



LAKE SUPERIOR LIGHT

Lake Superior Christian Church

Issue 12

December 2014

EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

Did all of you have a great Thanksgiving? We all have so much for which to be thankful, eh? Our family had a wonderful time visiting family in the St. Louis area, but we are glad to be back home.

Have you ever wondered where in the Bible to find the “man who slept on his watch”?; or if as the Apostle Paul’s writings progressed from early to later, did they move from eschatological to apocalyptic?; Did Jonah get swallowed by a whale?; What does the Bible teach on (insert topic here)?; What was going on in the rest of the world when David was King, or Jesus was on the earth? Maybe you just want to try to stump the staff. So, if you have always wanted to know the answer to a certain Bible question, then here is your opportunity to ask!

LSCC has something

new that you will not want to miss!

Beginning in January, the “Ask the Pastor” posts will begin. This is where you can turn in your questions, and one of the ministers on staff will answer



Merry CHRISTmas!

your questions about the Bible or its teachings. The answer will be published in our newsletter, the Splash, web site or other avenues of communication, depending on the number of questions you turn in. Just write your questions on a piece of paper

and drop them in the drop box by the office or under the office door. You can also e-mail them to office@lsc.tv. If we get many questions then we will publish answers in multiple communications at the same time.

I hope you send lots of questions in. We will have fun answering them. You may learn some things from the answers and maybe we might all be drawn closer to Jesus! We can’t wait to read and answer your questions!

Hope to see you Sunday!

December Sermon Schedule

- 7 Experiencing God’s Faithfulness
~ Dave Celeskey
- 14 Experiencing God’s Plan & Purpose
~ Don Withrow
- 21 Experiencing God’s Love
~ Brandon Morey
- 24* Experiencing God’s Joy
~ Dave Celeskey
- 28 The Born (Again) Identity :
What does it mean to be born again?
~ Brandon Morey



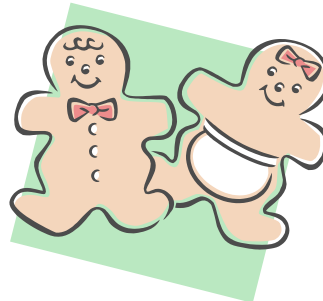
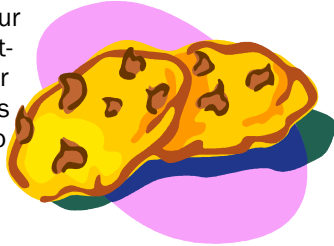


Operation Cookie Blessing

We will once again be blessing the people in our community who are required to work on Christmas Eve by delivering cookies to them at their workplaces! This project was a HUGE success last year! We delivered 100 dozen cookies to over 80 businesses.

There are many ways that you can be involved in this outreach:

- * Bring homemade cookies to the L.S.C.C. kitchen on Sunday, Dec. 16th or 21st. How many? One dozen? Four dozen? You decide! Please sign up on the sheet in Connection Central.
- * On Sunday, Dec 21st, stay after the 11 a.m. service to help package the cookies on paper plates.
- * Donate Press 'n Seal plastic wrap.
- * Donate large Christmas paper plates.
- * Bring in big cardboard boxes to transport



the cookies.

(There is a Christmas-wrapped box in Connection Central for these items.)

* Help deliver cookies on Christmas Eve.

You can pick up the cookies in Living Water (Room 33) after either service and deliver them on your way home.

We will be delivering to businesses in Marquette, Gwinn, Negaunee, Ishpeming and points in between.

If you have questions, please contact Linda at 942-7739 or linda.beauchamp@yahoo.com.

Project sponsored by Women Connected.

ROOM AT THE INN

Room at the Inn is hosting a can recycling fundraiser from Monday, Dec. 1 – Saturday, January 3. Cans may be dropped off at the Warming Center, 447 W. Washington, Monday – Friday from 6-10:30 a.m.

Or you may call 250-6903 for pick-up. Help us keep the Warming Center Warm!

An Old-Fashioned Christmas Eve

On Wednesday, December 24th, the ENTIRE family is invited to join us at either 5:30 or 7:00 p.m. for an Old-Fashioned Christmas Eve Service. Carols will be sung, a message will be given by Dave Celeskey, and communion passed.



Our offering that evening will be going to support Great Lakes Christian College to help with the building of their new library.



