

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS

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Lutheran Church of The Savior, Bedford, MA



CELEBRATING 54 YEARS OF WORSHIP

Time — God's Gift

We have just celebrated a wonderful Christmas! What a blessed season for us as individuals, families and as a congregation.

As you read this issue, we have already entered a new year. What will the New Year bring? What new experiences will you have this year? What challenges and opportunities will come our way as a congregation?

I am reminded of several verses from the Bible that refer to "time" – God's time and how He manages it for us and our world.

Everything that happens in this world happens at the time God chooses. Ecclesiastes 3:1

Jesus said, "The right time has come, and the Kingdom of God is near!" Mark 1:15

When the right time finally came, God sent His own Son. Galatians 4:4

How do we make our time fit in with God's time so He can use us as people who help advance His Kingdom? Organizing and managing clock hours is part of the answer. Being receptive and responsive to the Spirit of God zeros in on the key for Christians at the turn of the year or at any time.

As we look at our new calendars and plan our hours and days, let us remember God's time and timing as an integral part of our lives. Let us rededicate ourselves to our Lord Jesus in all we do, making use of the high sense of responsibility and cooperation to which the members of Lutheran Church of The Savior have committed themselves in our ministry together.

My prayer is for a happy, healthy and blessed New Year for each of you!

Pastor Teske

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

in conjunction with NECN • Thursday, January 26, 2-7 PM

in the Family Life Center here at the Lutheran Church of The Savior

If you are at least 18 years old and weigh 110 pounds or more, you are eligible to be a blood donor! It's easy to give blood, and they make you eat cookies when you are through! Please call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE (800-448-3543) to schedule your appointment. Volunteers sign up on bulletin board in narthex.

GIVE A PINT, GET A POUND!

FELLOWSHIP/OUTREACH

January will be **"Name Tag Month"** so that Pastor's wife, Ann, may get to know the congregation. These also serve as a wonderful way to put names and faces together especially for those who are new to the congregation.

Corn Toss League continues the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month in the Family Life Center at 7:00 PM (Jan 2 and 16). Equipment is provided (game boards and corn bags). Suggested age range is high school and up.

The next round of **"Tables of Fellowship"** will be Saturday, January 21st. Those who are scheduled to host will receive a reminder this week.

On Saturday, January 28 will be an old-fashioned **"WinterFest Potluck"** to which all are invited ... young and old alike! Plan to come in from the cold and join your family of faith for a good old-fashioned potluck and some games. It will be a nice, warm way to beat the winter doldrums. Sign up is posted in the narthex... invite your family and friends!

Sunday Greeters needed. Please consider volunteering just one Sunday... come to church about 20 minutes early and welcome all who enter — members and non-members alike, guests and visitors, too!! It's very easy to do and all we ask is a warm smile along with a warm welcome. Sign up on bulletin board.

LCS World Missions... Here, There and Everywhere!

LCS SENIOR LUNCHEON — Join us at noon on Thursday, January 12 for wonderful food and Christian fellowship. Whether you've come before or not, join us — no RSVP needed!

BEDFORD VA HOSPITAL VISITS — This group meets at the Bedford VA at 7:00 PM on the third Monday of the month. Join us on Monday, January 16. All are welcome to join us. For more information, if you have questions, or if you wish to meet up with the group on your first visit, please call Margaret Letourneau at 978-256-2167.

SERVE AT BEDFORD'S COMMUNITY TABLE — Join other volunteers from LCS to serve a home-cooked dinner at the Bedford Food Pantry at the Town Center. LCS is scheduled to serve in 2012 on January 19, March 15, and May 17 (Thursday evenings). Volunteers help from 4:30 to 6:00 PM. A great opportunity to help others with a small time commitment! Interested? Contact Lesley Sakey at 781-275-2754 or call the office at 781-275-6013.



