



The Courier

Our Vision: To become known as the Church where you experience Christ.

Cypress Lake
Presbyterian Church

January
2009



MEMBERSHIP CLASS

The next New Member Orientation and Luncheon will be January 25, 2009. The class will start after the 11 o'clock service. Call the church office at 481-3233 to sign up.

Tuesday
January 13th



**MEN'S
BREAKFAST**

7:00 am in Fellowship Hall



JANUARY



Italian Feast

Come one
Come all to the
Presbyterian Women's
Home made
Spaghetti &
Meatball dinner!

Friday January 23rd
5:30 pm—8:00 pm

We are also making additional spaghetti and meatballs for anyone to purchase. A raffle will also be held. Mark this event on your calendar and don't miss one of our major fundraisers. Tickets must be purchased for this event. Watch the bulletin for further details.

Mark your calendars for the ATTIC TREASURE SALE

Saturday, February 28, 2009
7:00 am to 1:00 pm

Fund raiser sponsored by
Presbyterian Women of CLPC



**Attic
Treasure Sale**

Start saving your "Treasures"

The trailer is behind Fellowship Hall. The open hours for the trailer are Saturdays from 9:00 am-12:00 pm starting in January. It will also be open on Sundays from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm starting December 21st, until the sale. We need you to volunteer for manning the trailer on Saturday mornings, help pick up items from homes, help unload the trailer and help to sort and price items. For more information or to volunteer, please call Betty Ann Kelly at 481-6412 or Sandy Thornburg at 466-9574.

The Courier

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Pastor

The Reverend Clinton C. Cottrell
clint@clpc.us

Associate Pastor

The Reverend Samantha Keller
samantha@clpc.us

Parish Associate

The Reverend Benjamin Keller
ben@clpc.us

Pastor of Visitation Emeritus

The Rev. Dr. Harold Simones

Director of Experiential Worship

Rachel Carrier
rachel@clpc.us

Director of Praise

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steve@clpc.us

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Karen May
karen@clpc.us

Director, Safe Haven Christian School

Chris Shields
SafeHaven@clpc.us

Sexton

Charles Barnhill

Staff Musician

Douglas Parker

Nursery Attendant

Dorothy Thomas

Clerk of Session

Bobbi Bancroft

Presbyterian Women Moderator

Carolyn Hornung

Moderator of Deacons

Jeni Nance

Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday 9:00-3:00 pm

Editor's Note: Some articles may be edited for space. Some are left intact by request of their authors.



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

January 2009

1st		Happy New Year!
5th	9:30 am	Project Linus Blanket Work Day <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>
	1:00 pm	Executive Board Mtg. <i>(Library) Report from Search Moderator & Committee</i>
13th	9:30 am	Martha Circle
	12:30 pm	Esther Circle <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>
	7:00 pm	Eve Circle
18th		Blankets & Tools of Hope Sunday <i>Offering taken at 8:00, 9:30, & 11:00am Services</i>
23rd	5:30 pm	Spaghetti/Meatball Dinner & Raffle
31st	9:00-1 pm	Make A Difference Day <i>(Fellowship Hall)</i>



Cedarkirk Camp: Space is limited! Camp dates are Friday, March 27-Sunday, March 29th. (Saturday breakfast to Sunday lunch) There is limited space available for this fun-packed weekend.

There will be activities for all ages. Contact Chris Giesecke at 768-1032 or email her at crallybernandes@comcast.net to reserve your spot. Don't delay, sign up today!

CLPC Going Green – You may have noticed the new paper towel and toilet paper dispensers located throughout the CLPC campus. Our Sexton Chuck can be credited for this initiative. He found a vendor that would supply paper products that are environmentally friendly, costs less than current products, and who would supply and install the dispensers for free! Thanks, Chuck
Property Management



New Year's Message

F R O M T H E P A S T O R

With every new year it seems that we look back on the past year, consider what has gone well and what has been challenging, and then make some great resolutions for the year to come. Let's be honest, sometimes we get a little upset when we miss the mark on those resolutions! But the good intent was there and yes, every year is a new start.

Christianity is almost like a New Year's Eve, but every day, for in Christ we have a chance to start over not just one day a year, but each and every day. "For behold, I make all things new." This gift is not to be abused, but it is a remarkable gift!