Upward Basketball and Cheerleading is just around the corner and we are in need of 8-9 more Basketball Coaches for our teams. **Stop by Connection Central or go to www.lsc.tv to sign up and help.** We also looking for referees and concession stand workers. Thank you in advance for helping us in this terrific community outreach!



On Saturday, December 20th, the Youth Group (Grades 6-12) will be having their annual Christmas Party. It will start at 4:00 p.m. here at the church. There will be outdoor activities such as snowmobiling and sledding, dinner, Christmas goodies, and a white elephant gift exchange.

* There will be NO youth group on December 24th and 31st.



The Easiest Command to Ignore

The Christmas season is upon us and you are no doubt all ready filling your calendar with things to do and people to see. We work, we volunteer, we do life...and at the end of the year we try to get in all the life we can handle. The church is no different than the rest of culture in this arena. We schedule special parties, charity events, dinners, teas, programs, and the list goes on. But in a season where we are striving to pay extra attention to the birth of Christ, do we ignore one of the things that He is Lord over...the Sabbath?

Now the practice of Sabbath is a challenge to keep regardless of the time of year, but as we see in Exodus 34:21 "Six days you shall work, but on the seventh day you shall rest. In plowing time and in harvest you shall rest." The time of year is irrelevant. We are called to work six and rest on the seventh in all seasons. We see more talk about the Sabbath in the Old Testament than we do about murder, honoring parents, stealing, lying, coveting...It's a unique commandment, in that it bridges the ideas of how we are to honor God and how we are to treat each other.

1-You shall have no gods before me

2-You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

3-You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

4-Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, you or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

5-Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

6-You shall not murder.

7-You shall not commit adultery.

8-You shall not steal.

9-You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

10-You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.

God explains the reason for the Sabbath in His retelling of creation. He makes it "holy" or set apart, and the Sabbath should indeed be set apart. It is a day not just for you...but for everyone, the whole family, and all that lived among the Israelites. The animals even got to enjoy in the rest of the Sabbath.

Throughout the early books of the Old Testament, the Sabbath is spoken of time and time again...even as far as to threaten death to those who violate it. This was a big deal. Later in Deuteronomy, the 10 Commandments are repeated to Israel, now with another reason God gives for the Sabbath

Deuteronomy 5:12 "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the Lord your God has commanded you. 13 Six days you shall labor and do all your work, 14 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns, so that your male and female servants may rest, as you do. 15 Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the Lord your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the Lord your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day."

God reminds this traveling group that they were once slaves. Do you know what you don't have if you are a slave? A day of rest! If you are a slave, you don't get to choose when you rest and when you work. God reminds Israel of where they came from and to honor this practice with their own slaves and all that work for them (livestock, family, foreigners).

Continued on next page...



The Easiest Command to Ignore continued...

This theme of six days of work and as well. Each seventh year the Israelites were called to let the land rest so that it could be refreshed and Every seventh year debts were cancelled amongst the Israelites and if someone had sold themselves into slavery, even they were to be released. God wanted to make sure



one of rest plays out in the years elites were called to let the land so that the poor may have rest. cancelled amongst the Israelites and if slavery, even they were to be that all had rest in the Sabbath.

This article could go on and on about written regarding the Sabbath, but at The Sabbath isn't as much about ing a breath of rest in the midst of trip Jesus up in the do's and dont's good at showing where the heart of about life giving and life sustaining, which is why healing on the Sabbath was ok. (I'm willing to bet, however, that Jesus did not do carpentry work on the Sabbath). Jesus points out that if someone's animal fell into a pit on the Sabbath, would they not save it? Jesus acknowledges the Sabbath and gives back to it the heart that was intended for it. (Matthew 12)

the specifics and regulations the heart of it is peace and rest. do's and don't's as it is about find-your work. The Pharisees tried to of the Sabbath, but Jesus was very the matter rested in the Law. It was

As Christians, and even non-Christians, the Sabbath is offered to us not just as a commandment, but as a gift. It is a holy day, set apart. "The Sabbath was made to meet the needs of people, and not people to meet the requirements of the Sabbath."- Mark 2:27 (NLT).

