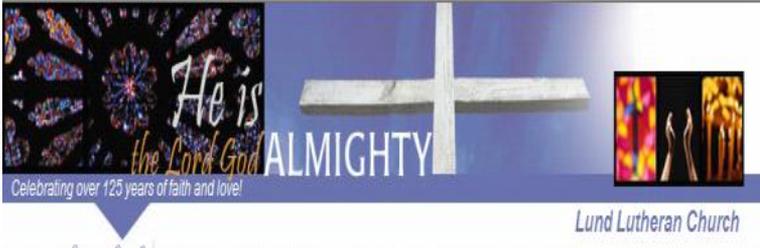


Lund Newsletter



December 2012



*Lund Lutheran Church
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*A member of
Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ*



Newsletter December 2012

Happy Birthday Jesus!

When Thanksgiving turkey is still digesting, the Christmas season, or should I say the Holiday Shopping season commences. Like a shot, the American public leaves the starting blocks, sprinting to the nearest big box stores on a treasure hunt of discounted popular merchandise. Hey, it's good for the economy, right? Retailers claim the Friday after Thanksgiving is when they first operate profitably "in the black" for the fiscal year. And our government needs the sales tax revenue, the income tax and corporate taxes, and every other tax that can be collected to pay for its spending. So...let's spend, spend, spend, and buy, buy, buy. Then on Christmas morning we pile the wrappings in the corner and lean back on the couch to view our accumulation of Santa gifts. That is, until the day after Christmas when we run to the stores in anticipation of end of year "savings." Do I sound a little jaded with it all? Am I the Grinch of Christmas?

In the days of Caesar Augustus and the Roman Empire, there was a frenzy of commerce and hordes of people who went about buying and spending, trading and negotiating, often centered on religious or government holidays. And government was a big time spender in those days. So much so, that Caesar commanded "all the world" to travel to their hometowns for enrollment in the tax plan. Can you imagine the bumper to bumper donkey traffic, the push and pull to get to the merchandise retailers, food vendors and hotel front desks?

In the midst of the entire hubbub in a little town swollen with travelers, shoppers, and government officials, a young woman and a carpenter slipped into a stable in the back alley. There she would labor and deliver her first born, wrap him in swaddling cloths, and lay him in a manger, for there was no room in the Inn. The Light of the world had come among us, Emmanuel, God With Us. He entered humbly into human history, and the weary world has reason to rejoice.

What do you want for Christmas? It's a fair question. If all we want is a "Happy Holiday" to party, blow off steam and get our fix of the latest fad or technology, aren't we a sorry bunch? Will we settle for a "holiday season" to buy and sell, push and pull, consume and then consume some more? Even family gatherings become tainted with "stuff" and one-upsmanship. We end up wanting it all to just be done so we can get back to the dull and routine. Are trinkets what we want to give and receive for Christmas? Or do we remember the reason for the season?

If Jesus was not born, then killed, and then rose to life, we have no reason to celebrate after sweeping up the broken tree ornaments. But He was, and He did, and we have Hope. We can live in Joy, even in the ongoing midst of life's bumps, hassles, and less than stellar displays of humanity. We have been offered a gift, a Pearl of Great Price, that we cannot afford to buy, and yet the one gift from God that fits just right if we will only receive Him. He is the special gift we can give away this Christmas to our loved ones: the Gospel of the manger, Calvary and the empty tomb.

A few days ago, our two Detroit Lakes LCMC congregations got together for a chilly but fun project of building a parade float. In the midst of thirty other brightly lit floats on a Monday evening we traveled the downtown streets in a caravan of holiday spirit. Among the Santas and reindeer, fire trucks and snowmen, ATVs and sparkling candy canes, there were two floats that brought attention to why we celebrate Christmas. Our friends from the Community Alliance Church created a float with the theme "Jesus Light of the World." We followed a few floats behind with our newly baked and candle decorated cake proclaiming "Happy Birthday Jesus!" Did you see us? If not, the parade will be televised on Arvig cable channel #3 the week of December 10th.

Let's include a birthday cake in our festive gatherings. Let us sing, "Happy Birthday Jesus," and let's light the candles in remembrance of the Light who still shines, showing the way to the stable, the cross, and then to heaven.

"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

Merry Christmas!

**Christmas Eve Service December, 24th 5:00 pm
No Service on Christmas Day**

Lund Lutheran Church, council minutes, Thursday, Nov. 1st, 2012

The council met at the church at 7pm. Present were: LeRoy Squires, Karen Alexander, Judy Gildersleeve, Sharon Westerholm, Russ and Carol Okeson, Jennifer and Robin Turnwall, Pastor Jim Osvold and Marcy Erickson.

Devotion by Sharon Westerholm.

