



When Simon Peter saw this, he fell at Jesus' knees and said, "Go away from me, Lord; I am a sinful man!" ⁹ For he and all his companions were astonished at the catch of fish they had taken, ¹⁰ and so were James and

John, the sons of Zebedee, Simon's partners.

Then Jesus said to Simon, "Don't be afraid; from now on you will catch men." (Luke 5:8-10)

Dear Fellow Redeemed:

Every January we have a Sunday I somewhat affectionately call "Blank Sunday." That's the first Sunday after all the Christmas decorations have been taken down. After a month of a beautiful sanctuary with the Christmas decorations and Christmas tree and its shining lights, the sanctuary "looks blank" that first Sunday. Yes, I know that such things are necessary – part of the beauty of next Advent and Christmas season will be the re-introduction of the decorations and lights – but that first Sunday always appear to be so brutal!

But January, when it comes to our worship services, isn't a "blank" month. In fact, let me widen our perspective a moment and share that our entire living of the Christian faith isn't a "blank" life. How is that? Take a look at the passage quoted above. It's from Dr. Luke's account of Jesus calling His first disciples. The exact passages come right after one of Jesus' first miracles – a miraculous catch of fish, fished at the wrong time of day in the worst possible location and so many fish were caught that two boats began to sink! Say what you want about Simon Peter, but one thing he realizes is that he is a sinner and he is fearful of being in Jesus' presence.

But Jesus changes Peter's fear into faith. Leaving Peter was the last thing on Jesus' agenda that day! He wanted to change Peter and He calls him from "catching fish" to "catching men." Years later Peter would write his fellow Christians to encourage them with these words, "*We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.*" (2 Peter 1:16) Peter simply told what he knew about Jesus. He told about His sinless life, His death as the ransom for every sinner, His resurrection that brings life and salvation to everyone who believes in Him. By so doing Peter was "catching men" – being a tool in the hands of God for the salvation of many people.

We are no different than Peter. Jesus has also called us to be "catchers of men." How will this be accomplished? No different than Peter – being a tool in God's hands whereby we tell of what we know and have seen. We tell about Jesus through word and deed. Which brings me to something special about our life together here in January: a special series of messages called "Be the Church." This series will especially draw our attention to the spiritual gifts God has given us.

"Be the Church" has this unwritten question attached to it: "are we playing church or being the church?" The New Testament tells us that every Christian is connected to Jesus Christ and to each other. The Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 12 uses the analogy of a body. A hand cannot be the entire body itself, nor the feet or the eyes – but all are connected together, each doing what God created it to do (a hand holds things while an eye observes the environment around the body, for example).

"Be the Church" has a special reminder for us to use what God has given us. Part of this sermon series will also be an identification of talents and interests for use in this corner of God's kingdom. We call this form the "STARS" form (Spiritual Talents Are Resources for Service). You will receive one in worship on Sunday, January 22 and will be asked to return it in worship on February 5. You may have filled this form out before, but we ask you to do it again because our lives change. Maybe there is a new interest in your life. Maybe the Lord has been nudging you to become involved in a certain ministry of SBL. We are also trying to encourage information sharing in a number of directions. For example, when you complete your STARS form you will also receive a listing of who is a contact person for the particular ministries which you have identified. We will also be encouraging the contact people for each ministry area to be making some phone calls and personal contacts to encourage people to be involved.

It is when we use the gifts God has given us that the church continues to grow and expand, as God the Spirit gives it growth. I look forward to being the church with you, and not merely playing church!

Yours in Him,

Pastor Bill

Confirmation Sunday Thoughts ~ Yes, it is only January but our Board of Elders and Pastor Bill Mueller have been doing some thinking about the worship schedule for Confirmation Sunday only. They have been thinking that on that Sunday only we would have two worship services: 8:00 am and 10:00 am. The 8:00 service would be traditional and the 10:00 service would be a blended worship style, with the Rite of Confirmation part of the 10:00 service (we would also have our usual Monday night service). If you have thoughts on this, please talk to one of the elders or Pastor Bill.

Voters' Meeting January 8 ~ We will have our **Annual Election of Officers** at the January 8th Voters' Meeting. We meet at 10:00 am in the School Commons. Also, a special item at this Voters' Meeting will be a "vote of confidence" for the Little Disciples Summer Day Camp. Church Council has requested this as a way to recommit ourselves to this vital ministry.

