

# THE SEED



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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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January 2008

REV. DR. PAUL K. SCHWARTZKOPF, PASTOR

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Dear Friends in Christ,

Christmas comes, ready or not; and, I am never ready. So I identify with the magi who also arrived in Bethlehem late, perhaps as late as 20 months after Jesus was born. The church celebrates their late arrival on January 6, the Epiphany of our Lord.

Each year I finish my Christmas shopping the week after Christmas. I discovered years ago when I returned one dress that I had bought for Ann that I could buy 3 dresses after Christmas for the same cost as the single dress before Christmas. The cheap streak in me likes the after Christmas prices.

But there was nothing cheap about the gifts the magi delivered on the first Epiphany—gold and frankincense and myrrh—the very best that they could give. Appropriately they gave after they had first received from God the gift of God's own Son, the savior of this fallen world.

Like they, we give after we have first received from God. We share our faith and love with others because God has first loved us and created in us the faith that trusts God to care for us.

Again, your faith and love show in so many generous ways that I am filled with joy and peace and hope. I share a few examples. Thanksgiving and Christmas food baskets for local needy families exceeded my expectations for those families which were much larger than previous years. Christmas gifts for children of prisoners through Angel Tree were all given and delivered in spite of the time crunch imposed by the ice storm and snow storms. Your Christmas gifts to me and the rest of our staff, again, are very generous. Thank You!

And your giving to support the ministry of this congregation has been very good. In January '07, we adopted an operating budget with a \$12,000 deficit. We have made it through the year without cutting any ministry, and we have not had to withdraw any money from savings, and we are going to finish the year in the black. Thanks be to God, your love has given the very best.

And for next year, at the December meeting of our church council, we considered a proposed budget for 2008 which is only \$3,500 more than our projected income for 2008. By the January council meeting, the council expects to be able to propose a balanced budget for the annual congregational meeting on January 27.

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The reason we are so close to a balanced budget is because of your faith in God to provide. You have expressed your faith in the financial pledges you have made. Pledges for 2008 are the highest ever in the history of the congregation.

	<u>Operating Budget</u>	<u># of Pledges</u>	<u>Building Fund</u>	<u># of Pledges</u>
As of 12/07/07 pledged for 2008	\$108,110	42	\$35,852	32
As of 12/12/06 pledged for 2007	\$ 86,845	38	\$30,447	?

As Dick Tabb, our Stewardship Chair, said, "The congregation has really stepped up to the plate".

I don't have all the presents bought, and I don't even have a tree yet; but I am ready to celebrate the birth of Jesus all the way from here to Epiphany.

From both Ann and me, may all joy and peace be yours this Christmas season and throughout the year.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Paul K. Schwartzkopf

## *Come Get the Message* *from Pastor Schwartzkopf*



Enhance your worship by reading the theme for the day and the Biblical word on which it is based. Then come to worship round the Word of God.

January 6, Epiphany of Our Lord **"MORE THAN IT APPEARS TO BE"**

According to Matthew 2:1-12, the Magi sought the King of the Jews. Jesus, whom they found in Bethlehem, is still more than he appeared to be.

January 13, Baptism of Our Lord **"INNOCENT BY ASSOCIATION"**

In the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, we are associated with very good company, the saints of all times and places and Jesus himself, according to Matthew 3:13-17.

January 20, 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany **"FROM BAPTISM TO MISSION"**

The gift of the Holy Spirit in Baptism motivates us to welcome others and to share the grace of God just as Jesus welcomed two disciples with the invitation, "Come and see". Read John 1:29-42.

January 27, 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany **"GOOD NEWS, JESUS IS COMING!"**

Matthew 4:12-23 gives us a sampling of the ministry of Jesus in the synagogues of Galilee. He still teaches, preaches and heals in the churches of our lands.

**Christmas Message from the**  
**Rev. Mark S. Hanson, Presiding Bishop of the ELCA**

"Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way..."

Matthew 1:18

Many generations after God promised a Messiah, a young girl named Mary conceived a child by the Holy Spirit. Joseph, the young man to whom she was betrothed, was told by an angel that the child she would bear was God's Son, Jesus.

God's power and blessing worked through common lives to bring forth Jesus the Messiah. Joseph and Mary, ordinary young adults nurtured by the generations before them, were open to God's extraordinary activity in their lives. They were common people whose willing hearts and courage powerfully proclaimed the Good News of the one who would save his people from their sins.

Countless generations later, you and I are called to proclaim the Good News of Emmanuel, "God with us." Our neighborhoods, our communities, and our world are filled with those who long to know Jesus' love and saving presence in their lives. God uses us in all our ordinariness and sinfulness to bring forth the promise and light of Christ's love and salvation.

