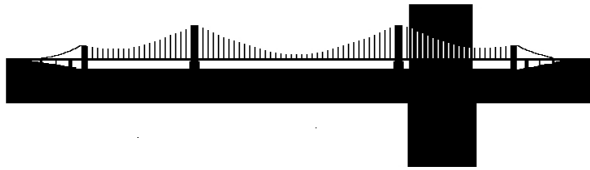


Building Bridges To God



Through the Cross of Christ

EQUIPPING  
THE  
SAINTS

The Newsletter Ministry of All Saints Lutheran Church

January 2012

A HAPPY  
NEW YEAR

In The New Year

In the New Year,  
we wish you the best year you've ever had,  
and that each New Year  
will be better than the last.

May you realize your fondest dreams  
and take time to recognize and enjoy  
each and every blessing.

Happy New Year,  
And many more!

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ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 22  
AFTER WORSHIP

# ***ANOTHER NEW YEAR!***

*January 2012*

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When I was young, New Year's Eve was a big deal! After New Year's Eve worship at church, my family would set out a table full of goodies to snack on, things we seldom got (creamed herring, shrimp, etc.). We'd watch the big countdown on TV (yes, I still remember Guy Lombardo and his Royal Canadians; later Dick Clark, pre- and post-stroke); we'd step out into the front yard at midnight, and bang some pots and pans together to welcome the new year.

The big countdown isn't so big anymore. Now the celebrities are stars like 'Lady Gaga.' The excitement isn't as palpable. I confess: many times in recent years we've gone to bed before midnight and haven't given it much thought. The new year is pretty much like the old one. Whatever 'excitement' comes my way is consistent throughout the year...(and I have you folks to thank for that!).

What excites me most is seeing what God can do in this challenging world of ours throughout the year. When I'm inclined to get discouraged, God surprises me with some sign of new hope, some human transformation that assures me of God's continuing presence and power.

When you think about it, that's what the church is for: *revealing the many ways in which God touches lives and awakens new hope.*

One of those 'ways' is through our annual *joint study* involving All Saints members and St. Joan of Arc members. Our topic this season is **How Lutherans Interpret the Bible**. It's a four-session DVD study led by Luther Seminary professor Dr. Mark Allan Powell. We'll kick things off on **Monday January 16, 7 – 8:30 pm at All Saints**.

Why should this topic matter to you? Because we live in a culture that claims to treasure the Bible, but doesn't really know it. Because our history, our politics (including the current race to the White House) and the way we treat the poor/immigrants/widows and orphans is directly connected to how we read and interpret the Bible.

Fundamentalism...legalism...literalism have always been popular ways to read the Bible. But Lutherans are not fundamentalists, legalists or literalists! What then are we? You'll have to come and find out!

When you read and interpret the Bible like Lutherans, you come to see God at work in history in ways that do inspire hope...that does build faith!

New Year's Eve may not be for you what it once was...but there's no shortage of excitement when you begin to see God at work each and every day of your life. Each new day becomes an adventure, one that makes you want to get out of bed and get going! Please join us...in worship, and on Monday nights starting January 16!

Blessed joy throughout the new year!  
Pastor Rich

## THE BIRTHDAY CLUB!

We began this new ministry in 2011; let's see if we can build it in 2012!

Here's how it works: Each month, we invite members/friends celebrating a birthday that month to make a special gift to Lutheran World Relief for humanitarian work wherever it's needed most; currently among the famine-plagued refugees of Somalia, as they struggle to find their way some 300 miles to the LWR-run refugee camps located in Kenya.

Any amount is appreciated; we're suggesting either \$10, \$25, or one dollar per year of your life. Simply make a check payable to All Saints, earmarked for the birthday club. At the end of the month, we'll forward a single check to LWR on your behalf.

This new year, watch for a special recognition in worship each month. And check at our Congregational Meeting on January 22 to see how much was given to LWR in 2011!

Thank you for your support!

Pastor Rich



The Drive-Thru Living Nativity was a huge success! Thanks to everyone who saved a milk carton, made food, worked in the kitchen, was a dresser, was a character in a scene, helped set up, helped tear down, hung lights, and lit luminaries. We could not have done it without you.

Over the two night period, about 450 cars went through, about 1425 people saw our Living Nativity, \$591.69 and hundreds of food items collected for the food bank.

Before last weekend, we received donations over \$2,700 to help replace the stolen items; \$2,000 was spent on lights, cords, plugs, timers and tubs. We still need to purchase items for our sound system; it was easier to borrow them for this year. Once that amount is determined we will donate the balance to the food bank.

Thank you again for helping make our gift to our community so wonderful!

Drive-Thru Living Nativity Committee



**ECUMENICAL  
BEREAVEMENT  
SUPPORT GROUP**

St. Patrick of Heatherdowns  
Emmaus Room

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 2012  
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm

Title: "New Beginnings"  
(See bulletin board for more details)

*Coffee Hour*

*Sunday, January 8*



Please check sign-up sheet on bulletin board to make sure we have plenty of food donations.



Bible Study will resume Monday, January 16, at 7:00 p.m.

St. Joan of Arc will be joining us for a special 4 week Bible Study.

Please note the change in time, this will only be for the four weeks.

