



OLIVET MONTHLY BEACON

Sharing the Light and the Love of Our Lord

Volume 5, Number 2

February 2012



Ash Wednesday Worship February 22 at 7:00pm

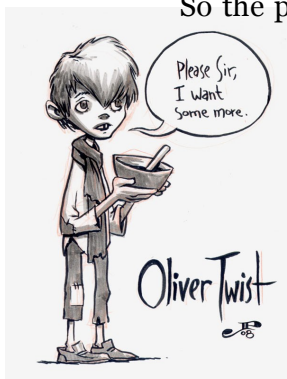
This year our series on the weekends is titled "Restoring Relationships". The Lenten season is a time for self-examination, repentance, and confession. It is also a time to take stock of our relationships: our relationship with God and with others. As sinful human beings, we feel the weight of broken relationships with God and with others and long to restore them to wholeness. As we walk together toward the cross, we discover ways to restore our relationships through justice, faithfulness, trust, limits, love and forgiveness.

Our Soup and sandwich meals will begin on February 29. We will be serving the meals from 5:45pm till 6:45pm with worship beginning at 7:00pm. This year the theme of our midweek Lenten drama is The Attributes of Lent; Repentance, Humility, Sacrifice, Commitment, Faith and Service.

More Please!

A number of years ago a member of Olivet asked if we could make our worship services longer. We asked them what did they have in mind? They told us two hours would be wonderful! We told them to come to the both the 8am and 10am services! :-)

That being said we have had an influx in the number of people asking for a longer or an extended time of worship. Wow! Never thought we would have that request! So beginning after Super Bowl Sunday we will "test" extending our worship time from 60min to 75 minutes at the 10:00am worship service only. This will allow us to once again include a Children's Song, give the Sunday School more time to work with the children and for us in the service to be moved by God's Holy Spirit in song and spoken word.



First and foremost we want to honor God in our worship, but we also want to honor your time and the plans that you have made. We have been going over on Sundays at the 10am service when we have communion.

So the plan boils down to trying the 75 minutes format at the 10am service for February. We will plan on 75 minutes but we are also sure that many times we will be ending after 60 minutes. So it will be like getting out early! As always we appreciate your feedback - if you have any concerns please see Alice in the office if you like the idea please tell Pastor Dave or Luanne.

Pastor Dave's 2011 Annual Report

As I sat at my computer to write my sixteenth Annual Report as Pastor of Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran Church I didn't know where to begin. When I first started submitting these reports sixteen years ago I would make sure to include all the activities and events of the year so the report would be complete. I would write about the event itself and what happened at the event. Over the years that became too lengthy so then I would simply make a list of all the different events of the previous year.

Well I am glad to report that there is so much taking place at Olivet it is impossible for me even to submit a list this year! I have come to realize that an annual report is very much like an iceberg. We can only show you so much (the tip of the iceberg) but rest assured there is much more going on than meets the eye.

I could report that we held a total of 193 worship services (including funerals, weddings, and other services) in 2011. But that is just the tip of the iceberg, what we don't see is how God used those services to impact peoples lives in powerful ways. That underneath the surface of what we saw - peoples lives were being transformed by the power of God. Hope was being restored, lives were renewed, forgiveness was experienced and love was extended.

I could report on the number of new and ongoing Life Groups and Prayer Groups at Olivet. But, once again that would be just the tip of the iceberg. It doesn't allow us to see what has been happening beneath the surface. How prayers were answered and relationships healed, addictions broken, grief lessened and hope restored.

I could report on all the support you have offered through the year for people and places that are in need. But, once again that would only be the tip of the iceberg. We do not see a child wearing shoes on their feet in Haiti, nor do we hear joyous laughter of the children at the orphanage who now have clean drinking water. We cannot see the military person who is being comforted by the Word of God on a Bible Stick that you provided. We cannot see how

hungry children in the Coulee Region were able to go to bed and get a good nights sleep because their bellies were full and not empty.

I could report on the many building improvement projects that we completed this year at Olivet through your support. And I am thankful that they have been noted elsewhere in the Annual Report. But, once again we can only report on what we can see. But, God is at work doing more than we could ever imagine. We can see and use the new cabinets in the meeting room, but we do not see the record number of people (over forty) in the room as they journey into recovery with A.A.. We will not see the comfort the ringing of the bell will bring to the heart of a loved one when their family member is carried out of church for the last time at their funeral and the bell tolls for them.



I could report on the wonderful job our staff does here at Olivet and all of their hard work and dedication. But whenever we see them working that is only the tip of the iceberg. It does not take into consideration the many, many hours of labor that take place under the surface so what we see and experience will be the best that it can be.

I could report on the wonderful, incredible members we have at Olivet. But alas, where could I possibly begin? Whatever I would say would only be the tip of the iceberg.

So I close by saying thank you! Thank you Father God that you take our humble efforts and multiply and deepen them by your grace. Thank you God that as we work at the surface you are working much deeper to bring in the power of your Kingdom. Thank you dear members for all that you do to support and strengthen our ministries.

Pastor Dave

From Pastoral Intern Luanne Sorenson

Why do bad things happen to good people?

Why do bad things happen to good people? This is one of the most frequently asked questions on the internet and was asked recently in one of our confirmation classes.

