



The VOICE of Our Savior

Volume 52 • Number 1

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

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JANUARY 2008

Pastor's Message

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

I ran track in high school, competing in the low hurdles and the 440-yard relay race, the latter of which may not exist anymore due to that demonic metric system. But, when I ran (one look at me will quickly tell you that doesn't exist in my life anymore, either) competitively, we used starting blocks, into which our feet were placed so that when the gun went off, runners could get a solid start without slipping.

We are going to need starting blocks as this new year begins, for January is packed with ministry opportunities (see inside), and the season of Lent begins on February 6. Thankfully, God provides the blocks for us – they're called **FAITH**, and faith is the foundation upon which our lives are built. When our lives are focused on God, in Jesus, we are on solid ground, and it is like starting a race without slipping. But, when we allow ourselves to become distracted by all of the things in life that demand our sole allegiance and attention, we lose our solid footing in life. Like starting a race

without the blocks, we slip in our relationships with God, with family, with friends and colleagues.

As this new year unfolds before us, as God blesses us with a myriad of opportunities to worship, and serve, and witness to God's endless goodness, may we stay on solid footing by clinging to our faith in the God who gives us yet another new beginning!

In Christ's peace,
Gary

What's Inside

Worship Notes	2
Council Update	3
Foundation News	3
Christian Ed	4
Holy Terrors	5
Youth Group News	6
Calendar of Events	7
WELCA News.....	8
Health Ministry News	9
Stewardship	10
Remember in Prayer	11



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

Sunday, 8:15 & 10:30 a.m. - Sanctuary

WORSHIP THEMES

Epiphany of Our Lord (January 6)

Epiphany means "manifestation." On this day we celebrate the revelation of Christ to the Gentiles - that is, to all nations. Some Christian traditions celebrate three great epiphanies on this day: the magi's adoration of the Christ child, Jesus' baptism in the Jordan River, and his first miracle in which he changes water into wine. The word and sacraments are for us the great epiphany of God's grace and mercy. We go forth to witness to the light that shines brightly in our midst.

Baptism of Our Lord (January 13)

In the waters of the Jordan, Jesus is revealed as the beloved Son of God. Through this great epiphany, Jesus fulfills all righteousness and becomes the servant of God who will bring forth justice and be a light to the nations. In the waters of baptism we too are washed by the Word, anointed by the Spirit, and named God's beloved children. Our baptismal mission is to proclaim good news to all who are oppressed or in need of God's healing.

Second Sunday after Epiphany (January 20)

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One, and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

Third Sunday after Epiphany (January 27)

Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross - as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be "caught" in the net of God's grace and mercy.

STAFF EMAIL

- GARY - gwe@oursaviordayton.org
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- RACHEL - ras@oursaviordayton.org
- CELESTE - CMZimmer38@aol.com
- ELIZABETH - musicmusic@woh.rr.com
- DICK - ralbf@aol.com

OFFICE HOURS (Mon. - Fri.):

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon / 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Council Update

At this month's meeting we welcomed one of our new council members. Chris Becker was elected to fulfill the remaining two year term of a member that resigned. Council approved his immediate instatement.

Council recognized the members who's terms are ending this year: Sue Hanna, Karen Roberts, Vicki Waltz and Joe Beal. Council appreciates their dedication and service over the last three years.

Council will have their leadership retreat at the church on January 12. This meeting is to acquaint our incoming council members with the workings and responsibility of council.

Council is working closely with the finance committee on preparing the new budget for 2008. We are waiting for the final numbers to come in from 2007 and will finalize the budget at the January 21 meeting.

Mark your calendars, we have two events coming up:

First, the Evangelism committee is planning a social event "**Hearts for the Lord's Will**" on January 27, 2008.

Second, our annual congregational meeting is scheduled after second service on February 3, 2008. This meeting will include a lunch. At this meeting we will be reviewing the activities of the church over the past year and act on the new budget proposal. Property committee advised us that work will begin in January on the restoration of the windows and wood above the back doors to the parish house.

HVAC project pledges: we have collected to date, a total of \$129,285. With pledges and interest, we are over \$316,000 toward our goal. It appears that our outstanding loan will be approximately \$470,000 at the time of completion later this month.