**ANNUAL MEETING**

Sunday, January 22

After worship

- Approve 2012 Budget
- Elect new Council Members
- Resolution to reduce the number of council members from nine to seven

# JANUARY VOLUNTEERS

## READER

Jan. 1 Barb Mounjie  
Jan. 8 Donna Stockmaster  
Jan. 15 Gretchen Schultz  
Jan. 22 Ted Beitelschees  
Jan. 29 Rick McCann

## GREETERS

Ann Miller  
Rex & Kathy Yarger  
Bill & Judy Reber  
LaVerne Busddieker  
Thelda McNees

## COMMUNION PREP/ASSISTANT

Jan. 1 Roger & Lynda Meyer  
Jan. 8 Chris & Donna Jean Stockmaster  
Jan. 15 Bill & Judy Reber  
Jan. 22 Ted & Julie Beitelschees  
Jan. 29 Gretchen Schultz & Pam Hershberger

**MONTH**  
January

## ALTAR

## COUNTERS

Jan. 1 Rose Thomson & Marilyn Gabriel  
Jan. 8 Sue Merkel & Judy Reber  
Jan. 15 Ann Miller & Pat Toepfer  
Jan. 22 Mary Lou Houle & Eloise Way  
Jan. 29 Rose Thomson & Marilyn Gabriel

## OFFERING

Jan. 1 Tim Merkel  
Jan. 8 Bob Krueger  
Jan. 15 Judy Reber  
Jan. 22 Rose Thomson  
Jan. 29 Roger Meyer

## USHERS

Jan. 1 Chris Stockmaster, Bill Reber, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Jan. 8 Jim TerDoest, Bob Krueger, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Jan. 15 Chris Stockmaster, Bill Reber, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Jan. 22 Jim TerDoest, Bob Krueger, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch  
Jan. 29 Chris Stockmaster, Bill Reber, Hassan Brown, Ralph Fritsch



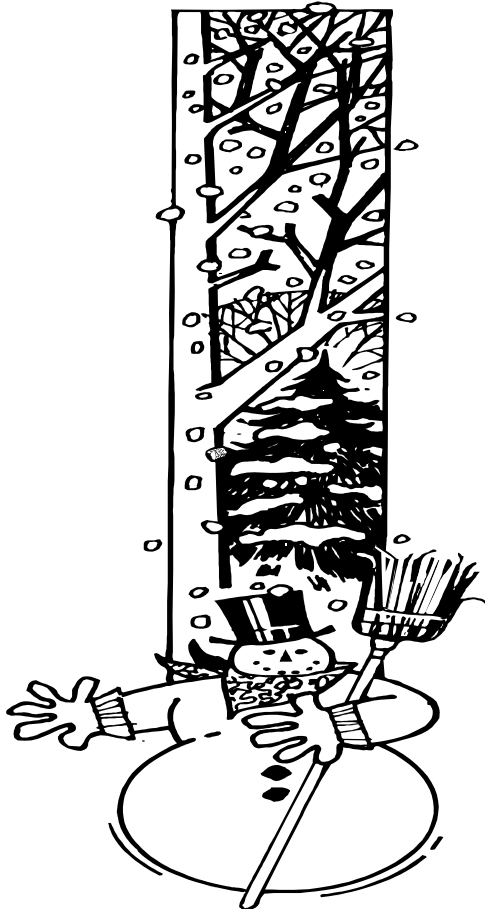
# 2012

## January

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> No S.S. 10:00 Worship 	<b>2</b> Office Closed in observance of New Years Day.  8:30 AA (closed)	<b>3</b> 8:30 AA (open)	<b>4</b> 8:30 AA (open)	<b>5</b> 8:30 AA (closed)	<b>6</b> 6:15 Epiphany Pot Luck and Un-decorating of church	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8:30 Prayer All classes resume 10:00 Worship  Coffee Hour	<b>9</b> No Bible Study  8:30 AA (closed)	<b>10</b> 7:00 Property  8:30 AA (open)	<b>11</b> 8:30 AA (open)	<b>12</b> 8:30 AA (closed)	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:00 Lady Saints
<b>15</b> 8:30 Prayer 9:00 SS 9:00 Adult Forum 9:00 Conf. Class 10:00 Worship  Pastor Marc Miller Is preaching	<b>16</b> 7:00 Bible Study St. Joan of Arc joining us for 4 week Bible Study.  7:00 S.O.S.  8:30 AA (closed)	<b>17</b> 7:00 Property Mtg.  8:30 AA (open)	<b>18</b> 8:30 AA (open)	<b>19</b> 7:00 Council  8:30 AA (closed)	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> 8:30 Prayer 9:00 SS 9:00 Adult Forum 9:00 Conf. Class 10:00 Worship  Annual Meeting	<b>23</b> 7:00 Bible Study St. Joan of Arc joining us for 4 week Bible Study.  8:30 AA (closed)	<b>24</b> 8:30 AA (open)	<b>25</b> 7:00 W & M  8:30 AA (open)	<b>26</b> 8:30 AA (closed)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:00 Men's Gr.
<b>29</b> 8:30 Prayer 9:00 SS 9:00 Adult Forum 9:00 Conf. Class 10:00 Worship	<b>30</b> 7:00 Bible Study St. Joan of Arc joining us for 4 week Bible Study.  8:30 AA (closed)	<b>31</b> 8:30 AA (open)				



All Saints Lutheran Church  
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[www.allsaintstoledo.org](http://www.allsaintstoledo.org)



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