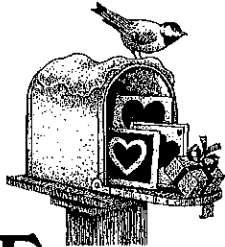
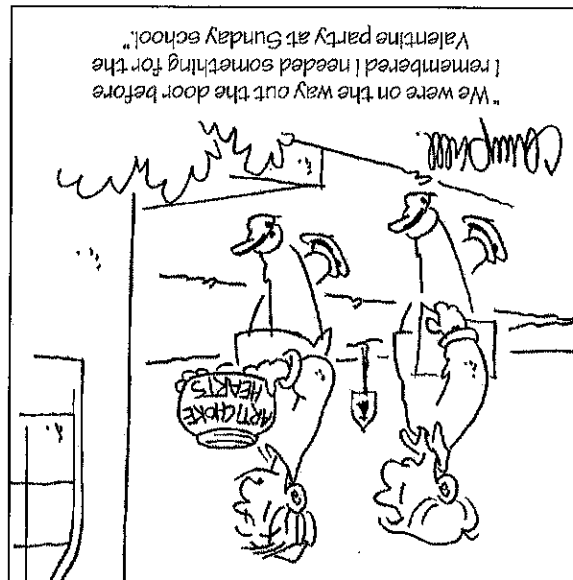


Our Savior's Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 688
68160 South George Street
Iron River, WI 54847
E-mail - osk@cheqnet.net Pastor
oslsec@cheqnet.net Secretary

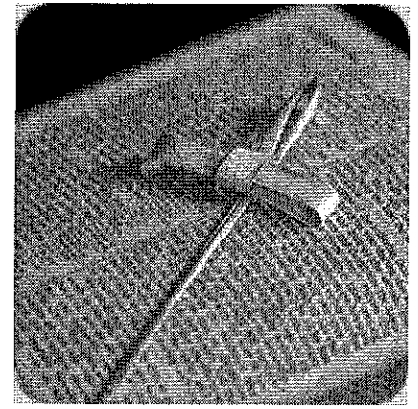


FEBRUARY



Pastor's Corner

People often ask the meaning behind several Lenten practices. I hope that you will find the following brief articles answering some of the most common questions helpful. Understanding the significance behind our traditions and liturgy makes worship more meaningful. For more answers to common questions, check out the worship section of www.elca.org, the source of the following articles.



What is the meaning of Lent?

Anglo-Saxon: "spring"

As early as the mid-fourth century, Christians have observed a time of preparation before the Easter celebration. The Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days. The forty days of Lent recall the 40 day fast of Jesus in the wilderness after his baptism (Matthew 4:2, Luke 4:1-2) and Moses' 40 day fast on Mount Sinai (Exodus 34:28). It is a time of simplicity and preparation. Principal themes include:

- Penitence
- Baptismal renewal
- Preparation for baptism at the Easter Vigil
- Prayer, fasting, and service
- Confession of sin rooted in the promise of God that comes through the cross of Christ

Why and how do we use ashes on Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is the Wednesday of the seventh week before Easter and the first day of Lent. The day is named for the practice of imposing ashes, a practice which many Lutheran congregations have found to be a very meaningful part of the Ash Wednesday liturgy. Using ashes as a sign of repentance is an ancient practice, often mentioned in the Bible (e.g., Jonah 3:5-9; Job 42:6; Jeremiah 6:26; Matthew 11:21). The early Christians adopted the use of ashes from Jewish practice as an external mark of penitence. Ashes symbolize several aspects of our human existence:

- Ashes remind us of God's condemnation of sin, as God said to Adam, "Dust you are and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).
- Ashes suggest cleansing and renewal. They were used anciently in the absence of soap. On Ash Wednesday ashes are a penitential substitute for water as a reminder of our baptism.
- Ashes remind us of the shortness of human life, for it is said as we are buried: "earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."
- Ashes are a symbol of our need to repent, confess our sins, and return to God.

In the Ash Wednesday liturgy, the confession and imposition of ashes marks the beginning of a season of penitence. The Maundy Thursday absolution is the structural response to the Ash Wednesday confession, marking off Lent as a penitential time.

Why don't we use Alleluias during Lent?

