



LUTHERAN CHURCH

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH THE ANCHOR

JANUARY 2009

SAME OLD STORY

Every year, on December 25, the Church remembers the birth of Jesus. Nine months prior, on March 25, She remembers His conception. On January 1, She recalls His circumcision and receiving His receiving the name Jesus. January 6 celebrates His Epiphany and His manifestation to the Gentiles. The Sunday after His Epiphany She commemorates the Baptism of Her Lord. On February 2, forty days after His birth, She remembers His presentation at the temple. The last Sunday in Epiphany is the Transfiguration of the Lord. The Crucifixion of Jesus is remembered every Sunday, but also on the Friday before Easter, the Resurrection of the Lord, which is the Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Forty days after Easter is the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord. July 2 is the Visitation, which marks the Blessed Virgin's visit, bearing the Lord in her womb, to her cousin Elizabeth.

Year after year.

Why?

Because the story of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus is your story, too. That doesn't mean some smarmy stuff about your being there "when they crucified my Lord," when she placed Him in a manger, when He rose from the dead, or any such nonsensical stuff. You weren't there when Jesus was born, alive, crucified, buried, risen, or ascended. But it's still your story.

When asked the question, "When were you saved?" Lutherans have two answers. One is "Two thousand years ago, when Jesus died for me." That's correct. The other is "When I was baptized." Because God gives the benefits of the death and resurrection of Jesus when He baptizes a person, that's also correct. A third answer should be "I still am," because the benefits of Christ's death and resurrection are continually given out through the Office of the Ministry.

We tell the same story year after year so we remember the story into which we were included through the waters of Holy Baptism. "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his" (Romans 6:3-5).

The death of Jesus is your story because He died for you. So His resurrection is your story because He rose for you. His Nativity is your story because He was born for you. The history of the life of Jesus is your history; it's the history of your salvation.

Enjoy the storytelling.

In Christ's Service,

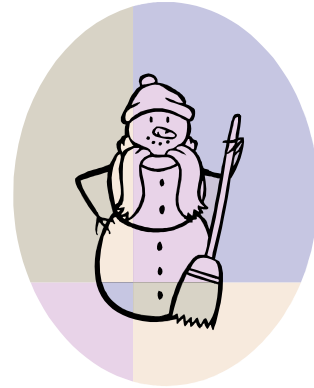
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STEWARDSHIP CORNER

DECEMBER ATTENDANCE

	Divine Service/Lord's Supper	Sunday School	Adult Bible Class
3 rd	45		
7 th	122 / 89	21	18
10 th	56		
14 th	129 / 87	22	24
17 th	27		
21 st	107 / 78	8	17
24-7	69 / 50		
24-11	45 / 25		
25 th	56 / 45		
28 th	112 / 79	12	15
31 st	34 / 27		



SERVING IN JANUARY

Elders: Lead: Kerry Hall
Asst.: Tim Butler

Altar Guild: Patti & Dennis Henneman,
MaryAnn Husmann

Greeters

Jan 4: Ed & Ella Jane Pointer
Jan 6: ??
Jan 11: Richard & Cindy Zumwalt
Jan 18: Tony & Brandy Purcell
Jan 25: Vance & Kelly Miller

Ushers

Jan 4: Rick Angel, Len Straub, Marvin Frazer,
Randy Margeson
Jan 6: ?
Jan 11: John & Steve Ficker, Nathan Martin,
Bill Ivers
Jan 18: Tony Purcell, Mike Roth, Jerry & Scott
Summers
Jan 25: Dave Roth, Don Carpenter, Eric
Trisler, Kris McGuire

Acolytes

Jan 4 Makenzi Summers
Jan 6 (Tues, 7 p.m.) Nick Miller
Jan 11 Aloera Montz
Jan 18 Koty Rethorn
Jan 25 Katy Rethorn

DECEMBER FINANCIAL REPORT

	Envelp	Plate	SS	Debt	Parking	Mission	Flowers	Rental	Other
7 th	1989.50	311.80	30.75				15	50	15
14 th	1705	342.75	21.17		50	5	10		5768.82
21 st	1232	270.25	20.25			137			
28 th	2443	371.50	16.10						



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Can you help out in any of these roles?
Call the church office...

- Sunday School Teachers and Helpers
- Greeters & Ushers
- Trustees & Handymen
- Grounds & Landscaping

NEWS & NOTES

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

Upcoming Sunday School lessons:

- 1/4 – The Boy Jesus in the Temple
(Luke 2:42-52)
- 1/11 – The Baptism of Jesus
(Mark 1:1-11)
- 1/18 – The Temptation of Jesus
(Mark 1:12-13)
- 1/25 – Jesus calls Matthew
(Mark 14:1-20)

SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASS

There are no pre-requisites for adult Bible class, led each week by Pastor Hemmer. Just come! Even if you've never been before, you won't feel left behind. The class is currently working on the Book of Revelation.

