



A monthly publication of Messiah Lutheran Church • ELCA • Knoxville • TN ... Volume 56 ... February 2012



**Welcome
Mary Sophia
Hawks, RN, BSN
— our new
Parish Nurse**

On Monday, Jan. 16, we welcomed Mary Sophia Hawks to our church staff. She will be serving with us in ministry as our Parish Nurse.

Here's a little information about Mary Sophia -

Mary Sophia Hawks has over twenty-five years of experience as a registered nurse. She has worked in hospital, home health, case management, insurance, public health, telephone triage and school health settings.

Mary Sophia graduated from Augustana College in Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. She sang with the choir, chamber singers, opera theater, and oratorio society while at Augustana.

Mary Sophia graduated from The University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis with a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. She started her career at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Since then, she has served many populations, including seniors.

Mary Sophia has two sons, Alan and Michael, with whom she loves to play games, read, travel and spend time in the Smokies. She loves singing in her church choir, solos and oratorios. Mary Sophia has a personal relationship with her Savior, Jesus Christ, and strives to "Do everything she does to the glory of the One who made her." Colossians 3:17. She is very excited to be in this position at Messiah Lutheran Church, and looks forward to the relationships that will develop and being a benefit to the church.

See Parish Nurse - continued on page 11



Annual Meeting - Part II

Sunday, Feb. 5 - 9:45 AM

AGENDA

- Receiving & approving Annual Reports
- Election of the Call Committee
- Introduction of Parish Nurse -
Mary Sophia Hawks, RN, BSN
- Presentation by Mike Ward to begin feasibility study for a capital campaign

**Ash Wednesday marks
the beginning of Lent**

Join us as we begin our journey through Lent on Ash Wednesday, Feb. 22. There will be two opportunities for worship on Ash Wednesday - at 12:00 NOON and 7:00 PM.



**Worship with us on
Ash Wednesday**

Feb. 22 - 12:00 NOON & 7:00 PM



Growing In Faith Together

by Pastor Eric Murray

⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. - John 15:4-5

Scripture is resplendent with organic and agricultural imagery. There is the tree in the garden and the vineyard of Israel, Jesus's sower of seed and the tree whose leaves are for the healing of the nations, just to name a few. And, of course, there's the image of bearing fruit.

Jesus uses the image of the grape vine to teach his disciples of the need to be in a growing relationship with himself and the Father. The spiritual life, that is, all of life, is intended to be a life of growth. That growth happens by abiding and results in fruit bearing; the fruit of faith lived, expressed, shared, and seen in service and love. That fruit produced also can be seen in increasing numbers of people joined in communities of faith.

With your overwhelming support for Messiah's strategic plan, you have made it clear that you have a desire for Messiah to be a fruit bearing community of faith. Many of you, either directly to me or through last Fall's surveys, have stated clearly your hope and desire that Messiah grow in numbers.

Undoubtedly, with the new staffing you have authorized, Messiah will change and grow. Whether or not it is growth in numbers is yet to be seen. I have to believe though, that the new ministries that will result from the addition of new staff will bring about spiritual growth as a community. This fruit, this spiritual growth, I also believe, will result in more folks being attracted to our community.

But we needn't just wait on staff additions to seek to grow and bear fruit. The upcoming season of Lent is an excellent time to recommit ourselves to "abiding" in God. Through such opportunities as Invitation to Lent: A Faith Formation Event to Ash Wednesday services to Wednesday evening Lenten Vespers and the new GIFT Adult Sunday School class, there are many opportunities for us to grow in faith together.

It is truly an exciting time here at Messiah Lutheran Church. Together we ARE growing. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Eric



"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid..."

-Matthew 5:14

Georgia Phillippi
2012 Congregation Council President

Have you been praying for Messiah and our ministry at this time and in this place? Please, continue your prayers.

I am feeling such a sense of excitement at church.

There is a lot going on.

- I'm hearing about groups making plans to donate to the April 21 Dinner and Silent Auction Fundraiser for National Youth Gathering in July.
- We have Mary Sophia Hawks, Parish Nurse, already involved and gearing up.
- We're forming a Call Committee for the purpose of writing the "job description" and working with Synod in following the call process for the associate pastor.
- We have been moving forward with the Strategic Plan time line.
- We have initiated Care Calling. We will periodically throughout the year intentionally contact all members to touch base and see if there are any needs.
- The search for the Minister of Faith Formation and musician/worship leader is underway. The job description is complete and we are soliciting resumes.
- Several members will be participating in the Via de Cristo (Way of Christ) Spiritual Retreat. The weekend is being held March 15-18.
- Messiah is hosting "Invitation to Lent." Sponsored by the Knoxville area congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA,) this gathering is for all people from all denominations or from no denomination.
- All are welcome, as we seek together, a holy Lent.
- KARM meals are being served. FISH is delivering food. A First Aid and CPR class has been held at Messiah.

