

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

Address Service Requested

March Messenger

Time Sensitive Material Enclosed - Mailed February 18, 2010

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Cherry Hill, NJ
Permit No. 164

Don't forget
to change your clocks!



Daylight Saving Time
begins
Sunday, March 14, 2010

Wednesday nights in Lent
Sanctified Living Midweek Program
"Needed conversations about how
we live in response
to God's love."

Consider what it means
to be transformed by the
power of God, so that we
are more than just law-
abiding, but are Spirit- led
in the decisions we make,
in our chosen lifestyle.

This is happening on Wednesday nights in
Lent (Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, and 24) with
Lenten soup dinner at 5:30 PM and the Sancti-
fied Living program from 6:15-7:00 PM. The
dinners will be coordinated by team leaders. If
you would be willing to help team leaders to
provide this simple but hearty meal, contact
Pastor Englehardt.



The Parish *Messenger*

March 2010 NEWSLETTER
THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR
HADDONFIELD, NJ



Holy Week and Easter Satisfy More Than One's Sweet Tooth

Holy Week is the most meaningful time in the Christian year despite the hype Christmas gets from the stores, radio, and television. From the celebration of Jesus' triumphal entry in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his institution of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday and crucifixion on Good Friday to our celebration of the Resurrection on Easter we hear the core stories of our Christian faith. 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 28 Palm/Passion Sunday (8:00, 9:30, 11:00 AM): Palms are distributed to all attending and a palm processional begins the worship. The Passion (Christ's crucifixion) according to Luke will be dramatically read with actions various people from the congregation in addition to worship leaders. Due to the larger attendance worship times are slightly different than usual and the style of all three worship opportunities is identical. Those interested in providing the dramatic reading/presentation of the Passion need to contact Pat Green.

April 1 Maundy Thursday (Noon & 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 Maundatum) 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.

April 2 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.

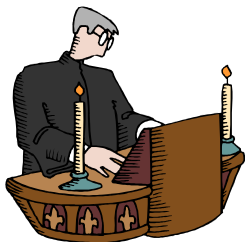
April 2 Good Friday (7:30 PM Tenebrae at Our Savior): This "service of shadows" places extreme emphasis on the cross of Christ and is marked by a somber tone. Lights are dimmed as the candles representing Christ's last words are extinguished and the congregation again leaves the worship in silent and meditative reflection.

April 3 Easter Vigil (5:00 PM) The Vigil of Easter is one of the oldest worship practices of the Christian church and highlights the role of Baptism in the life of a Christian. The service is marked by several readings followed by prayers and the singing of appropriate hymns. This service will be led by guitar as is the norm for Saturday night worship.

April 4 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 and walk with Christ is strengthened every time 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.*



“I Miss Jesus” *By Pastor Wayne Zschech*

Did you know that our faith and “being saved” is more about our relationship with the risen Jesus as our Lord than it is about knowing the facts we learned in Sunday school or confirmation classes? This doesn’t mean those classes aren’t important. In them we learn a lot of information *about* Jesus so we may come to have a relationship *with* Jesus. So if our faith is about our relationship with Jesus, what does that look like?

I’m currently reading a book by Dan Kimball entitled, *They Like Jesus But Not the Church*. In it Kimball shares a portion of an interview Lee Strobel had with Charles Templeton in preparation for writing his book *The Case for Faith*. Templeton had been one of Billy Graham’s partners and close friends in the early days of Graham’s ministry, and was every bit the powerful preacher and evangelist like Graham. Kimball shares how Templeton ended up doubting his faith and eventually abandoned it, going on to write *Farewell to God: My Reasons for Rejecting the Christian Faith*. When Templeton was 83 years old Strobel interviewed him and asked his assessment of Jesus. Here is what he said in Strobel’s book.

“In my view,” he declared, “he is the most important human being who ever existed.” That’s when Templeton uttered the words I never expected to hear from him. “And if I may put it this way,” he said as his voice began to crack, “I... miss... him!”

With that tears flooded his eyes. He turned his head and looked downward, raising up his left hand to shield his face from me. His shoulders bobbed as he wept. (p. 18)

Kimball then gives his assessment of the interview. “This is so incredibly sad. Charles Templeton had rejected Christianity, the church, his faith in the Bible, and his former vocation of preaching and evangelism. But at the end of his life, when asked about Jesus, he broke down and wept, saying how much he missed Jesus. Something about Jesus transcends Christianity and all that Charles Templeton had rejected. **Jesus grabs hold of people, and it’s hard to just ignore him or not think of him *once you get to know him.***”

How well do you know Jesus? Maybe you know some of the stories of his life, but do you also know his teachings? Do you know the fullness of Jesus’ love and passion for people, all people, including and especially you? Lent is not just a time of sacrificially giving up something for the sake of strengthening our faith. It is also a time of reclaiming and being reconnected to our relationship with Jesus.