Because of the penitential character of the season of Lent, singing or saying the word "alleluia" has historically been suspended during Lent's forty days. This period of individual and congregational reflection on the quality of our baptismal faith and life suggests that the joyful nature of alleluia is more appropriately reserved for our Easter celebrations when it is given full and jubilant voice. The omission of alleluia during Lent goes back at least to the fifth century in the western church. The custom of actually bidding it farewell, however, developed in the Middle Ages.

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes January 18, 2012**

Note: These minutes need to be approved at the next council meeting on February 8, 2012.

The Council of Our Savior's Lutheran Church was called to order by Council Vice President, Sandy Rau. Present were: Pastor Jensen, Peggy Hipsher, Linda Hultman, Sandy Rau and Doug Thyberg. Excused: Ted Callahan, John Joseph, Rozie Maki, and Bob Ruef. The agenda was approved via email by John Joseph, Bob Ruef, Ted Callahan and Rozie Maki. One council spot needs to be filled until May, 2012.

The meeting began with scripture: Galatians 4:18 read by Linda Hultman. She also read the last part of Dick Rewalt's January 15th sermon, "We are Persons with Purpose. What is Your Passion?" Next month Doug Thyberg will have the devotional.

Secretary's Report: The December 6th and December 14th 2011 minutes were presented. Motion for approval: Doug Thyberg/Peggy Hipsher. Approved.

Financial Reports: Doug Thyberg presented the Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2011, the Treasurer's Report for January 2011 through December 2011, and the Fund Activity Report for the month ending December 2011. It was noted the books are ready and need to be audited for the year, 2011. Sandy Rau will be asking three members from our church to audit them.

Out-going treasurer, Bob Ruef prepared a recap of monies donated by Our Savior's in 2011. Grand Total: \$6883.95

Motion: Doug Thyberg/Linda Hultman to not pay Synod Benevolence for the last three months of 2011. Approved.

The Congregational Plan for 2012 Mission Support at 2% of the current budget will be filled out by the Pastor and Doug. The 2012 budget will be revisited in May.

Motion: Doug Thyberg/Peggy Hipsher to give from Fig Leaf Fund #300.206 the following: \$150.00 for the Winter Youth camp registration at Luther Park in Danbury, WI, \$450.00 for this summer's Vacation Bible School, \$250.00 for the pastor's Discretionary Fund, and \$500.00 to the youth for the New Orleans gathering this summer. Approved.

Pastor's Report: For the month of December, the pastor conducted and preached 8 worship services, attended 6 church meetings, 2 text studies, 3 Bible study sessions, (not including Sunday evenings at the parsonage), 1 Food Shelf breakfast, 3 pastoral care sessions, 6 hospital/nursing home/home communion visits, and 1 community event (Sr. lunch). The pastor is currently preparing a "Mom's Bible Study" which will take place Wednesday afternoons from 2:30-3:30. She is also going to have monthly church services at Willow Manor. She noted that phone calls from the church can be transferred to her cell phone.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance: Currently, Doug Thyberg and Dick Rewalt are serving on this committee.

Memorial/Honorarium: None

Outreach and Evangelism: A "Winter Madness-a Night of Holy Hilarity" spaghetti supper will be held January 27th. Proceeds from this dinner will be given to the General Fund and a new mission church, "Living Water" located in Cameron, WI. January's coffee money for mission will be given to Second Harvest Food Bank, and February's coffee money will be given to "Living Water."

Breakfast also continues to be served during Food Shelf pick up hours each month.

Vibrant Faith: Will be renamed **Mutual Ministry** to comply with church Constitution Chapter 13 Congregational Committees: C13.04.

Education: The committee met on January 9th and discussed Wednesday Bible School updates. Confirmation updates which include our youth joining with confirmation students from Hope Lutheran in March. The committee agreed to ask the council for \$30.00 per student (taken from the Fig Leaf Fund) to help with the registration for those attending from our church.. No confirmation classes will be held during Lent. The children will however, have assignments to complete. VBS fund raising possibilities were also discussed.

A Community "Heart to Heart" Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, February 11, from 2-4 P.M. free of charge at the church.