Like you I question why young people are killed in vehicle accidents, why people get cancer,

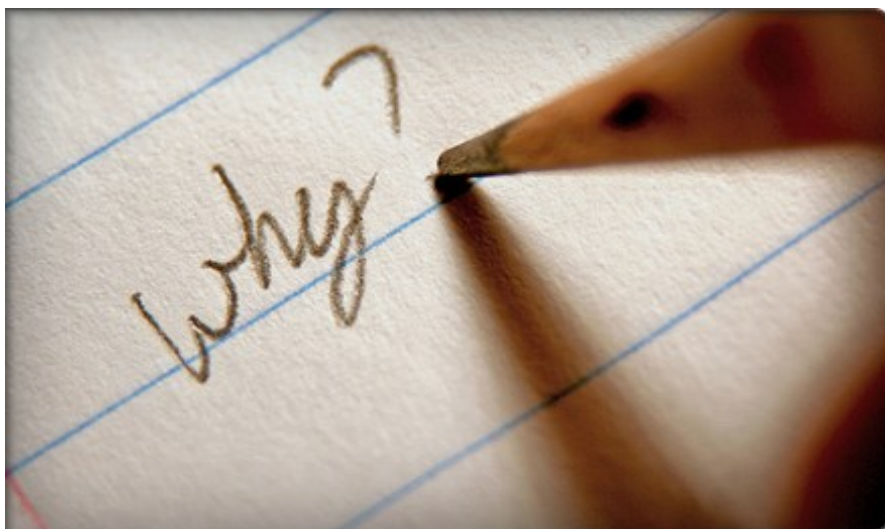
especially children, why a person is crippled by a bullet or a life is taken by a degenerative disease. Why do totally unselfish people suffer?

Some believe that when bad things happen to them they are being punished by God for something specific that they have done. Does God give someone cancer as a punishment? My belief is, no.

It's true that God gives us free will and that sometimes we make bad choices that put us in harms way. For example, we know that people who smoke are statistically more likely to get cancer, yet there are nonsmokers who also get cancer.

Why do bad things happen to good people? The Biblical answer is that there are no “good” people because we are all sinful. In Romans 3:23: “For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard,” and in 1 John 1:8: “If we claim we have no sin, we are only fooling ourselves and not living in the truth.”

We are here by the grace and mercy of God. Even the most terrible misery we could experience here on earth is merciful compared to what we deserve—eternal



The Book of Job in the Old Testament gives us a profound and complete account of human suffering. Job was a God-fearing man who was the richest person in the entire area. Satan maintained that it was easy for Job to be trusting of God and certainly wouldn't curse God because he was blessed with

wealth and a wonderful family—seven sons and three daughters. God maintained that Job would be trusting no matter what the circumstances were and then allowed Satan to test Job. Despite losing all of his wealth, all of his children and then being stricken with boils on his skin, Job never turned away from God. He always kept his trust in God. In the second half of his life, God blesses Job even more than he did in the first half of his life. Job is restored to health, his wealth doubles and he is blessed with seven more sons and three more daughters and lives another 140 years.

We don't know why things happen as they do, but God does. We're not meant to know why. Job didn't know why. Just like Job, God wants us to put our complete trust in him. Sometimes we face problems and trials so God can get our attention. Sometimes he brings us to our knees so we look up. He wants us to turn to him for our strength, for our salvation. Other people and the materialism of this world cannot give us eternal life, but our trust in God and our faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior can.

fire and torment in hell. It is not God who causes bad things to happen, it is sin and evil. God is good, loving and merciful. Yet we ask, why does God who is all-knowing and all-powerful allow bad things to happen?

God allows things to happen for his reasons and many times things happen to us that we simply cannot understand.

Perhaps a better question for us to ask is, *Why does God allow good things to happen to bad people?* In Romans 5:8, the Apostle Paul writes, “God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”

And maybe God does not cause our suffering. Maybe it happens for some other reason than the will of God. The Psalmist writes in Psalm 121: 1-2: “I look up to the mountains-does my help come from there? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.” It doesn't say my pain comes from the Lord or my hardship, it says my “help” comes from the Lord.

