

BEACON

Lakeview Lutheran Church

Madison, Wisconsin

December, 2007

A Note from the Pastor

Dear Friends,

I write this letter after an euphoric week. Yesterday, we hosted a phenomenal Interfaith Thanksgiving Gathering in East Hall. Around 200 people came to hear a presentation about the traditions that surround a time of giving thanks in our country. We experienced how religious groups, different from our own, might give thanks and then we ate together from the "potluck" table. Based on what religion and history professor Dr. Charles Cohen shared with us, I believe it was the most authentic thanksgiving celebration that I have ever attended. I learned how, in modern times, we have skewed what the 1621 gathering between the Pilgrims and the Wampanoags stood for. Yesterday was a tremendous experience.

On the day before, eleven members from Lakeview volunteered to spend their Saturday building on the Habitat build in Sun Prairie. Two other members made the lunch. At 11:00 that morning, we gathered with the future families and neighbors and blessed the near completion of those three condominium homes.

Throughout this past week, a crew of members from our congregation was doing hurricane recovery in St. Bernard Parish LA where some hung drywall, some laid a new floor and some mudded and taped already hung dry wall.

I just checked with Nancy and we already have 105 reservations for the Thanksgiving Dinner that we cook and serve at noon on Thanksgiving. I see the bread drying and the turkeys in the refrigerator and I know that about 250 people will enjoy a delicious home made dinner and great fellowship again this year. And of course, I am still doing cart-

wheels over the \$10,470.92 that our congregation raised for the CROP walk in October.

We are not a large congregation and we are not a particularly wealthy congregation. However, we do seem to be a congregation who understands what the coming of a Savior at Christmas meant to the world. As God's gift of love came to the people, the shepherds lead the way for us to spread the good news of this gift to others. I think we may share God's love best when we put it into action. I think we may do the best job of sharing God's love when we "walk the talk," when we get out there with our hands and hearts and feet and put into action what our words try to reflect. What feels better, to be told that someone loves you or to be wrapped in their warm embrace?

Thank you, people of Lakeview, for warmly embracing a ministry of love toward the world this past year. Thank you for sharing your hearts and your hands and feet and your dollars with others. Thank you for "walking the talk." Thank you for being my partners in discipleship. As we come into the time of Christmas, may you again be reminded of why we do these things. May you be reminded that the reason is that manger in a simple cow stable. May your Christmas be blessed with the love that God has for each of you.

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Kirst



Food Pantry Needs

COCOA . . COFFEE

Alternative Giving

Do you have someone on your Christmas list that is hard to buy for or who "has everything they need?" Do you want to honor someone or give a memorial gift but don't know what to get? Check out the Alternative Giving Best Gifts Catalogue from Church World Service in the narthex and give a gift that matters. Gift cards are available for each gift of \$10 or more along with a brief description of the gift you have chosen. Checks should be made out to Church World Service. For more information, talk to Lynn Case. Sample gifts include:

- 10 Jerry cans to carry clean water (\$10)
- Seeds and Tools for farmers (\$15)
- Oral Hydration Therapy (OTP)
for 11 children (\$10)
- 50 Chicks (\$25)
- School Kit (\$13)
- Water Buffalo (\$200)
- Health care for AIDS orphans (\$25)
- Literacy Training (\$40)
- One pair rabbits (\$10)
- Sewing Machines/training (\$250)
- 2 Blankets (\$10)
- Food Package (\$72)
- Health Kit (\$12)
- Shelter Kit (\$172)



Thanks to everyone that contributed to the bazaar. It was a great success. This means that contributions will be increased. There will be an accounting of this in the Annual Report. If anyone has any questions contact Carol Rohde or Shirley Storkson.

