

# The Anchor

## The Federated Church of Green Lake

January 1, 2012

Writing an Anchor article for January of a new year before Christmas Eve is always a bit challenging. I do hope everyone had a peace-filled Christmas season and were able to enjoy the Spirit of Christ's presence in the midst of all the flurry of the holidays. I also hope that we are able to look at this new year with anticipation and hope.

You may or may not be aware that Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> was Virginia Roger's last Sunday in the role of Christian Education Director. We have been very blessed to have Ginny work for us in our CE area and Youth area. She first worked under the guidance of Jeri Higgins, and then took off on her own to help continue what is my personal psalm prayer whenever change takes place – "from strength to strength." Ginny has helped to grow our Sunday School and Youth Program and also took on the role of mentoring our most recent hire to the CE Department, Amanda Oliver. Personnel Committee has met with Amanda and Amanda is ready to also help us move from strength to strength and take over the primary role of CE Director. We are truly blessed to be able to move seamlessly through this transition. And Ginny will continue here in her home church as part of our praise band, on the Sabbatical Committee and as a church member.

We welcome Amanda into her expanded role and look forward to being blessed by her leadership and gifts in the CE area. Amanda is studying course work in theology and she will be our guest preacher on Sunday, January 1<sup>st</sup>. I encourage you all to come and

support her and if you can't be there, please take a moment to listen to her sermon online at [www.greenlakefederated.org](http://www.greenlakefederated.org). It's found under the sermons area.

I pray that you also experience a year of strength in your life. Strength is born from endurance over time. Spiritual strength is born from consistent and enduring time with God. As we begin a new year, it's always a good time to get organized about our spiritual lives. How might you work into your daily life a bit more spiritual potential? How do you connect best with the spirit? I enjoy the website [www.explorefaith.org](http://www.explorefaith.org). On it you can find helps for daily prayers and multi times a day prayers. I enjoy using the divine hour and have it set as a favorite on my computer for the Central Time Zone. Prayer builds spiritual muscle which over time and over the years bring a stability and a hope in all times. I look at my boys as they mature from children to young adults, and both have been athletic. As children, they didn't have a mature body, but now as their bodies are growing, all the physical work is showing on their muscles and strength. Harder physical challenges are done with confidence and strength. The same can be said for our spiritual muscles. Having strength going into the times ahead gives us certainty in uncertain times, gives us cohesiveness when other things seem to be falling apart, and gives us hope when the world stretches its optimism to try and believe.

Recently, the Green Bay Packers sold stock – stock that truly has little value – and yet they sold it under the influence of belief. The recent publicity said, "When you

believe in the Green Bay Packers you believe in the great American story; in hard work and determination; in ordinary people doing extraordinary things; in the possibilities when people pull together; in pride, passion and perseverance; in legendary excellence. Become a shareholder in what you believe." These are very strong statements and might I suggest that they could've/should've been used by the church. Consider, "when you believe in Christ, you believe in the greatest story of all time; in balanced committed work and spiritual determination; in ordinary people being transformed by extraordinary power; in the possibilities when people pull together in faith, hope and love and in eternal wholeness. Become an active participant in what you believe."

This year, let us move from strength to strength. Let us become active participants and shareholders in that which we believe. Let us grow into maturity in Christ and be able with Christ's help to meet whatever comes with joy.

Blessings to you in this New Year, 2012.

Pastor Karen



### Inside this issue:

Liturgists & Ushers

Sunday School

Missions

Group News

Committee News

Member News

### Upcoming Events:

- January 8-4:00 p.m.- Sheltered Reality Concert
- January 15-11:30 a.m.-Annual Meeting
- January 20-22- Urban Immersion Retreat

## Liturgists & Ushers

### Liturgists

January 1	<b>10:30 Service</b> (one service only)	Harley Tretow
January 8	<b>9:00 Service</b>	Shelby Reschke
January 15	<b>9:00 Service</b>	TBA
January 22	<b>9:00 Service</b>	TBA
January 29	<b>9:00 Service</b>	TBA

**Thank you for serving. If you have any questions or are unable to be liturgist, please contact the church office at 294-3440.**

