

JEWELS



Be faithful, even to the point of death,
and I will give you the crown of life.
-Rev. 2:10

For the members of Crown of Life Lutheran Church

December 2011



Luke 2:7, NIV

Merry Christmas!

This Christmas Season you can help spread the Good News of Jesus. So many people need to hear some Good News. Invite them to join us for our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Worship.

Service times are:

Christmas Eve
4:00 & 7:00 PM

Christmas Day
10:00 AM

Pastor Phill Robbins
Sue Stempffig
Dennis Lilleberg

Rev. Ron Luedemann
Franki Fonck
Byron Blackmore

Vicar Gary Smith
Nancy Garippo
Linda Sawyer



President's Message

December 2011 -- It hardly seems possible, however four years have elapsed since I wrote the first of these reports to you in January 2008. The most memorable of the things that have taken place in that period of time is that our Pastor in 2008 (Rev. Steve Kappler) retired that year, we were served by an Interim Pastor (Rev. Allen Rudow), and now we have a new and younger man serving us as Pastor (Rev. Phill Robbins). Praise the Lord for all of His blessings to us. Our Pastor is one of our many blessings. This congregation has always exhibited an exceptional understanding and practice of Christian stewardship and even as our numbers decrease because of our advancing years, either through death or going back to some colder climate to be near family, we still are maintaining our financial support and Christian involvement for the needs of the Church and the Kingdom of God. Thank you and Praise God.

Our Fall Voters' Meeting saw several items of interest being acted on. We officially voted to extend a Holy Call to Vicar Gary after he has successfully completed his classroom preparation in late spring as required by the Seminary. The order of presentation of our Constitution and Bylaws as well as the Policy Manual was adopted. Since we changed the definition of the duties of the Board for Stewardship at a previous Voters' Meeting, the responsibility of the Endowment Fund was properly re-assigned to the Finance Committee. A resolution suggested by District to allow women to hold the office of President and/or Vice President was defeated. New officers were elected for the new year and a reduced budget was approved.

It has been my privilege to serve as your President. Thank you. Now may the good Lord continue to walk hand in hand with you and bless you and Crown of Life the rest of your days.

Daryl



Merry Christmas

Treasurer's Report

By Dan Mehner, Treasurer

At its November 20 meeting, the Voters adopted the 2012 budget recommended by the Church Council of \$740,000. Our offerings as of the end of October are:

October Receipts	\$ 70,118
Year-to-Date	\$624,813
October Expenses	\$ 67,897
Year-to-Date	\$609,626
October Surplus	\$ 2,221
Surplus YTD	\$ 15,188

2012 Contribution Envelopes

By Lowell Koelling, Financial Secretary

2012 contribution envelopes will be available by December 10 in the Narthex.

Please note that new envelope numbers have been assigned for 2012. The reason for this is that the highest numbered envelope in 2011 was number 625; however, we have only a little over 500 giving units. Over the course of time not all numbers assigned to former members have been assigned to new members. To maintain the current number assigned would have required the Finance Committee to order more than a hundred envelope packets than were actually needed. Reducing our envelope order for 2012 resulted in a savings of approximately \$200.

Because of the numbering change, please give special attention to using an envelope from the appropriate year when we reach the New Year's Eve/New Year's Day time frame. ALL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED AFTER DECEMBER 31 WILL BE RECORDED FOR 2012.

Grief Recover Support Groups

Hurting? We can help!

New Group starting January 4
1:00 PM each Wednesday

For information, call
Nancy Garippo, 623-594-8845

A Moment with Pastor Phill



Before we dive into the Small Catechism, just a note regarding December services. Because of our Cantata celebrations the first weekend, and our Christmas celebrations the last weekend of the month, we will commune at every service the middle two weekends of the month. Remember also that Sunday, Christmas morning, and Sunday, New Year's Day, we will have a single, 10:00 AM service. See you there!

My copy of the Small Catechism is 295 pages long, enough to strike fear into the hearts of Confirmation students everywhere. The irony is that only about 23 of those pages did Dr. Luther intend for students. Luther's Sections 1 and 2 include the Six Chief Parts and Daily Prayers to be taught to Christian families by their fathers; Section 3, the Table of Duties, was directed to bishops, pastors, and preachers and Section 4, Christian Questions with Their Answers, was especially for those preparing to come to communion. It was successor authors (Dietrich, Walther, and Schwan) that created the Explanation of the Small Catechism in the 17th and 19th centuries, and the Synod in 1943 fleshed out the book we know today.