Property: Peggy Hipsher reported: The outdoor church sign has been repaired, bulletin boards were removed from the pastor's office to near the back entrance of the church, most of the radiator covers were fixed up, the light at the back door has been fixed but is in poor shape, rope lights from the cross on the north side of the building were removed they too were in poor shape. Some window blind parts in the fellowship hall need replacing. Also, the front entry lights are not working and need replacement.

Worship: Met on January 9th. Hymns were chosen through February 12th.

Food Shelf: Scheduled for distribution on January 21st. Produce will be distributed on January 24th. This month it is Our Savior's turn to help.

Motion to accept the committee reports: Peggy Hipsher/Doug Thyberg. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS

1. A sign- up sheet has been posted for members to volunteer to help clean the church each month.
2. Ministry Goals: Tabled until February. Sandy Rau and the Pastor will meet to bring recommendations to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Church Cleaning Supplies: A sign-up sheet will be posted for those items needed. Those cleaning need to know what supplies are needed from those cleaning the previous month.
2. Bulletin Boards by back door: Will be used to "Tell the Story" to the community. The Pastor and Evelyn will keep them current.
3. Chamber of Commerce: We will join the Iron River Chamber of Commerce to get our message out along with events happening at our church. Motion: Doug Thyberg/Peggy Hipsher. Approved.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hultman, secretary

WELCA Minutes
January 19, 2012

The January meeting of WELCA was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by President Linda Watters at the beautifully still Christmas decorated home of Debbie Landgreen. There were eleven ladies present at this pot-luck event.

Linda Watters read the treasurer's report as of January 19th. Checkbook Balance: \$2391.74, Credits: \$182.25, Debits: \$485.80, Fund Balances: \$467.82, Balance on Hand: \$1905.94.

The Cookie/Baked goods, Craft, Lefse, White Elephant items, Cards/napkins, Rada cutlery, and Fair trade Coffee Sale was a huge success. Total: \$1901.20. Thank you to all who donated and worked at this event.

Motion: Janelle Armbruster/Sandy Rau to give the youth group \$33.00 to make their total youth sales at the Cookie Walk \$200.00. Approved.

Motion: Janelle Armbruster/Debbie Landgreen to give the Education Committee \$250.00 for this summer's Vacation Bible School. Approved.

Motion : Linda Hultman/Janelle Armbruster to give \$100.00 as "seed money" for church cleaning supplies. Approved. A sign-up sheet for items needed will be put together by Evelyn Pamer, Linda Hultman and Debbie Landgreen.

Linda Watters passed a sign-up sheet for "Frisolous Friday" to be held January 27th for those interested in baking bars, setting up and entertaining. This event is being headed up by the Evangelism Committee.

If anyone is interested in going to the North Wisconsin Synod Conference to be held April 27-28 in Eau Claire, see Linda Watters for details.

Debbie Landgreen passed around information regarding an Easter Play at North Heights Lutheran Church in Arden Hills, MN. This year the play is: "All Things New." It was suggested that possibly those interested could car pool.

It was further suggested that next year we start the pot-luck meeting a half hour early so as not to rush the meal, meeting and hospitality.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hultman, Secretary, Pro.Tem.



"Soup"er Bowl Sunday- The youth will be serving up soup after church on "Soup"er Bowl Sunday, February 5th. The soup will be available to eat in or take home with you. It will be served with a bun and butter. These soups are sure to tantalize your taste buds. There will be a free will offering to help support the Youth Gathering Trip.



*A Valentine's Day
Community Event*

Heart to Heart

Join us at Our Savior's Lutheran Church for cookie decorating, jewelry making, a story of St. Valentine, Stamping and more fun activities.

Saturday, February 11th
2:00-4:00pm

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)**

****PLEASE PUT COLLECTED MAGAZINES, CATALOGS, AND PAPERS IN THE PROVIDED WHITE BAGS FOR EASIER HANDLING****

Position Open- Luther Park Bible Camp, Chetek, Wisconsin is seeking a person to serve in the following position: Program and Retreat Coordinator. The purpose of the position will be to coordinate summer and year round programming, rental retreats, and provide public / church relations in accordance with the mission and vision of Luther Park. This is a one year, full time position, with the possibility of continuation after one year. Please go to our website for a more detailed job description: www.lutherpark.org The position will require that you live within close proximity to Chetek. Compensation will include salary, camp provided housing, health and pension benefits and vacation time. Please submit resume, letter of interest, and references to one of the following: Jon@lutherpark.org or mail to Luther Park Bible Camp, Attn: Jon Schack, 944 24 1/4 Street, Chetek, WI 54728. Resumes are being accepted through Friday, February 3, 2012.