In your church we have had a great year, but yet like our home lives, we have thoughts about the past and the future. This past year has been filled with some sad times as we have said goodbye to some dear friends who have gone to be with the Lord. Some of our families have moved as a result of the loss of jobs and the economy, while others have seen their retirements plunge as the markets took a hit. Yet, we have also seen some of our children graduate from high school or college, we celebrated a year without any hurricanes and we have watched the Lord reaching out in new ways through us. Just consider...

The addition of our Associate Pastor, the Rev. Samantha Keller.
The start of the Food Pantry.
The start of a Middle School Youth Group on Wednesday nights.
The Kirkin of the Tartans, with incredible music and celebration.
The Countdown to Christmas event, with guests from Cypress Lake High School.
Our children's bell choir playing at Bell Tower!
And oh so much more...

So what are our resolutions as a church for the coming year? Well, the obvious, to constantly strive to make CLPC a place where you can truly experience the presence of Christ. But there is so much more:

We plan to strive to meet with each and every member of the church in a class called "Know 101," sharing together what it means to be a Christian and a member of CLPC.
We look forward to beginning an outreach to significantly grow our Vacation Bible School.
We look forward to growing our relationship with Cypress Lake Middle and High School.
We look forward to our family retreat this Spring.
We look forward to reaching out into the neighborhood in new and exciting ways, while growing in our own faith.
We look forward to serving our Lord!

May 2009 bring you many laughs, incredible joy and the love of friends and family. May your health be strong, may you be filled with a renewed sense of energy but most importantly, may you be filled with the love and presence of our Lord through His one and only son, all by the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Happy New Year!
Pastor Clint



Happy New Year!

I love the New Year and what it can symbolize. There is the new calendar, the new possibilities, the new adventures, and a clean slate. For us as Christians we also have the opportunity of a clean slate through the saving grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. In 1 Peter 1:3 – 7 we read,

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, ⁴and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

⁶In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Whatever you choose to do with your New Year, may it glorify God!

Pastor Samantha

LINUS BLANKET PROJECT



The next meeting will be on Monday, January 5th at 9 A.M. in Fellowship Hall. All are welcome to come out and help us make blankets for children. The blankets can be any size because our children come in many sizes who are in the hospitals. If you can knit or sew, we can use your talent. Call Mat Wilson 489-3582 or Pat France 561-3085 for more information.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY LINUS BLANKET

Mark your calendar for Saturday, January 31st at 9 A.M. for the Make A Difference Day with the Linus Blanket Project. Come out and see all the wonderful blankets that have been made here in Lee and Charlotte Counties by the volunteers. These are given out to children who are in the hospital, or through police departments, fire departments, and other places where they might have a trauma and need comfort. We will have people from each organization who receive these to discuss the importance of this program. Call Mat Wilson 489-3582 or Pat France 561-3085 for more information.



HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Our ministry is Homebound. At this time, we have five members who are homebound. They are Kay Hann, Nancy Knoll, Ollie Reedy, Mary Book, and Dottie Ulman. We try to visit one member a week.

Happy New Year

*Hazel Robinson
Jackie Oestreich*



SOUTH FORT MYERS FOOD PANTRY

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, January 27th at 7 PM. Everyone is welcome to attend and volunteer with feeding the hungry.

JUST 4 YOUTH!

Pioneer Club starts January 7th, 2009. We still need volunteers to lead the Voyager group. This is the 1st and 2nd grade group. If you have not ever experienced Pioneer Club, I encourage you to come see what it is all about. This is a wonderful program that is similar to the Scouts with a Biblical emphasis. The children earn badges for life skills that they learn and they also learn about what it means to follow Jesus.



Confirmation is for any youth who is in 8th grade or older who would like to join the church. All youth who are 8th grade and older and want to be confirmed, need to talk with Pastor Samantha. We will begin confirmation in January, 2009.

The Senior High Youth Group will meet again on January 4th, 18th and 25th. There will not be Sr. High Youth Group on January 11th.

The Middle School Youth Group will begin again on January 14th, 2009. The Middle School meets on Wednesday evenings from 6:15-7:30 PM.

Life Line Screening is dedicated to helping avert stroke and other complications of cardiovascular disease by providing preventive health screenings. Life Line Screening uses ultrasound technology to scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries, which can lead to a stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a strong predictor for heart disease; and a bone density screening used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. A new test is now offered for Atrial Fibrillation--the most common heart arrhythmia--which is attributable to 75,000 strokes annually.



