



Lutheran Church of the Resurrection Newsletter February 2010

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February 7 Congregational Annual Meeting after Worship

We'll gather to receive reports from our various ministries, and then approve the budget that was distributed back at the December meeting. An "open forum" to discuss and answer questions is on January 31 at 9:30 am.

February 14 Rodeo Sunday *Rodeo is coming to Resurrection*

Country & Western Service at 11 am.

**AFTER WORSHIP: Rodeo events for the kids
Cookout at the chuck wagon
Rustle up your family & friends and meet us
atthe Rodeo!**

It's our big blow out before Lent – and the last time we'll sing "Alleluia" until Easter.

**February 17 - Lent begins
Ash Wednesday
Solemn Service, 7:15 pm
Prayers of Confession
Imposition of Ashes
Holy Communion**

*Since it is a day of fasting and prayer, there will not be a Lenten supper. Lent begins with **ashes** the sign of humility: we are of the earth, and to the earth we will return. Ashes are a sign of the sin which*

separates us from God. But ashes are also an ingredient in soap for cleansing. So ashes for repentance, for turning to the Lord. We begin Lent with **confession**, a conscious, voluntary examination of how we are not yet the people God intends us to be. "WE confess". We are supporting one another. We journey together through the forty days on the path back to God's way.

The Theme for Lent this Year – 40 Days of Community – It's Better Together

"Since we are all one body in Christ we belong to each other and each of us needs all the others (Romans 12). The bible is filled with verses that teach us that we need each other and community is not optional. God wired you to go through life, not as a solitary individual, but in community. The key to happiness is not independence but interdependence. The truth is you absolutely have to have other people in your life if you're going to be all God wants you to be. During Lent we'll look at how we make those verses from the Bible come to life among us. The point is simply that "Life's better together."

Wednesdays in Lent beginning February 24

Light Supper at 6:30 pm
Evening Prayer at 7:15 pm
Rehearsal at 8:00 pm

The LCR 2010 Church Council

President	Bernie Schurade
Vice President	Jerry McCarty
Secretary	Ophelia Talamantes
Education	Ellen Nystrom
Evangelism	Margie Christopher
Fellowship	Carol Reaves
Property	Bill Craig
Stewardship	Tom Robinson
Worship & Music	Lorena Guerrero
Youth	John Schwab

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Meet the 2010 Church Council

At its December meeting, the congregation elected members to fill the council vacancies for President, Vice President, Fellowship, Property and Youth. The Secretary along with members serving in Education, Evangelism, Stewardship and Worship are continuing to serve. So here's the new council for 2010:

President	Bernie Schurade
Vice President	Jerry McCarty
Secretary	Ophelia Talamantes
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If you would like to be more involved with the work of the church, this is a list of people you might talk to. You'll note most of them have a specific area of responsibility listed next to their name, so if that is your general area of interest, just speak to that person.

*Now to **each one** is given some manifestation of the Spirit for the common good... It is the same God who inspires them all in **everyone**.*

1 Corinthians 12: 7, 11

The Bible teaches that **you are gifted**. Each of you have been given special gifts, talents, abilities for a purpose – to use in service. Gifts must be activated – talents & strengths put into use. Sometimes it's a process of trial and error because few of us know all the things we are really qualified to do. So we have a special offer to help you get involved:

30-Day Risk-Free, No Obligation Trial Offer.

Volunteer for a new ministry, and if that way of serving isn't right for you, then you can give it up - no questions asked.

Fellowship-Hospitality – Carol Reaves would welcome new members to the committee that plans the events and puts them on. But you don't have to be a committee member to help set up on the Saturday before, assist in hosting, or to join the clean up crew. For details, speak to Carol.

Music and Worship – Lorena Guerrero would welcome a few more members to the **Altar Guild**. Once a month help set up communion and clean up. **Ann Coleman** would love to see you at **Chime Choir** rehearsal on Wednesday evenings. Or you could sing with the men or the women. Our band

could also use some more musicians, so if you play an instrument, talk to one of the band members after the service. We really need some substitutes, who could play when one of the regulars is away or sit in on special occasions.