Have a Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

Keep the faith,
Shirley

Interactive Prayer Path

On Saturday evening, December 1, the confirmation students and their families will kick off the season of Advent by worshipping at 5:00 pm in the chapel. Following worship, they will have pizza in West Hall and then move into the East Hall to explore the unusual and interactive prayer path. The path includes headphones, music, various activity stations and activities. We thank the congregation at St. Dennis for sharing this youth oriented path with us. On Sunday, December 2, the Sunday school children will have the opportunity to use the path as well.

Sunday School Program practice for all children is Saturday, December 8 from 9:30 to 11:00 am in the church sanctuary. This is the only practice outside of Sunday school. We hope everyone can participate.

Advent

The church year begins anew with the season



Advent of Advent on Dec 1/2. We do not understand Advent as a time of waiting for Jesus to be born. That birth we celebrate at Christmas. Advent is a period of weeks where we remember that we are already redeemed for a new life in the resurrection, a time that we await in our future. During Advent we can worship without fear and we can shout aloud for the Holy One is in our midst. Advent is the stirring of the living God within God's people. We will worship in unique and exciting ways during Advent.

The King is Coming

Join the Sunday school children at 10:30 am on Sunday, December 9 for their annual telling of the Christmas story through song, narration costumes and surprises. Pastor Kirst wrote the production and Christine Stamm is directing it. Tim Mueller is leading the music. You will enjoy watching our young people tell the amazing story of Christ's nativity. Invite your friends and family. Immediately after the presentation there will be a birthday party lunch in East Hall for everyone. There is no cost for this lunch and it is a great way to celebrate with the kids. Join them and all of us on December 9.

Christmas Worship

On December 24 our candlelight Christmas eve worship service will be at 5:00 pm. There will be special music and participation from children. Holy Communion will be served and the sanctuary will be decorated. On Tuesday, December 25 we will celebrate Christmas with a festival worship at 10:00 am in the sanctuary. Again, there will be special music and Holy Communion will be served. These are two different services and you are invited to worship at both. Guests and extended family are cordially invited to join you.



Planned Giving Seminar

On Sunday, December 9, Larry Westfield, representing the ELCA, will conduct a planned giving seminar at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Room between worship services. Join us and Larry as we look at creative ways to share our resources with the church and with other charitable organizations. Coffee and refreshments will be served. We will conclude in time for the Children's program at 10:30. All are welcome.

Christmas Shopping Idea

There are 2 unique gifts available for Christmas gift giving here at Lakeview. The **Northside History Calendar** celebrates the history of the Northside of Madison in pictures. There is a unique histori-

cal picture for each month of 2008. The calendars cost \$12 each and a portion of that money goes to the youth going on the mission trip next summer. The second idea is a terrific **150th Anniversary Lakeview Cookbook**. The cookbooks are only \$10 and include terrific recipes from your friends at Lakeview. The book includes some interesting information about Lutefisk and other history of the congregation. Both items are available in the church narthex or the church office.

Traditions

The theme of the 2008 Middle School Winter Retreat will be "traditions." All youth in grades 6-9 and their friends are invited to join us the weekend of January 18-20 for this fun and educational event. We'll again be going to the Green Lake Conference Center. We'll be staying in the dorm with 3 youth in a bedroom. We are the only group in the dorm while we are there. Meals are served buffet style in the main dining hall in the Kraft Center. The Green Lake Center is a 1400 acre retreat center that is heavily wooded, filled with deer and located on the shores of Green Lake. The Lawsonia Golf Course is on the grounds and when there is snow, there is excellent tubing on the golf course hills. Besides activities that we will plan in the dorm, we will also use the recreation center on grounds. It includes a full gym, Ping-pong tables and a work out room with weight machines. This year we'll explore a variety of traditions that are used by cultures and groups and families to enhance their spirituality. We will provide fun recreation time and an evening of wild, messy, rotten and extremely bizarre games. Everyone has fun and gets messy during the games. The schedule and registration form is included in this newsletter. The cost per youth is \$80 but the Youth and Family Ministry generously pays \$40 for every child going, including friends. Therefore the cost to you is \$40. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Kirst or Linda Schaack from the Youth and Family Ministry. We look forward to this annual event. Get your registrations in now!





