

From the Pastor:

THE CENTER OF ATTENTION

In the little Church of Everywhere, the air was filled with expectation and wonder. The Christmas program takes on a special dimension as a single child becomes the “center of attention”. Sometimes it is the voice, so clear and bright and above others. Sometimes it is the animation that draws the attention in the midst of those more serene. Whatever it is, we smile and rejoice in the exuberance of the “little ones” as they express their joy at Christmas.

But, the center of attention belongs to yet another. In the Bible texts following Christmas during the season of Epiphany, we are directed again and again to the person whom the Magi came to worship in Bethlehem. This time the center of attention is Jesus. The spotlight keeps focusing on him and on his mission. Each and all of the events lead to the main part of the drama that is told: Jesus’ death and resurrection. Jesus’ birth, baptism, and the beginning of his public ministry represents act one. The coming weeks will take us into act two. The spotlight will again be focused on Jesus, with more intensity and brilliance.

Can we stay with the story as it unfolds? Can we also focus all of our energies as congregations on proclaiming Christ to the world? Week in and week out, it is Christ who is the center of our focus. He is our gift, our leader, and our teacher. Come, and see what he provides. See where his light leads us to serve others who are in darkness. Invite others to join you as you gather around the light, the light of Epiphany, the light of Christ!

Pastor Bob

PRAYERS FOR RECENTLY ILL/HOMEBOUND/HOSPITALIZED/RECOVERING:

Kelly Aho, Myrtle Knezevich, Wally Kirshtner, Sandra Olson Sloan, Theresa Larson, Geraldine Sabin, Barb Danielson, Muriel Craig, Edna Phephles, Mable Nummi, Scott Severson, David Heisel, and all those recovering and in nursing care homes. May God grant them healing and peace.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS SHUT-IN'S FROM OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Selma Anderson, Edna Bankey, Wallace Blomster, Betty Burke, Xelpha Drinkwine, Dorothy Gamble, Eugene Hoff, Gordon Holmgren, Frances Johnson, Theresa Larson, Margaret Leszcynski, Ann Melin, Gladys Olson, Inez Everson, Ethel Olson, Mabel Johnson, and Leone Campbell.

PASTORAL ACTS

Officiant: Rev. Robert H. Stoskopf, Pastor

During November/December 2001

FUNERAL

Nov. 21 - Muriel Craig

BAPTISM

Nov 25 - Ella Grace Thompson,

Parents: Neil & Heather Thompson,

Sponsors: Traci DeMeyer & Dan Raihala

DEEPEST SYMPATHY

To the friends and family of Muriel Craig.. Muriel passed away on November 18, 2001. The service was held on November 21st at Thompson Hegstrom Funeral Home.

BULLETIN SPONSORS

In memory of Parents M/M Gunnar Eckerman and Aunt Edith Krantz from Richard and Joan Peterson of LaCrosse, Greg and Karen Kristoffer and Kaylyn Raifsnider of Onalaska

Thank You

Karen Kangas, Karen Johnson, Meri Will, Elaine Finckler, Shirley Severson, for assembling the December Newsletter

To all those who donated a poinsettia to help beautify our sanctuary during this holiday season.

To the ladies who co-ordinated the Christmas Dinner.

To Brian MacDonnell and the Superior School District Singers for providing the music at the ladies dinner.

To Barb Danielson & Carol Roberts for arranging the poinsettias this season.

To the 8th Grade girls for preparing gift bags for the Sunday School children and guests at the Christmas program.

To Karen Cirilli for helping organize the gift bags.

Renada Fall & Bonnie Wentzel ... for their organization and all those who helped in one way or another to decorate and beautify our church for the Christmas Season, Bill, Ann and Ethan Howard, Dave Kringle, Diane, Loren, Zach, and Ben Erickson, Nicole, and Makayla Orrey and Breanna Witroski, Kim Blume and Ashlee, Gladys Olson, Ingrid Simborski, Dan, Karen, Katie and Grant Hoyt also there with Chile - Bonnie Wentzel, Calico Beans - Ken and Renada Fall, and Brownies-Ann Howard, and Cake - (for Dan's Birthday) Karen Hoyt.

To Debi Gilbertson & Merry Vaughn for directing the Children's Christmas Program.

To all those involved, Students, Pre-K-7th Grade, Sunday School teachers, parents and the Board of Education for a wonderful Christmas program, "A Christmas Mystery"

To Kim Gralewski for helping with the props for the program.

To those leaving items for the children's TREASURE CHEST. You may leave additional items in the back of the church

NOMINATING COMMITTEE members are looking for interested people who would be willing to serve as an officer or board member in the year 2002. If you are interested or know of someone who may be, please call one of the following from the committee:

Kim Erickson: 394-4129
Lynn Haglin: 392-9498
Roger Prescott: 394-6369

Linda Gran: 399-8503
Sara Hall: 392-3390
Chris Llambes: 394-5650

Again Thank You

For helping our custodian by your limiting your running in the hallways during special events when children may be unattended. This helps avoid those ugly, black skid marks and the many extra hours required in the restoration of the floors.