And that's not all!

We are joining our hands together to do God's work. Keep praying!

the Messiah Messenger

Deadline is the 15th of each month

Your contributions and suggestions are welcomed.

The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Messenger Staff

Editor: Kristin Kennedy

Member News: Lois Sherman

Proofreader: Lois Sherman

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday — 8:30 AM–5:00 PM

Friday hours vary.



WORSHIP

We believe worshipping God is central to what we do. We lift up traditional Lutheran liturgy as the best way for this community to worship.



Energy!

*Joan McGinnis
Director of Music*

Have you felt a new energy around Messiah lately? There are wonderful things happening! We're so excited to welcome Mary Sophia Hawks

to our staff as our Parish Nurse. We will hear soon about an associate pastor to further grow our ministry. God is working in our presence and using us to spread His Evangelism! (See, Pastor Eric, I DO listen to your sermons.)

Our music ministry has seen a renewal recently with the addition of Marc Hampton and Holly Ownby. Both of these remarkable singers bring their own unique styles to enhance the liturgy and songs of the whole assembly—not only their singing, but their enthusiasm and excitement about learning the Lutheran liturgies and songs. We are indeed grateful to the late Pollyanna Creekmore for her forward thinking gift to us.

It is because of this increased joy in our choirs that I invite you to consider joining one of our groups. The LIFE Choir which sings for the 8:30 service rehearses on Wednesdays at 5:00 PM. While there are experienced singers in this choir, this is the perfect group to join if you have always wanted to sing with a group but are a bit unsure of what being in a choir is all about. You don't have to read music. We all help each other learn our songs during our busy and fun rehearsals.

The Luther Choir has been the long-established musical group of the church. We rehearse on Thursdays at 7:00 PM and sing a wide variety of musical styles. While reading music is encouraged, it is not necessary in order to sing with this group. Music is carefully chosen for all of the choirs which enhances the talents available.

The Wittenberg Ringers is our handbell choir. We have three octaves, or 37 bells, that we play. We were so happy to have Matthew Adams join us during Advent and Christmas, but his return to school (and Mali) leaves a position of bells unclaimed. We have recently welcomed Lou James to this group. She joins ringers who have played for many years, as

well as those who have only played for about a year. If you know your left hand from your right hand, you can play a bell. This group meets downstairs on Thursdays at 5:45 PM and rings several times during the year. Currently we are rehearsing music for the annual Knox Area Handbell Festival to be held in March.

Any musical group of a church goes through changes. We lose beloved members to death, others retire after many years of service and some decide to try something they've always wanted to do. It is our great hope that you will consider the energy and excitement and join us as we continue to make music that enhances our worship.

Blessings,

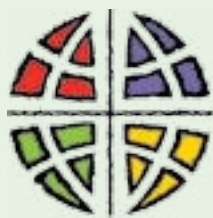
Tuesday Morning Prayer

Need a great way to start your day?
Need a mid-week break and re-fresher?

Join us Tuesday mornings at 7:00 AM for a brief service of morning prayer.

From 7:00-7:30 AM we join in the liturgy of matins, listen to scripture and then offer intercessory prayer. Join us every Tuesday morning in the Chapel Narthex.





DISCIPLE

We believe **discipleship** and the faith formation of all generations is central to our purpose as a congregation and we hold in very high regard the development of faithful children, youth, adults, and families.

CHILDREN & YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Faith Alive Retreat

Middle school youth will attend a retreat at Lutheridge in Arden, NC, on Feb. 3-5. Spiritual discussion will be on Holy Communion.



Souper Bowl of Caring

High school youth will collect money in soup pots in the Narthex before and after each service on Sunday, Feb. 5, (same day as the annual meet-

ing.) Monies collected will go to ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Crafting bowls for the Empty Bowls Project

Sunday, Feb. 19 - 5:30 PM

On February 19, Middle and high school youth will meet at the regular time and bring a sack dinner. Ms. Sandy Booher will facilitate the youth in making bowls that will be used for the Lenten supper on March 14.



Empty Bowls is an international grass roots effort to fight hunger and was created by The Imagine Render Group. The basic premise is simple: Potters and other craftspeople, educators and others work with the community to create handcrafted bowls. Guests are invited to a simple meal of soup and bread. In exchange for a cash donation, guests are asked to keep a bowl as a reminder of all the empty bowls in the world. The money raised is donated to an organization working to end hunger and food insecurity.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

**Feb. 21
6:00-7:30 PM**

If you love pancakes—and a variety of different kinds of pancakes—you will want to join in the fun.