From the Parish Nurse

Advent Healing Service

December 11, 2007.
7:00 pm in the historic chapel.
Candle lighting, Music,
Scripture, Reflection



Parish Health Ministry Team will meet on Tuesday, December 11th following the senior forum.

Senior Forum Tuesday, December 11 Intergenerational Communication: Challenges of Change

A delicious hot lunch served at 11:30 am
Program at Noon
You don't want to miss this one!!!

SIGN UP FOR DAY OR EVENING YOGA CLASS

(3already signed up for evening class! We just need 7 more! - 1 signed for morning class, we need 7 more)

Many of us enjoyed the yoga session in October with Gary Spann. We would like to offer a regular work-out with Gary and his requirements for providing a class are as follows:

- ◆ signed commitment from participants for once-a-week session, for two months
- ◆ at least 8 participants for a 10:00 a.m. class; at least 10 participants for a 7:00 p.m. class
- ◆ cost per class to be determined but, generally, about \$4-6 (most yoga classes in Madison, e.g., through an HMO, run about \$10/class)

Gary Spann has taught yoga classes for over four years at the YMCA and Covenant Presbyterian Church. He is certified by the Silver Sneakers organization to teach their YogaStretch and Strength to participants over 65. A grandfather and swimming coach, Spann has an encouraging yet understanding approach to yoga.

Please indicate your interest—including time of day-- by contacting the parish nurse at the church office, 244-6181, or nurselkview@charterinternet.com. Classes would not begin until after the new year.

CROP Walk Results

Members of Lakeview Lutheran Church raised \$10,470.92 for the 2007 Madison CROP walk. Our goal was \$10,000. Congratulations for exceeding the goal for something so terribly important. We also had over 80 people at the CROP walk wearing those beautiful purple Lakeview T-shirts. What a great statement we made about our desire to end hunger in the world. Keep up the good work. That's what discipleship is all about!

What is a Shofar?

The shofar is made from a kosher ram's horn. It's a musical instrument similar to a trumpet. The shofar is described in the Bible as the horn to blow for alarm and celebration. Have you ever heard a shofar? Would you like to? Be surprised during Advent.



Summer 2008 Youth Trip Planning

Sixteen of our high school youth will be traveling with four adult chaperones to do mission work on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in July. Taking kids out of their comfortable environments away from televisions, computers, ipods, cell phones and friends and families allows for some dynamic things to happen. Taking them to a culture that's very different from their every day lives allows for even more dynamic things to happen. We are grateful to be able to do this again at Lakeview. We are grateful for the generous support this congregation offers to these youth and their families. On Sunday, December 2 you will have a chance to meet these young people and the adult chaperones during the 10:30 am worship service. Immediately after the service, Pastor Kirst will lead a meeting with the youth and their parents in West Hall.

TIS THE SEASON TO GIVE TO OTHERS

The annual giving tree will be in place November 24, 2007. This year's recipient is Elizabeth House, a facility that enables mothers with newborns to gain the life skills necessary to obtain jobs, housing and financial stability while raising their children in a positive Christian atmosphere. A three ring binder of "wish list" items needed is near the tree. Items donated do not need to be wrapped.

In addition to the three ring binder for Elizabeth House, there will also be a basket for donations to Port St. Vincent, a halfway house for men which provides meals, clothing and basic necessities for men trying to make changes in their lives. In addition to toiletry items such as toothpaste and toothbrushes, deodorant, shampoo, shaving cream and razors, and skin lotion, the greatest needs are shower shoes, sugar, coffee and cooking oil. Over the counter medication such as Tylenol and Ibuprofen are also needed. Full sized packages are preferred but any size would be appreciated. They do not need clothing donations at this time.

