

Cross



Talk

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Volume 52: Issue 11 November 2011



Rejoice-Envision-Celebrate

Our fall visioning and stewardship appeal will hold three important events in November. On *Sunday, November 6*, we will celebrate **“Invitation to Prayer” Sunday** in a variety of ways. There will be an opportunity to honor departed saints from our congregation and families. We will provide you with a “prayer page” of ministries and individuals to remember in November. Packets will be handed out with brochures, book marks, and a commitment card.

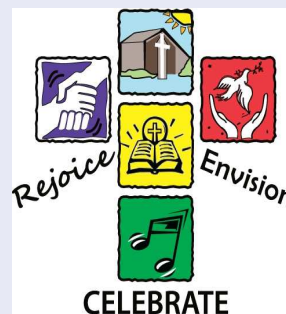
On *Thursday, November 17, at 3 pm and 7 pm* in the fellowship hall, the final large group **Visioning Event** will take place, led by John Clark. This one will focus on our core values and norms that hold us together in mission.

On **Commitment Sunday, November 20**, we will celebrate with a brunch served in the fellowship hall from 9-11 am. You are asked to bring your commitment card to any of the worship services that day. We will bring them forward in a processional offering style and lay them before the altar as an offering to the Lord and for the mission of His church locally and globally.

A *“Resurrection Vision Process Survey”* will also be included in your packet on November 6. This is the last way of seeking your input on our vision for the next 5 years. Your completed survey can be turned in on November 20 with your commitment card, or you can complete the survey online (www.lcrmarion.org). Online surveys are preferred, as they will be easier for the team who are tabulating the results. All areas of our life together will be included on the survey – worship, fellowship, ministry, discipleship, evangelism – with a few open ended questions at the end.

Thank you in advance for your generous and faithful response to this fall’s appeal.

Peace,
Pastor Dennis



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Ministry

Bookstore News

It is almost time to begin Christmas shopping in the bookstore. This year, instead of having the actual items in the bookstore, there will be items in the bookstore and catalogs from which to order. You can place your order and the items will be shipped in time for Christmas. The quality of the merchandise available is very high, so when you are looking for a unique gift for Christmas, be sure and stop in at the Bookstore. Also, don't forget a book makes an excellent Christmas present.

CrossRoads Mission

Thanks you for your great response to CrossRoads request for warm winter clothing. The people of LCR have been very generous in their gifts of clothes, coats, and blankets. As the winter months approach, please remember that they are always in need of toilet paper, diapers, canned meats or tuna, hamburger helper, mac and cheese and personal care items. Also, thank you to the volunteers from LCR who take the items down, and stay to serve the people who walk through the doors. It takes an average of 50-60 volunteers to serve the hundreds of guests who walk through the door each month.

WEE WISDOM

- On Friday, Nov 18th the Wee Wisdom students will host a Thanksgiving Feast for their families. They will be busy in November getting ready!
- The LCR staff enjoyed a Trick or Treating parade of preschoolers on Fri. Oct 28. Before-hand the students visited Summit Pointe.
- In the Spring, some significant sanding and sealing will need to be done on the playground. If you would be willing to help with this, please let us know - splinters are no fun!
- WISH LIST: We would love to have a class computer (A laptop would be a dream!)

Contact Shelly Beaver or Michelle Heidelbauer
www.weewisdom.lcr@gmail.com or 377-4689

Thanksgiving Service

If you are going to be in town the night before Thanksgiving, please consider volunteering to help with the Thanksgiving service. We will need greeters, ushers, readers, acolytes, offering assistants, and pie and coffee servers. If you are available to help with this, please sign your name on the back of the Welcome Card, or let Marcia know.

Annual Hospice Quilt Raffle

Every year St. Luke's Hospice holds a quilt raffle to help raise money to ensure all hospice patients receive the care they need. This year, stitchers chose the theme "Seasons" for the cross-stitch squares. So many square were donated, three hand-stitched quilted wall hangings were created. Raffle tickets are available at St. Luke's Hospice, located at 290 Blairs Ferry Road, and cost \$5 for one ticket, \$10 for five tickets, or \$15 for 10 tickets. For more information, call 319-369-7744.

Texas/Mexico Mission

LCR serves as a mission partner to two churches along the Texas/Mexico border. The congregation of the San Lucas Lutheran Church in Eagle Pass, Texas is made up of families who love to serve the Lord through worship, fellowship, and helping others. They have a sister congregation, about 10 miles across the Mexican border, in Piedras Negras. The Cristo Rey (Christ the King) congregation is locate in a rural area know as "the settlement."