Come out for an evening of pancake sampling and supporting our youth and adults who will be traveling to New Orleans in July 2012 for the ELCA National Youth Gathering. The profits raised from this free-will offering event will help with the cost of travel, lodging and registration of the ELCA National Gathering. If you would like to share your pancake making talents, please contact Heidi Murray at hkmurray@comcast.net.



Lost and Found concert

**Feb. 26 - 6:00 PM
Grace Lutheran Church**

This event is for middle and high school youth, their families, friends, neighbors. All families of Messiah are encouraged to attend. This concert will be held at Grace Lutheran Church (where our sweet Kristin Kennedy goes to church!) The concert hours are 6:00-8:00 PM. Cost is \$5.00. Youth can meet at Messiah at 5:30 PM and carpool or ride with their families to the concert. Check out their website at speedwood.com. FYI—they will have T-shirts and CD's for sale after the concert.

Other dates to note —

- The **Learning Sunday** for the month will be Feb. 12. Dinner will be provided by the Martin family.
- **April 21. Save the date!** Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser for National Youth Gathering in July 2012.
- Next **Children and Youth Faith Formation** meeting is Feb. 8 at 5:30 PM.



ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

All adults are invited to join in any of the following offerings for study and discussion.

Wednesday, Feb. 1 - 7:00 PM

- Lay School of Theology - *Embracing an Adult Faith*

Saturday, Feb. 4 - 9:30 AM-2:30 PM

- Invitation to Lent: A Faith Formation Event

Sunday, Feb. 5 - 9:45 AM

- Annual Meeting Part 2

Wednesday, Feb. 8 - 7:00 PM

- Lay School of Theology - *Embracing an Adult Faith*

Sunday, Feb. 12 - 9:45 AM

- Conclusion of
Hearing the Cries: Faith and Criminal Justice
Fellowship Hall
- Membership Inquiry Class
Lower Level Conference Room

Wednesday, Feb. 15 - 7:00 PM

- Lay School of Theology - *Embracing an Adult Faith*

Thursday, Feb. 16 - 7:00 PM

- Young Adult Theology Pub

Sunday, Feb. 19 - Transfiguration Sunday

- New Members received at 8:30 and 11:00 AM
- Young Adult Class - *Lutheran Basics*
9:45 AM - Lower Level Conference Room

Sunday, Feb. 26 - 9:45 AM

- *GIFTS* class - Fellowship Hall
- Young Adult Class
*Mudhouse Sabbath: An Invitation to a Life
of Spiritual Discipline*
Lower Level Conference Room



Member Inquiry Class with Pastor Eric

Sunday, Feb. 12
9:45–10:45 AM

If you are considering membership with Messiah, please join Pastor Eric on Sunday, Feb. 12 at 9:45 AM in the lower level conference room for an opportunity to meet other prospective members; to learn more about Messiah and its ministries; and to ask questions related to Messiah.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Pastor Eric (pastoreric@messiahknoxville.org or 865-588-9753, ext. 11.)

**New member-disciples will be received
into membership during worship services
on Transfiguration Sunday, Feb. 19.**



Winter Session of Lay School of Theology at Messiah

By Lynn White

The winter session of the Lay School of Theology at Messiah commenced Wednesday, Jan. 18 at 7:00 PM in the fellowship hall. We began viewing the

DVD series with Marcus J. Borg on his book *Embracing an Adult Faith*.

Marcus J. Borg is Hunderer Distinguished Professor of Religion and Culture at Oregon State University and author of the bestselling books *Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*, *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time*, *The God We Never Knew*, and coauthor with N. T. Wright of *The Meaning of Jesus*.

The course will run through Feb. 15. We will then take a break for Lent and begin our spring session the Wednesday following Easter Sunday where we will once again enjoy a course straight from Luther Seminary via webcast.

There is a \$5.00 registration fee. Please email Lynn White at white_29456@comcast.net or call her at 693-6275 for more information.

Young Adult Sunday School Class

Nikki Frye, Class Coordinator

The Young Adult Sunday School Class resumes on Sunday, Feb. 19, in the lower level conference room. We will spend one week on *Lutheran Basics* then launch into the season of Lent.

Beginning Sunday, Feb. 26, throughout the season of Lent, and ending on Palm Sunday, April 1, the Young Adult Sunday Class will begin looking at spiritual disciplines using the book *Mudhouse Sabbath: An Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline* by Lauren F. Winner. Winner is a young adult writer who, in *Mudhouse Sabbath*, relates the spiritual practices of her Jewish upbringing to her newfound Christian faith. She specifically describes how these practices can transform the ways Christians view God and the world. Copies of the books are available on most internet retail sites. If you have questions or would like me to order a copy of the book for you, please email Nikki Frye at uthrgr8@yahoo.com.