I want to wish all our members a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Your council chair-elect,

Doug Hammer

Foundation News

As you prepare for the last of your 2007 Charitable Giving, and plan for your 2008 giving, please don't forget *The Lutheran Church of Our Savior Foundation*. Giving to the Foundation is a way that you can donate to the current and future financial support of Our Savior. Donated monies are never spent – they are invested and only the interest on those investments is spent to support the work of Our Savior. In 2007 the Foundation distributed \$119,619.07 to the operations of the church, and has approved a total distribution of \$129,532.85 for 2008. Please join with your fellow members and make a one-time gift, or a pledge to be paid over a period of several years. For assistance in this process please contact any of the Foundation Trustees or your tax consultant.

Finally, a personal thank you to those members who have served so diligently this last year: Jay Lane, Vicki Waltz, Karen Roberts, Don Hartman, Steve Harper, Doug Hammer, and Roger Bloomfield for his many years of service.

Pam Stephens, Chair



SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

- Regular classes resume January 6
- Teachers and Monitors dinner and fireside chat - Tuesday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

BIBLE BOWL

Practice for the LCOS Team begins in January. The quiz bowl event with other youth from Lutheran Churches across southern Ohio is March 2 in the afternoon at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus. If you are interested, contact Che Brewer-Coon or Rachel Spry by January 13.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

The Christian Education Committee is choosing the 2008 VBS theme as part of the Sunday Church School teachers and monitors meeting on January 8 at 6:30 p.m. We will discuss VBS at approximately 7:20 p.m. Anyone interested in sharing ideas, please RSVP to Rachel Spry by January 6.

The VBS lead team is still being formed. If you wish to be a VBS leader, please contact Rachel Spry.

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION CLASS FORMING

The Christian Education Committee is planning a First Communion instruction class for first - third graders with a parent for February or March. If you are interested in having your 1st - 3rd grader receive First

Communion instruction, whether or not they already take communion, or have questions, please contact Sonia Davila at sonia_davila64@hotmail.com or sign up at the church by the end of January. A minimum of five families is needed for the class to be scheduled.

THANKS!

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Christmas Eve Services. It takes many people each year to create such meaningful corporate worship at Our Savior. The choirs spend much time practicing beautiful music, the children, youth and their parents work hard on the pageant, worship committee and altar guild make sure the space is decorated, others jump in and help with bulletins, clearing sidewalks in the snow, and much more. Thank you all!

Lutheran Church of Our Savior

Rev. Gary Eichhorn, *Pastor*
Terri Balsom, *Office Manager*
Don Hartman, *Treasurer*
Donna Gorrell, *Financial Secretary*
Ginger Minneman, *Music Director*
Rachel Spry, *Family Ministries Coordinator, Organist*
Celeste Hoerner, *Youth Ministry Coordinator, Children's Choir*
Elizabeth Beal, *Sonshine Choir*
Richard Freudenberger, *Handbell Choir*
Steve Swedlund, *Council President*
Rev. Robert A. Willauer, *Pastor Emeritus*

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome into our community of faith the following new member-disciples:

CLARK, Jim
621 Garden Road (19)
299-8044

ESSMAN, Kathy and Michael
3280 W. Enon Rd.
Yellow Springs, Oh 45387
374-3027

HOWLAND, Carrie
Miles
6869 Hayhurst
Worthington, Oh 43085

STOWE, Lora and Todd
Rachael
2138 University Pl. (06)
275-4812

UPDYKE, Karen
4640 Fishburg Rd. (24)
233-0609

UPDYKE, Kristi
335 Hadley Ave. (19)
478-8375

LEADERSHIP RETREAT

On Saturday, January 12, the new council members, congregational officers, and committee/ministry team chairs will participate in a leadership retreat from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the church. The purpose of this gathering will be to (1) acquaint all council members with their roles on council and in the congregation; (2) revisit the congregation's "Mission Statement"; and (3) to have a walk-through tour of the facility.



PLANNING LUNCHEON for families with children age 2 through grade 6 will be held on Sunday, January 20 at 11:45 a.m. Come share and plan what YOU want to do in 2008. Please RSVP to Rachel Spry by January 17 if you plan on attending.

BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Celebrating the day the Holy Spirit moved in the hearts of our children, youth and adults through the Sacrament of Baptism.



Please take time to say a prayer of thanks and continued spiritual growth for these and all our members. You may also give a word of encouragement to the youth listed. Were you baptized in January, but don't see your name listed? Please contact Rachel Spry and let her know.

- Ashton Ehler - January 16
- Garretson Lingle - January 26
- Riley Brielle Sanders - January 28
- Thurman Parker Schreel - January 7



to YOU!

SAVE THE DATE

**SUNDAY,
JANUARY 27,
2008**

to Celebrate ALL
Congregation
Members' Birthdays

We will celebrate everyones birthday with a covered dish lunch, fellowship and some fun games. Mark your calendars now for this special event.

Youth Group News



What a wonderful turnout we had at Adventure Awaiting! Thanks to all who came and supported two worthy causes - Adopt-A-Family and the Youth Group Mission Trip. A huge thank you to all the youth and adults who helped to make this event such a success. If you were unable to attend this event, plan to participate in the next fund-raiser. They are all counting towards our trip to the Dominican Republic.

Speaking of our trip to the Dominican Republic, we are very focused on raising the funds to send approximately ten youth and adult on this trip in July. At a cost of about \$2,000 per person, we have our work cut out for us. Watch the thermometer in the Narthex as we work to meet our goal. We have already earned about \$5,000 - a fourth of our goal. Also, in the narthex you will see a large water jug. Help us fill the jug with change. All the money will go towards our trip!

December's lunch meeting was cancelled due to weather, so we will be meeting over the Christmas break. Watch your mail for a postcard with the details. We really need you there with creative fund-raising ideas!

Have a very blessed and happy New Year!
Celeste



JANUARY 2008



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:15 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 5:00 p.m. Confirmation at Hope, Columbus	7 7:00 a.m. AA	8 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 6:30 p.m. Christian Ed teachers & monitors	9 7:00 a.m. AA 10:00 a.m. Circle - Coen	10 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	11	12 Leadership retreat 9:00 a.m. AA & Al-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & Al-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
13 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:15 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 11:30 a.m. Property 12:00 p.m. Youth Lunch 6:30 p.m. Bridge group	14 7:00 a.m. AA 4:30 p.m. Health Ministry 7:00 p.m. Exec Board	15 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 3:30 p.m. Staff	16 7:00 a.m. AA	17 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	18 2:00 p.m. Bethany Communion 10:00 p.m. Spiritual Journey	19 9:00 a.m. AA & Al-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & Al-Anon 10:00 a.m. Confirmation at First, Dayton 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
20 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's Choir 9:15 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 11:45 a.m. Holy Terrors planning luncheon 5:00 p.m. Confirmation	21 7:00 a.m. AA NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 5:30 p.m. JLI Board 7:00 p.m. Council	22 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study	23 7:00 a.m. AA 6:30 p.m. Circle - Anstaett	24 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	25 7:00 p.m. JLI Annual meeting	26 9:00 a.m. AA & Al-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & Al-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
27 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 12:00 p.m. Congregation birthday party 3:00 p.m. Sacred Harp	28 7:00 a.m. AA	29 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study	30 7:00 a.m. AA	31 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir		

Welca News

Women Enthusiastically Living Christian Actions

We extend a special invitation to all of you women members of LCOS who have not attended a meeting of one of our groups to join us this coming new year. We have three groups, two meet in the daytime and one meets in the evening. We continue to hope that someone will come forward and organize another evening group, we feel the need is there for our "younger, working" women to share their ideas, interests and faith. Check out our yearbook, available in the Narthex, WELCA slot, or the *Voice* or bulletin for the when and where and a contact person to call, if you want to visit a meeting. Guests are always welcome.

A good idea ... read the *VOICE* with your calendar and a pen in hand, and make a note of dates for you to circle to all the church events you and your family must not miss. I have no idea what is planned, but the Sunday, January 27 event is a new one to me! We will celebrate all Congregation Members' birthdays. I hope we do it without numbers!

