

THE CROSSROADS

January 2011
Volume 6, Issue 1



Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 550 Lincoln Drive, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590
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What Will the New Year Bring for You (and Your Kids, too)?

With the countdown to midnight, 2011 arrives. At such a time many adults, with great expectation, take stock of the passing year and look to the future inspired by new goals, dreams, and plans for the coming year. For some, it is in the form of a New Year's resolution.

Wouldn't it be helpful for our children who also live in this fast paced world to pause and think about the upcoming year and how they might make the world a better place as well. It is good to wonder together where will God's love take us this year. Would a New Year's resolution help your child get on track?

We all want our children to grow into the wonderful human beings that God created them to be. If each year they pick a resolution and work on it for that year, it would lay a great foundation on which God can work helping them become the best that they can be. It is an opportunity to be intentional with a brand new start.

HERE ARE A FEW RESOLUTIONS TO SUGGEST TO CHILDREN THIS NEW YEAR'S :

- *Appreciate Today* – Give thanks to God for the roof over your head, the food in your stomach and for the people who love you.
- *Give Back* – Do a random act of kindness each day. Do something for someone with no expectation of a reward or acknowledgment. After all, God loves a cheerful giver.
- *Show Your Love* – Say “I love you” AND do something to show your love for God, neighbor and yourself. How? You could spend some time with those you love – playing with younger siblings, helping mom with the chores or asking dad how his day went. Spend time with God in prayer and worship...try for perfect attendance at Sunday School.
- *Help Stop Bullying* – Stand up for those who can't stand up for themselves. Don't ignore it when someone is being bullied. Help everyone see that being different is okay and that God created us to be unique and special in our own way. Remember Jesus words “just as you did it to one of the least of these...you did it to me.” (Mt. 25:40)
- *Be Responsible* – Take responsibility for your room, your body and your behavior. Without supervision, develop the ability to take care of yourself, the things that belong to you and the way you act toward others. That's called being a good steward.
- *Look at the Positive* – Things change, people change and what may be bad today can be different tomorrow. Try to always see what is good in your life and in every situation that presents itself. Remember Martin Luther's explanation to the 8th commandment and “put the best construction on everything.”

Encourage your children to make a New Year's resolution. Have them commit to it for a year. Help them keep their resolutions by posting a reminder on the bathroom mirror or have them write it in their school planner. It could very well improve the way they think, who they are and make the world a better place for everyone...including their parents.

Blessings in the New Year!

Pastor Krahn

P.S. I'd love to hear what New Year's Resolutions you have set for 2011.

Worship Themes For January

Epiphany begins the calendar year. Here comes January. And here comes the Gospel of Matthew. Throughout the year of our Lord 2011, texts from the first gospel will permeate the Sunday readings. In fact, a late Lent means a strong showing for Matthew all the way through February.

You will also hear a huge chunk of 1 Corinthians in the lengthy Epiphany season. Some of our most cherished understandings of faith come from this first letter that Paul sent to the church in Corinth, Greece.

January 2 – The Second Sunday of Christmas - What does it mean that *God lives among us*? On the Second Sunday of Christmas we'll look at the beginning of John's Gospel for a clue.

January 9 – The Baptism of Our Lord – Isaiah prophesied that the servant of the Almighty who would save the world would be a *Gently Breeze of Change*. Patience seems to be in order.

January 16 – 2 Epiphany - The Christian Church of Corinth could say "*We Are Not Lacking*" when it came to spiritual gifts. The same is true for us.

January 23 – 3 Epiphany – In today's Gospel we get a glimpse of the beginning of Jesus' wandering existence about Galilee. What exactly happens when *the Good News blows into town*?

January 30 - 4 Epiphany - Reverend John Mix, Chaplain at the Dane County Jail, will be our guest preacher this weekend. The jail ministry is a mission we strongly support though prayer and resources.