BOARD MEETINGS

January 2002

Trustees	Mon., Jan. 7 th	at 6:30 pm
Stewardship	Tues., Jan. 8 th	at 6:00 pm
Deacons.....	Wed., Jan 2 nd	at 6:30 pm
.....	Jan.17 th	at 5:30pm
Board of Ed.	Tues., Jan. 8 th	at 6:30 pm
Council Exec.	Sun., Jan.13 th	at 11:00am
Council	Thu., Jan.17 th	at 6:30 pm
WELCA Ex. Com.....	Sun., Jan.13 th	at 11:00 am
Call Committee.....	Tues., Jan. 8 th	at 7:00 pm

SPECIAL PRAYER SERVICE

January 11th at 7:00am

PLAN ON ATTENDING

Prayer and Fellowship every Thursday @ 9:30am

JANUARY WORSHIP SUPPORT

DEACON - Dan Hoyt

STEWARDSHIP - Kathy Mertzig

ALTER - Orville & Sonja Johnson

Tusa Holton

ACOLYTES - Heather Anderson & Owen Gran

TRUSTEES - To close up church

January 6 - Deacon - Dan Hoyt

13 - Dale Nummi

20 - Wally Kirshner

27 - Del Kangas

LECTORS

January 6 - Dawn Wicklund

13 - Carol Roberts

20 - Brenda Llambes

27 - Katee Rosburg & Katie Hall

NURSERY

January 6 - Gretchen Mergzig

13 - Chris Haglin

20 - Anna Hall

27 - Matt Pearson

NURSERY ASSISTANTS

January 6 - Kalli Kucharyski

13 - Jonathan Leland

20 - Katie Rosberg

27 - Christian Cody

VIDEO LIBRARY

Will be 6th Grade Students

BIBLE STUDY

Ester Circle, January 8th at 10:30 am

Ladies, January 14th at 1:00 pm

Men and Women, January 20th at 6:00 pm

WORLD HUNGER APPEAR

See Brenda Llamas if you would like to purchase coffee. The proceeds will help the farmers in countries of poverty get a fair price for their coffee which allows them to better provide for their families.

Want to help grow a church? Your gift may be placed in the offering plate (indicate for "Mission congregation") or send to the church office.

Did you know that . . .

. . .In the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin and in the Eau Claire area that 75% of the population is functionally unchurched?

. . . Only about 25% of the population is active in a Christian congregation?

. . .In Eau Claire, 55% of the population is under the age of 35?

Therefore, to reach out, Congregations in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin have agreed to start a new church!

MOVING/LEAVING

FOR WINTER MONTHS? Please notify the church office of your new address so your mailings can find you!

ROYALTON SERVICE

Thursdays, September through May at 2:00 pm.

Holy Communion on the first Thursday each month.

Services are held on the 4th Floor.

Services for June/July/August are held on the first Thursday of each month

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY JANUARY 27, 2002

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

All voting members are encouraged to attend this important meeting. Report booklets will be mailed prior to the meeting. Elections, business meeting, budget vote, review of 2001 and plans for 2002.

Don't miss it.

ANNUAL REPORT INFORMATION DEADLINE -- JANUARY 4, 2002

You don't want to miss this!

Superior Area Churches unite for Bible Study

The Superior Area Ministerium is sponsoring a "Walk Through the Bible" on Saturday, January 19, 2002, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Superior High School cafeteria. It will cover the Old Testament. The cost of the study will be \$10, which included a book. Pre-registration and pre-payment is necessary. The goal is to have 400 people from all of our Superior local congregations attend the event. If you have friends from other churches, this would be a wonderful opportunity to share some spiritual time with them! There will be a lunch break; lunch is on your own.

Registration for "Walk Through the Bible" - Saturday, January 19, 2002.

Name _____

Congregation _____

Registration forms may be turned in to the main office

Sunday School

Fifth grade Sunday School Teacher Diane Erickson would like to thank her 5th grade class for raising \$92.50 for the Red Cross. Keep up the good work.

Our new home page can be found at:

<http://www.superior-wi.com/oursaviors>

oursaviors@chartermi.net..... Church Office (Karen)

oslpastor@chartermi.net Pastor Bob

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's (ELCA) Web site - www.elca.org - has been cited as "perhaps the most thorough Protestant site on the Web" in the December 2001 issue of Yahoo! Internet Life magazine.

If anyone else on the council or boards, would like their e-mail address listed in the newsletter please let me know. I can be reached at kfall@chartermi.net or through the church office.