



# The VOICE of Our Savior

Volume 53 • Number 1

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOR

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JANUARY 2009

## Pastor's Message

As I write this for the January installment of *The Voice*, the organ tuners are here preparing the organ for our Christmas Eve worship. I hope that by the time you are reading this, you will have already enjoyed the fruits of their labor in our Celebration of the Nativity. It is certainly interesting to watch (and listen to) the tuners' work, for it is tedious – there are no shortcuts in tuning the pipes of our organ, for we would certainly hear those shortcuts! No matter how long they are here today, the results of their work will be worth it.

Likewise, God takes no shortcuts with us. The Holy Spirit spends an entire lifetime with us, cleansing and transforming us, preparing us to be the people God created us to be. Through the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus, God has given us new life; but sin keeps diverting our attention, keeps throwing us off-track, keeps seducing us with a life-style that promises a joyous life but only delivers emptiness, pain and death. But God refuses to give up, refuses to give in to the shortcut. Every day, God comes to us anew, with the promise of a life overflowing with

meaning, hope, joy and love. But, just as there are no shortcuts for God, there are none for us either. This "faith in God" thing is hard work, because God calls us to live a life that is better than the standards of the world, and to use that life to make a difference in this world. To be sure, the world will offer us anything and everything; but experience show us that the world delivers on nothing. Only God delivers! But be aware - there are no shortcuts. So, as we enter a new year, allow the Holy Spirit to tune your life, to renew, reshape, and

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# WORSHIP NOTES



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Saturday**, 5:30 p.m. - Chapel

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

## WORSHIP THEMES

### *January 4, Second Sunday of Christmas*

Within the gospel reading's profound words lies the simple message that God is revealed in a human person. Though we may try to understand how the Word existed with God from the beginning of time, the wonder we celebrate at Christmas is that the Word continues to dwell among us. Christ comes among us in the gathered assembly, the scriptures, the waters of new birth, and the bread and the wine. Through these ordinary gifts we receive the fullness of God's grace and truth.

### *January 11, Epiphany of Our Lord*

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.

### *January 18, Second Sunday after Epiphany*

All the baptized have a calling in God's world. God calls not just the clergy but also the youngest child, like Samuel. The story of the calling of Nathanael plays with the idea of place. Nathanael initially dismisses Jesus because he comes from Nazareth. But where we come from isn't important; it's where—or rather whom—we come to. Jesus refers to the story of the vision of Jacob, who called the place of his vision "the house of God, and ... the gate of heaven" (Gen. 28:17). Jesus says he himself is the place where Nathanael will meet God.

### *January 25, Third Sunday after Epiphany*

Stories of the call to discipleship continue as the Time after Epiphany plays out the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of fisherman brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

## PASTOR'S MESSAGE

*(Continued from page 1)*

transform you. Be strong in your faith, make time for God in weekly worship, daily prayer, and regular study of Scripture. Make time to regularly serve God by sharing your gifts in ministry to others. The results will be worth it!

In Christ's peace,  
Gary

## Council Update

The December meeting opened with Pastor Eichhorn leading council in a reading from the Gospel of Luke.

The council received a report from Donna Gorrell that offerings were still up about \$9,500 over same time last year. Don Hartman, the treasurer, reported that the HVAC loan is down to \$446,255. We were still about \$18,000 behind on our current budget, but expect contributions to increase the remaining of the year to end the year with a possible positive number.

Rachel Lammi reported that we purchased two new microphones which will greatly improve the sound quality in the sanctuary. And the problems with some speakers not working was fixed. We will be purchasing at least four new hearing booster devices for members to use during service.

Pastor Eichhorn noted that LCOS is partnered with Miami Valley Hospital Pastoral Counseling Center, for needs of congregational members. He also discussed the upcoming council retreat in January and the need for developing a 3 - 5 year plan for our church. We lost 12 long-time members this year, and our membership hasn't really grown in 2008.

The large item for council this month was discussing the budget. Dave Dickerson was available to answer questions on the proposed budget. Council has instructed Dave to keep the budget close to 2008's. This requires some trimming in areas. After the end of the year, when all donations and gifts are collected, Don Hartman and Dave Dickerson will provide a final budget to council to review and approve in January.

