



Martin Luther Lutheran Church
VISIONS NEWSLETTER
January 2012

ISSUE 1

A New Year, A Renewed Sense of Mission and Ministry

The mission and ministry of this church is not stagnant. Our mission statement is “to care for our home, our city, and the planet as stewards and disciples of Jesus.” We will have three amazing opportunities for ministry and mission with this New Year. The first opportunity is for new members of the church and invited guests, who are invited to attend the Alpha Course at our church. The Alpha Course is a program designed to introduce people to the basics of the faith, with topics covering who Jesus is, how to pray, who is the Holy Spirit, and the nature of the church. Alpha is especially helpful for people that may be new to our church or to people that do not attend church. This is an opportunity for folks to invite a person (friend, neighbor, coworker, or family member) that does not regularly attend church into a safe environment to learn about the Christian faith. This program is also open to any member of the church that desires to grow in their faith. The Alpha Course will start on January 22nd at the church and will last for ten weeks. Alpha will start at 5:30 PM and last until 7:30 PM. If you are interested in attending Alpha or help with the program, then please speak with Bob Boone or write him an e-mail at robert.boone@thrivent.com. We hope that you will consider attending yourself or inviting a friend.

The second opportunity for renewed mission and ministry is a Via de Cristo weekend from February 2-5th. The Via de Cristo weekend is intended for Christians that want to grow in their faith. If the Alpha Course on the basics of Christianity does not entice you, then Via de Cristo might be what you are seeking. I have personally been on a Via de Cristo weekend, so I can speak to the joy that you will have and the spiritual depth that you will feel. Via de Cristo is a great way to jump-start your spiritual life after the New Year. The Via de Cristo weekend is the start of the journey, and the ministry continues here at MLLC once you return. If you are interested in attending the weekend, then please speak with Doug Day or e-mail him at mortgageprokc@gmail.com.

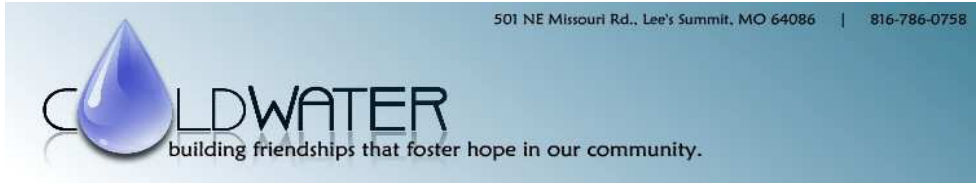
The third mission and ministry opportunity for the New Year is coming at the end of January. We will have cottage meetings or home meetings to talk about the mission of this church and the future of the church in America. These will be small group meetings at people’s homes, and we will have them based upon geography so that there will be a home meeting close to where you live. We want people to come together to share, hear, and ponder what God is doing and going to do through this church. The first home meetings will appear at the end of January, and the last of the home meetings will come at the end of February. We are giving ourselves about a month for these meetings because we understand that people may be traveling or face inclement weather. We will post the dates and locations of the various home meetings, so that you can reserve a spot at the meeting in your neighborhood. We will keep the number of people limited to each meeting so it behooves you to reserve a spot as soon as possible. We will gather, share, and pray about the future of the church, so we need your presence. Let us move into the New Year with a renewed sense of mission and ministry together!

~Pastor Hans

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Coldwater is a passion-driven non-profit organization centered in Lee's Summit, Missouri. Our purpose is to care for the community through the building of friendships. Through these friendships we seek to transform lives and move individuals from isolation and independence into relationship; relationship with God and relationship with one another.

Coldwater promotes these friendships through teams such as Neighbor's Food Pantry, Neighbor's Clothes Closet, Special Needs/Coldwater Village, "League of Smiles" children's recreational programs and "No Hungry Kids". There are 586 children in Lee's Summit who have been identified as chronically hungry. Coldwater, in partnership with Harvesters is working hard to feed as many of them as possible. With your help, we would like to feed them all!

Your \$200 gift (or \$20 per month) helps feed a hungry child for an entire school year, or \$260/\$25 per month helps feed a child year round through the 'No Hungry Kids' program.

\$10 will purchase 100 pounds of food for Neighbor's Food Pantry

Volunteering a few hours of your time will make a positive impact in your life and the lives of persons in need in our community.

For more information on how to donate or volunteer your time please contact Joanne Ellis at mjecellis@gmail.com or 816-246-1672 or visit the Coldwater website at www.coldwater.me

A.H.E.A.D.

A PEER-TO-PEER SUPPORT GROUP FOR ANYONE WHO IS EXPERIENCING, OR HAS EXPERIENCED, THE DIFFICULT JOURNEY FROM LOSS TO FINDING A 'NEW NORMAL.'

"Sooner or later all people suffer loss, in little doses or big ones, suddenly or over time ... Loss is as much a part of normal life as birth, for as surely as we are born into this world we suffer loss before we leave it ... It is possible to live in and be enlarged by loss— Even as we continue to experience it." J. Sittser. [A Grace Disguised](#)

This group meets regularly to learn, share, support, socialize, and serve. If you have any questions, or know of someone who is grieving a loss, please call or email Cathy DeBortoli, 816.540.4644 or gcdeb@aol.com.

