean on the everlasting arms of our Savior that is experienced in the fellowship of God's people. And that will sometimes mean sharing more of who we are, our joys and our sorrows, with the same people who gather with us in worship to hear and receive God's grace through Word and sacrament.

You know what I'm talking about. Our personal and spiritual growth as a person and Christian has been and continues to be nurtured by those whose children have grown up with our children in Sunday and Vacation Church School, confirmation classes, first Bible and Holy Communion instruction classes as well as choir rehearsals and Mother's Day musicals. We have grown spiritually and personally with those who gathered for Women's Circle Bible studies, Pastor's Bible Studies, Lenten Soup Suppers, or even sharing lunch and talking about our congregation's ministry at the Annual Meeting. It happens at an even deeper level when support groups are offered, while on a retreat with youth or other adults, or when we share the highs and lows of our faith in small group time of confirmation learning events.

Fellowship in the church can't afford to just be about socializing. When it is our Lord and Savior who calls us into community fellowship will always be about an opportunity to nurture the personal and spiritual growth of others in the community as they do the same for us. Thanks be to God this is the practice of fellowship at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior as we journey forward together in faith.

MISSION STATEMENT

MONTHLY FOCUS:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Our Savior is a faith community that NURTURES PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL GROWTH



NEWCOMER CLASSES

Begin April 6 at 9 AM

If you've been worshipping with the congregation for some time and are interested in learning more about the history and ministry at The Lutheran Church of Our Savior a series of three to four Newcomer Orientation classes will be held on Sundays from 9:00-10:00 starting on April 6. Classes will cover a brief history of the congregation, its various forms of ministry, a tour of the building, as well as an overview of the Lutheran church's teachings. Visitors will be receiving a letter in March and are encouraged to contact the church office or one of the pastors to let them know how many will be attending to insure sufficient space and materials are prepared.

Those who are interested in formally joining the congregation will be given the proper forms so they might be received as members on Sunday, May 4, at whichever worship they normally attend.

BAPTISM CLASSES TO BE HELD

Mar 15 at 9:30 AM

A baptism seminar will be held on Saturday, March 15, from 9:30-11:00 for anyone who desires to be baptized or have their infant or child baptized. The class will be held in the parlor, which is just through the library located near the elevator on the second floor or across from the nursery. Parents are welcome to bring their child or children and if nursery care is needed the church office must be contacted in advance to coordinate a provider for the time.

Baptisms will resume again after Easter so if you are planning to have your child baptized in the spring this class will provide you an opportunity to better understand the sacrament and your role as a parent in bringing your child to the font. It will also provide parents an opportunity to meet and get to know other parents whose children will be growing up with yours in the church.

EAT, LAUGH AND BE WELL: WORKSHOP FOR A HIGHER-QUALITY LIFE

A limited-seating event to benefit Interfaith Caregivers

"Eat, Laugh and Be Well: A Workshop for a Higher-Quality Life," will be held Saturday, March 29th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church of Haddonfield. A certified nutrition and health counselor, a certified laughter yoga instructor and a massage therapist share their expertise of the body and soul to help you live a healthier, happier life. A minimum \$25 donation to Interfaith Caregivers is required to attend this amazing event. 100% of all donations received goes directly to Interfaith Caregivers. For more information, please contact Amy Kinzel at **856-216-0955, ext. 1**. Registration forms are available at Haddonfield and Haddon Heights libraries, and the Haddonfield Visitor's Center. Deadline for registration is March 12th. Don't miss out!

SEMINAR: "FIVE WISH: SAMARITAN HOSPICE PROGRAM"

Mabel Kay Hospitality House and Interfaith Caregivers welcome Samaritan Hospice, Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 6:30pm at the Mabel Kay House, 24 Walnut Street, Haddonfield, NJ. All guests are welcome to attend this presentation concerning living wills. For more information, please contact Mabel Kay Hospitality House, 354-8789.

ALL-STAR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Interfaith Caregivers Holds April Training Session on Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Join us for our one-day Spring Training session for Interfaith Caregivers volunteers. Be a shining star to your neighbors today by offering spare time to Haddonfield and Haddon Heights' elderly or infirmed. The training session will be held on Tuesday April 22, 2008 from 7pm-9:30 pm at the Mabel Kay Hospitality House, 24 Walnut Street, Haddonfield, NJ 08033. For more information, please call 354-0298.

IN HARM'S WAY

Lt. John L. Gaines, aboard USS Vicksburg
Keep all who serve our country and preserve our freedoms in your prayers!



