



Weekend Update

Grow in faith. Share Christ's love.

November 29, 2009

A weekly publication of Faith Lutheran Church

Affiliated with The Lutheran Church--Missouri Synod

1716 SW Gage Blvd
Topeka KS 66604

Church office:

Mon-Fri: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Sunday: 9-9:30, 10:30-11 a.m.

E-mail: flctop@swbell.net

Phone: 785.272.4214

Fax: 785.272.1046

Early Childhood Center

Mon-Fri: 7:30 a.m.- 5:30 p.m.

Phone: 785.272.1070

E-mail: faithecc@swbell.net

For more information, visit us on the Web:

www.faithlutherantopeka.org

Publications for print from our Web site:

- Weekend Updates
- Monthly Messengers

Welcome visitors

Please stop by the "Welcome Center" located in the lobby for information brochures.

Sunday worship

- 8 and 11 a.m. - traditional
- 9:30 a.m. - contemporary
- 6:00 p.m. - cont. liturgical

Education for all ages

- 9:30 and 10:45 a.m.

Look for posters listing options.

In worship today

- **Lighting of the Advent Candles** Today begins the season of Advent, the period of expectant waiting for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus. Located near the front of the sanctuary, you will see an Advent Wreath with candles. These candles symbolize the light of Christ coming into the world. The candle colors are derived from the traditional liturgical colors of Advent and Christmas, purple and white respectively. The four candles symbolize hope, peace, joy (pink) and love. The evergreen symbolizes renewal in Christ, the kind of renewal hoped for by those before Christ's first coming, and the ultimate renewal we long for in Christ's second coming. The circular shape of the wreath symbolizes the completeness of God. Lighting a candle each week along with prayer and meditation helps us prepare for Christ's birth.

Journey to the Nativity



The third annual Advent event is **Saturday, Dec. 5** at Faith.

The morning activities include:

- ▶ **7:30-11:00 - Pancake feed** sponsored by the ECC (\$5/adult; \$3/age 6-12; \$1/age 5 & under). Enjoy pancakes, biscuits/gravy, sausage, fruit, juice, coffee, milk. Proceeds benefit the Early Childhood Center.
- ▶ **9:00-noon - Nativity sets** displayed in the sanctuary
- ▶ **9:00-11:30 - Age-appropriate activities/crafts** for children and parents with take-home Advent activities for families
- ▶ **9:30-10:45 - Three Christmas mini-dramas** presented by the elementary-age Sunday school children and songs by the Cherub Choir
- ▶ **10:00-11:00 - Christmas music** performed by brass and piano

Invite your friends and neighbors to any part or all of this event. It has something for everyone!

- **Bring your Nativity Set** We need nativity sets to display for the Dec. 5 event. Even if you brought one in the past, many may not have seen it or will enjoy seeing it again. Bring to church anytime this week, Nov. 30 to noon, Dec. 4. When you drop the nativity set off, fill out a form in the office so we can keep track of the sets. You can pick up your set on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 12-2 p.m. or in the office during the week. *We also need set-up helpers, 2-6 p.m. on Dec. 4 and take-down helpers, 12-2 p.m. on Dec. 5.*

Calendar: This week at Faith

Today	8:00 am	Traditional worship
	9:30	Education hour
	9:30	Contemporary worship
	10:45	Education hour
	11:00	Traditional worship
	4:00 pm	7th/8th gr <i>Powerhouse</i>
	6:00	Blended worship
	6:00	Sr Youth <i>Ignite</i>
Mon	6:30 pm	Girls of Faith (Audrey's)
	7:00	Boy Scouts
	7:30	Men's Basketball (TLS)
Tue	9:00 am	LifeLight Bible Study
	9:30	Hanson Small Group
	7:00 pm	Adult Ed Team
	7:00	Praise Team Rehearsal
Wed	9:30 am	Women's Bible Study I
	1:30 pm	Parish Nurse Walk-in
	5:00	Advent worship
	5:30	WOW
	5:30	Confirmation
	5:45	Advent dinner
	6:15	Signing Class
	6:30	Women's Bible study II
	7:00	Advent Worship
	7:45	Spiritual Life Board
Thur	6:00 pm	Bell Choir
	6:00	TNT Sr Yth Bible study
	7:00	The Crossing Young Adults (World Cup Coffee)
	7:30	Festival Choir
Fri	5:30 pm	Jr Youth Friday Frenzy
	7:00	CYC Christmas program
Sat	7:30 am	ECC Pancake Feed
	8:00	Men's Bible Study
	9:00	Journey to the Nativity
	9:30	Children's Mini Dramas
	10:00	Topeka Assn of Deaf
	4:30 pm	Children's program dress rehearsal

Editor's Note - If you have something to be published in the Weekend Update, please send to Linda Meyer via e-mail or drop off during office hours, by Thursday noon the week of publication.

