

# ERM NEWS

FEBRUARY 2012

Pastor Nancy Jaster (309) 334-2322

email: prnancy@winco.net

Bethany Lutheran Church (309) 334-2144

First Lutheran Church (309) 593-2416

Grace Lutheran Church (309) 629-9911

Swedona Lutheran Church (309) 476-8411

Associate Pastor Christopher Heller (309) 629-9937

email: prchris@frontier.com

email: bethanylc@winco.net

email: flchurchsherrard@frontiernet.net

email: grace.ophiem@gmail.com

email: slchurch@frontiernet.net

**ERM/Swedona Office Hours: Monday - Friday Mornings**

**Staff Meeting Monday mornings @ 10:00am at SS**

**Pr Nancy and Pr Chris Day off is Friday**

**Sunday Morning Service Times:**

**Bethany: 9:00a Grace: 10:45a First: 9:00a Swedona: 10:45a**

## **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 15TH OF EACH MONTH**

Please contact Merigene with any event planned so it can be put on the ERM Master Calendar

### **CANCELLATION PROCEDURES FOR BAD WEATHER**

With winter upon us, we will be experiencing all kinds of weather that may make it necessary for services, events and meetings to be cancelled.

**Council Presidents** will contact the **Pastors** for discussion if there will be a cancellation.

**PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE PASTORS** unless you are the **DESIGNATED PERSON** from your congregation.

If a cancellation is deemed necessary, **WQAD Channel 8** will be notified and it will be listed on television.

**Souper Bowl of Caring @ SS on Sunday, Feb. 5th**

**Golden Gofer Cabin Fever Party** hosted by Swedona on **Feb. 5th** beginning @ 3:00pm

Andover Cluster **Confirmation Lock In** 6:00pm Fri. **Feb. 10th** concluding 8:00pm Sat. **Feb. 11th**

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** hosted by Swedona on Tuesday, **Feb. 21st** serving from 5:00-7:00pm

**Ash Wednesday Services** will be hosted by **SS** and **GO** on **Feb. 22nd** @ 7:00pm

**PALS Lenten Meals & Services Information in this Newsletter**

**31st Annual Rural Ministry Conference**

**March 4th through March 6th**

CARE-SHARE-DARE

Courage in a Caring Community

### **Edwards River Ministry Joint Worship & Annual Meeting**

Sunday, **March 11th** hosted by Swedona

Worship @ 10:00am

Annual Meeting immediately following worship

Potluck Dinner following meeting

**Swedona Lutheran Semi Annual Reports & Planning Meeting** Sunday, **March 25th** after worship

**Maundy Thursday** will be hosted by **BW** and **FS** On **Apr. 5th** @ 7:00pm

**Golden Gofer Potato Bar** hosted by Grace on **April 22nd** beginning @ noon

## **BETHANY**

<b>Lectors</b>	2/5	Mary Stiers
	2/12	Nancy Swanson
	2/19	Chris Peterson
	2/26	Dave Peterson
	3/4	Gene Colburn
<b>Ushers</b>	2/5	Jim & Kelly Luallen
	2/12	Rich & Janice Maher
	2/19	Al & Peg Nordquist
	2/26	Gene & Barb Colburn
	3/4	Bob & Verna Bergstrom
<b>Greeters</b>	2/5	Marion Calmer
	2/12	George & Patrice Wirt
	2/19	Dennis & Patty Colburn
	2/26	Bob & Sandy Snyder
	3/4	Lloyd Carlson
<b>Prayer Asst</b>	2/5	Jeana Fors
	2/12	Harriet Peterson
	2/26	Kaylee Colburn
	3/4	Mary Stiers

### **Funeral Committee for JAN-FEB-MAR**

Betty Swanson	334-2692
Deed Nehls	334-2911
Connie Bolduc	334-2530

## **GRACE**

<b>Altar Guild</b>	Rhonda Miller
<b>Ushers</b>	Greg, Rhonda & Matt Miller
<b>Lectors</b>	2/5 Richard Peterson
	2/12 Ross Olson
	2/19 Merideth Willett
	2/26 Rhea Johnson
<b>Asst. Min.</b>	2/5 Richard Peterson
	2/19 Merideth Willett
<b>Greeters</b>	2/5 Richard Peterson
	2/12 Georgia Smith
	2/19 Merideth Willett
	2/26 Rhea Johnson

