

## **Announcements for the Week**

**GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME!** We worship an awesome God and Savior. Whether you are a longtime member, a frequent visitor or someone brand new to church, you are a valued and necessary part of our congregation this morning. Listen for God's voice and you will hear him. Introduce yourself to the people near you in church. Celebrate the Lord's Supper with us. Worship with us next week too.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS MORNING AT 9:30 AM-Who is Jesus?** - Today we continue a three part series on the events of Epiphany as they are portrayed through art over the centuries. The epiphany is that Jesus is so much more than we can ever imagine: The King of Heaven and our lives, The Son and Lamb of God, A Miracle Worker. Epiphany season remembers when Jesus ministry became public and the whole world would never be the same. Join us today and next Sunday as we see who Jesus is through the images of Epiphany.

**NEW BILLY GRAHAM CLASS ON AGING!** Please come to a two part Bible study based on Billy Graham's new book, Nearing Home; Life, Faith and Finishing Well. We meet Sunday February 19 & 26, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Ninety-two year old Graham, the great Christian evangelist has written a practical book on finishing life well. If you have an aging parent and want to understand their experience, read this book. If you struggle with your own aging and health issues come to our class and study this upbeat, Christ centered book.

**LENTEN SERVICES BEGIN SOON!** Join us Ash Wednesday, February 22 at 7:15 p.m. for the first of our Lenten services featuring our "When" sermon series. Each Wednesday through March 28<sup>th</sup> we will focus on a key moment in Jesus' journey to the cross. We will remember "when" Jesus listened, "when" Jesus got angry, "when" Jesus prayed and cared and changed lives. Each service will be filled with the powerful hymns of Lent and the devotional prayers that recharge our faith in our savior Jesus Christ. Bring a friend and your family.

**SHARE YOUR FAVORITE SOUP WITH US DURING LENT!** Each evening before our Lenten Services we have a wonderful soup and bread dinner. Each evening we'll need 8-10 pots of soup (serving at least 10 people). Some of our boards will bring soup on particular evenings but we still need our great cooks in the congregation to supplement with more soup. We also need fresh bread. If you can't bring a dish, you are still very welcome to share in the great dinner and worship service. Sign up on the chart in the narthex.

**NEW MEMBERS' CLASS BEGINS THIS TUESDAY!** If you're interested in joining our congregation or just want to know what Lutherans believe, come to our New Members' Classes which meet Tuesday February 7, 14, 21 & 28, 6:30—7:45 p.m. These informal and interesting classes give you a chance to talk to the pastors, meet some great people new to the church, and to ask your questions. All questions are welcome and respected. Call the church office 815-741-4488 to sign up. Let us know if you will need childcare.

**ATTENTION PROSPECTIVE WORK CAMPERS: A WORK CAMP MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 12 AT 12:30 PM. PLEASE BE THERE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YDD.**

**FROM OUR PROPERTIES BOARD** - "Attention Please: Would the individuals in charge of any function that is being held in any area of the church, please check to be sure no toilets are running and that all lights are turned off before the last person leaves. Thanks so much."

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO COULD USE SOME HOME REPAIRS? ARE THEY STRUGGLING TO AFFORD THEM? ARE THEY A SENIOR CITIZEN, VETERAN OR DISABLED? DO THEY LIVE IN JOLIET?** Messiah is bringing REACH Work Camps to Joliet this June. We have done roofs, decks, wheel chair ramps, painting and a lot more! **CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE ([www.messiahlutheranjoliet.com](http://www.messiahlutheranjoliet.com)) and click on the Workcamp cartoon for more information on Workcamp 2012 and to recommend homes that could use repair.** *\*Not all projects recommended will be able to be done this year. We are hoping to have this become an annual event.*

**HOLY SPIRIT WEEKEND!** Please join us for the Holy Spirit Weekend of the Alpha course. Who is the Holy Spirit? What does the Holy Spirit do? How can I be filled with the Spirit? We will hear lessons and ask these questions Friday evening and Saturday morning culminating with lunch out on the town and a brief worship service Saturday Afternoon. The schedule is at the Welcome Center. Take one and sign up today!

**FANTASY BASEBALL LEAGUE** - Contact Pastor Kurt at [pastor.hoover@messiahlutheranjoliet.com](mailto:pastor.hoover@messiahlutheranjoliet.com) or (319-830-4545) if you are interested in joining a weekly Messiah fantasy baseball league for the 2012 season.

**PLEASE TURN OFF YOUR CELL PHONES BEFORE ENTERING THE SANCTUARY.**

**ASSISTED LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE. SEE AN USHER IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO USE ONE.**

**BLOOD DRIVE SET FOR FEBRUARY 18, 10 AM TO 2 PM.** You can sign up between all three services TODAY. This is a wonderful way to help show the love of God to others.

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT OUR PARISH NURSE MARSHA SMITH** for health concerns, education or a visit. She may be reached at 815-230-5882.

**ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY** are given by Ken & Vickie Skinner in honor of their 44th wedding anniversary and by Don & Jo Cyborski for the greater glory of God.

**WHY SHOULD YOU SIGN THE REGISTRATION CARD IN THE PEW?** By signing the registration card and putting it in the offering plate you help us 1) to know when someone is sick or absent for a long period of time, 2) to know your prayer needs and questions, 3) to track our attendance patterns, and 4) to help our pastoral staff to meet your needs more effectively. Please sign the card and put it into the offering plate each week.

## STEWARDSHIP REPORT

### February 5<sup>th</sup> – Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some. I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings. -1 Corinthians 9:19,22-23 NIV

Paul had the beautiful gift of showing such concern for others that he would refrain from doing what he was perfectly free to do so that the Gospel of Jesus would be better received by those to whom he was witnessing. One of the beautiful aspects of Christian stewardship is seeking and doing those things that are in the best interest and welfare of those around us!

#### **Worship Attendance:**

<b>8:00 AM -</b>	<b>90</b>	
<b>9:30 AM -</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>Wednesday Service - 17</b>
<b>11 AM -</b>	<b><u>113</u></b>	<b>Sunday School - 138</b>
<b>Total -</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>Awana - 62</b>

#### **2012 Budget**

<b>Operating Expenses</b>	<b>\$580,142</b>
<b>Average Need Each Week:</b>	<b>\$11,157</b>
<b>Received last week:</b>	<b>\$9,348</b>
<b>Received year-to-date:</b>	<b>\$48,461</b>
<b>Needed year-to-date:</b>	<b>\$55,783</b>



### **CALLING ALL OWLS! (Older, Wiser, Loving Seniors)**

Join us on Valentine's Day when Pastor Kurt will be presenting The Beginning of the Church in Art. We will be serving pulled pork sandwiches. Bring a friend and a dish to share. See you on February 14 at 12 noon for a wonderful slide show, great fellowship, and delicious food.