Jesus never left Templeton and never leaves us. All he and we ever need to do is turn around and embrace our Savior who promised he would be with us always to the end of the ages. In Lent, take time each morning and/or evening to encounter the Jesus we meet in Scripture and through prayer. Use the *Christ in Our Home* devotional resource or one that is on the ELCA website (elca.org) to draw you closer to Jesus. In doing so, we’ll never miss the Jesus who came to save us from sin on the cross and offer us new life from the empty tomb at Easter.

World Day of Prayer Friday, March 5, 2010; 1- 2 PM Lutheran Church of Our Savior

This global ecumenical movement of prayer and prayerful action focuses this year on the country Cameroon and the theme “Let Everything That Has Breath Praise God!”

Sponsored by the Haddonfield Council of Churches, all are invited to this informative event.

Lenten Self-Denial Almsgiving Feeds the Hungry

The Lenten disciplines of prayer, fasting, almsgiving or giving to the poor are meant to draw a person closer in their relationship with God and Christ. Each year the Lutheran Church of Our Savior provides worshippers and members the opportunity to participate in almsgiving to the hungry of our world through the Lenten Self-Denial coin banks. During Lent, the congregation “fasts” or denies themselves from something they might consider a luxury, e.g. coffee at Starbucks, weekly video rental, or simply the change in the pocket at the end of the day. The money is placed in the coin bank provided by the ELCA Division for World Hunger and received on Palm/Passion Sunday. If every family were to donate \$10 or more in change a goal of \$500 would easily be reached. Please remember to pick up a coin bank on Sundays in Lent and to provide for the needs of the hungry in our world through the Lenten Self-Denial offering.

Community Worship Noon at Grace Episcopal Church, King’s Highway.

Focuses on “Fearless – Imagine Your Life Without Fear.”

Every Tuesday in Lent, starting Feb 23 and ending March 30. This half hour worship opportunity is sponsored by the Haddonfield Council of Churches.

Pastor Englehardt will be preaching on March 9 on the theme “Fear of disappointing God.”

Worship Leaders

Altar Guild: Janie Braccio & Joan Johnson

Counters: Eva Shaw, Stacey Shaw, Kim Shaw, Debbie Roncace

Ushers: 8: Eric & Betty Woltz

10:30: Craig Roncace & Harvy Shaw

March 7 Coffee Hour: Memorial Gifts

Readers: 8 - A. Stolarick **10:30 -** Bill Cowan

Communion Assistant: Dale Kredatus

Acolytes: 8 - Rob LaBarge, Morgan & Regan Sheded

10:30 Emily Donovan, Melissa Olt, Molly Thompson,

Keaton Schneider, Bobby Jelonek

March 14 Coffee Hour: Christian Education

Readers: 8 - Bill Wilson **10:30 -** Peaches Larro

Acolytes: 8 - Rob LaBarge, Carri Killian, Stephen Woltz

10:30 - Michael & Dan Wolf, Joweph Eckert, Melanie Carpenter, Sean Thornton

March 21 Coffee Hour: Fellowship Together

Readers: 8- H. Harrington **10:30 -** K. Carpenter

Acolytes: 8 - Rob LaBarge, Holly Harrington, Billy Tessing

10:30 - Chris & Nick Heinz, Nicole & Spencer Fallon, Andrew Shaw

March 28 Coffee Hour: Palm Sunday (No Coffee Hour)

Readers: 8 - J. Oakes **9:30 TBD 11 -** C. Gross

Acolytes: 8 , 9:30 , 10:30 - need Volunteers to sign up

Attention Seniors!

Senior Game Day

NEXT DATE IS:

***Tuesday, March 23rd
at noon***

~ Bingo, Pinochle, Bridge ~

Come out and Have Fun!

FOOD AND DRINKS (SODA) SERVED

Best of all . . . **It's Free!**

RSVP: Betty Keene

or Eleanor Gaines



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 at 9:15 & 10:30 AM

CHURCH COUNCIL

Juhan Ruune	Vice President/Vision
Tom Foscett	Treasurer
Dale Kredatus	Financial Secretary
Sandy DeDonatis	Secretary
Kim Anderson	Christian Education
Bill Cowan	Property
Danielle Deery	Congregational Resources
Particia Haines	Personnel
Ted Howley	Youth
Betsy Kuehn	Social Ministry/Nominating
Bobbi Newsham	Fellowship Development
Kristin Poliafico	Outreach
Tom Reiter	Worship & Music
Kathy Simpkins	Seniors
Dave Wyche	Communication

