



The VOICE of Our Savior

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

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FEBRUARY 2012

Pastor's Message

Dear People of God,

I'm a "music snob", I'll admit it. In some ways, I'm stuck. I rarely venture out beyond the various genres that are my favorites: blues and classic rock. They are my "comfort zones" into which I escape when things get a little "hairy" in life. They helped to form the way I experienced life growing up, and they are still important to me today. But, I am very aware that there is some amazing music being written and recorded by some very gifted musicians today. And, not wanting to miss them, I'll venture out beyond my "walls" from time to time, and sometimes I am joyously surprised!

All of us have our faith "comfort zones". They are important, helping us to keep a realistic check on our lives when our "status quo" is threatened. Maybe it's an actual place, or perhaps a certain part of Scripture, or favorite song/hymn, or set of prayers, or favorite author. But, like any comfort zone, staying within the walls too long creates a warped sense of reality, and life begins to lose meaning. I mention this because this month, we complete the

season after the Epiphany and enter the season of Lent, a time set aside by the church for us, I believe, to venture out from our faith comfort zones. It is a time to seriously reflect on our relationship with God, and to ask "so what?" Does it really make any difference in our lives and in the lives of those around us that we are children of God? If so, how? And, if not, why not? Lent, which begins with our observance of Ash Wednesday on February 22, is a time for us to focus on utilizing our faith in ways that may be a bit uncomfortable for us: teaching/assisting in Sunday School; volunteering at Project

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:30 p.m. - Chapel

Sunday, 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. - Sanctuary
(Nursery is available at both Sunday services)

WORSHIP THEMES

February 5, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

In Isaiah it is the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars - it is that God who strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up to health and diakonia. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

February 12, Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

The leper is confident in Jesus' power to heal. Naaman, on the other hand, is comically hard to convince that he can be healed by such an unlikely foreigner as Elisha, who directs him to wash in such a sorry excuse for a river as the Jordan. Jesus' healing power is here among us in the ordinary water of the font, in the ordinary bread, in the ordinary people who make up the body of Christ. We would be well-advised to take the advice of the least powerful among us (like the servant girl in Naaman's household) if we want to find the one who will heal us.

February, Transfiguration of Our Lord

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's beloved son. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

February 26, First Sunday in Lent

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

LCOS MISSION STATEMENT

- + *Share God's Word*
- + *Serve Community*
- + *Grow in Faith*

VISION STATEMENT

We are a growing, diverse congregation actively sharing God's blessings in the world community.

Council Update

Your LCOS Council met on January 16 for the first meeting of the New Year. As always Pastor Eichhorn led with a devotional reading and a prayer. We welcomed Julie Zimmerman and Jim Uphoff to Council. Thanks Julie and Jim for serving. Thanks again also to Doug Hammer and Tricia Murphy for their service on Council.

Council nominated and elected officers for the 2012 term: **Lacie Sims, President; Jim Clark, Vice President and President-Elect 2013; Kyle Maschino, Secretary; Don Hartman, Treasurer;** and, **Don Anstaett, Financial Secretary.** Thanks to all for your leadership and service to LCOS and its ministries.

Financial reports showed final 2011 year-to-date undesignated offering of \$368,160. This exceeded the final 2010 total undesignated offering by approximately \$37,000. Thanks so much to all members who increased or maintained their financial support of LCOS in 2011.

The year ended with a deficit of approximately \$14,000 on the 2011 budget. Some unexpected expenses in property and publicity account for the shortfall. The current deficit is much lower than last year's deficit of approximately \$37,000. Most of the other committees met the 2011 budget projections.

Dave Dickerson presented a balanced proposed budget for 2012. Dave projected total receipts of \$485,000, including a projected offering of \$350,000 and an 8% increase in foundation distributions. The 2012 budget proposal held the line or decreased the budgets for most committees, including personnel.

