



# BEACON

Lakeview Lutheran Church

Madison, Wisconsin

January 2007

## **A Note from the Pastor**

Dear Friends,

In October, the Lakeview Human Sexuality Committee offered you two options to come and discuss their work and to present your ideas for future direction in this area. Both of these gatherings were well-attended and wonderful exploration and discussion was held. The committee is grateful for the suggestions you made and is now in the process of making some of those things happen.

As our congregation considers the blessing of household covenants and ways to recognize committed relationships that do not include a marriage license, you asked for some additional Bible study. We will begin that Bible study during the Sunday morning education time from 9:15 to 10:15 on January 14. We will continue this study every week through March 25. Everyone is encouraged and invited to attend. You also asked to hear from an area congregation that has become Reconciled in Christ. That will happen later in January also during the Sunday morning education time. You asked to hear from a gay ELCA clergy person. That presentation is being arranged for early in February during the education time. As the plans for these presentations are made specific, you will be notified in the weekly worship book announcements. The best way to stay informed is to attend worship and read the "News and Notes" in the weekly worship book.

Well-informed and thoughtful discussion on these topics is important and a goal of the Human Sexuality Committee. To become well informed, you are encouraged to be active in the Lakeview community, not only in worship but also in study and fellowship. Being active will help each one of us understand who makes up this community. Christ calls us into fellowship with the entire priesthood of all believers.

I would like to thank the human sexuality committee members for their work. I would like to thank every member and friend of Lakeview who takes their call to love God's people seriously. These are difficult topics for us to work with. Some congregations choose to avoid them. I appreciate Lakeview's willingness to take on difficult things. No one ever said being a disciple would be easy and it is certainly not done in an armchair in our living rooms.

May the peace of the Christ child brought at Christmas, and the light of his birth in Epiphany be yours in the coming year.

Peace,  
Pastor Kirst



## Sanctuary Speaker System Up-date

**Praise God with Harp, Lute,  
Cymbal and Microphone!**

If you have not worshipped with us recently, you should know that we are experiencing serious difficulty with our sanctuary speaker system. It is worn out and needs to be replaced. The congregation council is actively seeking to do that and has learned that a new system, set up to meet the needs of our congregation today, will cost about \$20,000. To date, we have received **\$16,028.00** to be used toward the purchase of a new system. We will not install a system until the total amount has been received. Thank you to everyone who has generously supported this system. If you would like to contribute toward this necessary update, make your check to "Lakeview Endowment" and note that it is for the speaker system. You may place your check in the offering plate or bring to the church office.

## Human Sexuality Committee Meets

The next meeting of the Human Sexuality Committee will be on January 10 at 6:30 pm. We will meet in the Fellowship Room on the upper level.

## Prepare Because You Care!

On Sunday, January 21 at 9:15 am there will be a special forum in the Fellowship Room for anyone interested. It will be led by Dave Archie and others from Ryan Funeral Home on Sherman Avenue. There will be discussion about funeral planning and preventing identity theft. Refreshments will be served and prizes given. Come and learn new things to assist your planning.

## New York Trippers Eat Dessert

On Sunday evening, January 7 the adults going on the May retreat to New York City will gather in the church library in front of a roaring fire and begin planning for their trip. Dessert and beverages will be served. The meeting begins at 6:00 pm. Those going on the New York Trip include; Pastor and Kris Kirst, Garry and Rene Puzach, Bob and Sandy Hefty, Steve and Heidi Dewsnap, Marlene Creaser, Shirley Ewert, Kathie Benson, Charlene Koci, Sharon Anderson, Scott and Kim Harris, Bill and Amy Butrymowicz, Dan and Ella Bultman, Janet Call, Doris Evert, Lynn Solum and Phil and Connie Uekert.

## Middle School Winter Retreat

The annual middle school winter retreat for youth and friends in grades 6-9 will be held in Green Lake on January 19-21. The theme this year is "Meeting the Saints." As part of this theme, the group will be enjoying a Mardi Gras party and other related activities. A good time will be had by all. If you do not like Mardi Gras, you will like the frozen turkey olympics.

Completed registration forms and payment of \$40 should be returned to the church office, Pastor Kirst of Linda Schaack by January 10, 2007. Do not miss this great experience. Forms can be obtained in the narthex or church office.



Winter  
Youth  
Retreat

## Thoughtful Parking

A big thank you to everyone who parks in the upper lot and keeps space open in the lower northside lot for those who have a difficult time walking. It is especially important that we be conscientious of this during the winter months. If you and your family



## For December

**Cocoa  
Bags/  
Plastic & Paper**

### Thank You Food Pantry Volunteers

On Sunday, January 7, we will have the opportunity to introduce and thank all of our food pantry volunteers during the 10:30 am service. In celebration of their dedication, we would like to make a large “in-kind” offering of food to the food pantry. Throughout that weekend, bring your offerings of non-perishable food and place them at the altar. How big can we make the pile? The bigger the pile, the larger our gratitude for those who volunteer. Come and help make their day special. The volunteers have been invited to a lunch immediately after the worship service in East Hall.