Thanks to the following people for helping out with the pantry in December and January: **Carol and Ben Beahm, Charlie Coleman, Pat and Tom Reiter, Juhan Runne, Eva Shaw, Vitale Family.**

Special thanks to **Nicholas Kavovkas** for his generous donation to the pantry.

Special thanks to the Lenten Soup Night helpers : **Sue and Hans Underwood, Eva Shaw, Glenn Martin, Bobbi Newsham, Pastor Englehardt and Lisa Quanci.**

Thanks to the **LCOS Audio/Visual crew** who work faithfully each week recording our services.

Thanks to **Caryl Wallace**, the **Cherub Choir** and all the **performers** who helped make our annual Fastnacht observance a success.

Special thanks to the **Funeral Luncheon helpers** for their behind-the-scenes assistance at the luncheon following the service for Guy Hallowell.

LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND COMES TO HADDONFIELD

Mabel Kay Hospitality House and Interfaith Caregivers welcome Library for the Blind, Friday, April 4, 2008 from 12:30pm-3:00pm at the Mabel Kay House, 24 Walnut Street, Haddonfield, NJ. Information will be provided about vision and common health problems with the aging eye. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, please contact Mabel Kay Hospitality House, 354-8789.




Stop by to check the calendar, read the *Messenger* or just find out a little bit more about us!

www.oursaviorhaddonfield.org

REFRIGERATOR NEEDED FOR MY FATHERS’ HOUSE MINISTRY

The Social Ministry Committee has received permission to install a refrigerator in the church pantry for the purpose of storing meals for My Fathers’ House. We are now in need of a small refrigerator and before attempting to purchase one we are asking the congregation if anyone has a refrigerator that they would be willing to donate for this purpose. If so would you please contact Maureen Bell, Jan Amme, or Betsy Kuehn. Thank you.



Pantry Needs

spaghetti sauce
cereal
beans
mashed potatoes
baby food/diapers (1 year-old)
bath products
pancakes/syrups
canned vegetables and fruit
juice

TEN TO RECEIVE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION at Maundy Thursday Worship

During the Maundy Thursday worship ten sixth graders from the Lutheran Church of Our Savior will receive their First Holy Communion as the congregation remembers and celebrates Jesus’ institution of the Lord’s Supper. The youth and one or both of their parents participated in a five week instruction period on the sacrament of “The Meal” on Wednesday nights in Lent. During that time they learned the Eucharist is a meal of thanksgiving, remembrance, receiving God’s love and forgiveness with a physical element attached to make it more meaningful, and an expression of the community God’s people have through their baptism.

The ten youth who will receive their first Holy Communion this year are Shelby Cain, Nicholas Heinze, Bobby Jelonek III, Carri Kilian, Sam Lyons, Michael McLaughlin, Melissa Olt, Hayden Remphrey, Andrew Vitale, and Stephen Woltz. Please keep them in your prayers as they complete their period of instruction and reflect on the gift of grace that Holy Communion is to all who are baptized and believe in Christ.

UNDERWEAR COLLECTION FOR CARING HEARTS

LCOS Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring an underwear collection for Caring Hearts Ministries, an organization that helps children and their families that are affected by AIDS. We have been asked if we could collect underwear (infants thru adults). A box will be available from Sunday 2/24 thru Sunday 3/9 for your donations. On Friday March 14th, Caring Hearts will be hosting the Spring Give-A-Way, which includes a healthy meal, party, and needed items for these children and their families. Jane Evans and Jan Amme will represent LCOS at the Give-A-Way. Contact Betsy Kuehn or Jane Evans if any questions. Thank you in advance.

CHILDREN’S CHURCH TO RETURN IN APRIL

There will be no Children’s Church service in March—because of Lent and Easter.

Please MARK YOUR CALENDARS now to plan to attend Children’s Church on Wednesday, April 16 from 7:00-7:30pm. We hope to see you all then!

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday: 9 AM - 12 PM

One calling the church office between these hours can generally expect to reach a church staff person to talk to.

THE TREASURER’S OUTLOOK by Jack Berrigan

As the Congregation catches its collective breath after the holidays, January contributions tend to drop below average monthly levels. Unfortunately, this January is no exception. Total contributions for the month were \$27,509 which is \$ 9,132 below the average monthly contribution in 2007 and \$2,248 below January 2007 contributions. I am cautiously optimistic that this decline is an artifact rather than an ominous signal.