Secretary's Report...approved as written. Judy/Sharon

Treasurer's Report....approved as written. Russ/Judy

Pastor's Report... 1.The Juel Mattson benefit raised approximately \$7,000 from donations and the silent auction to be used toward his organ transplant...2.Lund volunteers will be helping with the Salvation Army bell ringing again this year. Karen Lundberg is signing/contacting ringers.....3.The Grand Parade of Lights will be held on Monday, Nov. 26th at 5:30pm. We discussed having a "Happy Birthday Jesus" float with a big candle- lite birthday cake. Pastor will discuss this idea with the youth. The council members are supportive of this idea...4. The Invitation committee has several interested parishioners willing to help with this. These willing people are: Roger and Cleo Johnson (who have agreed to be our team leaders), Les and Donna Heimark and Vince and Donna Root.

Old Business:

1. Meatball dinner....a total of 433 tickets were sold for a total of \$4,054.00, expenses totaled \$1,168.42....for a total net profit of \$2,885.58. Judy Gildersleeve was sole coordinator this year and did a wonderful job. Thank You, Judy!!!

New Business:

1. Nominating committee for 2013 is Jan Mills, Myra Eastman, and Donna Root. They have been busy working on filling the 4 council positions that will be vacated at the end of this year.
2. Snow removal....the Okeson family will take care of the snow this again this year.
3. Holiday Traditions magazine.....Sharon will check with parishioners to see if we have enough interest to advertise in this magazine. The ads are 2 columns X1 1/2 " at a cost of \$85. We will also advertise both our Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve services in the newspapers prior to the holidays.

Meeting adjourned with the Lord's prayer.

Next meeting, Thurs, Dec. 6th at 7pm.

Respectfully submitted, Marcy Erickson, secretary

Christmas Caroling



Join us Sunday, December, 16th at 5:00pm for Christmas Caroling. We will meet at the church and car pool into town. After caroling you are invited to Pam & Jerry Ross' home for supper.



Hello Everyone, Mousey here.

We have had another busy month at our wonderful Lund Lutheran Church. Sunday School for kids and Big people. I stay skinny running from class to class. The big people are studying Pauls' letters to the Romans and the kids are learning all about David and Goliath and King David of Israel. I got a letter from Maria and she was telling me what she had been learning, David killing Goliath with a stone and about Hannah, Eli and Samuel and then later Saul. I need to pay more attention so I can keep up.

Shepherd of the Lakes Church and Lund built a float for the Parade of Lights. I caught a ride in with Judy so I could see it. Wow was that neat. Lots of lights, wishing a Happy Birthday to our Lord, Jesus Christ. There were a lot of floats and things, but I think ours was the best. It was awful cold so I didn't stay outside too much. Everyone that worked on it did a great job.

I sure hope I can catch a ride to go see the Church Basement Ladies. That should be fun. Our ladies are always so busy doing things, to keep my home nice and clean, and bringing in lots of food. Aren't we lucky to have all of them?

I heard someone say that Pastor Jim does some of the best messages they have heard. He talks about things we can all understand. The Holy Spirit works in him all the time. Even if he almost forgot to do the offering one Sunday. Tee Hee. We are so lucky to have him, to teach us. God keeps blessing us every day in bringing more people to worship with us.

I can't believe Christmas is coming, my favorite time of the year. All that beautiful music and singing. Life is sooooo good. I wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Mousey

**The Church Office will be closed on Wednesday, December 26.
May you have a blessed Christmas and a Happy, Healthy 2013.
From Pam & Jerry Ross and family**

YOUTH EVENTS

Christmas time is upon us soon.

Time to get ready for Jesus' coming.
The Sunday school children would like to invite parents,
Grandparents, friends and neighbors to
"LOOK AROUND THE STABLE"

This years Christmas program.

December 16th, 2012

9:45 a.m. Church service

Potluck after service.



Our stuff-a-turkey project is going very well. The kids are filling our turkey full. Come take a look!!!

Kids remember ***December 9th*** is our last Sunday to bring in donations.

We will be handing in our tickets for prizes that day!

Important Dates to Remember:

Dec 2nd: 8:30 a.m. Practice Christmas program during Sunday school. Decorate our Christmas tree & bulletin board.

Dec 9th: 8:30 a.m. Practice Christmas program. Play Bingo. Hand in tickets for prizes. Costume fitting.

Dec 16th: 8:30 a.m. Final practice for program. Christmas program 9:45 a.m. church service. Potluck to follow in Fellowship Hall.

No Sunday school: Dec. 23rd, Dec 30th.

Class resumes Jan. 6th, 2013. Happy New Year!!!!!!!

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation and Youth Wednesday Night
Supper @ 6:00 PM Class @ 6:30

If you have a student ages 13 to 19 they are welcome to join us Wednesday nights for supper, class and fun!