Commissioning of Pastor Dave Dubbelde ~ We will officially commission and welcome Pastor Dave Dubbelde as our new Pastor Emeritus at all three worship services on January 8. Pastor Dubbelde has the following ministry areas: Preach regularly (roughly 18 times a year), Inactive Ministry, Shut-In Ministry, Senior Ministry and some great assistance with Outreach Ministry. We welcome Pastor Dave to our ministry team, we are blessed with his presence!

Installation of Officers ~ All congregational officers ~ those elected at the January 8th Voters' Meeting AND those continuing terms of service – will be installed at the worship services on January 29. Whichever service you (as a congregational officer) normally attend we will ask you to come forward for recognition of your work and be encouraged by our Lord through His Word.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Lunch ~ Every member of SBL is invited to a special Thrivent Financial for Lutherans lunch after the 11:00 service on Sunday, January 22 in the School Commons. There is no charge for the lunch. Art Schroeder, our Thrivent Financial for Lutherans representative, will share more information about the Thrivent Choice program and other news from Thrivent. Enjoy the lunch together and get more information about the blessings God gives through Thrivent.

Financial Planning Seminars ~ Art Schroeder, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans representative, will conduct two different Financial Planning Seminars over the months of January – March. The first is "**More than Money Matters**" which will be on Thursday nights January 19, February 2, 16, March 1, 15 and 29 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm in Room 106 in the school (8th Grade Homeroom). The second seminar is meant as a follow up to the previous "More Than Money Matters" (which we offered a year ago). This second seminar is on Thursday nights January 26, February 9, 23, March 8 and 22 – also from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. in Room 106. For more information please call the church office (484-7873).

Sharing God's Word!

~ **Sunday Morning Bible Study Opportunity:** Join us in the school commons at 10:00 am for some fellowship and a better understanding of Scripture.

~ **Sunday Morning Small Group Women's Bible Study!** We meet during the Sunday School hour at **10:00 am** in the nursery classroom at schools so that children three and under may join us. **If you have any questions, please call Susan Kanning (241-3026)**

~ **Senior Youth Breakfast & Sunday Bible Study** - We have a special Bible study time set aside for all of our high school youth every Sunday from 10:00-10:55 AM in room 204. This is a great chance to nourish yourself both spiritually and physically (there will always be food).

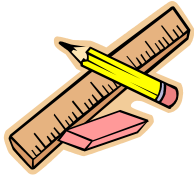
~ **Women's Afternoon Bible Study** ~ We will meet every **Tuesday from 1:30 - 2:45 pm** at the church. This is a more traditional Bible study with weekly take home scripture studies. Please call Tina Harmeyer @ 436-8592 about childcare questions and the book that we will be studying.

~ **Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study ~ Beginning January 10** the Tuesday Evening Women's Bible Study will start a new study. We will study the book of James using Beth Moore's "Mercy Triumphs" study material. This study meets every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm at various women's homes. If you are interested please call Angie Zelt at 710-5558 to get more information.

~ **Women's Morning Bible Study** ~ We will meet every **Wednesday from 8:00 - 9:15 am**. This is a "Walk - Talk" Bible study. We will walk in small groups around the school/church parking lot as we discuss scripture and how it relates to our lives right now. Please call Tina Harmeyer @ 436-8592 for more information.

~ **Men's Saturday Morning Bible Study** ~ Meets in the school commons every **Saturday at 8:00 am**.

Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran School



SBLS Times

January 2012



Our Mission:

We believe that Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School and all our members exist to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord, Jesus Christ and to go share the good news of His love with our community and the world.

Stay in Touch With SBLS

www.suburbanbethlehem.org

<http://fastdir.com/sbbs>

A Blessed Christmas & A Happy New Year

As we focus on the celebration of the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, we want to take a moment to add our words of thanks to God's family here at Suburban Bethlehem. It is a great privilege to serve with you, God's faithful family of saints. May the peace that comes with the knowledge of the birth of our Savior touch your household this holiday season.

As we reflect on the year that is nearly past, it is clear to see that God has blessed us as a congregation and school in so many ways. Our prayer is that we continue to search for His will in the ministry of SBL and trust that He will continue to supply us with all that we need to accomplish what is planned for us.

And now for the Happy New Year; may God grant to you everything that is intended for you in the coming year. Above all, I pray that you remain rooted in His word and connected to Him through prayer. God bless you in 2012 and everyday day of your life!