You're Invited to a Thirty One event-for a Youth Group Fundraiser- Fun fashionable products form Thirty-One Gifts. With stylish and functional products in beautiful prints and patters to suit every style, there is something for everyone-and every aspect of your busy life.

- Sunday, February 19th at 2:00 pm.
- At Our Savior's Lutheran Church
- RSVP 715-292-2795
- Hosted by Our Savior's Lutheran Church Youth Group

Thank You!

Thank you to Pastor Kristina for attending my mother's funeral. Thank you for all the cards and prayers that were sent and also thank you to Laurel LaBelle for making the Pullaa (Cardamom Bread) for the funeral.
Pirkko Olson and Family

Rural Care and Share Food Shelf

Facts Sheet
12/18/2011

The Rural Care and Share Food Shelf serves an average of 120 families per month in Douglas and Bayfield Counties.

The Food Shelf is open the 3rd Saturday of every month at two locations - Iron River and Poplar, WI.

Twelve area churches have volunteers that manage the food shelves - six churches in the Iron River area, and six churches in the Poplar area. RCSFS, board consists of 22 members and meets every other month to conduct business.

Food orders are placed each month at the Northern Lakes Food Bank in Duluth, and are delivered by their truck. TEFAP (Emergency Food Assistance Program) food is picked up each month at Northwest Community Services in Superior.

Sources of income to purchase food:

- FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
- Fund Raisers
- Community Donations

FEMA funding for 2011 was \$2200 to Douglas County, and \$1500 to Bayfield County. We have been informed that Douglas County funds have been cut by 90% to food shelves and emergency shelters. We are not sure what the final figures are going to be for our local food shelf.

Mardi Gras Dinner, a February Community Event

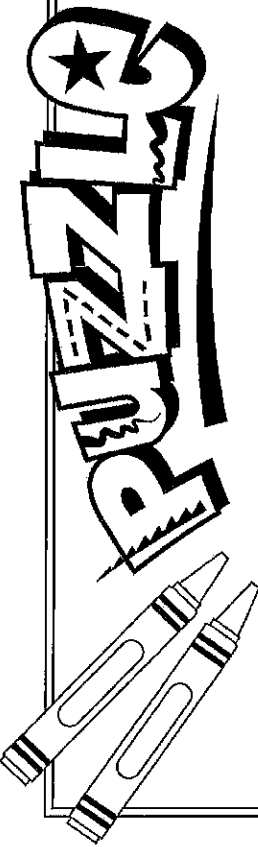
- Fat Tuesday, February 21 6-7pm
- Cajun Chicken Gumbo
- Mardi Gras Cupcakes
- Beads!!!
- Jazz!!
- Dinner \$5.00/12 and up; \$2.50 5-12; Under 5 Free



A sign-up sheet for volunteer help will be on the bulletin board.

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.

Newsletters By Email- If you would like to receive your newsletters by email please send an email to the church secretary. ossec@cheqnet.net You will receive your newsletter in a readable/printable PDF format.

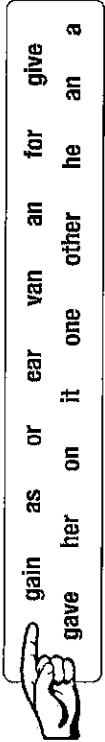


FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

•••• DIRECTIONS ••••

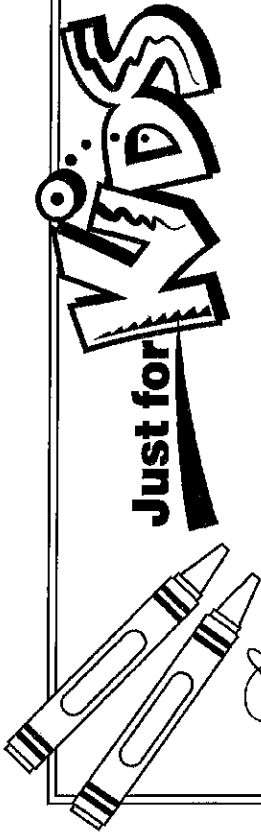
To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



B _ _ _ W _ _ h each
 ot _ _ _ d _ _ give
 _ _ e an _ _ _ if _ _ y
 of you h _ _ _ grie _ _ ce
 a _ _ _ st some _ _ _ .
 For _ _ _ as t _ _ L _ _ d
 for _ _ _ you."