Preparing for the Holidays

- **Advent Worship** We will pay attention to the characters of the Christmas story. In the obedience to God of Joseph, Mary, Elizabeth and Zachariah, we see service, faith-talk and prayer--disciplines that help us to grow in faith and to share Christ's love. The order of service will be *Holden Evening Prayer*, a very beautiful and singable liturgy. Services begin this Wednesday, Dec. 2 at 5 and 7 p.m. and continue Dec. 9, 16.
- **Advent Dinner** The youth will serve a meal between Advent services from 5:45-6:45 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$5/adults; \$3/under 10. *All dinners are made from scratch.* This is a way for the youth to raise funds for trips. This week's menu is red chili and white chili, veggies/dip, and real homemade cinnamon rolls.
- **Advent Devotions** There are four choices of Advent devotions available in the lobby for children, families, teens and adults. Pick one up and prepare for Jesus' birth. Also, take the holiday schedule flyer found in this publication and invite a friend or neighbor to worship.
- **Special Bible Study during Advent** "The Real Christmas Story" will be led by Jim and Drew Bradshaw at both the 9:30 & 10:45 a.m. education times in Room 104.
 - TODAY - The Real Christmas Story...according to the Old Testament prophets*
 - Dec. 6 - The Real Christmas Story...according to world religions' perspectives of Christian Christmas*
 - Dec. 13 - The Real Christmas Story...according to the four Gospels*
 - Dec. 20 - The Real Christmas Story...and the relevance of Advent today*
- **Fasting and Prayer** During the month of December, the Prayer Team will not be meeting but instead are encouraged to fast and pray. You are also invited to do this Advent discipline. Fasting is bodily prayer. This sort of prayer is sacrificial. Its "pain" induces us to remember our Lord. If you would like to partake in this discipline, you can design it to best fit your schedule and ability. It shouldn't be so limiting as to become impossible, but not so easy as to not involve sacrifice. For example, you could fast every Wednesday during Advent (water only) or you could chose to omit one meal a day or even go a whole week (bread/salad/water). Being that it is a discipline to increase humility and our Lord told us to fast "in secret" (Matthew 6:18), there is no need to let anyone know you are doing this. As the Spirit prays in our sighing in times of trial (Romans 8), so the Spirit can pray in our hunger pangs. We become a walking prayer during our fast.

F.Y.I

Send a Christmas Message

Four different cards with the Christmas message are available at the Welcome Center in the lobby. Pick one up to send to family or friends.

Coins for Christmas Loose coin offerings today through Dec. 6 will go toward the purchase of Christmas gifts that our Sunshine Connection friends can give to their families/friends. This is the third year the Junior Youth has sponsored this.

Preschool Christmas

Program The PS-K are learning their songs for the Dec. 6 Christmas program. Dress rehearsal is Dec. 5, 4:30 p.m.

St. John's Annual Bazaar

The LWML of St. John's (901 SW Fillmore) is holding their annual Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon on Friday, Dec. 4. The bazaar is open from 10:30 a.m.-1 p.m. and features a craft shop, sweet & baked goods shop, and cookie walk. The luncheon is served from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. with turkey casserole/gravy, green beans, cinnamon applesauce, roll, dessert and coffee. Tickets are \$6/adults and \$2/children under 12. For more information call 354-7132.

TLS Cookie Order If you purchased cookie dough from an 8th grader, they will be available at church on Dec. 6 (the order comes in Dec. 2).

Men's Basketball Pick-up games of basketball for guys are Monday evenings, from 7:30-9:30 at the TLS gym, 701 SW Roosevelt. Just drop in. For more information, call Chris Meyer (273-7352).

What can you do to help?

Adopt A Family



A display in the church lobby has stockings filled with gift suggestions for adopted families and individuals from the Christmas Bureau and Sunshine Connection. Pick up a tag, purchase the item, and return to church. All details are on the back of the card. Return all gifts by Dec. 13.

