

## Our Savior's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 688

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Iron River, WI 54847

E-mail – [osl@cheqnet.net](mailto:osl@cheqnet.net) Pastor

[oslsec@cheqnet.net](mailto:oslsec@cheqnet.net) Secretary



## ***Pastor's Corner***



*...I am the light of the world*

*-Jesus*

The snow birds have migrated south for the winter, the Christmas decorations will be coming down soon, and the sound of holiday carols in the stores has given way to aisles of chocolates and hearts for Valentine's Day.

The cold months of the winter loom before us – except that this year, we at Our Savior's are celebrating the next season of the church year – Epiphany – as it should be celebrated. (We remember that on Epiphany, the Wisemen who followed the star arrived in Bethlehem to worship the new born king.)

Epiphany is the season of light. We celebrate that it is the light of Christ, not the darkness of grief, sin, or death – that has the greatest power in our lives. We hear the scripture from Isaiah: You will be a *light* to all nations. We read in Matthew: You are a *beacon on a hill*. We are reminded in John: the *light* shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

As you read this January's newsletter, notice that many of the articles, announcements, and upcoming events point to the light of Christ that shines in our midst. Light shines in every nook and cranny of our life together. Read the letter from the council and pastor regarding the evaluation – evidence that our Spirit is guiding us through a difficult time in our life together. It feels like we have turned a corner. We are becoming a healthier, more vibrant church. For that, I am grateful. I am proud to be your pastor. The spirit is moving us forward. Let us reflect the light of Christ together in all we say and do as a community of faith. It is good to be people of the light.

Peace be with you this New Year,

*Pastor Kristina Jensen*

Pastor Kristina Jensen

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes  
December 6, 2011**

**Note:** These minutes need to be approved at the next council meeting January 11, 2012.

The Council of Our Savior's Lutheran Church was called to order by Council President, John Joseph. Present were: Pastor Jensen, Ted Callahan, Peggy Hipsher, Linda Hultman, John Joseph, Rozie Maki, Reen Modeen, Sandy Rau, Bob Ruef, and Doug Thyberg. Also in attendance were: Jonathan Jensen, Fred Baue, Dick Rewalt, Nancy Thyberg, Maureen Johnson, Tess Eisenhauer, Dianna Teppo, Linda Watters, Ken Watters, Karen Wicklund, Julie Peck and Jeanne Joseph.

The meeting began with a prayer by Jonathan Jensen. Linda Hultman will do January's devotion.

**Secretary's Report:** The November 9, 2011 minutes were presented. Motion for approval: Reen Modeen/Ted Callahan.

**Financial Reports:** Bob Ruef presented the Balance Sheet as of November 30, 2011, the Treasurer's Report for January, 2011 through November, 2011 and the Fund Activity Report for the month ending November 2011. Bob noted that on account number 300.660 Money Market Interest Fund, \$130.00 was split up with \$15.00 going into the Philby Fund, and the remaining monetary amount going ½ to the roof project and ½ to the scholarship fund. Motion for approval: Rozie Maki/Doug Thyberg. Approved. He also presented Benevolence amounts given from June through November and the December projected amounts, Construction project amounts in 2011, Total income as of 11/30/2011, the Proposed W-2 for the pastor, Money Market Interest Distribution, emails from Bill Philby, and commentaries regarding 2011 financial happenings. Motion to receive this report pending audit: Reen Modeen/Ted Callahan. Approved. Bob also thanked Doug Thyberg for carrying on the finances of our church while he was on vacation.

Bob reported our church is operating with a financial shortfall. He advised the council that when Doug becomes treasurer in January, a minimum of \$2,000.00 should be in the checkbook. To make sure this happens, a transfer from revenue carry-over into the checking account may be needed. Motion to allow the treasurer to transfer an amount sufficient to maintain a check book balance of \$2000 required: Doug Thyberg/Reen Modeen. Approved.

The 2012 offering envelopes will be ready to be given out beginning Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. There are currently 108 giving units.

Motion: Doug Thyberg/Linda Hultman to keep the parsonage rent at \$600.00 per month for 2012. Approved.

Motion: Bob Rufe/Ted Callahan to authorize the following names on Security State Bank's signature cards for the lock box, CD, Money Market and checkbook: Doug Thyberg, Sandy Rau, John Joseph, and Peggy Hipsher. Approved.

