

Vol. 46, No.02

February 2012

INFORMATION ~ DIRECTORY

Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
Sunday Church School Activities 10:00 a.m.

David Lindsey, Minister
John Slothower, Associate Minister
Peggy Swalm, Choir Director
Jay Bruns, Organist
Ashley Anderson, Youth Director
Allison Raney, Youth Choirs Director

Custodian Eben Pieterse
Building Manager Paul Olson
Church Secretary Jo Wold
Church Office (612) 827-6157
Church Fax (612) 827-6158
Church Website www.lynnhurstucc.org
Church E-mail church.office@lynnhurstucc.org
Office hours: Tuesday-Friday 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.



4501 Colfax Avenue South Minneapolis, MN 55419-4736

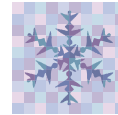
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Lynnhurst
Congregational
United Church of Christ

The Lynnhurst Voice



February 2012

Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Lynnhurst Home Companion
Saturday, February 25th

You are welcome here!

www.lynnhurstucc.org

From The Minister...

Grace and peace to you!

As I sit here in my office writing this note to you, I can see the sun shining, reflecting off the snow on the sanctuary roof. January can be a brutal month for many of us, but I find that the light at this time of year sustains me. As the days lengthen and the sun shines, I am able to face the cold of winter (which smacked us in the face this year after some unseasonal warmth!). February and March can start to drag folks down, but I hope that you are able to find something to sustain you and bring you cheer in the weeks to come!

In that spirit, Lynnhurst is engaged in two major artistic projects to bring you good cheer. First up, we are engaging in a musical series focused on composer Ralph Vaughan Williams. The choir started us off with an anthem on January 29th, and then we will have several hymns that were written or re-written by Williams throughout the month of February. This is the second such series this year; the first was an exploration of the music of famed Congregationalist hymn writer Isaac Watts in November. Williams is my favorite composer, and I hope that you enjoy this series!

Second in order (but not in appreciation!) is the Lynnhurst Home Companion. On Saturday night, February 25th, we will gather in our lounge / art gallery to bring each other tidings of good cheer. There will be songs, skits, and more as we share our talents with one another on this fun night. This event is a great opportunity to invite a friend who's never been to Lynnhurst and might be a little intimidated by the idea of Sunday worship. The Home Companion is a hoot, and I'd love to see you there!

In a few days, we will wrap up the small-group portion of our visioning process. I want to thank all of you who have participated in any capacity in this event. Together, we are listening for God's call for our congregation over the next several years, and I am excited and curious to see the results! Once the small groups have finished, our planning team will compile the results of the visioning process and spend a few months putting together a strategic plan for the next five years of our congregational life. Praise God, who speaks not just to the clergy but to ALL people!

In Christ's peace,
David

P.S. Thanks to all of you for your various Christmas gifts! You brightened my season with your cards, cookies, and contributions. Thank you, thank you!



REVISIONING 2012

We are 100 years old and it is clear our congregation has every intention of making it another 100 years. On Sunday, January 8th approximately 80 adults and 16 youth joined together in our gym for a potluck luncheon to kick off our Revisioning process. It was the first Sunday following the holidays, unseasonably beautiful weather, calendars that said this could be a morning to stay in bed, but no, all of you navigated your way down the staircase with your special foods (yes, even a checkerboard cake) to share. That's commitment!

The small group meetings began immediately following the luncheon and by the time you read this they will be wrapping up. We had 7 different groups meeting on different days and times tackling some very important questions that will shape our future and our children's future. There were 56 group members and 7 facilitators. We talked about what brought us to Lynnhurst and what keeps us here. We talked about our budget and staffing, if we want to grow our congregation and by how much. Then we had conversations about our priorities as a congregation and how best to organize ourselves to keep those priorities and our mission statement alive.

