



Blessings and Musings

The Lutheran Church of Our Blessed Savior

DECEMBER, 2016

From the Pastor:

I was sitting in the church office early one morning before the secretary arrived and the phone rang. I picked up and said, "Lutheran Church, Pastor Kal speaking". The voice on the other end of the line said, "I would like to speak to the owner of the business, please". "Well, that would be God", I replied evenly. "Oh, I'm sorry, have a good day", the voice on the other end said quickly and then hung up.

I guess the answer I gave about God was a bit of a show-stopper. Maybe there's not too much to say after that. I mean, after all, how much higher up the line can you go after God? That's pretty much it.

I have tried to use this same technique on my wife a time or two, but with less success. "Who told you you could have a second hamburger", she asked me? "God", I replied. It did make her stop and think for a minute before she further chided my hoggishness.

But when you think about it, the part about God being the owner of the business is a good thing to remember. The church is God's business and the business of the church is God. Those two things we must remember.

Firstly, it is Christ's church, it is not ours. There is a world of difference between saying "I belong to this church" and saying "this church is mine". When I say that I belong to this church, I remember it is not my own little fiefdom to run as I please and that my express purpose as a member is to do what I can in this little corner of God's kingdom and fit in with all the other members who have their strengths and desires and picture of what we should be doing.

When, however, I say that this church is mine, I indicate that I should be the one that has the real picture of what we should be doing in this congregation and whatever somebody else sees is obviously wrong if it doesn't agree with me. That goes for the Pastor just as much as it does for anyone else in a parish. This is not the Church of Kal - it is the Church of the Christ. I have ideas about what I would like to see done, but so do other folks and their ideas are just as valid as mine. Martin Luther talked about the royal priesthood of all believers and took that seriously.

Secondly, we must remember that the business of the church is God. If our business is to line up with God's business, then we need to be constantly listening to what He tells us in word and sacrament. We are His voice of Good News. Ours are the hands of God that care for the hurting. Ours are God's feet to go and get things done that He wants. We are not here to be a meaningless social club or a museum to dust the saints off once a week. We are the hospital for sinners. That is God's business and that is our business.

Pastor:
Kal Rissman

**Church Council
President:**
George Bennett

Vice President:
Becky Howard

Secretary:
Susie Remington

Treasurer:
Nancy Sowers

Other Members:
Bill Feldheiser
Janice Feldheiser
Marilyn Pierce
Eddie Slaven
Kim Zarse
June Zirkle

Organist:
Marilyn Pierce

Church Secretary:
Marilyn Pierce
9 AM - Noon
Mon. Wed. Thurs.
and Fri.
Tues. 1:00-3:30pm

Office Phone:
765-7243671

Email Address:
www.ourblessedsavior.com

Sunday School:
9:30 A.M.

Worship:
10:30 A.M.

Printing:
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The Zarse Family



We five little Lutheran Church mice were talking about the 500th year of the Reformation when Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses on the church door in Germany.

Our own Lutheran dog, Penny is ready to celebrate the 500th year of the Reformation. You ask how can a dog be ready for the celebration? Here it comes -- Penny has a collar that reads, Reformation 500th 1517 - 2017 on it. She wears it proudly and has been asked about what her collar means. Now we have a dog doing Evangelism.

So now we five little mice would like to ask the congregation a question. Are you ready for the 500th year celebration of the Reformation?

Now to back up a minute. Squeeky would like to thank Taylor Wells for helping with the dusting from the old carpet and from the brick work. There was a lot of dusting, cleaning and sweeping for Linda Holford, Taylor Wells, Rick Holford, and Dick Zarse.

Merry Christmas from all five Lutheran Church mice, Angel, Scotty, Tiny, Smiley and Squeeky, the Lutheran dog, Penny.

**Squeeky,
The Lutheran Church Mouse**



**BAPTISMS
EMILY MARIE BLAYLOCK
AND
DEBRA L. ROBERTS**

Emily and Debra were baptized on
October 30, 2016

SHERRI LYNN BAKER
November 20, 2016

We welcome them into the baptism membership of the church.



