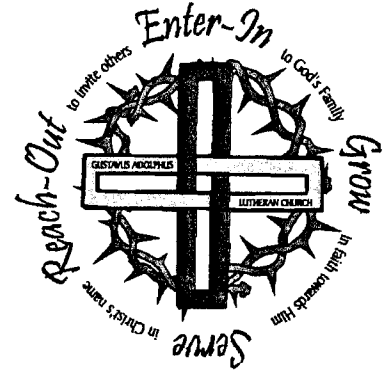


Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church  
640 N. Broadway Ave.  
P.O. Box 545  
Foley, MN 56329  
Office: (320) 968-7107  
Home: (320) 968-8389  
Office: djones@gustavusadolphus.org  
Pastor: twittwer@gustavusadolphus.org

## January 2010



### "Happy New Year!"

When I was growing up I spent a lot of time at the swimming pool. The swimming pool was my community in the summer time. I was at one with all of the other scared and shivering kids waiting for the pool to open up before an early morning swimming lesson. I learned who the bully's were, the ones that threatened to snap you with a towel or inflict other bodily harm.

I also learned who my friends were. They were the ones that you made plans to meet with in the afternoon when the pool had open swim. Your friends were the ones you could laugh with or get caught running outside the pool or horsing around with as you tried to cannon ball each other off the diving boards.

Having friends was where it was at in the swimming pool. Along with friends and water and the constant smell of chlorine however there was another nice ingredient that stands out in my mind. Music!

In 1969 I was eight years old and I remember all of the great songs that were popular that year and played loudly over the public address system. One of them that they used for the swim show that year and everybody loved was "Aquarius" by the 5<sup>th</sup> dimension. That song made you feel like you were on the verge of a new way of life, a new era in human relationships all over the world - the age of *Aquarius*.

I remember discussing that one with a friend. "What do you think that song is about anyway?" I asked my buddy Mark. "I don't know but it sure is cool.", was his reply.

The other song that sticks out in my head is, "Does anybody really know what time it is?" by Chicago. It has a nice story to it along with the trademark "Chicago" sound. It starts out like this, "As I was walking down the street one day. A man came up to me and asked me what the time was that was on my watch, yeah...And I said..."

The rest of the song is really a philosophical question about our lives and the busy things we get ourselves into. Hurry, scurry, get there and wait. Does anybody really know what time it is?

I asked my buddy Mark, "What do you think that song is about?" Mark replied, "Some guy just wants to know what time it is." Mark was about three months older than me so I thought he would know. He must have thought about it a little bit more however because after a short pause he added, "I'll ask my Dad. He's the Athletic Director. He'd know."

The year 2010 is fast approaching if not already here by the time you read this. Is this going to be the dawning of a new age? Will this be the year that everything gets better and we don't have to talk about "Hard Times" anymore?

Perhaps the best way to answer that question is with another question. Does anybody really know what time it is? Does anybody really care?

All I know is that this community in Christ we share is really important to me too. This community is made up of friends – people who don't snap one another with towels. We talk about life and share things. The music we make and listen to isn't bad either because it comes from the source of love himself, our Savior Jesus Christ who is always... now.

Together we hang out at the font of blessing, our baptismal pool and we celebrate what we have, namely a hope based on faith in Jesus Christ of a new age that has already broken into our world and lasts forever. Our community is dripping wet with promise.

*Happy New Year,*

*Pastor Timothy J. Wittwer*



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

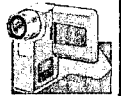
8:00 am Worship  
 9:00 am Coffee / Fellowship  
 9:15 - 10:10 am Sunday School  
 9:20 - 10:05 Choir Practice  
 10:30 am Second Worship Service

**MEETINGS IN JANUARY**

Wednesday 6th - 7:00 pm Women's Bible Study/WELCA  
 7:00 pm Confirmation Guide Huddle  
 Saturday 9th - 9:00 am GA Quilt Group Meets  
 Saturday 16th - 7:00 am GA Men's Bible Study/ Breakfast  
 Tuesday 19th - 7:00 pm Council Meeting  
 Saturday 23rd - 9:00 am GA Quilt Group Meets

