

IROQUOIS AVE CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
2411 IROQUOIS AVE. DETROIT, MI 48214
313-921-2667
E-MAIL: IROQUOISCHRIST@YAHOO.COM

THE RECORD

JANUARY 2010

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

Iroquois Avenue Christ Lutheran Church (IACLC), is launching plans for our upcoming centennial celebration, May 15, 2011 and we are honored to have Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson as the guest preacher for our morning worship;. We look forward to having all of our members and friends participate in that glorious day.

January 6 is another glorious day in the liturgical church year; because it marks the start of the season of the Epiphany. This season represents the time of the manifestation of God's Christ;, God's Messiah to the Gentile nations. During this season of the church we will witness the baptism of Jesus and the public ministry of Jesus. Let us rejoice for the Savior has come!

Last week's Gospel lesson from Matthew 2 tells the story of how the Magi brought gifts to the Christ Child. Herod and the citizens of Jerusalem were disturbed by the news that a new King of Israel had been born. Change is always difficult and made even more so when the leadership resists change. The people might have been open to change but they were not courageous enough to stand apart from Herod. They could not fathom what new evil Herod might do them to maintain the *status quo*. For the Christian, trust in God opens the door for God's provision—just as the Magi and Joseph were warned in a dream, so our God gives us insight for our journey ahead. Let us step out on faith and God will continue to guide us into the Light of Christ.Pastor Maxcy Christmas

WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES

Many thanks to Fred Krage and Pierre Chatman for singing a duet during the Sunday service held November 29th. What a wonderful, inspiring addition to the service! We're looking forward to many more duets!

The organ has been repaired and mostly tuned. The tuning will be completed soon. The Renewing Worship Songbook that we use occasionally is approved and suggested by the ELCA. It is a supplemental source of hymns. Sometimes selections from this book are inserts in the bulletin but when two or more tunes from the book are selected we use the books. For your information, the committee with the assistance of Pastor, selects the Gathering, Communion and Sending hymns for the Sunday morning services The minister selects the Hymn of the Day. Liturgical responses are selected by the organist. Pastor is in charge of the worship service.

Invite friends and relatives to join us in our worship and upcoming Lenten Services.

——Vi Seck

CHANGE IS TAKING PLACE

Christopher Binkowski, our organist and Choir Director resigned on December 31st to pursue other opportunities. Temporarily we will have substitute organists while the Worship and Music Committee searches for his replacement. The congregation said good-bye to Chris and his family at a coffee hour held on December 27th after his final service. If you were not able to attend please feel free to send him a note .

PROPERTIES REPORT

With funds from Thrivent, the properties group plus volunteers, Byron Cheeseman and Justin Martin, have scraped and painted the boiler room in the basement, the back hallway in the back basement and the basement janitor's room. Two new lights are installed in the back hallway and the committee is working on bringing power to the handball court.

The narthex, front entrances and alcove in the large lounge have been under repair for several months. We now have newly plastered walls, cove molding and ceiling as well as a new subflooring and new tile in the front entranceways. The leaks in the front have been repaired and the tuck-pointing on the outside porches is done. The downspouts have been re-routed so water will drain away from the building. Lights in the parking lot were repaired. Additional roof repairs are on-going. Bids for the repairing, refinishing and weather-striping of the front doors so they will be properly secured and putting in a mail box or slot at the front entrance are being solicited.. ———Dave Martin, Dick Bell, Bobby Marble and John Cole

CONSECRATION SUNDAY

The members met on December 13 and made a formal financial commitment for the next year (2010);. According to the Treasurer, our budget for 2010 , based on commitments made at the meeting, will be almost the same as last year. The luncheon for the meeting was catered by Michael Gerth and his associate.

KROGER REWARDS PROGRAM

We are officially signed with Kroger's Rewards Program. This program will allow our members and friends who have a Kroger Plus Card to register their card with Kroger and donate a portion of their purchase to our church.

If you do not have a computer the office will provide you with a copy of the BARCODE for our church. You will be able to take this barcode along with your Kroger Plus card and register your card with the store office. You can go to any Kroger store. If you have a computer at home you can enter the information from home using the direction sheet available in the office.

Please be sure to let the office know when you have registered or if you need help.