Third Thursday Theology Pub Thursday, Feb. 16 7:00 PM

Messiah's young adults and their friends are invited to join Pastor Eric for a time of theological conversation on Feb. 16 at 7:00 PM at a location to be announced. Watch for the location in upcoming bulletin announcements.

Invite a friend and join us as we engage in a modern day theological table talk about faith, life, church and society.



Book Group Dates and Books for 2012

Beth Ford, Coordinator

Come join the Messiah Book Group which will meet on March 5, May 7, July 2, Sept. 17, and Nov. 5 at 7:00 PM in the church library. Books have been chosen and will, hopefully, appeal to many. There are no rules. You can come and join the discussion even if you have not read the book.



Following is the list of books, most of which can be found at the Knox County Library, the church library or borrowed from someone in the group:

March 5: *Joshua, A Parable for Today* by Joseph Girzone.

When Joshua moves to a small cabin on the edge of town, the local people are mystified by his presence. A quiet and simple man, Joshua appears to seek nothing for himself. He supports himself by working as a carpenter. He charges very little for his services, yet his craftsmanship is exquisite. The statue of Moses that he carves for the local synagogue prompts amazement as well as consternation. Discussion led by Valerie Biberdorf.

May 7: *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Mortenson. Greg Mortenson, the son of Lutheran missionaries, wrote about his efforts to build schools for girls in Pakistan. *60 Minutes* aired a program that questioned some of the story. Discussion led by Connie Cole.

July 2: *Love Wins* by Rob Bell. How do we reconcile God's love and God's judgment? Do some people really go to heaven and others go to hell? Is that acceptable? Led by Georgia Phillippi.

Sept. 17: *Blue Like Jazz* by Donald Miller. This book's cover says that it is about nonreligious thoughts on Christian spirituality. Led by Beth Ford.

Nov. 5: *Dakota, A Spiritual Geography* by Kathleen Norris. "An evocation of the Great Plains and its influence on the spirit, this book describes the harsh, desolate, yet sublime landscape that embodies the contradictions of American life." Mike Driskill will lead the discussion.



Invitation to Lent

A Faith Formation Event

February 4, 2012, 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Messiah Lutheran Church, Knoxville, Tennessee

*"I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent--
self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting,
sacrificial giving and works of love--
strengthened by the gifts of word and sacrament.*

Seeking to experience a holy Lent?

This gathering is for all people who seek to:

- ❖ learn more about the Christian season of Lent
- ❖ examine Lent's rich scriptural images
- ❖ explore the themes found in Lenten worship
- ❖ consider the call to works of love and service
- ❖ prepare to experience a faith deepening Lent within their congregation or family.

Schedule:

9:30-10:00am - *Check-in / Registration*

10:00-10:30am - *Morning Prayer worship*

10:30-10:45am - *Coffee Break*

10:45-11:30am - *Keynote Speaker*

11:30-12:30pm - *Workshop Opportunity #1*

12:30- 1:00pm - *Lunch (provided)*

1:00- 2:00pm - *Workshop Opportunity #2*

2:00- 2:30pm - *Closing Keynote*

Cost: \$15/person, includes program, refreshments and lunch

For more information, visit us on Facebook or at

http://web.me.com/elmurray/Invitation_to_Lent



Hosted by the Knoxville area congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), this gathering is for all people from all denominations or from no denomination. All are welcome, as we seek together, a holy Lent.

Invitation to Lent

A Faith Formation Event

February 4, 2012, 9:30AM - 2:30PM

Messiah Lutheran Church, Knoxville, Tennessee

REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email _____

Congregation / Denomination _____

I am a lay person pastor, deacon or other rostered leader seminarian

Dietary restrictions, if any _____

Please complete the registration form and enclose a check payable to Messiah Lutheran Church and mail to:

Invitation to Lent
Messiah Lutheran Church
6900 Kingston Pike
Knoxville, TN 37919

In the memo line: "Invitation to Lent"

"Day of" registrations will also be accepted. But, please help us with our planning and if at all possible register in advance.



Bible Study

Tuesday, Feb. 7 - 10:00 AM

The Bible Study will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 10:00 AM in the library. The focus of the study is "To Follow and To Serve: The Gospel of Mark." Bring a friend and join the lively group discussions led by Doris Featherston.

Book Study

Tuesday, Feb. 28 - 1:00 PM

The WELCA Book Study will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 28, at 1:00 AM in the library. We will be discussing the book by Francine Rivers, "Sons of Encouragement: Five Stories of Faithful Men Who Changed Eternity." Contact Mary Ellen Whitson if you have any questions.