## **SWEDONA**

<b>Altar Guild</b>	Cheryl Spengler Connie Craig
<b>Communion Asst.</b>	Lukas Zurcher Dylan Larson
<b>Acolyte</b>	Shelby Bernier
<b>Lectors</b>	2/5 Greg Larson
	2/12 Teri Zurcher
	2/19 Jerry Bryan
	2/22 TBA
	2/26 Lori Brodt
	Ash Wednesday
<b>Greeters</b>	2/5 Ray & Teri Zurcher
	2/12 Bill & Gail Anderson
	2/19 Harmon & Joanne Bowman
	2/22 TBA
	2/26 Leonard & Jean Blick
	Ash Wednesday
<b>Ushers</b>	Jim & Connie Young
<b>Coffee</b>	2/5 #3 (Behn)
	2/12 #4 (Larson)
	2/19 #5 (Cederstrom)
	2/26 #6 (Gingerich)
<b>Council Rep</b>	Sharon Bates

## **FIRST**

<b>Altar Guild</b>	Diane Frew
<b>Presenters</b>	2/5 John & Barb Schmidt
	2/19 Diane Frew

### **PASTORAL VISITATIONS**

We would like to keep in touch with those members who are hospitalized, in nursing homes or home bound. If you would like one of the pastors to visit, please contact them or the church office.

We appreciate knowing when members are **in the hospital**, and would appreciate knowing when members are **released from hospitals**.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Your help and cooperation is needed in helping Pr Nancy and Pr Chris to respond to phone calls and messages. It is best to contact

**Pr Nancy Jaster** at (309) 334-2322  
prnancy@winco.net

**Associate Pr Chris Heller** at (309) 629-9937  
prchris@frontier.com

### **ERM/Swedona Office Hours**

Merigene will be in the SS office Mon - Fri mornings

**Staff Meeting** Monday @ 10:00am at SS

Swedona Office phone number: (309) 476-8411

Email: slchurch@frontiernet.net

Pr Nancy & Pr Chris take Fridays as their 'Day Off'

### **ERM WEBSITE**

The website is available at:

**[www.edwardsriverministry.org](http://www.edwardsriverministry.org)**

**[www.edwardsriverministry.org/newsletters/](http://www.edwardsriverministry.org/newsletters/)**

If you would be willing to view the newsletter on the website rather than to receive a copy in the mail, you may sign up on the website or

contact the church office@ 309-476-8411 or  
slchurch@frontiernet.net

### **ERM Sister/Companion Church**

Emmaus Church

Rev. D. Jayakaran

40 Main Road, Nellikuppam

607 105 Cuddalore District, Tamil Nadus, India

Email: rev\_jayakaran@yahoo.com

### **ERM Churches Sunday Schedules**

#### **Bethany:**

Worship: 9:00am

Fellowship after Worship

Sunday School/Children's Choir: 10:15am

#### **Grace:**

Adult Bible Study: 9:30a

Worship: 10:45a

#### **Swedona:**

Adult Bible Class: 9:00a

Sunday School/Fellowship: 9:30a

Worship: 10:45a

#### **First:**

Worship: 9:00a

### **Foot Clinic**

United Church, Woodhull

Thursday, **February 16th**

1:00-4:00p

Appointments may be made with parish nurses

Bev @ 334-2412 or Lynn @ 334-2672

The nurses do foot soaks and toenail clipping.

The cost is \$27.00 and you need to bring

2 bath towels and one washcloth.

### **Please Support Your Local Food Pantry:**

#### **Alwood Food Pantry**

The Food Pantry is located in the Oxford

Township Hall in Alpha next to the

Oxford Township Fire Dept.

Contact Harriet Peterson @ 334-2276

Al Nordquist @ 334-2264

#### **Sherrard Food Pantry**

517 3rd St., Sherrard, IL

**Hours of Operation:**

Every Tuesday from 2:00p - 4:00p

#### **New Windsor Food Pantry**

**Open the 2nd Friday of each month**

From 12:30p - 2:00p

Please contact:

