

Christ Lutheran church is a fellowship of Christians, who have accepted God's call to make disciples of all nations. We have committed ourselves to the ministry of worship, witness, teaching, service and fellowship which involves each of us in boldly sharing God's Word with one another.

April 2009



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL MISSOURI SYNOD

## Carrying Your Cross

Easter is quickly approaching, a time we celebrate Jesus' victory over death. We celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord. Often, however, we spend time looking into the empty tomb and forget the words that Jesus spoke. I hope this day brings a smile to your face and joy to your heart, but many see it quite differently. The world celebrates with eggs, chocolate and bunnies. We celebrate with an empty cross and the knowledge that our sins are forgiven. But do we remember the Words or our Lord?

In Matthew, Mark, and Luke Jesus says to his disciples, *"If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it."* Jesus came to this world to free us from the life of sin we are all born into. That sin is offensive to God and God being holy and just must dispense judgment. Jesus was sent to set us free from the consequences of our sin, which is to spend eternity in hell. He freed us so that we can live our lives as God wants us to live them. That means carrying our own cross. If we are truly God's people, we tell others about Jesus. In this world, that often brings on ridicule and in-

sults. That is carrying your cross. If we are truly God's people, we care for others and their needs and let their harsh words roll off our back. Many say it is foolish to help others, after all, what have they ever done for you. That too is carrying your cross. If we are God's people, we want to hear the Words of our Lord and Savior every time they are proclaimed, for they are the sweetest sound we can hear. Our friends are going to the lake, sleeping in, or continuing their party from the night before instead of going to church. We are ridiculed for wasting time and money at church and Bible class. All that is also part of carrying our cross and there is more. That is what we must bear when we claim the name Christian. We are to be different from the world in our words, our actions and our thoughts.

So why would we be that way? Why would we go against the grain; why would we swim upstream, why would we head in a different direction than the majority in this world.? That is where we come

to those last words of Jesus. Jesus said, *"Father forgive them for they know not what they do"* (Luke 24). Do you think Jesus was just looking at those around the cross? NO! He was looking at all mankind; He was looking at you and me. The promise that God made to send a Savior to die for the sins of the world had arrived and was fulfilling the promise fully. If you are one of God's people, on the last day of your life, not the day after or the day before, Jesus will tell you the words He spoke to one of the thieves on the cross beside Him. "Today you will be with me in paradise."

You see when Jesus said from the cross, "It is finished", it was. If you are God's people, you celebrate that fact and you live your lives accordingly. If not, we who are God's people will continue to pray that the Holy Spirit comes into your heart and makes you one of God's people. So to the faithful I say, "Jesus is Risen; He is Risen indeed! Alleluia." But don't forget Jesus came for all; keep praying for those who are not in God's family, for that also is a way you carry your cross. Amen.

*Pastor Dave Owens*

# Church Mouse



**Greetings Christ Courier Readers,** Wednesday night services have been different. Holding trial right there in the sanctuary. Have you gotten anything out of the

testimonies? Matthew sure was changed, wasn't he? He used to take the money and now he's throwing it around like candy. When you have Jesus in your heart, money doesn't seem to be an issue. I really enjoyed hearing from the healed woman. She knew what it was like to look at people's feet all day; I could relate to that. But Jesus made her back straight and you could tell she was a new woman. I felt sort of sorry for Nicodemus. Being a man of high reputation he feared men more than God, at least until after he met Jesus. Then he became a follower and even helped to bury Jesus on that dark Good Friday. The adulteress hid well behind that scarf and the music stand but she got so excited talking about Jesus and His love and forgiveness, well I thought she was going to pull it off and come out of hiding. But I guess a lot of times, even when we know we've been forgiven, we still feel the shame of our past. That is one of the hardest things to do; forgive ourselves. I can't wait to hear from the next two witnesses, Peter and Marv Maodalene. And then how

wrong during vicarage and work on any weaknesses he might have before graduating. How exciting! God bless you, Daniel.