Motion: Reen Modeen/Linda Hultman to have Bob Ruef's and Reen Modeen's accessibility taken off of Church Windows when Doug takes over as treasurer. Approved.

**President's Report:** John Joseph read a letter from Reen Modeen who wishes to resign from the Council. Her term is up in 2013. An appointment filling her position will be needed. Motion: Linda Hultman/Peggy Hipsher to accept Reen's resignation with regret. Approved.

**Pastor's Report:** For the month of November, the pastor preached and conducted 3 worship services, participated in a Thanksgiving Eve service, attended 6 church meetings, 2 text studies, 3 Bible study sessions, Sunday parsonage evening Bible studies, six days of Continuing Education, 6 pastoral care sessions, 4 hospital/nursing home/home communion visits, the Senior lunch at the Community Center, one Wednesday Bible School and taught 2 confirmation classes.

Six new members are joining our church on December 11<sup>th</sup>. They are: Ray Levine, Marie Larson, Tom Trautt, Mary Winkler, Julie Thormodsgard (formerly associate member) and Alice Johnson. Motion to accept them into our membership: Ted Callahan/ Reen Modeen. Approved.

The pastor will be posting 'hours of availability' rather than office hours. Her cell and home phone numbers are listed in the bulletin. She will be changing the sign on her door to "Study" rather "Office" to better reflect her position.

The pastor asked council for her final Sunday vacation day on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The Service of Lessons and Carols will be used in place of her sermon. Approved.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance:** The congregational budget meeting is December 11<sup>th</sup>. It was noted the Finance Committee does not endorse the budget as it was approved by the Council. It is a deficit budget of \$11,000. However, although the Finance Committee does not like this budget, if it is presented in an honest fashion, explaining its shortfalls, in a clear manner, they are prepared to back the Council. Motion: Sandy Rau/Linda Hultman to present the 2012 budget to the congregation. Approved.

The following committees did not report due to the length of the meeting: Memorial/Honorarium, Outreach/Evangelism, Vibrant Faith, Stewardship, Executive, Worship, and Food Shelf.

**Education:** The "Advent Fair" was a great success with parents and children making various Christmas crafts and frosting cookies. Another "Fair" is planned in the winter months.

**Property:** Peggy Hipsher reported the committee has met and suggest roofing materials be purchased now to avoid higher costs in the spring. Motion: to purchase the above materials: Sandy Rau/Rozie Maki. Approved. Mark Santikko and Jim Rau have agreed to chair this project with labor time donated by members and others willing to help.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. Council and cleaning volunteers: A sign- up sheet will be posted for those members wishing to help each month. The council will each take a month of cleaning.
- b. Goals discussion: Tabled from September meeting.
- c. John Joseph asked Pastor Kristina if she will refuse to meet with the council in closed session to review the evaluation. She responded that she would meet with the council.

**NEW BUSINESS:** The council filled in a meeting evaluation survey for tonight's meeting.

This meeting is in recess until December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 when the Church Council and Pastor will discuss and review the recent pastoral evaluations returned from the membership. A summary of evaluations will be given to the congregation.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hultman, Secretary

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Congregational Budget Meeting Minutes December 11, 2011**

The annual budget meeting of Our Savior's Lutheran Church was called to order by church council president, John Joseph. The meeting began with scripture taken from 1st Corinthians chapter 12 read by Pastor Kristina. It was determined that we had a quorum with one-third of congregational voting members present.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion: Judy Pohjonen/Lynette Kesler. Approved.

**Presentation of 2012 Budget:** John Joseph presented the 2012 budget and spoke to the congregation explaining the budget preparation by the finance committee and council's struggle with the final proposal. Expenses in the budget total \$113,410, income \$102,000, with a deficit of \$11,410. Questions and comments were taken from the floor and answered by treasurer, Bob Ruef and John. Jeanne Joseph suggested having another budget meeting in six months to see how our membership giving is coming in using the 2012 budget guidelines. Motion: Linda Pepping/Dianna Teppo: Adopt this deficit budget for 6 months and reevaluate and reapprove at the May annual meeting. Carried.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer and was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hultman, secretary.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes  
December 14, 2011**

The Council of Our Savior's Lutheran Church reconvened at the regularly scheduled council meeting time. Present were: Pastor Jensen, Ted Callahan, Peggy Hipsher, Linda Hultman, John Joseph, Rozie Maki, Sandy Rau, Bob Ruef, and Doug Thyberg.