Unlike contributions, expenses take not holidays. In January our expenses were \$38,996. While these expenses exceed our target by \$4,691, they are inflated by a one time expense that will be recovered in February. Nevertheless, we are starting the year about \$8,000 in the red which makes even the most optimistic Treasurer a little nervous. Still, I am confident that our Congregation will renew the vigorous support of Our Savior it demonstrated in 2007.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

- Sunday, Feb 24**
Orientation for the
2009 National Youth Gathering

Sunday, April 20
'Come Together' Sunday with a Youth theme

March 30-31
Preparing a meal for My Father's House

April 5-6
Goalball at Haddon Township High School

April 18-19
Thirty-Hour Famine

May 2-4
Weekend camping, paintball
and maybe white-water rafting in PA

Sunday, May 11
Pancake breakfast on Mother's Day

MUSINGS FROM THE CORNER by Susan Underwood

What to wear? That is one of the first thoughts that assaults my consciousness in the morning. It’s not just what to wear. For me and probably most women it’s much more involved than that. It’s what outfit can I assemble that will be suitable to meet the needs of the day? First things first. What do I have that is clean and ironed? Next I consider the weather. If the temperature is predicted to rise to unbearable heights then I know that the temperature in my office will reach a direct proportionate low; hence, I will need something sleeveless covered by a sweater. I move onward and upward to seasonal colors and fabrics (never wear white before Memorial Day or after Labor Day). Do I have a business meeting scheduled in my daytimer? Do I need a suit with a red blouse? Am I dealing with patients today whom I want to put at ease? Go for a relaxed, casual look. I still have to find the right foot gear that is both appropriate and comfortable to complete the ensemble. Dressing has been raised to an art form.

On the opposite end of the spectrum I observe with interest as my husband- and perhaps the male species in general- prepares for the day. He can choose a shirt (oxford cloth, button-down collar,long sleeved) in less

than a minute with his eyes closed. He is content to wear the same color and style of pants day after day. When it comes to shoes it is black,brown, sneakers or his beloved boat shoes that are at least eight years old. Dressing for him is a thoughtless task.

As I was pondering the whole dressing phenomena I was sorely convicted.

WE ARE MISSING THE POINT!

We do indeed need to dress carefully and prayerfully every morning. Ephesians 6:11 tells us to “ put on the full armor of God so you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes” We need to dress daily with the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the belt of truth, the shoes of peace and take up the sword of the spirit and the shield of faith. Ephesians 6:13 “ therefore put on the full armor of God so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground.”

WHAT’S IN YOUR CLOSET?



SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE EXPLAINED

On the third Sunday of every month there is a blue-bordered envelope available for disciples at the Lutheran Church of Our Savior to make a contribution above and beyond their regular offering. It might be in celebration of a birthday or anniversary, or on the occasion of some unforeseen additional income one desires to offer a portion toward God’s work in the world in a more specific way. Whatever the reason may be, the Special Offering envelope is designed to provide parishioners with a means to do just this.

If you are unfamiliar with the options available here is a recap with a brief explanation how they might be used:

Repairs and Improvements: Unless specified differently all offerings with this designation will go to the Major Repair Fund that is intended to accumulate funds for long term repairs such as the roof or large mechanical systems. This Fund provided the bulk of the resources needed for the Parsonage refurbishing and repairs in 2006 and will now need to be built up again for large projects such as painting the sanctuary.

Local Outreach Ministry: The Lutheran Church of Our Savior supports a number of community outreach ministry programs, such as New Visions and My Father’s House. While there is money budgeted for these in Social Ministry donations to this Dedicated Account are available when the need is greater than what was planned.

Special Music Fund: Offerings given to this Dedicated Account help defray the growing cost for additional musicians for festival Sunday celebrations such as Easter and Reformation Sunday. It is one of the most needed offerings on a regular basis and any gift is a blessing.

Disaster Relief: There isn’t a year that goes by without the needs caused by some disaster in the world being responded to by Lutheran Disaster Response. Offerings given with this ministry indicated will benefit those suffering as a result of natural disaster or crisis both globally or locally.

Missionary Support: LCOS currently supports a missionary couple and their family living in Uruguay in South America. While the offering from our Sunday Church School children is designated for this support and anything under the \$1000 pledged each year will be made up by the Memorial Gifts Board there is no reason we cannot give over the amount pledged.

Other: Periodically there may be a special ministry or appeal our congregation will participate in, such as the Seminary Fund a few years ago or the Mission On the Move capital appeal slated to begin in April for the purpose of cultivating a culture of mission in every congregation of the New Jersey Synod. It might also be used as an offering toward any of the ongoing Dedicated Accounts such as the Youth Assembly or Youth Mission Trip accounts currently in place.