Cyndi Adams @ 667-2493 for more information

#### **Men's Prayer Breakfasts**

Breakfast is served @ 8:00am

Feb 11 Calvary

Mar 10 First

Apr 14 Bethany

May 12 Swedona

#### **Swedona Sr. Citizen Soup Lunches**

Lunch is served at 12:00pm

Wednesday, Feb. 22nd

Wednesday, Mar. 28th

#### **Golden Gofer Contacts**

Swedona: Leonard & Jean Blick

Grace: Charles Curry

Bethany: Al & Peg Nordquist

First: Myron & Fern Swanson

#### **Golden Gofer Cabin Fever Party**

Sunday, **Feb. 5th** beginning @ 3:00pm

Hosted by Swedona

#### **Golden Gofer Potato Bar**

Sunday, **April 22nd** @ noon

Hosted by Grace

**February Birthdays:**

**01** Kristi VerHeecke **02** Lukas Zurcher, Barb McNeil, Kristi Willett **03** Skip Allison, Brent Henrikson, Janeen Meyer, Connie Sundberg **04** Nancy Kling **05** Mary Anderson, Andrea Bolduc **06** Jacque Perkins **09** Sandy Carlson, Kaylie Smith, Kevin Elliott, Barb Lutrell **10** Matt Drake, Connie Lawson, Millie Nelson, Grace Barman, Jason Brown **12** Douglas Johnson, Greg Nimrick **13** Mary Ann Reid, Chris Lutrell **15** Daniel Beattie, Kristin Anderson, Luanne Krueger **16** Luann Colburn **18** Kenneth Carlson, Ann Watters, Gene Colburn, Erik Lemon **19** Josephine Wells, Willis Luallen, Cathy Lutrell **20** Marty Johnson **21** Kim Goodrich, Maurey Peterson **22** Steven Shumaker **24** Mark Anderson, Don Crandall, Mike Maher **25** Mahlon Johnson **26** Duane McMeekan **27** Sharon Bates **28** Dana Spengler, Laura Hines

**February Wedding Anniversaries:**

**07** Mahlon & Rhea Johnson **12** Bob & Pam Eiker **15** George & Jackie Bloomberg **21** Tex & Barb Lutrell **28** Leonard & Gladys Olson

**February Baptismal Anniversaries:**

**11** Rubie Watson, Connie Lawson, Charlesa Arnold **27** Marybeth Smith

**IN OUR PRAYERS**

**For all those who serve our nation** in this time of peril, for our President and our national leaders, and those who serve in the Armed Forces, especially **Stephen Swanson, Jason Brown, Erik & Lindsey Colburn, Scott Peterson, Michael Matheson, Jake Holman, Alex Frew & Tony Williams** that God may watch over us all and lead us through this time into a time of peace. Remember **Arron Wilson** as he pursues Navy Officers Training in Rhode Island.

**Those with continuing health problems:** Chris Secymore, Susie Tomlinson, Debra Decker, Bill Wagoner, Dean Johnson, Tom Lane, Holly Larson, Carolyn Hitchcock, Chuck & Janice Pappas, Ann Crandall, Jan Pearson, Jean Cooper, Chuck Swanson, Janice Anderson, Jerre Bubon, Mildred Johnson, Derek Willett, Ruth Samuelson, June Molburg, Gary & Helen Hendricks, Charles & Ruth Curry, Chuck & Connie Lawson, Mary Shepherd, Evelyn Nelson, Barb McNeil, Leona Anderson, Terry Ruehmer, Winston Life, Yvonne Grothusen, Greg Frew, Sharon Robinson, Wally Cook, Ken Edwards, Patty Miller, Sue Anthony, Debbie Anderson

**Ill or Hospitalized:** Sandy McDowell, Mary Johnson

**Deaths:** James Carver, Russell Wadhams, Roberta Little, Kenneth Engstrom, Rob Anderson, Ken Wong Strom, Majorie Sipes

**Friends in Faith:** Micah Decker, Matthew Decker, Gregg Swanson, Norm Wirtala, Billie Umbach, Tamie Busse, Jamie Swanson, Katie Daggett, Sharon Milner, Kevin McMeekan, Carol Hanson, Floyd Nolan, Drew Stanard, Donna Bailey, Mary Lindburg, Rebecca Robinson, Rick Davis, Denice Murphy, Allan Perkins, Rose Thompson, Mike Arnold, Ellery Queen, Sue Yarber, Graham Swanson, Harold Martens, Howard Burdick, Vickie Butler

**Southwest Conference Mission Partner:** The ELCA World Hunger Foods Resource Bank: Chota Project in Peru

**Our Companion Synod:** The Arusha Diocese of Tanzania, Bishop Thomas Laiser, Arcot Synod, India - Bishop RD Vijayakumar

**Swedona Sister Congregation:** Lihue Lutheran Church, Lihue, Kauai, HI

**ERM Sister Congregation:** Emmaus Church, India

**Our Faith Fellowship:** The churches and members of the Edwards River Ministry

**SWEDONA:**

**Souper Bowl of Caring: Sunday, Feb. 5th**  
**SS Council Meeting: Thursday, Feb. 9th @ 7:00p**  
**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper** hosted by Swedona on Tuesday, **Feb. 21st** serving from 5:00-7:00pm  
**Ash Wednesday Service** hosted by Swedona on **Feb. 22nd @ 7:00pm**  
**PACK THE HOUSE SUNDAY: March 25th Potluck Dinner following meeting**  
**Semi Annual Reports & Planning Meeting: Sunday, March 25th** immediately following worship

