

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF
THE RISEN SAVIOR
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Sunday Worship Themes -

February

- 6th: "Be What You Are!"
Matthew 5:13-16
- 13th: "We Care"
Matthew 5:20-37
- 20th: "A Life of Love"
Matthew 5:38-48
- 27th: "First --- and Only!"
Matthew 6:33

*We invite you to read, pray
and prepare for each time of
worship.*
jws

Dave & Barb Anderson in Concert – Sunday, 13 February,
6:00PM

Dave and Barb Anderson will perform in concert at Risen Savior on Sunday, February 13th at 6:00PM. We welcome their return to Risen Savior! Dave and Barb's music is a blend of contemporary, gospel, and traditional Christian songs...often including children's or Sunday School songs. In addition, they will provide musical leadership for our weekend (Saturday and Sunday) services.

During the concert, Dave and Barb share their personal experiences and what has become known around the world as "The Rescue Story". In 1993, God used incredibly heroic men to rescue Dave and Barb and five others from 36-degree waters after their plane crashed into the Bering Sea, returning from a missionary and humanitarian mission in the Far East. All survived.

This miraculous story has been heard by millions around the world on radio, TV, and through personal appearances. The Rescue Story points to the God who rescues men and women from overwhelming circumstances in our lives. Learn more at www.therescuestory.com.

Under Dave and Barb's leadership, Fellowship Ministries has provided the church with worship resources including 5,200 concerts, nearly one million songbooks, and a few hundred worship and music conferences and seminars.

Dave and Barb are spending much of their time leading Shepherd's Canyon Retreat, a ministry that provides 8-day counseling retreats for burned-out and emotionally wounded pastors and their spouses. Currently, retreats are being held in Wisconsin and Arizona. Each retreat includes four client couples (singles are welcome), two counselors (male and female) and a chaplain.

Learn all about this ministry by visiting www.ShepherdsCanyonRetreat.org.

The free-will offering received at the concert will benefit the Shepherd's Canyon Retreat ministry project. We hope you will join us that evening – and bring friends and neighbors!

Valentine's Day Concert—
"A Walk Down Memory Lane" - 3:00PM

Dan and Karin Wickman, dear friends of the Andersons, who will be here over the weekend, will perform a Valentine's Day concert called "A Walk Down Memory Lane". This will be Monday, February 14th, at 3:00PM. You are in for a special treat as Karin, a gifted pianist, and her husband Dan, singing bass, share with us familiar love songs from the 1930's through the 1960's.

Much of their repertoire comes from Broadway musicals such as *Lady and the Tramp, Brigadoon, Carousel, Annie Get Your Gun, Camelot, South Pacific, Music Man, My Fair Lady*, and more.

This concert is open to the public, so please bring your friends and neighbors. There will be punch and dessert provided and served by two choir members, George Moore and Dick Schoeneberg. A \$10 donation at the door is suggested.

The Parson's Paragraphs

May our heavenly Father, through His Son, Jesus, by the Person and work of the Holy Spirit guard, guide, strengthen and keep you!

We rejoice that God continues to bless us through this new year. In addition, we rejoice as newer members join longer-time members in areas of ministry. Above all, we rejoice that we can worship and serve the Lord together, and that you are inviting others to worship with us.

What about our time of corporate worship? I believe it is the single most important event of our week. It inspires and feeds us, it fills and equips us, it unites and drives us to witness and serve throughout the week. While we do many things to make our corporate worship times "guest-friendly," we understand this activity to be chiefly about what we receive from our Lord.

Someone gave me a copy of another church newsletter, and I will share thoughts from an article entitled "Come and Worship!" (In part, I wish to show that I am not alone ☺!) After reading this, please respond with your comments or questions.

This church spent leadership time "*seeking God's direction in helping to remove distractions from our weekly worship service, creating a more meaningful worship experience and challenging our entire church ... to grow deeper in worshipping in ways that honor and glorify God.*" Amen! Do you see this as important for worship times at Risen Savior? I do.

They focused on five areas. "**1. Prepare your Heart throughout the Week.** *Worship is something we live, more than just Sunday morning. Read Scriptures, pray, get together with other believers...*" We could include participation in group study of God's Word. All of these will assist and support our services.

"**2. Save the Sanctuary for Worship alone** on Sunday morning. *We praise God for the sweet fellowship He continues to give our church. Visit as you come in the foyer and following worship service.*" Yes – please be friendly, welcoming and sociable, but limit this type of interaction within our Sanctuary.

"**3. Enter and Prepare Your Heart for Worship.** *We would like everyone to enter the Sanctuary in a quiet and reverent manner.*" I think it is important to focus on why you are here, where you are, Whom you are worshipping, and from Whom you are about to receive holy things – Word and Sacrament. The doors are closed about five minutes before the worship "hour," and this is a reminder to enter and prepare.

"**4. Focus and Stillness before God.** *We are blessed with talented musicians, and the "pre-service" music should really be titled "preparation music." This is part of our worship time! This is part of their personal "offering" to the Lord.*" Please use at least the final two minutes before our "Welcome" in silence ... just you and the Lord we worship. This will bless you --- and show courtesy to other worshipers.

