

January Worship Services

Risen Christ
Lutheran Church

January
2012
Volume 24



2012

Dec. 31 - Jan. 1 Looking Back/Looking Forward

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11



Jan. 7-8

The Transforming Power of Baptism

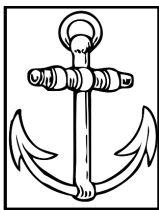
We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. Romans 6:4

Sermon Series For January & February

Ephesians

The Christian Life

In six short chapters, the book of Ephesians outlines the purpose, the plan, and the power of the Christian life. Through the grace of God, we have been called into a life of **hope**, **faith**, and **love** by the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives. Week by week we will examine the six chapters of Ephesians, learning from God's Word how to live the **Christian Life**.



Jan. 14-15

Ephesians 1 - Christian Hope

*I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the **hope** to which He has called you, His glorious inheritance in the saints.*

Ephesians 1:18



Jan. 21-22

Ephesians 2 - Christian Faith

*For it is by grace you have been saved, through **faith**-and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God-not by works, so that no one can boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9



Jan. 29-30

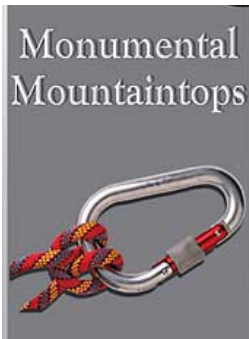
Ephesians 3 - Christian Love

*And I pray that you, being rooted and established in **love**, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the **love** of Christ!*

Ephesians 3:17-18

THE
ARISING
NEWS

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDIES



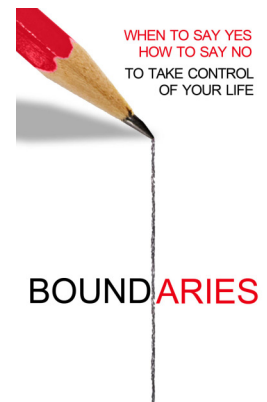
Monumental Mountain Tops:

Sunday Morning Bible Study beginning Sunday, January 8th at 9:15 am
Mt. Sinai, Mt. Zion, Mt. Calvary...It's remarkable how many of the great events in Scripture took place on mountains. Join us Sunday morning for some **mountain climbing** and examine the mountains mentioned in Scripture. Take this opportunity to get away from the world and enjoy a **mountain to experience** with God!

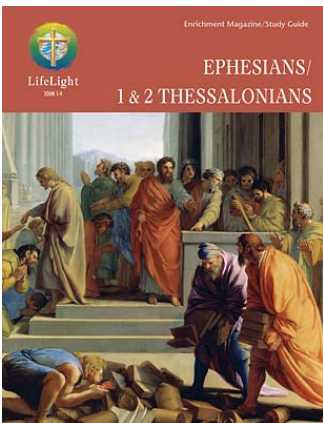
Boundaries:

Sunday Morning Bible Study beginning Sunday, January 8th at 9:15am

With so many activities and events in our lives, it is often to know when to say no and how to say it appropriately. Join Pastor Steve on a **journey to de-clutter your life** and calendar so that you have **time for the important things in life**, strong relationships as Jesus shows us!



MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDIES



LifeLight - Ephesians/1st & 2nd Thessalonians:

Beginning Tuesday, January 10th at 6:30pm

Beginning Wednesday, January 11th at 9am

LifeLight is an in-depth study of God's Word and will help you grow in your understanding of the Bible. This study will take use through Ephesians, 1st Thessalonians, and 2nd Thessalonians. Sign up sheets are available in the fellowship hall.

New Member Class:

Beginning Tuesday, January 24th at 6:30pm

Risen Christ is beginning a new member class on Tuesday, January 24th at 6:30pm. This is an 8 week Bible study on the foundational teachings of the Lutheran Church. Anyone interested in joining Risen Christ, or interested in a refresher on the church's teachings, is welcome to attend. Please invite a friend to come and learn about our amazing church family here at Risen Christ. If you are interested in attending, please sign up in the fellowship hall.



Risen Christ Lutheran Church
6021 Northwest Blvd
Davenport, IA 52806
Telephone 563-386-2342
www.risenchristdavenport.org



Worship Times

Traditional Worship

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am.

Wednesday 7:00 pm.

Contemporary Worship

Saturday 5:30 pm.

Bible Studies

Sunday 9:15 am.

Wednesday 8:00 pm.