The recent evaluation of the pastor by those willing to participate was discussed and reviewed. There were 63 responses and 59 were signed.

The pastor and council will develop a joint letter for the congregation to read regarding responses from the membership involving her strengths and weaknesses in her ministering to our congregation.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

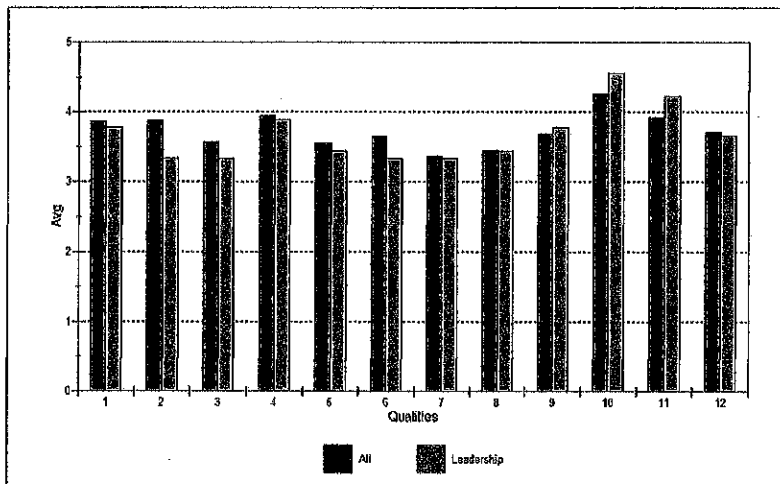
Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hultman, Secretary

Dec. 14, 2011

Dear friends and members,

In our November newsletter, we asked the congregation to fill out an evaluation of pastoral ministry at Our Savior's. 59 signed evaluations were returned. A lengthy report followed (29 pages) consisting of graphs indicating responses to the 12 'quality indicators' and the numerous responses to open-ended questions. Responses from the council and the overall congregation were quite similar.



### Key to Indicators

- 1 Attitude
- 2 Accessibility
- 3 Competence
- 4 Integrity-Trust-Authenticity
- 5 Pastoral Role
- 6 Administrative Ministries
- 7 Perception
- 8 Vision
- 9 Public Ministries
- 10 Theology
- 11 Partnership
- 12 Pastoral Care Ministries

In a lengthy, but productive, meeting the pastor and council reviewed the results of the evaluation. Some of the written comments were negative and provided grist for the discussion mill. Overall, the responses to Pastor Kristina's ministry were positive and supportive. We all gained insights into the perspectives of the congregation. One council member said, "I've learned more about the congregation from this activity than I have about the pastor or council," and we all agreed. We will be seeking more input from you during the coming months.

Some of the specific requests of our pastor included the following: be more accessible, increase visitation, be at the church earlier on Sunday mornings and more often in general, be more organized, cut down on repetition in sermons, lack of leadership ability, and number of 'uhs' spoken during worship leadership, lack of involvement/skill with the youth. Members also affirmed many areas of our pastor's ministry. These included visitation, meaningful sermons, accessibility, vision for the congregation, teaching, worship leadership, and musical ability. Conflicting opinions on the same areas of ministry remained constant throughout the responses.

In addition, there were concerns about our council's willingness to work with the pastor, the amount of negativity and grumbling about our pastor in the community, the divisiveness of factions within the church, an 'inward' rather than 'outward' focus on ministry, and the amount of gossip and criticism directed toward our pastor.

Our conversation about the evaluation was healthy, honest, and constructive. We left hopeful. Our pastor is addressing some of your concerns: she is working on the amount of 'uhs' in her speech, is more available (her cell number is now listed on the machine to begin with), is at church earlier on Sunday mornings, and is making an effort to be more organized. We need to support her and work with her as a congregation. As a council, we hear that you want *leadership* as a congregation in our life of ministry together. As a congregation, we hear that you want to *grow*, you want the gossip to stop, and you want to be involved in ministry that models Christian love to our community.

We all have work to do. First, we need to go back to the basics: studying scripture and praying together. Second, we need to get to know each other better. Third, we need to reach out to the community in new ways.

