

# THE MESSENGER

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

## NEW YEAR'S EVE WORSHIP

Join us this year at 7 p.m. on New Year's Eve as we close the Old Year of 2007 and face the New Year of 2008.

There will be a time to reflect on God's faithfulness in 2007 and to ask God's guidance in the coming year. We celebrate Holy Communion at this service also.



## EPIPHANY TREE BURNING IN JANUARY

Plan now to come to the Epiphany Tree burning worship service at 6:00 p.m., Jan. 6. There will be a soup and chili supper at 5:00 p.m., followed by the service. The service begins in church and ends up outside (weather permitting) for the burning of tree branches and the singing of Carols for that last time, as we transition to the Epiphany Season, the season of light in the church year.



### Special points of interest:

- **Worship Ministry gears up for 2008**
- **Boy Scout Pancake Feed set for Jan. 19**
- **Lutheran Fine Arts Council sponsors two events**

## DOORWAY TO FAITH BEGINS JANUARY 6

Are you looking to learn more about God? Do you want to learn more about Christianity from a Lutheran perspective? If you answered yes to either of these questions, then consider attending our Doorway to Faith class beginning Sunday, Jan. 6 in room 100A at 10:45 a.m. This six week class will walk you through the basic beliefs we have about God and his plans for us. Completing this class can lead to becoming a member at Faith, but there are no strings attached if you want to come for the sake of your own spiritual growth.

### Inside this issue:

Adult Education for Winter & Spring	2
Worship Ministry	3
New Evangelism	4
Those Who Serve	5
Youth News	6
Children's Ministries	7
Lutheran Hour schedule	8

## FAITH'S EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Faith's childhood center is a Christian care program for children 6 weeks through pre- kindergarten age. Faith's child care center provides a Christ centered environment where developmentally appropriate activities help foster each child's physical, intellectual, emotional social, creative and spiritual growth. If you or someone you know have child care needs, contact Judy Burget at 272-1070 or [faithecc@swbell.net](mailto:faithecc@swbell.net).

## Adult Education for Winter & Spring 2008

### Sunday Morning - 9:30 AM

Leader – Norm Wilms Room 100A

- Jan. 6 & 13 “Simon Peter” Week 3 and 4 of a 4-week study.
- Jan. 20 - March “Leviticus – Life in the Blood”

Leader – Ann Mah Room 100B

- Jan. 6 - March “Angels and Demons – A Lutheran Perspective”

Leader – Pastor Bruening Room 100C

- Jan. 6 - March “The 12 Apostles” – A study of each of the 12 apostles from their calling as a disciple onward.

Leader – Jan Hoover Room S-12

- Jan. 13 “3:16—The Numbers of Hope” - A 6-8 week study based on Max Lucado’s book about the wonderful words of John 3:16.

### Sunday Morning - 10:45 AM

Leader – Pastor Pete and Pastor Dave Room 100A

- Jan. 6 - Feb 10 “Doorway to Faith” - This six-week class is designed for people who want to explore Christianity from a Lutheran perspective. Designed to lead to church membership, this class is also a good refresher for anyone who wants to attend.
- Feb 17 – March 2 “New Member Orientation” – This three-week class is designed for people who want to transfer their Lutheran membership to Faith or have completed the Doorway class to learn what ministries Faith has to offer and how to become connected.

Leader - Kent Biel Room 100B

- Jan. 6 – spring “The Book of Job” (continued from fall)

Leader - Deb Hale Junior Youth Wing

- “Sign Class” - This class began in November 2007, but is taking a break until the end of Doorway to Faith class. Watch for actual start date. Learn to sign songs, prayers, creeds and scripture by first discussing what they mean and then learning how to express them in sign language. Also included will be conversational sign language and information about deaf culture. The class is open to all ages, but students sixth grade and younger should be accompanied by an adult.

### Wednesday evenings

“Bethel Series” Wednesdays, 6:30 – 8:00 PM. Room 100A

This adult education component to the WOW – Logos activities started last year, but you can still join the remaining sessions. The series is divided into segments of several weeks with a cost of \$8.60 per segment for materials. Scholarships are available for those unable to pay. For more information, contact Dean Landman at 266-4467.

## WORSHIP MINISTRY

**Choral Eucharist:** On December 16th we came together to experience "Immanuel, Our Peace. Freedom. Hope forevermore." As our hearts longed for flowing streams of peace, freedom and hope, the darkness faded and Jesus, the LIGHT came to us and filled our sanctuary. Everyone who attended the service offered voices and it became heartfelt songs. Our special thanks goes to Festival Choir, Bell/Chime Choir, vocalists, instrumentalists, fellowship group, narrators, sound people and staff.. We give thanks to God who has given us the ability to create Worship Ministry at Faith Lutheran Church.