Sunday School

Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Church Staff

Senior Pastor

Rev. Kurt Larson

Pastor of Youth & Family

Rev. Stephen Henderson

Business Manager

Mrs. Barb Grosskopf

Secretary

Mrs. Lillian Mink

Church Maintenance

Reynold & Paulette Waech

Organist

Mrs. Marilyn Luebbe

Music Director

Miss Maria Rusch

Director of Children's Ministry

Mrs. Becky Van Nice

Missionaries

Matt & DeeDee Wasmund
Matthew.wasmund@lcms.org

Little Blessings Day Care Director

Mrs. Terrie Burkey
Telephone 563-386-1738

Biblical Stewardship

How did you do with your resolutions for the year 2011? About the same as for other years? Can you even remember what those resolutions were? Why do we struggle so much with resolutions? Is it because they are not realistic? Is it because we try to do it completely on our own without any outside help (even from God)? Failure is one of the biggest disappointments in life. Is it possible to start over successfully?

As we enter into this New Year we have another opportunity to start over. Having the privilege of starting over is one of the things in life that gives us hope and courage as we look to the future. As we take down our 2011 calendars and replace them with 2012 calendars we really can start over.

In Romans 12:12 the Holy Spirit gives us some great ingredients for a really good New Year's resolution. The encouragement is to ***"be joyful in hope, patient in affliction and faithful in prayer."*** Life would be so sweet if everyone could adopt and live out those three pieces as a New Year's resolution.

"Be joyful in hope" should be pretty easy for Christians because our hope is in Christ and ***"that hope will never disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us."*** (Romans 5:5)

"Be patient in affliction" can be considerably more difficult because we do not like affliction. Who of us likes to be mistreated by people who are rude, inconsiderate and downright nasty? Where can we get the strength to be patient in affliction? It takes a giant transformation to behave so nicely when afflicted? Our comfort is that the power to do that does not come from within us, but from outside of us. When we were baptized ***"we were buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life."*** (Romans 6:4) No one in the history of mankind had to deal with as much affliction as Jesus, our Savior! And He did it out of love for us so that we do not have to fear eternal affliction!

"Faithful in prayer" keeps us in touch with God--Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus spent entire nights in prayer with His Father in heaven so that He would have the strength to carry out His mission of dying for sinners so that they might have the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Prayer is an excellent way to stay in touch with God and His love and power.

How does this threefold resolution make a difference in our lives and the lives of those around us? It does because the Holy Spirit is at work within us to make us more and more the children of God. As children of God we seek to do the same things that give Him such delight. John 3:16 tells us that God delights in **loving and giving**. God has entrusted us with all of life and life's resources and desires that we manage them wisely according to His purposes. **Loving and giving** are at the heart of Christian stewardship. May God bless us all as His stewards in this New Year of 2012!

In Christ,

The Board of Stewardship



Lift High The Cross

Update

The Son of Man must be lifted up that everyone who believes in Him may have eternal life.

John 3:14-15

Thank You!

Thank you members of Risen Christ for your tremendous response to the capital campaign, "Lift High The Cross." A special thank you goes out to the over 100 leaders, organizers, and volunteers who made the campaign possible. Thank you for your service to the Lord!

Building Plans Update

- The Board of Future Planning continues to work on the building project.
- Sub-Committees for different areas are being formed.
- The kitchen sub-committee has already met and is selecting design options.
- General contractor, Todd Friemel, is preparing the cost of construction.
- The soil borings have been completed

The Board of Future Planning

Voter's Meeting - January 22

Join us January 22nd at 9:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary for our quarterly voters meeting. At this meeting we will take the next steps in our building program as well as discuss other important church business.

Capital Campaign Update

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| • Number of Pledges Received : | 168 |
| • Total Amount Pledged: | \$817,944.60 |
| • Received as of Dec. 31, 2011: | \$168,215.57 |
| • Percentage of Pledges Received: | 20.5% |
| • Total Amount in Building Fund: | \$309,577.81 |



Building Healthy Families

One way in which to build a healthy family is through daily prayers or devotions. When you do this, a strong foundation is formed in your children from an early age, Jeremiah 29:12 says, “Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.” Teaching your children to trust in the Lord is a wonderful way to strengthen your family.

Have you done something special for your spouse lately to show them you care? A note of appreciation, a back rub, or preparing a favorite meal are simple ways to let your spouse know just how much they mean to you. If you haven't done something recently take time out of your busy schedule this week to do something nice for them.