MEMORIAL GIFTS BOARD

Cathe Bare
Jack Berrigan
Paul Clark
Larry Friant, ex-officio
Paul Knauer
John Laughlin
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, Office Administrator
Cindy Randall, Office Assistant
Patricia Shaw-Green, Director of Music
Eric Ebbenga, Organist
Linda Powell Cherub Choir
Don Richards, Custodian
Jeff Gross, Night Lockup
Shirley Clinkscales, Nursery Care
Beth Hill, Altar Guild
Kim Anderson, Sunday School Superintendent

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
	1 7:00 PM -10:00 PM Art Group, Choir Room 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:30 PM Bible Study, Parish Hall	2 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room <div>12:05 PM Lenten Service @ Grace</div> 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Social Ministry Committee, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Toastmasters, Parish Hall (if avail) 7:30 PM Executive Committee Mtg.	3 9:30 AM Bible Study, Parish Hall 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 5:30 PM Lenten Soup Dinner 6:00 PM 1st Communion Class, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall	4 8:30 AM Handymen's Group 9:30 AM Working Arm 7:00 PM Adult Bells 8:00 PM Adult Choir	5 12:00 PM World Day of Prayer at LCOS	6 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall <div>5:00 PM Worship</div>																																																																																				
7 <div>Worship 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM</div> 9:15 AM Adult Forum 6:00 PM Confirmation Learn Event 6:00 PM -9:00 PM SAT Class, Rm 301	8 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room 7:00 PM -10:00 PM Art Group, Choir Room 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:30 PM Bible Study, Parish Hall	9 <div>12:05 PM Lenten Service @ Grace</div> 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Toastmasters, Parish Hall (if avail) 7:30 PM Church Council	10 9:30 AM Bible Study, Parish Hall 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Singing Angels 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 5:30 PM Lenten Soup Dinner 6:00 PM 1st Communion Class, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall	11 Messenger Deadline 8:30 AM Handymen's Group 7:00 PM Adult Bells 8:00 PM Adult Choir	12	13 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 2:00 PM -4:00 PM Mabel Kay St. Patrick's Day Dinner, Parish Hall <div>5:00 PM Worship</div>																																																																																				
14 <div>Worship 8, 9:15 & 10:30 AM</div> <i>Daylight Savings Time Begins</i> Confirmation Play Event 9:15 AM Adult Forum 8:00 PM -9:00 PM SAT Class, Rm 301 7:00 PM Summer Mission Trip Interest Meeting	15 7:00 PM -10:00 PM Art Group, Choir Room 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 7:30 PM Bible Study, Parish Hall	16 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room <div>12:05 PM Lenten Service @ Grace</div> 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Toastmasters, Parish Hall (if avail)	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i> 9:30 AM Bible Study, Parish Hall 3:45 PM Children's Bell Choir 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:15 PM Children's Choir 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 5:30 PM Lenten Soup Dinner 6:00 PM 1st Communion Class, Rm. 112 7:00 PM Youth Choir 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall	18 Messenger Mailing 8:30 AM Handymen's Group 7:00 PM Adult Bells 8:00 PM Adult Choir	19 Church Council Evening Retreat at LCOS 6:30 PM -8:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 30931, Rm. 301	20 8:15 AM -10:00 AM Jazzercise, Parish Hall 9:00 AM -3:00 PM Conference on Congregational Ministries @ Steinert HS <div>5:00 PM Worship</div>																																																																																				
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28 Youth Group Horseback Riding ? <div>Worship at 8, 9:30 & 11 AM with Palm/Passion Drama</div> <i>Palm Sunday</i> 9:15 AM Adult Forum 6:00 PM Confirmation Guide Huddle	29 7:00 PM -10:00 PM Art Group, Choir Room 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall	30 10:00 AM -12:00 PM Melodeers, Choir room <div>12:05 PM Lenten Service @ Grace</div> 12:30 PM Staff Meeting, Rm. 112	31 4:00 PM Tai Chi 4:30 PM Cherub Choir 7:15 PM -8:45 PM Jazzercise, Parish Hall	<div>Feb 2010</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td></tr><tr><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> <div>Apr 2010</div> <table><tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr><tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr><tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr><tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr><tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td></tr></table>			S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28							S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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Member**Connection**: A monthly article highlighting the many features and benefits of our online community website
This month: Logging in by Monica Ebbenga

Having trouble putting faces with names or names with faces? MemberConnect allows families and individuals to upload photos of themselves for others to see. Need directions to someone's house because they are hosting an event? If so, simply click on the family name and select ‘map it’ to get directions.

Do you feel like if you miss a week or two that you are out of the loop at church? With MemberConnect, you see everything that's going on in your ministries or with any ministry at Our Savior. You can access this information from home, work, or even while on vacation, 365/24/7. Simply login from any Web-enabled PC to see everything going on at Our Savior. It provides you with your own personal view of announcements, events, prayer requests, tasks, and more, based on the ministries you are involved in. MemberConnect even provides you with a Family view of these features so you can easily see and print your entire family's activities.