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

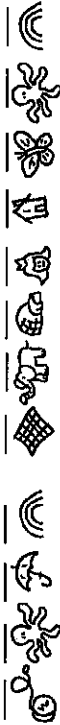
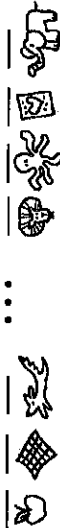
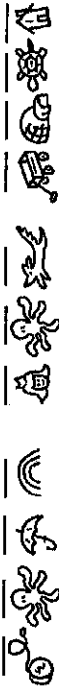
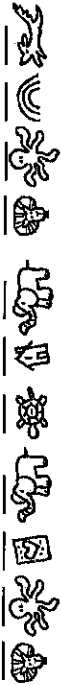
Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."
 Colossians 3:13, NIV



Love is the greatest commandment!

What did Jesus say when asked about the greatest commandment of God?

Write the first letter of each picture on the lines below.



Mark 12:30-31

Answer: Love the Lord your God with all your heart and ... Love your neighbor as yourself.



Say a
prayer
for...

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.

February 5

Merv & Rozie Maki
Water & Karen Maron
Olivia Mieritz

February 12

Laureen Modeen
Jan Modeen
Robert & Cathy
Neilson

February 19

Jim & Judy Nelson
Bobbi Kay Nordeen
John & Tammy O'Brien

February 26

Willard Ogren
Pirkko Olson
Eric & Tracy Olson



BIRTHDAYS this month

Bob Kinblom 1st
Donna Engstrom 2nd
Melissa Landgreen 3rd
Cindy Knapp 4th
James Anderson 12th
Archie Lahti 21st
Austin Eisenhauer 21st
Ken Tanula 22nd
Jane Bragiel 23rd
Kayla Brannan 25th
John Schrock 26th
Howard Fuhrmann 26th
Shane Sipsas 27th

Volunteer Schedule February 2012

Date	Coffee	Lector	Nursery
February 5	Doreen Swanson & John Johnson	Austin Danula	Volunteer Needed
February 12	John Schrock & Mary Berube	Rick Forsythe	Volunteer Needed
February 19	Rodney & MaryAnn Lahti	Linda Hultman	Rita Collins
February 26	Doug & Nancy Thyberg	Ginny Pedersen	Ken Watters
Monthly			
Ushers: Nan & Jim Olson			
Greeters: Tim & Debbie Landgreen			
Acolyte: Feb. 5 th – Taya McClure Feb. 12 th – Shane Sipsas Feb. 19 th – Andrew Hansen Feb. 26 th – Nathan Eisenhauer			
Altar Guild: Shirley Saker & Laurel LaBelle			



Archie and Kathy Lahti 14th
Terry and Shirley Welty 24th
Terry & Maureen Johnson 26th

