

**LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE RISEN
SAVIOR**

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**Sunday Worship
Themes -
January**

1st: "A New Beginning ...
for Life!"

John 3:1-15

8th: Pastor Ian Pacey

John 1:29-34

15th: "The Gospel
Grapevine"

John 1:43-51

22nd: "God's Time is the
Right Time!"

John 2:1-12

29th: Pastor Jeff Ehlers

John 3:22-26

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

jws

**Garuna – Missions Emphasis
Saturday – Sunday, 28-29
January**

Our January missions emphasis will feature the Rev. Dr. Jeff Ehlers, Chairman of the Garuna Foundation. Garuna is a ministry of sharing the "grace, mercy and compassion" (Garuna) of Jesus in Thailand, Cambodia and surrounding countries. He will be our guest preacher for the three weekend services, and he will lead the 9:25 topic discussion.

Did you know there are Lutheran churches in Thailand and Cambodia? Did you know there are dozens of students enrolled in The Luther Institute – Southeast Asia? Did you know there are mission/donor trips arranged for those who wish to see this work first-hand?

Less than 2% of the people in these countries trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior. This is important and necessary work. We will be invited to support these efforts in corporate prayer, and in personal ways. Sponsorship opportunities include national missionary support, educational funding, and child sponsorship support.

We look forward to welcoming Dr. Ehlers to Risen Savior. Please join us to learn more of God's work in reaching souls around the world!



**2011-2012 Risen Savior
Concert Series Presents
Piano Trio**



On January 22nd at 3:00 P.M. Risen Savior will present **Piano Trio** (Anna Gendler, violin; Alexander Tenster, piano; Theodore Buchholtz, cello).

Ms. Gendler and Mr. Tenster are graduates from the conservatories in Moscow, Russia and Mr. Buchholtz is graduate of Manhattan School of Music in New York.

Currently, all three members are active in the Tucson community as orchestral performers (TSO), chamber musicians, and teachers (Pima College).

Their performances raised the praises of virtuoso and fine classical performance. Don't miss the great chamber music afternoon! Reception to follow.

Admission is by donation. (suggested donation- \$10) If you have any questions, please call 625-2612 or e-mail JisunL@risen-savior.org

**Installation of
Pastor Steve Patton
Sunday, 15 January, 3:00PM**

The Rev. Steve Patton, serving daughter church Gracepoint, will be installed as their Pastor on Sunday, 15 January at 3:00PM. The service will be conducted at their ministry site on Sahuarita Road, about 1 mile east of Nogales Highway.

All are invited for this special occasion and service, as we see the Lord's continuing work among us. A reception and fellowship hour will follow the service.

The Parson's Paragraphs

Certain components seem to be prominent in Christian life, witness and worship. Among them is "Light." As we continue through Advent, prepare for Christmas, and await Epiphany, we are in seasons of light! Although we do not have a "real" date (even time of year) for the birth of our Lord, for us in the northern hemisphere, seasons of light are particularly meaningful during longer days of darkness.

It is not surprising that pagan and cultural festivals in the northern hemisphere were introduced at this time. Our 'body clocks,' demeanor, outlook and attitude may all be affected by the amount of light (or warmth!). Studies of areas where there is less daylight regularly indicate greater stress, problems, broken relationships, suicides and other trauma.

Our recent special – and first ever! – service of "Rest – Reflection – Renewal" was designed with these realities in mind. Only God knows what happened in the minds and hearts of those who attended. However, I was reminded that, to a degree, each of us goes through some feelings or experiences that need that type of worship setting. I pray that those who came were blessed – receiving the Lord's strength, comfort and compassion.

As we enter the Year of our Lord 2012, may we resolve to take real "rest" time. In other words, whether or not you observe a 24-hour Sabbath, take time during the week to rest: to stop doing what you would be doing at that time most days of the week. Change the routine; change the place; change the music ... whatever it takes --- but, rest!

Then, "reflect" on the goodness and mercy of the Lord. Reflect as you meditate on Holy Scripture, as you read a meaningful devotion, as you read or listen to the life of a committed Christian. Reflect, above all, as you listen to God! Our Lord does communicate with us today – as individuals; however, I think we're usually 'too busy' to wait "wait on the Lord" and listen to Him. I have excuses, too . . . but they sound rather 'weak' if I claim to be busier than the Lord and King of the universe!

Finally, "be renewed." Renewal is not something we simply do to ourselves. If we could self-renew – as with a library book – you and I would be in charge of our lives. Since we are spiritually dead at birth, and incomplete baptized Christians throughout life, we need regular feedings from God and encouragement from others. As we live the new life in Christ, He – by His Word and Spirit – will work renewal in us.

