

RESURRECTION NEWS



DECEMBER 2012



Pastor's Letter

December, 2012

"Are You Ready To Die? Simeon's Song"

"Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. The parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required..." (Luke 2:25-28).

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

For centuries, the people of Israel hoped that they would see the long promised Savior come in their lifetime. One lifetime succeeded another until finally the Divine Word came to a man named Simeon that the Savior would enter the world in his lifetime. We know very little about Simeon except what we are told right here. He was a devout man. He lived with an expectation that God would stand behind every promise that he had made. Luke writes that Simeon was a man who "was waiting for the consolation of Israel. And the Holy Spirit was upon him."

We don't know how the Divine Word came to Simeon or how long after it was made known to him it actually took to be fulfilled. Can you just imagine the expectation with which Simeon lived each day of his life; looking for the appearance of the Savior in every crowd, in every gathering, in every individual. We can only imagine what Simeon might have been looking for. A powerful, handsome adult ready to single handedly repair a world out of order. Would he be a 'Charles Atlas' type Simeon wondered.

Then one day, probably just a regular day during his normal routine, Simeon entered the Temple courts and began to make his way to the sanctuary past all the parents who had brought their eight day old sons to have them circumcised as the Law of Moses commanded. Simeon suddenly stopped. His eyes fell upon one infant. And somehow, Simeon knew that the day had come. He slowly walked over to the child who was being held in his mother's arms, and he reached out his own arms for the child. And as Simeon received this long awaited promise, this devout man from Jerusalem says,

"Lord, now let your servant depart in peace according to your word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all people.

A light to lighten the gentiles and the glory of your people Israel."

The "Nunc Dimittus." Latin for "now dismiss." As Simeon held the Savior of the world in his hands, Simeon was ready to die in peace. He knew that it was now safe to die. The Savior had arrived who would do everything necessary to remove the wrath of God against all sin. He would restore the perfect relationship between God and His people to the joyful bliss as it was in Eden before the great fall. He would stand up and fight the evil foe and he would conquer the serpent of the garden forever. He would stand before the judge of all mankind and take the sentence for the sin of the world upon Himself. And then He would carry out the sentence fully, completely, finally. And when He had finished what He had come to do, He will have reconciled God to man and man and woman and child would know that it is now safe to die.

What about you? Can you say with the confident assurance of Simeon, "Lord, now let your servant depart, in peace?" I would suggest to you that it is only as we are ready to die in peace that we are truly ready to live in peace. It is only when we are at peace with God that we can hope to be at peace with ourselves and with our neighbors. We have been reconciled to God through the child that Simeon held in his arms. Christ has made it safe for us to die, which makes it safe for us to live without fear and at peace. Each Sunday as we gather in this temple, we are given the body of Jesus to hold in our hands and we hear the words, "Now, may this body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen and preserve you in this one, true faith, to life everlasting. DEPART IN PEACE."

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Nielsen

Advent Sermon Series: “The Great ‘O Antiphons’ of Advent”

Each Sunday during Advent, we will sing selected stanzas of “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” and explore the meaning of each of these ancient references to Jesus.

- Wisdom from on high
- Lord of might
- Root of Jesse
- Key of David
- Dayspring from on high
- King of the nations
- Emmanuel

Each Sunday’s Gradual and Sermon will form the basis for personal Advent devotions through the week.

Men’s Network Breakfast - Saturday, December 8th - 8:00 – 9:30am.

“**Running The Race.**” The race is not run well unless you cross the finish line. To run the race of faith in Christ well, we need lots of help and encouragement along the way. We all need this. Come and enjoy the food, fellowship and the encouragement of a lively bible study with men of faith. Breakfast chef: Mike Hein.

Winter Work Day - Saturday, December 8 - 9:30am. – Noon.

There are several projects that need to be accomplished to get the building ready for the winter. Several areas of the building are in need of a deep cleaning. We can use as many as are able to come and help.

Pizza Party and Annual Voters Meeting – Sunday, December 9th.

The Annual Voters Meeting of the congregation takes place immediately after worship on the December 8th. We’ll begin with a pizza, followed by the meeting. Significant motions for discussion and voting include:

- A motion to continue the current Missions Giving level of 15% of offerings.
- A motion to create a new Board for Missions.
- A motion to purchase a new church organ.
- Approval of the 2013 budget.
- Election of Church Council officers.

In accordance with the new Constitution and By-Laws, every “Communicant Member” of the congregation must sign the Signature copy of the Constitution and By-Laws to be a “Voting Member.” You may do so before the meeting begins if you have not done so already.