Over the next few months, we will be having more conversations about the life and ministry of Our Savior's because if anything, this evaluation has shown us that we need to hear more from you about *your* vision for the future of our – of Christ's – church here in Iron River. We need your input on joint goals: creating greater unity as a congregation, expanding how we tell the story, and ministering to one another. We also need your prayers. It is tough being a church leader these days, and we need all the help we can get. Finally, we need your renewed commitment to following Jesus and growing in your faith.

We look forward to sharing our vision with you for the future of Our Savior's more fully in the coming months.

In Christ,

Teed Callahan  
Linda Hultman  
Doreen  
Pastor Kristina Jensen  
Sandra J. Rau  
Rozie Mahi  
Peggy Hryshko  
Robert J. Ruf  
D. J. Hryshko

Our Savior's Church Council Members and Pastor Kristina Jensen

Evangelism Committee Meeting Minutes: December 13, 2011

There has been a very positive response to the food shelf breakfasts. Doug will take the funds that we have left in our budget for this year and get a gift card or cards from the IGA to use for future supplies for breakfasts.

Discussion was had about different ideas of things we could do to reach out to the community and to build our church back up. Pastor discussed looking into grants that may help with the cost of events.

After much discussion it was decided that on January 27th we will have a dinner and variety show called "Winter Madness". We will serve spaghetti, a salad, garlic bread, bars and fruit. The cost will be \$5.00 for 12 and up. \$2.00 for 5-12 year olds and kids under 5 will be free. We will work to get acts to perform in the variety show. Skits, songs, etc. 1/2 of the proceeds will go to our church and 1/2 will go to the new church in Cameron, Wisconsin, The Living Water.

February 21st will be a Mardi Gras night. March 15th will be Cheeseburgers in paradise.

Mary reported that they are going to be working on raising funds to build a school in Honduras and was looking for ideas. It was suggested that we do a "Buy a Brick" program. Where people buy a brick for \$10.00 a piece. Their goal is to raise \$20,000. All involved in the project will be asking various organizations and churches throughout the area to help out.

Pastor suggested that the evangelism committee look into opening their own account through Mission Investment Fund as we progress in doing the dinners and missions.

The date for our January meeting will be decided later.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Thyberg





**Church Cleaning-** During the recent 2012 Budget Meeting it was voted to eliminate the position of paid church cleaning. The church council has offered to each take a month of cleaning. There is a sign-up sheet for you to help out. Also voted upon and passed was: the congregation will provide cleaning supplies. This will not be paid for by the church. Many hands make light work! Please consider giving your time and efforts for a month.

**Cookie, Craft and Lefse Sale a huge success!!**

Wow! When a plea went out for volunteers to make cookies, the members of Our Savior's certainly responded in a big way! Thank you so much to everyone who baked not only cookies, but, bread, rolls, candy and a wonderful assortment of other delectable goodies for the sale. The craft contributions and items donated for our White Elephant table were also significant. Many stepped up to set-up, work at the sale and clean-up. What a wonderful example of how much we can accomplish when everyone pitches in and does what they can. Our profits from the sale also reflect an all-out effort. Here is the break-down of sales:

Cookies & other baked items:	\$981.90
Lefse	184.00
Crafts	493.25
White elephant items	75.00
Cards & Napkins	30.00
Rada Cutlery	48.50
Fair Trade Coffee	48.55
	<u>\$1861.20</u>

Youth Sales

Yule logs	\$65.50
Raffle, doll sales, crafts	<u>100.75</u>
Total youth sales	\$166.25
Total Sales	\$2027.45
Donations	<u>32.11</u>
<b>Final Total</b>	<b>\$2059.56</b>

This total is approximately \$400 more than our profits from the 2010 sale.

Once again, thank you to all who contributed in any way!

**Youth Group Fund Raiser-** The Our Saviors Lutheran youth that are going to New Orleans in July of 2012 needs your help. We just received word from New Page magazine collection program that we can now start collecting for recycling. We will receive \$.10/lb. for the paper. What can be collected: **Magazines, Catalogs, Shiny Newspaper inserts (examples: Target, Kohl's and JCP ads, etc.) White paper (copy paper etc)**

Thank you for all the gifts we received for Samuel's birthday and for Christmas. Your generosity makes us feel very loved and appreciated. The Christmas Card and gifts inside were a wonderful surprise. We hope that you all had a very merry Christmas and wish every one of you a Happy New Year.