**AUDIO VISUAL GROUP**

If you have an interest in helping with the Church sound system and Video recording and other church activities be a part of this new group. We will be involved in running the equipment, possibly be putting services on the church web page and also for the nursing home. If you have an interest or if you would like to donate any Digital video equipment contact .....Doug Brinkman (320-294-5604) or Charlie Dozler (320-968-7907). An organizational meeting will be held af-



**WELCA News and Notes-** Bible Study will resume on January 6th, 2010—with Lesson number three. You can always join in even if you haven't come before. All women are welcome.

Women of the Church

**RECIPES :** We are still looking for your favorite **Soup & Bar Recipes.** If you have some recipes you want in the Recipe Book, please submit them by the end of January. Thank you. Still looking for a name for the cookbook. Any questions contact Marilyn Hovde.

Don't forget to bring your donations for the CROSS Center. **January** will be **Chicken noodle Soup & Kleenex.** **Thank you** to all who have been generously filling up the shipping cart for those in need.

**Possible 2012 Sabbatical for Pastor Wittwer**

The GA council has asked that the congregation vote at the 2010 annual meeting on the possibility of adding the benefit of a three month Sabbatical for Pastor Timothy Wittwer during the summer of 2012.

The reasons for asking for a Sabbatical are:

1. Professional renewal. This will be a midpoint in my career, 18 years in the ministry, time to renew and refresh myself for 18 more.
2. Family renewal. The pace of clergy life is hard on family relationships and marital relationships. Time for rebuilding is helpful. This will also be a milestone for Rosalie and I as our youngest children will have graduated from High School.
3. Reimagining Visions and Goals for Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church. I'll have served GA ten years by 2012. What is ahead for the next 10 years?
4. Physical Health and Vitality. My MS has not been a stumbling block in my ministry and service to GA. I hope to take time for personal self care so that I may have continued success against the disease.

I hope to split my time between Europe and the United States. Our family would stay with our friends in Augsburg, Germany and visit relatives in Austria. I would continue to learn the German language, visit Wittenberg and Study at the Lutheran Center there, revisit other Lutheran sites and build on the relationship we have with our sister congregation St. Matthaus Lutheran Church in Augsburg.

I would also like to explore some of the health benefits offered through the German system of dealing with MS, their Health Clinics and holistic treatments.

While in the United States we would take time to visit relatives that we haven't seen for some time, reconnect with friends and also prepare our children for their transition to college.

This would also be a time for us to visit area churches where I would be looking for good ideas for worship, intergenerational education and discipleship programs that are working and making a difference in their ministry setting.

This would also be a time for us to visit area churches where I would be looking for good ideas for worship, intergenerational education and discipleship programs that are working and making a difference in their ministry setting.

**What benefits would come to GA for granting this Sabbatical?**

1. A rested and rededicated Pastor who is ready and looking forward to continued service at GA Lutheran Church.
2. A Sabbatical of your own where the congregation can look more closely at their role in the missional goals of ministry here in Foley.
3. Up to \$6,000 of grant money that I would share with GA to cover supply pastors and other ministry needs while I am gone.
4. A new vision for ministry and helpful ideas for intergenerational education and discipleship.

This Sabbatical would hinge upon a grant from the Louisville Institute of \$15,000. If the congregation doesn't approve the request for a Sabbatical then the grant will not be applied for. So too, if the grant is not funded then the Sabbatical will be canceled.

A more detailed presentation of the Sabbatical will be offered at the Annual meeting of Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church before the vote is taken.



## CHURCH LIBRARY NEWS

The House That Love Built is the story of a house and the four women who subsequently live in the house. Carla was building a house with the man she loved, but when he walked out of her life, she held on to the dream of the house. And that is only the beginning for this special place— when Carla moves on, the dream house plays a role in the lives and loves of three other women. This book will be in the fiction section under Bateman.