LWML Woman’s Christmas Party- Sunday, December 16th

Please set aside the time to join in the fellowship, fun and wonderful food at the annual LWML Christmas Party. Secret Pals will be revealed. This is always a wonderful time for all of the women of the congregation. Bring an appetizers or finger foods to share. See Anna Bisson for more information.

2012 Christmas Worship Schedule:

- Sunday - 12/23 - 4th Sunday in Advent: 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study –
10:00am. - Divine Service
- Monday - 12/24 – Christmas Eve: 7:00pm. - Candlelight Lessons and Carols
- Tuesday - 12/25 – Christmas Morning: 10:00am. - Divine Service
- Sunday - 12/30 – 1st Sunday after Christmas: 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
10:00am. - Divine Service

Stewardship Pledges for 2013 – Sunday, December 16th.

You will be receiving a 2013 Stewardship packet during the week of December 2nd. Please give prayerful consideration to your stewardship pledge for 2013. We will gather our pledges and present them to the Lord for His blessing during worship on Sunday, December 16th.

Mortgage Principle Balance: The principle balance on the mortgage loan through Lutheran Church Extension Fund continues to decline rapidly. As of October 30th, the remaining principle balance is \$37,788.95. Last year at this time, the balance was \$65,382. At this rate, we are projected to pay off our loan by April, 2014, 7 years early!

Faithful Stewardship – The ‘Submission Of Your Confession of the Gospel of Christ’

In his second letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul addresses the congregation’s response to the offering that is being taken among the churches. He writes, *“By their approval of this service, they will glorify God because of your submission flowing from your confession of the gospel of Christ and the generosity of your contribution for them and for all others.”* (2 Corinthians 9:13).

Have you ever thought of your offering as your “submission flowing from your confession of obedience to the gospel of Christ”? How much different is this than the thought of the “offering” as ‘paying dues to the church,’ or ‘an obligation to meet the budget,’ or ‘a good tax deduction’?

Does it make a difference how we ‘think’ about the ‘offering’? Yes is most certainly does! Even in our everyday experience, we know that attitude makes all the difference. An eager willingness born out of love and appreciation makes the gift acceptable and well received. When we offer our offerings to the Lord as our ‘submission’ to His gracious will for our lives as His stewards, it is a beautiful work of faith in His eyes.

The work that is accomplished by our offerings as they are given with the right spirit goes far beyond the practical benefits of paying bills and supporting the mission of the congregation. When given with a right spirit, we are enriched and our gifts produce a response of thanksgiving and praise to God. *“You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God. For the ministry of this service is not only supplying the needs of the saints but is also overflowing in many thanksgivings to God.”* (2 Corinthians 9:12).

Interestingly, paradoxically, rather than wanting to be praised for his giving, the faithful giver gives thanks to God for the privilege and for what he receives through the giving. *“Thanks be to God for this inexpressible gift!”* (2 Corinthians 9:15).

Thank you from Seminarian Jonathan Williams

Dear members of the Lutheran Church of the Resurrection,

Thank you so much for your generous gifts in support of my final year of education at Concordia Theological Seminary. Your support helps me to pay for the of attendance at Seminary, which includes tuition, fees, and health insurance for my family. I had a wonderful experience on vicarage, but I am also very happy to be back in Indiana. The hot, dry weather we had in Colorado was very different from what we were used to in the Midwest, and even farther from what we used to enjoy in Maine! Now that I am in my fourth year in seminary, I have returned to the classroom, and have appreciated the opportunity to interact more frequently with my peers and teachers. It is a joy to prepare for service to the Lord’s Church in the pastoral ministry. Thank you again for your generosity in supporting my family and me as we spend the final year in Ft. Wayne. Please continue to keep us in your prayers.

Yours truly, Jonathan Williams

(Note: The Williams are members of this congregation. We currently send \$250/month to the seminary for support of Jonathan as well as seminarian Paul Rockrohr.)

Thank you from Concordia Theological Seminary – Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Dear Friends,

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers.” 1 Thessalonians 1:2. On behalf of Concordia Theological Seminary, I thank you for your recent donation of \$1000 towards the new library fund. Gifts such as yours, allow us to provide the finest theological education to the future pastors, deaconesses, and missionaries who will serve The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod and our partner churches worldwide. I thank God for you and ask for your continued support. Together we partner in an essential mission of forming servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost and care for all.

Your servant in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast Jr. - President

(Note: This gift was matched by two ‘matching grants’ for a total of \$3,000).