When you are trying to figure out for yourself what can and can't be done on the Sabbath, I ask you one simple question. "Does it feel like work?" If it feels like work to you...don't do it. Take a day off...and we can go back and forth about whether it is the traditional Hebrew Saturday or the Christianized Sunday, but whichever day is on your heart, make it holy. Work six days and rest on that seventh because it is holy. If you have a hobby or past-time that you enjoy and it doesn't feel like work, great! Do it! If you really need a day just to be alone and intimate with your spouse, go for it! (Hopefully that doesn't feel like work!) Read through the blessings that accompany the Sabbath in scripture and also the unfortunate side effects of when it is ignored. Rest in the comfort too of knowing that we have great freedom in this and are not to be bound up in the specifics of the regulations of Sabbath (Colossians 2:16) .

There is so much that I would love to say about this, but alas, a newsletter article is not the avenue for it. I will say this, however. As part of my New Year's resolution I am making the Sabbath a priority in my life. Since I work on Sundays, and some days it does indeed feel like work, I am taking Saturdays as my Sabbath. I am going to do no work, as is none in my household, even my cat Monty. We will use the day to spend with each other, get out in the woods, play, relax, and just enjoy the gift that is a true day off. Where the commandments talk about your servants, I am going to take that to mean the volunteers that work with me. I am not going to schedule anything or ask those volunteers to work on Saturday. What they choose to do otherwise rests with them. I pray that this practice will teach me more reliance on God; that I do indeed have the time necessary to accomplish all I am called to do, with the time He has laid out for me to use. Six days I shall labor, and on the seventh I shall rest.

~ David Celeskey

	<u>November 2</u>	<u>November 9</u>	<u>November 16</u>	<u>November 23</u>	<u>November 30</u>
Baptisms	0	0	0	0	0
New Members	0	0	0	0	0
Worship Attendance	462	460	382	369	Unavailable
Bible School Attendance	95	71	64	69	Unavailable
Operating Fund Budget	\$15,150	\$15,150	\$15,150	\$15,150	\$15,150
Operating Fund Offering	\$14,867.96	\$11,961.35	\$14,374.59	\$15,328.91	\$12,246.40



L.S.C.C.'s "Party at the Plex"!

Join us on New Year's Eve at the U.P. Sportsplex on Wright Street for an evening of roller-skating, fellowship, miniature golf, bounce houses for ages 2 and up, and more!

Starting at **5:30 p.m.** on **Wednesday, December 31st**, LSCC is renting out the U.P. Sportsplex at the corner of Wright and Lincoln Street and everyone is invited!

For only **\$5.00** a person (**\$15.00** for a family of **3 or more**) you can have 3 hours of great fun and fellowship. It will be payable at the door.

You are asked to bring a snack to share for our "Finger-food Potluck"

(ie. Chips, veggies, fruit, cookies, jigglers jello, etc.) board games to play, something to drink, and all the friends you can! You can bring your own roller skates (rollerblades) or use a pair from the Sportsplex for free.

We will have a time of praise and a short devotion before our evening ends at **8:30 p.m.**

Please take a moment to let us know if you're coming, and what you might be bringing, by either calling the church office at 249-1431, visiting Connection Central, or going online to www.lscctv.com.

We hope to see you there!



Attention Members and Regular Attendees:

LSCC has updated its Shepherding Deacon program based upon the geographic area.

For some of you, you may be contacted by a new shepherding deacon, but all of you can expect to be contacted sometime over



the next 60 days by a shepherding deacon or deaconess.

Their purpose is to provide you with prayer support, encouragement, and to help us keep your

contact information current so we can provide you with the best care possible.

If you have any questions, or haven't heard from a deacon/deaconess yet, please call Vicki Slater at 235-1447 so we can get you connected ASAP.

A NOTE FROM THE



November 11, 2014

Dear Lake Superior Christian Church,

Thank you very much for participating in our Baby Bottle Boomerang in October 2014. The total you raised is \$2,712.47! We greatly appreciate your fundraising efforts on our behalf.

The income from this project will help many women, men, and families in unexpected pregnancies. The work at Care Clinic is not slowing down. We are still reaching out, still opening our doors regularly to those who need us. Lives are being touched, and young women and couples are choosing life for their children.

Donations such as yours help us provide pregnancy tests, ultrasounds, consultations, and mentoring, as well as items from our Family Resource Closet at both our Marquette and Sawyer Care Clinic.

Your partnership and faithful support of Care Clinic has helped us reach out to our clients across the U.P. WE are so very grateful for you and pray that God's joy would fill each of your hearts as you continue to serve Him.