We wish to thank the 'Just Friends' for the delicious fruit and cookies. They are always so thoughtful and caring.  
**Chester & Betty Larson**

**Thank You** to 'Just Friends' for the yummy treats. **Chuck & Carol Swanson**

Thanks so much to Pastor Nancy and Pastor Chris for the visits when Bill was in the hospital. Also, thanks to everyone for the cards, calls and visits. We enjoyed the goodies as I did not have time to bake.  
**Bill & Sharon Wagoner**

**Arron Wilson** would like to hear from his church family. His address is:  
OC Arron James Wilson  
OCS Class NO 08-12C  
Officer Training Command  
291 Kollmeyer St.  
Newport, RI 02841-1644

Swedona extends sympathy to the family and friends of James Carver who passed away Jan. 6th. May they find comfort during this time of sorrow.

**Thank You** to Sheila, Twila, Jim & Connie for taking down the Christmas decorations.

A BIG thank you to 'Just Friends' and anyone who gave us gifts at Christmas.  
**Janice & Chuck Pappas and Susie Tomlinson**

Dear Gail, Thanks for using your sewing talent to help women after surgery for breast cancer. Their eyes light up when they receive the comfort pillow for their arm. Pain after this surgical procedure is often most intense in the underarm area and the pillow is a welcome and lovely way to provide relief. I believe it helps to relieve some of the emotional pain that accompanies this diagnosis too! Thank you so much for taking on this project. We are forever in your debt. Thank You, **Caroline**

**Thank You** to 'Just Friends' for remembering me at Christmas with the plate of cookies. They were delicious. Thanks again, **Russell Carlson**

**BETHANY:**

**BW Council Meeting: Thursday, Feb. 16th @ 8:00p**  
**Hope Unit: Wednesday, Feb. 15th @ 9:00am** Hostess: Harriet Peterson  
**PALS Lenten Meal & Service hosted by Bethany: Wednesday, Feb. 29th**

**Choir Practice:**

Feb. 2nd Choir 7:00p

**BETHANY MEMBERS:**

**Meals on Wheels Needs You**

There is a sign up sheet in the church narthex for the opportunity to help the local 'Meals on Wheels' each week. If you are interested in cooking the meal, or helping out with a salad, dessert or delivering please add your name to the sign up sheet provided. Please sign up for any spots that might be convenient for you. Feel free to change the meal, salad or dessert if you prefer cooking something else. Just note the change on the sheet please! These are suggested menus, but we encourage new ideas if you have something you especially like to make. If you have any questions please speak to **Pam Eiker** or **Barb Elliott**.

### **GRACE:**

February Bulletins & Newsletter Donated by: **Ron & Peggy Pettit**  
**GO Council Meeting:** Sunday, **Feb. 12th** after worship  
**Ash Wednesday Service** hosted by Grace on **Feb. 22nd** @ 7:00pm  
**PALS Lenten Meal & Service hosted by Grace: Wednesday, March 14th**

### **FIRST:**

**FS Council Meeting:** Thursday, **Feb. 9th** @ 7:00pm

The **first Sunday** of each month is '**Food Pantry Sunday**', but you may bring food anytime.

### **Bethany Council Highlights**

1. The property committee has received four bids for the heating and air conditioning project and will distribute information to the congregation at the annual meeting January 29th. A vote on the project will be at a later date.
2. The leaders and youth attending the National Youth Gathering later this year will be continuing fundraising efforts with a spaghetti dinner in mid-March, possibly at Swedona.
3. The first PALS Lenten service will be Feb. 29th at Bethany beginning with a soup supper at 5:30p and worship to follow at 7:00pm.
4. Memorial money from Maurice & Gloria Peterson's funds were used to purchase a set of children's hand bells.

### **Swedona Council Highlights**

**NO COUNCIL MEETING IN JANUARY DUE TO BAD WEATHER**

### **First Council Highlights**

**NO COUNCIL MEETING IN JANUARY DUE TO BAD WEATHER**

### **First Annual Meeting Highlights**

1. A motion was made and seconded that First Lutheran Church **not allow** Civil Union Ceremonies to be celebrated on church property. Pastors of the Edwards River Ministry may perform ceremonies at other locations. Motion carried.
2. Drywall installation was completed as a service project by Carpenter's Union 166. Insulation of the ceiling has been completed. The septic system is installed, as are toilets and lavatories in the restrooms.