- **Volunteer Needed** DCE Audrey is looking for one or two people to head up a program to send college care packages a couple times a year. Contact Audrey at audreydce@swbell.net.
- **Rebuilding Together Applications** Now thru Dec. 15, *Rebuilding Together* will accept applications for the 2010 project by calling 272-0749 (a volunteer will call back). Qualified applicants must own their home, be 60+ and have low income. The *Rebuilding Together* (formerly known as *Christmas in April*) purpose is to help keep people safe, warm, dry. The 2010 rebuilding day is April 24.

Youth Ministry News

- **Friday Frenzy for 5th-8th grade** Come to Bethlehem Project in Ottawa, 5:30-10 p.m. on Friday, Dec. 4. Ottawa Bible Church has recreated Bethlehem on a farm north of Ottawa. Homemade cookies and hot chocolate are served in a barn. Baskets, leather goods and candles are made and sold so bring extra money if you wish to make a purchase. We will also eat at a Mexican restaurant known for "the world's best cheese enchilada." Cost is \$5. We need parents to drive. RSVP by Dec. 2 to Audrey.
- **TNT Bible Study - 9th-12th grade** On the first and third Thursday, starting Dec. 3, we'll have TNT (Thursday Night Time) from 6-8 p.m. at Audrey's house (1932 SW Regency Parkway). We're studying Revelation.
- **Senior Youth - 9th-12th grade** It's your turn to come to "Bethlehem" (see Friday Frenzy article above) on Saturday, Dec. 5, 4:30-9 p.m., in Ottawa. We need parents to drive. RSVP to Nancy or Rob Peterson at 228-3943 or Nancy.A.Peterson@ssa.gov.

JOIN Christmas Festival Choir - This choir will sing for the Choral Eucharist, Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. and Christmas Eve at 11 p.m. Rehearsals will be Dec. 3, 10, 17 at 7:30 p.m. and Dec. 19 at 9:00 a.m.

- *Adult Choir* sings on Dec. 6 & 20 at 11:00.
- *Bell Choir* rings on Dec. 13 at 8 & 11 a.m. and Dec. 20 at 6 p.m.
- *Prayer Shawl Ministry* meets Dec. 8 at 1:30 p.m. or 7 p.m. in Room S-14. Donations are also welcome. Contact Jan Hoover at 357-7063.

our MEMBERS

Ryan & Becky Brooks, at the birth of a son, Brody Michael

Joanna Bradshaw and family, at the death of her mother, Evelyn Gerht

Kim Hernandez, Nikki and Kristina, at the death of father-in-law/grandfather, Thomas Hernandez

Susan Thowe, upcoming knee surgery

Kevin Taylor, recovering from surgery

Anne O'Gara, in hospice

Reva Hossfeld, recovering at home

Luke Savage, recovering from surgery

Fred Crowder, recovering from surgery

Kristin Putney, recovering from knee surgery

Steve Hale, recovering from knee surgery

Shirley Martin, recovering from surgery

Allyson Harris, difficult medical issues

Terry Carlson, health concerns

Jeff Kuhn, needing a kidney transplant

Phil Gjerstad, leukemia, undergoing bone marrow transplant

Susan Borghardt, cancer, undergoing chemo

Barb McComas, cancer treatment

Jean Stokesberry, brain tumor

Ben Bahner

Roy Benaka

Belmont Evans

Wilma Gregg

Vernon Hass

If you or an immediate family member are entering the hospital, call the church office at 272-4214 so a staff member may visit/pray with you.

FAMILY and FRIENDS

Waymond Alumbaugh, father of Wayne, recovering from surgery

Gerald Wolfley, friend of Cliff Sheets, dealing with serious surgeries

Jordon, grandson of Connie Sears

Star Robinson, friend of Kahlee Crocker, surgery

Renata and Chloe, friends of Kahlee Crocker, health concerns

When a name is submitted in this "Family and Friends" section, it will be printed for three weeks. If you would like to continue the name on the prayer list, please contact the church office through phone, e-mail or prayer card.

