



Luther Memorial Church ELCA

# Messenger

JANUARY 2012

Column by Paul Coen, Senior Pastor

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I hope this doesn't sound like a typical New Year's Prediction, but it might. Here they are:

1. Jesus is coming! But no one is sure or knows when.
2. The world is changing! What's new?
3. The family of LMC will grow and beloved saints will go to heaven! This will happen.
4. Luther Memorial will change and stay the same! Both happening together.
5. The world will need to see and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ! This has been God's plan for the last 2000 years and for 2012.
6. The followers of Jesus will be asked to do more! Some will say 'yes' and some will say 'no'.
7. The children of Syracuse will benefit from the work of the disciples at LMC! This work will be done by more than Lutherans.
8. People will talk about what is happening at LMC! Mostly in a positive way, but some not so much.
9. God is doing something new here, through us! But we are not sure what that will look like.
10. God has a mission for us! This mission will involve all of us!

The Messenger is a monthly publication. To provide feedback, please contact us.

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Well, at least it is not a Letterman Top Ten List, but the point is that whatever happens this next year, God will be faithful to his promises to us. And all God asks in response is that we trust in his love and act faithfully as well.

**Have a Blessed 2012!!**



A NEW YEAR & NEW OPPORTUNITIES

# Remember in Prayer...

Ginny Bartels  
John Kastens  
Peg Coen  
Aiden Clarke  
Kristy Clarke  
Normadine Bredehoeft  
John Bremer

Rev. Steve Billington  
Gladys Snyder  
Ty Gorton  
Frances Nicholson  
Herman Mueller  
Sallie Agena  
Aaron Mead

Russ Snyder  
Pat Hemje  
Veletta Janssen  
Rev. Beckman  
Clara Stoner

**Prayer is a very powerful aspect of our faith** and in an effort to have more people praying for those in need, we will begin listing the names on our prayer list in the newsletter (see above) and will post them in the church lobby. This will serve as our ongoing prayer list and the weekly announcements prayer concerns will be limited to those "new" names that haven't yet appeared in the newsletter or people who only want their name listed for a few weeks. When we publish the monthly newsletter, we will move all people who have been previously listed in the weekly announcements to the ongoing list. As prayer concerns arise, please continue to call the church office (or email) to have those names added



## SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING OF LMC, SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 2012.

We will have the semi-annual meeting of LMC on Sunday, January 22nd, following the 9 am service. (There will only be **ONE SERVICE** at 9 am.) Election of leaders, 2012 budget and the constitution and by-law changes will be essential votes. All confirmed members or members who are 18 years or older are eligible to vote. Following the meeting there will be a meal provided by the Luther League, with birthday cake (see below). Your participation is important and we look forward to a very good day!!!

### PASTOR BECKMAN'S 100th BIRTHDAY!!

On Sunday, January 22nd at 9 am, we will gather to worship and hear Pastor Beckman preach - what a wonderful way to celebrate his 100th birthday! This also is the day of our semi-annual meeting and the good meal that follows. Everyone is invited to this one-special-service Sunday, as we give thanks for the many years of Pastor Beckman's service, hear him proclaim God's Word, share the mission of the church and fellowship together with a meal. **Come and be a part of this very important day!**

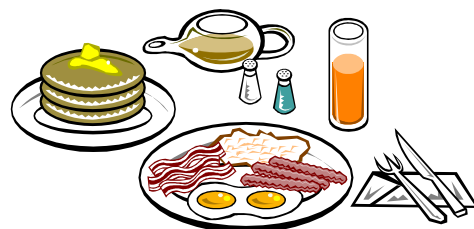


BLESSINGS  
ON YOUR  
BIRTHDAY

### Annual Meeting Meal & Servant Auction

As is our tradition, Luther League will provide a meal for congregational fellowship following the annual meeting. We will also hold an auction of services provided by those youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.

Please come support the youth and enjoy some great food and fellowship!





**“beLOVED”**, the After School program will begin again on Wednesday, January 11th. Cost for the 2nd semester will be \$15 per child, with a maximum of \$30 per family. New students/helpers are welcome. Minimum age: Kindergarten. Registration forms for new students are available in the Welcome Kiosk or from the church office. Adult and student volunteers are always wanted. Question. . . LuRae Hallstrom (402)269-7147.

**THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY RETURNS.** Bible Study returns on Thursday mornings beginning January 19th at 6:30 am, at TC's. Come and share in the Word of God, a fine breakfast and coffee. All are welcome and invited for faith, food and fellowship. Hope to see you there!

**GRACIOUS WOMEN:** Monday, January 30, 2012, at 7 pm at LMC. All women of the church and their friends are invited to discover a secret for demonstrating/receiving love to those around - through the “5 Love Languages” written by Dr. Gary Chapman. Practical advice for all women (and men, but they're not invited this time). Love, love, love. . . That's what it's all about!!

Questions: LuRae Hallstrom (402) 269-7147.