I'll be using this monthly article to assist you with finding all the ways that MemberConnect can help your family organize your church activities and maintain a strong connection with your church family at Our Savior. Occasionally, I'll even be posting fun contests here that will engage your family on the MemberConnect site. So stay tuned – you might be a winner someday!

Before you can do anything on MemberConnect, you must log in. Every member has a pre-assigned username and password. To find out what yours is, email or call me in the church office at 429-5122 . I promise to get back to you as soon as possible. Once you know your username and password, go online and go to:

oursaviorhaddonfield.ctsmemberconnect.net (now quick, before you forget this long address, be sure to add it to your favorites or bookmark it in some way – you know you’ll be coming back often!) Select “sign in” from the Main Menu on the left-hand side, and enter your username and password. An information page will appear telling you what groups you are a member of. Please take a moment to click where it says “Click here to edit your personal information” – now you can edit your own information and, most importantly, change your username and password to whatever you would like it to be. (That will help the site remain secure.) Now that you are signed in – explore away! On the left-hand side of the page you will see the Main Menu, you can click each area to see what information is available to you. Click “Overview” and you’ll see the overview page in front of you with the latest announcements and events.

Contest! Did I say contest? I sure did, and this month is the first one. It’s a bit of a treasure hunt. I’ve hidden something in one of the areas listed under the Main Menu. Look around and if you find it, you’ll find instructions on what to do next. The first person to find the treasure and follow the instructions will win a Starbucks Gift Card from me!

Council Retreat/Conference on Congregation Ministry
March 19-20

The Congregation Council of The Lutheran Church of Our Savior will meet for its annual retreat on Friday night, March 19. The council will enjoy a meal together followed by a roundtable discussion on ministry at Our Savior as well as how to reach out to volunteers and use the Member Connect internet resource as a tool in their respective areas of ministry. Pastor Wayne Zschech will lead the retreat on Friday night.

Then on Saturday, March 20, the council and other members of the congregation are invited to attend the New Jersey Synod sponsored Conference on Congregational Ministry held at Steinert High School in Hamilton Square from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm. The event is filled with workshops and seminars addressing the current challenges and opportunities for ministry in the 21st century and has proven to be very helpful to those who have attended in the past. If you are interested in attending as well please contact Pastor Wayne Zschech or the Office Manager, Monica Ebbenga in order to insure you are registered in time and we have your lunch order.

Vision Team Reformed
in March as Refocusing Team

The Vision Team will be reformed to consist of six to eight members of the congregation in preparation for the Focusing Ministry process the entire congregation will participate in during the latter half of this year and beginning months of 2011. Pastor Wayne Zschech will work with Vice President, Juhan Runne, to identify additional members of the team that need to be approached and invited to participate. This Vision/Refocusing Team will be responsible for leading the congregation through three Congregational Summit events in the fall and winter in order to collect and discern the responses and data that is essential in discerning and articulating a vision and three-year strategic plan for ministry at Our Savior.

A rough timeline for the entire Refocusing process is as follows:
March 2010: Reform Vision Team. Pastor's Refocusing Network is formed and has completed the Launch Retreat wherein they create a Personal Calling Statement.

April-June: Pastors in the Network continue to meet each month for five months through June before a two month break in the summer.

April/May: A Natural Church Development survey is taken by 30 members of the congregation to discover the strength and growth areas at Our Savior and which qualities of a naturally developing congregation we need to focus on first.

May: Pastor Wayne receives Network Facilitator training for Phase II of the Refocusing process; Focusing Ministry.

May/June: The Vision/Refocusing Team participates in the Launch Retreat and develop their own Personal Calling Statement.

September: Pastors Network completes their last session of Phase One meetings in preparation for Phase II. Congregation Council participates in the Launch Retreat and develop their own Personal Calling Statement.

October: Pastors in the Network participate in the Phase Two Retreat and continue to meet every month for the next seven months for Network meetings through May/June of 2011.

October/November: The Vision/Refocusing Team participates in the Focusing Ministry training retreat to learn how to lead the congregation through the various Summit meetings.

November: Summit One is held with the entire congregation invited to participate. Pulse Groups consisting of those unable to attend are approached with the information received at the Summit to provide an opportunity for greater clarity and content.

January-March 2011: Summits Two and Three are held with Pulse groups approached after each one.

April/May: The Vision/Refocusing Team uses the information collected over all three is then used to create the Vision and Strategic Plan for ministry.

April/May: The congregation gathers for a special congregational meeting to ratify the Vision and Strategic Plan for the next three years.