February 2012						
"Sharing the Love and Light of Our Lord"						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 10am Bible Study 5:15pm Meal 6:30pm Worship 6:45pm Confirmation, High School, Life Group 6:45pm Musician Rehearsal	2 7-8pm Pre-marital Class	3 6:30-7:15am Men's Bible Breakfast 7:30-8am Men's Prayer Group	4 5:30pm Worship/Brice Baptism 6:30pm Blood Pressure Screening
5 8am Worship 9am Blood Pressure Screening 9:45am Children sing 10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11am Blood Pressure Screening	6 5pm Holy Stretch 5:30pm Choir 6-8pm Financial Peace	7 (See Below) 11:45am Deacons Mtg 7pm Women's Evening Bible Study	8 9am Support Staff Mtg 10am Bible Study 5:15pm Meal 6:30pm Worship 6:45pm Confirmation, High School, Life Group 6:45pm Musician Rehearsal	9 6pm Pre-baptism Class 7pm Bible Books 7-8pm Pre-marital Class	10 6:30-7:15am Men's Bible Breakfast 7:30-8am Men's Prayer Group	11 5:30pm Worship/HC
12 8am Worship/HC 9am Hospitality Team Meeting 9:45am Children sing 10am Worship/HC 10:15am Sunday School 1-3pm Prayer Shawl Group 6-8pm The Truth Project	13 3-7pm Monday's Meal 5pm Holy Stretch 5:30pm Choir 6-8pm Financial Peace	14 Valentine's Day (See Below) 6pm Operations Team Meeting 7pm Shepherds Team meeting	15 10am Bible Study 11am Drakes Mtg 5:15pm Meal 6:30pm Worship 6:45pm Confirmation, High School, Life Group 6:45pm Musician Rehearsal	16 10-1pm LCMC Ministerium 7-8pm Pre-marital Class	17 6:30-7:15am Men's Bible Breakfast 7:30-8am Men's Prayer Group	18 5:30pm Worship
19 8am Worship 9:45am Children sing 10am Worship 10:15am Sunday School 11-1pm New Member Class 6-8pm The Truth Project	20 5pm Holy Stretch 5:30pm Choir 6-8pm Financial Peace BEACON Deadline	21 (See Below) 7pm Women's Evening Bible Study	22 Ash Wednesday 10am Bible Study 7pm Worship/HC	23 7-8pm Pre-marital Class	24 6:30-7:15am Men's Bible Breakfast 7:30-8am Men's Prayer Group	25 5:30pm Worship/HC
26 8am Worship/HC 9:45am Children sing 10am Worship/HC 10:15am Sunday School 11-1pm New Member Class 6-8pm The Truth Project	27 5pm Holy Stretch 5:30pm Choir 6-8pm Financial Peace	28 (See schedule on right) 7pm Summer Event Planning Meeting	29 10am Bible Study 5:45-6:45pm Soup/Sandwich Supper 7pm Worship 8-8:30pm High School Mission Trip Meeting	Tuesday Schedule 6:30am Women's Bible Breakfast/Prayer 9am Exercise Class 9:30am Staff Mtg 6:00pm Recovery Prayer Group 7:00pm AA <i>"Do not turn away from the Lord, but serve the Lord with all your heart. 1 Samuel 12:20"</i>		

Worship Assistants for February

Feb 4/5	Saturday 5:30pm	Sunday 8:00am	Sunday 10:00am
Reader	Cindy Cossette	Effie Piper	Cole Warner
Hosts	Gary/Cindy Cossette	Kris Rickman/Coreen Bissell	Russ Dresdow/Eileen Goyette
Greeters	Tim/Paula Betlach	Erna Brauer/Carol Halvorson	Dave/Marilyn Gellersen
Acolyte	Sydney Lamers	Willie Atkinson	Joah Strauss
Nursery	Open-not staffed	Tarran Talbot	Tarran Talbot
Counters	Amy Gerken/Anne Zeisler		Carol Thiele/Carol Maier
Sound Tech	Nick Betlach	Andy Ackerman	Michelle Wendtland
Welcome Table	Cindy Cossette		Lucine Grafft
Feb 11/12			
Reader	Carla Swerman	Tim Ackerman	Patti Barney
Hosts	Stan/Sophie Bell	Faye Bright/Tim Ackerman	Diane Fitzpatrick/Carol Maier
Greeters	Glenn/PJ Green	Neil Collins/Carmen Phelps	Al/Diane Brague
Communion	Pastor Dave/Carla Swerman	Pastor Dave/Tim Ackerman	Pastor Dave/P. Barney/L. Hawkins
Helpers	Kermit/Jody King	Mike/Tina Brettingen	S./D. Payne/G./A/ Wuensch/ W. Tulare
Acolyte	Jacob Tilson	Alexandra Mix	Michael Lang
Nursery	Open-not staffed	Tarran Talbot	Tarran Talbot
Counters	Donna Kemp/Betty Fagan		Carol Barney/Kathy Hampel
Sound Tech:	Alan Gerken	Michelle Wendtland	Mike Lefevre
Welcome Table	Lorraine Ganrude		Harlan/Sandie Perry
Feb 18/19			
Reader	Marge Marshall	Tricia Gibbons	Roger Voss
Hosts	Dan/Betty Fagan	Tim Herold/Jane Binnebose	Rob/Linda Sturgis
Greeters	Amy Gerken/Holly Smith	Dave/Tricia Gibbons	Volunteers needed
Acolyte	Logan Miller	Mike Gibbons	Jacob Gruen
Nursery	Open-not staffed	Tarran Talbot	Tarran Talbot
Counters	Lynn Dettinger/Cindy Cossette		Pat McHenry/Patty Houser
Sound Tech	Michelle Wendtland	Andy Ackerman	Michelle Wendtland
Welcome Table	Kathy Vongroven		Melanie Wuensch
Feb 25/26			
Reader	Bob Hembd	Brian Liethen	Melanie Wuensch
Hosts	Robin/Robin Dyck	Brian/Linda Liethen	Scott/Dorothy Payne
Greeters	John/Doris Schwingle	Mike/Tina Brettingen	Mark/Joyce Dyar
Communion	Pastor Dave/Stan Bell	Pastor Dave/Paul Stuhr	Pastor Dave/M. Wuensch/ R./J. Voss/H./S. Perry/B./P. Barney
Helpers	Gary/Cindy Cossette	Brian/Linda Liethen	Chris Wilder
Acolyte	Sydney Lamers	Willie Atkinson	Tarran Talbot
Nursery	Open-not staffed	Tarran Talbot	Tarran Talbot
Counters	Bob Hembd/Alice Gerken		Donna Bentzen/Pat Haskey
Sound Tech	Alan Gerken	Michelle Wendtland	Mike Lefevre
Welcome Table	Cindy Cossette		Lucine Grafft