**NEW MEMBERS
November 20, 2016**

**Emily Blaylock
Sherri Baker-Sullivan**

Ralph Grose

Shon Littlefield

Debra Roberts

Michael Slaven

Richard Thompson

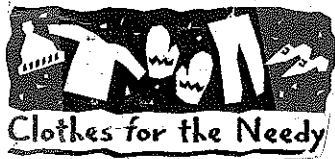
**By Transferred from Holy Trinity
Lutheran Church Muncie, In.**

Marge Bowen

Mick Bowen

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Dec. 11 - Congregation Meeting
Dec. 9 or 10 Decorate for Christmas
Dec. 18 - Children's Program
Dec. 24 - 6:00PM Candlelight
Christmas Service



HEAVEN'S WEARHOUSE NEEDS

Our needs are great at this time for **girls clothes sizes 7 to 14**. We are at the first of our winter clothes and are already out of girls clothes. We have had to limit the amount of children's clothes to two outfits per child in a family. Usually we have a lot of children's clothes in the back, but not this year. If you know of anyone who would be willing to donate clothes for children, it would be appreciated. We also need pots, pans, frying skillets, sheets, pillowcases, curtains, shower curtains, kitchen towels, bath towels, wash clothes, dish clothes, pot holders, any thing in the household items. The household items go very fast. We need clothes all the time. You may bring them to Heavens Wearhouse on Monday evening from 4:00-7:00pm or Tuesday morning from 9:00am to 11:45am. You may also bring them to the church office any day of the week. We served 159 families in October and November looks like it will even be higher on how many families we will serve. So many families tell us that they don't know what they would do without Heaven's Wearhouse. We keep in mind, we are helping God's people.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The I Love Christmas Program - Sunday, December 18th - during our worship service.

Put on by 'kids' of all ages! Do you have a special talent that can be shared and presented to our congregation to celebrate Christ's birth? Maybe you play a musical instrument, love to sing, recite a poem, or perform a skit. If so, this is an opportunity to be part of our I Love Christmas Program. Please sign up in the narthex, or contact Kim Zarse or Andrea Barnett with your questions. We will schedule a rehearsal before our special program.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

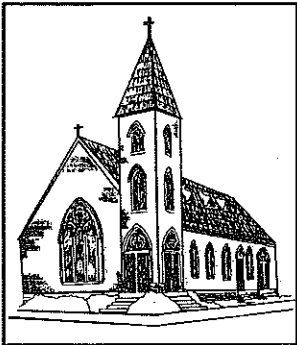
The Social Ministries Committee will again be in charge of the Christmas cards to members. Just do the following and the **Social Ministries Committee will do the rest.**

1. Make out card to member, put their name on the envelope.
2. Put cards in the church box on the stand in narthex.

The Committee will put them in alphabetical order and place them in the box on the table. **None will be mailed.**