The budget will then be presented in our congregational meeting on February 1 for approval.

The December meeting is the last meeting that I will be presiding as the council chair. In January, council will be voting on the approval of Jim Worley as new council president. It was an honor and privilege serving as your council president and look forward to continuing another three years on council. And special thanks to our outgoing members for their faithful service: Sue Longo, Steve Swedlund and Harriet Uphoff.

*Doug Hammer*

### NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Congratulations to the newly elected five council members, four whose terms will run through 2011, and one to complete the final two years of Nancy Henry's term, ending at the conclusion of 2010. They are: Sue Harbaugh (2010), Ansel John, Mike Essman, Tricia Murphy, Doug Hammer (second term).

#### 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 Lammi, *Family Ministries*

*Coordinator, Organist*

Celeste Hoerner, *Youth Ministry Coordinator,*

*Children's Choir*

Elizabeth Beal, *Sonshine Choir*

Richard Freudenberger, *Handbell Choir*

Doug Hammer, *Council President*

Rev. Robert A. Willauer, *Pastor Emeritus*



## PROGRESSIVE PRAYER VIGIL – SCS SPECIAL EVENT

January 4 - 9:30 a.m.

Led by our Junior High Sunday Church School Class.

## DINNER MEETING

*Sunday Church School Teachers and Monitors with Christian Education Committee*

All teachers and monitors are invited to attend a special fireside dinner to celebrate you and give you time to share your feedback with the Christian Education Committee. The committee is here to help you in your teaching work. Please plan to attend.

January 6 - 6:30 p.m.

Parish House Foyer

## BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

Please take time to drop a kind note to our youth celebrating their Baptisms this month.

Samantha Auditore	1-5
Ashton Ehler	1-16
Gabrielle Kronbergs	1-1
Garretson Lingle	1-26
Thurman Parker Schreel	1-7



## LUTHERAN COURSE

This month, we resume our joint class project with our sisters and brothers at St. Paul Lutheran Church (Wayne Ave.) with dinner and study on **Tuesday, January 20, 6:00 p.m.** Our study this month is entitled *"The Anatomy of a Baptism"*, and we will look at the Lutheran understanding of this sacrament. We meet at St. Paul; dinner will be served at 6:00 p.m., and the study (one for youth and adults, and one for children) will be held from 6:45 – 7:45 p.m.

## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2009

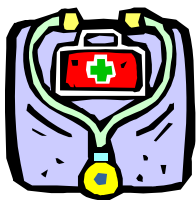
The Christian Education team will start planning VBS 2009 in January. Anyone interested in helping choose the curriculum is invited to assist. We plan to attend a program preview event at New Source either Saturday, January 24, 2009 (9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon) or Tuesday, January 27, 2009 (6:30 – 9:00 p.m.). Please contact Che Brewer-Coon or Rachel Lammi if you are interested so we may get you registered.

## STAFF EMAIL

- GARY - gwe@oursaviordayton.org
- TERRI - teb@oursaviordayton.org
- DON - hartmansandon@sbcglobal.net
- DONNA - kgorell@ameritech.net
- GINGER - dminneman@woh.rr.com
- 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.



## HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

### NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH

The Environmental Protection Agency has designated January as National Radon Action Month. The purpose is to increase the public's awareness of radon, promote radon testing, lessen harmful effects, and advance the use of new radon-resistant construction practices. Radon is a natural cancer-causing radioactive gas that you can't see, smell or taste. It comes from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, water and rock and gets into the air you breathe. Radon can be found all over the U.S. The presence of it in your home can pose a danger to your family's health. Radon has been shown to be the leading cause of lung cancer among non-smokers. It is the second leading cause of lung cancer in America claiming about 20,000 lives per year. The U.S. Surgeon General and EPA have recommended that all homes be tested. It can get into any type of building, but you are most likely to get your greatest exposure at home, where you spend most of your time. You can test your home yourself or hire a professional. Test kits are available from the National Safety Council (1-800-SOS-RADON, which is 1-800-767-72366) or your local home improvement store may sell them. Testing is easy and inexpensive – it should only take a few minutes of your time. For links and information, visit [www.epa.gov/radon/radontest.html](http://www.epa.gov/radon/radontest.html).