### **GOING GREEN**

#### **Before The Green Thing...**

Back then, people took the streetcar or a bus and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their moms into a 24 hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza joint.

## **PALS LENTEN SCHEDULE**

Feb. 22nd	Ash Wednesday	7:00pm	SS & GO
Feb. 29th	PALS Lenten Meal PALS Lenten Service	5:30pm 7:00pm	Bethany Lutheran
Mar. 7th	PALS Lenten Meal PALS Lenten Service	5:30pm 7:00pm	Calvary Lutheran
Mar. 14th	PALS Lenten Meal PALS Lenten Service	5:30pm 7:00pm	Grace Lutheran
Mar. 21st	PALS Lenten Meal PALS Lenten Service	5:30pm 7:00pm	NW Presbyterian
Mar. 28th	PALS Lenten Meal PALS Lenten Service	5:30pm 7:00pm	United Woodhull
Apr. 5th	Maundy Thursday	7:00pm	BW & FS
Apr. 6th	PALS Good Friday	7:00pm	Rio Presbyterian

# February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> <b>6:30p</b> Adult Bible Study @ SS	<b>2</b> <b>7:00p</b> BW Choir	<b>3</b> Pastors Day Off	<b>4</b>
<b>5 5th Epiphany</b> Pr Nancy BW GO Pr Chris FS SS  <b>1:30-3:00p</b> Confirmation A <b>3:00p</b> Golden Gofer Cabin Fever Party @SS	<b>6</b> <b>10:00a</b> Staff Mtg @SS  <b>7:00p</b> ERM Board @ GO	<b>7</b> <b>2:00-4:00p</b> Sherrard Food Pantry	<b>8</b> <b>12:00p</b> Secret Sister Valentine Luncheon @ SS  <b>6:30p</b> Adult Bible Study @ SS	<b>9</b> <b>7:00p</b> SS Council <b>7:00p</b> FS Council	<b>10</b> Pastors Day Off <b>12:30-2:00p</b> NW Food Pantry   <b>Andover Cluster Confirmation Lock In</b>	<b>11</b> <b>8:00a</b> Men's Breakfast @ CN
<b>12 6th Epiphany</b> Pr Nancy BW GO Pr Chris FS SS  <b>12:00p</b> GO Council	<b>13</b> <b>10:00a</b> Staff Mtg @SS	<b>14 Valentine's Day</b> <b>2:00-4:00p</b> Sherrard Food Pantry	<b>15</b> <b>1:00p</b> BW Hope Unit <b>6:30p</b> Adult Bible Study @ SS	<b>16</b> <b>1:00-4:00p</b> Foot Clinic @ United  <b>8:00p</b> BW Council	<b>17</b> Pastors Day Off	<b>18</b>
<b>19 Transfiguration Of Our Lord</b>  Pr Nancy FS SS Pr Chris BW GO  <b>1:30-3:00p</b> Confirmation A	<b>20 President's Day</b> <b>10:00a</b> Staff Mtg @SS	<b>21</b> <b>9:30a</b> SW Pr Meeting  <b>2:00-4:00p</b> Sherrard Food Pantry  <b>5:00-7:00p</b> Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper @ SS	<b>22 Ash Wednesday</b> <b>12:00p</b> Sr. Citizen Soup Lunch @ SS  <b>7:00p</b> Services @ SS & GO	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Pastors Day Off	<b>25</b>
<b>26 1st Lent</b>  Pr Nancy FS SS Pr Chris BW GO	<b>27</b> <b>10:00a</b> Staff Mtg @SS	<b>28</b> <b>2:00-4:00p</b> Sherrard Food Pantry	<b>29</b> <b>5:30p</b> PALS Meal <b>7:00p</b> Lenten Service Hosted by BW			

# **EDWARDS RIVER MINISTRY**

**1491Knoxville Road**

**Lynn Center, Illinois 61262**

**Pastor Nancy Jaster (309) 334-2322**

**Associate Pastor Chris Heller (309) 629-9937**

**ERM Website: [www.edwardsriverministry.org](http://www.edwardsriverministry.org)**

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## **FEBRUARY 2012**

### **ERM Mission Statement**

**As congregations called together by God and freed by God's grace, we bring others to join the family of God. We participate in worship with Word and Sacraments; study God's word; share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through our community and the world; live lives of faith and service; and love and care for others as commanded by God.**