Remember continuing throughout the year ... bring items for the food and hygiene pantry; helping hands are needed for the Altar committee; substitute Sunday School teachers are always welcome; this may be the year you join the choir; and help is needed for Vacation Bible School. Rachel has great plans already started. So, 2008 here we come.

A thought for the coming year ... someone recently told me this story they heard on television. A young child noticed an elderly

man in a rocking chair and the man was crying, one would have thought the child wanted to enjoy the soothing rocking motion as he climbed up on the man's lap. When asked why he did that he said "I'm helping him cry". We have a new year ahead of us, just full of opportunities to share our time, to show our love and to be God's helper. Let's go for it!

Happy New Year!

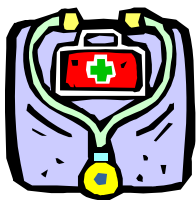
Shirley Coen

JANUARY MEETINGS

- Monday group is not meeting.
- Wednesday, January 9 - 10:00 a.m.
Shirley Coen, 228 Stonehaven Rd.
- Wednesday, January 23 - Evening,
contact Julie Anstaett

CREDIT CARD OPTION FOR WEEKLY GIVING

Some of our congregation members have expressed interest in a credit card option for making their offerings to the church. Using a credit card to make a financial contribution is now an option at Lutheran Church of Our Savior. **The Simply Giving Program** has been expanded and allows you to make your offering one of two ways: *a)* have offerings debited directly from your bank accounts as you do other monthly drafts or *b)* have offerings charged to your credit card. All you need to do is fill out a simple authorization form specifying the amount and frequency of offering. You can also direct offerings to different funds if desired. For more information, please contact Donna Gorrell at 258-1426.



HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

Does winter make you SAD?

Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) is a mood disorder related to depressive symptoms in individuals during certain seasons, most often in winter. It is said that SAD is linked to seasonal variations in light. Winter has the least amount of light among all of the seasons; therefore, the reduced amount of light that we see during these months can cause a shift in our internal clocks which can produce depressive-like symptoms. It is also believed that a sleep related hormone called melatonin is linked with causing depressive symptoms. Melatonin is produced at increased levels when a person is in the dark, so when daylight is limited, more of this hormone is produced.

What are some of the depressive symptoms of SAD?

- Seasonal depressed mood
- Social problems
- Decreased interest in sex
- Sleeping more than normal
- Overeating
- Weight gain
- A craving for carbohydrates

What can you do to reduce the symptoms?

- Increase the amounts of light in your home by opening curtains, blinds, etc.
- Exercise regularly to relieve stress and anxiety.

- Get outside. Walking in the sun can be helpful, even when it is cold outside!
- Find ways to relax. Read a book, see a movie, play cards, walk your dog, visit family.
- Take a trip. If possible, a vacation in a warm, sunny location can be very helpful.

FREE CONFIDENTIAL BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

Blood Pressure screenings are offered the second weekend of each month. The next screenings will take place on January 12-13 after all the worship services.

WEDDING “STREAMED” TO ENGLAND

On Saturday, December 1, we experienced a “first” here at Lutheran Church of Our Savior: a service celebrating the marriage of Carla Tyson and Mark Barker, held in the parish house chapel, was seen by Mark’s family in England via a live video stream. Thanks to the work of Phil Hanna, the LCOS facility is now wireless. While only a few members of Mark’s family were able to make the trip from England to Dayton for the wedding, the rest of his family, who could not attend the wedding, were able to not only view the wedding from the comfort of home, but interact with those of us who were in attendance in the chapel.

IN MEMORY

On November 30, a Service celebrating the Resurrection Faith was held for **Mary Ellen Granger**, who died on November 26. Mary Ellen had been a member-disciple of Lutheran Church of Our Savior since 1978.

