

The VOICE of Our Savior



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MARCH 2007

Pastor's Message

The season of Lent is a call for you and me to journey into a deeper relationship with God in Christ. In a world that is broken, and with a pace of life that tries to suck life out of us, part of our Lenten journey is an attempt to find some semblance of peace in our lives, a search for that "still, small voice" of God in our midst that gives meaning to our existence and helps us make sense of our presence in this world.

There is a group of LCOS member-disciples who are currently brainstorming ideas for a multi-year ministry focus on "peace" for our community of faith. We are seeking ways to lift up God's peace to those in our congregation as well as those throughout the Miami Valley, ways that might impact our worship, Sunday School and Bible School, Youth Ministry, stewardship and evangelism; ways that might include special events/speakers/musicians, workshops, servant events, retreats, and so much more. We are keeping the congregation council, committee chairs, and staff involved and apprised

of our progress, and would now like to invite you to share your ideas. Our next meeting is on Saturday, March 3, 9:00 a.m., at the church, and we invite you to join us. We can tell you that our first "peace" event will unfold on Rally Day, September 9, but plans are still in the works.

During the Lenten season, we invite you to join us in our journey to experience that "still, small voice" of God, and to help provide opportunities for others to hear that voice in their lives as well.

Yours, in Christ,
 Gary

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday, 5:30 p.m. - Sanctuary

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

WORSHIP THEMES

Second Sunday in Lent (March 4)

Baptism is the compass that guides us through life. Lent is a season for immersing ourselves in our God-given identity - reminding us who we are and calling us to what we are to be doing. The miracle of grace is as amazing as starting a family in your old age, as Abraham and Sarah did, or being reminded that our true citizenship lies beyond this world.

Third Sunday in Lent (March 11)

Can we take the news to heart? Each story we encounter in this season is really about us. Lent began as we were reminded by an ashen cross that we do not have forever. The clock is ticking; the forty days are unwinding. We have now! If we take this day seriously, we may discover that our deepest hungers can be filled. When we know that we are heading toward a forgiving God, the news becomes good news.

Fourth Sunday in Lent (March 18)

Lent is the time for coming home. In the ancient church it was the season for reconciling lapsed Christians to the community of the faithful. Today's readings provide images of homecoming - Israel's

entry into the land of promise, a prodigal son who returned to his waiting father.

Fifth Sunday in Lent (March 25)

The Lenten preparation is almost at an end. Something new is about to happen! Mary's act of anointing Jesus is extravagant, but when we know that grace has come to us, it is time for lavishness. Our old values get rearranged when we realize how deeply we are loved.



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Our midweek services continue through March. They feature a sermon series on five of the most prominent stories that announced hope and salvation to the people of Israel. Noon worship will be followed by lunch, and 6:45 p.m. worship will be preceded by dinner at 6:00 p.m. There will be activities for children based on the readings.

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*

Council Update

Pastor Eichhorn led the group in reading of Matthew 16: 13-18. Jesus makes two promises. *"and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it."* We also were reminded that the church is to grow three different ways, spiritually, geographically and numerically.

Now with the planning and budget process approved and completed, the February council meeting focused itself on the topic of financing and fund-raising for the new HVAC system. Dave Dickerson attended the meeting to bring council up to date on the status of securing a loan to finance the HVAC. Dave also brought council up to date on the possible rate of return on the investment fund that will include the proceeds of the sale of the lookout property and donated monies. Final offers from the various lending institutions will be available at the March council meeting. Pastor Eichhorn informed council that he has talked with the Schiewetz foundation and they seemed very interested in receiving our grant request. The Schiewetz foundation traditionally doesn't give money that will be used for just "brick and mortar". They liked the idea that the funds would be invested and continually give to the church, long after the HVAC system is paid off.

As part of the special fund-raising to cover the cost HVAC, Karen Roberts and Vince Lewis came up with the idea of having individual members be able to give monies for a specific parts of the HVAC. A plaque would then be placed in a prominent

location in the church noting members' contributions and the parts they funded. This would give members a more tangible meaning to the use of their monies in the special fund drive.

The work to replace the existing boilers and HVAC system for the office, sanctuary and fellowship hall will start April 9. Work will be completed by July 13, just in time for VBS. Until funding and financing is in place no decision on starting the installation of air conditioning in the parish house will be made.

It was noted that the new hymnals are in place and the first service to utilize them will be Ash Wednesday. We would like to thank all who helped with the process of switching out the hymnals this past Sunday, and removing the trees from the chancel.

Social Ministry noted that the Souper Bowl was a huge success with the collection of 119 cans of soup and \$112.

Wendy Halverson has volunteered to head up the volunteer ministry, coordinating willing volunteers with various committees and needs in the church.