Table Talk with Pastor B

Beginning January 17, men of the congregation are invited to join Pastor B at a table in the corner of Buck and Honey's restaurant on Bird Street at 6:30pm for informal discussion of important topics. Called *Table Talk* in honor of Martin Luther's habit of holding conversations after dinner, this monthly series will have a beginning topic and then we'll just see. According to Pastor B: "Some of our better seminary discussions happened in the cafeteria, the parking lot, or the library lounge. In fact, I probably learned as much in those discussions as I did in class." The first topic is "What is God like?" The discussion will explore biblical and personal visions of God's character.



New Member Class to Begin

We're glad to start a series of new member classes again at Our Savior's. This session of classes will be held on Sunday **and** Monday evenings. We're trying something a little different for this winter session.

We'll meet on two Sunday and two Monday nights: January 9, 10, 16, and 17, from 6:00pm-7:30pm each evening. Child care will be available. If you are interested in becoming a member of Our Savior's, please sign up at the Ministry Opportunity Table or contact Pastor Krahn at the church office. New member recognition will take place on Sunday, January 23 at the 10:30 worship service.



Communion Enrichment Milestone on January 30

"When can I take communion, Mommy?" If you've been hearing that question from your second grader, it's time to attend the Communion Enrichment class in preparation for their communion milestone on January 30, at the 10:30am worship service.



Parents and children are invited to come and learn about God's gift of love in the Holy Communion at one of the following sessions:

Wednesday, January 19 from 4:30-5:30pm;

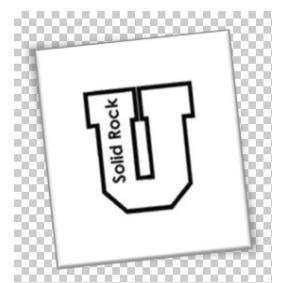
Monday, January 24 from 6:00-7:00pm; or

Saturday, January 29, from 10:00-11:00am.

All second graders, their parents and those who have not attended a communion enrichment class are welcome to attend. Sign up on the Ministry Opportunity table to let us know you will be there.

SRU Carries On in the New Year

Confirmation classes start up again after the holidays with a new series of classes on Wednesday, January 5, at 6:30pm. Courses range in topic from Old Testament, to the Means of Grace, to Listen to This, to Primetime Praise, and even the Architecture of God. There are also "No School Specials" entitled Meet Madam LeTourneau and Where Jesus Walked. As you can see, it's cool to be enrolled at Solid Rock University.



Opportunities to Learn about Palestine and India

Pastor Krahn will be sharing her travel stories on Wednesday evenings in January, from 6:30-8:00pm. Pastor Krahn's course, "Where Jesus Would Walk", recounting lessons learned in Palestine, sharing photos and memories, and talking together about what we might do to work for justice in the Holy Land, will be the focus of this course.



Katie Christensen will be sharing her experiences in the course, "To India and Beyond" in February. Everyone is welcome. Please sign-up on the Ministry Opportunity Table. Speak with Pastor Krahn if you have questions or email her at pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org.

Hey Kids! The O. S. Faith Odyssey going to Babylon!

A visit with Daniel in Babylon is the next stop for the O.S. Faith Odyssey which begins on Sunday, January 9. Did you know that Daniel lived everyday of his life praying and trusting in God? That got him in trouble with the king. The king wanted Daniel to worship him and when Daniel refused he was thrown into the Lion's Den. Find out what happened to Daniel. Don't miss a single Sunday and participate in a Spiritual walk, drama, games, movie and a great storytelling workshop where you talk about a green nose and evaluate food.



Parents you can be a part of this rotation as well. Come on the Sunday your child is doing their Spiritual Walk and walk with them through the seven stages. It will be an opportunity to learn with your child and help us out at the same time. A calendar of when your child will do that workshop will be on the bulletin board in the narthex by the kitchenette.

Thank you!

A big thank you to all you assisted with the Christmas program "A Nativity Koffee Klatch." A special thank you to the Senior Choir, Ben Kienitz, John Krueger, Kim Peterson for sharing their musical gifts and to Frank Peot for the lighting effects. It was a great program and the children did a great job. Thanks!