The youth sure have been busy since last month. First the pancake supper; it was sooooo good, but sometimes it is hard to get syrup out of fur. Then I got to run it off when the wee, rowdy ones held a lock-in. The corsages they made for the teachers were beautiful. And the older ones went extreme bowling. Does that mean they did flips in the air while on the approach? Cool! Some of the youths went to Lutherhoma to work cleaning up from the ice storm. Bet they got sore muscles. Ouch! Then, to close up the month, some went to Frontier City. Haven't heard yet how that went. Hope nobody lost their lunch. I hear that can happen at those amusement parks where there are a lot of lunch thieves. Hey that sounds like an occupation for me, lunch security officer. I could catch the bad guys and confiscate the lunches. Oh yeahhhh.

As usual I have been reading this month and I don't know how many times you can read a Bible story and still learn something new by listening to another person's perspective. The author Max Lucado can write about what you think you know, and make you realize you've missed something. I have been reading his book *Facing Your Giants*. Please no comments. The main theme: focus more on God

attitude led me to want to withhold sharing my personal gifts because they weren't good enough. Because of wanting more, I gave nothing. God can multiply our gifts to be everything. Remember the bread and fish? But can He multiply nothing? I learned in math that 0 times anything is 0. Does that apply here too? If you keep dismissing your talent because you're focused on another's, could that talent disappear? It is written "*He replied, 'I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but as for the one who has nothing, even what he has will be taken away.*" Luke 19:26 This Easter season, share what you have, not what you wish you had. Bye for now, gotta go!

*Respectfully Submitted,  
C.M.*

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*Coming to the Altar can alter your life.*

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*When you are weak take your week to God.*

**The Christ Courier is published monthly by Christ Lutheran Church in Mustang, OK. Staff: Susan Anderson, Christ Lutheran Contributors Deadline for the May 2000**

## Story Headline

spring. Lord willing, he will be called by a church for vicarage where he can preach, work on service bulletins, make visits to the shut-ins and hospitalized, go to the ladies luncheons, help with weddings and funerals, and work with the youth groups. I think he wants to start up a singles ministry while on vicarage. He will finally get to enjoy doing what he went to school to learn to

heads, do we focus more on them? Do they haunt us first thing in the morning and even when we try to sleep? Or do we leave them in God's hands? Is not our God more powerful than anything He has created? Is He not more powerful than anything we have created in our minds? Not too long ago I became depressed over the death of a wonderful person who had so much to give. Why

## Inside Story Headline

## Easter Lilies for Sale

Be sure to order a 6 Easter lily(ies) for only \$7.75. Help us adorn the sanctuary for Easter Sunday, April 12.

**He is Risen**

**He is Risen Indeed**

Dear Friends in Christ,

We had a great meeting on March 14th, although many of our friends were ill and not able to attend. Those who were there, had a lively discussion about using passages from the Bible to structure your own prayers.

We sent up prayers for the recovery of everyone who was unable to attend, as well as those requested for families and other people in need.

We would so enjoy seeing new faces at our meetings. They usually run from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. and it's just one Saturday a month.

We are changing our schedule to the last (4th) Saturday of each month, as this will better fit in with Angel Foods schedule.

So please try and mark your calendars for April 25th at 9 a.m. We will be studying "Praying Out Loud". Have you ever felt your mouth dry up, your hands start sweating, or avoided looking around to see if people notice that you don't pray in "the circle"; and of course you don't have to; but wouldn't you sometimes like to ask the Lord to bless someone special to YOU. Come join us, and we'll try to help.

Remember, April 25th at 9 a.m. Love, laughter, fellowship and good food.

From your friend in Christ, God's Blessings, Pam Means.

## Angel Food Order Dates

**April**

Wednesday,  
April 8,  
5-6 p.m.

Friday,  
April 10,  
11:30 – 12:30.,  
5-6 p.m.

Saturday,  
April 11  
11:30 a.m. –  
12:30 p.m.

### **Distribution**

**Date:**

Saturday,  
April 18,  
9 – 10:30 a.m.