**Music Workshop—Introducing New Hymns** Are you interested in hymns from WOV (With One Voice) hymnal, RW (Renewing Worship Songbook) and/or Taize music? Come join us on Sunday, January 13 after 6:00pm service (about 7:15pm). We will have a chance to listen to the recordings, sing along with Faith's musicians, and listen in on our presentations.

**Audition for Youth Praise Team on January 20** We are planning on having youth praise team (instrumentalists & vocalists) to develop musical skills as well as Worship skills. This group will offer music during the Sunday worship service and will participate at special music events at Faith. If you are interested in Praise Team, please fill out application form placed at music office and plan to have an audition. It is open to 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> grades who want to please God through music. You may be asked to play one song that you have prepared and an additional one or two prepared by me. If you have any questions, contact Young Chung at [youngmusic@gmail.com](mailto:youngmusic@gmail.com)

**Hymn Festival** We are so glad to inform you about a Hymn Festival at Faith. During March you will be asked to list your favorite hymns for the following seasons: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Christ the King. Please think about your favorite hymns for each season. We will sing the most beloved Faith's hymns for each season on April 20 at 8:00 & 11:00 services.

**NO WOW Worship Skills on January 2.**

## LAY LEADERSHIP COUNCIL REPORT

### Fire and Smoke Detection System

McElroy's has started installing the new Smoke and Fire Detection System and they estimate two to three weeks to complete which should have the new system operating by the end of the year. Some of the new detectors are in place in the lower classrooms in the education wing.

### Calling Committee

David Knowland, President, reported Edie Snethen and Don Schultz are the co-chairs of the Calling Committee and the first meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Dec. 21 for a presentation of the process from Kansas District representatives and Steve Litzge, Circuit Counselor.

### New Member for Spiritual Life Board

The LLC confirmed Tom Maurer as a new member on the Spiritual Life Board.

### Anniversary Committee

President, David Knowland is forming a committee to begin planning our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in June, 2008.

### Director of Worship Ministry

Jeffery Bell, the attorney completing Young's filing requirements, has completed and submitted the application and required supporting information for Young's work permit. Unfortunately, the Immigration and Naturalization Department is in a significant backlog and it may be some months before the work permit is issued. A sincere thank you to Young for the significant worship experience with music in the Choral Eucharist and Christmas Eve services.

### Ministry Planning Team

The committee is meeting as directed in the November 18 Voter's Meeting to revisit the list of ministries and facility needs as presented in the Campaign Readiness Study with consideration of the total debt of the congregation. They are reviewing critical needs with the three items, Outreach, Parking and Building and Facilities rated as our greatest challenges .

## THE NEW EVANGELISM: WHERE COULD I GET A SMALL GROUP GOING?

Adapted from an article was written by Diane Strzelecki for People Ablaze!, a newsletter published by the Northern Illinois District and the LCMS World Mission Evangelgram.

Neighborhood small groups are a “new” twist re-emerging in small group and outreach ministry circles. Here’s the idea—bring the presence of Jesus to every neighborhood. A place-based small group provides the opportunity for spontaneous “getting-to-know you moments” beyond the small group meeting. It also allows for quicker access and easier availability in time of need. After all, we read in Prov. 27:10, “. . . **better is a neighbor who is nearby than kindred who are far away.**”

Neighborhood ministry begins with the idea of giving people (your neighbors!) a place to belong. Imagine having a “neighborhood table” where everyone had a seat to share life. Social gatherings take place around the table, and relationships are developed. In this setting, neighbors learn each others’ stories, and friendships are deepened. Theologian Eugene Peterson, author of *The Message*, notes that “hospitality is the new word for evangelism.” And, of course, this idea of tables would not be complete without food. It seems something happens when you gather around a table for food.

So what does a neighborhood ministry look like and how can you do it? The idea of belonging is key. One vision is a monthly gathering of people in the neighborhood, with entire families and households coming together. This is not a small group meeting designated for study, but a monthly gathering centered in a meal. It can be potluck, pizza, or a mix of appetizers. The meal itself is not important, but rather the gathering around the meal. Fuel

conversation with open-ended, inviting questions, such as: “What do you have to celebrate today?” and “What do you need prayer for?” There might be a short prayer, followed by an event one might call “the festival of cleanup,” where all hands are on deck to clear the table, clean the dishes, and set the kitchen to rights. Depending on the “neighborhood table”, there might be a TV show to watch, board game to play, or just an unstructured time of hanging out.

A small group Bible study may grow out of these meetings, but only after neighbors get to know each other and are entirely comfortable with each other. It takes time, cautions leaders who have led neighborhood groups. It takes the “table” to take on a tradition of its own. The “table” also can be planned in conjunction with other neighborhood gatherings to foster authentic community, such as firepit evenings, movie nights, or cul-de-sac leaf rakings, to name a few.

