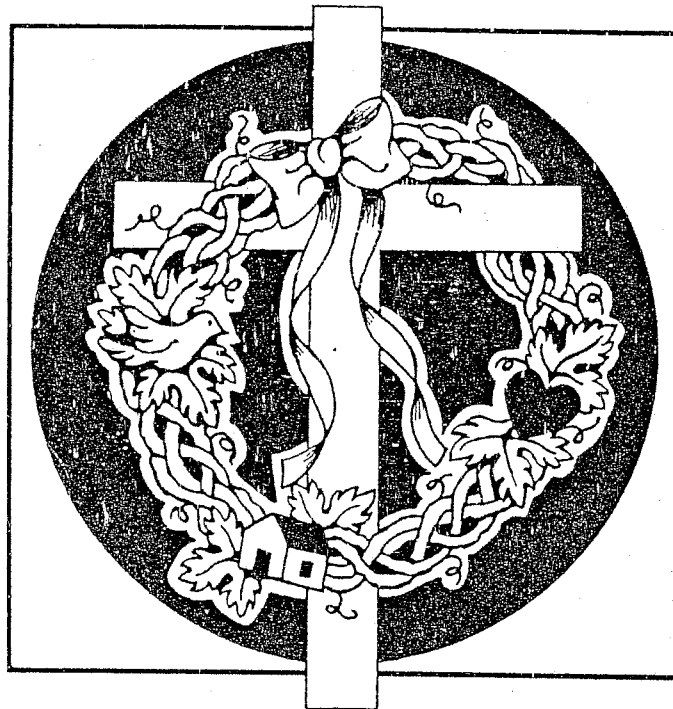


RESURRECTION NEWS



Begin the year
with God

JANUARY 2012



Pastor's Letter

January, 2012

Pray for Wisdom

"Give me wisdom and knowledge" - 2 Chronicles 1:10

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The book of 2 Chronicles begins like this: King Solomon invited all the leadership of Israel on a retreat to Gibeon to worship and pray to God. **"That night God appeared to Solomon and said to him, 'Ask what I shall give you.'**" (vs.7). Wow! Talk about finding a lamp with a magic genie in it. What would you have asked for if God said to you, **"Ask what I shall give you"**?

A man who was serving a life sentence for murder was in his cell one day when the governor of the state came to visit him. The governor said that the prisoner could ask for one thing. The prisoner pondered this for a few minutes and decided that he would like to have a big juicy steak and a baked potato for dinner. The governor nodded – "done." That night at dinner, as the other prisoners were all eating the normal fare and he was eating his steak and potatoes with great delight, one of the guards who had escorted the governor to the man's cell asked him why he chose to have steak and potatoes when if he had asked, he could have been released from prison?

Solomon replied to God saying, **"give me wisdom and knowledge to go out and come in before this people..."** And God was pleased to give him just that.

Man has always desired to have wisdom. But men and women have rarely understood that real wisdom cannot be found let alone had apart from God. In the Garden of Eden, Eve saw that the fruit of the tree was **"desirable FOR GAINING WISDOM and so she took some and ate it."** (Genesis 3:6) She thought that she could gain wisdom apart from God and His Word.

How many people in our own day pursue the quest for wisdom in the same way as Adam and Eve – apart from God and His word? Having so much more than we ever dreamed of asking for yet lacking wisdom we have become fools. God's ways seem so foolish to us. The worldly ways seem so wise and knowledgeable. How right St. Paul was when he said, **"The foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom."**

The Psalmist defines wisdom and understanding like this. **"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom and all those who follow his ways have good understanding."** (Psalm 111:9).

Our search for wisdom must always lead us to Christ and His Word or we will waste our life in embarrassing folly and be judged accordingly. Solomon's wisdom attracted admirers from all over the world, the most notable being the queen of Sheba. Jesus warns the Pharisees as well as his own disciples saying, **"The Queen of the South will rise at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for she came from the ends of the earth to listen to Solomon's wisdom, and now one greater than Solomon is here."** (Matthew 12:42).

The prophets told us where to find wisdom if only we would listen to them. **"A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse (Solomon's grandfather)... The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, ...the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."** (Isaiah 11:1-2).