This Christmas, may the Holy Spirit give you faith, courage, and a willing heart as you take part in God's ongoing miracle. May you know the joy and awe that comes from bearing Christ's creative and redeeming love to the world.

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**THANKS**

Thank you for all your thoughts and prayers. Skylar and I are recovering well. We would like to invite everyone to celebrate her baptism with lunch after 10:30 service—January 13.

Trish Santos

Thank you to all who helped in any way to the huge success of the Ploughman's Lunch this year. With the matching funds from Thrivent we were able to present a check in the amount of \$3,169 to Camp Callahan. This will allow 8 to 10 campers to enjoy that special week at Camp Callahan free of charge! Blessings to you all!

Bonnie Conover and Linda Dillman

We were able to present 3 large tubs full of groceries to our Habitat family at the Dedication on December 23! Thank you for your generosity in helping this young family get started in their new home!

Bonnie Conover

## **Congregational Annual Meeting**

On Sunday, January 27, we'll have the Congregational Annual Meeting following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. We'll start the meeting shortly after 11:30 a.m. We'll look at the Annual Report for 2007, elect new council members, and adopt an Operating Budget for 2008. The Annual Report for 2007, the proposed Operating Budget for 2008, and the agenda for the meeting will be available to the congregation by Sunday, January 20.

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### **Baptism on the Baptism of Our Lord**

The Santos family invites the congregation to share lunch to celebrate the baptism of Skylar after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, January 13. Amazing mother Trish will provide meat. Others may bring a dish to share—veggie, salad, dessert. This pregnancy and birth are well worth celebrating. Join us.

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### **HEALTHY WOMAN CLASS**

Attention Women!! If being healthy is on your list of new years resolutions you will not want to miss this opportunity. Join us for a 10-week class on being a Healthy Woman. Various topics will be covered by community experts. Classes start January 15 at 10 a.m. at Christ Lutheran Church or January 16 at 5:30 p.m. at John Wood Community College. Call Becky at 222-8440, ext. 149, for more information.

- Cost is \$10 for the 10 week series. Fee is refundable upon successful completion of the program.
- What to Expect: 10 weekly sessions, Free blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol test, Free pedometer, Weekly lesson and handouts, Community guest speakers
- Topics include: The Dimensions of Health, Nutrition, Cardiovascular Disease, Diabetes, Substance Abuse, Physical Activity, Aging Well, Menopause, Stress, and More!
- To register please contact Becky at the Adams County Health Department at 222-8440 ext. 149 by Thursday, January 10, 2008. Space is limited.
- Healthy Woman is made possible through Illinois General Revenue funding administered through the Office of Women's Health, Illinois Department of Public Health.

**DAVE RAMSEY**  
**FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY (FPU)**

The next class will begin at 6:15 p.m. on Monday, February 4, and continue on Mondays for 13 weeks.

The 8 individuals or couples in the last class achieved the following in 13 weeks by following the principles of Dave Ramsey FPU:

Average increase in SAVINGS:	\$ 3,462
Average in REDUCED DEBT:	<u>9,631</u>
Improved financial status:	\$13,093

In the class, you learn Biblical principles of finance. For example, all that we have is a gift from God; therefore God's plan for us to use God's money is the best way for us to do it.

Previews of the class will be shown on

Monday, January 7, at 6:15 p.m.  
And  
Monday, January 14, at 6:15 p.m.

Plan to attend either preview.

For more information or to register:

go to [www.daveramsey/fpu/home](http://www.daveramsey/fpu/home)

or

Call 222-5810

Registration deadline is January 14.

## **AMENDMENTS TO OUR CONGREGATIONAL CONSTITUTION**

The 2007 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA approved amendments to five sections of the model constitution for congregations. Our Congregation Council, at its December 18 meeting, recommends that these proposed amendments be considered by the congregation at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 27, 2008. The proposed amendments are printed elsewhere in the "Seed". They may be adopted by a simple majority vote according to section C17.04 of our current constitution.

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## **UPDATED CHURCH DIRECTORY**

During the month of January, we will be taking photos for an updated Church Directory. We will be taking pictures between the 8:00 a.m. service and the 10:30 a.m. service and after the 10:30 a.m. service.

If you like the present picture that you have in the directory, we will be happy to use it in the updated Directory, but if you would like a new picture we will set up in the lounge for pictures each Sunday in January. There will be a sign-up sheet circulated in services each week for you to sign up for a time, or you can just show up and we will take your picture.

The updated directory will be available in mid-February.