Out of these gatherings, a bond de-velops similar to the community of early Christians in the New Testament book of Acts: “They devoted themselves to the fel-lowship and to the breaking of the bread...They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching...They gave to everyone who had need.” They lived life together.

The American poet Robert Frost once said that “good fences make good neighbors,” but I would venture to say that good neighbors make good neigh-bors. Life is better and God is honored when neighbors break down the fences to build a caring, loving community. It’s not always easy, but it’s what we are called to do.

### SMALL GROUP PARTICIPATED IN FESTIVAL OF TREES

The small group including the Bleich’s, Mahon’s, Jones’ and Robertson’s, created a tree for the Festival of Trees. Their tree raised \$675 in the auction which benefits Sheltered Living.

### BOY SCOUT PANCAKE FEED

Boy Scout Troop 59 will hold its annual pancake feed on Jan. 19 from 7 a.m.—12 p.m. They will be serving sausage, juice, coffee and all the pancakes you care to eat. All this for just \$3! This fundraiser helps the scouts earn money for summer camp and other scouting activities.

**THANK YOU**

A sincere thank you for your prayers and the many cards and comforting messages sent during my stay in hospice. Also, thank you to Ann VanZandt, Margaret Anschutz and Pastor Pete for visiting and to Don Bartling for bringing me Communion.

Beth Briggs



**SAVE THE DATE**

Ministry Team leaders - mark your calendars for Saturday, Jan. 19 from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. for a Leaders retreat. The Ministry Planning Team will make recommendations about Capital Funding requests. Child care will be provided if needed. Please contact the church office by January 12.

**Address Changes**

David Conroy  
2404 SW Moundview Dr.  
228-8981 66614

Nicole George  
2242 SW Prairie Rd.  
66614

Jessica Tarvin  
2744 SW Villa West Dr., Apt. 104  
66614

Curt Loupe  
4426 Wildcat Creek Rd.  
Manhattan 66503

Keith Conklin  
2576 Se Golden Ave.  
66605

Kris & Keely Thomas  
1713 SW Amhurst Rd.  
66604

Ashley Charest  
6933 SW 19th Lane  
66615

Doris Sherbenou  
3234 SW Carlson Rd.  
66614

Wayne & Sharon Christensen  
355 SW West Edge Rd. 66605

John Larson  
6041 SW 27th St., Apt. 2  
66614

**THOSE WHO SERVE IN JANUARY**

**SPIRITUAL LIFE LEADER/COMMUNION ASSISTANTS**

8AM - Don Bartling, Tom Dittmer, Dave Mahon, Arlene Howland  
11AM — Mary Shaw, Gary Tenbrink, Bob Onek, Nancy Rhone

**GREETERS**

8AM  
Jan. 6 Darrell & Madeline Brockmeier  
Jan. 13 David & Marie Pinick  
Jan. 20 David Schmitt & Ian Cook  
Jan. 27 Eric & Michelle Boling  
11AM  
Jan. 6 Koty & Katie Mize  
Jan. 13 Harry & Linda Hilderman  
Jan. 20 Gene & Irma Straub  
Jan. 27 Tevan & Nicole Wade

**LAY READERS**

	<u>8AM</u>	<u>11AM</u>
Jan. 6	Betty Ramsey	Lori Hennessey
Jan. 13	Jim Janousek	Gene Schultz
Jan. 20	Staff	Staff
Jan. 27	Dean Landman	Elaine Eggold

**USHERS**

8AM Dean Kaufman, Charles Schaible, David Knowland, Dave Mahon, Mike Maloun  
11AM Bob Onek, Brian Brunkow, John McDougald, Ron Schuh, Art Tardiff

**CONTEMPORARY SERVICE TEAM**

Jan. 6 Larry & Jolene Saunders  
Jan. 13 Dale & Sue Larson  
Jan. 20 Mary Shaw & Barb McComas  
Jan. 27 Don Bartling

**YOUTH NEWS**

**JANUARY YOUTH HAPPENINGS**

**Senior Youth Beach Party/Cyber Bowling - Beach party in January!!!**

We'll meet at the Capitol Plaza Hotel for swimming on Sunday, Jan. 20, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Following a pizza meal, we'll go to Gage Bowl for some Cyber Bowling from 9:00 - 11:00. Cost is \$20 per person. (No school the next day....Martin Luther King Day!!!)

**7th & 8th Grade Lock In - January 25 & 26**

Mark your calendars for the annual LockIn at the YMCA!!! Cost will be \$15 per person. Sign up in the Youth Room!

**Youth Parent Meetings - Sunday, Jan. 27**

Junior Youth - 12:00 - 1:00, with a Youth Quake and summer mission trip to follow from 1:00 - 1:30. Lunch provided. Free will offering!  
Senior Youth - 7:00 - 8:15. Come learn about spring youth activities and summer trip possibilities! Bring a dessert to share.