MEAL-A-MONTH

Tuna, noodles, cream of mushroom soup, green beans, peaches and toilet paper.

We have spent the last 2 months collecting food for the special holiday meals, now lets give food to those less fortunate on a daily basis. Put your donations in the basket and I will take them to Lee's Summit Social Services when the basket is full.

Thank you,
Janice Crance 525-6149

Christian Education

We start up Christian Education after the New Year. The Wednesday Bible Study group will start up again on January 4th at 10:00 AM. This group will meet at the church and be reading "Life Together" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer during January. We will read the introduction to the book for January 4th.

The Men's Bible Study will continue reading through the book of Deuteronomy in January. The group will start up again on January 3rd at the church at 7:00 PM. All men of the congregation are invited to attend.

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, January 8th at 9:00 AM. Sunday School classes cover all people from kindergarten through adulthood. The Adult Sunday School class will continue to examine various Christian denominations and compare them to Lutheranism.

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

John & Jackie Lueckert	1/2
Dr. Gael & Bev Frank	1/13
Chris & Susan Owens	1/19

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Feb. 2–5 Via De Cristo
- Alpha Course continues through the end of March
- February 22 - Ash Wednesday
- February 29 thru March 28th - Lenten Dinner and Service
- March 11–Daylight Savings time

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Matthew Crance	1/1
Phyllis Bright	1/5
Dennis Fuhrman	1/5
Diane Fuhrman	1/5
Paul Gardner	1/7
Peggy Martin	1/7
Emma Bauman	1/10
Amber Purnell	1/10
Jerry Roller	1/14
Bill Nixon	1/16
Susan Owens	1/17
Mallory Purnell	1/20
Gail Wesselschmidt	1/21
Nancy Demorest	1/22
Gabe Wesselschmidt	1/24
Adelyn Weingartner	1/26
Donnie Priest	1/28

IMPORTANT:

Reminder: All receipts for must be turned in by January 6th to get credit on your giving statement. All receipts needing reimbursement must be signed / approved by a council member. Thank you. No 2011 credit will be given after January 6th.

January, February, and March
"THE WORD IN SEASON" is now
available in the narthex.

Worship Leader Schedule**Lay Assistants**

January 1	Peggy Martin
January 8	Kathy Jenkins
January 15	Nancy Demorest
January 22	
January 29	
February 5	

Acolytes

January 1	
January 8	Caleb Ellis
January 15	
January 22	
January 29	
February 5	Kaitlyn Owens

Greeters

January 1	Jim Jenkins
January 8	Karolyn Ellis
January 15	Tim & Nancy Demorest
January 22	Kay Collison
January 29	Renee Pierson
February 5	Dale Fuhrman

Altar Guild

January 1	Bev Heinlen
January 8	Dee Fuelling
January 15	Mindy Denver
January 22	Nancy Demorest
January 29	
February 5	

Ushers

January 1	Mike & Nancy Fischer
January 8	Mike & Nancy Fischer
January 15	Mike & Joanne Ellis
January 22	Mike & Joanne Ellis
January 29	Rick & Sheila Drake
February 5	Rick & Sheila Drake

Doorstep

January 1	
January 8	Deb Heineman
January 15	Dennis Fuhrman
January 22	K. Ellis / S. Beasley
January 29	Demorest Family
February 5	H. Harms / R. Miller

Jolly Trolley

January 1	The Demorest Family
January 8	The Jenkins Family
January 15	The Bauman Family
January 22	Dee Fuelling
January 29	Dee Fuelling
February 5	The Demorest family



January 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Year's Day</i> 9 am Christian Ed 10 am Worship	2 Office Closed	3 8:15 am Prayer 7 pm NA Meeting 7 pm Men's Bible	4 8:15 am Prayer 10 am Bible Study	5 8:15 am Prayer 10:30 am Ministerial Alliance	6 8:15 am Prayer 5:00-10:00 pm Private Event	7
8 9 am Christian Ed 10 am Worship	9	10 8:15 am Prayer 7 pm NA Meeting 7 pm Men's Bible	11 8:15 am Prayer 10 am Bible Study	12 8:15 am Prayer 7:00 pm Church Council	13 8:15 am Prayer	14 10-1 AHEAD
15 9 am Christian Ed 10 am Worship	16 <i>Martin Luther King Day</i>	17 8:15 am Prayer 7 pm NA Meeting 7 pm Men's Bible	18 8:15 am Prayer 10 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir	19 8:15 am Prayer	20 8:15 am Prayer	21
22 9 am Christian Ed 10 am Worship 11:30 am Potato Brunch 5:30 pm Alpha	23	24 8:15 am Prayer 7 pm NA Meeting 7 pm Men's Bible	25 8:15 am Prayer 10 am Bible Study 6:30 pm Choir	26 8:15 am Prayer	27 8:15 am Prayer	28
29 5th Sunday 9 am Christian Ed 10 am Worship 5:30 pm Alpha	30	31 8:15 am Prayer 7 pm NA Meeting 7 pm Men's Bible				