St. Paul directs our search for wisdom by pointing us to Christ, **"in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."** (Colossians 2:3). True wisdom is found in **"Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God."** (1 Corinthians 1:24).

To pray for wisdom and understanding is to pray for Jesus to guide and direct your way in life. We pray that we would be led by the Spirit of the Lord to walk according to His Word and not the wisdom of this world.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Nielsen

EPIPHANY SERVICE - Epiphany Lessons and Carols - Friday, January 6th - 7:00pm.

As we move from the 12 days of Christmas into the season of Epiphany, our attention shifts from the 'human nature' of Jesus Christ to His 'divine nature.' January 6th is a historic, 'holy day' on which the Church originally celebrated Christmas. Today, the DAY OF EPIPHANY celebrates the visitation of the Magi who are the first to recognize the divine fulfillment of the Old Testament in the child born to Mary. The Day of Epiphany deserves the same attention and worship as does the day of Christmas. Invite a friend to come with you.

MEN'S BREAKFAST MEETING - Saturday, January 14th - 8:00am.

"The Bible On Trial"- Archaeology's Contribution. Plan to join us!

BUNKO NIGHT RETURNS! Friday, January 27th. 7:00pm.

If you've never played Bunko before, or if you remember the fun we have had playing it in the past, you don't want to miss this night of great fun and fellowship. There'll be lots of prizes. You can bring snacks but not children. This is an adult's night out with other adults. Sponsored by the Board For Youth.

Sunday, January 29th - FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY! Invite a friend to church!

There is no better way to reach your unchurched friends with the good news of Jesus Christ than by inviting them to come church with you. FRIENDSHIP SUNDAYS are regular opportunities to do just that. FRIENDSHIP SUNDAYS are times to be especially intentional about inviting guests to join us for Sunday School and worship, knowing that they will be warmly welcomed and thankful for your interest in their life. **A pot-luck luncheon will follow worship.** Everyone brings a special dish to share.

Sunday School for January: 8:45am.

- 1/1 New Year's Day - No Sunday School
- 1/8 The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus - Mark 1:1-13
- 1/15 Jesus Calls Philip and Nathanael - John 1:43-51
- 1/22 Jesus Calls Matthew - Mark 2:13-17
- 1/29 Jesus and the Little Children - Mark 10:13-16

Spring Inquirers Class- Beginning Thursday, March 1st.

The Inquirers Class is for all those who would like to know more about the Christian faith and Lutheran doctrine. This 9 week class, led by pastor Nielsen is the opportunity for those who would like to know more before deciding to join this congregation as well as those who would like a refresher on the fundamentals of the Christian faith. Themes include: How do we know? Who is God? Who is man? Who is Jesus? What is Baptism? What is the Lord's Supper? What is Lutheran Worship? Etc. Please see pastor Nielsen for more information or to sign up.

Complete set of "People's Bible Commentary" added to the church library.

Here is an excellent way to explore the Bible. These commentaries are written for easy readability and spiritual growth. They will help you understand what you have read in the Scriptures as well as guide you in how to apply it to your life of faith. Every book of the bible is covered and available.

HELP WANTED

- **Internet Communications Manager** - On-line communications has become a vital part of the way many stay informed on the activities of the congregation. It has also become an important way that we get information and the message out. We're looking for someone who is willing to manage the following tasks from their home:

Constant Contact E-Mail Program: The weekly "Worship This Sunday" e-mail and other occasional messages that keep everyone informed. (1-2 hour per week)

Face Book Page: Although we have a Facebook page, we have not utilized it as we should to communicate with those who use this tool to keep in touch. Posting information and responding to inquiries would be very helpful. (approx. 1 hour per week)

If you may be interested in helping with either one or both of these tasks, please speak to pastor Nielsen.