Lastly, cash donations to Lakeview's food pantry are greatly appreciated at this (and every other) time of the year!

If you have any questions, please contact any member of Mission in Society – Luther Torgerson, Lynn Case or Mary Cragin. Thank you for your generosity!!!

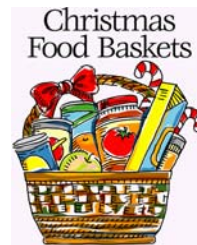
Thank You!
THANK YOU!

Al Wessel's work on the database for the Lakeview Cemetery is really appreciated. It will be nice to convert the paper records on a more permanent computer file that can be kept at a number of different places.

Phil Uekert
On behalf of the
Lakeview Cemetery Association

Truax Christmas Food Baskets

Each year at this time, Arlene Phillips, a member of our congregation helps to collect food and fill baskets for Christmas for people in the Truax neighborhood. Let's all get behind Arlene's efforts and each one of us provide a contribution for those baskets. Arlene is looking for donations of canned green beans, bags of bread stuffing, bags of apples and oranges, canned yams, candy canes, grocery bags and cash to buy perishable things for these baskets. Bring your donations to the chapel or church narthex. All donations are needed by December 16. Thank you for supporting this important outreach ministry.



Who Needs a Will?

On **Sunday, December 9, 2007 at 9:00 am**, Larry Westfield will lead a presentation entitled, "Caring Hearts-Touching Lives". This discussion will focus on how we can effectively plan to protect our families, while also benefiting our church and its ministry outreach. Topics will include: who needs a will and why, the importance of beneficiary designations, maximizing our gifts to the church and charity, and how we can complete our life stewardship by making gifts to the church that return a life income to us. We will discuss how we can plan our estates to benefit our families, our church and our ministry outreach. Larry will also provide an update on the ELCA's work with World Hunger, Global Missions and the ELCA Disaster Response programs.

Larry is a gift-planning counselor for Lutheran Planned Giving of Wisconsin, a partnership of 19 ministries of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America that serve Wisconsin. The partnership is administered by the ELCA Foundation. The South-Central is among the partners in this organization that was formed to assist individuals, congregations, and institutions in the areas of wills and charitable gift planning.

Larry was ordained in 1976 and has served congregations in Chaseburg, Stoddard and Rubicon Wisconsin. Larry conducts seminars in four synods of Wisconsin on retirement, estate and charitable planning. Larry is a member of Dr. Martin Luther Church, Oconomowoc, Wisconsin. This presentation will be purely education. Please join us for coffee and fellowship with our friends at Lakeview.

Join the Fun!
Bring Your Friends and Family!



Christmas Madrigal Evening At Lakeview Lutheran Church



A Musical Celebration of the Christmas Season
served up with Dessert, Wassail (spiced cider)
and Coffee!

Sunday, December 16 at 6:30 p.m.

The East Hall at Lakeview

Free Will Offering to Support Community Outreach

- * Motets, Carols and Songs by Lakeview Choir and Soloists
- * Lakeview Hand Bell Choir
- * Instrumental Music
- * A Christmas Carol Sing for Everyone!
- * Free Transportation Available— Call the Office 244-6181

Lakeview Lutheran Church Winter Youth Retreat
“Traditions”
Green Lake Conference Center-January 18-20, 2008
Grades 6-9

Youth Name

Youth date of birth and grade in school

Gender M/F

Name of mother, address, phone, email

Name of father, address, phone, email

Emergency contact person, other than parents, and phone

Physician's name and telephone number

Medical insurance name

Group number

Phone

Identify any medical conditions/medications the chaperones should be aware of

Identify any special diet or accessibility needs we should be aware of-food allergies

Parents/adults- we need volunteers and assistance to make this retreat happen. If you can assist, please mark below and you may be contacted to help. Drivers are very important to transport kids to and from Green Lake—it's about 1.5 hours north of Madison.