**Cookbooks are  
here!!**

### 150 Years and Still Cooking”

This past year, Lakeview has been celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a congregation. As part of this celebration, the members of the congregation have created a cookbook that is now available for sale in the church narthex. Each book is \$10 and the proceeds from the sale of these books will be used to update our church kitchen. If you are looking for a Lute-fisk or Swedish meatball recipe to feed 1200 of your closest friends, you will find it in this book. Also, our famous homemade lefse recipe, along with many other favorites fill this cookbook.

## Youth to Canada

Next summer we are shipping our high school youth over the border, all the way to Toronto Canada. While there, they will work in several public meal sites, they will be involved with the Scot Mission, which is a homeless program; they will do some home care projects and be involved with the senior residents of Cummer Lodge. Toronto is considered the most culturally diverse city in the world where 80 ethnic groups, speaking 110 different languages all live. Although we are familiar with the positive side of the city of Toronto, there is an 8% unemployment rate and a very high and rising homelessness rate. This will be a very multi-cultural experience for all who attend. The next meeting of the youth attending this trip and their parents will be held at 11:30 am on Sunday, January 14. Youth attending include Ryan Foye, Cory Meyers, Megan Olsen, Kevin Brown, Linnea Walstead, Charlie Schaack, Leslie O’Kane, Ashton Harris, Heidi Stein, Ellen Paskey, Alyx Haasl, Cody Castillo and Beau Castillo. Chaperones are Linda Schaack and Pastor Kirst.

## Welcome New Members

On December 17, the following individuals were received into membership at Lakeview.



Remember to welcome them as you see them at worship and activities or in the community. They include; Ericka Garley and Eliza, Kyle and Kristi Conway, Jan

Ford, Darron Vanman and Betty Posey and Autumn and Young He, Darren, Megan, Ella and Manning Ackley, Leroy and Eileen Gundlach, Steve Rognsvoog, Wayne and Darlyne Stamm, and Amy Parsons. It is wonderful to welcome to people to our community of faith.



## From the Parish Nurse

Parish Health Ministry Team will meet on **Tuesday, January 16th at 11:00 am** in Anne's office.

### Senior Forums

- ◆ **Tuesday, February 13th** Lunch at 11:30 am, West Hall—David Keesey-Berg, ELCA pastor & storyteller.
- ◆ **Tuesday, May 8th.** Lunch at 11:30 am, West Hall—Ann Waidelich, Madison Historian

The parish nurse will be available for blood pressure monitoring on Sunday morning, **Jan. 14, 2007** in the narthex.

## Dance Alive Returns

Get ready for some good old-fashioned fun with family, friends and neighbors of all ages. On February 2, Lakeview will again host a Dance Alive event in East Hall. It begins at 6:30 pm with the contra dance band Last Gasp. They will play until 8:30 and then our favorite group, The Cajun Strangers will take the stage for some good-time Zydeco dancing. A Cajun dance instructor will be present to assist all of us with our Cajun dance moves. The youth going on the summer mission trip will be frying and selling New Orleans Beignets and chicory coffee au lait as a fundraiser for their trip. Who can resist a beignet donut fried up golden brown, served warm, and covered with powdered sugar? Those who attend the dance are asked to make a free will contribution at the door to pay for the bands. This event is a great way to kick back after a workweek and have some winter fun. It is the perfect event for all ages! If you cannot dance, come and enjoy those who do. Invite a friend!

Did you know that the year 2007 marks the 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of Lakeview's existence!



**Happy Birthday, Lakeview!**

## Coffee Hour

Did you know that every Sunday morning there is coffee in the Fellowship Room on the upper level of the church? The coffee is provided by Pierce's Northside Market. The church purchases donuts from Pierce's bakery. You are invited to enjoy treats and fellowship. Your free-will donations for the bakery products help to cover their cost on the weekends when no one sponsors coffee hour. To sponsor coffee hour, just sign up in the narthex. The cost is \$25 per Sunday. If we had people sign up every week, we could eliminate the free will basket in the coffee room.



## Chuckles

Two boys were walking home from Sunday School after hearing strong preaching on the devil. One said to the other, "What do you think about all this Satan stuff?" the other boy replied, "Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just your dad."

A Sunday School teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor thy father and mother," she asked "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?" Without missing a beat one little boy answered, "Thou shall not kill"



## January Church Council Meeting

On January 22, the monthly church council meeting will begin at 6:30 pm in the church sanctuary. Mr. Jason Keagy, from Peak Systems Group in Reedsburg will make a presentation about the possible speaker system for our sanctuary. This is a very important meeting for the council that begins earlier than usual. The congregation has raised \$14,463 towards this new system. The expected total is around \$20,000.