The proposed 2012 budget, as with the recent past budgets, does not include any pay increase for our excellent staff. Council

charged the personnel committee to create a bonus fund for full-time employees for 2012. The goal is to publicize the fund and seek donations to fund a 3% bonus payable in 2012. The goal will be to raise \$4,800 or more. Please consider making a donation in 2012 to reward the LCOS staff for their dedication and hard work.

Council voted unanimously to submit the proposed budget to the Congregation at the annual Congregation meeting on January 29 after the 10:30 a.m. service. Remember, this will be the **only** service that weekend. Please plan on attending as we will also begin discussions about LCOS and its ministries moving forward. Thanks to Dave Dickerson and the Finance Committee for their work on our budget.

Council nominated and approved five Council members to the Foundation board: Wes Board, Kyle Maschino, Lacie Sims, Susie Saleem and Jim Worley. It also nominated and approved four members of the Congregation to the Foundation Board: Jay Lane, Harriet Uphoff, Tricia Murphy, and Pam Stephens. Thank you all for agreeing to serve as the Foundation embarks on a five-year drive to increase the Foundation corpus. Please consider making a donation each year to this worthy effort.

- *Bob Snyder*

COMPARATIVE RELIGIONS CLASS

Our monthly joint class with St. Paul's Lutheran Church will be held on **Tuesday, February 21, 6:00 p.m.** at St. Paul.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

This month, our public discussion group will meet on Monday, February 27, 6:30 p.m. at Chappy's Tap Room and Grille on Alex Bell Road.



SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

Camp Sunday - February 5

Clarie Hammer, of Lutheran Outdoor Ministries of Ohio, will be with us in Worship and Sunday Church School. She will share a temple talk in worship. During the large group Sunday school, she will share a PowerPoint about camp, and we will enjoy songs and s'mores. All ages are welcome to join us!

Offerings

The classes collected a total of \$352.08 in offerings this fall. These funds were given to We Care Arts, our partner in ministry. The winning class was grades 5 & 6, that enjoyed a party on January 8. Spring collections will go to Oak Tree Corner. Each student adds one leaf to their class tree for every 25 cents they donate. Check out the trees in the Sunday school hallway upstairs, and the small meeting room door. The class that collects the most gets a party on May 20.

Collections of First Aid and Hygiene

Now through February 26, the classes are collecting first aid and hygiene items for Jeremiah's Letter. In February, preschool – grade 6 will study about the healing of Namaan and the Good Samaritan. This special collection helps students make a real life connection to the Bible stories. The blue donation barrel is in the parish house foyer.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 29 - August 2, evenings

Amazing Desert Journey, where Jesus leads us home

The church is an oasis in the desert journey of life. Students and volunteers will learn about God's plan for all people, and how to help be the oasis to those around us. Pray how you might be involved this year. The Christian Education team is starting to recruit volunteers.

BIBLE BOWL - MARK



Are you ready the gospel of Mark? Be sure to tape a paper lion to the wall of the sanctuary or chapel for each chapter you read. Lions are located in the narthex and on the chapel information table.

March 4, 12:00 noon

St. Paul Lutheran, Wayne Ave joins us for the classic *YOUTH & CHILDREN VS. ADULTS* friendly competition. Lunch will be served prior to competition in the parish house blue meeting room.

Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Rev. Gary Eichhorn, *Pastor*
Rachel Spry Lammi, *Associate in Ministry*
Terri Balsom, *Office Manager*
Don Hartman, *Treasurer*
Don Anstaett, *Financial Secretary*
Ginger Minneman, *Music Director*
Catherine Abner, *Joyful Noise Choir*
Joe & Elizabeth Beal, *Sonshine Choir*
Richard Freudenberger, *Handbell Choir*
Lacie Sims, *Council President*
Rev. Robert A. Willauer, *Pastor Emeritus*

Health Ministry

EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

Being emotionally well means feeling the full range of emotions and expressing those emotions appropriately. Not feeling emotion is a sign of stress or depression, just as having emotions that you cannot control may be the sign of emotional distress. Physical health problems can affect our emotions and emotional problems affect our physical health. One example is anger and hostility, an emotion that puts

one at significantly greater risk for heart disease. Keeping our emotional health means taking time in the day to be peaceful and centered, just as it means sharing emotions with others.



BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Free blood pressure screenings after worship Saturday and Sunday, February 11/12.

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT WORKSHOPS

The Rev. Steven Ingram (Miami Valley Hospital Pastoral Counseling Center) will lead a 4-session Marriage Enrichment Workshop at LCOS. *There are 3 spaces left.* The workshop dates are February 19, March 4, March 18 and April 1, from 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. (coincides with Confirmation Class times). Cost per couple is \$40.00 for all 4 sessions. Light refreshments will be available. If you have questions, or wish to sign up, please contact Rachel Lammi at rachel@oursaviordayton.org.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

Blessing at St. Paul, or another feeding program; visiting members in a nursing home; volunteering at a food/clothing pantry; participating in a church or community Bible Study ... If you would like some suggestions, contact me.

God has placed us on this earth to be part of the human community, and each one of us has been gifted with abilities to help make the community better. As we approach and enter Lent, I hope and pray that all of us will look for ways to break out of our comfort zones and make a positive difference in this world!

But, I have to confess to you that I am secretly hoping for Jesus to make his final appearance and take us all away before the Super Bowl halftime musical show!

In Christ's joy,
Gary

MID-WEEK LENTEN WORSHIP

The season of Lent (Latin for *"lengthening of days"*), begins with **Ash Wednesday** (February 22). Once again, we will join our sisters and brothers from St. Paul Lutheran (Wayne Ave.) for our mid-week evening services. This year, our theme will be **Making Sense of the Cross**, based on the book by David Lose. Below is the schedule for mid-week worship:

February 22 – Ash Wednesday (*at St. Paul's*) 6:30 p.m. worship – communion and imposition of ashes.

February 29 (*LCOS*) 6:00 p.m. – light meal; 6:30 p.m. – worship

Our Wednesday noon Bible Study will continue to meet through Lent, in the parish house blue meeting room.

FEBRUARY 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 12:00 p.m. Bible study 7:30 p.m. Social Ministry	2 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	3 6:30 p.m. Youth	4 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
5 SOUPER BOWL 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells	6 11:30 a.m. Circle - Mimi's (Foell)	7 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 9:30 a.m. Sewing 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 3:30 p.m. Staff 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed	8 11:00 a.m. Circle - Bob Evans, Centerville 12:00 p.m. Bible study	9 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	10	11 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship 6:15 p.m. PJ and pizza party
12 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 11:45 a.m. Birthday party	13	14 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 5:00 p.m. Health Ministry	15 9:30 a.m. Sewing 12:00 p.m. Bible study 2:30 p.m. Bethany Communion 6:30 p.m. Circle - Thatcher	16 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	17	18 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
19 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 5:00 p.m. Marriage wksp 5:00 p.m. Confirmation	20 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 7:00 p.m. Council	21 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 3:30 p.m. Staff 6:00 p.m. Adult study - St. Paul	22 + ASH WEDNESDAY 12:00 p.m. Bible study 6:00 p.m. Dinner & Worship - St. Paul	23 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	24	25 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
26 DAY OF CARING 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 3:00 p.m. Sacred Harp	27 6:30 p.m. Theology on Tap	28 9:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study	29 + 12:00 p.m. Bible study 6:00 p.m. Dinner & Worship - LCOS			FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT - LMC SR. HIGH - YOUTH ZONE



(a fellowship and service group for families with children age 2 through grade 6)

FEBRUARY 11 - Pajama & Pizza Party after Saturday Worship. Wear your PJ's to worship and stay for pizza and fun.

Check out the Holy Terrors email and bulletin boards for 2012 event dates. Want to get the emails? Let Rachel Lammi know.

