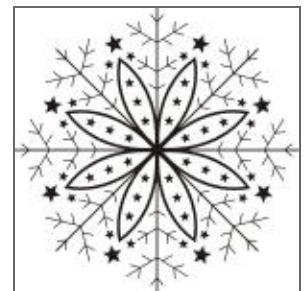




The Season of Epiphany

The story of the magis' visit to the Christ child leads us into the green growing time of the Season after the Epiphany. Words guide us on the path of this season – words of affirmation, call and response, spirit-filled words spoken with authority, and the words and work of Jesus proclaimed throughout Galilee. Here are the lectionary readings, with the focus scripture in bold, that will be used in worship and Sunday school this season.

- January 22, 2012** **Theme: Moving Forward**
Mark 1:14–20, Jonah 3:1–5, 10; Psalm 62:5–12, 1 Corinthians 7:29–31
- January 29, 2012** **Theme: With Authority**
Mark 1:21–28, Deuteronomy 18:15–20, Psalm 111, 1 Corinthians 8:1–13
- February 5, 2012** **Theme: Sustaining Ministry**
Mark 1:29–39, Isaiah 40:21–31, Psalm 147:1–11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16–23
- February 12, 2012** **Theme: Healing Presence**
Mark 1:40–45, 2 Kings 5:1–14, Psalm 30, 1 Corinthians 9:24–27
- February 19, 2012** **Theme: Thin Places**
Mark 9:2–9, 2 Kings 2:1–2, Psalm 50:1–6, 2 Corinthians 4:3–6



DIRECTORY UPDATE....Paul Harris, our Church Directory coordinator, has received word that our Church Directories should arrive by the end of January. Please watch you email and bulletins to see when and where you can pick up your copy.

Our Congregational Covenant

Our covenant was developed last year, with the guidance of the Rev. Dan Dick, Conference Director of Connectional Ministries. We used John Wesley's Three General Rules as a guide. Do no harm; Do good; Follow the ordinances of God. Through an intentional and thoughtful process, we worked together in naming who we are and how we will live together.

The covenant has been signed by friends and members of our congregation as a tangible way of saying "Yes, these are the behaviors and practices we honor and will practice in this community of faith." The covenant will be in the sanctuary and available for signing during the month of January.

**Divine Savior United
Methodist Church**

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Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9–3 p.m.

Published by Divine Savior United Methodist Church, this newsletter keeps members and friends informed of programs of the church and shares news about the congregation. It is mailed in the middle of each month.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Sunday, February 12, 2012.

Church Staff

Rev. Chris Bethke, Pastor

Rev. Amber Wolover, Christian Ed,
Servant Ministry

April Day, Karen Weatherwax,
Sunday Morning Nursery

Lorraine Pilgrim, Organist

Eileen Porter, Choir Director

Virgil Jurrens, Bookkeeper

Barbara Dick, Newsletter Editor

Terry & Muriel Henderson,
Missionaries



Looking Ahead

Newsletter Deadlines

Sun., Feb. 12, 2012

Sun., Mar. 11, 2012

Mailing Date

Wed., Feb. 15, 2012

Wed., Mar. 14, 2012

We always welcome volunteers willing to help assemble the newsletter on Wednesday mornings (9:00–11:30 a.m.) on the mailing date.



Million Pound Challenge

Once again this year you can participate in the Million Pound Challenge to help raise money for the Second Harvest Food Bank of Southern Wisconsin. Simply go to the website: <http://www.princetonclub.net/mpc/> to register to either lose weight or to exercise. For every pound you lose or hour you exercise, the Princeton Club will donate 10 pounds of food to Second Harvest. When you register, and you get to the line "Would you like to join a team/school?" please check yes and choose Divine Savior UMC from the drop down box. You do not have to be a member of the Princeton Club to participate. Let's see what Divine Savior can do to support each other in getting healthy and in helping feed others.



Sunday School News

Sunday School Is Back in Session!

After a nice holiday break, Sunday school classes are back in session as of January 8th. The children and youth classes have begun their study of the season of Epiphany and are following the lectionary readings used in worship. Meanwhile, the adults have two wonderful class options to attend to extend their learning and growth in faith. Turn over a new leaf this new year . . . join a Sunday school class!

A Tree for Me Update



Through valiant efforts of the Sunday school students and some generous donations, we were able to reach our goal of \$200 to purchase 200 trees to be planted in National Forests to replenish the trees that have been lost due to fire, disasters, or other causes. Thank you to everyone for their support of this Season of Creation mission focus this fall semester!

New Year . . . New Mission Focus for Sunday School

We are excited to announce that the spring semester mission focus for the Sunday school is: **The Seedling Project!** What is that, you ask? It's a twofold mission with double the opportunities for students to get involved. First, all the offering money will be used to purchase grow lights, shelves, pots, soil and other supplies to start seedlings for next summer's Food Pantry Garden. Second, in March, all students will be invited to take part in Seedling Sunday to help plant seeds for bedding plants.