Wee Care

Saturday, Feb. 25 - 9:30 AM

Wee Care will meet on Saturday, Feb. 25, at 9:30 AM. Please contact Helga Wagner if you would like any details about the group's activities.

Advent Offering raises money for Augustinian Lutheran Church in Guatemala's El Año del Baño

Thanks to the offering collected at the Advent Tea, WELCA has raised enough money to build a baño (latrine)! Please support the numerous church activities throughout this year so Messiah can make a difference in the health of our friends in Guatemala.

Holiday Market proceeds benefit Compassion Coalition

Proceeds from the WELCA Holiday Market, with added funds from Thrivent, will be presented to Compassion Coalition and Mobile Meals. A big thank you to everyone who supported this event especially Helga Wagner who did an exceptional job coordinating every detail!

Grandmother-Mother-Daughter Luncheon

Saturday, Feb. 11 - 12:00 NOON

The Grandmother/Mother/Daughter Luncheon will be held at NOON on Saturday, February 11. The program will be provided by Judy DiGregorio, an award winning author and speaker.

Tickets are on sale between Sunday services and after the second service. Adult tickets are \$10 while the tickets for children, ages 6-10, are \$5. Admission is free for children 5 and under.

A box for donated door prizes will be placed in the fellowship hall. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hall.

Helpers are needed for room decoration, ticket sales, food preparation, serving, door prize collection, and clean up. Bring your "real" or "adopted" grandmother, mother, daughter, sister, niece, granddaughter, great-granddaughter and/or best friend to the annual party for the women of Messiah!



About

Judy Lockhart DiGregorio

Judy DiGregorio was recently named a Distinguished Alumni of New Mexico Highlands University. She has written more than 300 columns and essays. She has published in *The Writer*, *Army-Navy Times*, *New Millennium Writings*, the *Chicken Soup* books, and numerous anthologies. She has been a humor columnist for *Anderson County Visions Magazine*, *Senior Living* and *EvaMag*. Judy's collection of humor essays, *Life Among the Lilliputians*, was featured at the 2009 Southern Festival of Books in Nashville. She also participated in the 2010 Southern Festival with her second book, *Memories of a Loose Woman*. Celtic Cat Publishing recently released a CD, *Jest Judy*, that features stories from both of her books read by the author. Judy is also a well-known speaker and workshop leader and writes press releases for the Oak Ridge Community Playhouse where she frequently appears on stage. She is also the author of three ten-minute plays.



SERVE

We believe we should intentionally reach out to our local and global community to do God's work in the world. We do this through direct **service** by members, by giving our resources to those less fortunate, and by our membership in the ELCA.

Boy Scout Sunday

Sunday, Feb. 5

The Boy Scouts of America annually celebrates its founding on February 8, 1910, based on the program started by Lord Baden Powell in England on August 1, 1907. Scout Sunday was added to the Scout celebration in the middle 1940s.



The Scout Sunday tradition was started to make people in houses of worship aware of Scouting, and to allow Scouts to live out their "Duty to God" pledged each week.

The Scout Law says that a "Scout is Reverent" and the Scouts of all ages promise to do their "Duty to God." These values strengthen youth character in their family, community and faith.

Here at Messiah, we will observe Scout Sunday on Sunday, Feb. 5, by recognizing Cub Scout Pack 193 which meets here on the first and third Sunday of each month. We will also acknowledge other Scouts in our midst. Active Scouts are invited to wear their uniforms on that day.



**Wait!
Don't throw
away those
Christmas
cards!**

If you have Christmas cards (used or new) that you plan to throw away, why not re-purpose them instead? Paula Hess will collect the cards destined for the trash or recycle bin and deliver them to a group who re-purposes them in local nursing homes, using the pretty pictures for place mats, cards, etc.

Cards can be deposited in the designated bin in the new "Collection Center" located in the fellowship hall near the coat rack.



Tyson House "A Cut Above Rummage Sale"

Saturday, April 28

The Tyson House Episcopal/Lutheran Campus Ministry needs your help! We need new or slightly used items—home décor, furniture, antiques, collectibles, new linens, kitchen items, tools, toys, infant and toddler clothing, electronics, books and outdoor décor—for our sale which will be held Saturday, April 28.

You can drop items off at Messiah Lutheran Church on Kingston Pike at Papermill on April 26 or 27 between the hours of 2:00 and 7:00 PM. For more information, call Jo Anne Roning at 986-9247 or Ann Backus at 693-3463.



