

THE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH OF LEROY

# JANUARY NEWS



## Appreciation Dinner



*The Appreciation Dinner will be held on January 23, 2010. We will be getting together for fellowship at 6:00pm and dinner will be served at 6:30pm. This is a catered event so we need to have an exact count of how many will be attending. If you plan to attend the dinner, please put your name and the number of people attending on the sign-up sheet in the foyer. The last day to sign up is January 10th. Everyone is invited to attend.*

The January calendar will be put in the mailboxes within the next week. I am still working on getting all the dates for the meetings.

### Featured Recipe - Oatmeal Crispies

1 c. shortening	3 c. quick cooking oats
1 c. sugar	1 1/2 c. flour
1 c. packed brown sugar	1 tsp. salt
2 eggs	1 tsp. baking soda
1 tsp. vanilla	1/4 tsp. nutmeg
	1/4 tsp. cinnamon

In a mixing bowl, combine shortening and sugars. add eggs one at a time beating well after each addition. Beat in vanilla. Combine remaining ingredients: gradually add to creamed mixture. Drop by spoonfuls 2" apart on ungreased baking sheets. Flatten with a fork. Bake at 350 for 10-12 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove to wire racks to cool.

### Chairman's Corner

As we close out the old year and ring in the new, I'd like to wish a Happy New Year to all the LeRoy Evangelical Covenant Church family.

First, I'd like to thank Mike Williams for his service as Church Chairman for 2009. Mike has demonstrated his love for God and his dedication to this church through his faithful service; he has earned our appreciation.

Our first meeting for 2010 will be on Thursday, January 28th, at 7:00pm. The board meeting are open to the church family, and you are welcome to attend. Please understand that if sensitive business needs to be addressed, your board may choose to meet in closed session from time to time.

The board encourages you to attend our quarterly meetings scheduled in February, May, and August and our annual meeting in November.

As many of you know, my position with AT&T keeps me in Grand Rapids throughout most of the work week. Whether I am at home or out of town, I want to be available to you as needs arise. You can reach me at home at (231) 768-4046, by cell at (231) 878-9272, or by email at [rschalow@yahoo.com](mailto:rschalow@yahoo.com). I look forward to hearing from you.

At LeRoy Evangelical Covenant Church, we have a long history, a proud heritage, and a great responsibility as ambassadors for Christ in our community. I'm planning to contribute regularly to the Newsletter on topics of interest; if you would like to see a specific topic addressed, please let me know.

I'm excited about the new year and the opportunity to serve each of you as together, we serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

Until next month,

Ron Schalow

### Board Officers for 2010

Chairman - Ron Schalow

Vice Chairman - Dale Hall

Treasurer - Corinne Booth

Secretary - Barb Booth

Vice Secretary - Carol Moyses

Trustees - Ray Fewless,

Gary Fewless, Paul Booth

Deacons - Boyd Snyder,

Carlin Belville, Vince Goodenow,

Rochelle Goodenow, Rhonda Schalow

CE Board - Kristi Stratton,

Rhonda Schalow, Laura Turos

If you have a church related concern, please see the appropriate board member.

New Library Material

- ~Amish Peace - Suzanne Woods Fisher  
Simple wisdom for a complicated world
- ~ Rachel's Secret & Where Grace abides - BJ Hoff
- ~Voices of the faithful - Beth Moore Books 1 & 2
- ~Through the Fire - Diane Noble  
Mystery & the Minister's wife series
- ~Where do I go - Neta Jackson  
Yada Yada - House of hope series
- ~Living with confidence in a chaotic world -  
Dr David Jeremiah
- ~On her own - Wanda Brunstetter
- ~The prodigal - Beverly Lewis

~Historical Collection #1  
Books by Gilbert Morris

- Where Honor Dwells
- Well of Fire
- Chariots in the Smoke
- Witness in Heaven
- Shadow of the Mountains
- The Star for a Light
- The songs of Princes
- The Gathering of
- The Ramparts of Heaven
- The shield of Honor
- The Fields of Glory
- The Sword of Truth
- The Winds of God

CD's

- Guard your Heart, Protect your Home - Adrian Rogers
- Pigs in the Parking Lot - Carter Conlon  
David Wilkerson Ministries

DVD's

- Open Doors - Nigeria World Watch
- It's probably just my thyroid - Anita Renfroe
- Life's greater purpose - Live without limbs
- Verve - Life without limbs



Happy Birthday!