It makes perfect sense that the Catechism begins with the Ten Commandments, the first of the six chief parts. Can you think of a place in scripture that better reveals not only God's desire for us, but His character as well? God Himself prefaces His law with a great gospel reminder:

Exodus 20:1-2 And God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

It is a simple sentence. It seems so obvious – of course that's who He is. But in that sentence is a truth about who He is in relationship to us: God first and always does for us. He never asks anything of us without first granting us His grace and new life, first in freedom from physical slavery in Egypt, and then in freedom from slavery to sin and death and the devil through His Son Jesus. In that simple sentence He makes perfectly plain His majesty, and His plan for His chosen people to live free physically and spiritually. No wonder, then, that He has expectations for how we will honor the relationship He establishes in His actions and His words.

And that's exactly what He calls the verses that follow, "words." They are His words, of course, which gives them weight and depth, but when He delivers the Decalogue, He calls them words, not commandments. It is as if He simply can't understand how we could do anything other with His words than make them a part of our daily lives. No need to call them commandments, then – they are our lives in His words. Sadly, it is our propensity to sin that changes the nature of those words into Commandments from just words...

The Explanation of the Small Catechism asks questions about the commandments, questions that cause us to think about them in greater depth than we otherwise might. What, after all, does God forbid in the first Commandment? God forbids us to have other gods (idolatry). When do people have other gods? Now we're getting down to it... What idols do we have in our lives that interrupt our view of and our relationship with the God that created us? The very first violation of that commandment in the desert informs our desires – that golden calf was a graphic representation of our habit of establishing idols in our lives. Psalm 115:4 says of those who refuse to hear God's words "Their idols are silver and gold." Our idols might be silver and gold, or nice houses, or nice clothes, or bank accounts big enough to wallow in. Our idols might be any of the otherwise benign aspects of Western culture that we inflate in our hearts such that they obscure our view of the one true God. God asks us to balance our addiction to the material culture that surrounds us with our need to love, honor and worship Him. You know people that have other gods before Him. Do we?

And then comes the question, What does God require of us in the First Commandment? The Catechism's answer is another short sentence that deepens and widens as we contemplate it: God requires that we fear, love, and trust in Him above all things. Easy to say. Hard to do.



continued on page 6

Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of Dementia

Dementia is the loss of mental functions that is severe enough to interfere with a person's daily functioning. Dementia is not a disease itself, but rather a group of symptoms that are caused by various diseases or conditions. Symptoms can include changes in personality, mood, behavior, memory and reasoning. In some cases, the dementia can be cured (if the CAUSE IS TREATABLE). In some cases, a person may appear to have dementia, but severe depression can be causing the symptoms. Dementia caused by substance abuse, combinations of prescription medications, hormone changes or vitamin imbalances can be treated. In most cases, however, a true dementia cannot be cured.

Dementia develops when parts of the brain that are involved with learning, memory, decision-making and language are affected by one or more of a variety of infections or diseases. The most common cause of dementia is Alzheimer's disease (causing 50-80% of all dementias), but there are as many as 50 other known causes, most being very rare.

It is very important that your doctor is thorough when making the diagnosis, so as not to miss potentially treatable conditions (the frequency of treatable causes of dementia is believed to be about 20%).

WHAT CAUSES DEMENTIA?

- Diseases that cause degeneration or loss of nerve cells in the brain such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and Huntington's diseases
- Diseases that affect blood vessels, such as stroke, which can cause a disorder known as multi-infarct dementia
- Toxic reactions, like excessive alcohol or drug use
- Nutritional deficiencies, like vitamin B-12 and folate deficiency
- Infections such as AIDS and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (mad cow disease)
- Certain types of hydrocephalus (fluid in the brain) that can result from developmental abnormalities, infections, injury or brain tumors
- Head injury, either a single severe injury or repeated injuries, such as boxers may suffer
- Illnesses such as kidney, liver and lung diseases, which leave toxins in the body or deprive the brain of adequate oxygen

HOW COMMON IS DEMENTIA?