Blessings,  
The Jensens



**Winter Madness - A Night Of Holy Hilarity**

- Come for food, stay for fun.
- January 27, 2012, 6:00 PM
- Dinner \$5.00/12 and up, \$2.00/5 - 12 years old, 5 and under free

A portion of the proceeds will go to help the Living Water Church in Cameron, Wisconsin as they begin their ministry Acts needed for variety show. If interested please contact members of the Evangelism Committee.

**Altar Guild Thank You-** We are so fortunate to have so many members willing to share their time, talents and money to create a beautiful worship environment to celebrate the birth of our Savior. Ray Kangas donated the Christmas tree, Melinda Santikko donated all of the wreaths, Karen and Tom Boggess donated the outdoor nativity set, and Shirley Saker donated the birch trees that Sandy Rau made into the twig trees. Julie Peck, Linda Hultman, Sandy Rau and Rozie Maki came to decorate the tree. Twelve families donated Poinsettias in memory of their loved ones. This thank you goes on to include all who will come to decorate for the Christmas Eve service on Saturday morning.

Thank you,  
Sandy Rau, Altar guild President

**Epiphany Ski-** Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at Afterhours Ski Area in Brule, WI. From sunset to 8 p.m. Come ski candlelit trails, enjoy fellowship in the warming shack, and participate in the Epiphany Celebration around the bonfire at 6:30 p.m.



**Nursery Volunteers-** If you are interested in volunteering to serve in the nursery once a month please let the church office know ASAP. Thank you.

**A Greeting From Pastor Ida-** Pastor Ida has sent a Christmas letter to the church. It is on the bulletin board in the Narthex for everyone to read.



**Changes In Pastor's And The Secretary's Hours-** Please be sure to read the article in the newsletter regarding the changes to both the Pastor's and the secretary's hours.

**Newsletters By Email-** If you would like to receive your newsletters by email please send an email to the church secretary. [oslsec@cheqnet.net](mailto:oslsec@cheqnet.net) You will receive your newsletter in a readable/printable PDF format.

I would like to thank everyone for the warm holiday wishes, cards and gifts I received this Christmas season. Also, thank-you very much for the gift card to Maurices, it will come in very handy when shopping for more suitable outfits for my new part-time job. Your thoughtful gift will go a long way in helping me get a few more items for my wardrobe. Your kindness and generosity made me feel very appreciated, thank you again and Happy 2012.

Evelyn



### Prayer for Families

We will continue this year to include three families or individuals in our Sunday morning prayers. I know there are many of you that pray for individuals and the needs that we know of, but there are many times we don't know when someone is in need of a prayer. This is one more way for us to care for each other placing them in God's hands.

#### January 1

Phil & Cindy Knapp  
Eloise Kuhlmeier  
Marge Lahti

#### January 8

Laurel LaBelle  
Archie & Kathy Lahti  
Rodney & MaryAnn Lahti

#### January 15

Marge Larson  
Tim & Debbie Landgreen  
Howard & Patty Lehman

#### January 22

Glen Lahti  
Ray Levine  
Clarence & Marilyn Leverance

#### January 29

Lauri & Lorraine Lind  
Sue Lindquist  
Merwyn Lovblad



### BIRTHDAYS this month

Jan Modeen 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Lauri Lind 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Marlene Hagstrom 4<sup>th</sup>  
Landen Peck 5<sup>th</sup>  
Jody Forsythe 6<sup>th</sup>  
Evie Berge 7<sup>th</sup>  
Laurel LaBelle 7<sup>th</sup>  
Janelle Armbruster 7<sup>th</sup>  
Jim Olson 11<sup>th</sup>

John O'Brien 11<sup>th</sup>  
Carole Danula 13<sup>th</sup>  
Matthew Berube 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Kathleen Luzzatto 25<sup>th</sup>  
Ted Callahan 30<sup>th</sup>  
Nancy Johnson 31<sup>st</sup>  
Debbie Landgreen 31<sup>st</sup>