YOUTH GROUP

The youth ended the year with a game night on December 26th, taking full advantage of their new digs stocked with video games, darts, ping pong, etc. They also learned why Pastor Hemmer is not a rock star.

Check out the other youth group news posted on the bulletin board in the narthex, and look forward to an open house in the new youth room sometime soon.

DON'T MISS THE EPIPHANY SERVICE AND PARTY ON JAN 6

The Church celebrates Epiphany to recall how the Magi came to worship the baby Jesus. On this date especially, we remember that Jesus did not come to save only certain people but he came to die for the sins of the WHOLE WORLD –that includes Gentiles and sinners like us.

An old tradition is to celebrate this day with a King Cake (sometimes also enjoyed on Mardi Gras). The King Cake has a baby Jesus figurine baked inside, and someone will find him and win a prize. Just watch your teeth 😊

WHAT ARE YOU DOING ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS??

Check out these weekly events at our church where we hold God's Word sacred, and gladly hear and learn it!

6-6:45 PM PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

6-7:00 PM LUTHER LEAGUE

Wednesday nights from 6-7 all pre-catechesis youth are encouraged to come for fun and games and even to learn more about our faith. For more information, talk to the church office, or contact Brandy Purcell.

7-7:45 PM SERVICE OF PRAYER AND PREACHING

These teaching services focus on lessons from the Old Testament, and include instruction from the catechism. Everyone will learn something, guaranteed.

7:45-8:30 PM WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

Dennis Henneman will be leading a study on angels in the Bible. Next, Mark Kloempken will lead one on predestination. Don't miss it -- everyone is welcome!

7:45-8:30 PM

YOUTH CATECHESIS

Talk to Pastor Hemmer if you're interested, or know someone who is...

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

PRAYER PARTNERS

This month, we pray particularly for these brothers and sisters in Christ:

- Jan 4 – Florence Moeller, Marcia & Jim Adams; Richard & Rosalyn Angel & family*
- Jan 11 – Anita & Dr. Assar; Keith & Becky Baecht & Matthew*
- Jan 18 – Ed & Debbie Basham & Sarah; Lillian Blasa; Bethany Blasa & Lily*
- Jan 25 – Chris Blasa & Karley; Fred & Linda Blasa; Jeff & Cori Blasa, Garret & Lauren;*

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1/12 Floyd & Kristi Greene

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 1/4 Jim Sharich
- 1/11 Cori Blasa
Ruth Blattner
Lucas Long
- 1/12 Kathrine Rethorn
Randy Trisler
- 1/13 Jason Butler
- 1/18 John Lyming
Grace Sharich
- 1/19 Ramona VanHooser
- 1/21 Ryan Schneider
- 1/22 Kim Frazer
- 1/23 Aloera Montz
Khloee Hall
- 1/24 Georgia Hansen
Len Straub
- 1/25 Taylor Eberhardt
- 1/26 George Hinson
- 1/28 Chris Blasa
Jerry Summers
- 1/29 Richard Zumwalt
- 1/30 Mary Neal





Enews From Unity January 2009

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An Appreciative Parent

Mrs. Hamrick, our Kindergarten Teacher, recently received this note from the mother of one of her students, Rashad:

Dear Mrs. Hamrick,

Rashad wanted me to inform you, as well as Mr. Miller, that he has been reciting the Commandments up to #5. In addition, he recited the Apostles Creed two times (I can't even recite it!) I think that you are a good teacher and I am very pleased with what my son has learned so far. God bless you all.

Belva (Rashad's Mom)

Giving Gifts At Christmas

Since our Annual Fund mailing was distributed in October, we have received \$90,000 in gifts for our Belong To Jesus Scholarship Fund. More about that later.

At Christmas time, many of our friends want to personally be involved with our students through gift-giving. I am able to match up these desires with our school families, and the result is a wonderful blessing for everyone involved.

The generosity of those who give, and the sincere appreciation of those who receive, make for an inspiring experience for me, also. Glory is truly given to Jesus, as these gifts are given in His Name at this special time of the year.

Those who are specially involved at this time include:

- The Families of Trinity, Worden, and St. Paul, Hamel.
- The Members of Jerusalem, Collinsville.
- The Members of Trinity, Millstadt.
- The Students of Trinity, Edwardsville.
- The Students of Good Shepherd, Collinsville.
- The Members of Blessed Savior, O'Fallon.
- The Members of Faith, O'Fallon.
- The Members of Zion, Bethalto.
- Our Friends in Waterloo.
- Many Others Who Generously Give.

Thanks to all of you!

Hand Sanitizer
Air Freshener
Playground Balls
Disinfectant Wipes

Liquid Hand Soap
(large bottles for refill)
Dry Erase Markers
Cotton Balls

WISH LIST

Plain White Copier Paper
Breakfast Cereal
Electric Stapler
Q Tips

Long jump Ropes
HP94 Printer Cartridges
Wet Wipes
BoxTops For Education

Thanks To All Of You!