Library Board Notes

The Library Board will begin cataloging new books and DVD's over the next few weeks, watch for them to appear on the shelves. We could use additional members for this board so that we can keep up with all the new donations and books and DVD's that we have received. If you are interested, please contact Muriel Arms.



A reminder for those who wish to donate articles for the Library. The Library Board's policy on donations is:

- Does this material meet a particular need in our congregation? Who will use it? (Does it support the church school curriculum? Women's groups? Youth ministries? Worship and music committees? Seniors?)
- If the material is doctrinal, does it support the church's religious beliefs? Does it enlighten the congregation about beliefs.
- Is the author credible?
- Is the content well done?
- Do the illustrations enhance the text?
- Will the binding last?
- Is the print clear and easy to read?
- Is the cost reasonable?
- What do reviewers say about the book?"

You can also check the Library page on the OSLC web site.



Mission Statement for Our Savior's Lutheran Church Library: Our Savior's Church Library is open to all members of our congregation and community. We seek to provide both print and non-print materials which strengthen the educational work of the church, increase our knowledge of our own faith and others, enrich our worship life, provide information on social and economic issues, foster an appreciation of good literature, and deepen our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Green Lake Retreat Reminder!

Those signed up for the Not Quite Green Lake Lock-out January 16, please be at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church promptly at 7:00pm. See Brett with questions.



Souper Bowl of Caring

Our senior high youth will hold soup kettles at church doors on Super Bowl Sunday, February 6, 2011. They will join young people in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2010, over 12,000 groups participated in the Souper Bowl of Caring generating over \$10 million dollars.



None of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. Organizers only ask that each participant report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 more than \$60 million has gone to help people in need.

Proceeds this year will stay locally and go to Joining Forces for Families, which is housed in the Sunshine Place. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to "love our neighbors" by dropping your dollar in the soup pot on February 6.

RIOT and chaos Youth Group Calendars Available



The 2010 calendar of events for youth groups are posted on the RIOT and chaos bulletin board by the offices and on the church website. Check out the newly updated youth group bulletin board to see what's coming up for middle school and senior high youth. See

Brett for more information about youth group.

Early Camp Registrations Due in March

This is a notice for anyone thinking about summer camp through Crossways this year.

Whether it is

Confirmation camp, senior high camps, elementary-aged camps or family camps, early registration ends March 15. Registrations received by the camp after March 15 will have to pay the regular price. Camp is available for everyone. Financial hardship should never be a reason for missing camp. Assistance is available. See Brett if you have questions.



Family Movie Night – "Mulan"

The next family movie night will be Thursday, January 21 from 6:00-8:00pm in Mission Matinee. The movie "Mulan" will be the feature this month. This event is open to all ages. Check out the Youth and Family bulletin board by the library to sign up for this fun fellowship event with your church family. See Brett with questions.



Red Cross Babysitter's Class offered at OSLC Friday, January 21 9:00am-4:00pm

Youth ages 11-15 are welcome for a Red Cross Babysitter's class. Learn how to:

- Supervise children and infants
- Perform basic child-care skills such as diapering and feeding
- Choose safe, age-appropriate games and toys
- Handle bedtime and discipline issues
- Identify safety hazards and prevent injuries
- Care for common injuries and emergencies such as choking, burns, cuts and bee stings
- Communicate effectively with parents

The class can hold up to 12 youth and a minimum of 8 are needed to hold the class. Sign up on the youth and family table in the narthex.



The cost for the class is \$58. Youth and Family ministry will provide a \$10 scholarship for OSLC members. Make checks out to OSLC. See Brett with questions.

***Youth group permission slips changes policy effective January 1, 2011

Beginning January 1, parents of RIOT and chaos youth participating in youth group events requiring permission slips only need to fill out one permission slip for their child per year. After that, parents need only to sign their child in and put down an emergency contact and name. Parents will need to update their forms once a year or in

the case of health insurance policy changes or emergency contact information changes. See Brett with questions.