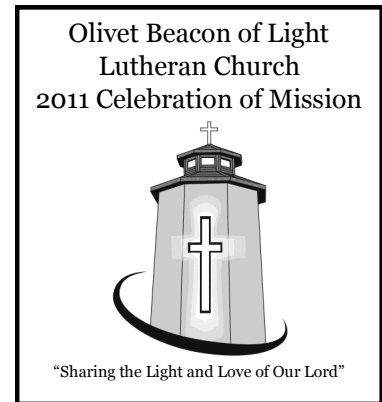
Altar Guild: Jane Binnebose and Coreen Bissell

Thank you

NEW LEADERS ELECTED

At the Celebration of Mission Meeting (Annual Meeting) held on Sunday, January 22, 2012 the following people were voted to be members of Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran Church Leadership Team. They will do their best to help make the best decisions needed for the good of God and Olivet.

<u>Position</u>	<u>Person</u>	<u>Term</u>
President	Steve Kemp	2012
Vice President	Brian Liethen	2012-2013-2014
Secretary	Cindy Cossette	2012
Property	Dave Gellersen	2012-2013-2014
Life Missions	Melanie Wuensch	2012-2013
Connections	Barb Wilder	2012



Other elected members of the Leadership Team:

Treasurer	Don Jobe	2012-2013
Finance Team	Dorothy Payne	2012
Creative Arts	Michele Wendtland	2012
Life Missions	Mark & Linda Levan	2012

Please congratulate our newest leaders and encourage, support and pray for all our team leaders!



Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran Church

2100 Bainbridge Street
 La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603
 Church Office 608-783-1484
 E-mail: info@olivetlutheran.org
 Web site: www.OlivetLutheran.org

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday 8:00am—4:00pm
 Sunday 8:00am—noon

Church Contacts

E-mail Addresses

Ministers.....	All Members of Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran Church
Pastor.....	Rev. David J. Baldukas..... pastordave@olivetlutheran.org
Pastoral Intern.....	Luanne Sorenson..... luanne@olivetlutheran.org
Youth & Family Ministries.....	Lynn Tully..... Lynn.Tully@gmail.com
High School Youth Leader.....	Kristi Perkins..... Perkins.Kris@uwlax.edu
Office Coordinator.....	Alice Gerken..... alice@olivetlutheran.org
Office Support.....	Joel Fisher..... joel@olivetlutheran.org
Bookkeeper.....	Debbie Kendhammer..... debbie@olivetlutheran.org
Parish Caller/Elder Care.....	Leanne Hawkins
Librarian.....	Carla Swerman..... library@olivetlutheran.org
Custodians.....	Frank Gerken/Kathy Hampel/Kalen Seib

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

Wednesday Meals



All are invited to join us for supper on Wednesdays from 5:15 until 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. The meal will be served from 5:15–5:45pm for those who don't want to eat alone, those who are retired or would like a more quiet atmosphere to visit with friends. Join us from 5:45–6:30pm for families with children or whoever would be interested in eating in an energetic atmosphere.

A hot main dish, coffee, milk, water, fruits and vegetables will be on the menu every week.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Menu</u>	
February 1	Chicken casserole, salad, brownies	Help is always welcomed for either set-up or clean-up. If you feel so moved, please contact Tammy Atkinson if you would like to bring in a dessert or other food item.
February 8	Scalloped potatoes and ham	
February 15	Breakfast for dinner	
	Menu subject to change	A free will offering is taken to offset the cost of the meal.

Mission Trip 2012 meeting

Wednesday, February 29 following the Lenten Service. Parents and students of this year's 8th graders through juniors in High School are asked to attend a meeting about this summer's mission trip. This important meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 29 from 8:00-8:30 p.m. in the Church Library.

This summer's trip info....

Where: Benton Harbor Michigan

When: July 29-August 3

How Much: \$100.00 deposits are due now

Sugar Creek News

Dick Iverson, the program director of Sugar Creek, will be with us for the Lenten worship service the Wednesday, February 29. He will be sharing a mission moment during the service and giving a special presentation before the meal beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the youth room.

Winter Fun Days are Coming...Sunday, February 12!

All ages can join us at camp for a great day of snow tubing, broom ball, snow shoeing, and/or relaxing in front of the fire. It is always a memorable day at camp with family and friends.

February 12 is the day we are carpooling from Olivet to camp at Noon and plan to return at 6:00 p.m.

*If this date doesn't work for you grab some friends and start a group on Sunday, February 26

Youth Event

"Catch the Wave"

This will be a time of getting together at the Three Bears Lodge in Warrens with other young people to listen to speakers and music and have a great time in the water park with friends. The theme for the event is "Explore God's Plan for You...Jeremiah 29:11"

Registration forms are by Lynn's office—cost for the event is \$32.00 each.

1st Communion Class

Saturday, March 24 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for students in the 3rd grade and those who have not yet taken their first communion class.