Being a good listener is easier said than done. How often do you find yourself thinking of the next thing to say while someone is talking with you? Take a moment to stop and listen to these people who are in your life this week. You may be surprised at how much you will learn from them.

Lutheran Family Service of Iowa



Poverty is often a reality for many Iowa families.

There are people in poverty across Iowa. These people are in your community struggling to get by day-to-day. You may not know who they are, but they are our brothers and sisters in Christ. Nearly 12 percent of Iowans are living in poverty, and as the economic downturn and job growth struggles continue, this will undoubtedly continue to rise.

January is National Poverty Awareness Month: a time to remember families and children affected by poverty. Throughout Iowa communities, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) assist people through services that are provide education and set goals that can lead to a more self-sufficient life. By bringing hope to families, LSI can help break the cycle of poverty, leading to a healthier, happier families and stronger communities.

For more information on LSI, visit www.LSIowa.org

“Life Quotes”

from

Lutheran's For Life

“The Bible has much to say about God's concern for the defenseless.

And the most defenseless of all people are unborn children. They are speechless to plead their own cause and helpless to protect their own lives. So it is our responsibility to do for them what they can not do for themselves.”

John Stott, English Christian leader and Anglican cleric.

“Unless we recognize that each individual is irrepeatable and valuable by virtue of simply being conceived human, we can begin to talk about human rights. This include the right to be born... True justice should be for each human being, visible and invisible, young and old, disabled and able, to enjoy fully their right to life...color, sex, intelligence, economic circumstances, physical or mental disability should not be used as an excuse to deprive a person of life.

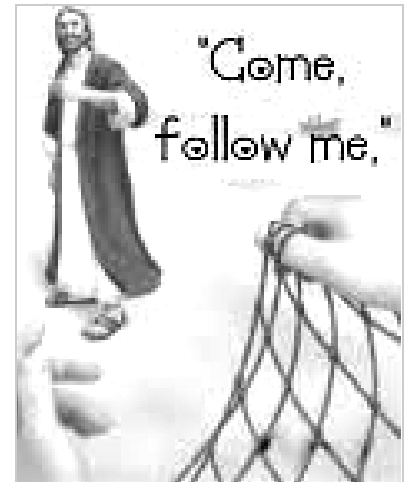
Dr. Margaret Ogola, award winning author, medical doctor, human rights advocate, Kenyan-pro-life humanitarian.



Fun stuff...REMEMBERING GOD

These things I remember as I pour out my soul; how I used to go with the multitude, leading the procession to the house of God with shouts of thanksgiving among the festal throng. Psalm 42:4

- Who created you and me, rocks and water, ev'ry tree
- Who told Noah make a boat, so he and his could stay afloat
- Who led Moses through the sand, with His care-full guiding hand
- Who helped David with a rock, fell a giant, chop his block
- Who helped Jonah with a whale. Spread His precious Gospel tale
- Who helped Job when he was down, restore his health, remove his frown
- Twas God our God, we praise His name, and offer thanks to Him the same
- Who blessed Mary, Joseph too, with His Son for me and you
- Who told Satan to hit the air and keeps His children from despair
- Who helped Peter walk the seas and pull him out when weak his knees
- Who fed thousand with five loaves, and turned 'round sinners by the droves
- Who gave blind men back their sight, and scattered demons off in fright
- Who knocked Paul from his high horse, and put him on a Godly course
- Twas God almighty pure and strong, praise we, His holy festal throng



Dear Heavenly Father, thank you for your presence and care in the lives of we your children and creation, in Jesus Name, Amen

New Member Class:

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family here at Risen Christ. If you are interested in attending, please sign up in the fellowship hall.

Pre-Marriage Workshop:

February 4th from 11am - 4pm

Risen Christ and Trinity are partnering with Thrivent to bring a strong biblical view of marriage for those preparing to enter this special relationship (hosted at Trinity Lutheran Church). If you, or someone you know, are getting married please invite them to this special workshop where the biblical purpose and view of marriage will be covered as well as equipping couples to live in healthy and God pleasing marriage relationships. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Steve at 563-386-2342 or pastorhenderson@risenchristdavenport.org.



Managing Marriage

Every year after Christmas I think of all the parents who have gone before me, all the parents who are in the same boat I am in, and all the parents who will come after me. To those who have finished their parenting, I thank you for the lessons you teach me. For those who are in the mix now, I pray for endurance and patience (as that is what I think I need most). For those who will one day be parents, I pray you are filled with the blessings that come with “some assembly required!”