Lutheran Women's Missionary League

JANUARY EVENTS

Tuesday, January 10 – 7:00 PM

All women are welcome to our meetings... this month's meeting will include a Bible Study led by Pastor Teske. The topic is yet to be determined. Come and enjoy the fellowship of other Christian women and be uplifted by the message that the Lord has for you. If you require a babysitter please call Peggy Wang at 978 369-4660 in advance in order to make arrangements for that evening.

Devotions — Bette Hoyt

Hostess(es) — Bette Hoyt and Susan Hollis

Mission Donation of the Month — toothbrushes to be used in the Lutheran World Relief Health Kits. *Other items needed for the kit are bath towels 52" X 27", bath soap, sturdy wide tooth comb & metal nail clipper. Item can be purchased and left in the LWML drawer, or with any of our members.*

COME AND BRING A FRIEND!

NO QUILTING DAY CIRCLE THIS MONTH

MAY BASKET DONATIONS

At a future meeting, the Women's Guild will assemble gift baskets for the residents of a nursing home in the area. Many items are needed to fill the baskets. Donations of sample size shampoo, hand lotion, toothpaste, and soap as well as small packages of facial tissue, greeting cards, etc. would be greatly appreciated. Items can be left in the Women's Guild drawers in the narthex table as you enter the church. Thank you for your continued support of the mission work of the LCS Women's Guild.

REMEMBER YOUR SECRET PRAYER PAL THROUGHOUT THE COMING YEAR!

Pictured here are some of the over 130 containers of instant potatoes and stuffing that were collected during Advent by our Sunday school students for the Central Food Ministry's Christmas dinner boxes for its clients.



JANUARY 2012

*Lutheran Church
of the Savior*

MONTHLY PLANNER

Communion in Liturgical Worship —
1st and 3rd Sunday each month

Communion in Contemporary Worship —
2nd and 4th Sunday each month

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 New Year's Day Worship Service w/ Holy Communion 10:00 AM	2	3 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Church Council 7:00 PM	4 Couples' Bible Study 7:00 PM (Stewart-Billerica)	5 Thursday Club 3:00 PM Savior Singers 4:30 PM Banners 7:00 PM Choir 7:30 PM	6 D R A M A	7 Men in Prayer 7:30 AM R E T R E A T
8 Regular worship schedule, Sunday school and adult Bible study resume SHYG GraceBook 4:30 PM-7:00 PM	9 Adult Information Class 7:00 PM	10 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Women's Guild 7:00 PM F/O Meeting 7:00 PM	11 Couples' Bible Study 7:00 PM (Stewart-Billerica)	12 Sr Luncheon 12:00 PM Thursday Club 3:00 PM Savior Singers 4:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM	13 Scrapbooking 7:00 PM (Gierke-Billerica)	14
15	16 Adult Information Class 7:00 PM Bedford VA Hospital Visit 7:00 PM	17 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM Board of Elders 7:00 PM	18 Couples' Bible Study 7:00 PM (Stewart-Billerica)	19 Thursday Club 3:00 PM Savior Singers 4:30 PM Bedford Food Pantry Dinner 4:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM	20 Adult Singles Bible Study 7:00 PM	21 Messiah Rehearsal 9:00 AM TABLES OF FELLOWSHIP 6:30 PM
22 Middle School Youth Subs & Movie 12:30-3:30 PM Senior High Youth S'mores & Games 4:00-7:00 PM	23 Adult Information Class 7:00 PM	24 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM	25 Couples' Bible Study 7:00 PM (Stewart-Billerica)	26 RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE 2:00-7:00 PM Thursday Club 3:00 PM Savior Singers 4:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM	27	28 Messiah Rehearsal 9:00 AM WINTERFEST POTLUCK 6:00 PM
29	30 Adult Information Class 7:00 PM	31 Women's Bible Study 9:30 AM	1 Couples' Bible Study 7:00 PM (Stewart-Billerica)	2 Thursday Club 3:00 PM Savior Singers 4:30 PM Choir 7:30 PM	3	4 Men in Prayer 7:30 AM

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Liturgical Worship — 8:30 and 11:15 AM

Contemporary Worship — 10:00 AM

Sunday School, Confirmation and Adult Bible Study — 10:00 AM

High School and Adult Bible Study — 11:15 AM

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

Sundays — 10:00 AM and 11:15 AM

Tuesdays, Women's Bible Study — 9:30 AM

Small Group In-Home Studies, *call church for details*

WORSHIP SERVANT SCHEDULE – JANUARY 2012
PLEASE CALL THE CHAIRPERSON IF YOU CANNOT SERVE AS SCHEDULED. THANKS!