### Ushers

January 1	No Ushers	
January 8	<b>9:00 Service</b> <b>10:30 Service</b>	Joe Pavelec, Nyla Pavelec, Martha Prellwitz, Barb Birmingham Celest King, Jef Hermes
January 15	<b>9:00 Service</b> <b>10:30 Service</b>	John Iselin, Dick Mueller, Joan Mueller, Gayle Frary Mary Jo Johnson, Quinn Johnson, Lucas Johnson
January 22	<b>9:00 Service</b> <b>10:30 Service</b>	Pat Phillips, Marion Sandleback, Donna Bille, John Bille Mark Gramse, Laurie Gramse
January 29	<b>9:00 Service</b> <b>10:30 Service</b>	Judy Gilliam, Ron Boerson, Karen Boerson, Barb Birmingham Celest King, Janet Beuthin

## Sunday School

### The Christmas Present

#### **Sharing the Christmas story in music and rhyme**

We had a blast putting on our Christmas pageant this year! Through upbeat songs and rhyming text, the pageant drew on the central theme of Pastor Karen's December sermons that the best gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love can't be wrapped or bought. The praise band accompanied the pageant, and in addition to singing and dancing the children also played chimes and brought in their own instruments to play on a special rendition of "Away in a Manger". Many thanks to adult co-leaders: **Sally Moore, Mary Moyle, Hugo Rodríguez, Barry Rogers, Sue Ruth, and Marion Sandleback**. Thank you to the energizing and uplifting music from musicians **Bob & Crystal Carew, Marc & Andre Dosogne, Lisa Perkins, Ann Rogers, David Simmons, and Karen Williams**. A special thanks to teen

leaders **Andrew, Annie, Audra, Claire and Grace** for keeping the children (and adult leaders!) organized, and to teens **Kurt and Shannon** for tech support and photography.

**Intergenerational Worship: January 1 during 10:30am service.**

**Sunday School Resumes January 8<sup>th</sup> (for adults and children)** as we continue learning our way through the Bible!

January 8:	Simeon and Anna	(Luke 2:22-40)
January 15:	The Boy at the Temple	(Luke 2:41-52)
January 22:	John the Baptist	(Luke 3:1-18)
January 29:	Jesus Goes to Nazareth	(Luke 4:14-30)
February 5:	The Disciples	(Luke 5:1-11; 8:1-3)

### **Important Dates in Youth Programming:**

(please contact Amanda Oliver at 294.3440 for more information)

- Urban Immersion Retreat: Jan 20-22<sup>nd</sup>, 2012 (payment balance due Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>)
- Souper-Bowl Sock Drive (UIR follow-up): February 5<sup>th</sup> (after 2<sup>nd</sup> service)
- *Let's Be Real: Honest Discussions About Faith and Sexuality* for Junior High; scheduled for mid-January through mid-February, please see Amanda for more details.

### **January Sunday Youth Thing**

**\*DETAILS MAY CHANGE. PLEASE RSVP FOR EVENTS WITH Amanda\***



**Jan 1st – NO SYT ...**

**Happy New Year!!**

**Jan 8<sup>th</sup> – 4pm**

**Sheltered Reality Concert**

The shows feature high energy choreographed drumming played along with broadcast music, with audience participation encouraged. During the course of a show, steps of success are shared, along with a message about caring about others and helping them to be successful, too.

**(Free)**

**Jan 14<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)– 2-4:30pm**

**Sledding Fun**

Bring your toboggan, cause we are hitting the hills. Dress warm & look forward to hot drinks back at the church as we thaw out.

**(Bring sleds, RSVP)**

**Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> – NO SYT ... Urban Immersion Retreat!**

**Jan 29<sup>th</sup>- 12:30-5pm**

**Roller Skating**

Skate your winter blues away! The rink is located in Appleton and the cost is \$6. This includes admission and skate rental, bring extra money for arcade fun and food.

**(\$6 admission & rental + \$ for food & games. RSVP)**



489 Scott Street, P.O. Box 471, Green Lake, WI 54941-0471 • 920-294-3440 • Rev. Karen Gygax Rodriguez, Pastor

14 December 2011

To all the families at The Federated Church of Green Lake,

I am writing to let you know that I am stepping down from the position of Director of Christian Education at The Federated Church of Green Lake beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, so that I can focus on taking the next step towards securing my dream career. I have had so much fun working with all the children and youth in this congregation, and it is my hope and intention to remain an active volunteer with this church for as long as possible.

