



Grace Notes

Springs of Grace Lutheran Church
www.springsofgrace.com



Go forward with the Grace of God and the motivation of the Holy Spirit

Light of Bethlehem

Thanksgiving has come and gone and the start of the busiest season of the year is at hand. Decorations are going up everywhere. I would like to suggest that we take just a moment at this busy time to decorate our heart and our spirit. We decorate with ornaments we call the Bible by reading it every day. We decorate with garlands by prayer to the Father constantly. We decorate with lights as we allow our Christmas Love to engage everyone we meet. We decorate with Christmas cards by telling everyone of the Father's love that came down to us in Bethlehem.

While Christmas is a family time, let us remember our Christian family and make room for them in our plans. We gather this month of December to celebrate the second coming of Jesus. That is what Advent is all about. At the same time we celebrate his first coming. So as we get closer to Christmas let us remember the family that left Nazareth and journey to Bethlehem where our Savior was born to bring light into the world.

I wrote a poem many years ago and it still speaks to me of the meaning of Christmas. I share this poem with you in this newsletter. Remember, no matter what burdens you are carrying or grief you are suffering, the babe of Bethlehem is there for you. So approach the stable and kneel at the manger allowing the light and the love of the child of Bethlehem to heal you. May God bless you this Advent and Christmas Season and may you find the Joy that can only be found in God's gift to us in a manger.

Pastor Jim

Volume 6, Issue 12

December, 2013

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In our Prayers

See current bulletin

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Also on the back page

The Child of Bethlehem

O holy child of Bethlehem
Who came in light to dwell
To enter into every heart
The Bible story tells

O child of our delight
The light you bring glows bright
Kindled by the Spirit's fire
It's brilliance, a pleasant sight.

O child of piercing light
which invades our lives
strips off the masks we wear
And reveals all our lies

O child of holy love
Your light revealed our sin
With tiny hands stretched out
you healed us from within

O child so humbly born
We approach your bed
With love for you
To it we shall be led.

O holy child of Bethlehem
Your presence will see us through
We will know the love of God
Is manifest in you.

Special Events for December

December 4, 11, 18 — 6:00pm Advent Supper;
7:00pm Advent Worship

December 7 — 5:30p. Women's Advent Dinner

December 15—After Worship a congregational meeting to vote on issuing a call to Pastor Outten.

December 24 —7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Communion

December 31 — 7:00pm New Year Eve Worship

Bring in the New Year with a service of Communion. The service helps us reflect on the past year and look forward to the year to come.



News from your Council President

On November 21st the church council met with Pastor Hobby Outten with great results. He would like to become our new pastor and council wishes the same. Our next step is to meet with Pastor Bob Beaver and put together a compensation package that all can work with. Therefore, December 15, 2013 there will be a called congregational meeting to vote on issuing a call to Pastor Outten. He could begin on the first or second Sunday in February, 2014.

Lessons for November

1 — Isaiah 2:1-5 || Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14 || Matthew 24:36-44

8—Isaiah 11:1-10 || Psalm 72:1-10

Romans 15:4-13 || Matthew 3:1-12

15—Isaiah 35:1-10 || Psalm 146:5-10

James 5:7-10 || Matthew 11:2-11

22—Isaiah 7:10-16 || Psalm 80:1-7,17-19

Romans 1:1-7 || Matthew 1:18-25

29—Isaiah 63:7-9 || Psalm 148

Hebrews 2:10-18 || Matthew 2:13-23

As a part of your regular Bible study incorporate the texts that we will use on Sunday mornings.

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Education Hour-9:30am Worship w/ communion 10:30am	2	3	4 Advent Supper 6:00pm Advent Service 7:00pm	5 Office Hours 10-12am	6	7 Women's Advent Dinner 5:30 pm
8 Education Hour-9:30am Worship w/ communion 10:30am	9	10	11 Advent Supper 6:00pm Advent Service 7:00pm	12 Office Hours 10-12am	13	14 Boiling Springs Christmas Parade
15 Education Hour-9:30am Worship w/ communion 10:30am	16	17	18 Advent Supper 6:00pm Advent Service 7:00pm	19 Office Hours 10-12am	20	21
22 Education Hour-9:30am Worship w/ communion 10:30am	23	24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship—7:00 pm	25 Merry Christmas	26 No Office Hours	27	28
29 No Education hour Worship w/ communion 10:30am	30	31 New Year's Eve Worship w/ Communion 7pm				

Those Who Serve

Date	December 1	December 8	December 15	December 22	December 29
Refreshments	Gail Hackett	Larry and Barbara Cantrell	Ron and Liz Crawley	Connie and Bob Faulks	Ray Cromer Susan Rinkema
Ushers	Ray Cromer	Rich Donaldson Larry Cantrell	Norm and Jane Lewis	Ron Crowley Ray Cromer	Melton Roof Gere Ablett
Greeter	Kay Otten	Marion Varner	Barbare Cantrell	Gere Ablett	Helen Roof
Communion Assistant	Melton Roof	Gail Hackett	Bob Faulks	Gere Ablett	Norm Lewis
Counters	Bob Faulks	Ron Crowley Jim Voris			Diana Ablett Ron Crowley
Altar Guild	Jane Lewis Nellie Varner	Rich Van Wagoner Diane Ablett	Diane Ablett	Diane Ablett	Jane Lewis Nellie Varner
Lector	Rich Donaldson	Gail Hackett	Robert Faulks	Hunter Crawley	Several
	If there is a change or error in this list, please update the copy of this schedule on the Notice Board.				

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And by appointment

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Church Council:

Melton Roof, President

Rich Donaldson, VP

Gail Hackett, Treasurer

Ron Crawley, Secretary

Diane Ablett, Worship Chair

Kris Loburk, Property Chair

Jim Voris, Evangelism Chair

Education Chair — vacant

Stewardship Chair — vacant

Ron Crawley, Social Ministry Chair

December Birthdays
Evelyn Swain 10th
Robyn Forbes 15th
Katherine Mills 23rd

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Special Notice

Pastor Jim and Peg wish all of
you a Blessed Christmas and
may the new year be filled with
God's blessings and Joy.