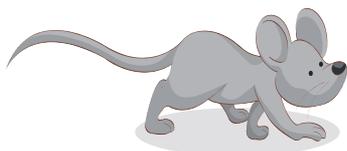
Confirmation students will be serving muffins and coffee after church Sunday, December 9th. Donations will be going towards a fundraiser for a youth retreat.

Thank you for all your help!!!!

Advent candle lighting begins December 2nd. Our Sunday school kids love to participate in this part of the service. I will be calling the families to set up Sundays for volunteers. We need parents to be involved with this with their children. Thank you all for your help.

Thank you for all your snack donations to our Sunday school program. We have enough snacks to keep us full and happy for a long while.

Follow with us on Mousey's adventures.
We are visiting Bethlehem and learning the
story of Jesus birth.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!!!



Lund Women's Bible Study
and Christmas Party
Tuesday December 11, 2:00PM
At Sharon Westerholm's
All Women are welcome, bring a friend.

Bible study is held the 2nd Tuesday of the month,

This year's community project is duffle bags or back packs for Becker County foster kids.

Suggestions for the contents are as follows:

Baby: PJ's, sleeper, booties, socks, diapers, baby shampoo & wash, wipes, sweat suit, toy.

Toddler > age 5 or 6: small cuddly blanket, socks, slippers, sweat suit, sweat shirt, jacket, pj's, T shirt, coloring book with washable crayons, sm toy, book.

Older child or teen: flannel sleep pants, t shirt, sweatshirt, toothbrush, toothpaste, comb, deodorant, lotion (scented for girls), socks, flip flops, hand held game, lip gloss, nail polish, small gift certificate for McDonalds, Subway, Dairy Queen, etc.

Leave donations on the back table downstairs. We will be putting the bags together at Bible Study on Tuesday, December 11th.

Thank you for sharing the gifts that God has provided to you.

Enclosed in the newsletter is a table piece for Advent. The Bible verses are a reminder to us of God's goodness and love for sending his Son. Punch out a candle each week. You can also place a candle or votive with it.



To My Church Family:

Thank you for all the visits, cards, and prayers
I received after my surgery.
Myra Eastman





A huge “THANK YOU” to all who helped with our Swedish Meatball Dinner. It only took us four hours to make 2,300 meatballs on Saturday morning at Maplelag. And about that long to get rid of them all on Sunday. We sold 437 tickets plus had many children under age 4. So, we estimate that over 450 people enjoyed our dinner. We served until after 7 pm to accommodate everyone waiting. Our guests gave us great reviews. And they loved Pastor Jim’s singing. Without all of you, this could not have happened. Thanks again!

Judy Gildersleeve

Thank You!



Thank you to everyone who helped get the float ready for the Grand Parade of Lights on Monday night. And to all who turned out for the parade on the chilly evening.

Birthdays:

- December 4:** Richard Schmidt
5: Rodney Eastman
8: Alfred Johnson
14: Sharon Westerholm
Jens Richards
17: Jeramie Jacobson
31: John Sauer



Anniversaries:

- December 6:** Lloyd & Betty Varholdt
27: Ron & Jan Anderson



May God Bless you on your special day!

If your birthday or anniversary was missed, please call Pam in the office 218-847-9662. Thank You!



New address:

Marie Lundberg has moved to Golden Manor Assisted Living. Her address is 1165 Garnett Blvd. DL, her telephone number is the same.

Les & Donna Heimark's new address is 674 Lake Forest Circle DL

We are thankful to God for the generosity of our Congregation in the support of Lund Lutheran ministry. As we approach the end of 2012 you may wish to consider an end of the year gift to the congregation. Thank You!

Attention "Snow Birds" please let the church office know when you leave for the winter so we can get your address changed for mailings. Thank You!



December Volunteers for Worship

Reader: Cindy Sauer

Greeters : John Downs

Communion Server: LeRoy Squires

Ushers: John Downs

Sunday Coffee servers:

December 2: Women's Ministry

December 9: Youth

December 16: Sunday School Program Pot Luck

December 23: Women's Ministry

December 30: Everyone bring your leftover Christmas goodies

There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for worship volunteers for 2013. Thank You!

A TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS

V aluable is the work you do,
O utstanding in how you always come through.
Loyal, sincere and full of good cheer,
U ntiring in your efforts throughout the year.
N otable are the contributions you make,
T rustworthy in every project you take.
E ager to reach your every goal,
E ffective in the way you fulfill your role.
R eady with a smile like a shining star,
S pecial and wonderful - that's what you are!

-(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

Area Happenings

Advent Mini-Concerts at First Lutheran 12:05 pm Wednesdays
(Dec. 5,12, 19th) Soup and sandwich served after the concerts.

All Are Welcome!

Concordia Christmas Concert Friday, Dec. 7, Saturday, Dec. 8 and
Sunday, Dec. 9.