Then each week, classes will take turns caring for the tiny plants until they are strong enough to put in the ground at our Spring Garden Day. What a great way to help young people "**Grow Food for Others!**"

----- Adult Sunday School -----

One More Class---Immigration and Biblical Faith!

Sunday Morning, January 29, 9:40–10:30

Ken Gelhaus, Leader

Garden Room on Lower Level

As the members of this class are discovering, the issue of Immigration and Biblical Faith is a large one . . . too much to squeeze into two sessions, so Ken is offering one more session at the end of January. This session will take place in the Garden Room on the Lower Level (located beneath the multipurpose room) so please watch for signs to guide you to that space.

Unwrapping Our Spiritual Gifts

Sunday Mornings 9:40–10:30

Barbara Dick, Leader

Adult Ed Room on Lower Level

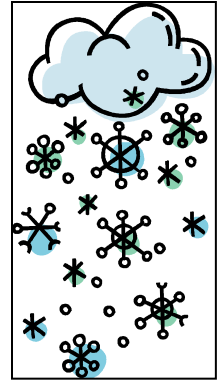
Each Sunday, we gather in the Adult Education classroom downstairs to unwrap one spiritual gift and learn how the gifts work together to help build up the body of Christ. If you don't know what a spiritual gift is, come on down and find out! So far, we have talked about the nature of spiritual gifts and the gifts of Administration, Apostleship, and Compassion, Discernment, Evangelism, Exhortation, Faith, Giving, Healing, Helping, Knowledge, Leadership, Miracles, and Prophecy. In the coming weeks, we will explore Servanthood, Shepherding, Teaching, and Tongues/Interpretation of Tongues.

If you are interested in discovering your spiritual gifts, contact Barbara Dick (barbara.a.dick@gmail.com) or the church office. Come and explore with us!





Lock-In!



“Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow . . .”

- What:** Overnight Lock-in! Fun, Fellowship, Food, Games, and (hopefully) Sledding
- Where:** Divine Savior United Methodist Church!
- Who:** All Divine Savior Youth in grades 6–12 and their friends!
- When:** 6:00 p.m. Friday, January 27 to 11:00 a.m. Saturday, January 28
- Cost:** \$10.00, plus please bring one item for the Lussier Food Pantry. Also bring sleds, tubes, snowboards or whatever you can find to slide around in the snow AND boots, hats, mittens and warm clothes for sledding at Garner Park on Saturday morning.

Register by January 22, 2012. If you have questions about this event, please call or e-mail the church office at: 238-7753 or dsumc@wisconsinumc.org.

..... Youth Calendar

Feb. 5	After church (Sack Lunch)	Souper Bowl/Shopping
Feb. 12	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
Feb. 26	After church (Sack Lunch)	Epic Tour
March 11	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
March 25	Sunday Late Aft/Evening	Grace Shelter
April 15	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship
April 29	After church	Devil’s Lake
May 13	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Youth Fellowship



SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY—February 6th

The Divine Savior youth invite you to do your part to fight hunger in our community by supporting the **Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 6**. They will join young people in churches across the country by holding soup pots to collect donations after both worship services. In its 20 year history, more than \$60 million has been raised for local charities across the country. All of the money collected on Souper Bowl Sunday is donated to a charity selected by the participants. None of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters.

Again this year, donations collected at Divine Savior UMC will be used to purchase food items for the **Lussier Food Pantry** right here in Madison. The need is great, so please support the youth of our church in this effort to “fight hunger in our community” by dropping your change, dollars or checks in the soup pot on February 6. Thank you!



Focus on Hunger

The Divine Savior Mission Team invites you to fight hunger right here in Madison, Wisconsin, by supporting the following ongoing efforts. Together, we can help many, so consider donating your time, food, and money to feed those who are hungry in our community.



Next Food Pantry Focus – Paper Goods

Did you ever reach for a paper towel only to find out that they are all gone? Or how about hunting down another box of tissues or toilet paper? Many of us take having a back-up supply of these common household paper goods for granted, but can you imagine what it would be like to not be able to afford such “luxuries” for your family? Dealing with decisions about how best to use family finances is a dilemma many people in our area have to work through every day. This month, let’s see if we can relieve some of the stress of those decisions by bringing in paper goods for the Lussier Food Pantry. Please place your donations in the grocery cart in the church Narthex and know that every piece of paper you donate will make life a little easier for a needy family.

Divine Savior Serves for Homeless Shelter – Thank You!!

What a wonderful display of the spirit of Christmas! Through your efforts, we were able to serve 150 men a delicious, hot turkey dinner with all the fixings . . . and every last scrap of food was enjoyed! Thank you to everyone who donated food items for the meals, money for turkey, and time cooking, hauling, or serving at the shelter. A special thank you goes to Kathy Schittone for orchestrating the supper and serving. Please mark your calendars for our next opportunity to provide a nice meal for the people who use the downtown shelter---**March 29–30.**



A WORD ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

As we move into the New Year, let’s take a minute to look back on what this congregation has accomplished financially in 2011. Income received was 99% of what was pledged. By carefully watching and controlling expenses, our expenditures were only 95% of what we budgeted, and that includes paying 100% of our apportionments. All of this means we finished the year in the positive! We should congratulate ourselves because we are in a much stronger financial position than just one year ago!