The Church Sexton Position

After many years of excellent service, Don Pryor will step down from the church's Sexton position at the end of this year. If you are interested in this paid position, please speak with a member of the Board of Trustees: Brian Watson; Tom Huesers; Mark Larsen.

Church Cleaning

Description of Work to be Completed

Overall: Prepare building for Sunday School and Worship each week. Work is best done on Saturday. May be done on Friday if there is no activity in building on Saturday.

Sanctuary:

1. Sweep Floor onto center aisle with dust mop.
2. Vacuum carpet in aisle, chancel
3. Inspect pews and remove any trash in rack or on seats.

Entrance / 1st Floor Hallway:

1. Vacuum carpet
2. Clean glass on front doors
3. Remove any dirt, finger prints on walls with detergent.

Bathrooms:

1. Clean toilets with toilet brush and bowl cleaner.
2. Clean sink with sponge and detergent
3. Spray toilet seat with disinfectant
4. Clean mirror
5. Supply paper towels, toilet paper in racks.
6. Sweep floor.
7. Mop with detergent
8. Empty trash cans / replace liners.

Pastor's Office:

1. Vacuum carpet
2. Dust desk, credenza, book shelves with rag and spray.
3. Empty trash and replace liner.

Secretary's Office:

1. Vacuum
2. Dust desk, computer, counter tops, cabinets
3. Empty trash cans / replace liners.

Classrooms:

1. Sweep floors each week.
2. Mop floor monthly.
3. Empty trash / replace liners

4. Set tables and chairs for Sunday

5. Organize room putting things away -toys, crayons, paper, etc.

6. Inspect walls for dirt, fingerprints and remove with detergent.

Cry Room:

1. Vacuum
2. Empty trash/ replace liner.
3. Dust with rag and spray

Fellowship Hall:

1. Sweep floor
2. Set tables / chairs or store tables / chairs depending on Sunday's function.
3. Mop floor monthly.

Kitchen:

1. Sweep floor.
2. Empty trash / replace liners
3. Wipe counter tops with rag and detergent
4. Organize kitchen by putting away dishes, etc.

Stairway:

1. Sweep.

Basement Hallway:

1. Sweep.
2. Inspect walls for dirt, fingerprints and remove with detergent.

Balcony:

1. Sweep.
2. Organize chairs
3. Dust organ
4. Empty trash / replace liners

Cancellations Due To Weather:

If the weather is bad on Sunday morning, we may cancel Sunday School. Please call the church office for notification of cancellation. A special announcement will be posted on the answering machine and an e-mail message sent by 6:30am. The worship service will not be canceled for weather.



BIBLE QUIZ

Monthly Worship

December 2, 2012

First Sunday in Advent

Psalm: 25:1-10

Old Testament: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Gospel: Luke 19:28-30

December 9, 2012

Second Sunday in Advent

Psalm: 66:1-12

Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-7

Epistle: Philippians 1:2-11

Gospel: Luke 3:1-14

December 16, 2012

Third Sunday in Advent

Psalm: 85

Old Testament: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 7:18-28

December 23, 2012

Fourth Sunday in Advent

Psalm: 80:1-7

Old Testament: Micah 5:2-5

Epistle: Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

December 30, 2012

First Sunday after Christmas

Psalm: 111

Old Testament: Exodus 13:1-3, 11-15

Epistle: Colossians 3:12-17

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

1. **How many books are there in the Bible?**
A) 27; B) 39; C) 66; D) 127
2. **What church was found faithful in Revelation?**
A) Sardis; B) Philadelphia; C) Ephesus; D) Laodicia
3. **Which of Noah's sons became the father of Canaan?**
A) Cain; B) Sham; C) Japheth; D) Ham
4. **Who beguiled King Solomon into worshipping foreign gods?**
A) His foreign cupbearer; B) his foreign wives; C) his own children; D) his own political advisors
5. **In which city were Christians first called Christians?**
A) Jerusalem; B) Corinth; C) Ephesus; D) Antioch
6. **What was unusual about King Nebuchadnezzar's request to have his dream interpreted?**
A) They had to first translate the dream into their language; B) They had to first guess what the dream was about; C) They had to first offer one of their sons for sacrifice; D) They had to first pay money for the honor of interpreting the dream.

Answers on "Birthday" page.