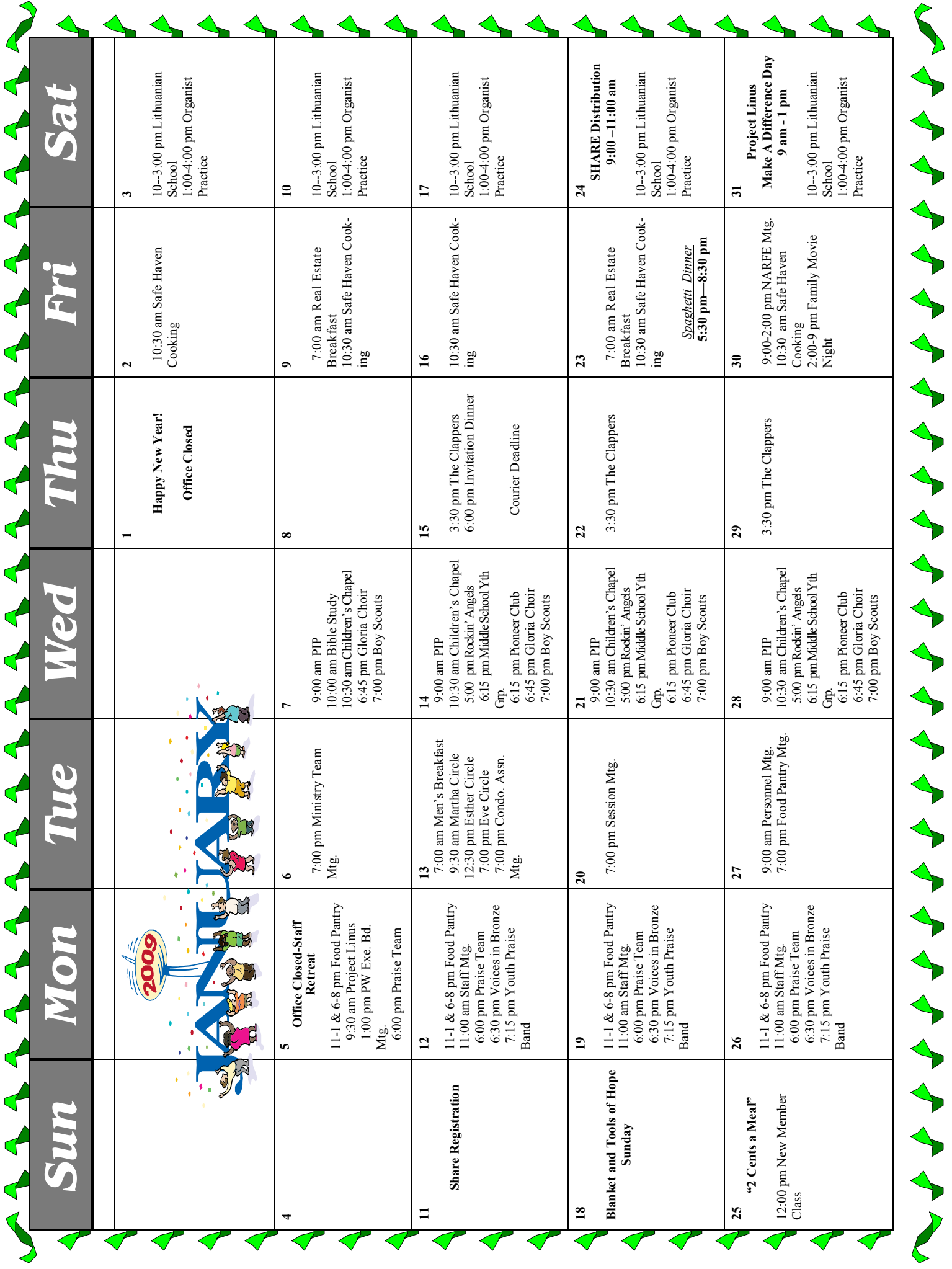
Life Line Screening offers you a way to get high-quality screenings that are accurate, convenient, and inexpensive. Each test takes only 10 minutes and is noninvasive--nothing is put inside your body; a small ultrasound instrument is moved over your neck, stomach, or legs. A board certified physician licensed in your state evaluates the results and you receive a report by mail within three weeks. You are encouraged to review the results with your doctor.