Please keep the congregation, the Council, and the Vision/Refocusing Team in your prayers as we begin an exciting process of discerning God's vision for our congregation in the next few years.



Annual Meeting
Three New Council Members Elected

On January 24 the Annual Meeting of the Lutheran Church of Our Savior was held following a sumptuous lunch prepared by the Bare family of Mark, Cathy, Michael, and Adam. Three new council members were elected, Sandy DeDonatis: Secretary (as Bill Cowan now serves as Property chair, Kristen Poliafico: Outreach, and Ted Howley: Youth (as Kim Anderson now serves as chair of Christian Education). Juhan Runne was also re-elected and now serves as the Vice President of council and is the liaison to the Vision team rather than chair the Personnel Committee, which for this year is chaired by Pat Haines. Dave Wyche was re-elected and continues to serve as Communications chair. Bobbi Newsham was also re-elected and will continue serving as Come Together (Fellowship) chair. The congregation also elected John Laughlin to a first four-year term and re-elected Stacey Shaw to a second term on the Memorial Gift Board. They have yet to meet in February due to snow, but election of officers and adjusting the proposed 2010 Spending Plan will be at the top of their agenda.

This new Congregation Council also reflects the recommended reduction in size to 15 rather than 18 members. Each Council member now oversees or is a liaison for each ministry committee of the congregation, and will allow those not serving on Council to serve in a leadership capacity in new or other ways within the congregation.



March Social Ministry News
By Betsy Kuehn

DEODORANT & SOCKS COLLECTION FOR CARING HEARTS

LCOS Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a deodorant and socks collection for Caring Hearts Ministries, an organization that helps children and their families that are affected by AIDS. We have been asked to collect deodorant for 24 men and 24 women, also new pairs of socks for Infants, Children, Women, and Men, all sizes and colors. A box is available thru March 28th for your donations. On Friday April 9, 2010, 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. For more information, contact Jane Evans or Betsy Kuehn. Thank you in advance.

PANTRY

Help is needed to pack and deliver to our 9 Pantry families, check sign up sheets. Current Pantry needs include meals in a can (ex: Chef Boyardee Ravioli, Spaghetti), personal items (soap, toothpaste), pancake mix & syrup, peanut butter and jelly, cereal, macaroni & cheese, canned fruit, beans, paper towels, toilet paper, pasta & sauce, canned potatoes, instant mashed potatoes. Also needed are diapers (size 2 & greater) for a 10 lb baby girl, baby wipes, stage 1 baby food and cereal. Dan & Cheryl Cook, and Pat Haines have agreed to assist with coordinating the Pantry. Thank you to all who help with stocking the shelves, packing, and delivering to our Pantry families. Monetary donations are also needed to purchase supplies.

BOSNIA FUNDRAISER

Ed Nace will be traveling to Bosnia from June 19 to July 2, 2010 as part of the International Service Team of the New Jersey Synod. Social Ministry is sponsoring a fundraiser with the goal of raising \$3000 to sponsor a friendship camp. Envelopes will be provided for donations from March 28th until April 25th, and may be found in the narthex and the front and back of the church. We hope the congregation will respond generously.

MY FATHER'S HOUSE

Thank you to all who prepare meals each week for the 14 girls. Remember to save your receipts which are needed to receive a supplement from Thrivent under its Care Abounds in Communities program. Ruth Friant is busy scheduling meals for 2010. Please contact Ruth if interested in preparing a meal.

LCOS CARES

Social Ministry is coordinating the LCOS Care Package ministry. Packages are sent two times per year (late winter & fall). 22 care packages were sent in February. Send names, addresses, & e-mails of college students or military personnel to Eva Shaw. We plan to send care packages again in the Fall.

Meeting dates:

We meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month (except July, August, January) at 7pm in Room 112. Upcoming meeting dates are 3/2/10, 4/6/10, 5/4/10, and 6/1/10. If you are interested in being part of our committee, please contact me.



to the following people for helping with the pantry in February ; **Joan Candia, Kathy Ellis, Nancy Gulick, English Pike, Mary Pat Reiter, Juhan Runne, Eva Shaw, Barbara Standke** & seniors for donations.

Thank you to **all who cook meals** for My Father's House each Tuesday.

Office Helpers: **Barbara Berry, Jane Evans, Jaime Fallon, Ward Laubach & Arlene Stolarick.**

February Messenger helpers: **Lynn Boyle, Janie Braccio, Jane Evans, Eleanor Gaines, Gail Hoffman, Betty Keene, Rosemarie Krauss, Louise Mowrer, and Dottie Powell & Jean Schroder.**



In Harm's Way

Lt. John L. Gaines, USS Vicksburg
Capt. Brian Iarossi, stationed in Iraq
Jonathan Keck, stateside
Michael Miano, Doctors without Borders serving in The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Africa

Keep all who serve our country and preserve our freedoms in your prayers!