## Fellowship Fun

At the last Fellowship committee meeting, it was decided that the committee would like to start hosting monthly potlucks on a trial basis. Potlucks will be planned in conjunction with special events and voter's meeting. If there is neither in a month, it will be a scheduled Sunday, yet to be determined. For the next few months, the following potlucks will be:

**May 17 (Voter's meeting)**

**June 21 (Father's Day)**

**July 12 (Kickoff to VBS)**

**August 16 (Voter's meeting)**

If you enjoy planning fun events, decorating and getting things ready for potluck, we could use you on our committee. Please join us at the next Fellowship committee meeting scheduled for Monday, May 11 at 7 p.m.

*Blessings,  
Susan Anderson  
Fellowship chair*

## Story Headline

## Inside Story Headline

### A LOVING NOTE FROM THE COGHILLS

God calls us to lift one another in prayer and encourage one another. Only by His grace and mercy and through all the prayers lifted up to Him on our behalf, do we still have a walking miracle of Jerry Coghill, as He has answered each of our prayers. Along this Difficult path since Jerry's wreck, I was often reminded to 'be still and know that I am God and I will never leave you or forsake you.' We would have not made it to this point of recovery without each and every one of you and the prayers and encouragement that were all shown through your Christian love and friendship. Words cannot express the gratitude we have for not only the prayers but also meals that nourished us and kept us going through all the days of hospitalization. The cards were so appreciated as each day I was reminded of the concern and prayers that continued on our behalf. Thank you again for all the prayers, cards, meals and visits which truly showed us the love of our church family, as you have each shown His love.

God Bless you all.

Jerry Barbara and Tyler Coghill, Diane and Harry Abercrombie.

### Conference Open to Congregation

If you would like to join Pastor Dave and Head Elder Matt Fairchild and their wives at the LCMS District Convention, you may do so on Fri and Sat. April 24 & 25th in Norman. See Pastor or Matt for more details.

### Enrollment Continues for CLS

There are still positions open for the Christ Lutheran School PS 3s and PS 4s preschool classes for the 2009/10 school year. The Kindergarten class is full and a waiting list has been started. PS 3s meet from 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday and Thursday and the PS 4s meet at the same time on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Tuition for PS 3s is \$65 per month and \$85 per month for the PS 4s. Please contact the church office if you would like to enroll your child for this next school year.

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU

At the May Congregational Voter's meeting, elections will be held for the open spots on several church committees. Please review the duties of each board/committee and prayerfully consider if there is a position for you. It's a joy to serve the Lord at CLC!

### Track on Track

March, its first meeting out of respect for its at. Ladies signed up to

lead Bible studies and provide snacks, and details were shared from the recent LWML District Spring Fling held last month in Chickasha.

### Upcoming important dates include:

The 33<sup>rd</sup> Biennial LWML National Convention, June 25-28 in Port., OR

In September...date TBD., there will be a Fall Festival

A Fall Retreat has been scheduled for Oct. 23 and 24 in Anadarko at the Oakride Christian Camp and Retreat Center

The OK Dist. LWML Convention will be in OKC April 16 and 17 in 2010 at the Express Event Center. More details as they come.

Other items discussed included putting the Mite story in the bulletin each time it is ch lady trict

1 even- ing of devotion, short business update and a snack. Remember, we are ALL part of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League by being a Lutheran woman.

# KINDERGARTEN KORNER

The CLS Kindergartners are celebrating the signs of spring. It is getting warmer, the birds are chirping, flowers are blooming and Easter is on its way. We enjoyed having Beach Day, complete with "Octopus" stew, "surfing" and hand-made scuba masks.

In April, we will celebrate the true meaning of Easter...not bunnies, eggs and candy...Jesus! Our Easter celebration will be Thursday, April 9. We will be out of school for Good Friday, on Friday, April 10. During the month of April, we also will talk about the life cycle of plants, frogs and butterflies. We will also talk about the different ways we can take care of our Earth and the cool different dinosaurs God created.