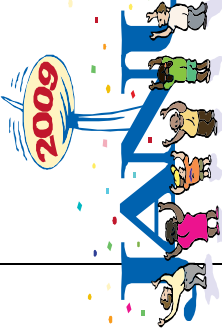

To compliment their ultrasound screenings, Life Line Screening now offers 3 simple finger-stick blood tests to identify risk factors for heart disease, diabetes and liver enzymes. The 3 tests are: Complete Lipid Panel--measures total cholesterol, HDL, LDL and triglycerides; Glucose--blood sugar for diabetes and Liver Enzymes--monitors ALT and AST levels in patients taking certain medications for cholesterol, diabetes and blood pressure. Participants will receive their blood test results at the screening.

The three vascular screenings--Stroke/Carotid Artery Screening, Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening and Peripheral Arterial Disease (hardening of the arteries) are priced at \$45 each. A special price package allows you to receive all three vascular screenings for \$119. The Complete Wellness Package which includes the Osteoporosis Screening is offered for \$129. Add the Atrial Fibrillation test to any package for \$20 more. Add the Blood Tests to any package for \$80 more.

Pre-registration is required. Space is Limited!

****Call 1-800-324-1851 to schedule your appointment****

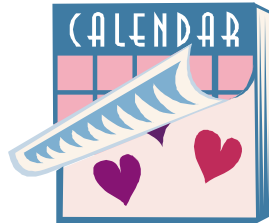


Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Happy New Year! Office Closed	2 10:30 am Safe Haven Cooking	3 10--3:00 pm Lithuanian School 1:00-4:00 pm Organist Practice
4	5 Office Closed-Staff Retreat 11-1 & 6-8 pm Food Pantry 9:30 am Project Linus 1:00 pm PW Exc. Bd. Mtg. 6:00 pm Praise Team	6 7:00 pm Ministry Team Mtg.	7 9:00 am PIP 10:00 am Bible Study 10:30 am Children's Chapel 6:45 pm Gloria Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	8	9 7:00 am Real Estate Breakfast 10:30 am Safe Haven Cooking	10 10--3:00 pm Lithuanian School 1:00-4:00 pm Organist Practice
11 Share Registration	12 11-1 & 6-8 pm Food Pantry 11:00 am Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm Voices in Bronze 7:15 pm Youth Praise Band	13 7:00 am Men's Breakfast 9:30 am Martha Circle 12:30 pm Esther Circle 7:00 pm Eye Circle 7:00 pm Condo. Assn. Mtg.	14 9:00 am PIP 10:30 am Children's Chapel 5:00 pm Rockin' Angels 6:15 pm Middle School Yth Grp. 6:15 pm Pioneer Club 6:45 pm Gloria Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	15 3:30 pm The Clappers 6:00 pm Invitation Dinner Courier Deadline	16 10:30 am Safe Haven Cooking	17 10--3:00 pm Lithuanian School 1:00-4:00 pm Organist Practice
18 Blanket and Tools of Hope Sunday	19 11-1 & 6-8 pm Food Pantry 11:00 am Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm Voices in Bronze 7:15 pm Youth Praise Band	20 7:00 pm Session Mtg.	21 9:00 am PIP 10:30 am Children's Chapel 5:00 pm Rockin' Angels 6:15 pm Middle School Yth Grp. 6:15 pm Pioneer Club 6:45 pm Gloria Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	22 3:30 pm The Clappers	23 7:00 am Real Estate Breakfast 10:30 am Safe Haven Cooking <i>Spaghetti Dinner</i> 5:30 pm—8:30 pm	24 SHARE Distribution 9:00—11:00 am 10--3:00 pm Lithuanian School 1:00-4:00 pm Organist Practice
25 "2 Cents a Meal" 12:00 pm New Member Class	26 11-1 & 6-8 pm Food Pantry 11:00 am Staff Mtg. 6:00 pm Praise Team 6:30 pm Voices in Bronze 7:15 pm Youth Praise Band	27 9:00 am Personnel Mtg. 7:00 pm Food Pantry Mtg.	28 9:00 am PIP 10:30 am Children's Chapel 5:00 pm Rockin' Angels 6:15 pm Middle School Yth Grp. 6:15 pm Pioneer Club 6:45 pm Gloria Choir 7:00 pm Boy Scouts	29 3:30 pm The Clappers	30 9:00-2:00 pm NARFE Mtg. 10:30 am Safe Haven Cooking 2:00-9 pm Family Movie Night	31 Project Linus Make A Difference Day 9 am - 1 pm 10--3:00 pm Lithuanian School 1:00-4:00 pm Organist Practice



IT'S YOUR BIRTHDAY!