- 1-5 Judy Johnson
- 1-10 Teri Proctor
- 1-14 Emily Booth
- 1-15 Carolyn Fewless
- 1-15 Dorothy Donley
- 1-23 Sonia Williams
- 1-25 Seth Salisbury
- 1-28 Rochelle Goodenow
- 1-29 Kristi Stratton



Happy Anniversary

- 1-10 Ken & Teri Proctor
- 1-22 Tom & Brenda Jolly
- 1-29 Ron & Elaine Stieg
- 1-31 Del & Harriet Mathews

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Christmas Program. You all did an excellent job!

Thank you to Kristi Stratton for directing the program and to Paul Booth for running the sound board and to everyone who helped to furnish the food.

The 2010 schedules for the nursery, communion, sound board, and computer are finished. If you are on the rotation for one of these areas, please check your mailbox for your copy of the schedule.

Thank you for serving!

Once there were three trees on a hill in the woods. They were discussing their hopes and dreams when the first tree said, "Someday I hope to be a great treasure chest. I could be filled with gold, silver and precious gems. I could be decorated with an intricate carving and everyone would see the beauty."

Then the second tree said, "Someday I will be a mighty ship. I will take Kings and Queens across the waters and sail to the corners of the world. People will feel safe in me because of the strength of my hull."

Finally the third tree said, "I want to grow to be the tallest and straightest tree in the forest. People will see me on top of the hill, look up to my branches, and think of the heavens and God and how close to them I am reaching. I will be the greatest tree of all time and people will always remember me."

After a few years of praying that their dreams would come true, a group of woodsmen came upon the trees. When one came to the first tree, he said, "This looks like a strong tree, I think I should be able to sell the wood to a carpenter," and he began cutting it down. The tree was happy, because he knew the carpenter would make him into a treasure chest.

At the second tree the woodsman said, "This looks like a strong tree. I will be able to sell it to the shipyard." the second tree was happy because he knew he was on his way to becoming a mighty ship.

When the woodsman came upon the third tree, the tree was frightened because he knew that if they cut him down his dreams would not come true. One of the men said, "I don't need anything special from my tree, I'll take this one," and he cut it down.

When the first tree arrived at the carpenters, he was made into a feed box for animals. He was then placed in a barn and filled with hay. This was not at all what he had prayed for.

The second tree was cut and made into a small fishing boat. His dreams of being a mighty ship and carrying Kings had come to an end.

The third tree was cut into large pieces, and left alone in the dark.

The years went by, and the trees forgot about their dreams.

Then one day, a man and woman came to the barn. She gave birth and they place the baby in the hay in the feed box that was made from the first tree. The man wished that he could have made a crib for the baby, but this manger would have to do. The tree could feel the importance of this event and knew that it had held the greatest treasure of all time. Years later, a group of men got in the fishing boat made from the second tree. One of them was tired and went to sleep. While they were out on the water, a great storm arose and the tree didn't think it was strong enough to keep the men safe. The men woke the sleeping man, and he stood and said, "Peace" and the storm stopped. At this time, the tree knew that it had carried the King of Kings in its boat.

Finally, someone came and got the third tree. It was carried through the streets as the people mocked the man who was carrying it. When they came to a stop, the man was nailed to the tree and raised in the air to die at the top of a hill. When Sunday came, the tree came to realize that it was strong enough to stand at the top of the hill and be as close to God as was possible, because Jesus had been crucified on it.

The moral of this story is that when things don't seem to be going your way, always know that God has a plan for you. If you place your trust in Him, God will give you great gifts.

Each of the trees got what they wanted, just not in the way they had imagined.