Welcome Ellen Gottschalk

We want to take this opportunity to welcome Mrs. Ellen Gottschalk to our faculty as our new kindergarten teacher.

Mrs. Gottschalk has a long history with SBL. She grew up here and is a graduate of SBLS. She returned to teach kindergarten here some years later. She has been a parent of children

in our school for many years. And now we are blessed that she will return as our kindergarten teacher once again.

We offer prayers of thanks for this process, trusting that God's perfect plan puts the right people in ministry where He would have them.

K-8 Open House

Along with the Kindergarten Open House on February 19th, we will also be hosting the annual Lutheran Schools Open House for any students in pre-school through 8th grade. This is a festive event with lots of activity in our school. Our goal is to share the excitement, compassion, and quality of an SBLS education with others in our community who might be considering a Christian education.

This is where we need your help. We would like to invite those who might have any interest in parochial schooling to see what we are all about. All we need from you is a name and address. We will handle the rest. We will send them an invitation and express a desire to share what we already know.

As a thank you, the School Ministry would like to give you a token gift certificate to a local restaurant for any families you refer who show up to our Open House as a thank you for giving us their names. It would be great to even have you offer to attend with them and share your love for our school. Please join us for a pizza lunch and lots of fun.

Kindergarten Round-Up

This year we will be following the Kindergarten Round-up method we used last year. Instead of the typical Kindergarten Round-Up on an evening, we will be hosting a Kindergarten Open House on Sunday afternoon, February 19th beginning at 12:00 noon. This will be held in conjunction with the Lutheran Schools Open House that same day.

This format allows us to have the perspective kindergarten students visit at the same time

their parents come. It also gives parents more freedom to attend anytime during the open house. Yet, it still gives parents the information they need. It will be held in the kindergarten room on the lower level near the main office.

Please invite any folks who you think might be interested in Christian education for their children to attend this event. Better yet, why not come with them and serve as their host?

Indiana Voucher Program

After much research and debate, the School Ministry Board has decided to apply to become a voucher school for 2012-13. The Indiana Voucher Program is a new program that offers tuition help for low and middle-income families who have previously been enrolled in a public school. The student must have been in a public school for the entire year prior to enrolling in a parochial voucher school. The income levels are similar to the Federally Funded Free and Reduced Hot Lunch Program. We hope that participation in this program might open the door to some families who previously have not been able to afford Christian education for their children. All of the same registration policies for SBLs remain in place. For further information please call Patty Macke or Rich Brune in the school office.

School Tuition Endowment Fund Matching Grant

We want to take a moment to remind all of you of the on-going matching grant from The Lutheran Foundation for the School Tuition Assistance Endowment Fund. We have been offered the challenge to raise funds up to \$22,225 by June 30, 2012. The Lutheran Foundation will match any new money that is added to our own tuition endowment fund, dollar for dollar.

The SBL family has always been very aggressive regarding this kind of matching grant opportunity. We don't like to miss out on money we could receive and have usually been able to exceed our matching grants. Our prayer is that this remains true this year.

Please consider making a special gift at this time. This fund is dedicated to helping assist children attend our school who may not otherwise be able to attend. Contributions may be placed in the offering plate with a notation that it is for the School Tuition Endowment Fund. It is fully tax-deductible. Thank you for considering this special gift.

January/February Chapel Project

Our January/February joint chapel project with the schools of The Lutheran School Partnership is the LCMS World Mission project in the Middle East. This project provides medical and humanitarian aide to refugees and children, specifically to kids with disabilities. Medical personnel, educators, social workers, and others are working very hard to share the compassion of Christ by meeting the physical needs of many people in very poor and weather-ravaged parts of the Middle East.

Please pray for the personnel there, that the love of Christ might touch their lives.

Recycling 4 Cash

Did you know that we can earn money for SBLs by collecting empty inkjet cartridges, laser toners, cell phones, laptops, etc.? Bring in any of the above items from home or work. We can turn them into cash for our technology program. While these items might typically get thrown in the trash, we have an opportunity to go green by helping keep them out of landfills. Bring any of these recyclable items in and place them in the collection box outside the school office or in the back of church. Help save the environment and earn extra cash for school.