As we move through 2012 we ask you to continue to support Divine Savior with your financial gifts as well as your time and talents. Being good stewards in all of these areas allows us to fulfill our congregational covenant to “Do no harm; Do good; Follow the ordinances of God.”

—Rick and Cindy Churan, Stewardship Coordinators, on behalf of the Finance Committee





Choir Notes: You Are Invited to Our “Soup and Song Sampler”

Have you thought about singing with the Choir, at least occasionally? If you have ever entertained that possibility, LET US ENTERTAIN YOU!

Please join us on Saturday, January 21, from 11 a.m. to noon, in the Sanctuary, for our First Annual **Soup and Song Sampler!!!** We will sing through many of the anthems planned through Pentecost, including a Spiritual, some classic choral pieces, and hymns from other nations! After this musical “appetizer,” we’ll share soup and fixin’s in the Fellowship Hall. Choir members will bring crockpots of their favorite homemade soups, and we will just enjoy being together!

Please come to sample our soups AND our songs! There is no obligation involved; we will not quiz you about your interest in joining us! But come and be filled with the Spirit AND a delicious lunch on a cold winter’s day!

If you would like more information, please contact the Choir Director, Eileen Porter, by e-mail at hporter2@wisc.edu or by phone.

Choir Rehearsal and Anthem Schedule for January and February



All evening rehearsals are held in the Sanctuary. We start to gather around 6:45 to chat and prepare. **We begin rehearsing at 7 p.m. and end promptly at 8 p.m.!** Before we sing our anthems on Sunday mornings, we gather at 8 a.m. in the Multi-purpose Room.

Evening Rehearsals

Wednesday, January 18	Women’s Ensemble Rehearsal (All Women of the Choir)
Wednesday, January 25	Choir Rehearsal (Everyone!)
Wednesdays: February 1, 8, and 15	Choir Rehearsal
Ash Wednesday, February 22	No Choir Rehearsal
Thursday, February 23	Choir Rehearsal
Wednesday, February 29	Choir Rehearsal

Anthems at Both Sunday Services

January 22	<i>I Have Decided to Follow Jesus</i> , Women’s Ensemble
February 12	<i>Surely, It Is God Who Saves Me</i> , Choir and Instrumentalists
February 26	<i>From the Dawning of Creation</i> , Choir and Instrumentalists



United Methodist Women

The organized unit of United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose **PURPOSE** is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.



Mission Giving for 2011

Thank you to everyone who participated in UMW in 2011. Our unit's total expenditures for the year were \$3,008.97 with \$1,345.05 paid to the Capital District UMW (Mission Giving and Mission Giving Plus). The Century Committee donations totaled over \$30,000 to local projects and \$1,000 in college scholarships. There is a full accounting of our income and expenditures for the year posted on the UMW bulletin board in the Narthex. How wonderful to be able to be in mission with so many people and organizations! Thank you to everyone who made this possible!

Welcome 2012 Mission Team

Our Mission Team for 2012 are: Sue Plasterer, President; Carol Randall, Treasurer; Ellen Humke, Secretary; Lois Flee, Mission Coordinator for Spiritual Growth; Mary Weatherwax, Mission Coordinator for Education and Interpretation; Nedra Ebsen, Mission Coordinator for Membership Nurture and Outreach; Margy Murray, Communications Coordinator. Vice-President and Secretary of Program Resources still need to be filled. Our team will be meeting February 12 to plan activities for 2012. If you have missions you might be interested in pursuing, please contact any of the women above. A list with their contact information can be found on the UMW Bulletin Board in the Narthex.

Retreat at Pine Lake March 3–4

Women from Bethany UMW invite us to a weekend retreat at Pine Lake. It will be a time of fellowship, spiritual growth, fun and renewal among the pine trees and near a beautiful lake. The spiritual focus will be "Pathways to Peace." The words of Micah The cost is \$50 for a double occupancy room and meals. The deadline for signing up is Monday, February 20. Registrations will be available on the UMW Bulletin Board on February 5. We will carpool, leaving from Bethany at 10 a.m. on March 3. For more information contact Sue Plasterer at seplast@charter.net.

For your calendar:

February 8: Morning Circle

March 3–4: Retreat at Pine Lake with Bethany and Asbury UMW

March 24: Conference Social Action Day "Human Trafficking", Tomah UMC

April 11–April 21: Anita Henderlight/ Africa Education and Leadership Initiative tours Wisconsin

April 28: Capital District Spiritual Growth Retreat-Monona UMC, 9:00–3:00



Divine Savior United Methodist Church

5702 South Hill Drive
Madison, WI 53705-4444

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:30 & 10:45 a.m.

**Church School and
Adult Christian Education**

9:30 a.m.

Child care available all morning

JANUARY



**Divine Savior
United Methodist Church**