**Mark your calendars
2012 Day Camp
June 10—14**

Dec/Jan Worship Attendance and Offering

Date	Attend	General	Mort/Prin	Designated	Total
Sat., Dec., 31	78				
Sun., Jan., 1 8am	39				
Sun, Jan, 1 10am	87				
Totals	204	\$3,634.50	\$8,088.00	\$1,634.00	\$13,356.50
Sat., Jan 7	103				
Sun., Jan 8 8am	57				
Sun., Jan 8 10am	163				
Totals	323	\$5,328.50	\$3,096.00	\$4,744.31	\$10,072.81
Sat., Jan 14	75				
Sun., Jan 15 8am	60				
Sun., Jan 15 10am	198				
Totals	333	\$3,622.50	\$1,166.00	\$1,568.69	\$6,357.19
Sat., Jan 21	85				
Sun.,Jan 22 8am	53				
Sun., Jan 22 10am	156				
Totals	304	\$2,936.00	\$1,028.00	\$508.37	\$4,472.37

Automatic Giving	
Dec 30 - Jan 27	
General	\$8,561.00
Mortgage	\$2,329.00
Designated	\$117.00
Total	\$11,007.00

Mortgage Principal Balance	
As of 12/28/2011 = \$1,211,431.99	
December Principal Pd	\$2,871.95
December Interest Pd	\$5,692.05
Addit'l Principal Pd	0
Principal Paid YTD	\$55,345.53
Interest Paid YTD	\$69,784.37

*Thank you for your faithfulness in worshipping
and praising our living Savior and Lord!*

*Thank you for your faithful support of God's mission
at Olivet and beyond.*



2012 Summer outreach event
planning meeting scheduled for
February 28th at 7:00pm

All are invited who would like to plan, help out, and work at the upcoming summer event. Ideas are in the works, but not locked in. Let's work on "Shining the Love and Light of Our Lord" in our community.



Contact Melanie Wuensch with any questions or concerns
608-317-6812

Memorials

In Memory of James Brenengen
Doug & Alice Olson—Prayer Shawl Ministry



In Memory of Rick Breidel
Sheri Harrison—Parking Lot Fund

In Memory of Susan Larson
Stan & Sophie Bell—Parking Lot Fund
Marjean Riisager—Parking Lot Fund

In Memory of Rodney Parke
Bud and Carol Melcher—Bell Tower Fund

Parking Lot Paving Project

Since the completion of our new building addition a number of people have been asking when are we going to pave the parking lot. We realize what a mess and a hazard the conditions can become in the parking lot. Between the ice, mud and dust it doesn't really matter what time of year it is the parking lot is always a mess. However, the Leadership Team is also painfully aware of how expensive a project it is. It has been on the project list for a number of years but keeps getting pushed back to long range planning due to the costs involved. The most recent proposal we have received to pave the entire parking lot is \$75,920 dollars. As you can see the number is rather frightening!

Of course when we think something is impossible God reminds us that with Him all things are possible. We have received a very generous donation from a family that wishes to remain anonymous.

The donation is enough to pave a third of our parking lot. It is the decision of the Leadership Team with future prices for oil and asphalt going nowhere but up we should move forward on this project.

We would like to begin by having the front (N.E. lot) and West lot paved. This would only leave the back lot (South—by the apartments) unpaved. The proposal for paving those two sections is \$50,460. The gift we have received is \$25,000 and with other monies given to the Parking Lot Fund we have a total of \$26,500. In other words we are over half way there!! We do not want to assume anymore debt than we already have so we will need to raise the funding for this project before we can begin. To achieve this goal we will be asking our members and friends to “sponsor” a parking stall.

Thank you to those who have supported this project. \$31,470.69 is currently in the fund.

Please return with you financial support for this project. Thank you!

Parking Lot Stall Sponsor Sheet

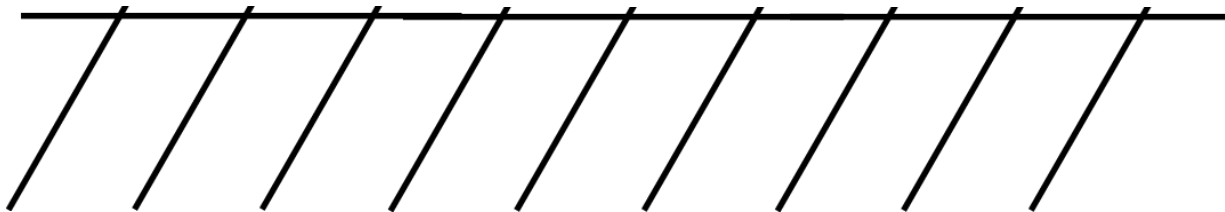
_____ I would like to sponsor a block of parking stalls for \$1,000.00

_____ I would like to sponsor a parking stall for \$100.00

_____ I would like to sponsor a motorcycle parking stall for \$50.00

_____ I would like to give this amount _____ for the Parking Lot Project.

Name _____ Envelope # _____



From the Deacons

The Lord is Glorious! He is Glorious indeed!

I am so thankful for the gift of his word- the Bible to us. For leaders, that help us to understand his word and how it applies to our lives. And, for the gift of the Holy Spirit that sometimes taps our cheek and says “Wake up! Open your eyes! Pay attention! This is for you!”

I had one of those moments Wednesday.

I attend an International Bible Study where I facilitate a discussion group. I got ready for Bible study. I put on my name tag, grabbed my Bible study bag, got in my car and headed to Bible study. I was distracted. My mind on other things; work, children, Bob, etc. Soon I discovered I was driving to Holmen High School, not the church I was going to. I was in control of the car but not where I was going. However I was traveling exactly opposite of where I wanted to go. If I continued on that road I would not have gotten to my destination.