On a more personal note, I want to thank everyone for giving me the chance to grow and learn in the position of CE Director over the past three years. Thank you so much for your support, advice, and patience! I can't wait to see what 2012 holds for me and the church; thank you for your continued support and prayers as we both journey forward to a new year of growth and experience.

Warmest Regards,

Virginia Rogers

## Missions

*Thank you to all who took time out of their busy schedules to ring bells for the Salvation Army Red Kettle. Your time and thoughtfulness is much appreciated and just another way our church can help out in the community.*

## Group News

### **Saturday Morning Book Group**

The Saturday Morning Book Group will be meeting January 21 at 8:30 am at the home of Joan Irvine, Lac Verde Circle, with Marg Devaney as co-hostess. We will be discussing the book, Unbroken, by Laura Hillenbrand, author of Sea Biscuit. It is the story of Louie Zamperini, a pilot during World War II, who lived through a series of incredible disasters after his bomber went down in the ocean. It is a testament to the resilience of the human mind, body, and spirit. Come join us in the new year for a wonderful discussion, breakfast, and great fellowship! Any questions, call Linda Jonson, 295-6170.

## Committee News

The Federated Church of Green Lake  
Weekly Report  
12/18/2011

	Last <u>Sunday</u>	Budget Last <u>Sunday</u>	Actual Through <u>12/18/2011</u>	Budget <u>12/18/2011</u>
Operating Income	10,287	6,536	198,700	221,965
Missions	476	387	12,482	13,014
Sabbatical Funding	-	19	715	981
Total Income	<u>10,763</u>	<u>6,942</u>	<u>211,897</u>	<u>235,960</u>

## Member News

**Prayer Concerns for:** Tom Marquardt, Nancy Knepfel, Steve Hunt, Betty Kovalaske, Shirley Tretow, Laurie Tricarico, Miriam Ownby, Tony Mayne & Marcie Weiske.

**At home members:** Geri Wagner, Phyllis Bloch, Lulu Kenton, Roy Berndt & Lois Marquart.

**Kindred Hearts:** Eileen Keipe, Vivian Bostelmann & Julia Williams.

**Markesan Resident Home:** Carolyn Pickett, Marie Busse, Elizabeth Gray & Barbara Berndt.

**Fountainview:** Doris Benz & Joan Beuthin.

**Russell Manor:** Thelma Markham.

**Serving in the Military:** Lindsay Herrell.

## **Annual Meeting**

Our church's Annual Meeting will be held on January 15, 2012 beginning with a potluck at 11:30 a.m. The meeting will follow the potluck. Please bring a dish to pass. Plates, silverware and beverages will be furnished.

## **Welcome New Members**

**The following individuals joined our church on November 27 and we feel very blessed to have them!**

### **Cody, Beau, D'Lene & Brian Sandleback**



Brian and D'Lene Sandleback, and their sons Beau and Cody, moved to Green Lake from Dallas, Texas in 2006. Our lives revolve around sports and Boy Scout activities. We enjoy outdoor activities, especially canoeing, kayaking and hiking, and love spending time with family and friends.