# Volunteer Schedule January 2012

Date	Coffee	Lector	Nursery
January 1	Donna Warbalow & Bonnie Rantala	Linda Hultman	
January 8	Mark & Himma Santikko	Rozie Maki	
January 15	Carrie DeRosia w/ Kan & Linda Watters	Tom Boggess	
January 22	Jerry & Tricia Talso	Kent Getty	
January 29	Ginny Pederson & Nan Olson	Himma Santikko	Ken Watters
<b>Monthly</b>			
<b>Ushers:</b> Doug & Nancy Thyberg			
<b>Greeters:</b> The Collins Family			
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup> - Zach Hipsher Jan. 8 <sup>th</sup> - Deserae Sipsas Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> - Julia Collins Jan. 22 <sup>nd</sup> - Austin Talso Jan. 29 <sup>th</sup> - Samantha DeRosia		
<b>Altar Guild:</b>			



Jerry & Tricia Talso 1<sup>st</sup>  
Laurel and John LaBelle 1<sup>st</sup>  
Richard & Joanne Forsythe 7<sup>th</sup>  
Jerry & Julie Peck 20<sup>th</sup>  
Bob & Gerri Kinblom 25<sup>th</sup>  
Dick and Kathy Rewalt 31<sup>st</sup>

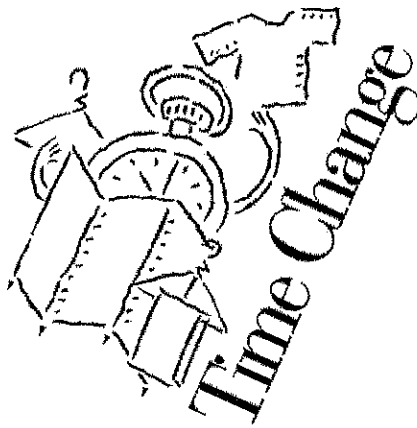
# Our Savior's Lutheran Church

## January 2012

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

<b>1</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship <i>No Parsonage Bible Study</i> Food Shelf Item — Rice	<b>2</b> 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group  7:00 AL-Anon	<b>3</b> Pastor's text study	<b>4</b> 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation	<b>5</b> WIC 6:30 Choir	<b>6</b> Pastor's Day Off Epiphany Ski Afterhours Ski Trial Sunset-8PM	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:30 Parsonage Bible Study 5:30 New Orleans Youth Food Shelf Item — Can of Fruit	<b>9</b> 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group 5:00 Worship Committee 6:30 Education Meeting @ Pizza Parlor 7:00 AL-Anon	<b>10</b> Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga 6:45 Vibrant Faith/ Evangelism	<b>11</b> 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation 7:00 Council	<b>12</b> 6:30 Choir	<b>13</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship <i>No Parsonage Bible Study</i> Food Shelf Item — Can of Vegetables	<b>16</b> 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group 7:00 AL-Anon	<b>17</b> Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga	<b>18</b> 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation	<b>19</b> 5:30 WELCA @ Debbie Landgreen's House 7:00 Choir	<b>20</b> Pastor's Day Off  Newsletter Deadline	<b>21</b> Food Shelf 9:00-11:00
<b>22</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:30 Parsonage Bible Study 5:30 New Orleans Youth Food Shelf Item — Peanut Butter	<b>23</b> 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group  7:00 AL-Anon	<b>24</b> Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga	<b>25</b> 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation	<b>26</b> 6:30 Choir  Newsletter Printed	<b>27</b> Pastor's Day Off 6:00 Winter Madness-A Night of Holy Hilarity	<b>28</b> SHARE 10:30-11:00
<b>29</b> 9:00 a.m. Worship 6:30 Parsonage Bible Study  Food Shelf Item — Cereal	<b>30</b> 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group  7:00 AL-Anon	<b>31</b> Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga				
<p><b>Secretary's Hours:</b> Monday Wednesday Thursday Friday 7:30 — 12:30</p>			<p><b>Pastor's Hours:</b> Monday Wednesday Thursday 9:30 — 12:30 and by appointment</p>			<p>You may also reach Pastor Kristina by calling: 715-32-8701 Parsonage 715-813-0830 Cell</p>

"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)



### **CHANGE TO SECRETARY'S HOURS**

Beginning in January, there will be some changes to normal 'office hours' for the secretary and the pastor. In addition to being our secretary, Evelyn will be a part-time office assistant at Coldwell Banker's/ East West Realty. Her new hours will be Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 7:30-12:30. The church office will be closed on Tuesdays for the winter, and calls will be transferred to Pastor Kristina who attends text study on Tuesday mornings. This is usually a very quiet day at the church with an average of one call and no visitors. If there is a determined need as the winter progresses, we will ask for volunteers to staff the office on Tuesdays.