We want to thank everyone who participated in this process. If you were unable to attend for any reason, but would like to have your voice heard, please contact any one of us; we will be happy to set up a time to review the questions with you individually. We especially want to thank the seven facilitators who gave their time to prepare, host and recap these meetings. Thank you MELISSA ANDERSON, GRACE HUIBREGTSE, ROB ALLE N, CHRISTINE WOLD, MARY LYNUM, JOHN BARBOUR AND LEON ERSTAD, you were great!

Now the Revisioning team will begin meeting again to pull together the results from your small group sessions. From these results we will establish a new plan to guide our congregation for the next few years. This is a good thing to do; it keeps us healthy and vital.

The Revisioning team would also like to acknowledge two people in particular for their efforts; SHARON DECKER for her steadfast work in writing and revising the curriculum, and Jo Wold for helping with the formatting of the curriculum and the communication that helped keep us all on the same page.

Please stay tuned for more updates as this process continues.

Rev. David Lindsey, Lori Nicol, Doug Meisner,
Sharon Decker, Mary Kay Willert, Lance Brockman



THE CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST AT 6:30 P.M.

We will not meet as previously discussed on Tuesday, February 7th. We do not want to create a problem with precinct caucuses.

Instead, please plan to meet on Tuesday, February 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the Main Floor Lounge at Lynnhurst. We are trying a new time for this meeting to make it more family friendly. We will provide a light dinner and childcare. If you will be bringing children please let the church office know what ages so we can provide adequate supervision. All committees should be represented either by their chairperson or a designated member of the committee. All "at large" members of the council are asked to attend. All clergy are invited to join as non-voting members. An agenda will be sent prior to the meeting. We will adjourn no later than 8 p.m.

WINTER CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SUNDAY, MARCH 4TH AT 11:15 A.M.

We will have our winter congregational meeting on Sunday, March 4th at 11:15 a.m. in the sanctuary. We will talk about what our committees have been up to and what you can be looking forward to for the rest of the year. We will present an update on our church financials and some initial information on our Revisioning 2012 project. If you have something specific you would like to have addressed during our time together, please bring it to the attention of our Moderator Lori Nicol or our Assistant Moderator DOUG MEISNER. The meeting should not last more than 1 hour and child care will be provided.



NEW MEMBER BIOGRAPHY FOR JEFF AND PAM WOOD

Jeff, Pam and their daughter live with their dog, in the Kingfield neighborhood of Minneapolis. Jeff and Pam both grew up in Southern Illinois. They have been married 19 years and moved to Minneapolis 16 years ago from St. Louis. Their daughter in Kindergarten. She has recently learned to ice skate and is starting to read. She loves school and playing with her stuffed animals. Pam graduated from the University of Minnesota and is an Independent Living Skills Specialist for Courage Center. She enjoys baking and running. Jeff is National Account Manager for Creekridge Capital in Edina. He is an avid runner and cook and watches baseball whenever possible.



WE ARE LOOKING FOR A VCR/DVD PLAYER

Did you get a new Blu-Ray player for Christmas? Looking for someplace to re-purpose your old equipment? The church is in need of a VCR/DVD player that we can leave at the ready for Christian Education, Adult Education programs. If you think you may have something that will work for us, please contact BILL EGBERT or LORI NICOL.



LYNNHURST WEBSITE

If you haven't checked out the Lynnhurst website in a while, take a look! There are a lot of new photos in the Photo Gallery, including photos from the last two Christmas pageants, our Lake Harriet service in August (remember, it WILL get warm again!), youth activities and trips and many more images of Lynnhurst life from the past year. The site also includes information about our church, our mission and upcoming events. Our website is also an important vehicle for increasing Lynnhurst's presence in the community and introducing ourselves to folks who are looking for a church home, so please share our URL with people you know! www.Lynnhurstucc.org.