1st	Rebekah Johnson	17th	Kay Slusher
3rd	Chris Weber		Pamela Sharpe
4th	Kaitlin Wooley		Anne Burley
	Connie Hope	18th	Carolyn Hornung
5th	Ethelyn Garrard		Brett Pappalardo
	Jim Warren	19th	Betty Symes
	Enid Fleming		David Devich
7th	Richard Meacham	20th	Cammara McQuilkin
	Ann Sims		Matthew Weber
8th	Grace Pollock	21st	Pat Reed
	Cheryl West		Jim Miller
9th	John Nance	23rd	Nicole Baker
10th	Beverly McFedries	25th	Richard Florka
11th	Mildred Kling		James Sharpe
	Gene Witney		Ashley Winstel
	Geoffrey Thomas	26th	Nancy Rose Knoll
13th	Harold Gerhardt		Talia Vechazone (Candis Loving's daughter)
14th	Irene Thiessen	29th	Audrey Wilson
	Carol Howe	30th	Ruth Hauger
		31st	Mildred Poland



THIS MONTH'S ANNIVERSARIES

1st	Robert & Pennie Koehler
3rd	Don & Barbara Tschanen
8th	Robert & Eileen Coe
8th	Bob & Bari O'Neill
9th	Robert & Bonnie LeSage
13th	William & Barbara Bancroft
24th	Robert & Patricia Boring
27th	Harold & Rachel Carrier
28th	Ray & Shelley Kenney
29th	Don & Jean Shell



The True Meaning of Christmas

On Monday before Christmas, I was reminded of the true meaning of Christmas! As my mind reeled with worries and concerns, I ran into my office on that Monday morning! I saw a staff member run out the door! Wait a minute; she is supposed to be on a well deserved two week vacation. I yelled, "What are you doing here?" She laughed and said, "your too early, you're not supposed to be here yet! I'm giving you a gift you can't give back to me." I looked at my desk and it WAS way too clean to belong to me! My office looked great! I said, "you're in trouble. Your making me cry and its too early for that !"

I then ran to the CLPC staff meeting. I was not expecting any Christmas bonus this year due, of course, to hard economic times. Pastor Clint said that two families donated money so ALL staff could have a Christmas bonus! What a happy surprised for all staff.

After I returned to my VERY clean office, a mother ran into my office with two very small packages. I was talking to another parent, but she would not leave until she spoke with me. The packages were small and obviously wrapped by children. As she handed them to me, she said, "I can't vouch for how they taste! The children insisted they make these for you. She then asked about the food bank and how she could get some food. I know that she is struggling to feed five small children and working for minimum wage. When the two children came in, I opened the packages very carefully. The first was two rice crispy squares. I exclaimed, "my favorite." The other was three peanut butter cookies. I again exclaimed, "my husband's favorite." I saw the JOY in their faces and I had tears in my eyes for the third time that day. What did ALL three gifts have in common? SACRIFICE! Each gift was done out of love and they needed to know that their love was returned and appreciated. They were the best Christmas gifts ever!

Chris Shields, Director
Safe Haven Christian School

SHARE 2009



LAST DAY TO ORDER

January 11th
February 8th

PICK-UP DATE

January 24th
February 21st

Last order date is approximately two weeks before distribution day. Last orders are taken in Fellowship Hall on Sunday between 9-11 am.

Pick-Up Date is SHARE Distribution Day. Distribution Day is in Fellowship Hall on Saturdays between 9-11 am.