**“One way to get high blood pressure is to go mountain climbing over molehills” Earl Wilson**

Free Blood pressure clinics on the 3rd Sunday of each month between services. Luther Memorial Church - we want to keep you healthy!!!

**WELCA NEWS.** A blanket work-day will be held on January 16th at 8:30 am. Pot-luck lunch will be enjoyed at noon. Sheets are needed for blanket backs. They can be brought and left in the Quilting Room. The next monthly meeting will be February 1st at 1 pm.

**THANK YOU.** A big thank you to everyone for remembering us on our 68th wedding anniversary. All the cards, letters and phone calls were so much appreciated. We do miss you all and it was great hearing from you. God's Blessings to you in the coming year.  
Irving & Ellen Stubbendick

**THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR YOUR GENEROSITY TO *Growing Great Kids in Southeast Nebraska*** this Christmas. With your help we were able to provide 35 families with gifts for their children this Christmas. When we delivered gifts to a mother with four young children, she shared, “We really appreciate this so much. My husband just got laid off and we haven't been able to buy any gifts for the kids. So, we are so thankful for the help this year.

*Growing Great Kids in Southeast Nebraska* provides home visits to Otoe County families who have children ages birth - 3 years old or are expecting a baby. Families receive free education on the health and development of their child as well as parenting strategies.

Thank you,

Growing Great Kids

Brooke Chaney, Jill Rowe & Traci Reuter

**APPLICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTIONS FROM THE LUTHER MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT FUND ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE OR ON THE WELCOME CENTER, AND MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2012, TO BE AWARDED APPROXIMATELY FEBRUARY 1ST.**



- To the December Ushers and Worship Assistants.
- To everyone who helped with Living Nativity.
- To Lenora Fellers, Joyce Schultz, Freda Hoffman and Mae Lang for preparing & serving the Wednesday noon meals.
- To the different Committees for the Wednesday evening Advent meals.
- To Tammie Mead, Marcy Paden and Amy Frederick for organizing and supervising the Luther League Advent Meal and all the families for donations.
- To Lauren Panko for helping coordinate the Confirmation/Luther League babysitting.
- To Regan, Haley & Emily Harsin, Baylee Hughes & Betsy Jensen for organizing the Sweet Shoppe.
- To all the individuals & families who read the Advent Wreath blessings.
- To everyone who is involved with “beLOVED” and for your help.
- To Andrea Stubbendick, Karen McCoy, Peggy Neemann, Penny Oestmann, and Sheryl Gaston for their help with the Sunday School Christmas Program.



# Movie, TV & Book Reviews

## by Paul Coen, Senior Pastor

### “Once Upon a Time” CBS SUNDAY NIGHTS AT 7pm. \*\*\*

I highly recommend this very well written and highly imaginative approach to the classic Fairy Tales many of us grew up with. This is not a children’s drama and it has a number of adult themes which are handled well. I would recommend this series to anyone who likes reality and fantasy blended to make for some very thoughtful television viewing.

### “Grimm” on NBC Friday Nights at 9 pm. \*\*\*

This combination X-Files meets Twilight Movies, is a creative and sometimes humorous look at creatures who go bump in the night. What I see is really a struggle between good and evil, but things are not always so black and white. Big Bad ugly creatures can do good things and nice folks can be quite evil. Hey, this series sounds a bit Lutheran, “Saint and Sinner”. Oh, there is so much to talk about here, so after you have watched a few episodes, look me up and we will talk about it!

### “Super 8” rated PG-13 on DVD \*\*\*1/2

I have reviewed this film before, but I invite you to take a look at this very fine film about dads and their children, loss and grief, the loss of innocence and how do we treat those so much different than our selves. Plus, this is just a fun and engaging film to watch. When it comes to any kind of alien from outer space flick, my lovely wife is the toughest critic. She liked this one a lot! So, based on the husband/wife team of Paul and Jane, you should watch this movie. We will talk later!!!

# Youth & Family NEWS

Starting  
Again

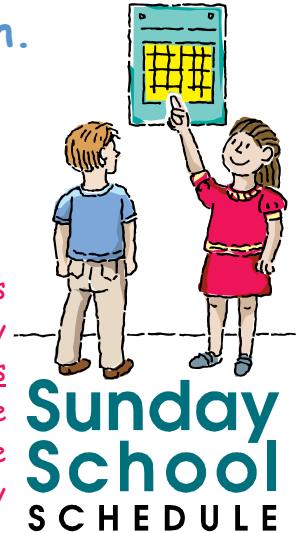
Sunday School resumes on Jan 8th.

BeLoved & Confirmation resume on Jan 11th.



## Sunday School on January 22nd

Our congregational meeting will occur on January 22. On this date, we will only have one worship service at 9am and we **WILL HAVE** Sunday School at the same time. The congregational meeting will start after worship has ended. So, teachers will have a chance to attend the meeting. We will have childcare provided by Luther League and Confirmation students during the meeting for any parents that wish to attend the meeting, but don't want to worry about their children during that time.