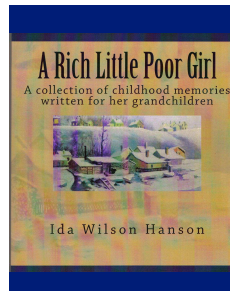


THE SUREFIRE CURE FOR WINTERTIME WOES – THE LYNNHURST HOME COMPANION SHOW



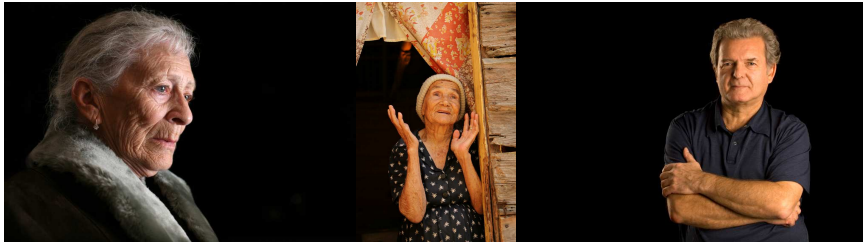
Well, we haven't exactly been taxed by the elements during this oddly subdued winter, but there's still a need for warm, invigorating respite from the chilly grey days of February, and there's no better remedy for what ails ya than the reliably rollicking Lynnhurst Home Companion show. The 26th edition of this venerable home-grown revue takes place at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Lounge on Saturday, February 25th. As always, there'll be a cheerful variety of music (original, traditional and classical), comedy and other entertaining diversions – always a surprise or two. It's a relaxed laughter and applause-filled evening in the cozy confines of Lynnhurst church with friends and family from the congregation and beyond. If you've never bothered to see it in person or are new to Lynnhurst and unaware of the amazing depth of talent lurking within our ranks, we encourage you to make this the year you join us for this distinctly Lynnhurstian experience. Tickets are \$5 for adults, \$3 for children and \$10 for families and are available at the door on the evening of the show. Director STEVE WOLD and unpaid intern JOHN GOODRICH have all the answers or amusing semblance of such if you have any questions about the Home Companion show, past or present. It's a beloved and unique Lynnhurst tradition, brightening the dim spirits of midwinter -- hope to see you and yours there!

A RICH LITTLE POOR GIRL



Carl Hanson has sent us 4 copies of a book entitled, *A Rich Little Poor Girl*, written by his mother, Ida Wilson Hanson. It is a collection of childhood memories she put together for her grandchildren. She grew up at the turn of the century in Minneapolis near the Mississippi River and shares what life was like for her. It is quick read as you step into Minneapolis history of everyday people, with lots of photos. If you are interested in reading this book, contact the church office or NANCY ERSTAD.

FROM YOUR PARISH NURSE, NANCY ERSTAD



Did you know that older adults (over 65) are the fastest growing group of people with alcohol problems? As we age, our bodies usually decrease in body mass and decrease in hydration so alcohol is more intense to our bodies; our liver decreases its efficiency, so the alcohol intensity becomes greater. The same amount of alcohol our bodies could tolerate when younger can become poisonous when older. As we age, it takes less and less alcohol to have a negative effect. The problem compounds if one drinks alcohol and takes prescription pain medication, antidepressants, or has memory problems or unsteady walking. A slightly built 80 year old woman (without the above risks) taking one alcoholic drink a day may become fully intoxicated and can be fully addicted in a matter of months! The recommended limits are for men over 65 one drink a day, and less than that for women. The good news is that people in this age group respond well to learning this information and many successfully either stop drinking altogether or decrease their alcohol consumption. If you know someone that may be inadvertently taking more alcohol than they should, be a good friend or relative and let them gently know they may be decreasing their quality of life. You can contact me for more information.