"**5. Remove Distractions.** *Remind yourself to turn off your cell phone before service. Have your Bibles ready to go!*" (The final remark probably tells you this was not from a Lutheran Church.) I might include – put away all the "goodies" from your mailbox or other places. We have a simple, yet beautiful, house of worship. Look at that cross, the altar, seasonal banners, symbolism . . . pray for an uplifting time of corporate worship!

"Corporate" worship indicates this is about the *corpus*, the "Body" of Christ, His Church. We come to receive; then, to give; finally, to respond in daily life. May our time in the Lord's House be focused on Him and sanctified by Him for all worshipers!

John Wm Stieve

"Following Christ into People's Lives"

Stroke Support Group

We will not have a meeting in February. The March 12th meeting will be at 3:30PM in the choir room. Please join us.

Have you ever thought about all the different names for God? People, especially in the Old Testament, named Him according to the character He displayed. Over the next several months, I will write about some of the names of God. John 17:3 is one of many verses that encourage us to get to know our God personally. *"And this is eternal life, that they **know** you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. "*

Its amazing to me that the Creator of the universe chooses to know and love each one of us humans through all of history as if He had created only one.

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. (Genesis 1:1)

The Hebrew word for God in this verse is **Elohim**. Strong's Exhaustive Concordance explains that it's a masculine noun, "plural in form (denoting majesty) but singular in meaning" (there is just one God). The prefix "El" is often used in names of people and places. (Ishmael means God will hear; Israe~~l~~– God prevails, Bethel– house of God, etc.)

Elohim, the Supreme God of gods, Creator of all that is seen and unseen chose to create man and woman in His image. *"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."* (Gen. 1:27)

Being 'in the image of God' we are to be holy, righteous and doing God's will (Small Catechism question # 106). Through Christ, we worship God, give Him praise and honor, and serve Him by serving our neighbor.

The annual Soup-er Bowl door offering will be collected to help those who are in need of God's tender care. **Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest** is a multi-faceted agency that provides aid to people in many different areas. LSS provides in-home senior care, professional counseling, refugee resettlement assistance, and more.

Please leave your monetary donation in the stock pots in the narthex on Superbowl Sunday Feb 6.

February is Mercy Month. We traditionally have a luncheon for the volunteers. This year we have invited Dave and Barb Anderson to perform a concert for the congregation in honor of the service of the many volunteers in mercy ministry. I thank God for each person who has been involved with the various aspects of Mercy Ministry including: Care visitation ministry, Food Ministry, Home Handyman (and women), Prayer Chain, Quilters, Stephen Ministry, Transportation, Wellness Center, and various support groups! **There is always room for more volunteers with minimal training required.** I especially need coordinators for Home Handyman and Food Ministry. We love because he first loved us.(1 John 4:19) Being active in Mercy Ministry is our response to a loving God. I 'have to' love my neighbor, not because I 'have to' obey the Law of God, but because He continually pours His love into my heart, I can't help but love my neighbor. I pray that our neighbors will begin to see Jesus through each of us and give us opportunities to share His Word.

First Tuesday Women's Bible Study

We will meet at 10 AM, February 1st.

We will study "Relationships 101: Comfort and Compassion"

Copies of the study are available in the Narthex if you would like to work on it before the group meets, or if you are unable to join us.

Mayo Clinic Health Letter: the newest edition is here!

This edition includes articles about Rheumatoid arthritis, home dialysis, and more. The issue can be found in the Mayo Clinic binder across from the mail boxes along with past issues that may be of interest to you.

*Together in His service,
Deaconess Jeri*

Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:25AM

New Class~!!!!

“Spirit-filled Disciples” Study begins Feb. 6th

“Spirit-filled Disciples,” a five-week study on Gifts of the Holy Spirit, begins Sunday, 6 February. Pastor Stieve will lead this study.

Individually and in small groups, we will explore the meaning and purpose of spiritual gifts; study specific gifts from God, and seek to understand each one’s “giftedness” under God. Holy Scripture teaches that every Christian has at least one spiritual gift – to glorify God and to serve others.

You are invited to join us. We will meet in the Choir Room.

Continuing class~!!!!

Odyssey of St Paul is a video based class by Dr Paul Maier. This class will be led by Ron Kasten, Educator Emeritus.

Aside from Jesus Himself, no one has had a greater influence on the founding of Christianity than Paul of Tarsus. Among his many achievements, three are of prime importance: 1) as a powerful, tireless, missionary, he spread the faith to Asia Minor, Greece, and Italy; 2) his letters, which form much of the New Testament, present a basic theology for Christianity; 3) more than anyone else, he brought Gentiles into the early church, not only Jews, thus “universalizing” the faith.

This class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans to Hold Social Security Workshop

Kristina Bergdahl and Robert Eyer of The Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Tucson and Green Valley Team cordially invite you and your guests to our “2011 Social Security Workshop.” We are proud to host former social security administrator and practicing social security expert/consultant Jim Caulder as the workshop’s guest speaker. The event will be held from 12pm to 1pm in Green Valley on Tuesday, March 15th and from 5pm to 6pm in Tucson on Tuesday, March 15th. Please RSVP via email at Kristina.bergdahl@thrivent.com, via phone at 520-546-8378, or online at thrivent.com_findaworkshop.