Evangelism – Margie Christopher would welcome your help in getting the word out about our church – we're always looking for new ideas. We also need folks to make visitors feel at home and get them connected – a "*ministry of introduction*."

Property – Bill Craig will be organizing a "*committee of workers*" - not a committee that meets, but rather a group of members with varying skills and talents who can take care of the maintenance of the church (electrical, plumbing, carpentry). In addition, we'll have some special projects – like turning "Portable 4" into a "youth room". If you could use your talents in some way in this area, please speak to Bill.

Of course there are many other opportunities to serve in the church from ushers and greeters to education and youth. We'll feature other areas in coming months.

We are all one in mission, we are all one in call our varied gifts united by Christ the Lord of all.

Council Approves Shepherding Committee's Mission

At its January meeting, the council approved the following mission for the "Shepherding Committee" chaired by Bob and Jan Schoonover. In a single sentence the goal for all our members is: "Stay connected and connect to others".

The Shepherding Committee members will become 'shepherds' to a group of members (and perhaps frequent visitors). The "shepherd" will stay in contact with members in their group, especially those we haven't seen for two weeks or more. They will make their group members aware of up-coming events, like Heritage Sunday, and encourage them to attend, contacting them by phone or email. When appropriate, they will alert either the prayer chain or pastor to problems (e.g. the member has been absent because they are sick).

For members who are on the fringe of the congregation, the "shepherd" will seek ways to introduce them to other members with whom they might have something in common. Also, as they get to know them, they will look for opportunities to introduce them to church activities that might be of interest. If you have any questions about this ministry, please speak to Bob or Jan.

Report from Haiti

From Pastor Jeff

ELCA Bishop Hanson sent this message after the earthquake: "We give thanks to God that Lutheran World Federation staff escaped injury from the earthquake. We also give thanks that we have trusted and effective partners on the ground in Haiti who already are at work helping earthquake survivors. Since staff is already in place, no precious time will be lost in shaping an effective response. The work of providing food and shelter and in helping people to rebuild their lives is under way. We give thanks also for our partners in this work. The LWF staff in Haiti also was tapped to coordinate the responses of Protestant and Orthodox churches throughout the world through Action by Churches Together (ACT)."

Scripture Becomes the "Living Word"

From Pastor Jeff

Through the words of scripture, the one holy God of the universe reveals himself. The God who created you and me, who holds all our lives in his hand, the one who knows us through and through, draws near to us and speaks his word to us through the scriptures.

But it is through the action of the Spirit who takes the human words and illumines them in our hearts so that they become the God's word spoken to us here and now. When we read the Bible, therefore – and I hope we will read it everyday – and when we hear its contents preached to us, our task is to listen, to put aside our own thoughts and desires, and to open ourselves to hear what God is saying to us.

Do not impose your own thoughts on the scriptures. Listen to God's thoughts. And do not bring your own ways to the Bible. Open yourselves to God's ways. In humility, in prayer, let Christ through His Spirit speak His truth to you. (From Professor Elizabeth Achtemeier's sermon on the Holy Spirit.)

Holy Sweat

From Pastor Jeff

In his book, *Holy Sweat*, Tim Hansel tells of a guest preacher in a rather large church who began, "There are three points to my sermon." Most people yawned. They'd heard that many times before. But he went on "My first point is this. At this time there are approximately two billion people starving to death in the world." The reaction through the congregation was about the same, since they'd heard

that sort of statement many times before, too. And then he said, "My second point..."

Everybody sat up. Only 10 or 15 seconds had passed, and he was already on his second point?

He paused, then said, "My second point is that most of you don't give a damn!" He paused again as gasps and rumblings flowed across the congregation, and then said: "And my third point is that the real tragedy among Christians today is that many of you are now more concerned that I said 'damn' than you are that I said two billion people are starving to death." Then he sat down.