Dementia caused by nervous system disease, especially Alzheimer's disease, is increasing in frequency more than most other types of dementia. Some researchers suspect that 5-8% of people over age 65 have some

form of dementia, and as many as half of all people over 80 years of age develop dementia, usually Alzheimer's disease.

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

What it is... Alzheimer's disease causes problems with a person's memory, thinking and behavior. Initially, a person may forget new information, and later can become confused and irritable. Alzheimer's is believed to be due to steady accumulation in the cerebral cortex of a protein called "beta-amyloid", that may begin decades before signs of memory loss appear.

What's happening in the brain... Dr. Aloisius Alzheimer (who identified the disease in 1906) described abnormal clumps of a protein in the spaces between nerve cells - these are now referred to as amyloid plaques. He also described tangled fibers of another protein called tau (rhymes with "wow") that builds up inside cells - these are now called neurofibrillary tangles. These plaques and tangles, along with the loss of nerve cell connections, are still the primary characteristics of the disease.

How it's diagnosed... Alzheimer's has been "diagnosed" largely by symptoms - changes in a person's function - or by changes in the brain when examined at autopsy. But the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) recently approved use of a PET scan tracer that can image amyloid plaque in a living person. In the future, these scans may be used to observe the development of amyloid because it's a good marker for the pre-symptomatic phase of the disease, when treatment is most effective.

Family history... In general, if you have a first family member (parent or sibling) who has had Alzheimer's, you're 2-3 times more likely to get it yourself if you live to age 85. Mutations in the genes for amyloid precursor protein presenilin-1 and presenilin-2 clearly lead to familial early-onset Alzheimer's disease, which can affect people in their 20's, 30's and 40's. This group constitutes about 1 out of 10,000 people or families with the disease, so it is rare. Because it's a simple model, this early onset version will probably be cured in the near future.

Risk factors for developing Alzheimer's... There's a strong link between serious head injury and developing Alzheimer's. Risk of dementias is increased if you have heart disease, cerebral vascular disease, stroke, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, or diabetes (more research links insulin resistance in the brain to accumulation of amyloid). Heavy drinking and low level of education are also connected to increased risk.

People with high educational and occupational attainment, who are physically fit have more brain "connections" which increases resilience. We know these people get the disease less often rates or later in life, all of which is good!

continued on page 5

Alzheimer's Disease

continued from page 5

Diet? Exercise? ... If you gain a lot of weight or develop diabetes in mid-life, it increases the likelihood that you'll get the disease sooner rather than later, e.g., 65 rather than 85. All of us will benefit from staying active, eating a diet of colorful fruits and veggies, plenty of antioxidants, less red meat, processed foods or sugars, more omega-3 fish oils, maintaining a positive attitude and strong religious ties!

Treatment... No cure yet, but we have two classes of drugs to treat the symptoms of Alzheimer's... cholinesterase inhibitors (Aricept® Exelon®, Razadyne®) and menantine (Namenda®).

For more information, talk with your healthcare provider, and visit:

www.alz.org
www.webmd.com/alzheimers/guide
and
www.mayoclinic.com/health/alzheimers-disease

StephenCare Ministry Training

By Elmer Faser, Team Coordinator

Stephen Ministry training is now well under way at Crown of Life. What a privilege it is for me to be one of the training teachers involved in "equipping" future Stephen Ministers. The class so far has covered modules related to: The Person of the Caregiver, Feelings: Yours, Mine and Ours, The Art of Listening, Process vs. Results in Caregiving and Assertiveness: Relating Gently and Firmly. Through the varied teaching and learning modules I am reminded of Stephen Ministries' core mission: "to equip the saints for the work of ministry for building up the body of Christ until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." (Ephesians 4: 12-13).

Currently, Stephen Ministry is "equipping" Gloria Michaels, Twila Deeren, Joyce Riech, and Gordon Riech for the care ministry at Crown of Life. Please keep these candidates in your prayers as they prepare for the work of the Lord's ministry. In closing I am reminded of a care quote: "Real caring involves walking with people and providing compassion - and leaving the healing to God." Let this goal be a passion for us all as we continue to serve our Lord and Savior.