In His Service with you,

Rich Brune

January Birthdays

1 Rick Joyal	15 Adian Softic
1 Brian Kincaid	16 Brenda Jank
1 Phillip Pick	17 Lisa Batchelder
1 Austin Hille	17 Rachel Freimark
1 Heidi Gottschalk	18 Paul Stevens
2 Jared Bickle	18 Eric Rentschler
2 Jonathan Reinking	19 Ginger Gable
2 Gina Raimondo	19 Stephanie Frederick
2 Autumn Smith	19 Melissa Herrick
3 Olga Buesching	19 Seth Stratton
3 Jacob Reusser	20 Abigail Mueller
4 Kristina Drummond	20 Samuel Jank
5 Elmer Linnemeier	20 Cody Hough
5 Carolyn Stech	21 Christopher Rogers
5 David Luebke	21 Joshua Gallmeier
5 Joshua Jank	22 Erwin Fuhrmann
6 Tracey Bienz	22 Eric Ogg
6 Amy Guerrero	22 Jessica Menges
7 Jared Arnold	24 Steve Dillman
7 Alyssa Lukins	24 Aaron Barnholt
9 John Blad	26 Bayley Hitzemann
9 Larry Schaefer	26 Samantha Hoffman
9 Maria Duffit	27 Heather Jomo
9 Miranda Beaupre	28 Marilyn Ostrander
10 Judy Bostwich	28 Larry Hille
10 Dindy Bridges	28 Lilliah Panning
10 Paige Zeedyk	28 Morgan Straw
11 Victor Bolyard	29 Kevin Bleeke
11 Chandler Joyal	29 Ashley Bienz
12 Beverly Schmidt	29 Luke Behringer
12 Elizabeth Schaefer	30 Dorothy Harmeyer
13 Dorothy Linnemeier	30 Sharon Hull
13 Luke Yarnelle	30 Eila Pattee
14 Daniel Gottschalk	30 Isaiah Felton
14 Sarah Yarnelle	31 Deanne Ely
14 Hailey Rogers	31 Valerie Panning
14 Anthony Eberle	31 Kristy Bowers
15 Elaine Jones	31 Carrington Panning
15 Michelle Urban	31 Joseph Jank

“God Bless and Keep You the Whole Year Through” If your birthday is not listed or is incorrectly listed, please call the church office with the correct information. Thank You!

On the Horizon

February

Fish Fry	11
Ash Wednesday Worship	22

March

Daylight Savings Time Begins	11
SBL Auction @ Sweetwater	17

April

Palm Sunday	1
Good Friday (No School)	6
Easter Sunday	8
Monday Evening Service Begins	16



The trustees are seeking anyone who will plow snow from the school and church parking lots, also shovel snow from the sidewalks, especially prior to Sunday morning church services. If you can assist, please contact Jeff Arnold (637-5312), the church (484-7873) or school (483-9371) office. Thank you.

SPEAKING OF SNOW! If we should have to cancel Sunday Morning Worship, we will announce it via local media and our own website: www.deeplyrootedtogrow.org and we will gather on Monday Evening at 7:00 pm to worship our Savior!



To My Church Family,

I would like to say Thank you for allowing me to be the Secretary here at Suburban Bethlehem over these last several years. While it has been my privilege to serve here, I can not begin to tell you all the ways I have been blessed and grown while in the presence of the wonderful people I have met here. I will miss this place, but look forward to the new road ahead of me. If you would like to keep in touch my new address will be:

Klarissa Towne; HC 68 Box 500; Ringold, OK 74754
God's Blessings to You Always,

Klarissa Towne

Be Still and Know that I am God... Psalm 46:10

Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year ♪ Happy New Year

Meet Our New Staff Member's

Pastor Emeritus ~ Pastor Dave Dubbele

Since December 1st, my wife, Sandy, and I have been meeting more and more of the members of Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church. It has been wonderful to meet you and we look forward to getting to know you better as my duties as Emeritus Pastor get fully underway.

You'll find that we have our three sons and that they and their families are the center of things for us in so many ways. This takes us to New Haven IN, Dallas TX and Albany NY on a pretty regular basis so we can see kids, daughters-in-law, grandkids [5] and grand dogs [also 5.]

Thus far in my ministry, I have served three congregations over the period of 20 years. The last 18 years were spent on the staff of the Indiana District LCMS where I served as Outreach Executive. Retirement began in 2007 but I really haven't retired, having filled a 9-month vacancy at Martini Lutheran in New Haven and served 4 years as director of Next Steps, an LCMS pilot project that focused on keeping retired pastors and teachers active in serving the church.

