

# "BEACON" JANUARY 2009

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MADISON, WIS.  
PERMIT NO. 1353

Newsletter of  
Lakeview Lutheran Church  
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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Lakeview Lutheran Church  
Church Office 608-244-6181  
M-F 8:00am—4:30pm  
[www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org](http://www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org)

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Jim Schroeder, Bookkeeper  
Dayna Dalton, Choir Director  
Linda Schaack, Handbell Choir Director  
Nel Bailey, Choir Practice Accompanist  
Cheryl Diekvoss, Nursery Attendant  
Ryan Phillips, Custodian

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday, 5:00 pm/Chapel  
Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 am/Sanctuary  
9:15 am Education Hour

# BEACON

Lakeview Lutheran Church

Madison, Wisconsin

January, 2009

## Advent Giving Tree

Thank you for decorating the sanctuary tree this Christmas by buying ornaments for the Road Home Program. We raised \$910 to buy food for the evenings that we will be serving meals for this homeless shelter. Your generosity and gifts are going to be very wonderful for our volunteers.

## Spanish II at Lakeview

It is time again to register for Spanish! Registration forms are available in the narthex near the file drawer on the back pew. The dates for this course are **Feb. 3-April 7**. It will meet again on **Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30**. Cost is \$69.75 for the course. No fees are required with the registration form. These will be faxed in through Lakeview like last term. Nancy Hayes will again be the instructor.

## Super "Souper" Bowl Weekend

Every year our congregation gathers a special offering during worship services on Super Bowl Weekend. We send our gifts to a hunger prevention program. Last year we sent a check for \$1,000 to the "Loaves and Fishes" meal site in Biloxi MS. This year our offering will go to the Lakeview Food Pantry. This special offering will be received on January 31 and February 1, 2009. Wouldn't it be great if we could offer \$1,000 to our very own food pantry?

## LUST-- Have You Read Song of Solomon?

Beginning on Sunday, January 11, Pastor Kirst will lead a new Bible study in the Fellowship Room at 9:15 am. Every



### Sunday Morning Bible Study

week he will select a biblical text that is unusual, obscure and often times overlooked for the group to pursue. We'll be looking at an Old Testament model for the American family and marriage. We'll explore how the Bible is used to support white racial supremacy. We'll see how people have used Proverbs to justify beating their children. We'll explore why those folks who show up at our front doors want us to think that only 144,000 people will be saved. Why do some people quote Jesus when proclaiming that we don't have to worry about feeding the hungry? Of course we'll have to see how many times the word breast is used in the Song of Solomon! Each week will be a new surprise and discovery. Our discussions will also include how we are to make sense of these biblical texts in the world today. Join us. Bring a Bible. Bring a mind ready for exploration.



## Food Pantry Needs

**Ketsup  
Mustard**

## Middle School Winter Retreat

All youth in grades 6-9 and their friends should have their winter retreat registration forms and \$40 payment to the church office by January 11. We will be gathering at church at 5:30 pm on January 18. If you are going on the retreat, be sure you eat something before you get to church at 5:30. We will return to the church by noon on Sunday, January 20. Everyone going on the trip should be sure to bring outdoor clothes-hats, boots, mittens, snow pants. We WILL be walking to meals and the rec center and everyone will go to the sledding hill on Saturday afternoon. You can also bring blow up sledding tubes. They work best on the hill. Tennis shoes are good for the rec center. We will be playing messy "fear factor" games on Saturday evening. Get ready! Registration forms can be found in the church narthex or by going to the church web site at [www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org](http://www.lakeviewlutheranchurch.org). Click on the newsletter page and the click on the retreat form. Guests are invited, the more youth the merrier. Chaperones this year are Dayna Dalton, Mindy McElmurry, Rene Puzach, Nate Campbell, Tracy Stamm, Michael Knudtson and Pastor Dean. Pastor Laurie will also attend on Friday evening and Saturday morning. You don't want to miss this exciting event.



**Youth Winter Retreat**

## Road Home Volunteers

Lakeview is now a buddy church for the Road Home Homeless Program. Four weeks out of the year, we will be providing volunteers and meals at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Spaight Street when they host 4 families who are without housing. Our first week to assist is in February. We will be covering the evenings and over-nights of February 1, 2, and 3. We need Lakeview volunteers to cook and serve dinner at 5:00 pm each of those nights. We need people to clean up the meal and to provide socialization activities on each of those evenings. Then we need people to sleep over night (at least 1 male and 1 female-cots provided). These overnight hosts will also make a cold breakfast for 6:00 am and then leave at 7:00 am. All adult volunteers must complete the required training before volunteering. Children may volunteer if they are with parents or other adult volunteers. Children do not need to attend the prerequisite training. Training will be offered at Lakeview on Monday, January 12. The first part of the training is a presentation from 6:30 to 7:30 pm by Road Home staff. The second part of the training is a work packet from 7:30 to 8:30 pm. If you have already attended the presentation, you only need to come for the packet training. A supervised nursery will be provided on this evening if you have young children. To register to attend the training, call the church office at 244-6181 or email the office . The office email address is: [officlkview@charterinternet.com](mailto:officlkview@charterinternet.com). You may also register by informing either pastor. Please consider volunteering for this very important ministry and register to attend the training session.