Council wishes to express its joyous appreciation to the SCS children and youth who created the "names of Jesus" banner for worship at the conclusion of Epiphany.

Doug Hammer, Vice Chairman



**MONDAY
MARCH 19**

SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT: Coins for Toys

Our Savior is helping buy toys for the grief-counseling center, Oak Tree Corner (OTC). OTC (housed for years in our church library) counsels children who've lost a mom, dad or other family members to death, or experienced other losses, like a good friend moving away. As the OTC settles into their new home at the corner of Shantz and Far Hills, Our Savior's Sunday Church School classes are collecting coins to purchase toys for kids to play with at the center. Your family can collect coins in the box provided and we will present these during worship on Easter Sunday.

BIBLE BASICS

Grades preschool through 6 will meet together on April 1 to explore the Bible and begin creating their very own Bible covers.

ALL AGES will meet on April 8 to learn how to use the Bible. A light breakfast is included!

FAMILY MINISTRY

Check out the new Family Ministry Library, located on the Second floor of the Parish House at the top of the Grand Staircase. This resource center contains free materials to keep and others to borrow.



EASTER EGG HUNT Saturday, March 24 11:30 a.m.

Sponsoring families are the Anstaetts
and Swedlunds



STAFF EMAIL

- GARY - gwe@oursaviordayton.org
- TERRI - teb@oursaviordayton.org
- DON - HartmanSanDon@cs.com
- DONNA - kgorell@ameritech.net
- GINGER - dminneman@woh.rr.com
- RACHEL - ras@oursaviordayton.org
- CELESTE - CMZimmer38@aol.com
- ELIZABETH - musicmusic@woh.rr.com

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

Youth Group News



A big thank you to all of the wonderful people who supported our Valentine Brunch fund-raiser last month! In spite of the weather, we had a very nice turn out and you donated over \$400 to our mission efforts. Our profits will be matched by Thrivent. We really appreciate you!

Next month we have a variety of fun activities planned, **BUT** be aware that **the dates have changed!!!!** In order to take advantage of the weather we decided at our lunch meeting to move our trip snow tubing trip to Mad River Mountain to March 3. This was originally the date we planned to go to Kil'n Time.

Kil'n Time will now be held on **March 11**. We will hold this event in conjunction with our monthly lunch meeting. We will get lunch at Panera after church and walk over to Kil'n Time.

Another change in dates has to do with our **Sr. High lock-in**. Due to a number of our members being involved in OMEA competition on the 16th, we have moved the lock in to **March 23**. As usual we will meet at 8:00 at church. Bring a beverage for yourself and snack to share.

I am excited to tell you that we are planning to attend "Jesus Christ Superstar" at the Schuster in April. We are buying a group of tickets so please let me know if

you would like to attend this performance with us. This event is open to all ages. We are going to go to a matinee on the afternoon of the 22nd. Tickets are \$30, but if you are a member of the youth group, we are going to offset your ticket price so that it will only cost you \$25. I need to know if you are planning to attend by March 18.

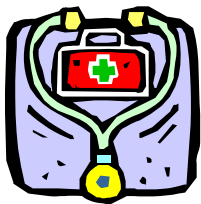
At our February lunch meeting we decided that this summer we will do a local service project of some sort and go to Columbus July 19-22 to participate in the ELCA Global Mission Event. This will allow us to save more money for our planned mission trip to the Dominican Republic the summer of 2008, as well as enable us to meet with other Lutherans to learn about the church's mission work and recharge ourselves spiritually. If you would like more information on the Global Mission Event, go to www.elca.org/gme.

Please watch your mail for more information on all of the above events. Should you have any questions or comments do not hesitate to contact me. Remember: **without you there is no youth group!**

Celeste

MEIJER COMMUNITY REWARDS PROGRAM

If you shop at Meijer you can earn money for our **Social Ministry** and **Youth Programs** by joining and participating in the Meijer Community Rewards Program. Present your card each time you make a purchase. Reward checks are sent to the church. Join on-line at Meijer.com/rewards or pick up an application in the Narthex. The organization number is 974867. Refer questions to Ray Strohminger, 299-5031.



HEALTH MINISTRY NEWS

KNOW YOUR MEDICAL INFORMATION

All people of all ages need to know their medical information.

Carrying a form with basic information helps health care professionals provide the best care possible. Be sure to share all aspects of your health with your doctor to ensure your doctor can give you the best care possible. If you are in a health situation in which you cannot speak for yourself and don't have a Health Care Power of Attorney or advocate with you at the time, such a health care information form is useful. Even if you do have an advocate or family member with you, having the information readily available makes caring for you much easier for your family member or advocate.