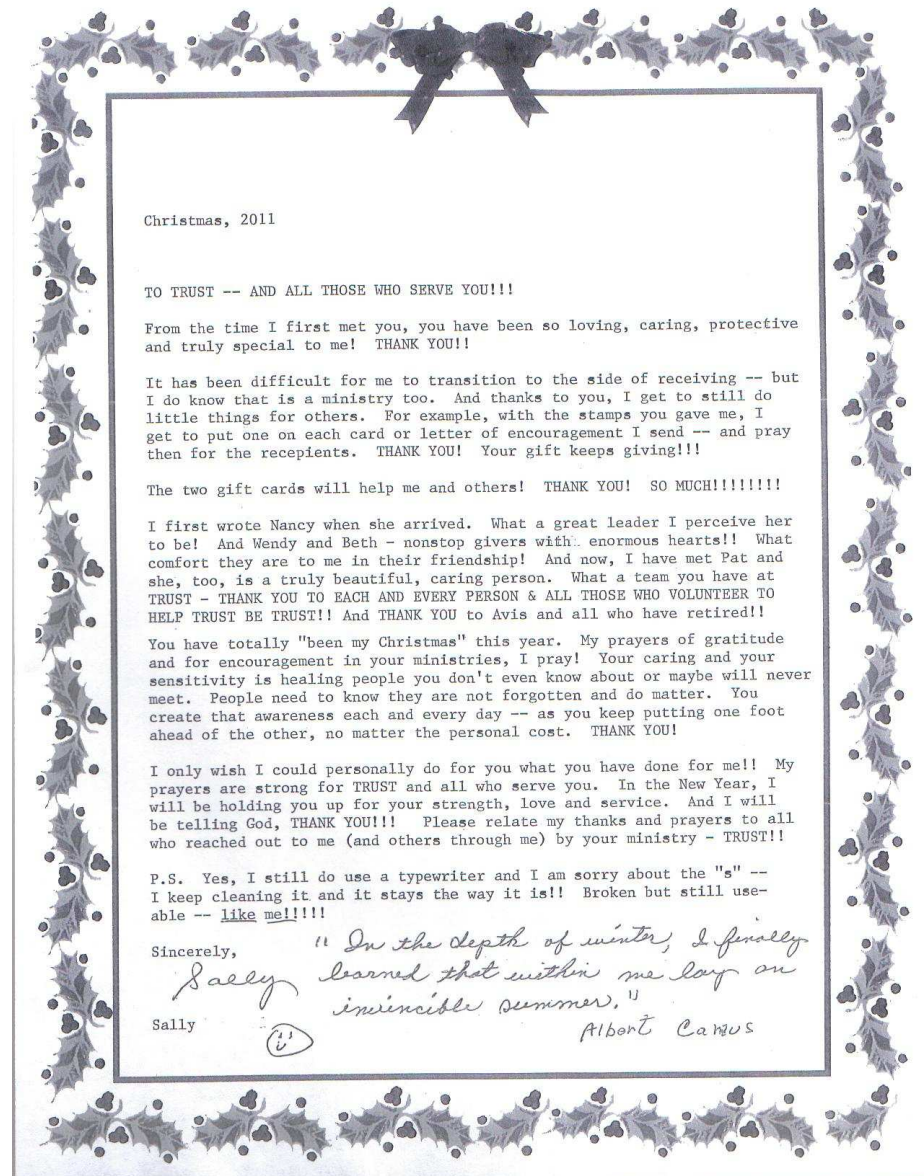
**THE LYNNHURST MUSIC AND ARTS BOARD PRESENTS THE EXHIBIT
CONNECTED BY NATURE BY ARTIST MARY LINGEN**

The Lynnhurst UCC Music and Arts Board is pleased to present an exhibit of paintings by artist Mary Lingen of Backus, MN. Her impressionistic style is captivating, illustrating that one can view a painting from a distance and have one experience, and have a totally different experience when viewing it up close. Representation and abstraction coexist in the same work. People see all sorts of things in her paintings. Some are reminded of stained glass. Others see mosaic, quilts, city streets, or digital technology. Regarding her inspiration, Mary states, "I've found calm walking in the woods and seeing the world around me, observing its changes, looking forward to the way the light looks at certain times. This is what I paint. It is a place that I know well and yet it often seems a strange land to me, as if I've never been there before." Her paintings are executed with thin, flat paint. Brushwork and texture are absent, as they interfere with a clear reading of the shapes, lines, and colors. Her focus is on the complexity within the landscape, and on connecting the parts into a whole.