Hear the Mission

By Jerry McCall, Board for Missions

Go into the world and preach the good news to all creation.

Mark 16:15

This month we want to highlight the response received by our contribution to Kuwaa Mission in Liberia, West Africa.

"We are in receipt of your donation in the amount of \$2,000 to the Clean Water Project the Lord has called us to in Liberia, West Africa. We are extremely grateful to you for your partnership demonstrated in your generous contribution.

I am not sure how much you know about this project but we at Bethany are working with a group of seven Christians - three women and four men - who feel called to help address the deplorable conditions in which the Kuwaa people of Liberia live. Although the Kuwaa have numerous needs, our main concern at present is to provide them with their most essential need, clean water. By providing clean drinking water we will reduce the contraction of waterborne diseases, and that will have a ripple effect.

This ministry at Bethany is called the Kuwaa Mission, named after the tribe among which we work. With the help of Wheat Ridge Ministries, other congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, we were able to provide 100 water filters to 13 of the 16 villages, dig two new wells and renovate three old wells in 2010. Our goal is to dig wells in all 16 villages over the next five to ten years depending on the availability of funds.

Your donation brings us closer to our goal. Thank you. Signed: Lisa Dunk, Kuwaa Mission Volunteer. Please pray for the Kuwaa Mission Volunteers!"

Please pray for COL Mission Board! Praise the Lord!!

Crown of Life Contributes Pastoral Leadership to Redeemer, Wickenburg

Redeemer Lutheran Church wishes to thank the pastors who are members, or former members, of COL: Rev. John Pope, Rev. Ron Luedemann, Rev. Ken Piepenbrink, Rev. Ed Wessling, and Rev. Greg Werdin who have in different ways, chiefly interim, pastorally served Redeemer Lutheran Church congregation. Rev. Ed Wessling recently concluded his 9-month "interim" and was succeeded by the Rev. Ken Piepenbrink for the next 9 months. The Rev. Greg Werdin served as pastor from 2005-2010. COL can be proud of its unusual ability to assist sister congregations through its "clergy reserve!"

Coming Soon!

By Judy McCall, Assimilation Committee

CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER: Don't spend Christmas alone! Once again the COL church family will enjoy Christmas dinner together. If you are all alone, or a couple alone, or you have a small group of family or friends, join the COL family for a great Christmas gathering following the Christmas Day Worship service (approximately 11:15 AM in the Parish Hall).

We will enjoy traditional main dishes of turkey and ham with all the trimmings followed by pie crowned with whipped topping—all you can eat. Sign up at the Information Center. The price is \$10.00 per person and payable at the time you sign up.

DR. PAUL MAIER RETURNS JANUARY 20-22, 2012: Dr. Maier returns for another great presentation. The Friday evening spaghetti dinner begins at 5:00 PM for members and their guests attending. This will be the only free-will offering for the presentations and dinner. Sign ups begin right after Christmas.

DUTTON FAMILY SHOW FEBRUARY 16, 2012: We will be eating dinner at Sour Dough Pizza Restaurant. The restaurant is located next door to the theater and serve pizza and several other Italian dishes. The entrees are very reasonably priced. The cost of dinner is NOT included in the price of the bus and show, which is \$40.00 per person. The Dutton family has their own theater in Branson, MO during the summer and now share a theater with a charter high school in Mesa during the winter. This is a must see!

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT MUSEUM TRIP: March 15, 2012 is the tentative date picked for this trip. We will charter a bus to North Phoenix. This comes with great reviews from those who have been there. Watch for additional information!

Altar Guild Update

By Nada Workman

As the new year approaches we would like to thank all of our Altar Guild members for their dedication during the year. We just could not have done it without all of us working together.

The sad news is we have lost numerous members over the past few months due to health reasons, their spouse's health, and various other reasons. We are in URGENT need of your help for all services. Please consider giving just a small amount of your time. It is not time consuming. Everything is written out and I will work with each of you so that you will be comfortable serving on our Altar Guild.

Please give this your consideration and give me, Nada Workman, a call at 623-546-6342.

May God richly bless you for your service.