family. friends w/ CANCER

Dan Richardson, son of Ed

Randy Flanagan, son of Marty

William Janousek, father of Jim

Rodney Ohlde, father of Kim Savage

Bob Hogrefe, father of Kim Hernandez

JoAnna Burke, mother of Kelly

Beva, sister of Bob Gabler

MaryKay Lowry, aunt of Kelly Burke

Karen Acord, great-aunt of Daniel Domingo

Lois Nelson, great-aunt of Paige Grisell

Mikey Cummings, great-nephew of Kathy Orth

Chrystal Holub, cousin of Doug Helmke

Chip West, cousin of Kelly Burke

Jay, cousin of Darrel Savage

Kelsey Kataret, cousin of Sandra Raney

Cindy Hammond, relative of Hullons

Naomi Harkness, relative of Gwen Lehman

Adam, friend of Jessica Atchison

Dalton, friend of Jan Williams

Denise, friend of Smelter family

Ella, child friend of Hamerskys

Kris, friend of Gary Orth

Laura, friend of Diana Beitz

Laura, Sheri, Sondra, friends of Sandra Sweet

Laurie, friend of Yvonne Hamilton

Lyn, friend of Marge Carver

Maire, friend of Sweet family

Sandy, friend of Mary Shaw

Tammy & Tanya, friends of Jennifer Harris

Tina, friend of Aaron & Jennifer Hilderman

Zach, child friend of Sheila Krohe

in the MILITARY

Chase Briggs

David Conwell

Bryan Conwell

Tim Kemp

David Marstall

Rebecca (Briggs) Waterman

Matt Thomas, husband of Chelsie (Saunders)

James Brown, father of Ashley Brown

Leslie Bolz, daughter of Tim & Marian

Joshua Schultz, son of Gene & Peg

Alex Kroenke, grandson of Mel & JoAnn

Angela Rokey, granddaughter of Goodings

Joel Gaston, brother of Juli Mazachek

John O'Brien, brother of Maggie O'Brien-Domingo

Chuck Taylor, brother of David

Tom Palenske, brother-in-law of Juli Mazachek

Jim Edwards, uncle of Caitlyn Lambrecht

Dani Knudson, niece of Alex & Joy Hoover

Kristen Wilburn, niece of Landmans

Chuck Campbell, nephew of Charlotte

Lee Fox, nephew of Ed & Valeda Pinick

Brett Hahn, nephew of Ron & Ethel Kufahl

Marcus Higdon, nephew of Gayla Hoyt

Mitchell Kent, nephew of Terri Bynum

James Kroenke, nephew of Cathy Atchison

Jared McClung, nephew of Mike Maloun

Seth Ostermann, nephew of Linda Laird

Michael Phelps, nephew of Betsy Hawkins

Scott Pracht, nephew of Ron & Ethel Kufahl

Elizabeth Doss, great niece of Bob Gabler

Brian Kolterman, Bolz family member

Chris Crocker, cousin of Kahlee

Kevin Nolan, cousin of the Janouseks

Kevin Sweeney, cousin of Dean Landman

Damon Browning, friend of Janouseks

John Brun, friend of Jessi Saxton

Gilbert Gonzales, friend of Kristen Fay

Damon Harris, friend of the Kissling family

Chris Kieffer, friend of Kristen Fay

Glenn & Kelsey, friends of Kahlee Crocker

Jo, friend of Barnhills

Justin Rapp, friend of Judy Thompson

Zack Stiffler, friend David & Jennifer Schmitt

Preparing for Church Work

Christina Shults, Pacific School of Religion (seminary), Berkeley CA

Drew & Nicole Bradshaw, awaiting DCO call

Matt Morgan, Concordia, St. Paul MN (DCO)

Amie Zillinger, Concordia, Seward NE (teacher)

Kory & Cara Fay and family, Lutheran Bible Translators training in France

Andrew Cummings, deaf ministry training

In Service & Mission Work

Spiritual Life Leaders

Parish Nurses

Stephen Ministers

Lay Deacons

Topeka Lutheran School & CYC

Faith Early Childhood Center

Children's Christian Concern Society

Guinea, W. Africa missions

Heiney and Carlos families

(missionaries to Guinea, West Africa)

LCMS chaplains serving in Iraq and other troubled areas

LINC Ministry Dallas, TX

Ysleta Luth. Mission El Paso, TX

Outreach/Ministry to Washburn University

If you are submitting a prayer request for someone other than yourself for this publication, please be sure to get their permission. If you submit a card for prayer in a worship service, please indicate that you want it in this publication. If you would like your prayer included on the Prayer Chain, call Bobbie Nixon (272-7845) or Eva Brunkow (272-2102).