## A Note From Pastor Kirst

On Christmas Eve, just a few hours before worship, I received a call from a reporter from the Wisconsin State Journal. She was doing an article and wanted to know how important our Christmas offering was to the survival of our church. I was taken aback! I immediately felt that the local media was attempting to take the business world's "black Friday" and make it part of who we are and what we do at Lakeview. As most of you can guess, I spared no words in sharing my opinion and offense with this reporter. I was clear that our purpose for gathering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day was not about money. It was about celebrating God's love for the world and how we might respond to that love by working to reduce injustice and oppression. When the article appeared, I noticed that I was not quoted in it and that my responses had been completely omitted.

This reporter did ask me a question that I have been pondering ever since her call. She wanted to know if the economic times were impacting our congregation. I impulsively told her NO. Now that I've had time to think about it, I am very sure that my answer was correct. I'm not blind. I know that we are not living in the best of times financially, *by the way, Target in Sun Prairie is hiring.* I know that as a congregation we could use more money to make our cash flow and bill paying easier for our church treasurer. But I also look at what we have done this past year at Lakeview and what we project to do in the upcoming months and I realize that we truly are taking the call to hear the word and do ministry seriously.

This past year we have paid our salaries and bills. We have called an additional pastor. You provided me with the gift of a sabbatical. We raised over \$8000 to fight world hunger through the CROP walk. We ran a weekly food pantry. We sent \$800 to the Madison Meals program at St. Mark's Lutheran at Easter and \$1000 to Loaves and Fishes in Biloxi on Super Bowl Sunday. We sent 15 youth on a mission trip to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. We are working hard to send 20 high school youth to the National Youth Gathering and 9 middle school youth on a mission trip next summer. We served over 250 people Thanksgiving dinner and more turkeys were cooked and donated than ever before. We decorated our Advent giving tree with 91 ornaments for the Road Home program which translates into \$910 to buy food. We are getting ready to provide volunteers for that homeless program in February. On December 20, seventeen people worked for Habitat for Humanity while many others prepared and served a wonderful lunch. And there is much more that I can't begin to list here. By the way, don't forget the next Blood Drive on January 6.

After I got done telling the reporter that I didn't think our ministry at Lakeview had been reduced because of the economic times, she wanted to know what I attributed that too. I was quick to have an honest and sincere answer. I told her that I believed our worship and ministry remained strong and vital because we did NOT consider Christmas to be the time to make up the church budget. I told her I believed the people of our congregation had a solid understanding of what it meant to be disciples and that financial response followed that initial understanding and commitment. I don't even know the name of the reporter but I would like to thank her for calling me and allowing me to think about this situation. I would also like to thank you, the members of Lakeview Lutheran Church, for your commitment to the Christmas gospel and your dedication to be faithful disciples. I am ready to take on the bumps and bumbles and joys and celebrations that this new year will bring. I give thanks that God has placed each of you in my life for this journey!

Pastor Kirst

## “New” Knitting/Crocheting Ministry at Lakeview

On November 10 the following people gathered at Lakeview; Sue Warnke, Sandy Hefty, Pam Roesler, Carol Lofgren, Shirley Ewert, Karen Knudsvig, Deb Meyers, Jane Rose, Sandy Tuttle, Daniele Payne, Arlene Moody, Ellen Bethel, Doris Gartley, Deb Torgerson, Cathy Pierce, Liz Seymour, Blanche Herritz, Emilie Scheerenberger, Linda Schaack, Mary Cragin and Kris Kirst. This crew of people decided to begin a knitting/crocheting ministry within our congregation. This ministry will meet monthly at the church and the next meeting is **Monday, January 12**. The group will meet from 5:30 to 7:30 pm and you can arrive when you are able. After an evening of work, there will be a closing devotion. They will be working on a variety of projects such as afghans for Warm Up America, several military projects, prayer shawls and Afghans for Afghans. Anyone is welcome to join the group even if you don't knit or crochet-- their will be plenty of people who are willing to teach and assist you to learn this craft. Bring needles, crochet hooks and any extra yarn you may want to donate to the projects. If you are interested in this ministry and were not able to attend the organizational meeting, call Kris Kirst to get on the email/ mailing list for patterns and other information. Contributions of yarn from other members of the congregation are welcomed.



## Senior Forum

Senior Forums return this month with our first meeting on **January 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30**. Church staff will provide lunch. Rev. Mary Kay Baum will speak on the topic of “Living with early-onset Alzheimer’s.” After her presentation, there will be a social time with dessert served. Please call the church office if you plan to attend so that we can plan for the lunch.



Pastor Laurie

## Thank you!

The staff of Lakeview wishes to thank many of you who brightened our Christmas with cards, gifts, and many goodies. The extra weight gain from the chocolate will help to keep us warmer in these cold winter months. Happy New Year to you all!



## You will know your live in Wisconsin

- ◆ If you consider it a sport to gather your food by drilling through 28 inches of ice and sitting there all day hoping that the food will swim by, you might live in Wisconsin.
- ◆ If you have worn shorts and a parka at the same time, you might live in Wisconsin.
- ◆ If you have a pet or a child named 'Brett,' you might live in Wisconsin.
- ◆ If you know how to say Oconomowoc, Waukesha, Menomonie & Manitowoc, you might live in Wisconsin.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**