**MICHIGAN SERVANT EVENT**

Attention Senior Youth!!! If you're going to Michigan for the Fixin' Up the Thumb event this summer, you need to get your \$100 deposit in ASAP! We have 7 slots available! Trip is scheduled for June 19 - July 1. Sign up NOW!



*All of us who work at Faith have been struck by the generosity and support the people of this congregation give to those who serve as paid workers. Your gift to us at Christmas was more evidence of the care and concern you have for us. Please accept our heartfelt thanks and our continued commitment to serve the Lord diligently and with enthusiasm through our ministries at Faith.*

**Your staff**

**General Fund & Mortgage Payment Fund  
 Year to Date - November—2007 (47 Sundays)**

	Weekly Average	YTD
Needed to Fund Budget	\$ 21,440	\$1,007,659
Contributions Received	\$ 19,471	\$ 915,139
Actual Expenses	\$ 20,014	\$ 940,649

The Challenge Budget of \$57,000 is not included in these amounts.

## CHILDREN MINISTRIES

### CHANGE OF DATE!

Children's Ministry Team will meet on the second Tuesday of the month in January. Plan on Jan. 8 at 6:00 p.m.

### CHILDREN'S SUNDAY EDUCATION

Parents, watch the snail mail for your child's memory assignments. During Sunday Education a portion of class time will be spent on learning key verses, songs, prayers, and portions of the Catechism. Class time is meant to support what you, the parents, are teaching at home.

### WOW (WORD ON WEDNESDAYS) RESUMES – JANUARY 9

Is your child, youth or you, an adult, looking for fellowship with other Christians? Wanting more Bible study time? Consider coming to WOW from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays! People may join at any time. Giving us notice that you are joining us for the meal is helpful – but not mandatory. Questions? Call the church office at 272-4214.

### BAPTISM CLASS

Pastor Pete will be leading a class focusing on baptism. Do you have questions about baptism? Do you have sponsors that would like to learn about Lutheran baptisms? Join Pastor Pete on Sunday, Jan. 13 from 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. Childcare is available in the nursery for small children and Sunday Education for older children.

### LOOKING FOR 5-6 PEOPLE TO BE THE "FAITH CAMP PLANNING COMMITTEE"

Do you love to create? Would you enjoy building a summer ministry with other team members that reaches out with the message of Jesus? Then this short term committee is for you! Now is the time Faith starts forming a team for our July Vacation Bible School ministry. Give Marilyn a call if you have questions or would like to join the team (272-4214).

## FROM YOUR PARISH NURSE

Cold, icy weather reminds us of several precautions we should take to prevent health problems.

1. To prevent harmful drug interactions check with your physician or pharmacist before starting any new medicine, including over-the-counter medicine. Examples:
  - Decongestants and antihistamines—some do not mix with blood pressure medicines, antidepressants, pain killers or tranquilizers.
  - Antibiotics—some do not mix with citrus fruit and juices, dairy foods, or mineral supplements as calcium or iron.
2. To prevent harmful injuries on the ice:
  - Don't get out on the ice if you don't have to.
  - Wear shoes with traction.
  - Walk slow, shorten your stride.
  - Walk flat-footed.
  - Keep your center of gravity, don't reach for items.

Next month is Healthy Heart Month. Please give me your tips to share with others next month in this article. We're all interested in our physical, mental and spiritual wellness. If I can help you with health questions or check your B/P, stop by church any Wednesday from 1:30—3:30 p.m. Have a safe winter and blessed New Year.

Margaret Anschutz, RN

**THE LUTHERAN HOUR**

The Lutheran Hour can be heard on WIBW— 580AM on Sunday mornings at 7:30am.

**January 6**

*"Falling Down"*

(Matthew 2:11b)

The wise men teach a lesson - they followed where God took them.

Today's message encourages the same from us.

**January 13**

*"Polluted Waters"*

(Matthew 3:13-15)

The day Jesus walked into the Jordan, those waters were filled with sin, you sin, my sin, the sins of all humanity. Even so He went in so you could

be saved.

**January 20**

*"A Fine Sacrifice"*

(John 1:35-35)

Being bullied? Jesus as the Fellow who is so powerful that when He hits His opponents, opponents like sin, Satan, and death, they go down

and they stay down.

**January 27**

*"What Would Jesus Preach?"*

Guest Speaker: Rev. Mark Hannemann

The Messenger is a monthly publication of Faith Lutheran Church. The deadline for submitted articles is the Third Sunday of the prior month.

Faith Lutheran Church  
1716 SW Gage Blvd  
Topeka KS 66604

NON. PROF. ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 78  
TOPEKA, KANSAS

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