YOUTH NEWS

This month, our youth have a number of ministry opportunities from which to choose:

Cake Bake-Off – Friday, February 3, 6:30 p.m. at the church. We will bake 12 cakes for the February 12 *All-Church Birthday Party*; dinner will be provided.

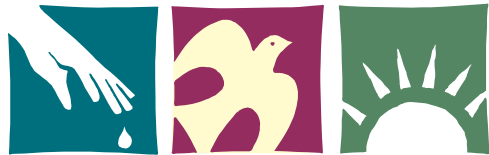
Broom Hockey at Kettering Rec. Center – check your mail/phones for date/time.

Youth Zone in Cincinnati – February 24-26 (for Sr. High Youth). Cost is \$75. Contact Kim Buechele to register.

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING FUNDRAISERS

12 youth and 3 adults from LCOS will be traveling to New Orleans in July for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. They will be holding a variety of special and on-going fundraisers, both in the congregation and in the community, to help them get to the Big Easy. Two on-going projects will be held in conjunction with worship: (1) a donation

“jug” will be posted in the narthex for all monetary donations; (2) they will sell Krispy Kreme donuts during the coffee times on Sunday mornings. They will also sell food at the Oakwood Rotary's Bingo Night at LCOS (fundraiser for international projects) on March 2; and a March Madness Selection Sunday event on March 11.



BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

This month we celebrate baptismal birthdays with:

Sarah Ansteatt	2-26
Ryan Kugel	2-23
Ian Munn	2-26

Please take a moment to encourage these children of God in their faith by dropping them a note in the mail or sharing an encouraging word in person.

Were you baptized in February but don't see your name listed? Please contact Rachel with the date of your Baptismal birthday.

STAFF EMAIL

- GARY - gary@oursaviordayton.org
- RACHEL - rachel@oursaviordayton.org
- TERRI - terri@oursaviordayton.org
- DON H. - hartmansandon@sbcglobal.net
- DON A. - jfanstaett@sbcglobal.net
- GINGER - dminneman@woh.rr.com
- CATHERINE - vjrcabner@mdeca.org
- JOE - waveshands@woh.rr.com
- DICK - ralbf@aol.com

OFFICE HOURS (Mon. - Fri.):
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon / 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Stewardship

TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF OPERATING FUND STATUS

December 2011

Offerings (against budget):	\$63,324.94
Pay off house loan:	1,470.00
Foundation (against budget):	0.00
Other collections (non-budget):	
Social Ministry:	2,696.50
Memorials:	125.00
Special Projects:	0.00
Local Benevolence:	0.00
Foundation-scholarship/benev	0.00
Expenses:	\$43,674.20
(Receipts - Expenses):	\$21,120.74

2011 Totals

YTD collections (against budget):	\$384,541.88
Pay off house loan:	8,900.00
Foundation (against budget):	107,433.34
YTD non-budget collections:	
Social Ministry:	24,581.09
Memorials:	11,035.00
Special Projects:	21,388.00
Local Benevolence:	750.00
Foundation-scholarship/benev	2,365.53
YTD Expenses:	\$514,618.15
YTD Balance (rcpts-expenses):	-\$ 13,742.87
Pay off house loan:	\$345,736.78

- Submitted by Don Hartman

Have you remembered our church in your will?

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

12/24:	364	12/25:	18	Total:	382
12/31:	36	1/1:	60	Total:	96
1/7:	29	1/8:	133	Total:	162
1/14:	36	1/15:	130	Total:	166

ESTIMATE OF GIVING FORMS

Thanks to everyone who completed and handed in your 2012 Estimate of Giving forms last week. If you have not yet done so, the forms are available in the Narthex and outside the chapel, along with envelopes in which to insert the form. Please place your forms in the offering plate or mail them to the church office. Thank you!