Living Wills assist your loved ones in making tough decisions, allowing them to know your wishes in medical situations. A living will usually covers specific directives as to the course of treatment that is to be taken by caregivers, or, in some cases, forbidding treatment and sometimes also food and water, should the patient be unable to give informed consent ("individual health care instruction") due to incapacity. A power of attorney for health care appoints an individual (a proxy) to direct health care decisions should the patient be unable to do so. As the name suggests, the term "will to live", as opposed to the other

terms, tends to emphasize the wish to live as long as possible rather than refusing treatment in the case of serious conditions. It is important that you take a copy (not the original) of your Living Will and Health Care Power of Attorney with you when you go to the hospital. If you don't have those papers with you, the hospital and your family members face many legal struggles.

The Health Ministry Team encourages you to use the form on page 11 to document and carry your medical information with you in your pocket or purse.

**The Community Blood Center is
very low on blood. PLEASE
REMEMBER TO DONATE!**

Free Confidential Blood Pressure Screenings

- Saturday, March 10, after 5:30 p.m. worship in the Sanctuary.
- Sunday, March 11, after 8:15 a.m. worship in the Sanctuary, after 10:30 a.m. worship in the Bridal Lounge.

Members of the Health Ministry Team offer these free and confidential screenings the second full weekend of every month.

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 Spry.



MARCH 2007



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's choirs 9:15/9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 5:00 p.m. Confirmation at N. Riverdale	5 1:00 p.m. Circle Tyson Project Blessing 3:30 p.m. Staff	6 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 5:00 p.m. Health Ministry	7 7:00 a.m. AA 9:30 a.m. Sewing 12:00 p.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Lunch 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:45 p.m. Worship	1 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	2 9:30 p.m. TWEENS cosmic bowling	3 9:00 a.m. Peace meeting 10:00 a.m. AA & AI-Anon Youth - Mad River Mt. 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
11 CHANGE CLOCKS 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's choirs 9:15/9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 12:00 p.m. Property 12:00 p.m. Youth lunch and Kid'n Time	12 7:00 p.m. Exec Board	13 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study 7:30 p.m. Christian Ed	14 7:00 a.m. AA 10:00 a.m. Circle Longo 12:00 p.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Lunch 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:45 p.m. Worship	15 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	16 2:00 p.m. Bethany Communion	17 8:00 a.m. church work day 10:00 a.m. AA & AI-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
18 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's choirs 9:15/9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 5:00 p.m. Confirmation at N. Riverdale	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 3:30 p.m. Staff 7:00 p.m. Council	20 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study	21 7:00 a.m. AA 12:00 p.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Lunch 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:45 p.m. Worship	22 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	23 Sr. High lock-in	24 10:00 a.m. AA & AI-Anon 11:30 a.m. Holy Terrors Easter egg hunt 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship
25 8:15 a.m. Worship 9:00 a.m. Children's choirs 9:15/9:30 a.m. SCS 10:30 a.m. Worship 11:30 a.m. Handbells 3:00 p.m. Sacred Harp	26 Food co-op	27 7:00 a.m. Prayer breakfast 11:30 a.m. Men's Bible study	28 7:00 a.m. AA 12:00 p.m. Worship 12:30 p.m. Lunch 6:00 p.m. Supper 6:45 p.m. Worship 6:30 p.m. Circle	29 9:30 a.m. Chorus 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	30	31 10:00 a.m. AA & AI-Anon 2:00 p.m. Rwandan 5:30 p.m. Worship

Wel ca News

Women Enthusiastically Living Christian Actions

March starts right off with the WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. It is always on the first Friday of March. Hundreds of thousands of women (and men) from around the world gather to pray on this day. Church Women United organizes the Dayton area places of worship. The Oakwood/Kettering location will be at South Park United Methodist on the corner of Brown St. and Stonemill at 1:00 p.m. on March 2. Our church continues to support this world-wide day of prayer and hope that many will attend. It is awesome to think about so many praying at the same time.

The Healthy Heart Women's Valentines Tea was held last month. We received advice on how to have a healthy heart before and after surgery. Our Health Ministry Team should be commended for presenting this event; it was well attended in spite of the bitter cold.

Our journey through Lent continues as we prepare for the joyous Easter Day. The midweek services include offering us lunch or a simple evening meal ... a hot bowl of soup warms the soul! Our spiritual life is fed along with our stomachs.

The "comics" or "funnies" hardly ever produce a laugh at our house. But we do skim through them and this morning I did laugh at Mother Goose and Grimm; it pictured Noah remarking about the termites on board and showed the sinking ark. Of course we all know the story. God planned the structure of the ark, the passengers and the flood. You may not have laughed at all,

(if you read the funnies). But this world needs laughs, and with optimism, and the Bible we will continue to check out the comics.