Health Ministry Team  
regular planning meeting  
January 12 at 5:00 p.m.

### FREE CONFIDENTIAL BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS

Blood Pressure checks are offered the second weekend of each month. The next checks will take place on January 10 and 11 after all the worship services.

### DRIVERS AVAILABLE

Do you need a ride to and from the doctor's office or pharmacy? We have volunteer drivers ready to help you. If you need a ride, call the church office at 293-1147. If you want to be a driver, please contact Rachel Lammi.

### SUPER BOWL WEEKEND IS SOUPER BOWL WEEKEND AT LCOS

February 1 is "Souper Bowl" Sunday. Food pantries across the country will benefit from the national Souper Bowl Day of Caring, a day to donate to local food outreach programs. Our Savior supports the New Hope food pantry year round and donations of nonperishable foods are always welcome. On Souper Bowl weekend we ask you to remember donations of soup and things that go with soup (crackers, etc.). The soup can be in cans, individual serve tubs of soup, dried soup in envelopes or pouches, soup mixes. Think about a hearty meal for hungry people. Local food pantries are seeing heavy pressure as joblessness rises. Let the hype of the Super Bowl remind you to help fill the bowls of the hungry.

# Youth Group News



**H**appy 2009 to everyone! We had an extraordinary year in 2008 and I am sure this year will be a great one as well. In December we met at Panera Bread to plan for the upcoming year. Be sure to watch your mail and emails for more details and mark your calendars for these upcoming events.

In January we are going to shake things up in Cincinnati at YouthQuake. This fun weekend will start on Friday evening when we travel to Holiday Inn Eastgate where several hundred junior high kids will gather to worship, have fun, and grow spiritually. If you have not RSVP'd for this event, hurry – time is running out! For more information or to make your reservation, call Celeste.

Also in **January**, we will have our monthly lunch meeting on the 11th at Chipotle on Brown St. Bring family, friends, calendar and ideas – or just bring your appetite. We would love to have you join us.

In **February** we will be bowling, and there was some talk of trying to go snow tubing, snow boarding or skiing. So whether you are an indoors person or out, we have an activity for you. Lunch will be on the 11th, location to be determined.

Other upcoming events include Laser Tag, hiking and canoeing (in the Spring.) We are still looking for ideas for March. Got one? Let me know. Remember we always meet for lunch and a meeting on the **second Sunday of every month**.

Happy New Year!

*Celeste*

## ORPHANAGE DONATIONS

**T**he Youth Group would like to remind you of their continuing project to help the Nuestro Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) orphanage in the Dominican Republic. Items needed are children's jeans and underwear, sizes 4-16; anti-fungal cream and feminine sanitary items. There are containers in the narthex for your donations.



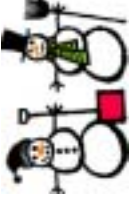
## PLAN TO ATTEND!

**Family Lunch & Planning** of 2009 events on **January 11** at 11:45 a.m. (after 10:30 a.m. worship) in the Parish House.

**T**hank you to Che Brewer-Coon & Jan Swedlund for serving as our 2008 Holy Terrors co-coordinators. Come to the January meeting to share your ideas with our new co-coordinators.



# JANUARY 2009



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>4</b> 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. Confirmation	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 9:30 a.m. Sewing 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 3:30 p.m. Staff 7:30 p.m. Christian Ed	<b>7</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 7:30 p.m. Social Ministry	<b>8</b> 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>11</b> 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. Property 11:45 a.m. Holy Terrors Lunch and planning 12:00 p.m. Youth lunch	<b>12</b> <b>ANNUAL REPORTS DUE IN OFFICE</b> 5:00 p.m. Health Ministry	<b>13</b> 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 7:00 p.m. Christian Ed	<b>14</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 10:00 a.m. Circle - Longo	<b>15</b> 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Confirmation service project 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>18</b> 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	<b>19</b> <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b> 7:00 p.m. Council	<b>20</b> 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 3:30 p.m. Staff 6:00 p.m. Lutheran course at St. Paul	<b>21</b> 7:00 a.m. AA 6:30 p.m. Circle - China Cottage (Anstaett)	<b>22</b> 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
<b>25</b> 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	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study	<b>28</b> 7:00 a.m. AA	<b>29</b> 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 9:00 a.m. At-Anon 10:00 a.m. AA & At-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship

# Welca News

## Women Enthusiastically Living Christian Actions

Our small groups always finish up the year with special Christmas celebrations ... the Monday group had lunch at the NCR Country Club; the Wednesday morning group had a delicious brunch at Wilma Meckstroths and Sonia Davila was hostess for the Wednesday night group, which was highlighted with their Christmas ornament exchange. What nice events to remember! And now we all have twelve months ahead of us, to make new memories. Our calendars will tell us what month or day it is and it is up to us to live that time in the best way we can. Suggestions: on Tuesdays at 7:00 a.m. try starting the day with the prayer breakfast, continue with the men's Bible Study at 11:30 a.m., relax with Yoga at 7:30 p.m. and on Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. there's Chancel Choir practice. Music brightens up any day. But we don't know what the year will bring ... this plaque hangs on my kitchen wall, the words read ... "Lord help me to remember that nothing is going to happen to me today that you and I together can't handle."

See you in church,  
Shirley Coen

## JANUARY MEETINGS

- Monday circle does not meet in January.
- Wednesday, January 14, 10:00 a.m. - Sue Longo, 2705 Corlington Dr.
- Wednesday, January 21, evening - Julie Anstaett, RSVP - China Cottage

## HARRIET UPHOFF TO LEAD CLASS AT UD

### Pastor to Power: A Half Century of Ministering to U.S. Presidents

This is an interdisciplinary look at religion, history and politics, using the person of Billy Graham and his ministry to American presidents from Harry S. Truman to George W. Bush. The class will focus on Graham and his role, as well as the individual presidents themselves - their questions, insecurities, concerns, faith issues, etc. Ultimately we will attempt to come to some conclusions about the extraordinary series of relationships and the legacies of the men who were involved.

- 6 Tuesdays, January 13 - February 17
- 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the McGinnis Center
- Seminar limit: 25

**Required text:** *"The Preacher and the Presidents: Billy Graham in the White House"* by Nancy Gibbs and Michael Duffy, 2007

*Harriet has been an educator for 50 years: 40 years in secondary school and 10 years an adjunct faculty in English and Education in a variety of institutions. She has a background in History, Political Science, Religion and English. She has always had a wide range of interests in interdisciplinary topics, which is why this topic interests her. She has studied the American Presidency, especially during her lifetime and has followed the life of Graham since her first meeting with him in 1950, early in his career.*



**MONDAY,  
JANUARY 19**

## WILL WE HAVE WORSHIP?

If we have inclement weather on the weekend, and you are not sure if we are going to be able to hold worship services, there are several things you can do:

1. Call the church (293-1147) – in case of bad weather, we will try to record a message on the voice mail;
2. Check your email – if you are on the pastor's weekly email list, he will try to send out a mailing;
3. Tune in to TV channels WHIO-TV (7) or WDTN-TV (2 - cable channel 9) for a listing of closings; or turn on your radio to AM 1290, FM 95.7 or FM 99.1;
4. Log on to [www.whiotv.com](http://www.whiotv.com) and check out the closing list.

Please know that in times of bad weather, the church has a contract with a snow-removal company, and they take excellent care of our parking lot. We also have contracted with one of our youth to ensure that our walkways and doorways are cleared and salted as well.



## ANNUAL REPORTS

In preparation for the annual congregational meeting on **February 1**, it is time for committees, ministry teams and other congregational organizations to compile 2008 ministry reports. Those annual reports are due in the church office (print ready, via email or on disc) by **Monday, January 12**.

## CONGREGATION COUNCIL RETREAT

The congregation council will hold its annual retreat off-site this month. We will be traveling to the Maria Stein Conference Center, in Maria Stein, Ohio, and will engage in a detailed examination of all of our congregational ministries. Our presenter, the Rev. Alan Knoke (St. John Lutheran Church, Greenville) will lead us as we attempt to assess what we are doing right at LCOS, and what we could improve/offer in our ministries. Patterned after the Food Network's show, "Extreme Kitchen", our retreat will launch a year-long "Extreme Parish" program designed to improve our ministries for people in and outside the congregation.