THRIVENT CORNER

Retirement can be even better than planned

Many Americans are currently enjoying a comfortable retirement. However, resting on one's laurels once the retirement finish line is crossed just isn't smart. The realities of today's ever-changing economy require vigilance.

Tax law changes, new product developments, interest-rate fluctuations and erratic financial markets, not to mention changes in personal or family health and circumstances, are all reasons why retirees cannot afford to have a hands-off approach toward their retirement funds. Retirees must be prepared to make adjustments to maximize their retirement futures. In addition, retirees must generate income while preserving their assets.

Some retirees face the daunting task of analyzing multiple retirement plan statements from a host of employers and/or institutions. Rather than seeing the "big picture" surrounding their retirement plan, they receive glimpses of small parts of their plan. Determining when to make adjustments, how to generate income while preserving assets and monitoring one's progress can be overwhelming.

Consolidating multiple retirement plans under "one roof" can help one simplify one's life and gain control over qualified plan assets. For example, consolidating IRA and 401(k) assets with one institution may save both time and money. Investors may want to consider a rollover or transfer if:

- * They are unhappy with the fees, performance or service provided by their financial organization.
- * They want to diversify their portfolio without incurring additional maintenance fees for having multiple IRAs. Doing so may help create the income they need while preserving and extending the life of the assets they already have.
- * They want to simplify and consolidate IRAs to reduce expenses and make them easier to monitor.
- * They no longer wish to have continued contact with a former employer.
- * Their 401(k) consists of company stock and they are unsure of the company's future stability.
- * The charges or fees to transfer an existing account are not significant.

When consolidating into one IRA, one stays invested with potential growth, can continue to make contributions if eligible, and benefit from tax deferrals. Consolidating retirement assets also makes sense to simplify a financial program for the benefit of a spouse or children in the event of the retiree's death. By "getting it together," a retired couple is more apt to "take control" of their assets.

Through sound planning and frequent monitoring, retirees can be assured that their money is working hard for them, positioning them for a comfortable retirement. A comfortable retirement is within grasp, but careful planning is necessary—even after retirement. A financial professional can help analyze one's financial needs and help make retirement even better than planned.

George C. Welker, FIC, is a Financial Associate with Thrivent Financial for Lutherans in Haddon Heights. George can be reached at 856-546-0500. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is a Fortune 500 financial services membership organization helping nearly 3 million members achieve their financial goals and give back to their communities. This column was prepared by Thrivent Financial for use by this representative.

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Friday Women's Fellowship Getaway
to the Zschech's home in the Pocono's

March 19 - 21, 2010

All women are welcome.
Contact Connie Wolf

For details & information

Advent Giving Tree

Addition / Correction *by Larry Friant*

In my article in the February *Messenger* I failed to thank Dianne Reinhardt. Several years ago Dianne and Sam moved to Delaware, and although they are no longer members at Our Savior, Dianne has remained faithfully committed to the Advent Giving Tree ministry. In fact the Giving Tree each Advent would not be possible without Dianne's tireless effort. She organizes, collates, and inputs the names of gift recipients from the various organizations and produces and prints the tree tags and gift labels. Dianne truly is an angel!

The Southwest Mission Cluster of the NJ Synod presents:

Compelled

5 pm Sunday, March 7, 2010

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

230 N. Woodbury Avenue, Woodbury

Free will offering for the band and nonperishable food item to benefit local food ministries.

About Compelled: 2 Corinthians 5:14-15 begins with, 'It is Christ's love that compels us...' the band name was picked because each member share this common belief for their ministry through music; to give of themselves, for the sake of Christ, so that youth and other believers will know the truth of Christ's sacrificial love in their lives. Their vision for the ministry is to encourage people to interact in their relationship with Christ and allow them to come to know Him better through music and worship. (www.compelledband.com)

For more information, contact Lisa Barnes, cluster counselor at (856) 456-4347 or pastorstjohn@comcast.net



"Renouncing the Devil and all the forces that defy God!"

It is a promise made by sponsors and parents at their child's baptism, and whenever we affirm our own baptism. But what does it mean to make such a promise?

Join us on Monday nights at 7:30 PM or Wednesday mornings at 9:30 AM beginning the week of Feb 22-24 and ending the week of March 22-24 for some lively discussion.

~Pastor Englehardt



Musical Notes...

From the Music Director

By Pat Shaw-Green

During this Lenten season and as we approach Holy Week, thoughts of what was actually happening in Jesus life and times, often swirl around our in our heads. How can we, not having been there, even begin to understand what was happening? And, how did this all got so out of control that one man in particular went from friend to foe in but a weeks' time. This Lenten season we will be presenting a live dramatic setting of Jesus' "Walk to the Cross" on Good Friday. If you are interested in being a part of this incredible story, please contact me at the church. We will need actors and interested others!