May the Triune God bless and guide, guard and keep you in His care. May He work in and through you His good will throughout 2012.

A most blessed Christmastide ... Happy New Year ... and a joyous – and bright – Epiphany!

John Wm Stieve

"Following Christ into People's Lives"

Light in the Darkness

Lord of Hosts: Jehovah-Sabaoth

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Psalm 46:7)

The "Sanctus" from Divine Service Setting Three, begins: "Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory." So, this name of our God is not as unfamiliar as we might first think—even in Hebrew.

I have been enjoying reading "Lord, I want to Know You" by Kay Arthur as I have been writing these articles about the names of God. In this chapter, she explains some interesting statistics. Scripturally speaking, God is not called upon by this name until 1 Samuel and then only 3 times in the book. However, "Lord of Hosts" is used 52 times in Zechariah's 14 chapters, 83 times in Jeremiah's 52 chapters. Most often by individuals, occasionally by the nation of Israel. Another way this name is used in Scripture is obvious in Malachi: 22 of the 24 usages are in the phrase. "says the Lord of Hosts", indicating a direct word from God.

Arthur writes:

"So often, not until we find ourselves failing and powerless do we realize our need to run to our Jehovah-Sabaoth. This is a name for those who find their resources inadequate in the midst of struggle. This is the name of God to run to when there is no other help— from our perspective... From God's perspective, it is a name that reminds His people of exactly who He is— not only the One who delivers, but also the One who judges."

What about you? Are you glad 2011 is over? It's a new year, and a new start. 2011 may have brought changes and challenges that were difficult for you— beyond what you could handle by yourself. I pray that you are able to know the presence, refuge and sufficiency of Jehovah Sabaoth. Maybe 2012 won't be any "better" or "easier" for you. I pray that you will have the certainty promised to you in the Bible that the Lord of Hosts will "never leave you nor forsake you" (Joshua 1:5). Be certain, too, that this God whom we worship has MANY promises recorded in the Bible and He has kept EVERY one of them.

I pray that this new year will be one in which you are drawn into a more intimate relationship with your Lord and Savior and that you would be led to do something new for your spiritual health and growth. Consider participating in a regular Bible study on Sunday mornings, or a small group during the week. Maybe you are ready to step a little further outside your 'comfort zone' and begin serving in the community or our congregation.

May our Lord of Hosts make Himself known as your refuge, and deliverer.

1st Tuesday Women's Bible Study

We will meet on January 3 @ 10 AM to study "For Such a Time as This". Take time to read the entire Book of Esther— its only 10 chapters. The focus of this study is blended families.

I will have a list of all the available topics (that we have not studied) so you can vote on the ones you want to do next. Then I will put them in an order that seems 'timely'.

Light of Life

This is a Bible study of the Gospel according to John. I would like to have several small groups meeting to work on this during Lent.

Workbooks will be ordered for each participant. This book leads you, verse by verse through 42 days of reading, meditating and prayer through this unique Gospel. Small groups will meet weekly to discuss the week's readings.

There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please also note if you are willing to lead a group. I will equip you with leader resources.

Spouse Grief Recovery Class Starts this month

Open to the community

This 9 week class begins January 10, 2012 and will meet on Tuesdays at 9 AM in the Wellness Center. Aida McBride had led this class here several times and those who attend are glad they did. Grieving the death of a spouse is a journey you need not take all by yourself. This class teaches you “where the bumps in the road” will be and gives you ideas of how to handle them. Many are also glad to learn that their feelings are normal for someone who is grieving.

Please let Deaconess Jeri or the church office know if you plan to attend so we can make sure there are enough hand outs for everyone.

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Blood Pressure Screening

There will not be a nurse on duty for Monday January 2 as the office will be closed.

The regular schedule will resume January 9th: Every Monday, 9-11 AM.

This is an opportunity for you to have some one on one time with a trained (but not licensed) nurse or medic. They will check your blood pressure, you can be weighed, and ask questions about your medications, tests, or symptoms. High blood pressure has been known as the “silent killer” because it can be the cause of a stroke or heart attack. It is labeled “silent” because high blood pressure doesn’t have any symptoms until it has been high for a while and starts to cause damage to your body.

We would love to see your smiling face on Mondays.

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Dr. Paul Maier returns to Sierra Vista Saturday, January 14th, 2012, 9 AM – 3:15 PM

This seminar is titled “New Horizons in the New Testament”

Session titles are:

- 1. History and Archeology: God’s “Back-up Systems”
- 2. New Perspectives on the Life of Jesus
- 3. The Crucifixion and Resurrection Revisited
- 4. The Explosion of Christianity

(Brief descriptions of each session are printed on the poster above the Food Bank Box in the Narthex.)