Why not simply cut our secretary's hours to 16 hours a week? The simple answer is this: we can't afford to. As our church is getting busier, the workload of our pastor and secretary are *increasing* due to the increased need for communication, coordination, and organization. These changes have been approved by our council who are excited for Evelyn in her new position and glad that she will be able to remain as our secretary with her new job.

### **CHANGE TO PASTOR'S HOURS**

Beginning in January, our pastor will begin 'Hours of Availability' Monday-Thursday 9:00am to 1:00 pm. There will be phone numbers listed in our bulletin where she will expect to receive calls when she is pulled away from the church during these hours and will return calls as soon as she is able to. This is a more realistic reflection of the ever-changing demands of a pastor's schedule. Our pastor attends text study on Tuesday mornings, has monthly conference meetings with pastors on Thursdays, and is occasionally pulled away for an emergency visit in the a.m. While not always able to be physically present at the church, our pastor is always accessible. The council is in support of this change and hopes the congregation will find it helpful.

# Calling all Creative people! Create a Logo!



Luther Park Bible Camp's 80th Anniversary Committee is looking for a logo for the event that will be used on all promotional material as well as mugs and apparel. This is a great opportunity for you to create a logo that is a symbol of 80 years of camping ministry at Luther Park, The Farm and The Woods. **Creations from all ages are welcome!**

Submissions should be made digitally if possible using Adobe Illustrator (vector). Hand-drawn art will also be considered. Keep in mind that we will be using this in both color and black and white.

Deadline for submissions is January 13, 2012. We hope to announce the winning logo at the Annual Meeting on January 21st, 2012. Email submissions to [Jon@lutherpark.org](mailto:Jon@lutherpark.org), or by US mail to Logo Contest, Luther Park Bible Camp, 944 24 1/4 Street, Chetek, WI 54728

The winner will receive a free opportunity for one person to attend summer camp (or a camp sponsored retreat) in 2012. This offer can be used by you or is transferrable to anyone who you think would enjoy the ministry at Luther Park.

Please share your creative ideas and be a part of the Camp's history!



944 24 1/4 Street,  
Chetek, WI 54728

Craig M. Corbin, Int. Ex. Director  
715-689-2347 [LutherPark.org](http://LutherPark.org)

Greetings from Luther Park!

January 2012

**Annual Meeting:** The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21, at 10:00 a.m. at Luther Park Bible Camp in the dining hall. Please give some thought to representing your congregation and let the pastor or congregational president know of your interest. Lunch will be served. Extended meeting with revised constitution vote and potential sale of real estate.

**Winter / Spring Retreats Offered Jointly at Luther Park / Luther Point:** Check out our website [LutherPark.org](http://LutherPark.org) and choose a retreat offering:

Youth Retreats during Jan. and March, check the websites  
Quilting Retreat, Feb. 2-5, 2012 at Luther Park

Men's Retreat: March 9-11, 2012 at Luther Point

Spirituality of Bread Baking: March 23-24, 2012 at Luther Point  
Prayer Shawl and Knitting: April 26, 2012 at Luther Point

**Summer 2012—Put Us on Your Calendar Moms:** This is a special word to our moms who are beginning to look ahead to the summer of 2012. The camp schedule is on the Luther Park website: [lutherpark.org](http://lutherpark.org). Online registration is available now (Jan. 1, 2012) so register early, especially for the specialty camps, these programs fill up early. Once again there will be a number of incentives and discounts, so take advantage! **Camperships will also be available.** Look for the Campership request form on the webpage: [lutherpark.org](http://lutherpark.org). Summer brochures will be coming out in mid-January

**Needs / Wish List:** We have some larger equipment needs and wants. Specifically, we are looking for good used vehicles, preferably Mini-vans or mid-size sedans. We are also looking for a good used or new pontoon motor, preferably about 25 horse-power.

**Calling All Counselors:** Calling all enthusiastic and spirit-filled young adults looking for an adventure of a lifetime! Starting NOW! Luther Park is looking for the 2012 Summer Staff. About 35 counselors and team leaders will bring our ministry to life this summer. Employment information is available on our website at: [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org). For questions please email us at [Program@lutherpark.org](mailto:Program@lutherpark.org).

