

The Light of Christ Newsletter

January 2008

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:

Sunday January 20

Our annual congregational meeting will be held after both services on January 20. Plan to attend to vote on the proposed 2008 budget and receive a copy of the annual report. The annual meeting is short and sweet which is nice to know ahead of time.

HAPPY 43rd ANNIVERSARY CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH!

Our congregation was officially formed on Jan. 17, 1965. Several folks present on that very day are with us now! We will celebrate the anniversary of our congregation with some refreshments after the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, January 20. We will also have a little Anniversary Party for our new kitchen. If you wish to give a kitchen cooking utensil item, our wish list has been registered at TARGET under Christ Lutheran Church for the kitchen.

Thank you to Marilyn Clapp and Ruth Fies for organizing a "wish list" for our church kitchen.

We also have a "Wish List" of kitchen needs that can be purchased from Gordon Foods in Heath. That list will be provided in the entryway at church. Just place a checkmark next to the item you wish to give, so we know it is spoken for.

WORSHIP NEWS

Affirmation of Baptism Sunday January 13: The Baptism of Our Lord

We will have an opportunity to remember and give thanks for the gift of our Baptism at each worship service on this day.

Heath Three Churches Pulpit Exchange: Sunday, Jan. 27 at the second service.

Pastor Kris will preach at Heath United Methodist Church. Father Michael Reis from St. Leonard Catholic Church will be here at the 10:30 a.m. service that day. This is one way we celebrate our Christian community and fellowship in Heath. We make it a point to celebrate the Pulpit Exchange around the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity.

PRAISE TEAM WILL

PRACTICE every Thursday evening in January so we are ready to sing during Lent. Practices are Thursday evenings at 7:15 p.m. All welcome to join the "reJOYce" Praise Team!

BIRTHS

-Blessings to Mark & Amy Block on the birth of their son, Mason Nathaniel Block, born Friday, Dec. 7, 2007. Mason shares a birthday with his older sister Samantha! May God's blessings surround the whole family!

-Blessings to Dave & Lynda McKitrick on the birth of their grandson, Carson David McKitrick born December 3. May God's blessings surround little Carson and his entire family too!

-Blessings to Phil & Donna Mitchell and to Mark & Deb (Mitchell) Storms on the birth of daughter & granddaughter Audrey Lin Storms, born Dec. 18. May God's blessings surround the entire family!

DEATHS

-Our dear friend Emil Krueger went home to the Lord on December 20. A funeral was held at the church on Friday, December 28. We surround Wilma and the entire family with prayers.

First Holy Communion

Children who prepared to receive their First Holy Communion on Christmas Eve and on the first Sunday in January are: Brinah Braskie, Jake Brooks, Nikki Calvert, Bryce Carmer, Mackenzie Ebel, Aubrey Fisher, Hank Fitzgerald, Benjamin Gainer, Kaleb Jarrett, Connor Van Dyke, Claire Zehnal, We rejoice with them as they grow in Christian faith. We thank them for doing a wonderful job baking the bread for Holy Communion.

2008 ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP REMINDER

The new chart is in the hallway. If you would like to donate altar flowers for a special date, please put the pertinent information on the chart. Cost for flowers is \$12 per vase, or \$24 for two vases.

When it is icy and snowy on

Sundays or any day there is a Church Activity or Worship... Please note, we cannot put ice melt, rock salt, or any similar kind of material on our new sidewalk as it will destroy the new concrete during this first year. We have two shovels and some sand and kitty litter inside the front entryway which can be safely used on the new concrete. Please be careful as you walk on the sidewalks this year. We try our best to keep them clean, but we cannot use salt products this year.

8:15 a.m Service Ushers:

When ice or snow falls, we ask your help in arriving early to clear the sidewalks of the church in preparation for the First Service. Thank you for your help with clearing the sidewalks this winter.

2008 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering envelopes for 2008 are available. Check for yours on the table in the church entryway.

CHURCH COUNCIL meets on
WEDNESDAY JANUARY 2 AT
7:00 P.M. NOTE THE
DATE/TIME CHANGE.

OUR COUNCIL VOTED AT THE PREVIOUS MEETING TO CHANGE THIS DATE/TIME FOR THIS MEETING DUE TO NEW YEAR'S DAY BEING ON THE FIRST TUESDAY.

OUR PRAYERS

In November and December we offered prayers for healing and comfort for Jean Downey, Emil & Wilma Krueger, Diane Pyle, Alice Krauss, Connie Swank, Bud Brooks, Gladys Rinehart, Gerry Schulz, Alice Meagher, Tracy Davis, Dick Bailey, Mary Lou Bradley, Matt Claypool, Amy Block and Baby Mason, Mary Redd, Wendy Jewell, Ali Calvert, Deb Bell, Carolyn Colburn, Hannah Weaver, Joy Williams, Betty Brooks, and others as requested by our members. Prayers for comfort and peace in grief were lifted for the Family of Emil Krueger, the Family of Logan Kip Davis, the Family of Pat Davis, the Family of Jim Deaver, the Family of Laura Schiele, the Family of Clayton Manos, the Family of Harold Place, the Family & Friends of Don Thomas, Leah Cook, Chris Youell, the Peck Family, the Family of Leanne Hunt, the Family of Charles Sayre, the Family of Kenny Wright, the Family of Gloria Fitchgerald, and the Family of Joanne Guisinger Prayers for safety in travel and for special circumstances were also lifted.