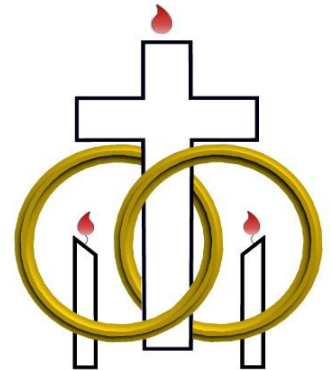


That phrase has an amazing ability to strike fear in the hearts of many. At Christmas, for those who stay up late and “assemble” gifts as well as those who fumble with tools on Christmas morning putting the new toys together we see the reality that construction accompanies much of our lives. From growing in the children of God who live with character, to the piecing together Polly Pockets and Fire truck Lego sets. Construction is a part of our lives!



The same is true in marriage! We must put together the pieces of our relationships so that we build a strong and healthy marriage. Sure pieces will fall apart from time to time, and the reconstruction of maintenance begins. This is a reality that is true for anyone in a relationship—dating, engaged, newly married, or even married for 50+ years. We are constantly being shaped and formed as though we have a sign around our necks that says, “some assembly required!”

In marriage there are two people who are constantly in the hands of the potter being shaped and formed to bring glory to God our Father. As we are in the “assembly,” it is easy to think that it is our spouse who needs to change, be reshaped, or reconstructed; however, it is our faith that helps us grow by the power of God’s Spirit at work in us. We can choose this year to assemble a growing and thriving relationship. We can tighten the nuts and bolts of our marriage so that we build the marriage that we have always wanted. This January, pray that every husband and every wife strive to be built up in marriage and in faith by the hands of our Creator!



Pastor Steve

Risen Christ Marriage Retreat: April 20-22, 2012 Striving for the marriage that you have

Your  Great
Marriage

always wanted takes a lot of work. Allow the marriage ministry of Risen Christ to support, encourage, equip, and direct your efforts as you enjoy the closeness of your marriage relationship. Watch for upcoming details so you can invite others or make your own arrangements to attend and strengthen marriages throughout our community!

Risen Christ Lutheran Church
 6021 Northwest Blvd
 Davenport, IA 52806
 Telephone 563-386-2342
www.risenchristdavenport.org

“Proclaiming a new beginning in the family of God through faith in the Risen Christ, God's only Son.”



Check us out on the web:
www.risenchristdavenport.org

Worship Times

Traditional Worship

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:30 am.

Wednesday 7:00 pm.

Contemporary Worship

Saturday 5:30 pm.

Bible Studies

Sunday 9:15 am.

Wednesday 8:00 pm.

Sunday School

Sunday 9:15 a.m.



Risen Christ Meeting Night:

2nd Thursday of every Month



Beginning in January 2012 Risen Christ is gathering all her boards on the second Thursday of the month to plan, prepare, and participate in ministry. At 6:00 pm the board members will meet in the sanctuary for a brief devotional. At 6:20 the board meetings will meet (with the exception of the Elders who meet on the first Thursday of the month). At 7:30 the board chairs will gather for the Council meeting. This is being done in an effort to strengthen

communication among the boards, manage time effectively, and purposefully direct the ministry of Risen Christ to “proclaim a new beginning in the family of God through faith in Jesus, the risen Christ!” If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the pastors.

Thank You!!!!

The staff would like to thank the members of Risen Christ for your generous gift, lavish praise, and the faith that you share in our community. We are blessed by your love and know that our community will know you are Christians by your great love in Jesus Christ!



DATES TO REMEMBER

| | | | |
|---------|-------|------------|-----------------------|
| Jan. 02 | Mon. | | Office & LBDC Closed |
| Jan .07 | Sat. | 8:00 am | Men's Bible Breakfast |
| Jan. 10 | Tues. | 6:30 pm | LifeLife Begins |
| Jan. 11 | Wed. | 9:00 am | LifeLight Begins |
| Jan. 12 | Thur. | 6:00 pm | Board Meetings |
| | | 7:30 pm | Council Meeting |
| Jan. 24 | Tue. | 6:30 pm | New Member Class |
| Jan. 26 | Thur. | 5:00 pm | Men's Shelter R.I. |
| Jan. 27 | Fri. | 12:00 Noon | Fellowship Friday |