## Congratulations Lakeview!

You raised over \$8,000.00 for the CROP walk this year to fight world hunger. You were the #1 money raiser in the Madison walk. You also sent \$600.00 to the synod Seminarian Assistance Fund in a special offering after worship on December 9/10. By the way, you also served 250 people at the annual, no-cost, Thanksgiving Dinner. Congratulations and thank you!

## Tutors needed!!

**Black Hawk Middle School** and the Urban League **Schools of Hope** program are looking for tutors and mentors to come in and spend at least one hour a week with some of our students. Sharing a little of your time each week will prove to be a rewarding experience for both of you. Help with math, reading, or social skills and enjoy every minute of it! If you can find the time in your schedule to be a key part in our program, please call **Ashley Horton at 608-204-4385** or email her at [ashleyahorton@hotmail.com](mailto:ashleyahorton@hotmail.com) and let her know what time works for you. Thanks!!

## Welcome Scott Ehle

During the weekend that Pastor Kirst is on the Winter Youth Retreat, January 20-21, Mr. Scott Ehle will lead worship. Scott is a senior student at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque Iowa. Wartburg is one of the ELCA's eight seminaries and the one that Pastor Kirst graduated from as well. Scott grew up in Rudyard, a small town in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He went to college at Northern Michigan University in Marquette, where he majored in History. He was active in campus ministry and camping ministry during that time. Scott met Stefanie Olson at camp and they will be getting married on June 9th of 2007 in Marinette, WI, which is Stefanie's hometown. Last year Scott did his internship under the direction of Pastor Lewis Thompson at Osseo Evangelical Lutheran Church in Osseo Wisconsin. Scott was approved for ordination on December 2 and will become available for a call in May 2007. He hopes to return to Wisconsin and serve in a rural or small town congregation. Because Scott is not ordained at this time, we will not celebrate communion on January 20-21. Come and support Scott as he prepares to enter the field of parish ministry.



## *Parents Place North Meets Wednesdays*

We meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Lakeview Lutheran Church, on the corner of Northport and Mandrake Road. All parents and children are welcome. Childcare is available but please call to let us know. For more information, or to register for childcare, please contact Barb Hornik at 241-5150 ext. 18.

- January 10 **Cabin Fever/Winter Fun**—Beat those winter blues with activities both you and your kids will enjoy. Come share your favorite winter diversion.
- January 17 **Celebrate Diversity**—Bring a dish to pass and something that reflects your heritage. Our country is rich with contributions from many cultures. Let's celebrate that!
- January 24 **When Our Children Lie**—We will look at lying and ways we might unintentionally reinforce this negative behavior.
- January 31 **Anger Management—Ours and Our Children**—This is one of the most difficult parenting skills. Tonight we will talk about strategies that can work for us and responses that can be more effective.
- \*Closed - February 7, 14 and 21 – Take time to have fun with your family.
- February 28 **The Challenges of Single Parenting:** Whether you are dealing with discipline between two households, continual conflicts with the other parent, redefining family or any of the other many issues you are dealing with, come learn some techniques that can make your life less hectic.
- March 7 **Growing Up Again:** Please call 241-5150 to register so we have enough material. Tonight we will begin a 6-week course based on the book by Jean Illsley Clark and Connie Dawson. This educational series helps parents identify unhelpful parenting behaviors and learn to turn the wounds from their own childhood into productive, nurturing parenting techniques.
- March 14 **Growing Up Again:** Our activities tonight will help us observe how we encourage responsible thinking. We will look at empowering ourselves and inviting others to use their power to care for themselves.
- March 28 **Growing Up Again:** Tonight we will explore the importance of nurture for adults and children and the challenge of asking for help.
- April 4 **Closed:** Spring Break. Have fun with your family!
- April 11 **Growing Up Again:** This session introduces structure along with nurture, so we can practice healthy parenting.
- April 18 **Growing Up Again:** Denial can be the glue that keeps us stuck. We will learn techniques to overcome this barrier to productive parenting.
- April 25 **Growing Up Again and Again:** We will examine discounting and ridicule and then bring all our skills together in order to provide more even parenting.
- May 2 **Parents' Choice** – now is the time to address the nagging issues in your life. Whether it is planning for summer activities or dealing with challenging behaviors, come share your concerns as we try to find resources and answers for you.
- May 9 **When our Kids Talk Back-** This behavior really tests our patience and our parenting skills. Let's look at what we can do to respond without encouraging this frustrating behavior.
- May 16 **Gender Prejudices**— often our media and cultures show a bias. Tonight we will explore ways we can help our children see the value in both men and women.
- May 23 **Sports** - There is so much for our kids to learn from their participation in sports. We will discuss the benefits, appropriate behavior and challenges as we work on making it a successful experience for our family.
- May 30 **Power Struggles** – Come learn new ways to respond to this parenting challenge.