Sincerely,
Cindy Asher, Executive Director



** The answers can be found on the next page.*

How well do you think you know the Christmas story? Here are some **Christmas** Bible quiz questions for you to think about. Many of these are basic knowledge questions, but some of them will make you dig to see if my answer really is right. Are you ready?

Questions:

1. True or False: Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus because they were following a star.
2. What form of transportation did Mary and Joseph use to get to Bethlehem? The answer is not a taxi cab.
3. Which Old Testament prophet had the most to say about the birth of Christ?
4. In the accounts announcing the birth of Christ (Matthew 1 and Luke 1 and 2) how many times did an angel or angels appear?
5. What are the meanings of the names Jesus and Emmanuel?
6. When the shepherds went looking for Jesus, what was the sign they were to look for?
7. How many wise men or kings or magi came to see Jesus?
8. How old was Jesus when the wise men found him?
9. What are the three gifts which are mentioned being given by the wise men?
10. What animals does the Bible say were present at the birth of Jesus?
11. What was the name of the unkind innkeeper who would not allow the pregnant Mary to lodge in his inn?
12. Two of the four Gospels do not mention the birth of Christ. Which two?

L.S.C.C. MONTHLY CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study on Heaven	2 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	3 6:00 PM Ignition Student Ministry	4	5	6 8:00 AM Men's Breakfast 9:30 AM Church Christmas Decorating
7 9:30 and 11:00 AM Services	8 5:00-8:00 PM UPWARD Evaluation Make-ups	9 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 7:00 PM Missions Meeting 6:30 PM Ladies Bible	10 6:00 PM Ignition Student Ministry	11	12 6:30-11:00 PM IGNITE (Grades 6-12)	13 10:30 AM-1:00 PM Women's Christmas Tea
14 9:30 and 11:00 AM Services	15 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study on Heaven	16 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Ladies Bible Study	17 6:00 PM Ignition Student Ministry	18	19	20 4:00 PM Ignition Christmas Party
21 9:30 and 11:00 AM Services 12:15 PM Operation Christmas Blessing Packaging	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Services at 5:30 and 7:00 PM Church Office Closed	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS! Church Office Closed	26 Church Office open 12-4 PM	27
28 9:30 and 11:00 AM Services	29 6:30 PM Men's Bible Study on Heaven	30	31 New Years Eve 5:30-8:30 PM "Party at the Plex" Church office closed	December 2014		



December Welcome Center Schedule



December 7: 9:15 a.m. Nicole Holder & Valerie Wrightman
 10:45 a.m. Judy Rogers & Tom Rogers
 December 14: 9:15 a.m. Wendy Leukuma & Autumn Trudeau
 10:45 a.m. Mary Stunkard, Mike Paternoster, & Sarah Paternoster
 December 21: 9:15 a.m. Marcia Waters & Gloria Price
 10:45 a.m. Jennifer Nylander & Wendy Schuster
 December 28: 9:15 a.m. Jean Armatti & Cheryl Hopson
 10:45 a.m. Dana Hares & LaDonna Slack

Thank you for your service to our Guests!

Christmas Trivia Answers

1. False. As in the previous answer, they went not because an angel told them or because a star led them. They were obedient to the established governmental authority.
2. The Bible does not say how they went from Galilee to Bethlehem. It was an 80 mile trip for them. It is likely that they rode some type of animal, but the Bible gives no details. It is commonly depicted that Mary rode a donkey while Joseph walked along side. But that is simply an artistic depiction. We don't really know.
3. The book of Isaiah has much to say about the birth of the Savior. If you have ever heard the oratorio by George Handel called The Messiah, you have heard many direct quotes from the book of Isaiah concerning the birth of Christ.
4. At least 3 angelic announcements for the birth of Christ and 1 for the birth of John. For Christ an angel appeared before Mary and Joseph individually and a multitude of angels spoke to the shepherds. For John's birth announcement in Luke 1 Gabriel appeared before John's father to announce the birth of John the Baptist. Matthew 1:20-24; Luke 1:11-20; Luke 1:26-38; Luke 2:9-15.
5. Jesus means Savior and Emmanuel means God with us. Jesus is the same name as the Old Testament name Joshua which also means Savior. Matthew 1:21, 23.
6. A baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. Luke 2:12.
7. The Bible does not say how many wise men there were. Tradition says there were three because of the three gifts. There are even names given to the three wise men in different countries and cultures, but we don't really know their names. It is also very likely there were many more than just three.
8. It is certain that Jesus was somewhere between a month old and a couple of years old. The wise men saw His star at his birth and began following it. If the journey was 500 miles from Persia and Mesopotamia (around modern day Iraq) then it would have taken at least a month. By the time they arrived Jesus and His family had moved into a house. Later in the story Herod ordered all the children aged 2 years and younger to be killed. Therefore, Jesus was at least a month old and not yet 2 years old. Matthew 2:9-18.
9. Gold, frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2:11.
10. In the New Testament accounts of Christ's birth there is no mention of any animals. However, Isaiah 1:3 could be a prophecy talking about at least a donkey seeing the crib of his Master (God). It could allude to the fact that an ox was there too. If a bunch of shepherds were there, one would assume sheep would have been present. But there is no definite list of animals mentioned in the Bible.
11. The Bible does not say. Nor does it even say that they were inhospitably turned away from an inn. It just says there was not room in the inn at Bethlehem. There may have been many hundreds of people camping in the streets and countryside during the mandatory census. Luke 2:7.
12. Neither Mark or John tell the story of the birth of Christ.