When my eyes were opened to this, I had to stop, change directions, and go the right way. I really had thought I was on the way to Bible study. I was in control of the vehicle, I had everything with me, however, those distractions physically kept me from going where I wanted to go.

I believe the Holy Spirit helped me see that I did have intentions of going somewhere and helped me to get me there. However distractions can prevent me from accomplishing my goal.

Pray with the Deacons

Our Deacons and Deaconesses are making themselves available for anyone who would like to meet with them for prayer. This prayer time will take place between our two Sunday morning services so people from either service can take advantage of this prayer gathering. Deacons will be in the prayer room located just to the left of the altar from 9:00 - 9:40am.



Please take advantage of his wonderful opportunity to tap into the power of prayer.

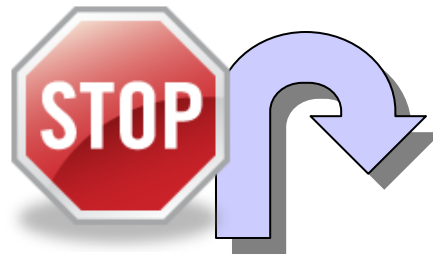
I arrived at Bible study late. I joined them in prayer and thanked the Lord. This is example to me to put away distractions as they will prohibit me from physically going where I want to go. The teaching leader stopped and said she did the same thing that morning on her way to the church. She ended up at Festival Foods!

Isn't that something! Do you suppose that the slippery Satan works through distractions? When you are at church worshipping the Lord, where is your mind. Are you really listening to what is going on or are you distracted by things going on in your life.

Pray that your eyes are opened to your distractions, that you see them, and put them away, so you can truly travel the journey that the Lord has planned for you!

Your sister in Christ!

Patti Barney



Mission Partner Course being offered Feb. 19 & 26

People interested in pursuing membership at Olivet are required to attend the two-session course being held on Sunday, Feb. 19 & 26. This course will cover a variety of topic including such things as the mission vision and values of Olivet, expectation of Mission Partners, the importance of worship and prayer and the importance of spiritual formation.

The next “Welcome Gathering” will be held on Sunday, April 29 at 11:15am.

Bethany-Riverside February Birthday Month

Olivet is the Church of the Month in February at Bethany Riverside Nursing Home. Please go to the Welcome and Connect table to sign up for assisting with bingo on each Tuesday at 1 p.m. Also, please sign up to assist at the residents birthday party on February 23rd. Birthday gifts and cakes are needed also. Entertainment is enjoyed at this event, so please consider sharing your talent with them.



Call Ann Wuensch at 781-2107 for additional information.

“Souper” Bowl theme = “Help us Tackle Hunger in 2012”



The Super Bowl won't be played until February 5 but we have already started to collect non-perishable food items to be given to local food pantries. **The goal is 2012 items.** We know we can reach that goal because you did it last year when you donated over 2,600 food items for the ‘daily bread’ challenge.

The confirmation students will be packing the cans, boxes and bags of food on Wednesday, February 8.



Cash donations are also being accepted.

Thank you for your support!

Boots

There is still a need for men's boots at the Warming Center to help out those who have none to help keep their feet from getting wet when they have to leave the facility. There is a box in the coat-room where you can put them.

Pillow cases

The Salvation Army is in need of new or gently used pillow cases. Don't we all have an extra pair or ones that we don't like anymore! There is a suitcase in the coatroom where you can put them in.

Women's Clothes Closet at Our Savior's accepting Spring and Summer items



The greatly appreciated Women's Clothes Closet at Our Savior's Lutheran church will be accepting Spring and Summer clothing items beginning March 1. As always, jeans, jewelry, shoes and purses are accepted. New under garments are also accepted. Articles may be placed in the round barrel to the left of the Fellowship Hall doors.

Thank you to Michelle Richards for coordinating this program with OSL.

Lenten activities explained:

Disappearance of “Alleluia” and bright colors from our worship services. The colors of purple, for repentance, and black, for mourning, on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are used during Lent with the bright colors coming back on Easter.

The **mark of ashes** on the foreheads comes from the Jews using ashes as an outward sign of repentance. While ashes today may remind us of dust and mortality, it is in keeping with Lent to see ashes as signs of our repentance, turning away from sin and being faithful to the Gospel.

Self-denial has usually been thought of as “giving up something for Lent” rather than practice in giving for Easter. But when we decide to root out sinful, self-serving ways during lent, we replace them with new ways to give time and energy and forgiveness to those in need, as Christ gave himself for us, forgiving our old debts and reconciling us with God.

Haiti Mission Trip—April 14-21, 2012

In early 2008, two years before a 7.0-magnitude earthquake devastated Haiti, Pure Water began a campaign to save Haiti from a disaster that strikes every single day.

- **Only 58% of Haitians have access to clean water, and only 19% have access to good sanitation.**
- **Over 50% of the hospital beds in Haiti are occupied by patients suffering from the effects of waterborne bacteria or parasites.**
- **Waterborne disease is the second most common cause of death in children under five.**

The earthquake most assuredly aggravated the problem of safe water and appropriate sanitation. Harbor of Hope Missions is in its infancy of bringing truly sustainable solutions to a country where they are desperately needed. Harbor of Hope sees itself as an extension of the good works that Pure Water for the World started, and in so doing bringing the Gospel message of God's love in Jesus name to the world.