Altar Flowers Linda Ballenthin 781/862-4179
Altar Guild Ruth Scheyder 781/275-6719
Pianist/Organist Gina Persson 978/356-4249
Choir Director/
Christian Arts Vianna Pilkington 978/948-7935
Office Administrator/
Epistle Editor Patricia Connery 781/275-6013



**Lutheran Church of
The Savior, Bedford MA**
Phone: 781/275-6013
Fax: 781/275-9308
www.lcsavior.org

Ushers 8:30 AM Bill McGrath 781/756-1414
10:00 AM Harry Gennis 978/369-8784
11:15 AM Ken Scheyder 978/692-3951
Nursery Katharine Wellner 978/250-9561
Host & Visitation Patricia Connery 781/275-6013
Sunday School
Coordinator Nancy DeLory 850/517-6406

JANUARY 1ST

FLOWERS
Ballenthin Family
USHERS
10:00 Bob Browne
& Dave Sanderson
COMMUNION SERVANTS
10:00 Scott Cyphers;
Doug Cook; and
Jacob Gierke, *acolyte*
HOSTS
10:00 Carole Friedman
& Colleen Tank
VISITATION
COORDINATOR
Karen Hergert

JANUARY 8TH

FLOWERS
Still available
NURSERY
8:30 Christine DeBruzzi
10:00 Bette Hoyt
USHERS
8:30 Mark Struss &
Bob Browne
10:00 Bill MacLeod &
Bill Hurley
11:15 Dave Draper &
Dick Anderson
COMMUNION SERVANTS
10:00 Scott Cyphers
& Don Rodgers
HOSTS
8:30 Roger & Peggy Fix
10:00 Roger Parker &
Janet Davis
11:15 Rod & Gayle Sundet
VISITATION
COORDINATOR
Karen Hergert

JANUARY 15TH

FLOWERS
D. & E. Hopkins
W. & K. Davis
NURSERY
8:30 LoriAnn O'Brien
10:00 Cathie Petersen
USHERS
8:30 Roger Fix &
Steve Roller
10:00 Betsy Sylvia &
Drew Vernali
11:15 Dave Hopkins
& Stephen Scaer
COMMUNION SERVANTS
8:30 Paul Gierke, Bob Reid
Jacob Gierke, *acolyte*
11:15 Frank Hills,
Tom McCormick,
& Doug Cook
HOSTS
8:30 John DeBruzzi
& Janet Guenther
10:00 Chris & Cathie Petersen
11:15 Jim & Lori Eggert
VISITATION
COORDINATOR
Karen Hergert

JANUARY 22ND

FLOWERS
J. & E. McGuire
NURSERY
8:30 Laura Koehn
10:00 Katharine Wellner
USHERS
8:30 Richard Sparks
& Ernie Hollis
10:00 Sunny Thompson
& Roger Parker
11:15 Dale Hernquist &
Ken Scheyder
COMMUNION SERVANTS
10:00 Harry Gennis &
Roger Parker
HOSTS
8:30 Lori Miller &
Beth Smith
10:00 Bette Hoyt &
Doug Pilkington
11:15 Dave & Karen Hergert
VISITATION
COORDINATOR
Karen Hergert

JANUARY 29TH

FLOWERS
Still available
NURSERY
8:30 Diane Fonseca
10:00 Dale Hernquist
USHERS
8:30 Roger Parker &
Bill Clements
10:00 Glenn Miller &
Thorsten Dieckow
11:15 Ken Scheyder &
Doug Pilkington
HOSTS
8:30 Martha Hill Sackett
& Gwen Paquette
10:00 Patrick & Andrea
Kenneally
11:15 Sunny Thompson
& Colleen Tank
VISITATION
COORDINATOR
Karen Hergert



CHRISTIAN ARTS

Opportunities to Learn, Serve, and Proclaim!