## PASTORAL COUNSELING OF MIAMI VALLEY HOSPITAL

Did you know that we are covenant partners with the Pastor Counseling Program of Miami Valley Hospital? This relationship provides assistance with out-of-pocket costs for our LCOS members when you seek individual or group pastoral counseling. To access this service, you need only to call 208-6606 to make an appointment – no referral from Pastor Eichhorn is needed, just mention that you are a member of Lutheran Church of Our Savior. The center, located at 409 E. Monument Ave., is open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Individuals assume financial responsibility for the first 50% of the program's standard fee, and the program pays the remaining 50%.

## Stewardship

### TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF OPERATING FUND STATUS

#### November 2008

Offerings (against budget):	\$26,128.53
Foundation (against budget):	0.00
HVAC loan payment (savings)	3,426.03
Other collections (non-budget):	
Social Ministry:	1,359.00
Memorials:	2,025.00
HVAC Project:	6,616.00
Rest of Foundation monies:	0.00
Expenses:	\$45,163.22
(Receipts - Expenses)	-\$13,608.66

#### 2008 Totals (as of December 15)

YTD collections (against budget):	\$376,931.34
Foundation (against budget):	125,546.36
HVAC loan payment (from savings):	57,686.33
YTD non-budget collections:	
Social Ministry:	23,517.76
Memorials:	6,205.00
HVAC Project totals (2008):	47,591.82
Foundation(scholarship/benev):	2,989.86
YTD Expenses:	\$521,899.06
YTD Balance (rcpts-expenses):	-\$19,421.36

- Submitted by Don Hartman

### FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

The Dayton Food Bank is still in need of food donations, as are many of the food pantries in the Miami Valley. Please remember to bring your non-perishable food donations to the church – they will be delivered to one or more of the area pantries.

## Foundation News

### MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Below is a listing of people who have made donations to Lutheran Church of Our Savior in memory of member-disciples who have recently died. Their donations go directly into our LCOS Foundation, and are loving, creative ways in which to remember friends and loved ones. Their donations also help to ensure that God's ministry will be carried out in this place in the years to come.

If, when you make a memorial donation, you prefer that we do not print your name in the newsletter, please indicate when you submit your donation.

#### *In memory of Marion Bieser:*

Nancy Freudenberger  
Joy Group  
Bettie Savage  
Karen Lingle  
Lucille Loudenslager

#### *In memory of Alan Crandall:*

Nancy Freudenberger

#### *In memory of Nancy Henry:*

Nancy Freudenberger  
Jack Kahl, Jr.

#### *In memory of Caryl Rader:*

Robert Henson



# 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.*

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## **MEMBERS**

Judith Ault  
Dorothy Belleman  
John Buechele  
Don Cox  
Al & Helen Davis  
Nancy Freudenberger

Bryan Griffin (in Iraq)  
Bob Haman  
Harley Homan  
Jim Lee  
Lucille Loundenslager  
Loren Metzler

Pastor Robert Neeb  
Hema Rajaratnam  
Jack Somers  
Dorothy Zinkiewicz

## **FAMILY & FRIENDS**

Sam Auditore, Steve's dad  
Roger Boord, son of Wes and Rita  
Barbie Conlin, Laurie Harper's sister  
Jeanne Gossel, Jan Swedlund's sister-in-law  
Caelan Guthrie, grandson of Cap and Nancy Phillips  
Ron Harper, Steve's dad  
Angela Lenhart, Lois Smith's niece  
Collette McFarland, Shawn's mom  
Donna Miller, Pastor Bob's wife  
O'Leary family, Rita Boord's cousin  
Harry Packard, Mary Lou Frick's brother-in-law  
Bevy Jo Parker, co-worker of Kim Buechele  
Gary Poteat, Eric Snead's uncle  
Matt Reichardt, Kim Buechele's cousin, in Iraq  
Marguerite Ressler, Lora Stowe's mother  
Adelene Shedd, Pat Weaks' mother  
Terry Staderman, friend of the Aults  
Kent Swedlund, Steve's dad  
Pat Tierney, friend of the Stephens  
Zachary, Lynn Wirtanen's nephew



## **Family of the Month**

- Shawn, Debbie, Anneka, Anson and Finley McFarland

## 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.