Twice a year, missions trips go to assist the people of both congregations Please prayerfully consider making the next trip in March. The trip will last 7-8 days, expenses are covered by the volunteer, and the rewards are tremendous.

Adult Faith Development

Growing in faith is a life-long journey

Introducing a New Fall Class



Unplug the Christmas Machine:

A Complete Guide to

Putting Love and Warmth Back into the Season

Do you want to...

Reduce the stress of preparing for Christmas?
Make the season less materialistic and more spiritual?
Help your kids see Christmas is more than just presents?

In the pages of *Unplug the Christmas Machine*, Jo Robinson and Jean Coppock Staeheli answer these questions they have heard most often in their many years of talking with people about Christmas. For years, readers have turned to this book for inspiration and practical advice. The authors offer sound, no-nonsense advice on how to combat Christmas commercialism and create a joyful, stress-free holiday season.

Books are available to peruse at the Adult Faith Development window. A suggested free will offering of \$5 may be given by those wishing to keep the book.

This class will be held beginning *Sunday, November 20* in the middle section of the fellowship hall at 9:45 am. Hillary Prall and Sue Freese will be co-facilitating the class.

WANTED: Future Small Group Facilitators

New small groups will be forming in January 2012. Recruiting and training for leaders of these small groups will be taking place soon. If you are interested in becoming a small group facilitator please contact Pastor Blair.

Weekend To Remember

This weekend with your spouse is more than just a get-away. Rekindle the flame and renew your relationship at this event attested by countless couples to have made a dynamic difference in their lives together. The event is November 18-20 at the Cedar Rapids Marriott. Cost is \$159 per couple. Materials are available at the Adult Faith Development table. Call Joan Christiansen at 854-7534 for more information or to register.

Pathways Small Groups

Pathways Small Groups are a great way to get to know others, learn more about how the scriptures can positively influence your life, and bring you closer to God. You can join at any time. Check out the books for study and the group lists on the Pathways display. Take an info-registration card and turn it into the office. Your small group leader will contact you and you can begin enjoying the benefits of life together.

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday Morning - 9:45 am

Whole Christian Wellness – Addresses facets of life through our faith: financial, physical psychological/emotional, relationship, career, service, and spiritual wellness. *This class is held in the far end of the fellowship hall.*

Comparative Religions – Clergy from Islam, Buddhism, Judaism, and Hinduism will present. We'll compare these to our own faith and discuss what it means for our lives. The remaining schedule: *(meets in fellowship hall)*

Nov. 6 Hindu video

Nov. 13 Hindu speaker - Ashok Chawla

Unplug the Christmas Machine - This book discussion/workshop will help you and your family reduce the stress and focus more on the real meaning of the Advent and Christmas seasons. Co-led by Hillary Prall and Sue Freese, it will begin *November 20* at 9:45 Sunday mornings in the middle section of the fellowship hall.

Heroes of the Old Testament - Led by Charlie Clauss, this bible study meets in the *conference room*.



SS Disciple Ship

9:45-10:45 Sunday School Program

Tammy Evans: SS Disciple Ship Coordinator

tammy@lcrmarion.org

Christmas Youth Choir

1st-5th grade students interested in singing in a youth choir for our December 10th "Signs and Wonders" concert are invited to attend rehearsals from 10:45-11:00 am on Sundays in the Tada Room. (Room next to the circle driveway.)

Oct 30, Nov 13, 20, Dec 4
Lyn A'Hearn will be directing this choir.

David!

There is more to the story than just a boy defeating a giant! David had a heart for God and God knew this. In Sunday School we have been talking about how God looks inside each of us, so we are taking a look at that as well. We are also realizing that what is on the inside, is what comes out in our words and actions. Join us any Sunday to see what we're up to!



Love God, Love People

No Sunday School November 27
Happy Thanksgiving!!

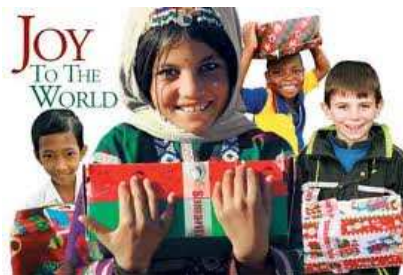


Praise Island

Our lessons in October centered around Samuel and David. God worked through Samuel to make His will known. Samuel was wise and listened to God. Samuel warned King Saul that he wasn't obeying God's will but Saul wouldn't listen. So, God had Samuel anoint a new king. We learned David was selected to be king because he had a heart for God. When David faced Goliath he trusted in God to take care of him. Talk with your child about Samuel and David. What can we learn from their stories that we can apply to our own lives? Listen to God, trust in Him and have a heart for God.