I know some of these answers were tricky. However, I hope they caused you to think. In fact, one of the answers is based on a very educated guess and may not be completely true. I challenge you to figure out which one that is and come up with a better answer.

~ Found at www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com

COMING UP IN JANUARY

WOMEN CONNECTED IN STUDY This class will start on Sunday, January 4th at 9:30 a.m. The study is presented on DVD from Priscilla Shirer's book He Speaks to Me. Priscilla asks the question, "How can I position myself to hear God's voice? He wants us to hear His voice, understand, and obey. The Lord desires to speak to us personally. He wants to meet us where we are despite who we are and reveal His will for our lives." The cost is \$12.00 for the workbook. Please sign up either online at www.lsc.tv or in Connection Central. If you have any questions please talk to either Connie Oslund or LaDonna Slack.

L.S.C.C. Current Elders:

Dan Beauchamp, Keith Beauchamp, Gordon Mielke, Bob McManus, Kevin Palkki,
Herb Parsons, Wayne Price, Dan Ray, Paul Rhodea, Roger Rhodes

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(media@lsc.tv)
Joshua Dickey, Worship Minister
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Brandon Morey, Youth Minister
(ignition@lsc.tv)
Sara Perfetti, Office Manager
(office@lsc.tv)
Lee Yelle, Finance Secretary
(finance@lsc.tv)

Visit Us on the Web!

www.lsc.tv
or on



and



There is NO Women's Event Night in December, but here's the start of 2015!

January 21, 2015 - Your body is a temple - Wellness presentation by Valerie Olson and Cyndi Souza - 1 Corinthians 6:19-20(NIV) "Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies. " Here is Valerie's website <http://wellnesscentremarquette.weebly.com/>



February 18, 2015 - Moms' Night Out (movie night) - enjoy a fun night of entertainment - popcorn and all!

If you have any questions please contact Sarah Schober or women@lsc.tv



IMPORTANT NEWS

It brings me great sadness and yet, excitement, to make this announcement. Sadness comes because we do not like to say goodbye to a good friend and brother in Christ. Excitement comes, because, looking at the Big Picture, God accomplishes His purpose in two places at once!

Josh Dickey, our Worship Minister, is resigning from his role at LSCC to take a similar position at a church in Montana. We are sad to see him go, as he has done such a good job of leading us in worship for so many years, he has such a tender heart for the Lord and His people. He will continue with us through the end of December. Then he plans to pack things up the first week or so in January. I'm sure we could help them load up the truck for their move. Details will be available later.

In the middle of our loss, we still have room to be excited! One reason is that Josh will bless his new church in the same way he has blessed us for the last several years. God will continue to bless His Kingdom through the Dickey's. A second reason is that God has a new someone else in mind for us. From a kingdom perspective, God is accomplishing something in two places at once.

We do not yet know exactly what God has in mind for us, but we can rest assured God has great plans for us. Our LSCC leadership is seeking God on this and many other matters. God will, in His own timing, reveal to us where He is leading. Your church leadership wants to be right in step with God as He reveals His plans. God has great plans for LSCC! He has great plans for our future! We will walk by faith to be part of His great plan.

The last Sunday in December, our Elders will pray over Josh and Jen as they prepare to begin a new chapter in their ministry. I hope you will be a part of this service to show your appreciation for their time here. I thank God for their ministry here, and I praise God for what He will do through them in their new church.

~ Don