Milestone Ministry Asks Congregation to Participate in Communion Recognition Sunday

Participating in communion is a special time for children and families. When we partake in this sacrament, we do so with “all of the body of Christ.” Sunday, January 30, those who have completed the Communion enrichment class will be celebrating the Eucharist for the first time at the 10:30 service. The Milestone ministry team invites you into the faith lives of these people.



As part of the worship recognition we would like you to complete a task after the service. You will have the opportunity to pick up a blue key tag, which symbolizes congregational members of the Body of Christ. Please take a moment to write on the back of each tag your name and the year of your first communion. Then take a minute to give your tag to a young person celebrating this milestone for the first time. This is a great opportunity to plant “Spiritual” seeds in the faith-life of our young people. If you have any questions, see Brett or Kim Smith.

SPECIAL NOTE: If your son or daughter celebrated this communion milestone last year and received a ring with their own color tags, we encourage your child to wear them to the service in support of this year’s communicants and to celebrate with them this important milestone.

“God’s Garden” Worship Quiet Bags are now available for children

Worship is central to all we do here at Our Savior’s. All are welcome, especially children! We realize that sometimes younger children need some help and to keep their hands busy during the service. The youth and family resource team, with the generosity of many in our congregation, are offering God’s Garden worship quiet bags. Come to the large, mobile tree in the Narthex prior to worship and pick up a worship bag for each young person to use during the service. There are two colored bags to choose from that are age appropriate. Please return the bag to the Tree when the service is completed. See Brett with questions or concerns.



Fellowship

We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all that so generously assisted with cookies, bars, and your time to help make the holiday season occasions at Our Saviors so welcoming and enjoyable. You are truly appreciated.



If you or your group is in need of any assistance that the Fellowship Committee can be of help with, don’t hesitate to contact us. Think warm thoughts!

Eat Boldly

returns this month. Look for the sign up sheet in the Narthex, and join us. All are welcome.



Lutheran Men in Mission

Couch to Crazylegs! January 3 training begins. Contact Steve Smith at (608)628-3677 for information. **Winter OSLC-LMM Devotional Retreat**—January 7-8. Location to be determined. Contact Kelly Thompson at (608)577-0094 for more information. **Beer, Pastor B and Faith Talk**—January 11 at 7:00pm. Location to be determined. Contact Kelly Thompson at (608)577-0094 for information. **Weekly Devotional Study**—Email and blogged every week. Contact Kelly Thompson at (608)577-0094 for more information. Don’t forget to visit the website at oslc-lmm.org

Lutheran Men in Mission

Book Club

2011 marks the 10th anniversary for our book club! We’ll celebrate all year with some great books. We don’t meet in January. We’ll start out the year on Tuesday, February 1 with the book, *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot. Watch for the newest edition of Book Club News on the Ministry Opportunity Table.



Volunteer of the Month— Marlene Hyer

On almost every Saturday you will find Marlene Hyer quietly putting the Sabbath Crossroads newsletter into worship folders. This simple ministry helps the ushers and worshipers alike. Thank you, Marlene. You are the OSLC Servant of the Month.



Marlene is just one of the hundreds of people who offer their time and energy to help the mission of Jesus Christ at Our Savior's. We are thankful for each and everyone. Together we are the hands doing God's work.

+ One a Week Club +

To find a current list of blood drives or to make an appointment to give blood you can call 1-800-give-life or visit givebloodgivelife.org. Donating blood takes about an hour of your time. Please consider making time for this vital need in our community. Call to schedule your appointment today!

Thanks to Bonnie Schunke, Bryan Loney, Fritz Schunke (Aph), Patricia Nicholson, Mark Westerveld, Paul Kaiser, Jeni Hanser and Dan Williamson who donated blood recently. Aph designates Apheresis donations, a special donation of platelets.

Our total for 2010 is 176 donations.

Community Events

Recycle the Warmth Drive—The Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be holding the 19th Annual Recycle the Warmth Drive from January 28-30. This drive is in need of new or gently used blankets, pillows, sheets and other bedding throughout the year. You may purchase new or used bedding and take them to any of the four Shopko stores in the Madison area by January 28. Thank you for your generosity.

