

January 8, 2012

Breeze thru the Leaves



THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sunday, January 8

Rev. Mark Couser, Guest Preacher
Confirmation – 1 PM

Monday, January 9

All Boards – 7 PM

Tuesday, January 10

Young at Heart – 11:30 AM

Wednesday, January 11

Bells – 7 PM

Thursday, January 12

Bible Study – 10 AM

Choir – 7 PM

Friday, January 13

Braille – 9:30 AM @ Zion Lutheran

Saturday, January 14

Men's Breakfast – 7:30 AM

Trustees' Meeting – 9 AM

Sunday, January 15

Sr. Youth – after 2nd service

Confirmation – 1 PM

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

For 12-31-11

New Year's Eve Service – 33

For 1-1-12

10:00 Service - 68

Offerings

General: \$3,887

(Needed each week: \$ 5,150)

General for this month: \$3,887

(Needed for January: \$ 25,750)

"Growing Towards the Future": \$359

(Debt Retirement Fund)

This week's Mission Support Tithe: \$389



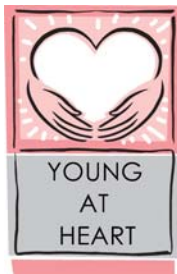
DID YOU KNOW...?

New offering envelopes are available to be picked up in the Fellowship Hall.

Pastor Scott will be in St. Louis, MO Jan. 2nd to Jan. 13th. If you have an emergency, please call the church office or your elder.



All men of the congregation are invited to attend the monthly Men's Breakfast and Bible Study. It is Saturday, January 14th at 7:30 AM. Please bring a breakfast item to share. Come and join us for good food, fellowship, and Bible study!



Young at Heart will meet this Tuesday, January 10th at 11:30 AM for a potluck lunch and planning meeting. Please bring a dish to share and lots of ideas for the coming year's activities.

Braille Ministry



The Tree of Life Braille Team will meet this Friday, January 13th at 9:30 AM at Zion Lutheran Church in Dallas. We always need more people to lend a hand. Contact Ron and Patty Gibbs for more information.

MEET MARK COUSER

Our guest pastor today is Rev. Mark Couser. Pastor Mark Couser has been serving as a missionary in Dallas since 2003.

During the summer of 2003, Mark began work as director of an inner city summer camp at a church (Hope Lutheran) in Far East Dallas that had closed its doors. After graduating, Mark moved into the old church library (now called New Hope) and began to get to know the inner city neighborhood and its people. This would begin Mark's work with LINC North Texas.

Mark also worked part-time for 3 years as youth pastor at St. Paul Lutheran in Plano, TX in addition to his work at New Hope. In the fall of 2008, Mark entered into the first cohort of the SMP program at Concordia Seminary. Mark was ordained as pastor last year along with his brother, Peter Couser, who is a mission pastor in Ft. Worth.

In October of 2010, Mark was sent out from LINC North Texas to embark on a new journey. He is partnering with Waters Edge Lutheran in Frisco, TX to start a new mission called The Crossing Church which will begin to worship in 2012. **The Crossing will be the first English speaking church plant within the loop of 635 in over 50 years!**

Mark is engaged to Ms. Kristen Seals and is getting married on May 27th of this year. He is a die-hard Chicago Cubs fan and also worked in radio for 5 years while in high school and college. Mark loves to use his radio skills to produce a weekly, faith-fueling podcast called Mission Together. You can listen to Mark's podcast at missiontogether.wordpress.com.

Thank you Pastor Couser for leading us in worship today!



The new Flower Chart has been posted on the cabinet door closest to Pastor's office. You may sign up for the Sunday of your choice and honor/remember loved ones or special occasions. The two arrangements that you see each Sunday cost a total of \$25 and you may take them with you after the Traditional service. You may put your check or cash in the offering plate with a note for the financial secretary that it is for altar flowers. Thank you in advance for adding to the beauty of our worship.



*My Dear Church Family,
I want to thank all my brothers and sisters.
God heard your wonderful prayers for my
successful surgery and healing... and He
answered with love and grace. Oh how I thank
our Lord, and your prayers. I love you all.*

Evelyn Allison

*I would like to thank all of you who sent
flowers, visited, phoned, emailed, sent cards
and those who prayed for me during my
recent hospital stay and eye surgery. It
meant a lot to me and Marge!
God's blessings to all of you!*

*Your brother in Christ,
Rich Porter*

CALLING POST

The Calling Post calls are recorded weekly phone calls that usually come on Saturday evenings and are helpful reminders about upcoming events and the Bible readings for the Sunday services. Our aim is to keep all of you informed. Please contact the office if you are not regularly receiving the Calling Post phone calls.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Please check out the Information Board in the Fellowship Hall. Christmas cards from several members and former members of TOL have been posted there.



***Sunday, January 29th
After the second service
More details coming soon***



Dear Tree of Life Family,

Thank you so very much for all of the gifts you gave us for Christmas! We so appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness. We are truly blessed to be in service to all of you and to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Your brothers and sisters in Christ,
Pastor Scott, Kara Jander, David Bush, and
Allie Banda



Our Lost & Found box is quite full and we've had a recent addition to it: a Nikon camera that was found in the fellowship hall. If you've lost an item, come see if it is there. If you're not sure if you've lost an item, come check and see. The box is located outside the office.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

PLEASE: Remember to destroy/recycle all of your leftover 2011 offering envelopes because your 2012 offering envelopes have a different number. Doing so will be a great help to our WONDERFUL Financial Secretary and her faithful assistant! 2012 Offering Envelopes may be picked up in the Fellowship Hall.