Through the Fire by Diane Nobel is the book in a series from Guideposts called Mystery and the Minister's Wife. When Kate and Paul Hanlon leave San Antonio to take over the pastorate of Faith Briar Church, they are excited about embracing the small town way of life. But when they arrive in Copper Mill to see their new church in flames and evidence show that the fire was not an accident, Kate sets out to discover who is behind it. *I have really enjoyed the books in this series* which can be read in any order. The books are written by a number of different authors, but surprisingly they flow together. I will be bringing in more books in this series as I find them and finish reading them. They will be filed by the author's last name in our fiction section, but can be identified by the little white are with a little church and Mystery and the Ministers Wife on top of the books spine.



*Happy Reading, Jan Rothanburg*

## Thank You Notes

### GA Church,

A very special thank you Pastor Tim for your hospital visits, prayers, support and lovely memorial plant. We know Ken appreciated you being there for him.

Thank you also for the beautiful service. It really was special.

A big "THANK YOU" to everyone involved in the wonderful meal you provided. Ken would have liked than.

Thank you for being so kind and gracious to our family.

**God Bless, Rita Johnson & Family**



Tack så mycket (thank you very much!) to everyone who helped make the 4th annual Santa Lucia festival a big success.

Whether you simply attended the event or you graciously donated time, talents or treasure, you are appreciated.

By random drawing, and with each eligible nominee given 1 ballot, Jenna Ziwicki was chosen to be our 2009 Santa Lucia. She was excited to be selected and was an absolutely radiant Lucia.

In those early morning hours of December 13th, we seated 128 guests - both from our congregation and the community - and treated them to a beautiful children's choir, homemade pastries, Swedish vocal music, and keyboard & live accordion music.

And who can forget the dance around the Christmas tree? (Which, by the way, isn't just for the kids anymore!)

Joy, Amy Marquard



### Foley Area

## C.A.R.E.

A Living At Home/Block Nurse Program

### Gustavus Adolphus Church,

Thank you for your donation to the C.A.R.E. program. Because of kind, caring and generous people like you we are able to continue providing services for our elders so that they may remain living in their own homes.

Thanks again,

**Janis Brunn, Program Director**

**Also ...** Thank you for your donation from your Thank-giving offering. It is great and wonderful to see how the community steps up and helps others who need a little extra help. Your congregation is awesome.

Thank you, Janis, Program Director

**Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church**

640 N. Broadway Ave.

P.O. 545

Foley, MN 56329

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January 2010

**2009 COUNCILOFFICERS.....**

- ❖ Council President: **Dan Milejczak**
- ❖ Vice President & Worship Comm.: **Robert Oswald**
- ❖ Secretary: **Karl Johnson**
- ❖ Council & Stewardship: **Darin Trigg**
- ❖ Council, Parish Ed., & Worship Comm.: **Brad Hageman**
- ❖ Council & Stewardship: **Phil Grosland**
- ❖ Council, WELCA & Fellowship: **Jodi Henry**
- ❖ Council & Property: **Guy Knutson**
- ❖ Council & Stewardship: **Ray Lindgren**
- ❖ Church Treasurer: **Bob Weisbrich**

**Newsletter Information**

**Deadline.....**

**Monday**

**January 25th**

**For February Newsletter**

**Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church**

**Annual Meeting**

**January 31, 2010**

**Following the first Service.**

**ALL REPORTS are due to the office**

**By January 18th**



**- NOTICE--- NOTICE--- NOTICE---**

Any dishes left from funerals, potlucks and social gathers are going to be located down stairs on the table by the office. Please check if any of these dishes belong to you!

**Praise Singers...**

Thank you to all the Praise Singers for your talents and dedication preparing music for the "Go Tell It!" Cantata. Rehearsals will resume Sunday, January 10, 2010 between services (9:20—10:05 a.m.). Fabulous new music has been selected.