### ***UPCOMING EVENTS-MARK YOUR CALENDAR!***

\*Jan. 8            Sheltered Reality Concert

\*Jan. 20-22      Urban Immersion Retreat

\*New

# January

- 1 One Service Only**  
10:30 a.m. Worship Service
- 1 No Sunday School**
- 1 No Sunday Youth Thing**
- 2 Pastor's Day Off**
- 2 Liberty Counseling-Char Groves**  
Library  
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. (by appt. only)
- 3 Pastor's Bible Study**  
10:30 a.m.
- 3 Staff Meeting**  
12:00 p.m.
- 3 Diaconate Meeting**  
6:30 p.m.
- 4 Bulletin Deadline**  
12:00 p.m.
- 4 Prayers & Squares**  
4:00-7:00 p.m.
- 4 AA**  
5:30 p.m.
- 4 Confirmation/Leadership**  
6:30 p.m.
- 4 Youth Bible Study**  
7:00 p.m.
- 4 Adult Choir**  
7:00 p.m.
- 7 Prayers & Squares**  
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- 8 Mission Board Meeting**  
8:00 a.m.
- 8 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.
- 8 Endowment Committee Meeting**  
10:00 a.m.
- 8 Adult Sunday School**  
10:15 a.m.
- 8 Worship Service**  
10:30 a.m.
- 8 Sunday School**  
10:30 a.m.
- 8 Financial Stewards Meeting**  
11:30 a.m.
- 8 Sheltered Reality Concert**  
4:00 p.m.
- 9 Pastor's Day Off**
- 9 Liberty Counseling-Char Groves**  
Library  
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. (by appt. only)
- 9 Busy Women's Bible Study**  
6:00 p.m.
- 10 Pastor's Bible Study**  
10:30 a.m.
- 10 Staff Meeting**  
12:00 p.m.
- 10 Property Stewards Meeting**  
5:00 p.m.
- 11 Bulletin Deadline**  
12:00 p.m.
- 11 Prayers & Squares**  
4:00-7:00 p.m.
- 11 AA**  
5:30 p.m.
- 11 Confirmation/Leadership**  
6:30 p.m.
- 11 Youth Bible Study**  
7:00 p.m.
- 11 Adult Choir**  
7:00 p.m.

- 12 United Methodist Green Lake Circuit Meeting**  
1:00-2:30 p.m.
- 15 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.
- 15 Adult Sunday School**  
10:15 a.m.
- 15 Worship Service**  
10:30 a.m.
- 15 Sunday School**  
10:30 a.m.
- 15 Annual Meeting**  
11:30 a.m.
- 15 Sunday Youth Thing (see bulletin)**
- 16 Pastor's Day Off**
- 16 ANCHOR DEADLINE**
- 16 Prayers & Squares**  
10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- 16 Liberty Counseling-Char Groves Library**  
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. (by appt. only)
- 17 Pastor's Bible Study**  
10:30 a.m.
- 17 Staff Meeting**  
12:00 p.m.
- 18 Bulletin Deadline**  
12:00 p.m.
- 18 Prayers & Squares**  
4:00-7:00 p.m.
- 18 AA**  
5:30 p.m.
- 18 Adult Choir**  
7:00 p.m.
- 18 No Confirmation/Leadership**
- 18 No Youth Bible Study**
- 20 Urban Immersion Retreat**
- 21 Urban Immersion Retreat**
- 21 Saturday Morning Book Group**  
Joan Irvine's  
8:30 a.m.
- 22 Urban Immersion Retreat**
- 22 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.
- 22 Adult Sunday School**  
10:15 a.m.
- 22 Worship Service**  
10:30 a.m.
- 22 Sunday School**  
10:30 a.m.
- 22 No Sunday Youth Thing**
- 23 Pastor's Day Off**
- 23 Liberty Counseling-Char Groves Library**  
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. (by appt. only)
- 23 Busy Women's Bible Study**  
6:00 p.m.
- 24 Pastor's Bible Study**  
10:30 a.m.
- 24 Staff Meeting**  
12:00 p.m.
- 25 Bulletin Deadline**  
12:00 p.m.
- 25 Prayers & Squares**  
4:00-7:00 p.m.
- 25 AA**  
5:30 p.m.
- 25 Confirmation/Leadership**  
6:30 p.m.
- 25 Youth Bible Study**  
7:00 p.m.
- 25 Adult Choir**  
7:00 p.m.

- 29 Worship Service**  
9:00 a.m.
- 29 Adult Sunday School**  
10:15 a.m.
- 29 Worship Service**  
10:30 a.m.
- 29 Sunday School**  
10:30 a.m.
- 29 Sunday Youth Thing (see bulletin)**
- 30 Pastor's Day Off**
- 30 Liberty Counseling-Char Groves**  
Library  
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
- 31 Pastor's Bible Study**  
10:30 a.m.
- 31 Staff Meeting**  
12:00 p.m.



**JANUARY 2012**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				