Friday, April 17, we will be going on a field trip to the Mustang library with the preschool. We are really excited about the fun things to come this Spring.

*May God Bless You,  
Mrs. Whitaker*

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## Preschool Post

### Fantastic Fours

April is an exciting month in the Preschool. We will explore the awakening world of spring. Observe the trees, flowers and "bugs". Learn the parts of each and hopefully collect a few examples for comparison.

On Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> the 4's will join the kindergarten class for a trip to the Mustang Library & have lunch at the park. All year we have been learning the parts of a book and how a book is like an open window to the world. Several of the 4's are already reading familiar words.

Our letters this month will be T, U, V, & W. We will start putting things in order and creating our own patterns. We will continue to count everything and review our shapes & colors.

We will celebrate Easter with a party & Easter egg hunt on Wednesday, the 8<sup>th</sup>.

Life comes to us with such wonder. I hope you, too, will experience the newness of life for we are people who worship a risen Savior.

Serving Him,  
Robin Wilkerson, preschool 4's teacher

### Three's Tree

Greetings! We have been having a great time in our class. The students have been tracing their names and are learning about birds.

We have a field trip planned to Tiger Safari in May and are looking forward to seeing some of the things we've been learning about.

We have learned about Jesus and His teachings and are moving on to His greatest gift of all. We have stressed the importance of serving and caring for all of God's creation.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers. We appreciate the love you show for this ministry.

God Bless and have a Blessed Easter.

*In His Service,  
Marion Hodge preschool 3's teacher*

## When I say, "I am a Christian"...

When I say ... "I am a Christian", I'm not shouting, "I am saved!" I'm whispering that I get lost! That is why I chose His Way.

When I say ..., "I am a Christian", I don't speak of this with human pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need God to be my guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian", I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and pray for strength to carry on.

When I say..., "I am a Christian", I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting that I have failed and cannot ever pay my sinful debts.

When I say..., "I am a Christian", I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible but God believes I am worthy.

When I say..., "I am a Christian", I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches which is why I seek His name.

When I say..., "I am a Christian", I do not wish to judge. I have no authority. I only know that I'm loved.

Author unknown

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### Musical Extravaganza @ Messiah Lutheran

Pianist Lois Kamman Buesser will be performing at 4 p.m., Sunday,

## Story Headline

Lois Kamman Buesser, a premier pianist, will perform an eclectic concert with musical selections ranging from classical to Broadway and classic rock. She is currently the organist for St. Mark's Church in Basking Ridge, N.J. She has served as Music Director for various musical theater companies, directs a woman's ensemble and performs as accompanist and soloist throughout the country. Buesser is the daughter of Rev. Harold Kamman.

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## Plan Today for Your Family's Milestone Moments

Taking your temperature is an indicator of your physical health. Similarly, taking the "temperature" of your investment plan is an indicator of your financial health. When was the last time you "took the temperature" of your financial plan?

You may know the Lutheran church extension fund (LCEF) as the provider of low-cost building loans to LCMS churches and schools. Did you also know that LCEF provides investment opportunities to individuals and organizations of the LCMS?

Plus, here is one vital, added benefit: While your investments are earning interest for you, they are also providing the funds needed to create a place where ministry can impact lives.

Take a personal responsibility for your family's financial future today. Investing with LCEF may help ensure that you don't "skip a beat" in your financial plan, while helping to provide a place where a child can connect to the love and care of a church family.. See Karen Fairchild, our LCEF rep, if you have any questions.

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### He is Risen

"He is risen"! Three powerful words...summing up the very essence of our Christian faith! As we contemplate our Savior's victory over death for our sake this Easter, let us be mindful of the im-manded us to do.

An creative way to share in that ministry is through an investment in the Church Extension Fund. Your saving dollars will be used to make funds available to congregations across the USA for planting missions and expanding ministry to their community. Meantime, you'll earn attractive interest rates (based on a Bank Rate Monitor index).