Fee: \$15 per person (students \$8)

Space is limited

Bring a sack lunch...Beverages provided

No childcare available

Reservations are required

Telephone: 520/803-6810

Email: charbehnke@cox.net

Sponsored and hosted by Immanuel Lutheran Church, Sierra Vista, AZ

In His Word Bible Study

The In His Word Bible Study will meet at Linda Connors January 4 and January 18. We will continue our study of The Triune God.



NEWS YOU CAN USE – Notes from the Library

HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!

It's getting closer ... the DATE of our Book Sale: Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 8:00 to 1:00PM. PLEASE check your shelves and contact your friends, relatives, and neighbors for any books that still need a new home.

ABOVE ALL ... we need customers!! Mark your calendars now so you do not forget this important date. The proceeds will benefit our church library and 10% of the proceeds will be donated to a synod or district mission. We truly appreciate your past donations and support of our sale.

THANK YOU and see you January 21, 2012!

Lovely Ladies of the Library

New! Support Group for Women with Cancer

A new support group is being formed including the existing breast cancer group. Because women with cancer experience many of the same challenges, the group has been expanded to serve the growing needs of our Christian community.

Together we listen, learn, laugh, find new meanings, dilute fears and support one another in this spiritual journey.

The first meeting will be held on January 14, 9:30AM in the Choir room. Coffee and snacks will be provided.

If you have any questions or want more information, call Mary Bath, 520-399-4821.

CALLING ALL MINNESOTANS... (and anyone else from the Midwest!)

Reserve Sunday, January 29, 2012, 2:00PM, and attend the musical and comedy play "How to Talk Minnesotan" at the Red Barn Theatre, 948 North Main, Tucson.

The play is written by Howard Mohr and it takes place at Lost Walleye Lodge in Northern Minnesota. The director is Scott Seitzberg (stage name is Scott Berg) son of our own LCRS Marilyn Seitzberg. Tickets are \$10.00. For reservations and more information, contact Geri Thompson, 625-9585.

We will car-pool from the church parking lot.

Living Discipleship begins Monday, January 16th

Our "basic" course on Christian doctrine / Lutheran theology will begin a new class on Monday, 16 January at 6:30PM. Members, community friends, neighbors are all invited to join us.

Pastor Stieve leads this 12-week class, and each session is about two hours. If you need transportation or childcare, please let the church office know.

This is an excellent "first" course and a wonderful review of what many studied "a few" years ago. There are small registration forms at the information booth in the church narthex. We invite you to join us!

Ninth Annual LCRS Women's Retreat

The purpose of the Women's Retreat is to bring women together for the purpose of sharing with other women what God is His wisdom and love has done in our lives, so that relationships can be built, our faith can be strengthened and our lives can be rejuvenated and enriched, that all may know that who we are today and will be forever is to the Glory of God the Father. With the Grace of God this will be accomplished through worship and song, fellowship, bible study and sharing.



"Patience – Better 'Wait' than 'Never'"

"But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint."

Isaiah 40:31 (ESV®)

Saturday, February 18, 2012

Continental Breakfast served at 8:30 a.m. – Retreat runs from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Speaker and Study Leader: Phyllis Wallace

Phyllis is a wife, mother of four, author and former family counselor and educator. Her path into public speaking began as a junior high counselor involved with youth on drugs. Once her children were grown, she led a weekly Bible study of 100 women from 14 different church backgrounds for ten years. This opened opportunities to keynote conferences and seminars around the country. In 1991, she initiated the "Woman to Woman" program on KFUD-AM radio in St. Louis, MO. This show was picked up by Lutheran Hour Ministries in 1993 and was eventually syndicated to 400 stations. After doing over 1400 interviews, Phyllis retired from "Woman to Woman" in August, 2011.

Music Leader: Dr. Ji Sun Lee

Dr. Lee is Music Director at Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior. She was born in Seoul, South Korea, where she began her music education at age 4. A pianist and organist, Dr. Lee holds degrees from Presbyterian College, Seoul, South Korea, Arizona State University and the University of Arizona. She has performed internationally and has won top honors in several competitions. She has taught at Cochise College, Sierra Vista, AZ. and at the University of Arizona. Ji Sun and her husband, Michael Lich, a classical guitarist with whom she often performs in concerts, reside in Tucson.

Registration fee includes Continental breakfast and catered lunch. Please bring your Bible.

-----Please return to Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior -----

Registration Form -- Women's Retreat February 18, 2012

Name

Address

Phone

_____ \$20.00 Registration Fee Enclosed (make checks payable to LCRS)

_____ I would like to sponsor _____ individual scholarships @ \$20.00 each

Do you have any special dietary restrictions? _____