Operation Christmas Child

Shoebbox collection begins November 2nd and goes through November 20th. Information sheets were sent home with Sunday school students in October. See



Tammy or Jill if you need a sheet outlining details and ideas for boxes. Everyone in the congregation is invited to participate. This is a wonderful family service project. Use it as an opportunity

to teach your child that Christmas is about giving love and joy to a world in need. Join us and make a difference in the life of a child. Check out their website for more details www.samaritanspurse.org/occ

GIVE A GIFT OF JOY!

Praise Island

11:00 - 12:00 Sunday School Program

Jill Hansen: Praise Island Coordinator

jill@lcrmarion.org



Wednesday Youth Education

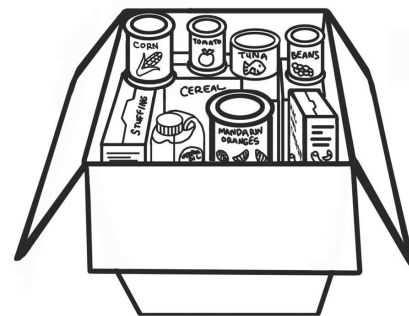
Wednesday Night Live: Grades 3, 4, & 5 meeting from 7- 8 pm

WNL went to Bloomsbury Farms in October. 53 WNL students, family members and friends braved the elements and had a great time! We were very grateful for the barn we had use of and the bonfire to roast our marshmallows. Thanks to everyone for coming out and making this a fun family event.

November 2nd is Game Night. Bring a board or card game to play and share with others.

November 9th is our night at Cross Roads Mission. Details on time will be announced at our Nov. 2nd meeting. We will be putting away canned and boxed food items. An announcement will be made during church to encourage donations in the next two weeks so the kids have plenty to put away.

Contact Jill Hansen with questions about Wednesday Night Live
jill@lcrmarion.org 319.377.4689



Confirmation & Middle School: Grades 6, 7, & 8



Nov 2 -Large Group: If we can do it alone why do we gather to pray and praise God in worship?

Nov 9 - Small Groups: Fellowship or Service projects with your small group

Nov 16 - Large Group: In worship we remember God's presence in our lives and proclaim God's promises to overcome our human forgetfulness

Nov 23 - T-giving Eve: (no confirmation)

Nov 30 - Family Night: (no confirmation)

E.D.G.E.

GRADES 9-12
7-9 pm in the YAC

November Schedule:

November 2: Service Night - Leaf Raking

November 9: Large/Small Group - 1 John 2: 18-27

November 16: F.F.F. Night - Ice Skating

November 23: No E.D.G.E. - Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!

Carter Moore

Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries

carterm@lcrmarion.org

Fellowship

Fair Trade Fair

LCR's annual Fair Trade Fair, in partnership with Lutheran World Relief & SERRV, will be held on Sundays from October 30 to November 20 in our bookstore. Sally Reck & Susan Johnson will have some items for sale in the bookstore. They will also provide an opportunity for people to place orders from the Fair Trade catalog if they want something that is not available in the shop. These special orders may be placed between Oct. 30 & Nov. 13.



SERRV is a nonprofit organization with a mission to eradicate poverty wherever it resides by providing opportunity and support to artisans and farmers worldwide.

Monthly Bridge Group

We meet the first Friday of each month to play a friendly game of bridge. Our next gathering will be *Friday, November 4* at 1 pm in the café. Contact John Knodle for more information (551-8162).

LCR Scrapbookers

We meet on the first Friday of each month; this month's gathering is *Friday, November 4* from 6 - 10 pm. Bring your photos, albums, tools, and a snack to share. While you're at it, bring a friend! Contact Donna Dennis (odonna@netins.net) with questions.

Women's Bible Study Circles

Rebecca Mary Martha is our afternoon circle. It meets the first Wednesday of the month at 1 pm in the fellowship hall. This month's gathering will be *November 2*. Guests are always welcome.

Priscilla is our evening circle. It meets the second Monday of the month at 7 pm in the church lounge. This month's gathering will be *Monday, November 14*. Guests are always welcome.

Christmas Music

"Signs and Wonders"

That's the theme for a Concert of Advent and Christmas music at Resurrection on *Saturday, December 10* at 4 pm. Our own choirs and instrumental groups will offer favorite songs of this joyous season. Tasty appetizers, punch, and coffee served following the concert will top off this special event.

