



Weekend Update

Grow in faith. Share Christ's love.

December 6, 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: fictop@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

- **Young Children's Christmas Program** The preschool and kindergarten Sunday school children will be presenting "The Night He Was Born" during the 9:30 worship. Please refrain from flash photography during the program since it is part of our worship. Video can be used from the side aisles. Thanks goes to Anna McCoy for leading the music and the Sunday school teachers and parent volunteers for their help with the program.
- **Lighting of the Advent Candles** We continue the season of Advent, the period of expectant waiting for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus. The second candle in the Advent wreath is lighted during worship. The four candles symbolize hope, peace, joy (pink) and love. Lighting a candle each week along with prayer and meditation helps us prepare for Christ's birth.

Choral Eucharist **Christ is born!** **Sing. My Heart. with Gladness!**



Sunday, Dec. 20 at 6:00 p.m.

This worship service will be filled with beautiful imagery, scriptures, reflections and music including Holy Communion. Take a precious journey with the theme of "Christ is born! Sing, My Heart, with Gladness!" featuring the Festival Choir, Praise Team, handbell/chime choirs, children's choirs, ensembles, soloists and instrumentalists. Repertoires include "For Unto Us a Child Is Born," "Hallelujah Chorus," "Hope for Resolution." This program is made possible through a Worship Renewal Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grant Rapids, Mich., with funds provided by the Lilly Endowment Inc.

The Season of Advent

- **Advent Worship** This week's worship on Wednesday at 5 and 7 p.m. focuses on Mary and her obedience to God. Services continue next week, Dec. 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 homemade brisket, cheesy potatoes, green beans, roll and brownies with ice cream.

Calendar: This week at Faith

| | | |
|--------------|---------|---|
| Today | 8:00 am | Traditional worship |
| | 9:30 | Education hour |
| | 9:30 | Contemporary worship with Preschool Christmas Program |
| | 10:45 | Education hour |
| | 11:00 | Traditional worship |
| | 6:00 pm | 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 |
| | 1:30 pm | Miriam Circle |
| | 1:30 | Shawl Ministry |
| | 5:30 | Early Childhood Team |
| | 7:00 | Praise Team Rehearsal |
| | 7:00 | Shawl Ministry |
| Wed | 9:30 am | Women's Bible Study I |
| | 9:30 | Ruth Circle |
| | 1:30 pm | Parish Nurse Walk-in |
| | 5:00 | Advent worship |
| | 5:30 | WOW |
| | 5:30 | Confirmation |
| | 5:45 | Advent dinner |
| Thur | 6:15 | Signing Class |
| | 7:00 | Advent Worship |
| | 7:45 | Lay Leadership Council |
| | 5:15 pm | Christian Service |
| | 6:00 | Bell Choir |
| | 7:00 | The Crossing Young Adults (World Cup Coffee) |
| | 7:30 | Festival Choir |
| Sat | 8:00 am | Men's Bible Study |

Deadline for the January MESSENGER is Sunday, Dec. 13. Due to the holidays, articles must be submitted one week earlier than usual. Send to Linda at lindamsecretary@swbell.net or drop by the church office.

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 Christ

- **Advent Devotions** It's not too late to pick up an Advent devotion available in the lobby. There are still a few remaining.
- **Special Bible Study during Advent** "The Real Christmas Story" is 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 world religions' perspectives of Christian Christmas
Dec. 13 - The Real Christmas Story...according to the 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. 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.

Youth Ministry News

Junior Youth - 5th-8th grade

- **Shop for Sunshine Connection Gifts** - Wednesday, Dec. 16. Meet for supper together at church (\$3 per person) and then head out by around 6:00 to Dollar General to shop for items that the Sunshine Connection can give as gifts, then return by 8 p.m. We need parent drivers. RSVP if you are coming to help.
- **Sunshine Connection Christmas Party** Meet at Faith between 3:30 and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 19 to help our Sunshine Connection friends wrap presents that they can give to family members. Then we'll pass out presents, serve a meal, and welcome Santa as we help sing Christmas carols. Bring the entire family.