Chancel Guild

January 2009 Schedule

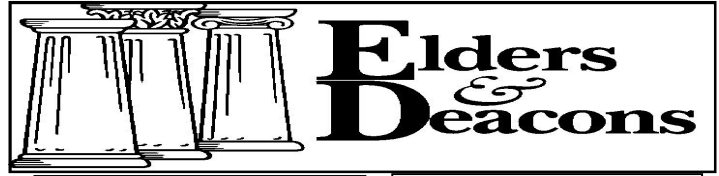
- 2nd** Audrey Wilson
Irene Thiessen
- 9th** Jackie Oestriech
Dorothy Troy
- 16th** Doris Houston
Rebecca Potts
- 23rd** Gerry White
Hazel Robinson
- 30th** Audrey Wilson
Irene Thiessen

If you can't work your day, swap with someone or call me. Thanks for your continued help.

Irene Thiessen, Chancel Guild

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet on January 13th at the home of Nancy Wheeler. Please call 267-7521 for directions.



Elders

Irene Thiessen
Jim Sharpe
Doris King
Tim Baldwin
John Nance
Rob Coe
Harold Carrier
Gordon Coffman
Brian Granstra
Amanda Kraus
Julie McFadden
Jim Wray
Nate Burley
Kirk Charles
Ken Kendall
Walt France
Cammie McQuilkin

Deacons

Dee Cords
Jaime Hill
Jenifer Nance
Hazel Robinson
Cathy Young
Barbara Pappalardo
Michael Sneed
Jackie Oestriech
Anne Burley
Daisy Graf
Daniela Valmer

Thank You...

Dear Church Family,

John and I want you all to know how much we appreciate your hard work and genuine friendliness. We just loved the Kirkin of the Tartans ceremony-how very special. Please pray for Ellen Harris, a cancer patient. We'll be back in 2009!

Sincerely,

John & Joyce Ernst

Thank you to CLPC,

I want to thank you all for your kindness and remembering me. It helped me a lot.

Bless you all,

LaVerne Kosman

Dear CLPC family and friends,

Thank you all for your prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. They truly helped and I feel almost fully recovered!

Karen May

MINISTRY TEAMS

COMMITMENT TO WORSHIP

Chair - Brian Granstra
Member - Irene Thiessen
Member - King
Member - Kirk Charles
Support Staff - Rachel Carrier

CHURCH & COMMUNITY

Chair - Harold Carrier
Member - Nate Burley
Member Jim Sharpe
Support Staff - Chris Shields

DISCIPLEMAKING

Chair - Amanda Kraus
Member - Cammie McQuilkin
Member - Ken Kendall
Support Staff - Samantha Keller

FAITH SHARING

Chair - Jim Wray
Member - Tim Baldwin
Member - Rob Coe
Support Staff - Rachel Carrier

SUPPORT

Chair - John Nance
Property - Walt France, Jim Wray
Treasurer - Mike Scullion
Disaster, Prep. & Response - John Nance
Personnel - Julie McFadden, Jim Wray
Bldg. Chair - Rich Meacham, Gordon Coffman
Support Staff - Karen May

Each Day

A new year just beginning,
Each day a fresh, new start,
To fulfill your hopes
And pursue the dreams
Sustained within your heart.

Put God in charge;
He'll plant the seeds
Of affection, love and care.
Like a garden, your life will grow
With kindness flowering there.

And as you face the wonder
Of each day's mysteries,
You'll see God's hand
Unfolding, daily, possibilities!

And as each day comes to a close,
Dream a dream or two,
Then with a prayer thank dear God
For each day given to you.
Poet, Gael Phaneuf



A Little Biblical Humor

Q. What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth?
A. Ruthless.

Q. What do they call pastors in Germany?
A. German Shepherds.

Q. Who was the greatest female financier in the Bible?
A. Pharaoh's daughter. She went down to the bank of the Nile and drew out a little prophet.

Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?
A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.

Q. Who was the greatest comedian in the Bible?
A. Samson. He brought the house down.



Get ready for Epiphany

Many Christian denominations celebrate Epiphany each year on or near January 6. “Epiphany,” which means “showing forth,” celebrates the visit of the magi, or wise men, to the baby Jesus. These men, also known as kings, saw the star that led them to Bethlehem.

The fact that these wise men were Gentiles, not Jews, teaches us an important theological lesson: Their search for the Savior shows that Jesus came for all people.

In 1875, Philip Bliss wrote the hymn “The Light of the World Is Jesus.” The first stanza captures the meaning of Epiphany, a season of light:

In the darkness of sin,
The Light of the world is Jesus!
Like sunshine at noonday,
His glory shone in.
The Light of the world is Jesus!