___ I can help drive to Green Lake on Friday evening 5:30 pm, # of seatbelts_____

___ I can help drive from Green Lake on Sunday morning 10:30 am, # of seatbelts_____

___ I can help chaperone this event

___ I can furnish a 12 pack of soda for this event

___ I can furnish a 12 pack of bottled water for this event

___ I can furnish a snack for Friday evening that has been a unique “tradition” in our family/home (something simple and easy to eat, maybe cultural)

Cost per youth, non-Lakeview friends too, is \$40 and includes lodging, meals, bed linens, towels, soap and use of all recreation areas at Green Lake. Checks should be made to “Lakeview Lutheran Church” and attached to this completed form. Please complete all areas of the form and return to Pastor Kirst by January 10, 2008

“Traditions”

Friday, January 18, 2008

- 5:30 pm Gather at Lakeview East Hall and depart for retreat
Eat something before you arrive at church!
- 7:00 pm Arrive at Green Lake—get settled in rooms
- 7:15 pm Adult chaperones meet
- 8:00 pm Kick off games in Robbins Hall
- 9:00 pm Learn the rules and schedule in Robbins Hall
- 9:30 pm Snacks from various “traditions” in Robbins Hall
- 10:00 pm Surprise outdoor activity-bring warm clothes
- 11:00 pm Evening Prayer Service in Robbins Hall
- 11:30 pm Quiet time in rooms
- 12:00 am Sleeping-nothing else, no noise!

Saturday, January 19, 2008

- 7:00 am Pastor Kirst will enjoy waking everyone up with very unpleasant and loud sounds
- 7:15 am Morning calisthenics/stretching in Robbins Hall
- 7:30 am Breakfast at the Kraft Center, everyone goes, dress warm
- 9:00 am “Traditions” program in Robbins Hall
There will be activities, videos, projects, presentations, Bible study, conversation, and games as we learn about the spiritual traditions of all of God’s people.
- 12:00 pm Lunch at the Kraft Center, everyone goes, dress warm
- 1:00 pm Recreation meeting in Robbins Hall
Everyone will engage in activities away from the dorm from 1:00 to 3:00 , if there is snow we will all go sledding. If no snow, hiking, rec center, ping-pong, shopping, visiting Ollie’s Place. Activities can continue after 3:00 or-
- 3:00 pm Group activities in/around dorm-no one goes to bedrooms!
- 4:00 pm Break the Piñata in Robbins Hall
- 4:30 pm Dorm meeting in Robbins Hall
- 4:45 pm Dinner at the Kraft Center, everyone goes, dress warm
- 5:30 pm Free time to get dressed for the GAMES
- 6:30 pm Let the GAMES begin!
There will again be a variety of crazy and messy team games that everyone will participate in. Wear clothes that can get messy. Just good old fun!
- 9:00 pm Evening Prayer Service in Robbins Hall
- 9:30 pm Featured movie and snacks in Robbins Hall
- 11:00 pm Quiet time in rooms
- 11:30 pm Sleeping, that’s all there is to it!

Sunday, January 20, 2008

- 7:00 am Pastor Kirst does his loud “wake-up thing”
- 7:15 am Morning calisthenics have been CANCELED
- 7:30 am Breakfast at the Kraft Center, everyone goes, dress warm
- 8:30 am Clean rooms and pack vehicles
- 10:00 am We gather for the tradition of worship and communion
- 10:30 am Depart for Lakeview, arrive around noon

Senior Forum

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

Lakeview Lutheran Church ■ 4001 Mandrake Rd. ■ Madison



*Intergenerational
Communication:*

Challenges of Change



with

Barb King, Professor, UW-School of Nursing

Jill Nowlen, spiritual director

& psychotherapist

Dean Kirst, pastor, Lakeview Lutheran Church

Hot lunch served 11:30-Noon West Hall (accessible)

Program begins at Noon

FREE –RSVP by 12/10/07 to 244-6181–*FREE*