The whole sermon took less than a minute, but it is in many ways one of the most powerful ones ever given. He was reminding us we are called not to mere piety but to genuine morality. We are called to action, not to fancy words.

Epiphany

From Bob Schoonover

During Epiphany, we recognize that Christ is the light of the entire world. Therefore it is fitting time to observe the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. In the United States, the week begins with Martin Luther King Day and recognition of King's faithful mission to end racial inequality and build unity among all people. Through this week's Bible readings we can explore, like the Rev. Dr. King Jr., how to live out our prayers for unity through actions.

Perhaps, our recent Christmas prayers and celebrations included actions of charitable donations. God has always called us to share. Ezra and the Levites reminded the Israelites that their holy festival should include sharing with "those for whom nothing is prepared", which included people living in poverty and those homeless. Our Epiphany journey of spiritual growth and quest for unity is incomplete without faithful sharing of God's graciously provided gifts with our neighbors.

Gracious giver, remind us that our worship of you must include care for our neighbors.

LCR IS GOING GREEN

From Carol Reaves

We are asking all congregants to place recyclable items in the green box at the front of the fellowship hall. Please place empty plastic cups, plastic containers of all sorts, styrofoam cups and containers, plastic bags, aluminum and tin cans, and empty glass jars. Anything with a number 1 through 8 is acceptable. I will have an answer next newsletter about including our plastic eating utensils.

Cross-Shattered Christ: Meditations on the Seven Last Words

During Lent the Sunday morning adult class led by Dean Winter will use as the basis for our discussion a book by one of our best theologians writing today. Stanley Hauerwas is a Christian ethicist who has won many honors for his down-to-earth writings on ethics and theology. When Time magazine named him Best Theologian of 2001, Hauerwas replied, "'best' is not a theological category." In this little book Hauerwas devotes one chapter each to the seven last words of Christ: (1) "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." (2) "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise." (3) "Woman, behold thy son!" ... "Behold thy mother!" (4) "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" (5) "I thirst." (6) "It is finished." (7) "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit."

Hauerwas takes the title for his book from a poem called "Mercy" in *Manhandling the Deity* by John F. Deane, part of which reads:

*Unholy we sang this morning, and prayed
as if we were not broken, crooked
the Christ-figure hung, splayed
on bloodied beams above us;
devious God, dweller in shadows,
mercy on us; immortal, cross-shattered Christ—
your gentling grace down upon us.*

The paschal mystery, says Hauerwas, is not an insoluble puzzle but a reality that we can love and embrace, even while it subverts all we think we know. We do not "possess" this truth in a self-serving manner, contrary to the ways we often think and act, but ought to beg God to be transformed by the truth of Good Friday. Repenting of our many presumptions, as we approach the foot of the cross we realize that our lives "can never return to normal."

Fellowship Committee

From Carol Reaves, Chair

Fellowship Committee is still looking for a few good men/women to serve our congregation by joining our committee. Monetary compensation is non-existent, but you will have lots of fun, help our congregation enjoy a meal eaten in a spiritual setting, and make some long-lasting friends. I know I have. When we have enough members on the

Committee, we will hold a meeting to plan this years' events with everyone's input. Having more people on the Committee also means each person only needs to assist with an event four or five times a year. In the near future I will be distributing a questionnaire (to all congregants) to answer about our program. So put your thinking caps on. We are especially wanting all newer members to become more active and attend as many events as possible. Again, this is a place to get to know other members and gain lasting friendships. It would thrill me to have to set up tables in the narthex again to accommodate a big crowd for the meals.

Ladies Night Out

Next month we will be going to Simi's India Cuisine. It is located at 4535 Fredericksburg Rd. in a small strip-mall across the street from Crossroads (Wonderland) Mall. We have dined there before and it is truly a great experience. The service and food are a treat, and if you want to see their Tandoori ovens, they will give you a tour through the kitchen.