WORLD HUNGER SELF-DENIAL COIN BANKS AVAILABLE IN LENT

Fasting and almsgiving are two disciplines of Lent. Going without food for a day is not only meant to keep us focused on the goodness God provides in the daily bread of food, but it also cleanses us bodily of the impurities we often build up. Almsgiving is the offering we make above and beyond our regular giving toward the needs of the poor and disenfranchised. But fasting as a faith practice and starving as a circumstance of life are two different things, and in Lent The Lutheran Church of Our Savior focuses on both through almsgiving.

Coin banks provided by ELCA World Hunger will be made available starting Feb 3 in preparation for Lent. Members and guests are invited to fill the bank up with change and currency throughout the season of Lent and return it by Palm Sunday or on Easter. You might even consider fasting for one day in Lent and offering the cost of food for that day in your Lenten coin bank.

If you wish to have your almsgiving recorded as a part of your regular giving members will need to write their name and/or envelope number on their coin bank. With the anticipation of a strong participation from the congregation the Financial Secretary anticipates an overwhelming increase to the work of the regular counters responsible for the month of March. As such, if you are willing to help in counting the World Hunger Lenten Self-Denial coin bank offering to alleviate this extra burden to the counters please contact Dale Kredatus whose contact info is in this newsletter.

From what will you fast as you offer your alms toward the poor blessed by the ministry of ELCA World Hunger? May the Holy Spirit give you the strength to be faithful in your journey through Lent.

COVERING FOR LIFE’S LITTLE EMERGENCIES

If you own a home or a car you’ll eventually have an emergency repair staring you in the face. Covering for life’s little financial emergencies should not be stressful and worrisome – especially if you have a savings account that you can tap into to cover unexpected expenses. Avoid relying on credit for unexpected expenses by saving a percentage of income each month. Many professionals suggest putting aside 10 percent before anything else comes out of the paycheck. If you can’t leave it untouched in your general checking account, set up an “emergency” account just for this purpose. Saving takes discipline, but if disaster strikes, as it will, you won’t have to finance it at a high cost.

This information is presented as a public service by financial representative for Thrivent Financial for Lutherans George C Welker, FIC . For more information call George at 856-546-0500.

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Dear Friends:

Thank you so much for your recent donation of several bags of beautiful, one of a kind, handmade baby items for Healthy Families. Your support through this in-kind contribution makes a real difference in the lives of abused, neglected and troubled children here in Southern New Jersey.

Without the continued support of our community, these vulnerable and victimized children would not have access to the professional support they need to overcome such painful circumstances. Because you care, they are able to follow their dreams to a much brighter future.

*Sincerely,
Antonio DiFabio, Executive Director
Robin's Nest Inc.*

Dear Pastor Zschech:

I was away to my son's in Virginia over the holidays, but when I returned home there was a beautiful poinsettia that was left for me from the church. Thank you so much for thinking of me, it's so pretty to look at.

Ruth Balderman

CONFERENCE ON CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRIES SET FOR APRIL 12 IN HAMILTON TWP

“What does it mean to be a leader in God’s mission to love and bless the world?” That is the question Rev. Paul Lutz, Pastor and Disciple at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Princeton Junction will address as the keynote speaker in this seminar and workshop event for congregation leaders of the N.J. Synod. The event will take place at Steinert High School in Hamilton Township on Saturday, April 12, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. In addition to the keynote address there are four time blocks for workshops on any of the seven faith disciplines identified by the ELCA; Prayer, Worship, Study, Serve, Invite, Encourage, and Give. Here are some of the many options:

Prayer: Developing Congregational Prayer Ministries, Yoga and Christian Meditation

Worship: Developing the Ministry of Lectors, Hands On Worship

Study: How Do Lutherans Interpret Scripture, Sharing God’s Story at Home

Service: You Have Gifts...Now What?, Teaching Children about Service

Invite: Blend, Bend, and Send: Assimilating New Members, Getting Evangelism Started

Encourage: Need a Congregational Vision: Get Unstuck!, Passing on the Faith from Generation to Generation

Give: Gift-Oriented Ministry, Will Our Children Be Stewards?

The Congregation Council as well as other leaders in the church will be strongly encouraged to attend this event, but it is open to anyone in the congregation. If you would like to participate please contact the church office for registration and information forms. The deadline for registration is April 2, 2008 so don’t wait until the last minute. Cost is \$15/person, which will be paid for by the church but donations to defray the cost are welcomed.

