



Grapevine

January 2011



American Lutheran

January Worship Schedule

ALC Staff

Henry Thorberg - Pastor
 Jane Plettner-Nielson -
 Director of Music
 Clarice Riege Secretary

ALC Council

Executive Committee

President - Doug Dexter
 Vice-President - Michael Welsh
 Secretary - Joel Bacon
 Treasurer - Char Rohl

Committee Chairs

Finance-Char Rohl
 Outreach-Ryan Rohl
 Parish Education- Wendy Hirsch
 Property-Mike Wheeler
 Social Concerns-Liz Cooper
 Stewardship-Paul Welsh
 Worship-Mavis Seelmeyer
 Youth- Bruce Spilker

January 2



Second Sunday of Christmas
Special Music - St James

8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion
 9:15 am **No Sunday School**
 10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

January 9



Baptism of Our Lord
Sanctuary Choir—St. Peter

8:15 am Traditional Worship
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Praise Worship

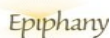
January 16



Second Sunday after Epiphany
Joyful Noise—St Paul

8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

January 23



Third Sunday after Epiphany
Gospel Rings—St. Thomas

8:15 am Traditional Worship
 9:15 am Sunday school
 10:30 am Praise Worship

January 30



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Sunday School - St. James

8:15 am Traditional Worship/Communion
 9:15 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Praise Worship/Communion

CYCLES OF TRANSITION



One of the most difficult of times for a church to endure is the time between! That is appropriate; because we live in the between times when Jesus has been here and before he comes back again! That is a big time in-between; but we also have to endure a lot of small time in-betweens to continue to function as a congregation! That is where we are as we begin 2011.

Many things stay the same from year to year and that may cause us to believe that pretty much everything stays the same in our congregation; but that simply is not true. Many, many things change and when they affect us directly, then they may seem to be bigger changes than they really are! But when those changes do not affect us directly, we may not notice them. If space does not permit me to mention changes in which you have been a part, please note that there is no slight intended and that I am only using examples and the list is not exhaustive!

One of the most obvious changes is in the ushering corps of our worshipping community. People who have done it for their share of years have given it up. Some have physical reasons and others simply they have served for so long. That reality means we need to do some things in the new year. First, we are going to need some new folks to step into the breach and start something they may have never done before. (I have been amazed and very thankful that many of the young people from grad school have stepped up and begun to serve that way! Wow, what a blessing they have been, and it is not even something we have a right to expect of them!) When they are not here during summer

break, we are going to be pretty short-handed in this area. If you did not sign up for this on the time and talent sheets, would you consider filling this need? We will of course be meeting to discuss responsibilities that go along with doing this service to GOD and church!

Another place where there has been a large turnover is on the stewardship committee. And the same goes for the properties and grounds committee. The first is short of committee members, and the second could use more people power, too. The altar guild has been very faithful in what they do, too; but many of them have been involved for a long time and we could use new blood there, too.

One of the great blessings we have experienced as a congregation in the last years, is a rather sizable influx of younger members. For that, too, I am very thankful; but it means these people have little or no experience in filling the roles done so capably by the volunteers of previous years. That means we can expect a lot of “newbie” mistakes when they do get involved, and we will need to demonstrate the patience we have shown for many years as they are trained and learn to do new things.

We have always had a lot of volunteers working in our congregation. That is a tradition of great value. Please help us keep it up!

Pastor Henry

From the Music Director:

Thank you to everyone for making this month a special music month. As I write this, the choir has sung the cantata, the Sunday School has presented its program, but Christmas Eve has not yet arrived. I know the Advent service at the Spilker tree farm and Christmas Eve will be equally as special as all the other services.

Last month I shared with you the e-mail address I have at the church. I recently upgraded my telephone and telephone service and can now receive text messages. I have decided to share this number with you in case you need to contact me. My cell phone number is 402-440-1895. While I don't always answer the phone when I'm at work, you can leave a voice message, or a text message.

The month of January is probably the busiest time for my full-time job. The chance of working overtime increases. For this reason, I am changing one night of rehearsals from Tuesday to Wednesday night. Please see the schedule below:

Joyful Noise – 5:30 - 6:15 on Jan. 4, 11 and 25; **rehearsal on Jan. 19th instead of Jan. 18th**
Gospel Rings – 6:15 - 7:00 on Jan. 4, 11 and 25; **rehearsal on Jan. 19th instead of Jan. 18th**
Sanctuary Choir – 7:00 - 8:00 on Jan. 4, 11 and 25; **rehearsal on Jan. 19th instead of Jan. 18th**
Praise Team – 8:00 – 9:00 on Jan. 4, 11 and 25; **rehearsal on Jan. 19th instead of Jan. 18th**

The schedule for sharing our musical gifts during worship is as follows:

Jan. 2 – Special Music and St. James Praise Team (singers Bruce, Kim, Morgan, Claire, Marcia)
Jan. 9 - Sanctuary Choir and St. Peter Praise Team (singers Travis, Brenda, Laura, Kelli,
Natalie, Sherri)
Jan. 16 – Joyful Noise and St. Paul Praise Team (singers Pastor, Mavis, Jim, Angie, Vanessa)
Jan. 23 – Gospel Rings and St. Thomas Praise Team (singers Keith, Jana, Michelle, Beth)
Jan. 30 – Sunday School and St. James Praise Team (singers Bruce, Kim, Morgan, Claire,
Marcia)

Thank you for your continued support of the music program. God Bless you in 2011!!