12/11 Robert Sieber
 12/13 Sharon Conover
 12/14 Dawn Buck
 Evelyn Gaug
 12/15 Ethan Carlson
 12/23 Dan Callahan
 12/27 Natalie Crowley
 12/30 Joe Krolak
 Karen Morren
 12/31 Matthew Esculano



12/16 Fernando & Mari Gouvea
 12/20 Peter & Lois Doran
 12/23 Dan & Sharon Callahan



12/6 Dan Morren
 12/17 Dawn Buck
 12/25 Dottie Evertsen



ANNIVERSARY

12/19 Richard Dostie

Kids on Angels

---I only know the names of two angels. Hark and Harold.
 (Gregory, age 5)

---Everybody's got it all wrong, Angels don't wear halos anymore. I forget why, but scientists are working on it.
 (Olive, age 9)

---It's not easy to become an angel! First you die. Then you go to heaven, and then there's still the flight training to go through. And then you got to agree to wear those angel clothes. (Matthew, age 9)

---Angles work for God and watch over kids when God has to go do something else. (Mitchell, age 7)

---"Where are you going?" asked the little boy.
 My guardian angel helps me with math, but he's not much good for science. (Henry, age 8)

---Angels don't eat, but they drink milk from Holy Cows!!!
 (Jack, age 6)

---Angles talk all the way while they're flying you up to heaven. The main subject is where you wnet wrong before you got dead. (Daniel, age 9)

---When an angel gets mad, he takes a deepp breath and counts to then, And when he lets out his breath, somewhere there's a tornado. (Reagan, age 10)

---Angels live in cloud houses made by God and his son, who's a very good carpenter. (Jared, age 9)

---All angels are girls because they gotta wear dresses and boys didn't go for it. (Antonio, age 9)

Bible Quiz Answers: 1) C the Bible 's table of contents
 2) B Revelation 3:7-10 3) D Genesis 10:6 4) B
 1Kings 11:2- 5) D Acts 11:26 6) B Daniel 2:5-8

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Calendar of Events December, 2012

Week of December 2nd

- Sunday - 12/2 8:45 am. – Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
6:00pm. - The Catechumenate
- Monday - 12/3 6:00pm. - Board of Elders Meeting
- Thursday - 12/6 10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study - The Gospel of Luke
7:00pm. - Inquirers Class
- Saturday - 12/8 8:00am. - Men's Breakfast Meeting
9:30am. - Winter Work Day

Week of December 9th

- Sunday - 12/9 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
10:00am. - Worship
11:30am. - Annual Voters Meeting
- Thursday - 12/13 9:00am. - LWML Meeting
10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study - The Gospel of Luke
7:00pm. - Inquirers Class

Week of December 16th

- Sunday - 12/16 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
10:00am. - Worship
6:00pm. - The Catechumenate
- Monday - 12/17 6:00pm. - Board for Youth Meeting
7:00pm. - Church Council Meeting
- Thursday - 12/20 10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study - The Gospel of Luke
7:00pm. - Inquirers Class

Week of December 23rd

- Sunday - 12/23 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
10:00am. - Worship
- Monday - 12/24 7:00pm. - Christmas Eve Service: Lessons and Carols
- Tuesday - 12/25 10:00am. - Christmas Morning Service: Divine Service

Week of December 30th

- Sunday - 12/30 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
10:00am. - Worship

December Stewardship

	<u>12/2</u>	<u>12/9</u>	<u>12/16</u>	<u>12/23</u>	<u>12/24</u>	<u>12/25</u>	<u>12/30</u>
<u>Acolyte</u>	Sarah Kohl	Jacob Huesers	Emily Larsen	Dan Morren	Jacob Huesers	Emily Larsen	Cullen Stout
<u>Communion Assistant</u>	Brad Fitzpatrick	Mike Hein	Mark Larsen	Brian Watson	---	Chris Batson	Eric Stout
<u>Ushers</u>	Glenn Carlson Moe Cote	Jared Goldsmith / John Gould	Mike Hein / Bill Jahnke	Jon Morren / Curt Slininger	Glenn Carlson Jr. / Seth Carlson	Don Pryor / John Ayotte	Finley Edwards/ Tom Huesers
<u>Greeters</u>	Moe, Becky Cote	George, Karen Markham	Bill, Velta Jahnke	Sharon Klipp Julie Kohl	Glenn, Krista Carlson	Don, Marlene Pryor	Tom, Katie Huesers
<u>Altar Care</u>	Deb Nielsen	Sharon Conover	Amanda Goldsmith	Amy Ouellette	---	Kitty Carlson	Andrea Watson
<u>Flowers</u>	Avis Grant	Avis Grant	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp	Sharon Klipp
<u>Fellowship</u>	LWML	Pizza Party	Gorneau's	OPEN	----	---	Sharon Klipp