

The Light

Monthly Donations

Our Blessings for Others

Another year of giving has begun. We give our hearts to the Lord and to those in need we give our time, prayers, and what we can afford to share. Each month our congregation will be collecting donations for different programs touched by our outreach ministry. Start planning ahead... Here's this year's list:

January - cans of soup for 'Souper Bowl Sunday' at Luther House.

February - donations for Hospice 'Bags of Blessings'.

March - prizes to give out at our semi-annual 'Bingo and Tea' at Luther House.

April - soaps as a part of Lutheran World Relief.

May - baby items

June, July, and August - fill baby bottles with coins to support the Cornerstone Pregnancy Center

September - prizes to give out at our semi-annual 'Bingo and Tea' at Luther House.

October - canned goods for Oxford's Neighborhood Services Food Cupboard.

November - items to furnish families with Thanksgiving Baskets.

December - toys for the children at the Martin Luther Silver Springs Children's Home.

Thank you for all that you do to continually bless the lonely and less fortunate in our world!

January 2010

Sharing
God's
Abundant
Love

Pastor's Perspective

Happy New Year!

Christmas Still Comes

One of the last places one would want to be on Christmas Eve is an Emergency Department. I think that it is safe to say that goes double for a pastor. It started with an alarming phone call in the morning and turned into a twelve hour marathon. Since I wasn't the one on the gurney I had a lot of time for reflection and prayer.

It is amazing how life boils down to a few priorities at times like this. The whirlwind of holiday madness and responsibilities slowed dramatically. The closeness of family and friends rose to a high level. In fact, the readiness of so many to step into our problem and help in any way they could was the greatest gift we received this Christmas.

We were of course not the only ones in the Emergency Department that day. There were other individuals and families dealing with unpleasant surprises on this special day. Then of course there was the staff. I know what it is like to work a major holiday in a hospital. I have done it many times. Yet, I must admit that it didn't seem that we were dealing with people who had drawn the short straw. To a person, they were considerate and compassionate.

I took all of this in as I sat in the cubicle on a stool in between tests and in between Christmas services and the vision of the first Christmas and this current Christmas began to overlap. I'm pretty sure that Joseph and Mary were not thrilled with the prospect of a major journey in the midst of her pregnancy in order to satisfy a whim of the Roman Government. I also would bet that the shepherds would have preferred to be in nice warm beds down in the village instead of standing the late watch on the hillside. No one in the picture seemed to want to be where they were... but Christmas still came.

How many times have we worked at making Christmas perfect? Has it ever really turned out the way you dreamt it would? ... but Christmas still comes. Love came down in the midst of a very imperfect time and He still comes down to our imperfect Christmas' and all of our other imperfect days. **Christmas still comes.**

Pastor Dan

Council Corner

At December's meeting the Council held an election of officers for the coming year. The names of those serving on our 2010 Council are as follows:

Bob Milley, President
Mike Brandt, Vice President
Nancy Kelly, Secretary
Trish Hill
Don Hostetler
Melanie Lohr
Karen Pattinson
Jon Plystak
Janis Walker

Final numbers were submitted to Tom Troyan the Proposed Budget for 2010 which will be presented at the January 31 Congregational Meeting.

We had a discussion about each ministry's progress on the objectives set for 2009 at our January 2009 Council Retreat. Good progress was made on many important items and we have a working list to begin with in 2010.

Members are always welcome and encouraged to join us for all Council Meetings. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 26 at 7 pm in the Church Office.



Recipe of the Month

Mom's Frittata

Source: Aniela Frattarola

Prep time: 15-20 minutes

Total time: 60-65 minutes

Ingredients:

4 eggs
1.5 cups shredded cheddar or Swiss cheese
1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
1 3/4 cups half and half cream or milk
3-4 slices of bacon
1 cup leeks, thinly sliced
1/2 cup onions, thinly sliced
Salt, pepper and garlic powder to taste

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 450°F
2. Cook bacon in skillet until crisp, then sauté leeks and onions in bacon drippings.
3. Cut up bacon into small pieces. Spread bacon, leeks and onions in bottom of pie pan.
4. In a bowl, toss together shredded cheese and flour, then spread over bacon, leeks and onions.
5. In a separate bowl, beat together the eggs and cream, spices. Pour into pie pan.
6. Bake for 15 minutes in the preheated oven. Reduce heat to 325°F and continue baking 25 minutes until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.

Serves up to 8

Cookie Sale Update

Thank you to all the bakers and the partakers of this year's cookie sale. We met our goal of 40 trays!!!! We sold 37 trays for a total of \$675 (some people said keep the change!) One tray was given to Pastor Dan, one to Melissa and one to the Borough Police (since we use their parking lot). Thanks to everyone again from the Service to Others Committee. The proceeds will be donated to Neighborhood Services' Emergency Fuel Fund!

Women of Worship – WoW

So long to 2009...Welcome to 2010!

As we head into the New Year, let us pause and take a look back on the past few months of WoW.

In September the WoW group reconvened with a new leader, Aniela Frattarola and a Facebook group was set up for the WoW group. In October, the first of a 2 month discussion on mentoring and supporting each other began. In November, the discussion continued with a lot of good ideas and discussion surrounding mentoring and supporting each other, our church and our community. Also in November we had our first "Making Cards for Others" event. In December, the WoW group had a fun and food filled evening celebrating the Christmas season at Virginia and Ed Walter's home.

Looking forward to the New Year, in January and February the WoW group will be taking a look at the Women of the Bible. We hope you can join us!

WoW 2010 Schedule

January 21 - Women of the Bible discussion/presentation

February 18 - Women of the Bible discussion/presentation

March 18 - Topics TBD

April 15 - Topics TBD

May 20 - Spring Potluck and Planning Meeting



You can find us on Facebook at Facebook :: Groups :: WOW (Women of Worship) - COL Lutheran Church

THINK SOUP!

During the month of January we will be collecting donations of both regular and low-sodium soups to distribute to the residents of Luther House I, II, III, and IV on February 7, Super Bowl Sunday.



There are over 250 residents who will be wrapped in your warmth on that winter's day.

Please keep an eye out for cans of soup during your shopping trips and drop them off in the narthex during the month of February.

Bagging and tagging the cans will be done after the Feb. 7th church service and delivery will be made following Sunday School that morning.

Please let Bob Milley know if you're considering joining us for hanging the soup cans on each resident's door.

Birthdays *January*

Doris Cimino (She's 50!)	01/02
Lili Troyan	01/04
Rich Anderson	01/05
Krystal Cordivano	01/06
Jon Plystak	01/09
Debbie Bradley	01/10
Loren Luke	01/10
William Schmotzer	01/10
Noelle Frattarola	01/12
Katherine Milley	01/13
Donna Hollowniczky	01/17
Mary Milley	01/23
Lori Craven	01/30
Dottie Thomas	01/30
Samantha Pollich	01/30
William McHugh	01/31