Thanks to All!!

Every Christmas we connect or reconnect with our Savior remembering and celebrating how He came to earth. As believers, we can thrill at the story once more and make plans as to how each Christmas will bring us closer to the Son of God. Through Christian Arts, we try to underscore emotion via theater, music and visual art. Every year, people rise up to the challenge of extra rehearsals which also means giving up time with friends and family. For this, please accept my "Thank You"! We all appreciate your efforts and wonderful performances. To the cast of "No Ordinary Night", the LCS Brass, the Worship Band, the Christmas Choir, numerous instrumentalists, and Gina Persson, **THANKS!**

Drama Retreat

We will reconvene in Alton Bay Christian Conference Center on Friday evening, January 6 at 8:00 PM until Saturday, January 7 at 8:00 PM. For those of you who are interested there will be a reservation made at the William Tell for dinner at 6:00 PM. Things that are different this year are that they have asked that we bring our own linens (sleeping bag) or pay a \$5 charge. Let Vianna know if you want linens. We'll work on two plays (one for Lent and one for the Festival of Christian Arts the first weekend of May). Don't forget to bring your unusual prop for game night.

Thursday Club

We will be back together on January 5 at 3:00 PM returning to our original schedule with crafts, 3:00-3:45 PM; snack and Bible story, 3:45-4:00 PM; games, 4:00-4:30 PM; rehearsal for Savior Singers, 4:30-5:00 PM; and finally, homework help, 5:00-5:30 PM. Anyone can plug into this schedule whenever it works best for you. Savior Singers will not be singing this month. Highlight is a bowling excursion on January 19 for which volunteer drivers are needed. Also, if you have not completed your "transportation authorization" form, please do so and make sure to get it to Patricia Connery, Office Administrator, before the bowling event. Also looking for moms to do snacks one week in January. Let Vianna know if you can help out. Thanks.

The "Messiah"!

Handel's "Messiah" is one of the greatest oratorios ever written. We will have the opportunity to sing the Easter portion of it on Sunday, March 24 right here at LCS. It will be performed with a small orchestra and professional soloist, under the direction of Loryene Koeble. Vianna will be running "brush up rehearsals" every Saturday morning, 9:00-10:00 AM starting January 21 and they are open to anyone who wants to learn the work, not just choir members. Come join us.

Banners

The banners are only changed once this month for the season of Epiphany which begins Sunday, January 8. Because Vianna is on retreat and cannot change them on Saturday, they will be changed on Thursday January 5 at 7:00 PM. Meet in the sanctuary if you wish to help.

ADULT INFORMATION CLASS STARTS SOON

Members and friends of Lutheran Church of the Savior have an opportunity to explore the basic teachings of the Christian faith and the Lutheran Church beginning January 9. The class will meet 7:00-8:30 PM each Monday evening for 10 weeks. Sign up on bulletin board in narthex and indicate if child care is needed or call the church office at 781-275-6013 or email the office administrator at secretary@lcsavior.org to indicate your interest in the class. The sessions will include what the Bible teaches and Lutheran Church believes. The time will serve as a review for members of the congregation as well as serve as instruction for those who have interest in membership in the parish.

NEW STUDY FOR TUESDAY MORNING LADIES

Join the Women's Bible study Tuesdays at 9:30 AM. James, Jesus' own brother, started out as a skeptic. See how one glimpse of the resurrected Savior turned an unbeliever into a disciple in Beth Moore's 8-session study "James: Mercy Triumphs". In the process, learn how you can put your faith into action. Study begins Jan 17. Contact Jennifer Gierke for more information or to order a book (at 978-667-8717 or pgierke@verizon.net).