Here at SBLC, my responsibilities include visitations with those who are unable to worship with us for a variety of reasons. In addition, I'll be involved in outreach [one of my favorite things] and meeting with our "seniors" on at least a monthly basis. You'll see me in the pulpit

or near-by about once a month on Sundays and periodically during Lent and Advent.

That's about it, I guess. We are looking forward to knowing you better. Say "Hi!" when you see us and, in the meantime, have a blessed 2012 as you live in the glow of Christmas!

Pastor Dave and Sandy Dubbele

Office Coordinator ~ Mary Ann Noble

Mary Ann comes to Suburban Bethlehem from St. Louis. She worked for The Salvation Army-Midland Division Headquarters in Women's Ministries, Community Care and Older Adult Ministries serving 27 Corps Community centers in Missouri and Southern Illinois.

She is married to John Schoedel who is Chief Advancement Officer at Concordia Lutheran High School. Mary Ann has three children and six grandchildren in St. Louis; John has two children and three grandchildren living in Austin, TX. Mary Ann and John were members at "Historic" Trinity Lutheran-Soulard in St. Louis where they served on the Mission Board and were members of the adult choir.

Mary Ann will focus on building relationships to provide administrative support for the ministry of Suburban Bethlehem. She is excited about being involved in a new ministry in her life for and with Him!



Our Women's Ministry serves in many different ways at Suburban Bethlehem. One of the ways it serves is the Altar Guild. This group of ladies faithfully put on and change the altar and pulpit paraments (colored strips of cloth) according to the church year. In addition, they care for and clean the communion ware.

Some Altar Guild ladies have served for many years, others are relatively new. Serving on the Altar Guild is not a big commitment. Each lady chooses a month that she is willing to do the above duties (some prefer to work in pairs). Another choice is which service she wants to do the clean-up after - 8:45 am service or after the 11:00 am service. The clean-up takes 20 - 30 minutes. There is always room for more workers. If this is a way you feel you could serve the Lord, you are welcome to come and observe or work with one of the ladies. For more information call Mary Zelt (627-2228).

The following are a couple interesting trivia facts. The white paraments were made from flax grown in Germany on the farm of the Grand-parents of SBL's members - Dorothy Keeler, Pat Blombach and their sainted sister Anita Voelker. The paraments were made by Anita Voelker.

The second interesting fact is that we are still using some of the communion vessels that were purchased and used by our forefathers over 100 years ago. What a privilege to link the past, present and future through the use of the same vessels as we celebrate the Lord's Supper. Watch for more information on Women's Ministries in future newsletters.

Lutheran Youth Fellowship - LYF



**Recycling
Drive!**

Donate Your Cans! – Thanks again to all of your support. We will continue picking up cans on the 1st Sunday of every month. Just add your cans to the truck parked by the dumpster between the second and third service on Sunday. Here's a secret... if the truck isn't there leave your cans next to the dumpster (or talk to Justin) and we'll still get them.

Junior Youth (Middle School Youth)

Seventh & Eighth Grade Coffee House – The last Tuesday of every month is "seventh & eighth grade coffee house" day. 7th and 8th graders are invited to join us from 7:30-7:50 for free "coffee like" beverages, pastries, and maybe even some hot chocolate. This is a free event. At the end of every coffee house Justin will make sure we all get to class in time. *January's coffee house will be on the 31st.*

5th & 6th Grade Floor Hockey & Pancakes – All of our 5th & 6th graders are invited to join Justin Gudel for a morning packed full of action...and pancakes! *Join us on Saturday, January 21, from 9:00-11:00 AM.* We'll be meeting in the commons. *Friends as always are invited.* Parents we need to borrow a few electric griddles for the pancakes. Please let Justin know if you have one we can borrow. Parents you're also welcome to join us during the event.

Senior Youth (High School Youth)

High School Sunday Bible Study & Breakfast – We meet every Sunday in room 204 (upstairs from the commons) for breakfast and a Bible Study. Bible Study runs from 10:10 AM to 10:55 AM.



Free Coffee at the Fire House – Join Justin at the Firehouse (1245 E State) each Monday from 3:30-5:30 PM. Take a few moments to catch up with him and he'll even buy you a caffeinated beverage. This is a great chance to see what's going on, ask questions or to even get feedback over something going on in your life.