The Lenten season has always been a time of deep and humbling expressions of both grief and gratitude. From a musical standpoint, there are so many beautiful and heart-gripping Lenten songs that, in their own way they can almost explain more easily the grief and sorrow that was felt in Jesus' time. I find it both overwhelming and heartbreaking to ponder, during this time, the actual events which were passion and the crucifixion. Choosing music for this time is one of the most difficult and yet satisfying jobs that I take on as Director of Music each year. So, this week, and in the weeks to come, as we sing Your Heart, O God, is Grieved We Know, try to picture in your head and hearts, the unbelievable sadness of those people who were there with Him. Aren't we, as people of God in today's world, lucky to know that Sunday is coming!



Monday Night Prayer Group

At 7:30 PM each week in the Church library. Alphabetically, we pray for all members within a year; we send postcards to you.

Requests may be sent to: Connie or to Pastor E or place a request in the box in the Narthex. Anything you share will be kept confidential unless you indicate otherwise. You are always welcome to join us on Monday nights, even to sit quietly and listen



“In Haiti, children are the most vulnerable victims; amid chaos, “they think God is mad at them.” (USA Today quote, Jan 25)

“Why God Hates Haiti: the frustrating theology of suffering. Haiti is surely a Job (reference to the Biblical book) among nations With so many dead (paraphrase) in last week’s earthquake, a sensible person of faith has to grapple with the problem of what scholars call theodicy. If God is good and intervenes in the world, then why does he make innocents suffer? Why, as Job might have said, would God “crush an impoverished people with a tempest and multiply their wounds without cause? He will not let them get their breath,”

For Pat Robertson, the TV Evangelist, the answer is simple: it’s the Haitians’ own fault, presumably for practicing voodoo.... In his narrow, malicious way, Robertson is making a First Commandment argument “you shall have no other gods before me.” This God rains down disaster on those who disobey.

But Robertson’s is a fundamentalist view; it’s so unkind and self-righteous. “I think,” adds Rabbi Harold Kushner, author of Why Bad Things Happen to Good People, “that it’s supreme hubris to think you can read God’s mind.”

Over the next weeks, sensible clerics will struggle with what to say ... “the really smart ones will be saying that God is mysterious and we can’t explain everything.” Others will teach that the earthquake is the work of the Devil or that believers can find blessings in the calamity, for in heaven the dead will finally find tranquility and repose. “This world is not all there is.” Rabbi Kushner teaches that natural disasters are somehow outside the purview of a loving God. In the face of unjust and inexplicable suffering them, the responsibility of the faithful is to remain faithful and to help relieve suffering.

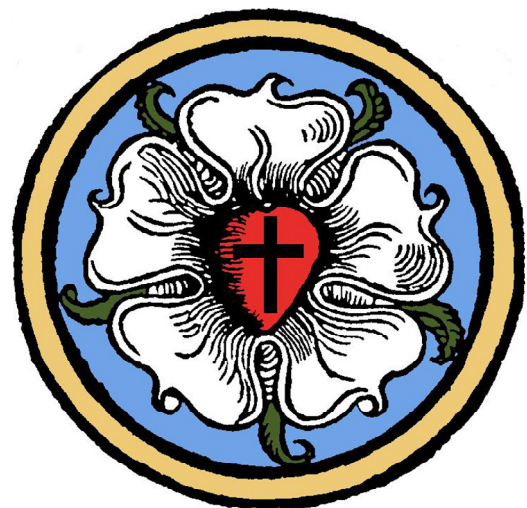
Theodicy remains the most powerful tool in the atheist’s kit, however, and many a believer has turned away from God over the suffering of innocents. One Bible scholar said, “After a lifetime as a Christian I just got to a point where I couldn’t explain how something like this could happen if there’s a powerful and loving God in charge of the world. It’s a very old problem, and there are a lot of answers, but I don’t think any of them work.” ‘ (Newsweek, Jan 25)

As a person of faith and an educated scientist I am sometimes amazed at how much God dominates the suffering discussion. We live in an imperfect world, full of many storms, some the result of natural forces, others human-generated. Yes, God created the world, set the forces in motion, and it’s human nature to blame the one in charge – but just how much “in charge” is he? Thank goodness we don’t have a control-freak creator, but instead a loving God who is with us whenever we fall and whenever our world is dangerous. Many choose to live in hurricane-prone, earthquake-prone, tsunami-prone, tornado-prone, blizzard-prone areas. Do we really want God to take away our freedom and create that perfect puppet-like world? I for one would rather trust in his promises and let him help lead me through the valley of the shadow of death, even when I help create that valley.