I hope to see many of you there at 6:30 on the 22nd of February. Please bring friends and family with you! Questions or suggestions? Call Joyce at 623-2288.

Cowboy's Ten Commandments Posted on the Wall at Cross Trails Church in Fairlie, Texas From John Schwab

- (1) Just one God.
- (2) Honor yer Ma & Pa.
- (3) No telling tales or gossipin'.
- (4) Git yourself to Sunday meeting.
- (5) Put nothin' before God.
- (6) No foolin' around with another fellow's gal.
- (7) No killin'.
- (8) Watch yer mouth.
- (9) Don't take what ain't yers.
- (10) Don't be hankerin' for yer buddy's stuff.



Jan Birthdays**Anniversaries****Feb Birthdays****Anniversaries**

1	Amanda Wiesehan	1		4	Barbara Coy Kristen Flint Levi Jenkins	4	
4	Steve Martinez	4		5	Bill Howells	5	Chris & Margie Christopher
7	Roger Hicks	7		8	Patricia R. Weinelt	8	
8		8	Patrick & Lynda McMaughan	10	Jake Tanner	10	
9	Lisa Oldfield	9		11	Carolina De la Rosa	11	
10		10	Bennie & Marion Wehmeyer	12	Jan Nobiling	12	
13	Jerry McCarty	13		13	Bill Craig Jerry McCarty	13	
15	Heather Montgomery	15		16	Mickey Pena	16	
16	Bonnie Willis	16		17	Lorena Guerrero	17	
19	Riley Hayden	19		19	Joyce Swartz Carol Ronnfeldt Timothy Rohloff, III	19	
20	Mary Doe	20		20	Darren Corbiere Patrick McMaughan	20	
22	Beverly Nystrom	22		21	Christin Contie Rene "RC" Castro	21	
23	Susan Pichotta	23		22		22	Harvey & Helen Aude
25	Kory McKeighan	25		23	Dean Winter	23	
27	Greg Wilson	27		25	Tracey Tanner	25	
28	Soris Cox	28		27	Lakyn Noelle Andrews	27	
29	Marge Chisholm	29					
30	Shirley Montgomery	30					
31	Marsha Kay Weaver	31					



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Worship Assistant Schedule Feb 7 - Mar 7



Date	Ushers	Greeters	Altar Guild	Sunday Church Cleaner	Saturday Church Cleaner
February 7	Roy Ronnfeldt Mark Laneman	Margie Perales Joyce Swartz	Janie Saenz Lorena Guerrero	1 st Sunday Pat Jenkins	1 st Sat. 2/6 Bob Schoonover
February 14	Kathy & John Schwab	The Nystroms	Karen Woodruff	2 nd Sunday Ophelia Talamantes	2 nd Sat 2/13 Carrie Buckingham
February 21	Ken & Janice Doxtad	Mary Tate Robin Attard	Sonia Guerrero Joyce Swartz	3 rd Sunday Ken & Janice Doxtad	3 rd Sat 12/20 The Schurades
February 28	The Jenkins Family	The Schoonovers	Diane & Juanita Talamantes	4 th Sunday Jane Scholze	4 th Sat 12/2 <i>Volunteer needed</i>
March 7	Bill & John Craig	The Bakers	Janie Saenz Lorena Guerrero	1 st Sunday Margie Porter	1 st Sat 3/6 Jerry McCarty

Date	Deacon	Lector	Communion Assistants
February 7	Dean Winter	Ophelia Talamantes	Erik and Ellen Nystrom
February 14	Bob Schoonover	Dorris Curtis	Tom Robinson Ken Doxtad
February 21	Tonia Faile	Lisa Oldfield	Dean Winter Bob Schoonover
February 28	Erik Nystrom	Bill Grace	Tonia Faile Tom Robinson
March 7	Dean Winter	Lindsay Krauland	Erik and Ellen Nystrom

***If you can not serve when you are scheduled, please find a replacement;
for example, trade with the person serving the following week;
OR call the church office and leave a message.
Thank you.***