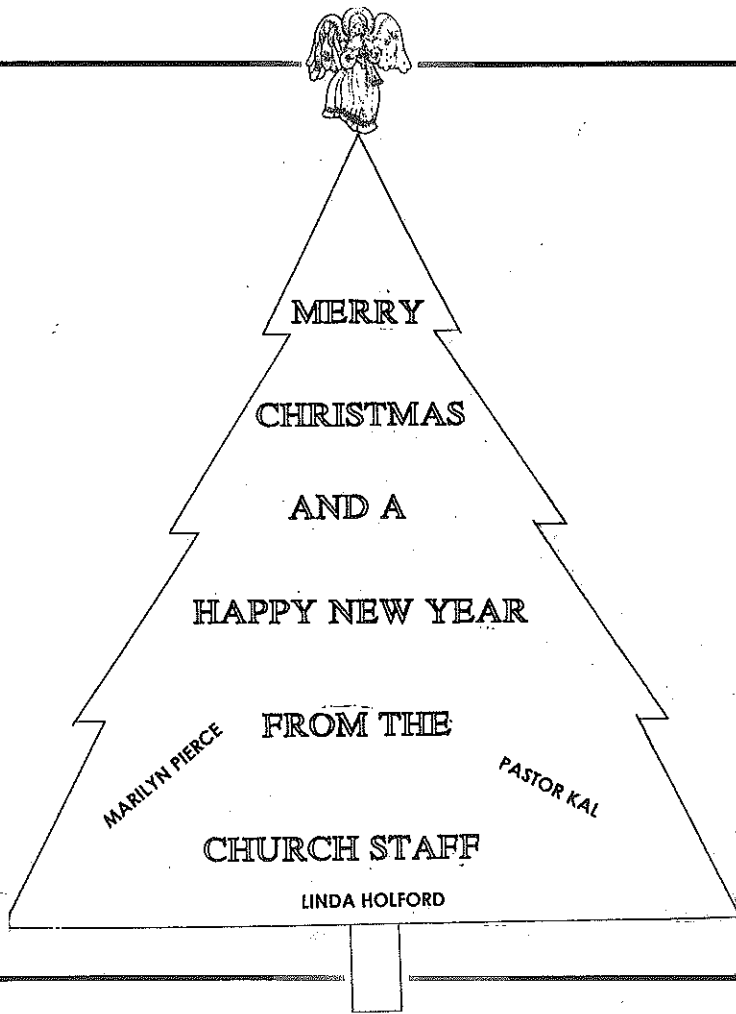
December 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 9:00am Office Hours	2 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	3
4 9:30am Sunday School/Bible Class 10:30am Worship	5 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF 11:30am Free To Be 4:00pm Warehouse	6 9:00am Heavens Warehouse 1:00pm Office Hours	7 9:00 am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	8 9:00 am Office Hours	9 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF Decorate Church either Today or 10 th .	10 Decorate Church if not already done
11 9:30am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship 11:30am Cong. Mtg.	12 9:00am Office Hours 9:30 am ERF 11:30am Free To Be 4:00pm Warehouse	13 9:00am Heavens Warehouse 1:00pm Office Hours	14 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	15 9:00am Office Hours	16 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	17
18 9:00am S.S./B.C. 10:30am Worship Childrens Christmas Program	19 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF 11:30am Free To Be 4:00pm Warehouse	20 9:00am Heavens Warehouse 1:00pm Office Hours	21 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF 7:00pm Church Council	22 9:00am Office Hours	23 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	24 6:00pm Christmas Candlelight Service
25 NO SERVICE TODAY Christmas	26 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF 11:30am Free To Be 4:00pm Warehouse	27 9:00am Heavens Warehouse 1:00pm Office Hours	28 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	29 9:00am Office Hours	30 9:00am Office Hours 9:30am ERF	31



**Lutheran Church
of Our Blessed Savior**
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PO Box 206
Alexandria, IN 46001

Church Office
765-724-3671
Pastor Kal Rissman
Home: 765-754-7381
Work: 765-747-3508



DECEMBER PARTICIPANTS



ORGANIST

4 Marilyn Pierce
11 Marilyn Pierce
18 Marilyn Pierce
24 Marilyn Pierce

ASSISTING MINISTERS

4 Dr. Herb Berner
11
18 Andrea Barnett
24 Emily Closser

GREETERS

4
11
18 Becky Howard
24

COUNTERS

David/Carol Shears
Becky Howard/Timothy Pierce
Beverly Stevens/Janice Little
Linda Howerton/Susie Remington

LECTORS

Eddie Slaven
Kathie Loser
Michael Slaven
Paulette Haynes

SOUND EQUIPMENT

Timothy Pierce

ALTAR GUILD

Linda Holford
Louisa Hamilton

DEACON

Tina Gilman
Tammy DiRuzza
June Zirkle
Becky Howard