The exhibit will be on display in the Fellowship Hall Art Gallery from February 5 through March 31, 2012. The gallery is open 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. – 12 noon on Sunday. **Lynnhurst Congregational Church**, 4501 Colfax Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55419 (612) 827-6157 church.office@lynnhurstucc.org

If you wonder whether your work with TRUST has any effect, it has. This is a letter written by a TRUST client





UCC SCHOLARSHIPS - 2012

United Church of Christ Undergraduate Scholarships are available to members of UCC congregations who are under 25 years and are sophomore, junior or senior undergraduate students, in any discipline, attending an accredited 4-year university or college in the United States. The brochure and applications can be downloaded from www.ucc.org/higher-education/scholarships. Awards are modest, about \$500-\$1,500. If you apply and qualify, your chances of receiving a scholarship from this program may be very good, sometimes better than 50 percent. It could pay for your books -- or help you afford travel abroad!

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

The Christian Education Committee invites you to participate in an upcoming opportunity for adult discussion of contemporary issues from a faith-based perspective moderated by LEON ERSTAD. For a six week period, beginning Sunday, February 19th through Sunday, March 25th from 8:45 - 9:30 a.m., please join us for a series of discussions. The topic chosen for week one is "Minnesota's proposed Constitutional Amendment on Marriage: What do we think? What should we do?" It will be a time to think, discuss and explore how our faith influences our responses. While the first topic has been provided, it is our hope that subsequent topics will be suggested by the group. We will meet in the Fireside Room and coffee will be provided.



NEW MUSIC & ARTS BULLETIN BOARD

A new bulletin board is now hanging in the entrance near the church office. It will display events throughout town related to music and arts! If you have anything you would like to add, please put it in the Music and Arts mailbox in the office. JEN PETERSON with questions.

HATS, SCARVES, GLOVES, AND MITTENS DELIVERED

Thank you for your generous donations to our Christmas "mitten tree" this year. A lovely warm array of hats, scarves, gloves and mittens of all sizes were delivered to the International Institute this week for use by refugee families. Thirty people are arriving at the end of January. These donations will help them acclimate to our Minnesota winter. The Mission Board



MISSION BOARD NEWS

For the second year in a row, the Lynnhurst Mission Board has focused on cooperating with the International Institute of Minnesota. Among the many ways the institute helps recent immigrants is to provide home furnishings for refugee families



coming to the metro area. Bedding is one of the most needed items for apartment set up. **This year, the Lynnhurst Mission Board is encouraging members to donate 20 of each of the following: sheets, pillowcases, and blankets or quilts (in good condition.) We'll take all sizes except king.** So far, we've collected 3 quilts, 1 pillow, 1 blanket and 3 sheet sets. If you can help out with this project, please bring bedding supplies to the main office or choir room during January and February. **Please put a note with the donation that says what size the bedding is.** The Lynnhurst Mission Board will deliver them to the International Institute for apartment set up. We have heard that 30 new families are due to arrive at the end of January.

Along with the UCC's drive to eradicate hunger with its recent Mission:1, the Mission Board wanted to set up a fun, intergenerational project that helps to feed the hungry. For that reason, we have a date to help out at **Feed My Starving Children** in Eagan. We have ten slots to fill for the 9-11 a.m. shift on March 3rd. A sign-up poster will be in Fellowship Hall. If you cannot make it, Feed My Starving Children could use a number of supplies including: printing paper, trash bags, AA batteries, hair ties, and paper towels. Please bring the following items to the church and put them in the office with a label stating they are for Feed My Starving Children.

Finally, a big thank you to all who contributed to the Thanksgiving appeal. As you may know, half of the money brought in goes towards the Mission Board and this year that meant \$277.49 went to Urban Homeworks. If you'd like to know more about what Urban Homeworks is about, you can go to www.urbanhomeworks.com or to find out about volunteer opportunities, you can look in the TRUST newsletter.