Tyson House Spring Break Pilgrimage to DC

On March 17-22 (Spring Break,) Tyson House will be taking a pilgrimage to Washington, DC, with the intent of exploring the relationship between religion and politics in our nation's capitol.

Student fee is \$50, which covers everything except for three lunches and two dinners.

If you would be interested in sponsoring a student or making any type of donation to defray costs for this trip, please contact Tyson House at tysonhouse.utk@gmail.com.

Tyson House is the church home for college age young adults who study at UT. It is a very important transitional time between high school and adult life. We want to make sure that these students have a place to worship and make Christ a continued part of their lives.



CARE

We believe that **car**ing for one another during the milestones of life is integral in forming and sustaining this faith community. We welcome newcomers into this community as if they have been here all their lives.

Parish Nurse - continued from page 1

Mary Sophia grew up right here at Messiah Lutheran Church. She is the daughter of Rose Marie and the late Cole Waggener. Many of you may know her by the sound of her beautiful singing voice which she has shared with us over many years and at many Messiah programs and events.

In the coming weeks, please stop in, introduce yourself, and extend a personal welcome to Mary Sophia. She intends to have some regular office hours (listed below) as well as times when she will make personal visits.

If you have need of her services (see Description of Parish Nurse Duties below,) please feel free to give her a call at 865-588-9753, extension 13. If she is not available, you can leave her a voice message and she will return your call.

Tentatively, Mary Sophia's in-office hours will be:

Tuesdays & Thursdays - 9:00-11:00 am

Wednesdays - 8:30-10:00 am

Description of Parish Nurse Duties:

- The parish nurse position will focus on the well-being of senior congregants, ages 55+.
 - Personal health counselor to senior congregants.
 - Serve as a resource for community services and agencies, and as liaison when needed.
 - Facilitate creation of support groups.
 - Advocates for senior congregants within the health care delivery system.
 - Work with senior congregants and their families/care-givers following hospital discharge or serious illness to assist with referrals for home health or alternative living arrangements.
 - Maintain contact with calls/visits to homebound senior congregants regularly.
 - Recruit volunteers to provide assistance with programs for seniors.



We invite you to share items of interest and noteworthy news in this column. Submit information to Lois Sherman or send to:

office@messiahknoxville.org

HELEN NEAS and her twin LOUISE KADERLY have a full page picture and story in the January issue of Skirt magazine. They will be 101 years on February 24. Their secret for longevity is "genes and chocolate."



Cameron Driskill (pictured above with his parents Jonathan and Anne Driskill) received the rank of Eagle Scout at an Eagle Court of Honor on Sunday, Jan. 8. Cameron's Eagle Scout project was the building of the shade structure with movable benches and trees located on Messiah's playground.



OWLS
(OLDER WISER
LUTHERANS)
**Lunch &
a Movie**

**Thursday,
Feb. 16
12:00 NOON**

All of our OWLS (older, wiser, Lutherans) are invited to join us for the February gathering on Thursday, Feb. 16, at 12 NOON in the fellowship hall. We will again enjoy a catered luncheon and then view the movie - *Seven Days in Utopia*. It promises to be a very enjoyable afternoon.

Please RSVP to Lynn White by telephone at 693-6275 or via e-mail at white_29456@comcast.net.)

About *Seven Days in Utopia*

Seven Days in Utopia follows the story of Luke Chisolm (Lucas Black), a talented young golfer set on making the pro tour. When his first big shot turns out to be a very public disaster, Luke escapes the pressures of the game and finds himself unexpectedly stranded in Utopia, Texas, home to eccentric rancher Johnny Crawford (Robert Duvall). But Johnny's profound ways of looking at life force Luke to question not only his past choices, but his direction for the future.



Based on David L. Cook's best-selling book *Golf's Sacred Journey: Seven Days at the Links of Utopia*, *Seven Days in Utopia* also stars Melissa Leo, Deborah Ann Woll, Brian Geraghty, Jerry Ferrera, Joseph Lyle Taylor, KJ Choi and Kathy Baker. The film is directed by Matthew Dean Russell from a script by Cook, Rob Levine, Russell and Sandra Thrift. The film was produced by Mark G. Mathis (*Brick*, *Precious*) and Jason M. Berman (*The Dry Land*).

Celebrating in February...

Birthday wishes to...