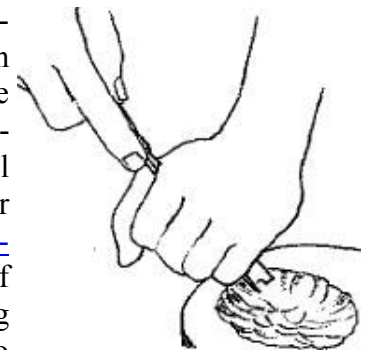
We hope you will take a break from the "busyness" of December to reflect on the coming of our long-promised Savior. Wouldn't this be a good time to invite friends, neighbors, and family to your church to experience true Christmas joy? Printed invitations will be available in November to help you welcome others.

IGNITE

Young Adult Ministry

Woodcarving Event

Thursday, November 17 from 6:00-8:30 pm we will be joining the LCR Woodcarvers in the art room to learn the basics of woodcarving. We will meet in the YAC and will have pizza for supper. Babysitting will be provided for free! Please email carterm@lcrmarion.org if you plan on attending so we know what to get for materials.



Carter Moore
Director of Youth & Young Adult Ministries
carterm@lcrmarion.org

Worship



November 6 & 9: Blessed Saints

On this All Saints Sunday, we give thanks for the communion of saints, especially those most dear to us who have lived and died in the faith. In a mystical way, they are worshippers with us before the throne of God as together we sing an unending hymn of praise to God and to the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

November 13 & 16: Envision Investment

The way in which we use the gifts God has given us depends largely on the way we envision God. When we believe God is abundantly generous and forgives us when we make mistakes it is easier to invest our gifts in the people and work of God's kingdom.

November 20: Rejoice-Envision-Celebrate

Today is both Christ the King Sunday and Commitment Sunday for our fall appeal. Jesus' words in Matthew 25 remind us that as we feed the hungry, give water to the thirsty, and minister to any in need, we meet Christ in the face of the poor. This vision is at the core of our congregational vision for mission.

November 27 & 30: Remember

The Israelites are mindful of their sinfulness and how it breaks their relationship with God. However, they remember that God is powerful and on their side. So they pray that God will remember not their sins, but will recall their faith and break into their world, rescuing them from their enemies. This reminds us to be mindful of the ways we break our relationship with God and to pray for God to remember our faith and love over against our sin.



2011 Confirmation Class

Congratulations to the 2011 Confirmation Class who will affirm their baptisms at worship on Sunday, October 30, 2011: *Front Row:* Emilie Reider, Julia Fiance, Brenner Latham, Matthew Wempen, Hannah Lancaster, Colton Busch. *Middle Row:* Taylor Peyton, Austin Isaacs, Jay Halverson, Brittany Winch, Kallie Kriegel, Bonnie Morrison, Lauren Bisgard. *Back Row:* Greyson Dolezal, Seth Schlotterbeck, Will Versteegh, Noah Menken, Grant MacNider, Mitchell Van Dyke. *Not pictured:* Emily Edaburn



Average Worship Attendance			
	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
October	550	643	585
Year to Date	533	514	519

Prayers



Prayers are Requested for:

Those hospitalized in October: Bob Patterson, Ashley Parker, Nicholas Eilers, Brian Rose, Nick Ed Carstens, Lucille Kula, Laurie Smith, Frank Thompson, Andy Thompson, Jason Gire, Matthew Apple, Ken Petrick, Betty Bendixen, Devon Clark, Joe Hollister, Garrett Wood, Jason Sams, Gardner, Donna Walton, Ruth Warnke, Brad Kielty, Anthony Martin, Matt Carson.

Those dealing with, or recovering from, illness or surgery:

(Resurrection members) Monica Craig, Virgil Newhouse, Torie Johnson, Ken Lee, Phyllis Bishop, Cathy Kimball, Norm Nesley, Pam Benest, Bob Rose, Dick Slaymaker, Chris Cooper.

(Family and friends of our members) Mathew Allen, Dan DeCock, Mike Nichols, Loren Hatch, Marge Richardson, Pauline Grovert, Mary Seeman, Sharon Parker, Robin Heinritz, Eric Blesie, Dick Harman, Andy Smith, Cathy Carnahan, Wes & Chloe Pickens, Gary Freese, Becky Brown, Amber Nietert, Joe Raftis, Jordyn Gourley, Nancy Cox, Scott Hill, Craig Liscum, Bud Jeffrey, Rick Hoffman, Jeanne Spells, Dick Cigrand, Howard Shopcott, Carolyn Williams, Chad Roberts, Herb Schaefer, Kenneth Harding, Sherry Zietlow.