A Moment with Pastor Phill

continued from page 3

If we trusted Him, why would we worry about anything? If we feared and loved Him, why would we reject His call upon our hearts to love, honor, and obey our mates, show His kindness to others, put aside jealousies and selfishness – in short, in the face of a fear and love of God, why would we allow our petty desires to become idols in our lives? Knowing we fall short of God's simple word of fear and love, the Catechism lets us gently down, in Question 23:

Who is able to keep this and the other commandments?

The Catechism answers its own question:

No person can keep any or all commandments perfectly; except Jesus Christ. All those who have faith in Him by the power of His Spirit willingly strive to keep these commandments.

And then the Catechism, thankfully, takes to scripture to prove it:

Ecclesiastes 7:20 There is not a righteous man on earth who does what is right and never sins.

1 John 1:8 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

John 14:15 If you Love me, you will obey what I command.

Philippians 2:13 It is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.

Here is what Luther wanted us to memorize about the First Commandment (1529):

You shall have no other gods.

What does this mean? We should fear, love, and trust in God above all things.



Plan Your Month of December

By Nancy Garippo, GriefCare Ministry Coordinator

The Christmas holiday can be difficult for anyone who has lost a loved one, even if the death occurred years ago. This is perfectly normal. We all reminisce about past times, places and those then present. With Christmas rapidly approaching, it is a good time to review some helpful suggestions and I encourage you to plan now for the entire month of December. What activities would you like to include on your calendar? Are there concerts or other holiday activities you would like to attend? If no one has invited you to these events, take the initiative and invite them. Have you completed your holiday shopping? If not, plan to do that quickly especially if anything needs to be sent. Use mail order whenever possible to save energy. Where will you spend Christmas Day? Who do you desire being with? And what special church services will you attend? Mark your calendar, inviting others to attend with you. Are there traditions you would like to repeat or are there some you would like to drop? Plan to do what you want to do. Don't allow others to pressure you into something you don't want to do. You are in charge, and it is important during this highly emotional time that you stay in charge of your desires. These are just a few things to consider as December continues to roll forward. Give some attention now to these items and others that will come to your mind. Don't wait. To eliminate the normal stress of the holidays, plan now. You'll be ever so glad you did.

PrayerCare Ministry News

By Phyllis Cavalieri, PrayerCare Ministry Coordinator

We are entering a special time of year for our congregation. It is a time when we see the effect of prayer in Scripture as we read the Magnificat, the beautiful song of Mary, the mother of Christ. There were so many prayer warriors in Scripture, and we are the recipients of God's response to them.

Thank you to everybody who participates in the ministry by submitting requests to the PrayerCare Ministry. You can be assured these petitions are taken to the Lord for His loving response.

The Prayer Calendar is available for your daily use, and you can pick up a copy at the Information Desk in the Narthex.

The Prayer Chain is there for your requests. Call Erna Kusch (623-584-9546) or Melba Arambarri (623-584-6280).

The Internet address for requests is: www.colchurch.com. Follow the directions at that address and the request will be sent to the group of prayers that evening. These are collected daily.

There are prayer requests cards in the pews on which you can write your request and hand them to an usher or place them in the offering plate. Or, you can call me at 623-975-4787.

God bless all of you, and may our loving Lord grant you the happiest Christmas. Remember God's promises to answer your prayers. "Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever!" Ephesians 3:20-21

Oktoberfest 2011 Review

By Dick Anderson, Men's Fellowship

With beautiful weather for an outdoor event, 230 members of the congregation and their friends enjoyed the annual Oktoberfest at Beardsley Park. Thrivent Financial for Lutherans again provided the brats and their staff grilled them on their large grill. Over 60 congregation members were involved in preparing, cooking, and serving the food. This included a few ladies who were most helpful and welcome in making sure the men properly prepared the potato pancake batter and the sauerkraut and even helped scrub the pots and pans. This year a Chicken Caesar Salad was available for those who did not wish to dine on brats and sauerkraut.

Men's Fellowship has designated the proceeds from this year's Oktoberfest to go to the Pan de Vida Lutheran Church in Surprise in support of their ministry to the local Hispanic population. Mike Dill and Dick Anderson wish to thank everyone who helped with the Oktoberfest.

Quilters News

By Donna Born

The quilters are back in full swing. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays in the Parish Hall from 10 AM to 2 PM. We enjoy great fellowship while making quilts for those in need.