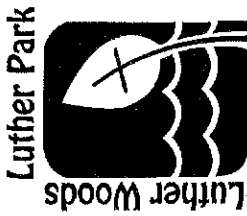
Our Savior's Lutheran Church

February 2012

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
			1 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation	2 WIC 6:30 Choir	3 Pastor's Day Off	4	
5 9:00 a.m. Worship "Soup'er Bowl" Youth Fundraiser following worship <i>No Parsonage Bible Study</i> Pastor at conference through Mon. Food Shelf Item — Peanut Butter	6 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group 5:00 Worship Meeting 6:30 Education Meeting @ Pizza Parlor 7:00 Al-Anon	7 Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga	8 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation 7:00 Council	9 6:30 Choir	10 Pastor's Day Off	11 HEART TO HEART A Valentine Community Day 2:00- 4:00 <i>Jewelry Making, Cookie Decorating, etc.</i>	
12 9:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 New Orleans Youth <i>No Parsonage Bible Study</i> Food Shelf Item — Rice	13 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group 7:00 Al-Anon	14 Happy Valentine's Day Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga	15 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 5:30 Confirmation	16 5:30 WELCA 7:00 Choir	17 Pastor's Day Off Newsletter Deadline	18 Food Shelf 9:00-11:00	
19 9:00 a.m. Worship 2:00 pm Youth Group Fundraiser "31 Party" 6:30 Parsonage Bible Study Food Shelf Item — Cereal	20 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group 7:00 Al-Anon	21 Pastor's text study Martí Gras Dinner A Community Evening 6:00-7:00 <i>No Yoga</i>	22 Ash Wednesday 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 7:00 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE	23 <i>Pastor at Conference Meeting</i> 6:30 Choir	24 Pastor's Day Off	25 SHARE 10:30-11:00	
26 First Sunday of Lent 9:00 a.m. Worship 5:00 New Orleans Youth 6:30 Parsonage Bible Study Food Shelf Item — Canned Meat/Tuna	27 10:00-3:00 Sewing/ Quilting Group 7:00 Al-Anon	28 Pastor's text study 5:30 Yoga	29 9:30 Bible Study 3:45 Bible School 6:15 Lenten Soup Supper 7:00 Lenten Service Location: OSLC	Secretary's Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00 Wednesday Thursday Friday 7:30 - 12:30			Pastor's Hours of Availability: Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 1:00 Call 715-372-8761 or 715-813-0850 to reach the pastor

Don't tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead. Return to the LORD your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish. (Joel 2:13)



Greetings from Luther Park!

944 24 1/4 Street,
Chetek, WI 54728

Craig M. Corbin, Int. Ex. Director
715-689-2347 LutherPark.org

February 2012

Winter / Spring Retreats Offered Jointly at Luther Park / Luther Point: Check out our websites LutherPark.org or LutherPoint.org and choose a retreat offering:

Youth Retreats during March, check the websites

Spirituality of Bread Baking: March 23-24, 2012 at Luther Point

Prayer Shawl and Knitting: April 26, 2012 at Luther Point

Summer 2012—Register for Camp NOW!!: This is a special word to our parents who are beginning to look ahead to the summer of 2012. The camp schedule is on the Luther Park website: lutherpark.org.

Online registration is available now 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. Summer brochures are available at your church.

VBS Daycamp Openings: We still have a few openings for Luther Park sponsored VBS Daycamp. Inquire about available weeks by contacting liz@lutherpark.org or call Liz Bowman at 715-859-2215.

Program and Retreat Coordinator Position Announcement: Luther Park Bible Camp, Chetek,

Wisconsin is seeking a person to serve in the following position: Program and Retreat Coordinator. The purpose of the position will be to coordinate summer and year round programming, rental retreats, and provide public / church relations in accordance with the mission and vision of Luther Park. This is a one year, full time position, with the possibility of continuation after one year.

For a complete description of the position please visit the following link:
www.lutherpark.org/employment/fulltime

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.

Adopt a Room in Covenant Center: We are encouraging congregations to consider adopting a room to remodel and upgrade in Covenant Center. This is the camps oldest retreat facility and it needs some tender loving care. Estimated cost: \$1,000 per room plus some great volunteer help from your congregation. Contact jon@lutherpark.org or 715-859-2215

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. For questions please email us at 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 for more information.

Mark your calendars--The Spirituality 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 or Lutherpoint.org

Together in Ministry

Rev. Craig M. Corbin, Interim Executive Director

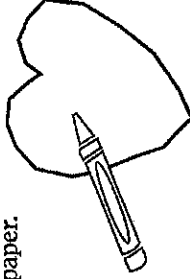
Send an Invisible Valentine to Someone You Love!

Here's what you'll need:

- Scissors
- White construction paper
- White crayon
- Pen
- Pink or red watercolor

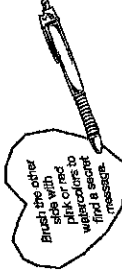
Here's how to make an invisible Valentine:

1. Cut a heart shape out of the white construction paper.



2. Use the white crayon to decorate the heart with designs and a message. Press hard!

3. On the back, use the pen to write: "Brush the other side with pink or red watercolor to find a secret message."



4. Give the valentine to someone you love. When the person paints the "blank" side, your secret message will be revealed!