Senior Youth "LYF" – Sign up to help feed the homeless. There is a signup sheet on the bulletin board. We need up to six youth to participate. We will be arriving at Sub Beth at **7:00 AM on January 29th** to prepare the food before we then leave to serve it at the Rescue Mission downtown. We'll be back around 10:15.

January's Senior "Night LYFs" – Check out our Senior "Night LYFs" for the month.

1.4.12 – Sweetwater Sound @ 7:15 PM

1.11.12 – Commons/204 @ 7:15 PM

1.18.12 – To Be Announced (join us to give your two cents and vote on an activity)

1.25.12 – Commons/204 @ 7:15 PM

EIGHTEEN2TWENTY-FIVE

Sweetwater Thursdays – All of our young adults (being classified between the ages of 18-25) are invited to join us for our bi-monthly Bible Study. We meet in the cafeteria of Sweetwater from 7:30-9:00 PM. Your friends, significant others, and roommates are all welcome to join us. January's Bible Studies will be on 1.12.12 & 1.26.12.

2nd Annual Christmas @ the Gudel's a Success! – Thanks to everyone for coming over to the Gudel's house for our annual Christmas party. You guys were awesome.

AS ALWAYS FRIENDS ARE INVITED TO ALL YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT OUR ACTIVITIES



January's Elders Corner

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men." 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NIV)

Spiritual Snowflakes ~ No two snowflakes are alike, some bigger, some smaller. Each has its own unique shape, so it is with each of us. We each have our own unique talents or gifts from God. As these are gifts from our God we need to search ourselves to find out how we can best serve our Lord. Our church is blessed to have so many opportunities for each of us to plug into.

With our upcoming church board elections this is a perfect opportunity for each of us to examine our hearts and put our names on the ballot. If you feel you are blessed now my belief is you will feel even more blessed when you plug into service within the church body.

We welcome the latest New Membership Class and their families: Beckie Brinker; Don & Sue Esterline; Josh Lewis; Michaela (Penelope & Veda) Null; Troy & Valerie (Charlton, Carrington, & Lilliah) Panning; James & Kathleen (Brayden, Charlie & Megan) Reid; Scott & Christine (Autumn) Smith. Please introduce yourself to these new members.

We are so blessed to be a growing congregation, last month we were blessed to welcome Josh Lewis, Michaela Null, Veda Null, Anthony Ehinger, Abby Hoffman, Miranda Becker, Landin Bandor, and Autumn Smith into God's kingdom through Holy Baptism.

We also had the Lord call Paul Schmidt, Hilda Butcher and Dan Beiswanger to their heavenly rewards we remember their families in our prayers.

Unfortunately the Elders and Council have decided to release Scott & Paula (Samantha & Cohen) Reimers, Amy Ecenbarger, and Desiree Coy from their memberships due to self-exclusion. Please keep them in your prayers.

By the numbers we have 976 baptized members and 733 communicant members.

New Year Blessings to You!

John Wiehe and your Board of Elders

CHRISTMAS FAMILIES DONATIONS ~ I would like to pass along a sincere and heartfelt thank you to all who donated wrapped gifts, cash, gift cards and time to deliver the items to our Christmas families. Because of your generousities 6 families were able witness to the same love and kindness as we are given through our Christ and Savior! Approximately \$700.00 was collected in gift cards and cash alone! Countless other gifts, including food and other household items were delivered to these families also. A very special thank you to Anita Trick for her many hours in making the




special ornament gift tags and special help given to me in coordinating this project. Sincerely, Jane Wiehe

Thank you to the entire Suburban Bethlehem family for the gracious gifts you gathered during December for a Christmas Gift to all of us on staff. Your kindness and love for staff members continues to be a joy in our lives. God bless you for your love and support!