~Pastor Englehardt

In a July 8, 1530 letter to Lazuarus Spenger, Luther interprets his seal:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luther_rose



Grace and peace from the Lord. As you desire to know whether my painted seal, which you sent to me, has hit the mark, I shall answer most amiably and tell you my original thoughts and reason about why my seal is a symbol of my theology. The first should be a black cross in a heart, which retains its natural color, so that I myself would be reminded that faith in the Crucified saves us. "For one who believes from the heart will be justified"(Rom.10:10). Although it is indeed a black cross, which mortifies and which should also cause pain, it leaves the heart in its natural color. It does not corrupt nature, that is, it does not kill but keeps alive. "The just shall live by faith" (Rom. 1:17) but by faith in the crucified. Such a heart should stand in the middle of a white rose, to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. In other words, it places the believer into a white, joyous rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). That is why the rose should be white and not red, for white is the color of the spirits and the angels (cf. Matt. 28:3; John 20:12). Such a rose should stand in a sky-blue field, symbolizing that such joy in spirit and faith is a beginning of the heavenly future joy, which begins already, but is grasped in hope, not yet revealed. And around this field is a golden ring, symbolizing that such blessedness in Heaven lasts forever and has no end. Such blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and goods, just as gold is the most valuable, most precious and best metal. This is my compendium theologiae [summary of theology]. I have wanted to show it to you in good friendship, hoping for your appreciation. May Christ, our beloved Lord, be with your spirit until the life hereafter. Amen.



Faces of LCOS

New Member Ken Gravener; a page from Our Savior’s past

At 87 years young, Ken Gravener has returned home, physically and spiritually. He has lived in Virginia, Collingswood, Delaware Valley Township (Cherry Hill), Camden, Clayton, Audubon, Westmont, Haddonfield, Florida, Sicklerville and Haddon Township.

“This is where we are staying now,” Ken said from the apartment he shares with his wife, Betty, in Rohrer Towers I on Wynnewood Avenue in Haddon Township. Coincidentally, Betty grew up on Wynnewood Avenue.

What Ken remembers most fondly of all the places he’s lived is 312 Kresson Road in Cherry Hill, in a historic farmhouse that is now La Campagne Restaurant that features fine cuisine in four separate dining rooms, each decorated for a different decade – the ‘20s, ‘30s, ‘40s and ‘50s. “We’ve been there twice – we really can’t afford to go there much,” Ken said of La Campagne. “When you go in, they have the original deed to the house hanging in a frame. It’s on sheepskin. “It was a small farm, about 10 acres,” he continued. “We had seven cows, chickens and we had pigs for one year. There was a barn that was turned into a double house and, across the street was a carriage house that was also turned into a small house.”

Ken said those buildings are still there, but very little else. Their farm used to adjoin the Peacock Farm and the former Cherry Hill Ice House/Arena. Both have been displaced by an adjacent shopping center. “Back then, it was nothing but farm land,” Ken added. “There was nothing along Brace Road. In the kitchen area of the house (restaurant), they still have the original cabinets. We (he and brother Gene) had a great time growing up there.”

He also remembers fondly attending Our Savior from the time he was 11, specifically Pastor Donald Irvin. “We got to know Pastor Irvin well,” Ken said. “He would come and visit us dressed in work clothes and help us pitch hay. The new Pastor (Zschech) seems like a real nice fellow too. The church looks different, bigger now, but it’s hard to tell where they’ve built on.”

The Graveners officially rejoined LCOS two years ago. Ken misses being part of the Thursday Morning Men’s Club that would meet and perform repair and maintenance tasks around the church. “I really hated to give that up, but physically I couldn’t do it anymore,” Ken added. “Our health hasn’t been too good lately and we haven’t been able to worship for about a year. I hope we can soon.”

Summer Mission Trip Interest Meeting March 14 at 7:00PM

On Sunday night, March 14, 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 2010, along with their parents, is encouraged to attend 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 10-17 and the group looks forward to working again with the Goldsboro-Wayne Habitat for Humanity in Goldsboro North Carolina.

Last year seventeen youth, five adults, and Pastor Wayne traveled down in July, staying overnight at King of Kings Lutheran Church in Centerville, VA on the way down and driving back in one day the following Saturday. The group slept and ate at a church in town and got their showers at the end of the workday at the local YMCA where they could even workout (who had the energy?) or go for a swim in the Olympic size pool. Those under the age of 16 spent time in Goldsboro working in the Habitat ReStore and landscaping various Habitat homes with sod and planting shrubs. The others were able to begin framing a house from the foundation down in Mt. Olive (Yes, where the pickles are packed). By the end of the week the house had several exterior walls up and sheathed.

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 last year and this greatly facilitates our time after work for devotions and fun activities. 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 14 at 7:00 pm and find out how.