NOTES OF THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped donate good warm outerwear to the Homer Curry Christmas Dinner and to all who volunteered there on Christmas Day.

Thank you also to everyone who brought food, chili, desserts and donations to the **HANGING OF THE GREENS FUNDRAISER FOR THE NARTHEX and especially for the CARE FUND.** Donations totaled \$1570 and were then supplemented by an additional \$800 from Thrivent.

Thank you to Dianne Sullivan and Jill Mirmohamed for organizing, leading and helping with the outstanding and joy-filled Children's Christmas Program, "The Best Christmas Present Ever". Thank you to all our children for sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ! We are so blessed by you! Thank you to the many folks who helped with the program including: Marilyn Yekisa for musical accompaniment; Kathy Mehler for the presents; Lisa Mye for heavenly angel wings; Elisa Santiago, Brook Diller, Jessica Sullivan, Dustin Weaver, and Blake for being backstage helpers; Bev for her rocking chair; Brad for his Jeff Gordon jacket; Dustin for being a REALLY tall soldier; also thanks to the parents for their support and to our church family for their love!

Thank you to Dick Bailey, Jim Watercutter, Jerry Boyles, Gary & Joyce Williams for preparing the delicious Wednesday morning ADVENT BREAKFASTS.

Dear Sewing Ladies & Lois,
Your thoughtfulness and generosity to our patients is greatly appreciated. When patients get their own handmade lap robes, they are more comfortable.

Thank you,
Deb Kocois
Hospice of Central Ohio

A Big ThankYou

To the guys who put up a large shelf for our sewing supplies!

God Bless You,
Sewing Group

Pastor Kris & Group,

Thank you so much for hosting a successful blood drive at your church. You went over your goal and helped save the lives of up to 69 people. You folks are great!

Brad Fuller
American Red Cross

Thank you so much for your donation for Logan. Our family gratefully appreciates it and all you've done for us.

Love,
Melissa Davis & Family

Dear Church Members:

Thank you very much for your continued support of the Licking County 21 food pantries and other partner programs. The check for \$304.43 this month is very much appreciated!

Did you know over 40% of the meals distributed are for children who are poor through no fault of their own? So far, in 2007, we have provided over 602,259 meals to 114,549 individuals, (October

Report 2007). This is a 25.36% increase over where we were this time last year.

Your support greatly helps us in our efforts to fulfill our mission of "assuring that no one in Licking County goes hungry."

Sincerely,
Charles S. Moore
Executive Director
Food Pantry Network

Christian Education News Sunday School News

PreSchool Class: Happy New year to everyone! We are going to start off the New Year with The Story of Joseph, we also have a fun craft plan to help you keep warm this winter. In January, we will also be learning about the story of Jesus' baptism, the 12 disciples, The Lord's Prayer, and Jesus feeds 5,000. We will continue to learn songs and do crafts that coordinate with the lessons. We look forward to 2008 with our great group of children.

The K-2 Sunday school class will dive into the New Testament this month as we begin to learn about Jesus on earth and his teachings. The kids will hear all kinds of stories about his miraculous works. Of course we continue to craft, play games, and EAT, always a highlight with our little ones. What is it about a snack that just makes learning better?? Ask any of the kids in our class and we're sure they'll tell you why!!

The 3-4th Grades Class will be studying the following lessons during the month of January:

1. The Wise Men visit Jesus.
2. Joseph takes his family to safety in Egypt.
3. Jesus is baptized, and
4. Peter and Andrew meet Jesus

The 5th -6th Grades Class, the 7-8th Grades Catechism Class will continue to study the Old Testament stories from the Bible. The Catechism Class will pay particular attention to learning about the story of the Israelites delivery from slavery in Egypt, known as the story of the EXODUS.

The High School class will continue studying "Believe It Or Not" stories from the Bible. The High School Class will not have meet on January 13 due to the youth being at the LYO Youth Gathering at Camp Kern.

YOUTH NEWS
LUTHERAN YOUTH
ORGANIZATION SOUTHERN
OHIO SYNOD YOUTH
GATHERING JANUARY 11-13

At Camp Kern, near Dayton.

This is a large High School youth retreat for all the High School Youth of ELCA

Lutheran Congregations in the Southern Ohio Synod.

PARENTS & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH going to the retreat are meeting Sunday, Jan 6 after the 10:30 a.m. service in Pastor's office for important reminders.

The chaperones are Eric Santiago and Becky Barger.

They will leave from the church at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan 11 and they will return mid-afternoon to the church on Sunday, Jan. 13.

Our prayers go with you and we rejoice to have 11 participants this year!!!