Stewardship

TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF OPERATING FUND STATUS

November 2007

Offerings (against budget):	\$32,708.60
Foundation (against budget):	0.00
Other collections (non-budget):	
Social Ministry:	7,829.50
Memorials:	50.00
HVAC Project:	6,303.94
Special Projects:	1,768.61
Expenses:	\$37,424.26
(Receipts - Expenses)	-\$4,715.66

2007 Totals (as of 12/15/07)

YTD collections (against budget):	\$336,613.03
Foundation (against budget):	\$115,935.32
YTD non-budget collections:	
Social Ministry:	19,287.57
Memorials:	510.00
HVAC Project income ('06&'07):	153,715.23
Special Projects:	8,401.59
YTD Expenses:	\$450,443.68
YTD Balance (rcpts-expenses):	\$2,104.67
HVAC expenses ('06 & '07):	\$487,914.20
Current HVAC Loan	\$345,000.00

Submitted by Don Hartman



**MONDAY,
JANUARY 21**



PRAYER VIGIL FOR PEACE

Join us at LCOS at the end of the hectic "holiday" season for an event focusing on the peace that only God can bring about in our lives

and world. As part of our "God's Peace Flowing Through Us" initiative, we will be holding a prayer vigil for peace during the weekend of Epiphany. The vigil will be held on **Saturday, January 5** in the chapel from noon through 9:00 p.m. Visitors are also invited to attend.

During the hour from 7:30 through 8:30 p.m., our Director of Music **Ginger Minneman** and a group of instrumentalists will lead those present in singing Taize music, interspersed with prayers and readings. If you haven't experienced music and prayers in this kind of setting, perform a Google search on the word "Taize," and you'll find lots of information about it. The chapel will be lit by candlelight.

We'll have a sign-up sheet in the narthex for several weeks before the vigil so that people can volunteer to participate during particular time slots. We're doing this just to make sure that someone will be taking part in the prayer vigil during its entire time. People should feel free to come at any time during the vigil, however. At the prayer vigil in September, there were often many people praying at the same time.

FYI, the regular Saturday 5:30 p.m. evening service will be held in the main sanctuary on January 5 - the prayer vigil and Taize music and prayers are in addition to our regular weekend worship schedule.

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

Judy Ault

Dorothy Belleman

Don Cox

Edith Ellis

Bryan Griffin

Bob Haman

Florence Houpt

Lucille Loudenslager

Anson & Finley McFarland

Loren Metzler

Hema Rajaratnam

Doris Schmidt

Jack & Wilma Somers

Dorothy Zinkiewicz

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Colte Acord, friend of Celeste and Brian Hoerner

Mark Balsom, Terri's brother-in-law

Charlotte Bloomfield, Roger's mother

Livvy Boggs, Kim Beckett's neighbor

Dennis Clemenson, Andriena Erickson's father

Barbie Conlin, Laurie Harper's sister

Nelda Davis, Jackie Dawson's cousin

Julian Dawson, Greg's brother

Helen Dooley, Vicki Willis' mother

Lendl Doty, friend of the congregation

Dick Elsberry, brother-in-law of Ron Iverson

Brandon Emmons, grandson of a friend of Jim Uphoff

Epiphany Lutheran Church at Springboro, our prayer partners

Joanne Giessler and family, former LCOS member, upon the death of Joe

Morgan Gross, Lee and Sandy Scamp's son-in-law

Kamal Hanna, Phil's father

Cheryl Kochendorfer, friend of Dick and Karen Tyson

Hugo Martens, Sue Martinez's uncle

Sarah McClure, friend of Rita Boord

Kathy Owens and family, co-worker of Kim Buechele

Bevy Jo Parker, co-worker of Kim Buechele

Laurie Paynes, friend of Lois Smith

Dixie Polen, Steve Harper's aunt

Gary Poteat, Eric Snead's uncle

Mike Pratt, friend of the congregation

Sherry Snow, friend of Ginger Minneman

Pauline Thorn, Johanna Snead's grandmother

Bill Thum, Mary Kaye Rhoades' brother

Donald Wolff, Rachel Spry's uncle

Al Zimmer, Celeste Hoerner's uncle



Families of the Month:

- Gary, Debby, Stephen and Megan Eichhorn
- Walt, Laurie, Eric, Elyse and Kira Fenstermacher
- Bob, Wilma, Dave and Carol Meckstroth

Mission Statement

To foster a vibrant, visible community of disciples of Jesus Christ.

Vision Statement

To continue to grow spiritually and physically as a community of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and to make a difference in the larger community.