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is

## Inside Story Headline

## Ladies Invited to School's Jewelry Party Fundraiser

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With Mother's Day fast approaching, what better time to find a gift than at a Premier Jewelry Party to be held here at Christ Lutheran Church and School.

**Won't you join us for a party on  
Monday, April 13  
7 p.m.**

40 percent of the profits go towards Christ Lutheran School

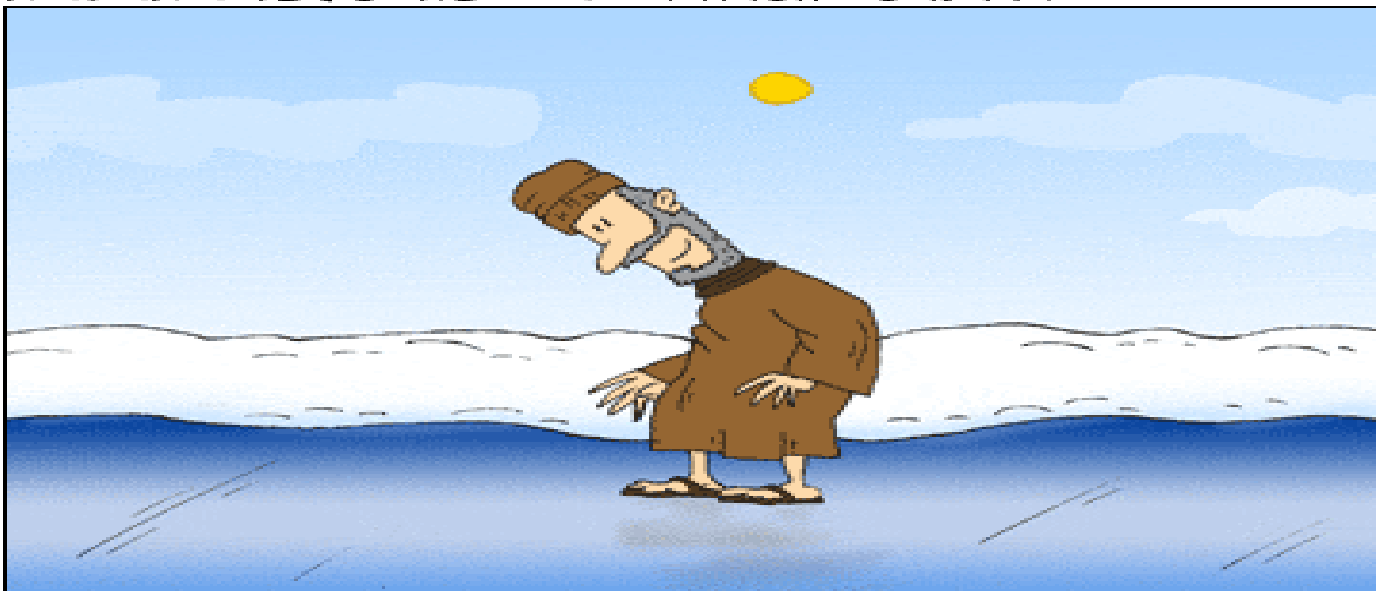
Premier Designs is a direct sales jewelry company founded in 1985 by Joan and Andy Horner in Irving, Texas. They created the company as a way to support ministries here and around the globe, as well as provide a home-based business opportunity established on biblical principles, such as integrity and unselfish service.

Premier Designs Jewelers market quality high fashion jewelry to small groups through Home Shows. Their philosophy is that God created every person with value and believe life's priorities should be God, family, and then career.

"Building this business on Biblical principles has made this business strong as well as enabled us to enrich lives. These principles keep us focused on the things that really matter — serving, caring, hard work, hope and truth. We are determined that our growth should never outpace our ability to serve. Nothing is more important than service — it defined our beginning, has defined our growth, and it will define our future," declares Premier Designs Co-founder Andy Horner.

The party is hosted by CLS Office Admin. Susan Anderson and the CLS School Board.