If you are in need of a warm Christmas gift, we have a few quilts for sale. The proceeds from our quilt sales help us to purchase our own supplies.

For more information, give me (Donna Born) a call at 623-214-5104.



Book Club Reads

By Dianne Mertins

The following books have been selected for the upcoming Book Club reads:

December 12 - Half Broke Horses

by Jeanette Walls

January 9 - Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter

by Tom Franklin

Join us on the second Monday of the month at 10:30 AM in the conference room.



We've Got Mail!

Dear Pastor Phill & Sue,
Thank you so much for all you did to help make Harland's memorial service something we will always remember. You put up with our last-minute changes (hampered by logistics) and never complained – even smiled!

It was wonderful being able to celebrate his life here on earth and now in Heaven. I do believe he was smiling, as we are! God's blessings to you.

Marlys Nonhof & family

To the Faithful Pastors and friends at COL,
First, thank you to Jesus, the Great Physician. Experiencing miracles is beyond explaining and hard to realize they really happened when I was unaware of so many of them. But I believe.

Thank you is too small a word to express my appreciation for all of the past, present, and continuing cards and prayers for my recovery. It amazed me how often the perfect words suited the time I was having.

The doctors say it will take six months to completely recover, but I was doing so well physically that I didn't believe them. They say I have post-traumatic stress syndrome, so I have slowed down some, calmed down some, changed medications and doctors, etc., etc. I am feeling better, but it is slow, measuring progress week by week and the days pass slowly.

I am trying to keep busy for the Lord, with His Words and books; choosing what I can do at church (without hearing aids). I pray our loving Father, our Great and Gentle physician who heals and saves, and our Holy Spirit within me will conquer the evil foe. The Lord's will be done.

Mary Wick

I want to take this time to humbly give thanks to my Heavenly Father for sparing my life on August 18 (Tom's and my 55th wedding anniversary). How can I ever thank my husband, my daughter, Pastor Phill and Rev. Jerry Scansen for their prayers over me during that life-threatening surgery. Then our Lord was so gracious to send angels to guard over me and give of themselves. Yes, I mean you from Crown of Life with your love and prayers and the meals you sent over that were so delicious. Thank you Vicar Gary for communion that so comforted me and Judith for calming me during my anxious moments with her healing touch. Pastor Phill, you don't know what your sensitive tears and prayers did for me in some hospital that I don't remember; and I even had a bad hair day! I want to thank you all from the bottom of my heart. My journey isn't over, but with God in charge, He must have awesome plans for my life. With deepest love to you all.

Marilyn Goodnight

P.S. And I couldn't continue this journey without my beloved Tom.

etc.

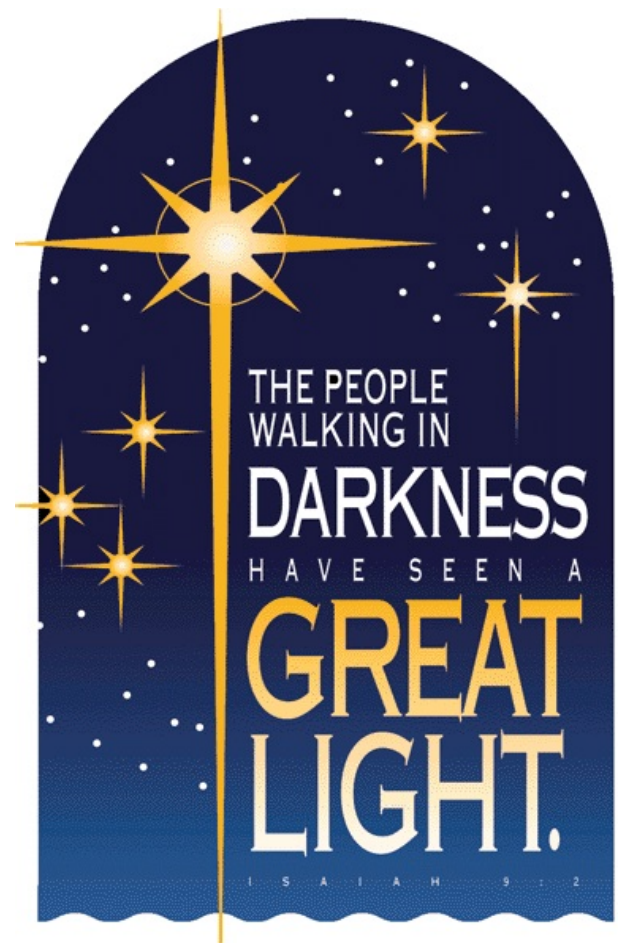
Ponder This...