Senior Youth - 9th-12th grade

- **IGNITE** Every Sunday (except during Christmas break) we meet from 6-8 p.m. at church for play and diggin in the Word. It's great fun, fellowship and Jesus time. Bring friends.
- **Girls of Faith** Every Monday evening at 6:30 (except during Christmas break) all 8th-12th grade girls are invited to spend time in the Word and with each other. Located at Audrey's (1932 SW Regency Pkwy).

F.Y.I

Ornament Give-Away

Pewter Christmas ornaments from Faith's 50th anniversary (back in 1998) were discovered in the church attic. Pick one up from the basket at the Visitors Center. Limit 2 per household. If you would like to make a donation (any amount), place in container near the basket. Any donations received will go toward the Christmas Decoration Fund.

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 (this is the last Sunday) will go toward the purchase of Christmas gifts that our Sunshine Connection friends can give to their families/ friends.

TLS Cookie Order If you purchased cookie dough from an 8th grader, it is available today at church.

Men's Basketball Pick-up games of basketball are Monday, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at the TLS gym, 701 SW Roosevelt. For more information, call Chris Meyer, 273-7352.

Music schedule *Adult Choir* sings today and Dec. 20 at 11:00. *Bell Choir* rings Dec. 13 at 8 & 11 a.m. and Dec. 20 at 6 p.m. *Festival Choir* dress rehearsal for the Choral Eucharist is Saturday, Dec. 19 at 9 a.m.

Shawl Ministry If you like to knit or crochet (or would like to learn), come to Room S-14 on Tuesday, Dec. 8 at either 1:30 or 7 p.m. to make prayer shawls. Contact Jan Hoover, 357-7063 for more information.

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.

- **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.
- **WOW Preschool Leader Needed** If you enjoy the spontaneity of working with preschoolers, then become a leader of Bible activities on Wednesday evenings at WOW. Contact Marilyn in the church office if you are interested.

In Christian Fellowship

- **Dinner For Eight - January thru June, 2010** Sign up to participate in this fun fellowship opportunity. The sign-up sheet is posted in the lobby (on door leading to the basement) throughout December or contact Gina Brewer at ginabrewer@sbcglobal.net or 272-2258 by Jan. 1. "D-4-8" is a great way to get to know other members of our church in a comfortable environment. Groups of eight adults are randomly assigned a group which gathers once a month to eat and fellowship. When and where they meet are determined by the group. Dinners ideas range from hosting a pot-luck in a member's home; having a progressive dinner traveling to select member homes; or meeting at an area restaurant. The goal is to build deeper relationships with others while gathering around a meal and to grow in Christian fellowship.
- **Pastries on Parade** The LWML of Prince of Peace is hosting a cookie walk/bake sale at their church, 37th and Wanamaker, on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A variety of home-baked cookies will be available for sale at \$5 per pound, plus other baked goods which will be individually priced. Proceeds will go to Doorstep and Marian Clinic as well as to helping entities at Prince of Peace. Thrivent will provide matching funds.
- **Living Nativity** First Lutheran Church, 1234 SW Fairlawn, is presenting a drive-thru living nativity display on Sunday, Dec. 13 from 5-7 p.m. This is a community tradition for the whole family.

our MEMBERS

The family and friends of Jean Stokesberry, at her death
Daniel Domingo, at the death of his great aunt, Karen Acord
Herb Eisler, recovering at home
Mary Shaw, recovering from surgery
Susan Thowe, recovering from knee surgery
Kevin Taylor, recovering from surgery
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
Susan Borghardt, cancer, undergoing chemo

Phil Gjerstad, leukemia, undergoing bone marrow transplant
Barb McComas, cancer treatment
Anne O'Gara, in hospice
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

Barbara, mother of Dan Ramsey, in hospice
Lucille, sister of Phil Gutierrez, hospitalized
Dave Randall, brother of Muriel Bartlow
Mohinder Pal, husband of Mardi Long, immigration issues

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
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
Mark Manieri, cousin of Nadine Barnhill
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
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).