In recent trip to Haiti, Harbor of Hope trained their first Bio-sand Filter technician. You can see and read more of this at theharborofhope.com. Feed back for the installation of three Bio-sand Filters at an orphanage has been very positive. Others in the Aquin Haiti area would like to enjoy the same safe benefits of safe water, and we will work to this end.

As many of you know there is a mission trip planned for April 14 – 21. The mission focus will be in bringing to Haiti medical supplies that are needed in a small but “extremely” busy rural clinic. It is not clear yet what more might be done in this part of the mission...so stay tuned. Along with this there will be training for Bio-sand Filter technicians. Also, we will be training teachers in sanitation and hygiene. Please pray that God would guide and direct all movement as we prepare for this trip.

If you, or someone you know has ever thought about “doing mission” outside the parish area...now is the time. Here is the scoop....the mission trip is from April 14th thru April 21st. You may contact Pastor Don at pastordon@theharborofhope.com or 618-525-6093. Very soon information will be going out as specific planning begins. Please visit theharborofhope.com for more information and articles.

Your prayers and donations are very much appreciated.

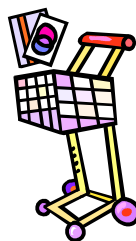
Peace and Joy,

Pastor Don



WAFER/Onalaska Food Basket

Suggested items for February = Spaghetti & spaghetti sauce



Non-perishable foods and personal care items can be brought in anytime. The grocery cart is located just to the left of the Fellowship Hall doors. Once each month the food items are taken either to WAFER or to the Onalaska Food Basket.

Please turn in your receipts from Quillin’s and Festival Foods in a timely manner. Receipts can be mailed in if you wish. The monies received from the Community \$ Program is split between WAFER and the Onalaska Food Basket so they can purchase items that are not donated.



Thank you to Bob Hembd for taking 215 food items to WAFER in January.

Look for the sign-up sheet on the Welcome Table to take a month or more to deliver the food items to either WAFER or the Onalaska Food Basket once a month.

THANK YOU!

Pre-Baptismal Session

If you are considering having your child baptized, please register for the Pre-Baptismal Session offered once a month at Olivet.

The next session will be held Thursday, February 9 at 6:00pm.

Baptisms are held on the first and third weekends of the month.



God always gives His best to those who leave the choice with Him.

Blessed be the LORD, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation.

Psalm 68:19

Observations of grandchildren



A six-year-old was asked where his grandma lived. “Oh,” he said, “she lives at the airport, and when we want her, we just go get her. Then, when we’re done having her visit, we take her back to the airport.”



Grandpa is the smartest man on earth! He teaches me good things, but I don’t get to see him enough to get as smart as him!



Good for a smile

A group of home health care agencies in Metro Detroit were charged by federal prosecutors with bilking Medicare of \$11.5 million by filing false billings for hundreds of psychotherapy treatments for dead people, *The Detroit News* reported. One therapist’s defense attorney was contemplating defending his client by arguing that his patients died when they got his bill for psychotherapy sessions.

Why is a car’s windshield so large and the rearview mirror so small? Because our *past* is not as important as our *future*. So look ahead and move on.

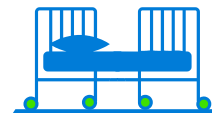
When hospitalized

Being able to support you during difficult times is an important part of being a church community.

This is particularly true when you are going through a health care crisis and/or being hospitalized.

If you would like the church to know when you are hospitalized, please notify your family members or the clergy at the hospital you are at to let us know especially if you are a patient

at Mayo Clinic Health System.



BIRTHDAYS




- 2/1 Christopher Kasten
- 2/2 Emily Chitwood
- 2/3 Sandy Bittner
- 2/4 Irene Hauser, Janet Minor, Avert Eklov
Steve Kemp, Tom Krause
- 2/7 Sharon Hoover, Signe Hurlbert
- 2/8 Mark Hellerud, Jr
- 2/9 Randy Cross, Isaiah Bell
- 2/10 Sue Butlzer, Craig Twinde, Brock Fisher,
Carolyn Tudahl, Christian Wilder
- 2/12 Zach Corbett, Jazzy Weber, Lucas Volden
- 2/13 Geraldine Brown, David Pierce
- 2/14 Jerry Henley, Janet Fisher,
Johnna Barney, Austin Steele,
Gabriel Ehlers
- 2/15 Hailey Bell
- 2/16 Sue Aiken, Tim Mohr
- 2/17 Rod Blank, Nolan Hensley, Eric Baldukas
- 2/18 Eileen Goyette, Robert Schneider,
Astaria Deters
- 2/19 CJ Menagh, Robin Dyck, Bob Hembd, Jr.,
Kaylynn Hayden
- 2/20 Mary Jane Belisle, Brian Liethen,
Diane Hanson, Cindy Lefevre
- 2/21 Phyllis Kobernick, Jean Stengel
- 2/22 Candace Ogen, Tyler Kneifl
- 2/23 Judy Hall, Judy Buchan-Collins,
Jessie Viner, Staci Ambort,
Ross Anderson
- 2/24 Cheryl Collins, Pat Henley,
Nancy Graham, Ben Levan
- 2/26 Breann Stuhr
- 2/27 Dave Amundson, Ray Antony,
Gary Wiste, Megan Sturgis
- 2/28 Martina Kneifl

ANNIVERSARIES



- 2/9 Robin and Robin Dyck
Rick and Sue Gates
- 2/12 David and Karen Howe
- 2/15 Don and Donna Jobe
- 2/19 Craig and Jody Lyon
- 2/22 Jim and Neva Ritter
- 2/23 Dennis and Luanne Sorenson

Note: Please contact the church office at 783-1484 if your name is not on the Birthday or Anniversary list and you would like it added.