Jane Plettner-Nielson

Social Concerns
Suggested Causes for 2011

January - Charlie Brown Kids

February - Light House

March – Clinic with a Heart

April – Tanzanian Project

May - Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

June –Prison Ministries

July - Peoples City Mission

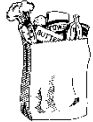
August – Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministries

September – Cub/Boy Scouts

October – Meals on Wheels

November – ELCA World Hunger

December – To be decided



Lincoln Cluster Food Pantry

In January the Lutheran food pantry needs:
Macaroni & cheese, Canned Fruit, Tomato Products, beef stew, spaghetti O's type items, and Pasta. As always anything in Personal care.

Cash donations are used for immediate needs. To donate cash, place it in the collection plate, clearly marked "Food Pantry"

Once again the Pantry is in need of volunteers to help fill the food orders. They have had some people stop volunteering and really could use the extra help. Contact Patti Flynn at
pflynn@lincolnfoodbank.org or 466-8170 ext. 103

Executive Committee and Church Council will meet Thursday evening, January 13th, at 6:15 pm and 7:00 pm respectively.

Looking for the perfect Christmas gift for your husband or wife?

Why not a romantic Valentine weekend away for falling more in love?

A Lutheran Marriage Encounter weekend is exactly that kind of experience.

The next weekend is Feb. 11-13, 2011 in Lincoln

For information, contact Dave & Elsa Larson at 402/483-5404 or delarson@windstream.net

To register, contact Dayle & Terri Mautz at 402/540-8508 or dtmautz@yahoo.com

OR register online at www.godlovesmarriage.org

Please register one month in advance.

ALC December Statistics

Change of Address:

Hua, Xiao & Zhang, Yaling -
7012 Prairie Heights Dr. SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-7048

Funeral:

Kenneth Grosenbach -
Passed away - December 6, 2010
Funeral - December 9, 2010
Butherus, Maser, Love Chapel
Burial - Lincoln Memorial

Baptism:

Addison Isabel Everett
Born - October 19, 2010
Baptized - December 19, 2010
Parents: Justin & Stephanie Everett
Brother - David; Sister - Cambry
Sponsors: Julie & John Jacobs



Attendance and Stewardship

	Worship 8:15 am	10:30 am	General Offering	Phase III Offering	Other Offering
November 21	58	89	\$2177.30		\$219.25
November 24	42	Thanksgiving	\$94.00		
November 28	52	69	\$634.00	\$40.00	\$350.00
December 5	68	77	\$4723.75	\$488.00	\$260.00
December 12	64	73	\$4131.35	\$475.00	\$75.00
December 19	67	125	\$3674.00	\$2935.00	\$395.00

Financial Statement

Financial Results through 11/30/2010		
	November	YTD
Budget Income		
Pro-rata needs	\$ 14,303.00	\$168,061.00
Offerings	\$ 12,530.00	\$162,749.00
Difference	[\$1,773.00]	[\$5,312.00]
Budget Expenses	\$ 13,700.00	\$168,202.00
Phase III:		
Debt Obligation	\$ 2,976.00	\$ 32,736.00
Budgeted (mortgage)	\$ 1,846.00	\$ 18,930.00
Phase III Offerings	\$ 1,130.00	\$ 13,806.00
Total Paid	\$ 2,976.00	\$ 32,736.00
Cause of the Month:	\$151.00	

God

AMERICAN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Henry Thorberg, Pastor
Sunday Worship 8:15 am
Praise Worship 10:30 am
Christian Education 9:15 am

Address Service Requested

*I am the vine, you are the
branches.*

*He who abides in me, and I in
him, bears much fruit.*

John 15:5



01/02 Courtney Davidson
01/02 Kayla Simpson
01/02 Adam Kuszak
01/03 Angela Franzen
01/04 Gary Neemann
01/04 Nelda Schauer
01/06 Anthony Lang
01/06 Austin Wheeler
01/07 Nicole Shield
01/07 Darin Janssen
01/08 Matthew Wall

01/09 Wilma Damian
01/09 Linda Spilker
01/09 Shaun Donahoo
01/09 Cory Lang
01/10 Donald Hanssen
01/10 Jeanne Stelmach
01/13 Ernest Remmers
01/13 Brent Davis
01/14 Knud Larsen
01/16 Patrick Linke
01/19 Hazel Scott
01/19 Alan Huesers

01/21 Gayla Parker
01/22 Dan Clark
01/24 Mark Linke
01/24 Elizabeth Schuler
01/25 Jake Von Busch
01/25 Christine Shield
01/26 Nancy Kahler
01/27 Barbara Fricke
01/29 Janice Falck
01/30 Aletia Nissen
01/31 Cynthia Krumm