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## **January 6—EPIPHANY PARTY**

Following the 10:30 worship on January 6, we'll share in a potluck meal and work off the calories by taking down and putting away the Christmas decorations—a traditional 12th night activity that we'll do in the daytime. Bring a dish to share.

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## **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE**

Tuesday, January 15, between 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., you can donate blood. You can volunteer to unload the truck at 12:00 p.m. or to reload the truck at 6:00 p.m. You can volunteer to serve in the canteen. Phone the Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE, prompt 5, to schedule your time to donate blood. Call the church to volunteer to help.

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### *AVERAGE SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE for January through December 16*

48 Weeks 2007	97
51 Weeks 2006	92

# 2007 AMENDMENTS TO THE MODEL CONSTITUTION FOR CONGREGATIONS

as approved by the 2007 Churchwide Assembly  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Chicago, Illinois • August 6-11, 2007

Prepared by the Office of the Secretary  
of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
August 17, 2007

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Additions are underlined. Deletions are ~~struck through~~ in the text.

To amend provision \*C8.02.c. in the Model Constitution for Congregations to ensure the protection of the voting rights of members of congregations:

- \*C8.02.c. Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation.

To amend provisions \*C17.01. and \*C17.04. in the Model Constitution for Congregations regarding incorporation of amendments adopted by the Churchwide Assembly:

- \*C17.01. Unless provision \*C17.04. is applicable, those Those sections of this constitution that are not required, in accord with the *Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, may be amended in the following manner. Amendments may be proposed by at least 5 voting members or by the Congregation Council... *(with the remainder of the provision unchanged)*.
- \*C17.04. ~~Whenever the Model Constitution for Congregations is amended by the Churchwide Assembly, this~~ This constitution may be amended to incorporate such amendment bring any section into conformity with a section or sections, either required or not required, of the Model Constitution for Congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America—as most recently amended by the Churchwide Assembly—by a simple majority vote of those voting members present and voting at any subsequent legally called meeting of the congregation without presentation at a prior meeting of the congregation, provided that the Congregation Council has submitted by mail notice to the congregation of such an amendment or amendments, together with the council's recommendations, at least 30 days prior to the meeting. Upon the request of 5 voting members of the congregation, the Congregation Council shall submit such notice. Following the adoption of an amendment, the secretary of the congregation shall submit a copy thereof to the synod. Such provisions shall become effective immediately following a vote of approval.

To amend provisions \*C18.01. and \*C18.02. in the Model Constitution for Congregations regarding adoption of continuing resolutions:

- \*C18.01. The congregation in a legally called meeting or the Congregation Council may enact continuing resolutions. Such continuing resolutions may not conflict with the constitution or bylaws of this congregation.
- \*C18.02. Continuing resolutions shall be enacted or amended by a majority vote of the congregation or a two-thirds vote of all voting members of the Congregation Council.



**American  
Red Cross**

# Please Give Blood

## BLOOD DRIVE

**Tuesday, January 15, 2008**

**1:00 – 6:00 pm**

**Christ Lutheran Church**

**333 S 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Quincy**

*Sponsored by  
Christ Lutheran Church*

*Soup served in  
the donor canteen!*

**For an appointment, please call  
Virgene Gilkerson (217) 223-3744  
or  
1-800-GIVE-LIFE, prompt 5**

*You are eligible if you donated on or before November 20, 2007.  
Please remember ID – Red Cross donor card or photo ID.*

*January is  
National Volunteer Blood Donor Month!*

01-C11/2/21/01

## WORSHIP LEADERS FOR JANUARY

	January 6	January 13	January 20	January 27
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bonnie Scranton Sue McLennan	Pat Bell Crystal Bernett	Sue Reeder Jerry Shank	Ann Schwartzkopf Barb Wilkinson
<b>USHER</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Bill Wolters Joe Brinkman	Bonnie Scranton David Tooke	Ron Lerner Jim Bailey	Stu Bell Dick Bernett
<b>READER</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Ron Lerner Kim Glasglow	Kathy Wolters Barb Wilkinson	Joan Lerner Peggy Bailey	Dick Tabb Nona Miller
<b>NURSERY</b>	Emily Stollberg	Ashley Van Camp	Ashley Stollberg	Elisabeth Jones
<b>ACOLYTE</b> 10:30 AM	Alex Rettenmeier	Reed Haubrich	Kara Wolf	Ian Jones
<b>GREETERS</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Dick & Sue Tabb Jim & Peggy Bailey	Virgene Gilkerson Bruce Holderbaum	Joanne Brubaker Butch & Missy Kuras	Bonnie Scranton Wayne & Sue McLennan
<b>DEACON</b> 10:30AM	Reth Stollberg	Jerry Shank	Barb Rhinberger	Crystal Bernett
<b>SOUND SYSTEM</b> 8:00 AM 10:30 AM	Kathy Wolters Stuart Peters	Bill Wolters Dick Bernett	Ann Schwartzkopf Bruce Holderbaum	Bonnie Scranton Olin Shuler
<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>	Epiphany Party	Santos Lunch	Group 1	Group 2