—————Doris Bell

THRIVENT NEWS: The Members of Eastern Wayne County Chapter of Thrivent for Lutherans have elected three members of our congregation to their Board. They are Fred Krage, President; Doris Bell Financial Director; and Sue Gerth, Assistant Financial Director for 2010 The transition meeting for the Board was Monday, January 11 at Salem Memorial Church.

Women's Association News

A Blessed New Year to All. December was full with activity;. We were able to honor Eleanor Hedman and Pastor Tim Roehrs as they retired. Hedy went north to Minnesota to visit relatives for a month and Tim is now free to preach at other churches as needed. The Association put on a brunch and presented Hedy with a new purse, gloves, scarf , and hat and gave Tim a gift certificate that he could use as he wished. Alice, Tim's wife was there and Hedy had four guests who were unable to attend her retirement party given at St;. Paul's.

The board met and decided the Christmas gifts to the staff, Synod, LSSM, Lutheran Special Education Ministries, the Food Pantry, Lutheran World Relief and to our own church. The donations totaled \$2808. All can be proud of their efforts in our fundraisers. Funds raised from the sale of Wreaths and Christmas Poinsettias will appear in the 2010 budget report

Our next business meeting will take place on the last Sunday in January after the Service. Election of officers and plans for Spring will be on the agenda. (Reminder: Please bring in the contents of your mite boxes)

Doris Bell, President

WISE COALITION NEWS

This Christmas, Joanne Grierson, with the help of her able crew from the Food Pantry put together a special Christmas for a family in the area. Joanne spoke with the social worker at Nichols School about a family we might adopt. She received the name of a family with 5 children ranging in age from 11-18 years being raised by a single mom who could not afford a Christmas. The children made a wish list and the wishes were placed on the Giving Tree in the narthex for parishioners to take and purchase or to donate money. Kate TenBrink and Joanne shopped for missing items, the pantry group bagged up food and the congregation gave them a tree we were not going to use to put up in their home. According to the reports the children and the mom each got a big bag of presents and were able to eat and have a tree for the holiday. They were delighted.! Thanks to all who helped made this project so successful!

#

Tryouts for basketball are taking place under the supervision of Christine Bell and Dejuane Johnson in preparation for forming another team this year.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday, January 17, the membership will meet to consider the budget for 2010, representation for the 1010 Synod Assembly and an update on the direction of redevelopment for our congregation.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE: On Sunday, January 10 we welcomed into membership Randal and Heather Brown. The Browns have been visiting our church for some time and decided to become members this year. We welcome them as workers with us and hope that they will find fulfillment and joy in Christ at this church. They have just moved to a new home and have asked Pastor Christmas to have a “home blessing” in the near future.

IN MEMORIUM

Mr. Robert Howard died suddenly on December 21, 2009 while in the hospital being treated for an illness that affected his breathing. He was a faithful member of this congregation, and a decorated member of the US Navy in which he served for 7 years. He worked for the postal service for 35 years and delivered mail to our church. When he retired, he went to work for Temple Emanu-El for another 17 years.

Robert initiated the purchase of the Tree of Life display we have in our hallway and served on our Vestry. He died at the age of 83 years. A Memorial Service was held at Christ Church on December 29, 2009.

A HERO'S REWARD

Once again Robert Murray was honored for his heroism in saving people from a fire last year. He received the City of Detroit Fire Department Award of Valor for saving the lives of people in a burning Eastside house. Previously he was given a Certificate from the Mayor and an Award from the City Council.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: I was not able to put out a December issue of the Record due to an unforeseen computer death, family activities, end of semester duties, time to purchase a new computer, changing from dial-up to wireless and learning the twists and turns for all the new Windows 7 programs. You may have noticed there are no cute clip art figures — I haven't figured out how to put them in yet!! Hopefully subsequent issues will be more attractive and on time.

Remember! The Record will be put on the Website, thanks to Kate TenBrink. If you have a computer you can access it there. Paper copies will be available at Church and I will be mailing them to shut-ins and friends. Our website is www.iroquoischrist.org

The next Office Task is to put out a new Directory. Kathy and I have been making changes when we are given new addresses and e-mail addresses. Please take time to let us know if your directory information is correct. Always include names of spouses and children. —Doris Bell