BIRTHDAY PARTY

It's time to CELEBRATE YOUR BIRTHDAY – and that of all LCOS members. This is our once a year opportunity to celebrate with your Church family the event of your birth (we won't ask how old you are). So please join us Sunday February 12 after the 10:30 service for lunch. We will provide the main dish and desert – so please bring a side dish to share. If you have a baby picture of yourself (which we will return) please bring it. SEE YOU AT THE PARTY!



MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 20

Wel ca News

Women Enthusiastically Living Christian Actions

FEBRUARY MEETINGS

- Monday, February 6 - 11:30 a.m. lunch Mimi's
- Wednesday, February 8 - 11:00 a.m. Bob Evans, Centerville
- Wednesday, February 15 - 6:30 p.m. Jodi Thatcher, 1565 Glenbeck



Once again, LCOS will participate in the national "Souper Bowl", held on **Sunday, February 5**, the same day as the NFL's Super Bowl. Souper Bowl is a national movement in churches to fight hunger by having members bring food donations to worship on the same day that our nation spends millions of dollars on entertainment. We will have two containers, one for each team in the game; place your food donations in your favorite team's container, and we'll see if the outcome of our donations mirrors the game. All food/\$ donations for the Souper Bowl stay in the Miami Valley to feed the hungry.

DAY OF CARING BREAKFAST

Once again, we are a site for the annual **Day of Caring Pancake Breakfast**, held on **Sunday, February 26**. And, again, we are seeking volunteers to help with all types of tasks: cooking, clean-up, publicity, ticket sales, bake sale, etc. Even if you are physically unable to help, you are invited to make a donation of pastry items or \$. All proceeds go to fight hunger in the Miami Valley. Sign up today in the narthex!



HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS

On Tuesday, March 6, LCOS will serve as a voting site for the Ohio Primary. As a way to welcome people, we will host a Hospitality Table, in the hallway outside the fellowship hall (the polling site). We are seeking adults and youth to staff the table for one hour shifts throughout the day, offering coffee, donuts, cookies and ice water. If you would like to help staff the Hospitality table, please contact Pastor Eichhorn.

DR. SEUSS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Noah's Ark Preschool (a joint ministry between LCOS and St. Paul) is holding a special celebration on the anniversary of Dr. Seuss' birthday – Saturday, March 3, 10:00 a.m. to noon at the school (St. Paul Lutheran). Open to 3-5 year olds and their parents, the event will feature stories, crafts, refreshments and special treats. RSVP by March 1 by calling 224-1939 or emailing noahsark@donet.com.

Remember in Prayer

When we pray for others, we lift them to God, seeking God's grace and blessing in their individual situations. When we ask others to pray for us, we honor them with our trust.

MEMBERS

Margaret Brown
Bill Coen
Harley Homan
Joyce Long
Matthew
Rev. Robert Neeb

Thelma Snyder
Ralph Thomas
Fran Updegraff
Fran VanSteenburgh
Zachary

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Svana Algood, friend of Vicki Sanders
John Barnes, friend of Mike and Rae Voice
Chelsea and baby, friend of Sue Hanna
Christina
Jeff Clark, friend of the Stowes
Philip Cooper, Scoop's son, in Afghanistan
Lauren Dalton
Doris, Norma Nawroth's sister
Emma, Ginger Minneman's mother
Peg Field, friend of the Dawsons
Howard Graves, Laurie Harper's dad
Anita Harris, Ginger Minneman's aunt
Wendy Hart, Laurie Fenstermacher's sister
Annabel Kramer, granddaughter of a friend of Steve Harper
Theo Leakas, friend of the Yarchos, in Afganistan
Marguerite and Paul, Rachael Stowes grandparents
Harry Meckstroth, Bob's brother
Jean Minneman, Dan's mother
O'Leary family, Rita Boord's cousin
Bevy Jo Parker, co-worker of Kim Buechele
Ann Rizer, friend of Lora Stowe
Kent Swedlund, Steve's dad
Tanis
Rindi Taylor, Sue Hanna's cousin
Michael Vance, Penny's husband