## Family Movie Night & Potluck

Saturday, Jan. 21st, 5:30pm

Make one of your favorite family dishes and come to the church fellowship hall for a potluck and movie night. We may even break out the popcorn machine!

### Baptismal Medallions

As in years past, we will hand out baptismal medallions from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to all those who have been baptized in 2011. These will be handed out on January 8th during both services or on January 11th (Please RSVP so we know which service you will be attending). If you are unable to attend, please call the church office to notify us.



### Confirmation Ice Skating, Jan. 15th at 12 noon

Meet at church then we'll head to Lincoln for lunch and then go ice skating at the Icebox. Skating will cost \$10 (cash only) for skates and admission and bring enough money for lunch too. RSVP to Pr. Mike by Thursday, Jan. 12th so we can get drivers.

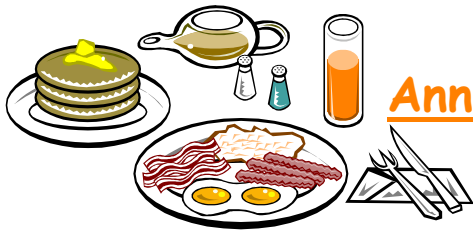
# Luther League



## Lunch & Bowling - January 8th at 11:30am

We'll go to lunch and then head to the Student Union on East Campus to play a couple games of bowling. Bring \$15 for shoes and a couple games, money for lunch and extra money if you want snacks.

Let Pr. Mike know if you plan on going by Thurs, January 5th.



## Annual Meeting Meal & Servant Auction



Our Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, Jan. 22nd at 10:00am. As is our tradition, Luther League will provide a meal for congregational fellowship following the meeting. We will also hold an auction of services provided by those youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.

Watch for more details to come about the meal and auction!



## 4th Wednesday Luther League - Jan. 25th, 7:30pm

Once a month, we are going to have a time for youth to gather, have some fun, play some games, EAT food, and discuss topics of interest and faith. Meet in the youth room around 7:30pm on the fourth Wednesday.





*Worship*

*Assistants*

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

## JANUARY 2012

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		1 <sup>st</sup> <u>Service – 8:00 am</u>	2 <sup>nd</sup> <u>Service – 10:15 am</u>
<u>READERS</u>	<p>January 1 – 9 am</p> <p>January 8</p> <p>January 15</p> <p>January 22 – 9am</p> <p>January 29</p>	<p>Arlis Steinhoff</p> <p>Nancy Seelhoff</p> <p>Jennifer Panko-Rahe</p> <p>Dale Janssen</p>	<p>Karen Wolken</p> <p>Jenny Panko</p> <p>Rahe</p> <p>Karen Wolken</p>
<u>ACOLYTES</u>	<p>January 1 – 9am</p> <p>January 8</p> <p>January 15</p> <p>January 22 – 9am</p> <p>January 29</p>	<p>Mack F</p> <p>Jenna S</p> <p>Lauren P</p> <p>Mackenzie D</p> <p>Abigail H</p> <p>Aubrianna K</p> <p>Hannah C</p> <p>Madalynne S</p> <p>Kiley H</p> <p>Kirsten S</p>	<p>Caleb L</p> <p>Nathan H</p> <p>Lauren P</p> <p>Mackenzie D</p> <p>Hannah C</p> <p>Madalynne S</p>
<u>USHERS</u>	<p>January 1 &amp; 22 – 9 am</p> <p>January 8, 15, 29</p>	<p>Randy Post</p> <p>Lloyd &amp; Marilyn Seelhoff</p> <p>Randy Post</p> <p>Lloyd &amp; Marilyn Seelhoff</p>	<p>Bruce &amp; Kerri Meyer</p>
<u>VISITATION</u>	<p>January</p>	<p>Lloyd &amp; Marilyn Seelhoff</p>	
<u>VIDEO &amp; AUDIO</u> <u>*POWER POINT</u> <u>OPERATORS</u>	<p>January 1 – 9 am</p> <p>January 8</p> <p>January 15</p> <p>January 22 – 9 am</p> <p>January 29</p>	<p>Ron &amp; Mary Ann Wenninghoff</p> <p>Arlin Rohlfs</p> <p>Eric Lamblin &amp; Alan Maier</p> <p>*Connor C</p> <p>Ron &amp; Mary Ann Wenninghoff</p> <p>Arlan Rohlfs</p> <p>Andy Brace &amp; Jim Pfeiffer</p> <p>* Josh P</p> <p>Jerry &amp; Rhae Werner</p> <p>*Alyssa R</p>	<p>Ron &amp; Diane Hawkins</p> <p>*Justin H</p> <p>Dan Watermeier &amp; Eric Lamblin</p> <p>*Tanner H</p> <p>Alan Maier &amp; Eric Lamblin</p> <p>*Peyton H</p>