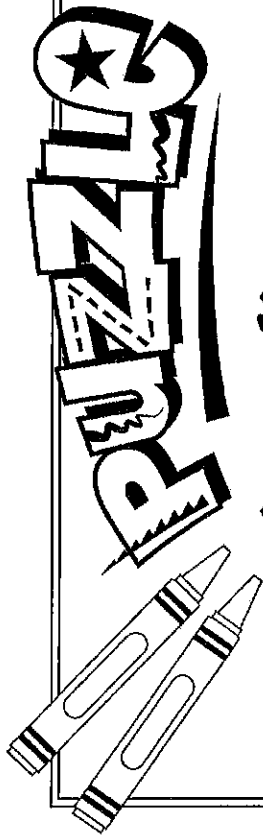
**Year-Round Retreat Committee Members Needed:** Luther Park and Luther Point are pleased about the promising start of a new ministry effort. We are excited about seeking the creativity and enthusiasm of a volunteer committee. If you or someone you know would like to contribute time and talents to creating meaningful retreat opportunities, we'd love to have you join us. Please contact Liz at 715-689-2347 or [Liz@LutherPark.org](mailto:Liz@LutherPark.org) for more information.

**Quilting Retreat—February 2-5, 2012:** Luther Park and Luther Point are excited to host the mid winter Quilting retreat for all avid quilters—for beginners through experienced! Come to Luther Park and share your quilting skills with other enthusiasts. Luther Park provides you space to sew and sleep. Register online or call Diana at 715-859-2215 or [Diana@LutherPark.org](mailto:Diana@LutherPark.org).

**Mark your calendars--The Spiritually of Bread Baking—**March 23-24, 2012: Luther Point and Luther Park are excited to announce this year-round ministry opportunity. Your host and instructors are Pastor Joel Olsen and LouAnn Olsen. This retreat will be held at Luther Point. Check out registration at either [Lutherpark.org](http://Lutherpark.org) or [Lutherpoint.org](http://Lutherpoint.org)

Together in Ministry

Rev. Craig M. Corbin, Interim Executive Director



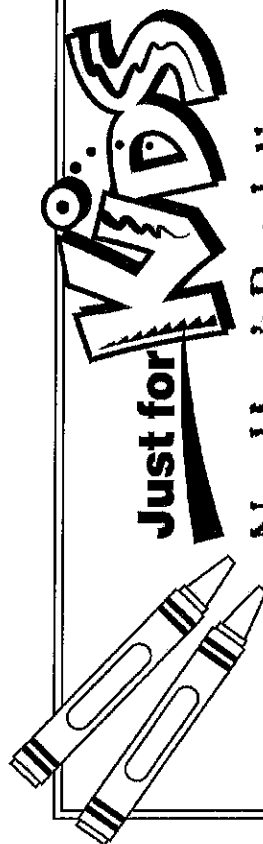
# A caring disciple

In Acts 9, Peter tells of a woman who lived in Joppa. She performed good works and helped the poor. Solve the puzzle below to reveal this disciple's two names.

Instructions: Cross out the letters that spell each object and write the remaining letter on the blank.

___ adcltne			
___ rohmtae			
___ srgbape			
___ rbieda			
___ pehtshred			
___ rdhaenlca			
___ fadoo			
Her name in Greek			
___ pdeesh			
___ dchilnero			
___ drove			
___ acehtr			
___ sarcos			
___ nusoaatim			

Answers: Tabitha, Dorcas



# New Year's Resolutions

Use the code to read some important words to live by.

CODE: A=1	D=4	H=8	L=12	P=16	T=20	X=24
B=2	E=5	I=9	M=13	Q=17	U=21	Y=25
C=3	F=6	J=10	N=14	R=18	V=22	Z=26
G=7	K=11	O=15	W=23			

8	1	22	5	14	15	15	20	8	5	18	7	15	4	19
2	5	6	15	18	5	13	5							
8	15	14	15	18	25	15	21	18	6	1	20	8	5	18
1	14	4	13	15	20	8	5	18						
4	15	14	20	13	9	19	21	19	5					
7	15	4	19	14	1	13	5							
11	5	5	16	20	8	5	19	1	2	2	1	20	8	
8	15	12	25											
12	5	1	18	14	20	8	5	20	5	14				
3	15	13	13	1	14	4	13	5	14	20	19			

Answer: Have no other gods before me. Honor your father and mother. Don't misuse God's name. Keep the Sabbath holy. Learn the Ten Commandments.