From the Annual Voters Meeting - 12/11/11

Official Pastoral Acts During 2011

Baptisms – 5

Weddings – 2

Funerals – 3

Confirmations – 5 Adult / 5 Youth

There were 16 new members received into membership in 2011

- David Leigh – Confirmation
- Norah Kopecky - Baptism
- Daniel Adams – Confirmation
- Maira Goldsmith – Baptism
- Browlow Parks-Stamm - Baptism
- Fred Ouellette – Baptism
- Frederick Ouellette – Baptism
- Terry Eldridge – Confirmation
- Curt, Kim, Harry, Christopher Slininger - Transfer
- John Poirer – Confirmation
- Thad Hyatt – Transfer
- Ray, Betsy Gorneau – Reaffirmation of faith

There were 17 members released from membership in 2011

- Tom Edwards - Death
- Sue Niles – Death
- George Kohl – Death
- Jenna Zahner – Transfer
- Jim Pryor – Moved from area
- George, Nancy, Alex LeBeau - Self-exclusion
- John, Lisa, Sarah, Zachary, Brady Monteleone - Transfer
- David, Diane Jacques – Moved from area
- Barbara, Brendon Dufour - Self-exclusion

The membership of the congregation currently stands as follows:

- There are 163 baptized members
- There are 133 confirmed members
- There are 30 children
- There are 64 family units.
- Average Sunday worship attendance for the year through November is 70

Church Council Officers for 2012:

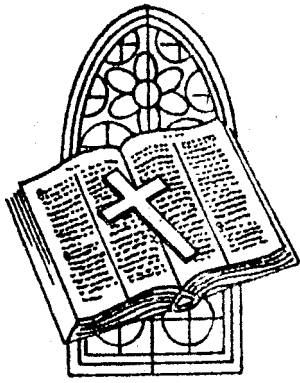
- President: Fernando Gouvea
- Vice President: Tom Huesers
- Recording Secretary: Mike Hein
- Treasurer: Sharon Conover
- Financial Secretary: Pat Kablitz
- Elders: Glenn Carlson / Chris Batson
- Trustees: Eric Stout / Mark Larsen

Missions Giving Report for 2011:

In 2011, the Congregation was committed to giving 14% of Offerings to support the work of the mission of the Church At Large. (*“Church At Large” is defined as work that is carried out by local, national and foreign agencies for the spread of the gospel and the care of people in need.*) This report does not include individual “designated” gifts. The distribution of mission funds for January – November, 2011 was as follows:

➤ LCMS – New England District: \$7,410	➤ First Choice Pregnancy Support Ctr \$300
➤ Seminary Student Support: \$3,700	➤ Thomas Myathwin - Missionary \$241
➤ Hope Lutheran – Bangor: \$2,900	➤ LCMS World Relief - Tornado Relief \$1,000
➤ Intervarsity Christian Fellowship: \$100	➤ New England District – Tornado Relief \$500
➤ LCMS World Relief: Japan \$1,000	➤ Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter \$500
➤ Garuna Foundation \$300	➤ <u>LCMS World Relief: Africa \$1,000</u>
➤ Open Arms Pregnancy Support Ctr: \$800	Year To Date \$13,157

The congregation voted to send the balance of its mission support for 2011 (to bring the total to 14%) to the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter – New Shelter Capital Campaign (approx. \$3000).



Monthly Worship

JANUARY 1, 2012

First Sunday after Christmas

Psalm: 8

First Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

Epistle: Galatians 3:23-29

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:21

January 8, 2012

The Baptism of our Lord

Psalm: 29

First Reading: Genesis 1:1-5

Epistle: Romans 6:1-11

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

January 15, 2012

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 139:1-10

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Holy Gospel: John 1:43-51

January 22, 2012

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 62

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (32-35)

Holy Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

January 29, 2012

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 111

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

Gospel: Mark 1:21-28



1. Who committed the first murder?

A) Adam B) Cain C) Lot D) Jacob

2. Who was Boaz's wife?

A) Sarah B) Rebekah C) Ruth
D) Hannah

3. What animal did God provide for a sacrifice in place of Abraham's son Isaac?

A) lamb B) ram C) goat D) turtle

4. Which of Jesus' disciples was a former tax collector (also known as a publican)?

A) Peter B) Paul C) Judas D) Matthew

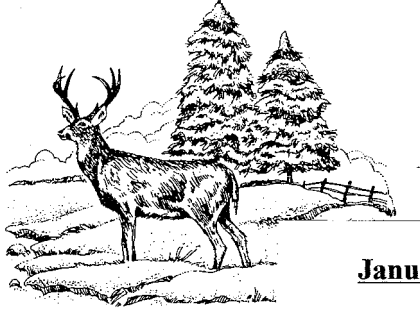
5. How many of Job's sons died during his trials?