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|---|
| Feb. 1 | Lynn White | | |
| Feb. 2 | Donna Muir | | |
| Feb. 3 | Clay Atherton | | |
| Feb. 4 | Maggie Murphy | | |
| Feb. 9 | Helga Wagner
Angela Phillips | | |
| Feb. 10 | Karen Clifton
Allison Pressley | | |
| Feb. 11 | Matthew Adams | | |
| Feb. 12 | Chris Warren | Feb. 22 | Steve Ward |
| Feb. 13 | Vincent Weaver
Kristin Kennedy | Feb. 23 | Mary Williamson
Chris Camp |
| Feb. 14 | Anna Pearson
Patrick Reckard | Feb. 24 | Carol Ward
Helen Neas |
| Feb. 18 | Gwen Erpenbach | Feb. 24 | Charles Fulford |
| Feb. 19 | Mike Helle
Carson Davis | Feb. 24 | Gracie Burghardt |
| Feb. 20 | Kristie Marlow
Taylor Pederson | Feb. 25 | Pat Kopp |
| | | Feb. 26 | Floyd Ditmore |
| | | Feb. 28 | Ann Ashley
Mary Alice Vowell
Joseph Baker |



Happy anniversary to...

- | | |
|---------|--|
| Feb. 10 | James & Melissa Wilson (12) |
| Feb. 13 | Kenneth & Virginia Young (24) |
| Feb. 14 | Dan & LeAnn Korth (6) |
| Feb. 17 | Sally & Harry Oakland (45)
Erin & Andrew Rust (5) |
| Feb. 19 | Raymond & Marie Bunn (47) |
| Feb. 20 | Ted & Carla Hatfield (17) |
| Feb. 22 | Jon & Cynthia Toth (26) |
| Feb. 25 | Charlie & Kay Bone (23) |



COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

from meeting of January 11, 2012

By Doris Featherston, Secretary

- Council approved the recommendation of the Parish Nurse Call Team to extend an offer to Mary Sophia Hawks.
- Council approved proceeding with the Capital Campaign Feasibility study at the February Congregational Meeting.
- Members of the Nominating Committee are being appointed and will meet as soon as possible to begin the process to form a Call Committee.
- Members of the Council will join with the Congregational Care team to call all members of the congregation.
- Diane Christian and Paul Kronau have been added to the Endowment Committee.
- Contributions in December were \$52,272 and expenses were \$36,159 for a \$16,113 positive impact. For the entire 2011 year, expenses were \$3,416 more than income.
- The following liaison assignments were made:
 - Laurie Alsup - Stewardship
 - Della Cheak - Children & Youth Discipleship
 - Jason Cole - Property
 - Mike Driskill & Paul Kronau - Facilities Reorganization
 - Jack Mundell - Communications
 - Martha MacCabe - Congregational Care
 - Allison Pressley - Finance
 - Anne Tinker - Fellowship
 - Mary Williamson - Adult Discipleship

2012 CONGREGATION COUNCIL

Georgia Phillippi, President

Nikki Frye, Vice President

Laurie Alsup

Della Cheak

Jason Cole

Mike Driskill

Martha MacCabe

Jack Mundell

Allison Pressley

Anne Tinker

Mary Williamson

Council Appointments

Doris Featherston, Secretary

Steve Hess, Treasurer

Rob Shanahan, Financial Secretary

Check out our new...

...Collection Center!

Stop by the fellowship hall and acquaint yourself with our new "Collection Center." This system will be used for all those items we collect during the years, i.e. brown grocery bags for our FISH Pantry, Easter and Halloween candy, ball caps and T-shirts for our friends at Lakeshore, bars of soap for the WELCA soap drive, gift boxes for our college students, Lost & Found items, Christmas cards for re-purposing, pop can tabs and Campbell soup labels, etc., etc.

If your group or organization is collecting something, just make a tag indicating what you are collecting and slide it into the plastic pocket on the front of an empty bin.

With this new system, we will no longer collect items in the Narthex or the mail room. It is expected that bins will be emptied within one week of the deadline of the collection period.

Please help us keep our facilities neat and tidy by using this new system.