*If you cannot help on your assigned Sunday, please find a replacement and make a change on the appropriate sheet on the office bulletin board. Many Thanks!*



If you have a birthday in January and your name does not appear on the following list, we would appreciate it if you would notify us so that we can complete our records.

- |         |   |   |
|---------|---|---|
| January | 3 Erica Stollberg<br>8 Barb Rhinberger<br>11 Sarah Peters<br>12 Eric Conover<br>17 Pastor Paul Schwartzkopf<br>19 Brandi Ufkes<br>22 Lynn Hicks, Jr.<br>22 Phil Conover<br>Carrie Kimber<br>Bob Bolte | 23 Sue McLennan<br>24 Barb Hicks<br>Oneta Burner<br>26 John Bartlow<br>27 Lielei Wahlmann<br>28 Patty Kruse<br>29 Karn Haubrich<br>30 Amy Franken<br>Stephanie Glore<br>Jeff Stollberg<br>31 Michael Wahlmann |
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If you have a wedding anniversary in January and it does not appear below, please notify the church office.

January



Poinsettias

## POINSETTIAS

We thank the following for the beautiful flowers which have decorated our church this Advent and Christmas.

In memory of Gerald & Virginia Stollberg	<i>by Jeff &amp; Amy Stollberg</i>
In honor of Bruce & Kathy Bringer	<i>by Jeff &amp; Amy Stollberg</i>
In honor of Our Grandchildren	<i>by Floyd &amp; Joyce Leenerts</i>
In memory of Phil & Bonnie's Parents and Bonnie's Sisters, Bev and Judy	<i>by Phil &amp; Bonnie Conover</i>
In honor of Our Children & Grandchildren	<i>by Phil &amp; Bonnie Conover</i>
In honor of Bergit Trautz	<i>by Joan Kammerlohr</i>
In honor of Delma Weber	<i>by Joan Kammerlohr</i>
In memory of Donald Caldwell	<i>by Jo Caldwell</i>
In honor of Our Four Daughters and families	<i>by Jerry &amp; Mary Shank</i>
In memory of Bob Tofall	<i>by Norma Tofall</i>
In honor of Our Children and Grandchildren	<i>by Bill &amp; Kathy Wolters</i>
In memory of Bill Gilkerson	<i>by Virgene Gilkerson</i>
In honor of Ellen and Paul and Spouses	<i>by Virgene Gilkerson</i>
In memory of Wanda Gillhouse	<i>by Gillhouse Family</i>
In memory of Cheryl, Gerald & Virginia Stollberg	<i>by Reth &amp; Jennifer Stollberg &amp; Family</i>
In honor of Daune & Dave McCollugh	<i>by Reth &amp; Jennifer Stollberg &amp; Family</i>
In memory of Our Parents and To the Glory of God	<i>by Robert &amp; Barbara Rhinberger</i>
To the Glory of God	<i>by Randy &amp; Ruth Osterbur</i>
In memory of Lawrence & Geneva Leenerts	<i>by John, Donna &amp; Josh Leenerts and Jodi &amp; Jordyn Summy</i>
In memory of Leland Craig	<i>by John, Donna &amp; Josh Leenerts, Jodi &amp; Jordyn Summy, and Goldie Craig</i>
In memory of Charlotte Jones	<i>by Nona Miller</i>
In honor of Anita Wall	<i>by Nona Miller</i>
In memory of George & Gladys Holderbaum	<i>by Bruce &amp; Barb Holderbaum</i>
In memory of Milton and Lillian Larson	<i>by Bruce &amp; Barb Holderbaum</i>
To the Glory of God	<i>by Wayne &amp; Sue McLennan</i>
In honor of Nona Miller	<i>by Anita Wall</i>
In memory of Charter Members	<i>by Anita Wall</i>
In memory of Mary Larner	<i>by Her Family</i>
In memory of Our Parents, Guy & Bernice Davis, and Harry & Ruby Larner	<i>by Ron &amp; Joan Larner</i>
In memory of Orville Bertelsen	<i>by Irma Bertelsen</i>
In Memory of Virginia & Joseph Derwart, and Stuart Bell	<i>by Stu &amp; Pat Bell</i>