Official Acts

Marriages - united in love and blessed by God

December 4—Heidi Hubble & Michael Skaar

Baptisms - celebrating new life through the sacrament of belonging

December 5—Camryn Elizabeth Meinzer—
daughter of David & Kari Meinzer

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Pastors: Rev. Dr. David J. Berggren
(608) 825-4282
Pastorb@oslc-elca.org

Rev. Julie A. Krahn
(608) 249-3556
Pastorkrahn@oslc-elca.org

Director of Christian Education – Muriel Arms
(608)455-5015
marms@oslc-elca.org

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brandy@oslc-elca.org

Communications Secretary – Megan Marshall
megan@oslc-elca.org

Finance Secretary – Nancy Walden
nancy@oslc-elca.org

Director of Music & Organist – John Krueger (608) 249-0679

Director of Youth, Alleluia & Senior Choirs – Kim Peterson

Director of Chancel Ringers – Angie Schmidt

Director of Cherub Choir – Kim Olander

Nursery Coordinator – Pam Gjersvig

Wedding Coordinators – Patricia McFadden & Brandy Foulkes

Custodians – Eric Kubly and Curly Dederich

Accompanists – Alex Bandli, Diane Padrutt, Heather Bruemmer

Congregation Council:

President: Vicki Hanrahan
Vice President: Mike Ferris
Secretary: Gail Niesl
Treasurer: Linda Frautschy
Church in Society: Helen Feaster
Education: Debi Peters
Evangelism: Joy Kroeger
Fellowship: Diane Williamson
Finance: Bill Rockeman
Lay Ministry: Linda Hagen
Property: Ralph Stauffacher
Public Relations: Shawn Bryant
Stewardship: Jim Alt
Youth: Jackie Myers



2011



Cheesecake Order Forms

Annual Cheesecake sale for Valentine's Day this year!

RIOT, the senior high youth group, will again be offering cheesecakes at Our Savior's this year. Orders will be taken in the narthex during the entire month of January, with samples offered after services.

Cheesecakes can be picked up at the church on Friday, February 11 between 3:00-7:00pm.

Proceeds will help the senior high youth, who will attend this year's summer Mystery Mission Trip and the National Youth Gathering 2012.

See Brett if you have questions.

(Turn this form in at the cheesecake table in the narthex or the office anytime in January)

Order a cheesecake for your valentine on Valentine's Day and support our senior high youth.

Gourmets' Delight brings you gourmet goodness and a flavorful selection of cheesecakes.

Each cake is handmade, using fresh, natural, ingredients and no preservatives.

Cakes are frozen and precut into 14 slices and can be re-frozen for maximum taste and texture.

Cheesecakes can be picked up on February 11 between 3:00-7:00pm.

Mark your selection below and make your checks out to: Our Savior's - cheesecakes.

Quantity	Cheesecake	Total cost	Quantity	Cheesecake	Total cost
_____	Traditional	\$16 _____	_____	Cherry (Heart shape)...	\$20 _____
_____	Chocolate Chip.....	\$16 _____	_____	Pecan Carmel.....	\$20 _____
_____	Mint C. Chip.....	\$16 _____	_____	Strawberry.....	\$20 _____
_____	Chocolate Marble..	\$20 _____	_____	Turtle.....	\$20 _____
_____	Pineapple C. Cme...	\$20 _____	_____	Raspberry Fudge.....	\$20 _____
_____	Key Lime.....	\$20 _____	_____	Cookies + Crème.....	\$20 _____
_____	Blueberry.....	\$20 _____	_____	Variety (7 Flavors).....	\$20 _____
Total Quantity _____		Total Cost _____	Thank you for your support!!!		
Please indicate if you are supporting a specific youth (Name) _____					

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
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Sun Prairie, WI 53590

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Communion Enrichment Class	page 2
Learn About Palestine & India	page 3
Souper Bowl of Caring	page 4
RIOT Cheesecake Sale	page 7

The Crossroads

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
Sun Prairie, Wisconsin
January, 2011