A) all of his sons B) one third of his sons
C) half of his sons D) none of his sons

6. Who was the first martyr?

A) Phillip B) Stephen C) Timothy
D) Paul

Answers on "Birthday" page.



STEWARDSHIP

JANUARY

January 1

January 8

January 15

January 22

January 29

Acolyte

Emily Larsen

Dan Morren

Sarah Kohl

Emily Larsen

Dan Morren

**Comm.
Assistant**

Mark Larsen

Glenn Carlson

Mike Hein

Eric Stout

Don Pryor

Ushers

**Bill Jahnke
&
Robert Sieber**

**Glenn
Carlson, Jr.
&
John Gould**

**Chris Batson
&
Moe Cote**

**Seth Carlson
&
Jared
Goldsmith**

**John Ayotte
&
Jon Morren**

Greeters

**Mark
&
LeeAnn
Larsen**

**John
&
Esther Gould**

**Fernando
&
Mari Gouvea**

**Eric
&
Lin Stout**

**Pat Kiblitz
&
Deb Nielsen**

Altar Guild

**Karen
&
Sarah Mueller**

**Sharon
Conover**

**Amanda
Goldsmith**

Amy Ouellette

Kitty Carlson

Flowers

**John & Karen
Ayotte**

**John & Karen
Ayotte**

OPEN

OPEN

OPEN

Fellowship

**Debbie
Nielsen**

OPEN

Sharon Klipp

OPEN

**Friendship
Sunday
Pot Luck
Luncheon**

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

January, 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 1st Sunday after Christmas 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	2 6:00 pm Elders	3	4	5	6 7:00 pm Epiphany Worship Service	7
8 The Baptism of Our Lord 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	9	10	11	12 9:00 am LWML	13	14 8:00am. Men's Breakfast Meeting
15 2nd Sunday after Epiphany 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	16 6:00 pm Board For Youth 7:00 pm Church Council	17	18	19	20	21
Pastor Nielsen attending Theological Symposium— Concordia Theological Seminary—Ft. Wayne, Indiana						
22 3rd Sunday after Epiphany 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship	23 <i>February Newsletter Deadline</i>	24	25	26	27 7:00pm. Bunko Night	28
29 4th Sunday after Epiphany 8:45 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY PUT LUCK LUNCHEON	30	31				

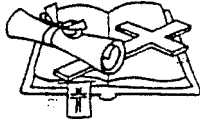


- 1/3 Betsy Gorneau
1/7 Laurah Mueller
1/16 Cayden Fitzpatrick
LeeAnne Larsen
1/19 Vesta Holt
1/20 Liam Stout
Lin Stout
1/26 Deb Nielsen



- 1/17 Michael Cote
1/18 Candace Schorr
1/26 Sherman Hill
1/?? Yvonne Batson
Joe Krolak

CONFIRMATION



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1/26 Sherman Hill

PLEASE NOTE

Because I will be away the latter part of January, I will need to have any information for my "portion" of the newsletter in EARLY. So, the deadline for the February newsletter will be Monday, January 16th. Thanks so much!

Sharon Klipp

A "paraprosdokian" is a figure of speech in which the latter part of a sentence or phrase is surprising or unexpected in a way that causes the reader to reframe or reinterpret the first part. Enjoy!

---The evening news is where they begin with 'Good Evening', and then proceed to tell you why it isn't.

---A bus station is where a bus stops. A train station is where a train stops. On my desk, I have a work station.

---How is it that one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?

---Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.

---A bank is a place that will lend you money, if you can prove that you don't need it.

---Whenever I fill out an application, in the part that says "in an emergency notify:" I put "DOCTOR".

---Why does someone believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?

---Always borrow from a pessimist. He won't expect it back.

---Hospitality: Making your guests feel like they're at home, even if you wish they were.

---The voices in my head may not be real, but they have some good ideas.

---I used to be indecisive, now I'm not sure.

---You're never too old to learn something stupid.

---A bus is a vehicle that runs twice as fast as when you are after it as when you are in it.

---Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

Bible Quiz Answers: 1) B—Genesis 4:8 2) C—Ruth 4:9-10 3) B—Genesis 22:13 4) D—Matthew 10:3 5) A—Job 1:18-19 6) B—Acts 7:54-60