XYZ Group
(eXtra Years of Zest)

The group will be taking the winter months off—see you in April.

Check us out on our Facebook page online at facebook.com. Search for Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran Church to see pictures, events at Olivet, and to post your feedback/questions. Make sure you “Like” us, so you can continue to follow what happens at Olivet.



Monthly Beacon
available on the web

If you would prefer not to receive a paper copy of this publication, please advise the office at alice@olivetlutheran.org or call 783-1484. You will find the “Monthly Beacon” on our website www.olivetlutheran.org

The Monthly Beacon is published for members and friends of Olivet.

Editor: Alice Gerken
Layout Editor: Anne Zeisler

Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Plan—February 2012

	Matthew	Acts	Psalms	Exodus
1	<input type="checkbox"/> 10:21-42	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:22-41	<input type="checkbox"/> 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-3
2 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:1-19 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-15 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 25 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 4-6
3 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 11:20-30 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:16-40 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 26 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 7-9
4 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:1-21 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-15 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 27 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 10-12
5 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:22-37 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:16-34 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 28 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 13-15
6 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 12:38-50 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-17 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 29 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-18
7 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:1-23 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:18-28 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 30 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19-20
8 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:24-43 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-22 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 31 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23
9 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 13:44-58 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:23-41 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 32 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-26
10 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 14:1-21 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-12 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 33 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 27-29
11 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 14:22-36 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:13-38 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 34 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 30-31
12 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:1-20 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-26 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 35 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 32-33
13 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 15:21-39 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:27-40 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 36 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 34
14 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:1-12 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 22 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:1-22 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 35-37
15 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 16:13-28 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:1-11 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 37:23-40 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 38-40
				Leviticus
16 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:1-13 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 23:12-35 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 38 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-4
17 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 17:14-27 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 24 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 39 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 5-7
18 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:1-14 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:1-12 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 40 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 8-10
19 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 18:15-35 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 25:13-27 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 41 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 11-13
20 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:1-15 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:1-18 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 42 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 14-15
21 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 19:16-30 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 26:19-32 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 43 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 16-17
22 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:1-16 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:1-26 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 44 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 18-20
23 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 20:17-34 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 27:27-44 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 45 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 21-23
24 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:1-11 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:1-16 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 46 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 24-25
25 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 21:12-22 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 28:17-31 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 47 <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> 26-27

In the month ahead, ask God each day to speak directly to you from the Scripture portions you read. Be expectant, and let your continual exposure to God’s Word reshape your attitudes and behavior as you gain a better understanding of every part of His written testimony to us.



The Discipleship Journal Bible Reading Plan offers special features that will aid you in your journey through the Bible:

- By reading from four separate places in the Scripture every day you should be able to better grasp the unity of the Scriptures, as well as enjoy the variety of seeing four different viewpoints.
- You can begin at any point of the year.
- To prevent the frustration of falling behind, which most of us tend to do when following a Bible reading plan, each month of this plan gives you only twenty five readings. Since you’ll have several “free days” each month, you could set aside Sunday to either not read at all or to catch up on any readings you may have missed in the past week.
- If you finish the month’s readings by the twenty-fifth, you could use the final days of the month to study passages that challenged or intrigued you . If reading through the entire Bible in one year looms as too large a task, you can alter the plan to meet your needs. For example, you could read the gospels and the wisdom books this year, and the other two categories next year.

Jake Scott Cancer Benefit

Friday, March 9, 2012

6:00—11:30pm

All Star Lanes Banquet Hall

(across from the south side Wal-Mart store)

On October 16, 2011 Jake, son of Bev Scott and a 2000 confirmand was diagnosed with Testicular Cancer. Jake has had a series of surgeries, the most recent removing his lymph nodes on his right side.

This benefit will help Jake because of the health care laws, his insurance ended on December 31, 2011 (he turned 26 in November). Since Jake is unable to secure private health insurance he will need to pay for Cobra insurance, which is very expensive.

Jake is a hard working person, he loves hockey and has coached and influenced many youth through hockey.

Items are needed to be put together for an auction and for a bake sale. Also help will be needed to work on the day of the event or help sell raffle tickets. Items for the auction needs to be brought to the church by February 19. Bake sale items should be brought in on March 8 or early March 9.

For more information, please contact Bev at 792-5949

Worship Schedule

Saturday

5:30pm Blended Worship

Sunday

8:00am Classic Worship

10:00am Celebration Worship

10:15am Sunday School
(September through May)

We have large print Bibles located on the back table in the sanctuary for you to use during worship or B.Y.O.B.

(Bring your own Bible)



15	Bible Reading Plan
9	Parking Lot News
5	Worship Assistants
4	Calendar
2	Pastor's Letter

Olivet Beacon of Light Lutheran Church
2100 Bainbridge Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603
Pastor David Baldukas

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