Those living in care facilities: Edna Miller (*Willow Gardens*), Winnie Bulicek (*Colonial Manor of Amana*), Herbert Lehrman (*Hiawatha Care Center*), Bernice Harstad (*Keystone Cedars*), Nathan Lonnachan (*Systems Unlimited Group Home*), Dorothy Luedtke (*Linn Manor*), Virginia Smart & Fran Veatch (*Winslow House*).

Those in military service:

Kyle Cirkl, Eric Krause, Matthew Courter, Nate Hatch, James Vick, Adam Eilers, Andrew Zimmerman, Caleb Redell, Alex Bruce, Jonathan Almestica, Kyle Harding, Todd Christopherson,

Those who rejoice:

- ◆ Kirsten Reck & Justin Robertshaw for their marriage on Oct. 1st.
- ◆ Alan & Melanie Watt on the baptism of Alexander Watt on Oct 2nd.
- ◆ Greg & Michele Lake on the baptism of Sydney Rose Lake on Oct. 16th.
- ◆ Alicia Halverson on the baptism of Allen James Marook on Oct. 30th.
- ◆ Barry & Amy Lovseth on the baptism of Julia Grace & Emily Hope Lovseth on Oct. 30th.
- ◆ McKinsey Burkle on the baptism of Emma Kristine Lea Burkle on Oct. 30th.
- ◆ Taylor Michelle Peyton who was baptized on Oct. 30th. Taylor's parents are Julie & Ronald Peyton

Those who mourn:

- ◆ Jon & Tatum Buse and family on the death of Jon's brother Brett Buse.
- ◆ Evelyn Beck, Diana Zrudsky, and Larry Jones on the death of their uncle Ray Davenport.
- ◆ Carter & Jody Moore on the death of Carter's father, Stephen Moore, on Oct. 16th.

Please let the office know about prayer needs or when you wish to have a name removed. The names of friends and family who are dealing with illness will be listed for 2 months.

Stewardship

Treasurer's Report for September 2011

	<u>September</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>One Year Ago</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$41,091	\$424,027	\$428,557
General Fund Expenses	\$48,701	\$453,097	\$444,775
Cash Balances	<u>9/30/2011</u>	<u>9/30/10</u>	<u>9/30/09</u>
General Fund	\$-18,580	\$-10,053	\$-3,274
Clearing Accounts	\$ 51,285	\$ 52,650	\$23,276
Building Fund	\$ 44,105	\$ 22,672	\$13,543

Building Fund Update

Our 2009-2011 "Sharing Our Blessings, Living Our Faith" appeal will be completed on December 31. Third quarter giving statements are available in your entryway mailboxes so you can know how much is left to fulfill your commitment for 2009-2011. Two gifts of \$3740 each have been sent to Ewalu and Crossroads Mission for our second and third quarter tithes, with a similar amount to be sent from the October-December offerings.



General Fund Update

We will need a phenomenal November and December in order to end the year with a positive General Fund balance. Our receipts are \$4500 behind last year's receipts through September. Our remaining commitments to Ewalu, Crossroads Mission, and the Stadlander missionary family will be covered by our Christmas Eve offerings. Think of that gift as your 'birthday gift to Jesus' which will support three ministries who proclaim his story in unique ways.

Your generous gifts in the last quarter of 2011 are much needed and appreciated.

Quarterly Mission Offering

The final special mission offering is designated for Mission of Hope, a ministry to people in poverty. There is a blue envelope in your packet for that gift.

The Thanksgiving Eve offering will be designated for the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Church Council

The Church Council met on Tuesday, October 18 at 7 pm. The secretary's, treasurer's, and pastors' reports were approved. The General Fund balance on September 30 was \$-18,579. Purpose champion reports were given by the Worship and Social Concerns Committees.

Approval Items: 20 ninth graders are completing their requirements in preparation for being confirmed on October 30. The Council approved the list of confirmands as presented by Pastor Kevin.

The request by Madonna Putnam for support of the annual "giving tree" for 5 families in the Marion Independent School District was approved. It will begin in late November.

Also approved was a revision of the wedding policies to reflect the change from Saturday night to Wednesday night worship times.

Discussion Items: An update was given by Pastor Kevin on replacing the worship room projector and computer. Bids have been received and are being reviewed. We hope to have a new projector in place by Christmas.

The fall fund appeal is going well. There were over 90 participants in the small visioning groups in late September. Two more large group visioning events will be held on Oct. 20 and Nov. 17. Packets will be handed out on "Invitation to Prayer" Sunday, November 6.

Committee budgets for 2012 are due by the next Council meeting (November 15) so that the Budget Team can begin its work on the 2012 budget.

Copies of the treasurer's report and council minutes are available in a 3 ring binder in the office. Agenda items for the November 15 meeting are due by Nov. 9.