As we look forward to the blessings and challenges of the New Year, we also pause to give thanks to everyone who has supported our ministry in East St. Louis. To those of you who have made donations, collected school supplies, hosted a mission presentation, volunteered at school, visited our classrooms, joined us for Belong to Jesus Time, led chapel, or PRAYED, we say thanks. You are all vitally important to our students!

Building Update

Our first priority has now shifted to the empty public elementary school, less than one block from Unity. The school, formerly Hawthorne Elementary, was vacated this year as students were moved to two new buildings. The building is 35 years old, has 36 classrooms (wouldn't we have fun deciding what to do with extra space?), a full-sized gym, cafeteria, auditorium, library, office and meeting rooms, playground, parking, and kitchen facilities.

We are currently in the process of scheduling inspections, and negotiating a lease or possible purchase. If God allows this to happen, we will need an "army" of volunteers to clean, paint, and replace ceiling tiles. We'll keep you well-informed about this possibility. Meanwhile, would you please pray for God's direction?

Prayer Request

- For Rashad and all of our students, that they will continue to grow in their study of God's Word.
- Giving thanks to God for all gifts to our Scholarship fund and that we will reach our Annual Fund goal of \$250,000 by June.
- That the inspections and negotiations for the Hawthorne School will go smoothly so we can be ready to occupy by August.

THE ANCHOR JANUARY 2009

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING
HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
JERSEYVILLE, IL 62052

December 9, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of Hope Lutheran Church Council was called to order at 7:10 P.M., by President Ed Pointer. Pastor Hemmer opened with prayer. The 9 members present were Ed Pointer, Carol Skibbe, Patti Henneman, Dennis Henneman, Kim Frazer, Tim Butler, Kerry Hall, Mark Kloempken, and Pastor Hemmer.

The Secretary's Report: (Carol Skibbe)

The secretary's minutes were read and approved. The minutes will be filed in the permanent file.

The Treasurer's Report: (Linda Blasa)

Linda was absent, but wondered if she should take more money from the savings to pay the missions. Discussion was made on changing the By-laws to allow a smaller quorum to conduct business, when so few Council members are in attendance. The next Voter's meeting is in January.

Pastor's Report: (Rev. Jeffrey B. Hemmer)

Pastor reported baptisms of Carter Raines on Nov. 16, Dean Hemmer on Nov. 16, and Trevor Sedlacek, Reagan Walters, and Ronald Walters on Nov. 30. He then listed the upcoming Worship service schedule, which is attached.

Pastor is hosting a PALS gathering on January 8, and a Circuit Winkel gathering on January 15. The Sunshine Circle ladies will serve lunch.

Pastor received a check for \$5040 from the Annheuser-Busch shares, and he and Ed will work to get back the taxes which were originally withheld, since we are a non-profit organization.

We are So. IL. District partners with the South African ministry, and it was decided to collect a door offering on Dec. 21, which will be included with the SID, and matched by Thrivent.

Elder's Report (Dennis Henneman)

Dennis reported that the Elders are still studying lessons from "Concordia", and are working on a Disaster Plan for the Church and Community.

Evangelism Committee (Patti Henneman)

Patti discussed the Angel Food Ministry. They took in only 15 orders this month.

Patti will have 40 free poinsettias for Christmas from Yvonne Hartmann.

Youth Group (Kim Frazer)

Youth news is attached. What great youth we have at Hope!

Old Business:

New Business:

SINCE THERE WAS NOT A QUORUM PRESENT, NO BUSINESS COULD BE CONDUCTED.

The meeting adjourned, followed by Compline.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Skibbe, Council Secretary

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JANUARY 2009

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<i>Dec 28</i> 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	<i>Dec 29</i>	<i>Dec 30</i>	<i>Dec 31</i> 7:00 p Eve of the Name & Circumcision of Jesus Divine Service	1	2	3
4 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service 10:30a Treasury of Daily Prayer Workshop	5	6 7:00p The Epiphany of Our Lord Divine Service 8:00p Epiphany Celebration (w/ King Cake!)	7 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Advent Vespers 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Study	8 6:00-7:00p Youth Group	9	10
11 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	12	13 6:00-7:00p Elders' Mtg 7:00-8:00p Council Mtg. 8:00-8:15p Compline	14 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Advent Vespers 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Study	15	16 6:00-9:00p Youth Game Night	17
18 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service 10:30a Voters' Meeting	19	20	21 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Advent Vespers 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Study	22	23	24
25 8:30a Bible Class & Sunday School 9:30a Divine Service	26	27	28 6:00-6:45p Private Confession 6:00-7:00p Luther League 7:00 -7:45p Advent Vespers 7:45-8:30p Catechesis 7:45-8:30p Bible Study	29	30	31