See you in church,
Shirley Coen

MARCH MEETINGS

- Monday, March 3 - Karen Tyson, 2725 Walford Dr. at 1:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 14 - Sue Longo, 2705 Corlington Dr. at 10:00 a.m.
- Wednesday, March 28 - Julie Anstaett, hostess, where TBA

Stewardship

TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF OPERATING FUND STATUS

January 2007

Offerings (against budget):	\$21,469.92
Family Ministry income:	0
Other collections (non-budget):	
Social Ministry:	787.00
Memorials:	10.00
Foundation:	0
Special projects:	0
Expenses:	\$42,911.73
(Receipts - Expenses)	-\$21,441.81

- Submitted by Don Hartman

CHURCH WORK DAY

Saturday, March 17

Breakfast begins at 8:00 a.m. and work will start at 8:45 and end around 10:00. Everyone is invited to join us.

Joy Group

MARCH OUTING

The March trip to La Comedia has been canceled. See Michael or Sue Longo for details. (293-5282)

PROJECT BLESSING - ST. PAUL LUNCHEON

On January 17 we prepared and served lunch to 112 people. The menu consisted of hot dogs, sauerkraut, mashed potatoes, carrots, fruit, cupcakes and beverages. The cooks and servers were: Warren Snyder, Jane Ross, Mary Helen Lecklider, Rick Davila, Gislea Collazo (guest), Jim and Margaret Brown. Thanks to cookie bakers Laurie Harper, Jan Swedlund, Julie Zimmeman and Lois Smith. Our thanks to all who helped.

REBUILDING TOGETHER

Saturday, April 28, 2007

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please Help

Our church is again participating in Rebuilding Together. We will be refurbishing the home of a needy Dayton resident: (painting, light carpentry, lawn work, clean-up, etc.). Volunteers are needed half-day (AM or PM) or all day. **Donations are also gratefully accepted.** Free T-shirt and lunch (so we need a count of volunteers).

To sign-up to help, please contact Lee Scamp 439-4673, lcscamp@peoplepc.com or the church office 293-1147.

NEW HOPE FOOD PANTRY

I wanted to thank everyone for their ongoing support of the New Hope Food Pantry. I have been keeping track of the amount of food we have been giving each month. In November we gave 145 items, December 251 items, January 104 items and so far for February we have collected 155 items (119 from Souper Bowl Sunday!). I also wanted to pass along a few of my experiences while delivering the food to the pantry. I called New Hope the day before letting them know I would be coming to deliver food. They said that was fine, they were just headed to the Food Bank to pick up food for the month. When I arrived to deliver our food I asked if they had been to the Food Bank because the shelves looked empty. They responded they had, but supplies were low. They were so thankful for our gifts. I can tell you our members give wonderful food items - cereal, peanut butter, salmon, tuna, pasta, just to name a few. When I was delivering last month one of the men who was waiting for food to feed his family helped me carry in the bags of food and exclaimed, *"Salmon - I love salmon - chicken & dumplings! This is good food."* I can't wait to deliver February's items to their new location in the front of the building where the recipients get to choose their own food instead of having bags of food packed waiting for them. Again, I want to thank all of our church members for giving so generously, and I would love to see our items go up to over 300 each month! Our church also takes financial donations for New Hope Food Pantry - just mark the envelope New Hope Food Pantry.

God Bless you all,
Wendy Halverson

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

Dorothy Belleman	Loren Metzler
Gus Brunsmann	Martha Miller
Don Cox	Jeff & Dana Oltmanns
Edith Ellis	Hema Rajaratnam
Roy Frick	Jack Somers
Ronnie Gallion	Ruth Whitaker
Mary Ellen Granger	Dorothy Zinkiewicz
Lucille Loudenslager	

FAMILY & FRIENDS

Karen Brunn, co-worker of Steve Harper
Kenneth Clark, parent of LSMV student
Sue Coblentz, friend of Mary Kaye Rhoades
Barbie Conlin, Laurie Harper's sister
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
Bill and Amy Feldman, friends of Bill and Pam Stephens
Peg Field and family, friends of the Dawsons
Pat Freudenberger, Dana Oltmanns mother
Kamal Hanna, Phil's father
Audrey Hill, Ron Iverson's sister
Collette McFarland, Shawn's mother
Paul Reuben, friend of Ron Iverson, captive in Iraq
Anne Steidinger, friend of Anne Buettner
Don Swedlund, Steve's uncle
Jim Swedlund, Steve's cousin
Steve Thunell, Helen Stager's brother