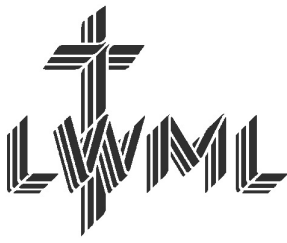
† Christmas began in the heart of God. It is complete only when it is in the heart of man.
–Anonymous

† To see His star is good, but to see His face is better.
–Dwight L. Moody

† The Son of God became a man to enable men to become sons of God.
–C. S. Lewis

† "Whatever the surprises of the future, Jesus will never be surpassed."
–Ernest Renan





By Jan Reynolds

The mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League is to assist each woman of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in affirming her relationship with the

Triune God so that she is enabled to use her gifts in ministry to the people of the world.

Advent by Candlelight

Our December meeting will be filled with prayer, praise and song as we come together in anticipation of the Celebration of the Christ Child. The LWML Executive Committee is hosting a special afternoon entitled "Advent by Candlelight." Please note that we will meet in the Sanctuary at 1:00 PM on December 13th. Pastor Ron Luedemann will be leading us in our devotion time and our music and carols will be sung with the accompaniment of Byron Blackmore. Following the devotions, we will meet in the Parish Hall for desserts and fellowship.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP WITH THE LWML MISSION

By setting aside these items and bringing them to the church you can help advance the work of Missions carried out by the LWML. Items should be placed in the box provided in the Parish Hall.

- Campbell Soup labels and General Mills box tops - donated to local Lutheran schools so they can buy equipment.
- Postage stamps from your incoming mail. Please cut 1 inch clearance around the stamp. These stamps are sold to a collector and the proceeds go to toward PSD LWML Mite Projects.
- Empty ink cartridges- we receive cash for each cartridge recycled. This project helps support our local LWML activities.

As a service to our congregation members, greeting cards and table napkins are sold. The cards are available from the display in the Parish Hall. Every item is marked with a price and is paid for on the "honor system," using the box provided.

COMING IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 2012

Clothing Drive for Orphan Grain Train- please start saving your "gently used" clothing. In January, we will provide you with a plastic bag as a reminder of this project. A representative from the Orphan Grain Train will be with us at the **Ash Wednesday Supper on February 22** hosted by the LWML.

Christmas Angel Tree

By Barbie Aden, Member of Christmas Committee 2011

This year's Angel Tree has a new look! This year everyone can participate.

Rather than selecting a specific family from a tree, Crown of Life members have two new options:

1. Purchase a \$25 Wal-Mart gift card and place it in a Christian Christmas card signed, "Crown of Life Lutheran Church."

2. Make a cash contribution of any amount and the Christmas committee will purchase additional gift cards with your contribution.



Pan de Vida Lutheran Church in El Mirage will distribute the \$25 Wal-Mart gift cards to families in their outreach ministry that need help the most. Then, these families will purchase their most urgent needs, such as food for Christmas dinner, clothing, school supplies, and little Christmas gifts for their children. Yes, they can really stretch \$25 that far.

Join us as we help Pastor Mitch reach out to the lost and hurting with the love of Jesus. Drop your gift cards or cash contributions into the Christmas box in the narthex before December 19. Thank you and God bless you for caring. For questions, please call Barbie at 623-544-9831.