*See you then, Brenda*



**Foley Area**

**C.A.R.E.**

**A Living At Home/Block Nurse Pro-**

**CHILI** in January

**Monday, January 11th**

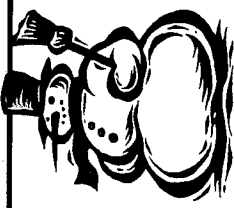


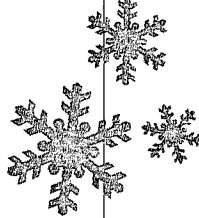
**Serving: 4:00—7:00 p.m.—All you can eat!**

**Home-made Chile, (with all the fixings), Breadsticks, Dessert & Beverage only \$6.00 Held at: St. Paul's Lutheran Church**



# January 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>Gustavus Adolphus Luth. Church</b> 640 N. Broadway Ave. P.O. Box 545 Foley, MN 56329 Rev. Timothy J. Wittwer, Pastor Office: (320) 968-7107</p>	<p>4 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p> <p><i>Luke Kelvington</i></p>	 <p>5 Bible Study 10:00—11:00 pm</p>	 <p>6 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study/WELCA 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p> <p><i>Mary Stauffenecker</i></p>	 <p>7 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 p.m. <i>Karen Wruck Phyllis Frank Marie Hartman Erin Bengston</i></p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2 <i>Cliff Carlson</i></p>
<p>3 One Service 9:00 AM—Folk No Sunday School Special Congregational Mtg. <i>Josef Thompson</i></p>	<p>4 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p> <p><i>Luke Kelvington</i></p>	<p>5 Bible Study 10:00—11:00 pm</p> <p><i>Charles Selander Aston Erickson Paul Springer</i></p>	<p>6 7:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study/WELCA 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p> <p><i>Mary Stauffenecker</i></p>	<p>7 Narcotics Anonymous 7:30 p.m. <i>Karen Wruck Phyllis Frank Marie Hartman Erin Bengston</i></p>	<p>8 <i>Garrett Decker</i></p>	<p>9 9:00 a.m. GA Quilt Group Meets <i>Curtis Meyers Clara Turnquist Carla Turnquist</i></p>
<p>10 Traditional w/Com S.S. Resumes <i>Dwight Stauffenecker</i></p>	<p>11 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p> <p><i>Brad Wruck</i></p>	<p>12 Bible Study 10:00—11:00 pm</p> <p><i>Charles Selander Aston Erickson Paul Springer</i></p>	<p>13 5:30—7:45 p.m. Confirmation Meal/Class Senior High Youth Mtg. 8:00 pm 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE <i>Diane Swendra</i></p>	<p>14 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous <i>Mikaily Hayes</i></p>	<p>15 <i>Wendy Springer</i></p>	<p>16 7:00 a.m. GA Men's Bible Study/Breakfast <i>Lillian Peschl</i></p>
<p>17 Traditional w/Com <i>Kayla Kelsay</i></p>	<p>18 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p>	<p>19 Bible Study 10:00—11:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting <i>Ron Deppa Ben Hageman</i></p>	<p>20 5:30—7:45 p.m. Confirmation Meal/Class 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE <i>Rachel Erickson</i></p>	<p>21 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous <i>Matt Swenson</i></p>	<p>22 <i>Karl Stauffenecker</i></p>	<p>23 9:00 a.m. GA Quilt Group Meets <i>Nita Lindgren</i></p>
<p>24 Service of The Word <i>Kirsten Hilde Bernie Peterson</i></p>	<p>25 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE</p>	<p>26 Bible Study 10:00—11:00 p.m.</p> 	<p>27 Confirmation 5:30—7:45 p.m. Meal/Class Senior High Youth Mtg. 8:00 pm 11:30—12:30 pm U-CARE <i>Amanda Erickson</i></p>	<p>28 7:30 p.m. Narcotics Anonymous <i>Gloria Kelash Jeremy Lyon Paul Daleiden</i></p>	<p>29 <i>Jenna Haaf</i></p>	<p>30 <i>Mallory Hageman</i></p>
<p>31 Bluegrass/Bring a Friend Service Annual Congregational Mtg. <i>Cody Frericks Jessi Deppa Michael Trigg</i></p>			<p><b>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b> 8:00 am Worship 9:00 am Coffee/Fellowship 9:15 - 10:10 am Sunday School 9:20 - 10:05 am Choir Practice 10:30 am Second Worship Service</p>			