On behalf of all staff members,

--Pastor Bill Mueller

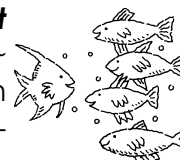


Voter's Meeting

**Sunday
January 8th,
at 10:00 am
In the commons**

**On the Agenda:
Board Elections**

Growing Disciples at Suburban Bethlehem ~ Are you interested in membership at Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church? **The next offering of "Growing Disciples"** will be on Wednesday Mornings – starting January 18 at 10:30 am, place to meet will be determined. For more information about this class – or discussing membership at Suburban Bethlehem – contact Pastor Bill at billm@deeplyrootedtogrow.org



NEW Member Class



A NEW YEAR & NEW OPPORTUNITIES



What's Happening at CLHS

Nostalgia Night ~ This year, Concordia's Alumni Association will recognize "legacy" families (those families with two or more generations of current or former Concordia students) at Nostalgia Night on **Friday, January**

27, from 7 to 8 pm in the school's newly remodeled Physical Fitness Center. Please contact Janne Ross, Alumni Coordinator, at (260) 483-1102 or jross@clhscadets.com for details.

CLHS Students Winners in Public Library Poetry Contest ~ Congratulations go out to the following six Concordia Lutheran High School students who won honors in the Allen County Public Library's "Snowballs and Sandcastles—Poems of the Seasons" poetry contest. More than 800 children and young adults from 44 different schools entered this year's competition.

- * *Sophie Knox* (S) First Place ~ "Seasons Dreamer"
- * Joanna Rast (S) Second Place ~ untitled
- * Katelyn Reinhard (S) Third Place ~ "The Four Seasons"
- * Dylan Bear (F) Second Place ~ "The Seasons"
- * Morgan Travis (F) Third Place ~ "Summer Vacation"
- * Austin Fanger (F) Honorable Mention ~ "The Seasons"

These students, along with other winners, were honored at the Poetry Awards Ceremony on December 3 at the main library. The ceremony, which includes the winners reading their poems, was taped and will air in January on Comcast Channel 55 and Frontier Channel 25.

Half Price Coat and Sweater Sale at the Thrift Shop ~ Come in from the cold and buy your coats and sweaters for half price from **January 20 through 28**. Start your new year off right with this incredible deal! Some exceptions may apply. The Thrift Shop is an ideal way to support the high school—and save money at the same time. Also, if you have unused uniforms, clothes, household or gift items, please consider donating them to the Thrift Shop.

The shop is located at 3436 N. Anthony Shopping Center. **Hours are** Monday, 10:00 am - 6:30 pm; Tuesday through Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm; and Saturday, 9:30 am - 3:30 pm.



"Worship for Shut-Ins"
January 2012

January 1, 2012 - Galatians 4:4

"Timing Is Everything" by Rev. Thomas R. Ahlersmeyer, Holy Cross ~ Ft. Wayne, IN. God's plan of salvation clearly demonstrates that His timing is always best.

January 8, 2012 - Matthew 2:1-12

"Seeing with True Wisdom" by Rev. Dr. Walter A. Maier III, CTS ~ Ft. Wayne, IN. We have great encouragement and comfort when we see with true wisdom - the wisdom of faith - Christ (as the God-man, our Savior); our purpose in life (to worship and serve God); and the ways of the Lord (which are always best, though not always what we would choose).

January 15, 2012 - John 1:43-51

"Come and See!" by Rev. Paul E. Shoemaker, Emanuel ~ New Haven, IN. We do not seek God, but He seeks us and, through Word and Sacrament, invites us to "Come & See" His love, His forgiveness, & His gift of eternal life.

January 22, 2012 - Mark 1:14-20

"Follow Him Where?" by Rev. Herbert C. Mueller, Jr., 1st Vice President of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Jesus brings the Kingdom of God, calling us to repent and to follow Him.

January 29, 2012 - Mark 1:21-28

"Astonishing Amazing Authority" by Rev. Thomas R. Ahlersmeyer, Holy Cross ~ Fort Wayne, IN. The authority of Jesus is astonishing and amazing...so much so that we can entrust our lives to Him - today and for all eternity!

LUTHERAN HOUR BROADCAST:

WFCV (1090 AM) @ 3:30 pm & 7:00 pm

WOWO (1190 AM) @ 11:00 am

WORSHIP FOR SHUT-INS:

6:30 am Sun: WPTA-TV21 Comcast 2

8:00 am Sun: FiOS-TV9; Comcast 252; Digital 33.2

11:30 am Sun: WINM-TV12/38; (Comcast 10; Fios 12; Directv 377 & Dish 7442

4:00 pm Sun: Comcast 55 Fox; FiOS 25

www.worshipforshutins.org

Therefore, if anyone is in
CHRIST
anyone
he is a new
CREATION
the old has gone, the new has
COME!
Christ
2 Corinthians 5:17