December Altar Flowers

- 18 Barry & Marlene Peterson, 27th Wedding Anniversary
- 18 Ed & Verna Wetjen, 71st Wedding Anniversary



Serve the Lord with Gladness

Pastor Rev. Phill Robbins

Pastoral Assistants

Rev. Ron Luedemann

Vicar Gary Smith

Elders

(S) Mike Dill, Merv Tvinnereim

(E) Mike Krischler, Merv Tvinnereim

(L) Don Poppen, TBD

Trustees

(S) Al Thiese

(E) Emil Tomazin

(L) Dick Rittmaster

Altar Guild

(S) Karen Swinko, Nada Workman

(E) Ingrid Oberdieck, Joan Thiese

(L) Anne Hagen, Mary Sorenson

Greeters

(S) Ralph & Phyllis Cavaliari,
Addie Schott, Frances Spreitzer

(E) Rollie & Linda Mann,
Ed & Gloria Michel,
Don & Doris Nicolay

(L) Carol Apperson, Mary Schmitt,
Betty Ann Judkins

Guest Book

(S) LaVerne Brettner

(E) Margaret Tomazin

(L) Mary Mehner

Flowers

Marilyn Goodnight, Betty
Christiansen, Pat Fronk, Erna Kusch,
Sheila Mecham, Karen Murphy, Jan
Tvinnereim, Norma Wadsworth

Sound Technicians

(Sat) Bob Barden, Joe Jellison, Dave
Sawyer

(Sun) Bruce Borchert, Dave
Brodzeller, Gerry Harpt,
Tom Mertins, Rev. Jerry
Scansen, Ron Schumann,
Paul Stuempfig, Sue Stuempfig

Video Technicians

Bob Lohse, Aaron McDowell,
Ray Wilkes

Ushers

(S) Greg & Judy Harwood,
Larry & Gladys Strohschein

(E) Chuck Blakley, Norm Jaschen,
Linda Mann, Rollie Mann,
George Meyer, Diane Thoene,
Don Thoene, Emil Tomazin

(L) Joe Bailey, Roy Blanke,
Clarence Heidenberger,
Hartsell Judkins, John Kurvers,
Dan Mehner, Herb Schlinder,
Ernie Schmidt, Al Waldron

PrayerCare Ministry

Head Phyllis Cavaliari

Prayer Chain Erna Kusch,
Melba Arambarri

Prayer Calendar Phyllis Cavaliari

19 Beverly Bristow

19 Grace Daso

19 Harlean Engstrom

20 Bob Kimble

20 Cil Turvold

21 Bob Barden

21 Harriet Davis

24 Mary Krug

24 Diane Seegers

25 Marty Irwin

26 Rev. Ed Wessling

27 Jack Ary

27 Gene Groth

28 Ken Christensen

31 Jamie Kunzie

31 Linda Mann

Happy Birthday

1 Lorraine Nelson

2 Marilyn Dreyer

2 Bea Klungler

3 Suzanne Gates

3 Linda Sawyer

4 Louis Garippo

4 Carol Kleinschmidt

4 Bob Lohse

4 Bob Swinko

5 Noma Brown

5 Barry Peterson

6 LaVerne Brettner

6 Eileen Hall

6 Arnold Hoffman

6 Rob Senkbeil

7 Flo Froland

7 Barbara Kenson

8 Lee Gregoire

8 Jean Pohlman

8 Don Thoene

9 Bruce Simonsen

11 Donna Bohlmann

13 Mike Dill

14 Twila Deeren

14 Tom Goodnight

14 Robert Hlatky

14 Mary Lemke

15 Vern Bakke

16 Bonnie Kimble

16 Carolyn Kinney

17 Ellen Andres

17 Alice Peel

17 Dolores Ramstack

17 Bob Turk

18 Nola Gehn

Happy Anniversary

4 Gene & Shirley Koester

8 Don & Audrey Poppen

9 Gerry & Audrey Harpt

9 Aaron & Barbara McDowell

11 Jim & Janet Asche

13 Herbert & Herta Riedel

16 Ed & Verna Wetjen

18 Don & Marilyn Swanson

19 John & Gail Lindley

23 Vic & Betty Antink

23 John & Ruth Lundblade

23 Barry & Marlene Peterson

23 John & Sharalyn Pfaff

25 Heinz & Trudy Piontek

26 Al & Marilyn Waldron

27 Mike & Gracie Dill

27 Richard & Marilyn Dreyer

27 Bob & Verdella Emerson

27 James & Joanna Kunzie

27 Jim & Barbara Shumate

29 Bob & Darlene Ross

30 Larry & Mary Bonrud

30 Jack & Nancy DeVries

30 Bill & Becky Schulzetenberg