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Thanks to Ondrej Paska (See Matthew 14:24-33)

01-04-2008

**PETER FINDS HIS FAITH TO BE MUCH  
STRONGER IN THE WINTER**

## ELDER'S NOTES

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Christ Lutheran Church  
Minutes for Elders Meeting:  
02/03/09

Christ Lutheran Church's Board of Elders is a fellowship of Christians who have accepted God's call to make disciples of all nations! We have committed ourselves to a ministry of worship, witness teaching, service, and fellowship, which involves each of us boldly sharing God's word with one another and the community.

In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, Amen!

Present: Carl, Alan, Danny, Matt, Frank, Ed, Darryl, and Pastor.

I. Pastor Opened with a prayer

II. Old Business

A. Matt read the minutes from the January

seconded by Stan. After a vote, the minutes were accepted unanimously.

III. New Business

A. Pastor read his report B. The board discussed issues concerning the security of the church. Pastor told the board the locks were to be changed later in the week. Pastor and some of the elders also talked about a bid received from Security Solutions to install an alarm system with the help of some church members, for a discounted price. This is to be further discussed and voted upon in the upcoming voter's meeting.

C. Pastor spoke to the board about the upcoming visit with the architect. Pastor presented the board with attendance patterns for the past five years (see attached). The elders discussed the need to prepare a 5, 10, and 15 year plan for the

Jesus program or an Apple of His Eye program. It was decided we should consider one of these programs for the 2010 lent season.

E. Pastor told the board he and Susan are preparing to send letters to hose members, who have been absent for a period of at least 6 months.

F. Matt asked the board to be considering names of men who can serve on the board, for the upcoming elections in May.

G. Matt told the board his name was submitted as a delegate for the upcoming district convention in April. An alternate is still being sought.

H. Pastor and Matt asked the board to make sure they are checking the checklist each Sunday morning, concerning the elder's duties.

I. Matt told the board the next meeting will be March 3rd, 2009

r closed the  
th a prayer.

## Story Headline

### CHURCH SAYINGS TO MAKE YOU SMILE

The best vitamin for a Christian is B1  
Try our Sundays. They are better than Baskin Robbins  
Come in and have your faith lifted!  
You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out.  
Can't sleep? Try counting your blessings.  
Try Jesus. If you don't like Him, the devil will always take you back.  
Life is Hard. Afterlife is harder.  
Aspire to inspire before you expire.

**Insi** Where will you be sitting in eternity? Smoking or non-smoking?

# Sunday, July 12 – Friday, July 17

*It'll be here before you know it. Please prayerfully consider helping this year. Don't be surprised if you are asked to help.*

*Thank you  
Sue Wright*

## OKC LUTHERANS

The Lutheran Churches of the Oklahoma City Area are partnering to assure that the broadcast of the **Lutheran Hour** continues. The current station in the OKC area that was carrying the Lutheran hour was broadcasting on a station out of Norman but that station is dropping the broadcast.

The OKC Lutheran churches are going to pool our resources to sponsor the program on AM 800 KQCV-AM.

The broadcasts will cost \$145 dollars each and we would like to ask you to consider personally sponsoring a broadcast.

We will establish a special fund at Messiah to gather the funds from the various churches to be used to pay for the program. If you want to make a donation to sponsor one or more broadcasts or partially support a broadcast, (we will accept any size donation) please send a check to Messiah and indicate "**Lutheran Hour Broadcast**" on the memo line of your

check. Send to: Messiah Lutheran Church, 3600 NW Expressway, OKC OK 73112

Yes, I would be interested in sponsoring a **LUTHERAN HOUR BROADCAST**. **Broadcast cost: \$145.00;**

**Donation of any size also accepted.**

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in honor of the anniversary of \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in celebration of the birthday of \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to sponsor this broadcast in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Note below when you wish to sponsor the Lutheran Hour Broadcast**

**Sunday, \_\_\_\_\_**

**(Month / Day)**

**Please make checks payable to Messiah Lutheran Church. Please mark on the memo line "Lutheran Hour Broadcast"**