STEWARDSHIP

How did you do with your resolutions for the year 2011? About the same as for other years? Can you even remember what those resolutions were? Why do we struggle so much with resolutions? Were they realistic? Is it because we attempt to accomplish things completely on our own without any outside help, even from God? Failure is one of the biggest disappointments in life. Is it possible to start over successfully?

As we enter into this New Year we indeed have another opportunity to start over. Having the privilege of starting over gives us hope and courage as we look to the future. As we take down our 2011 calendars and replace them with 2012 calendars, we really can begin anew.

In Romans 12:12 (NIV), the Holy Spirit gives us some great ingredients for a really good New Year's resolution. There, encouragement is given to ***"be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer."*** Life would be so sweet if everyone could adopt and achieve these three practices, fully living them as a New Year's resolution.

"Be joyful in hope" should be pretty easy for Christians because our hope is in Christ and ***"that hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."*** (Romans 5:5 NIV)

"Be patient in affliction" can be considerably more difficult because we do not like affliction. Who of us likes to be mistreated by people who are rude, inconsiderate and downright nasty? Where can we get the strength to be patient in affliction? It can take a giant transformation to behave nicely when afflicted? Our comfort is that the power to do that does not come from within us, but from outside of us. When we were baptized ***"we were buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."*** (Romans 6:4 NIV) No one in the history of mankind had to deal with as much affliction as Jesus our Savior! And He did it out of love for us!

"Faithful in prayer" keeps us in touch with God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus spent entire nights in prayer with His Father in heaven so that He would have the strength to carry out His mission of dying for we sinners, so that we might have forgiveness of sins and have eternal life and salvation. Prayer is an excellent way to stay in touch with God and His love and awesome power.

How does this threefold resolution make a difference in our lives and the lives of those around us? Through the Holy Spirit at work within us to make us more and more the children of God. As children of God we seek to do the same things that give Him such delight. John 3:16 tells us that God delights in **loving** and **giving**. God has entrusted us with all of life and life's resources and He desires that we manage them wisely according to His purposes. **Loving** and **giving** are at the heart of Christian stewardship. May God bless us all as His stewards in this New Year of 2012!

*from LCMS Congregational Services
(edited by A. Lietzau IV for LCS Stewardship Committee)*

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

Happy New Year! Hope your Christmas celebrations were wonderful, and that you enjoyed your break from school. There is some great stuff planned for 2012 — make it your New Year's Resolution to participate in Youth Group events this year!

Sunday, January 8 (note date change!)
GraceBook Bible Study, 4:30–7:00 PM
Come join us for our first *GraceBook* of 2012. There will be fun, fellowship, Bible study, and food. We'll be mixing things up a little bit, so make sure you get there on time!

Sunday, January 22
S'mores and Game Night, 4:00–7:00 PM
You know what goes really well with the shortest days of the year? Marshmallows, chocolate, graham crackers, and bonfires! Come join us at the Cook's house in Billerica for a bonfire, s'mores, and some board games. Drop off and pick up are at the Cook's house.

DETAILS TO COME FOR THESE EVENTS...

Sunday, February 19 — *Pizza and Movie*
Friday/Saturday, March 2/3 — *Retreat*
Sunday, March 18 — *Laser Tag Outing*
Sunday, April 15 — *Servant Event*
Sunday, May 20 — *BBQ year-end event*

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, January 22
Make Your Own Subs & a Movie, 12:30 PM
Join us first in Fellowship Hall for a "Make Your Own Sub" lunch followed by the feature presentation, "Soul Surfer" — the incredible true story of teen surfer Bethany Hamilton, who lost her arm in a shark attack and courageously overcame all odds to become a champion again. Sign up on the youth bulletin board in Luther Hall next to the item which you will bring for the lunch. Drinks provided. Approximate parent pick up time is 3:30 PM.

DETAILS TO COME FOR THESE EVENTS...

Sunday, February 19 — *Sledding Outing*
Sunday, March 18 — *Laser Tag Outing*
Sunday, April 15 — *Servant Event*
Sunday, May 20 — *Mini Golf Outing*