FEBRUARY

2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 <i>Fourth Sunday after Epiphany</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Worship 5:00 PM High School serve, eat & worship at tyson House 5:00 PM Middle School pack college care packages	30 Pastor's Day Off 4:30 PM Yoga 5:30 PM VdC-Women (L) 6:00 PM VdC Women (Jr Conf); Men (YR)	31 7:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer	1 7:30 AM Women's VdC (L) 10:30 AM Staff 5:00 PM LIFE Choir (CR) 6:00 PM Liturgy Planning Team 7:00 PM Lay School of Theology (FH)	2 9:30 AM Library 12:00 PM Vdc (L) 1:15 PM Vdc (L) 5:45 PM Wittenberg Ringers (LL-BR) 7:00 PM Luther Choir (CR)	3 MS Faith Alive @ Lutheridge	4 MS Faith Alive @ Lutheridge 8:00 AM VdC-Mixed (L) 10:00 AM SES: Invitation to Lent
5 <i>Boy Scout Sunday</i> <i>Fifth Sunday after Epiphany</i> MS Faith Alive @ Lutheridge <i>Souper Bowl Sunday</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Annual Meeting-Part II 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Worship	6 Pastor's Day Off 4:30 PM Yoga 5:30 PM VdC-Women (L) 6:00 PM GSA Troop 20110 (FH) 6:00 PM VdC Women (Jr Conf); Men (YR)	7 7:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer 10:00 AM WELCA Bible Study (L) 5:30 PM SMQ-SP (LL-Conf) 6:00 PM Smoky Mtn Quilters (FH)	8 7:30 AM Women's VdC (L) 10:30 AM Staff 5:00 PM LIFE Choir (CR) 5:30 PM COMMITTEE: Children & Youth Faith Formation 7:00 PM Lay School of Theology (FH)	9 FH reserved for G-M-D Set up 9:30 AM Library 12:00 PM Vdc 1:15 PM Vdc (L) 3:30 PM COMMITTEE: Worship Ministries 5:45 PM Wittenberg Ringers (LL-BR) 7:00 PM Luther Choir (CR)	10 FH reserved for G-M-D set up 4:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 20961	11 8:00 AM VdC-Mixed (L) 12:00 PM Grandmother-Mother-Daughter Banquet
12 <i>Sixth Sunday after Epiphany</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Member Inquiry Class (LL-Conf) 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Worship 5:30 PM Youth Dinner & Learning Event	13 Pastor's Day Off 4:30 PM Yoga 5:30 PM VdC-Women (L) 6:00 PM VdC Women (Jr Conf); Men (YR)	14 FISH DAY 7:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer 5:30 PM COMMITTEE: Finance (L) 6:00 PM Thrivent (LL-Conf)	15 Messenger Deadline 7:30 AM Women's VdC (L) 10:30 AM Staff 5:00 PM LIFE Choir (CR) 7:00 PM Lay School of Theology (FH)	16 9:30 AM Library 12:00 PM OWLS Lunch & Movie 12:00 PM Vdc 1:15 PM Vdc (L) 5:45 PM Wittenberg Ringers (LL-BR) 7:00 PM Girl Scout Troop 20961 Parent Meeting (FH) 7:00 PM Luther Choir (CR) 7:00 PM Third Thursday Theology Pub	17	18 8:00 AM VdC Training (All rooms) 8:00 AM VdC-Mixed (L)
19 <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> 8:30 AM Worship; Receiving of New Members 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Worship; Receiving of New Members 5:00 PM Cub Scouts (FH) 5:30 PM Youth - Empty Bowls Project	20 <i>Office closed</i> <i>President's Day</i> 4:30 PM Yoga 5:30 PM VdC-Women (L) 6:00 PM GSA Troop 20110 (FH) 6:00 PM VdC Women (Jr Conf); Men (YR)	21 7:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer 2:30 PM Lakeshore Ministries (meet at 2PM) 6:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (FH) 6:30 PM Congregation Council (LL-Conf)	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 7:30 AM Women's VdC (L) 10:30 AM Staff 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship 5:00 PM LIFE Choir (CR) 7:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship	23 9:30 AM Library 11:30 AM Salt & Light Lunch (FH) 12:00 PM Vdc (L) 1:15 PM Vdc (L) 5:45 PM Wittenberg Ringers (LL-BR) 7:00 PM Luther Choir (CR)	24 4:30 PM Girl Scout Troop 20961	25 8:00 AM VdC-Mixed (L) 9:30 AM Wee Care (LL-Conf) 11:00 AM Smoky Mountain Quilters Luncheon (FH)
26 <i>First Sunday in Lent</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:45 AM Sunday School for all ages 11:00 AM Worship 5:30 PM Youth meet at Messiah to go to Lost & Found Concert	27 Pastor's Day Off 1:00 PM Ladies Bridge (FH) 4:30 PM Yoga 5:30 PM VdC-Women (L) 6:00 PM VdC Women (Jr Conf); Men (YR)	28 7:00 AM Tuesday Morning Prayer 1:00 PM WELCA Book Study (L)	29 7:30 AM Women's VdC (L) 10:30 AM Staff 3:30 PM COMMITTEE: Worship Ministries 5:00 PM LIFE Choir (CR) 6:00 PM Midweek Lenten Soup Supper (FH) 7:00 PM Midweek Lenten Worship	1 9:30 AM Library 12:00 PM Vdc (L) 1:15 PM Vdc (L) 5:45 PM Wittenberg Ringers (LL-BR) 7:00 PM Luther Choir (CR)	2	3 8:00 AM VdC Training (All rooms) 8:00 AM VdC-Mixed (L)