FROM THE DIACONATE

Since January 1st, the diaconate, together with our worship leaders, has lead us in the following small change to how we begin our worship time together. This change is based on feedback through our worship survey and discussion in the diaconate meetings. A member of the diaconate invites us all to find a seat and listen to the announcement highlights appropriate for that Sunday at about 3-5 minutes before 10:00 a.m., depending on how many announcement highlights we have. If appropriate, a particular announcement highlight might be given by a parishioner. The deacon also invites all to expect more information and announcements during coffee hour. The deacon of the month checks with David about which announcements need highlighting. Any parishioner who would like to highlight an announcement during this time should contact David or an usher that Sunday or the church office prior. Following the announcements the deacon invites us to quietly prepare our minds for worship by listening to the prelude. Our hope is that the prelude will start at 10:00 a.m. and all will find it a useful transition from social time to worship time.

LYNNHURST BOOK CLUB

The next book club meeting will be held at MARY FAULKNER'S home on Thursday, February 9th. The book being read is *All That We Share: a Field Guide to the Commons* by Jay Walljasper. Please come for a delightful evening of humor, snacks, friendship and book discussion. We will begin at 7:00 p.m. and all are welcome! Call if you have questions: CAROLYN PARSONS or JEAN McGUIRE.



FAITH EXPLORATION:

NEW TIME for Faith Exploration: 9-10:30 a.m. (not 8 a.m.) Saturday, February 18th in the Sewing Room. We will be discussing Willa Cather's novel "The Professor's House," although perhaps a better title would be "The Professor's Houses," as the main character has difficulty leaving the old house with its familiar sewing room and study, for the new one. While his family is in Europe, he spends a summer reflecting on his own life and editing his most brilliant student's journal. Potluck breakfast. Coffee provided.



KEEP THINKING THREE

Think Three Sunday continues to be a monthly opportunity to donate to the local food shelf. Given these economic times, the food shelf needs your help now more than ever. On the third Sunday of every month we ask people to bring in three food items or a cash donation to help those in need. Of course you're not limited to three food items; it just becomes an easy way of remembering. So Think Three on February 19th!



SERMONS

If you are interested in listening to the sermon and some of the special music from a Sunday service, go to the church web site, www.Lynnhurstucc.org and click on "Sermons". The web site plays the sermons using Adobe's Flash Player which makes it possible for you to listen to the sermon on your computer, but does not enable downloading the sermon to an I-pod or mp3 player. However, if you have a smart phone or a tablet, you can download the Flash Player and this will enable you to listen to the sermons and the music on your phone or tablet.



COFFEE HOUR

We need Coffee Hour Hosts! Proceeds on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month are given to **Loaves & Fishes** and **Sabathani**, so consider this another opportunity to donate your time to these valuable causes!



FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE

The 2012 sign-up sheet for the flowers on the communion table is posted outside the church office. The beautiful arrangements made by Bachman's cost \$33 and are available to take home after the service. You may designate the flowers in honor of a special person or occasion or in memory of a loved one.



PRAYER LIST

The Diaconate would like to remember those who may be hospitalized, recovering from surgery, have a relative or friend in the military or other circumstance, by creating a prayer list as part of our weekly bulletin. Please contact Jo in the church office by Thursday morning to have your information in the following Sunday bulletin or weekly e-news.



GIVE THE GIFT OF INDEPENDENCE!

Meals-on-Wheels can continue to serve the needs of the community only as long as volunteers are willing to help. You can help by volunteering to deliver meals in your neighborhood once a week or once a month. It only takes about an hour to bring a hot meal and a warm greeting to homebound individuals who currently cannot prepare meals on their own. Please consider donating your lunch hour and give the gift of independence. Deliveries are weekdays from 11:00 a.m. to noon. Contact TRUST Meals on Wheels at 612-822-6040.



LYNNHURST USHERS

When a visitor comes to our Church, the ushers are often the first people that the visitor meets. They give that very critical, welcoming first impression. There is hardly a more important role to be played. If you would be interested in participating as an usher, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the lounge.



KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH PEW POSTCARDS

Pew postcards are available in the pews. The postcard offers an opportunity for congregation members to keep in touch with one another, especially with someone who has been absent from Church due to illness or other circumstance. Feel free to write a note to a Lynnhurst member or friend and place it in the offering plate or drop it off at the Church office. The postcard will be addressed and stamped and mailed from the office. Please take advantage of this wonderful way to "keep in touch".





NOTES FROM THE OFFICE

LYNNHURST WEEKLY E-NEWS

A weekly E-News update is sent out at noon every Thursday. Information to be included is due by 2 p.m. on Wednesday.

SUNDAY BULLETIN

The Sunday Bulletin is printed Thursday afternoon. Information for the bulletin insert is due in the church office by 2 p.m. on Wednesday afternoon.

MARCH NEWSLETTER

Information is due in the church office by 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 16th.

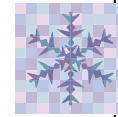
OFFICE HOURS:

Rev. David Lindsey's office hours: Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. and Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Tuesday through Friday.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

to Lynnhurst members and friends celebrating their birthdays in February!



February 2012

- 2 Ely Kloker
- 7 Marnee Good
- 8 Pauline Pepper
- 8 Mary Kay Willert
- 9 Haley Brockman
- 11 Wyatt DeYoung
- 11 Paul Solie
- 12 John Christiansen
- 12 Elizabeth Egbert
- 12 Henrik Strandskov
- 14 Jason Brockman
- 14 Julia Lofness
- 16 Rob Allen
- 16 Linda Hart
- 19 John Parsons Loobeek
- 20 Jeff Kosse
- 20 Nathan Roberts
- 21 John Goodrich
- 21 Luke McKee
- 23 Evva Parsons
- 27 Kitty Hillman Latane
- 27 Jackson Van Dyke




Please call the church office at 612-827-6157 or e-mail church.office@lynnhurstucc.org with any missed birthdays.



February 2012



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 <i>January</i> 11:15a ReVisioning#4	30 7:00p ReVisioning#5	31 11:00a ReVisioning#5 7:00p ReVisioning#5	1 6:30p ReVisioning#5 7:30p Adult Choir 7:30p Confirmation	2 7p ReVisioning#5	3 7p ReVisioning#5	4
5 10a Worship & Church School K-2 Choir Sings in church Youth Choirs & Band (see box) 11:15a ReVisioning#5 11:20a Meeting: Parish Nurse Advisory Board	6	7 9:30a Bible Study	8 7:30p Adult Choir	9 8p Book Club (Faulkner's)	10 9a Prayer Group	11
12 <i>Loaves & Fishes</i> 10a Worship & Church School 3-7 Choir sings in church Youth Choirs & Band (see box) 11:15a Mtg: Trustees Youth lunch/Linden Hills UCC w/ Skiing & Sledding	13	14 9:30a Bible Study 7:30p Music&Arts	15 7:30p Adult Choir 7:30p Confirmation	16 March Newsletter Articles Due	17	18 9a Faith Exploration 12noon Home Companion Dress Rehearsal
19 <i>Think 3 & Sabbathani</i> 10a Worship & Church School Youth Choirs & Band (see box) 11:15a Mtgs: Christian Ed, Diaconate, Mission Board	20	21 9:30a Bible Study 7p Church Council (Childcare & Dinner)	22 <i>Ash Wednesday</i> 6:30p Adult Choir 7:30pm Ash Wednesday Service	23	24 9a Prayer Group	25 7p Lynnhurst Home Companion 
26 <i>First Sunday in Lent</i> 10a Worship & Church School Youth Choirs & Band (see box)	27	28 9:30a Bible Study	29 7:30p Adult Choir 7:30p Confirmation	Youth Choirs & Band Rehearsals 2/5 K-2 Sanctuary at 9:15a 2/19 K-2 9:30-9:55 3-7 11:10-11:40 (w/Jay) 3-7 11:10-11:40 8-12 11:45-12:15 8-12 11:45-12:15 2/12 3-7 Sanctuary at 9:15a 2/26 K-2 9:30-9:55 K-2 9:30-9:55 3-7 11:10-11:40		