High School Youth Parent Fundraiser Meeting set for Jan. 27 after the 10:30 a.m. service in Pastor's office.

This meeting is to plan fundraisers or the youth currently in 8-11th grades who are planning to go to the 2009 ELCA NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING IN NEW ORLEANS. All parents of this age-group are welcome to participate and we do need your help!

Fellowship News

Men'S Prayer Breakfast will be held on Saturday, Jan. 12 at 8:00 a.m. All welcome!

Women's Prayer Breakfast will be held on Sat. Jan 19 at 8:30 a.m. We hope to have a guest speaker with us for the Women's Prayer Breakfast. All welcome! Bring a friend!

Church Anniversary Observance
On Sunday, January 20 with refreshments and gifts for new kitchen. AFTER the 10:30 a.m. service. Held in the social hall.

The Church Social Hall is being used by a church family for a family gathering on Saturday, January 26th. Please be aware that the social hall is in use that day.

EVANGELISM AND OUTREACH MINISTRIES

COMMUNITY OUTREACH DINNER TO BE SERVED SUNDAY JANUARY 27 5:00-6:00 P.M.

If you are interested in helping with this dinner, there will be a sign-up sheet posted in early January. Help is needed with set-up, food preparation, serving and clean-up. This meal is open to the community and open to the congregation. Bring other family member and friends along.

No free will donation, not a fundraiser. Rather, this meal is offered in the welcome of Christ. We will prepare some meals to be taken to New Beginnings Shelter that evening and need two volunteers to take them to the shelter. Our thanks to Carol Hughes and Dick Bailey who co-lead the Community Outreach Dinners which we have served three to four times per year.

ELECTRONIC MINISTRY TEAM MEETS SATURDAY, JAN. 12 AFTER THE MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST (9:30A.M.-ISH)

This ministry team is part of our evangelism and outreach ministries and will meet to consider updates to the church computer system and to look at goals for the website and electronic ministry as we serve the congregation and reach out in Christ to the larger community via podcasts and website.

CHURCH WEBSITE:

www.Christ-in-heath.org

You will find a monthly calendar, the listing of persons Assisting with Worship on Sundays, (*such as acolytes, ushers, Children's Church leaders, etc.*) Check out the PODCAST for an audio-

recording of the Sunday service!

There is a BLOG which you can join and "chat" with other church members on the website!

You will find devotional articles submitted by our Pastor, Youth and other monthly news and links to several other ELCA Lutheran websites and to the Prayer Shawl ministry website. The monthly newsletter is also accessible on our website! Our many thanks to Eldon Peterson for creating and updating the church website.

Just about everything you need to know is at your very fingertips on the church website!

DVD of Sermons and Cantata are being prepared by Eldon

Peterson. Eldon would like to know who would be interested in having a copy of this DVD for a small donation of \$10 per DVD. Please sign up on the back sanctuary table if you would like one. Our sincere thanks to the Chancel Choir for a gorgeous Cantata and to Eldon for putting the year's sermons and the Choir Christmas Cantata on a DVD for us!

LENT IS COMING EARLIER THAN USUAL!

Ash Wednesday is Wed. Feb. 6 with Holy Communion and the Service of Imposition of Ashes at 7:00 p.m. that evening. Mark your calendars.

2008 LENTEN SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Feb. 6 with Worship at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Wednesdays

Wed. Feb. 13, 20, & 27

March 5 & 12

**Lenten Breakfasts & Devotions
8-9a.m.**

Lenten Soup Suppers 6:00 p.m.

Lenten Mid-Week Worship 7pm

Sign up sheets will be posted in the entryway in mid-January for help with bringing soup, sandwiches, or dessert to Lenten Soup Suppers, and for help with leading the Lenten Mid-Week Worship services.

Christ Lutheran "South" Gathering

The Kitzman's are hosting the 'Christ South' party at their home in Sun City Center on January 31, 2008.

This has become an annual event for our members who are snowbirds as well as past members who have moved there. There will be a meal at mid-day sometime and then a plan to attend a production of the Arts council at SCC. More details will be coming but you may contact Kitzmans or Burgies by phone or email to get you in the loop for details.

Kitzman phone 813-785-4092; email jkitzman@tampabay.rr.com

Burgie cell phone 334-1264; email rburgie@yahoo.com

BIRTHDAYS

January 1 David Wahl, Sr.
January 4 Laura Wilson
January 5 Marilyn Clapp
January 7 Yvette Van Dyke
January 9 Bradley Davis
January 11 Dottie Pfeffer
January 13 Kaitlyn Claypool
January 15 Fran Huffman
January 17 Ann Jones
January 21 Shirley Groseclose
January 22 Brandon Llewellyn
January 25 Joyce Williams
January 25 Falin Braskie
January 26 Lois Scroggins
January 26 Jean Downey
January 29 Janice Seward
January 29 Kelci Jarrett

ANNIVERSARIES

January 3 Vince & Sue Swinehart
January 27 Dottie & Jim Hitchcock
January 30 Carol & Stan Porter

