



KING'S HERALD

The Monthly Newsletter of Christ the King Lutheran Church

Connecting the World with God's Grace

January, 2012

Happy the week after Christmas Heaven Abandoned

One might think that, like a belated birthday card, a reflection on Christmas at this point is a day late and a dollar short. Christmas is so *last week*, right? Not in the Church. Christmas is a season in the Church that extends until January 6 (The 12 Days of Christmas).

Now that the holiday -- travelling, cookie-baking, present wrapping, family-tolerating day -- is behind us, maybe we can gaze upon a manger and a child and ask, what does this all mean? When we look at the world and then back at the manger scene, we cannot miss the fact that after 2,000 years, things seem pretty much the same. Jobs are still being lost. Homes foreclosed. The lives of courageous service women and men are still being lost in Afghanistan and Iraq. Promises of the *prince of peace* seem a cliché. This tension causes many to turn look for a way to either reconcile the old story with reality or find a new alternative.

Some, wishing to cling to Jesus, keep Christmas a personal thing and look to the day when God will rapture out all the folks that are not hopeless or faithless to a new reality.

Many make up their own religion, sampling from a kind of spiritual buffet in a diverse world.

Still others say that the lack of action thus far means there is no God, so we're on our own and life is as good as it gets, or as good as you can make it.

There is another, rather ancient, approach. If you gaze on that manger scene that is nearly back in the box for another year, you may see that the little baby's outstretched hands are already preparing for the nails of the cross.

If you ponder that scene and remember that the Father of this child is the one who has been since before the beginning of time; that the light emanating from the star is the Spirit that moved over the waters of creation you will see that into the darkness of the world; into the poor life of a Nazarene couple; in the presence of suffering shepherds, failing economies, lost jobs and sickness unto death, the Holy Trinity has been born.

On that Christmas so long ago, Bethlehem was not the only place strange things were taking place. As Barbara Brown Taylor writes in a sermon called *God's Daring Plan*, heaven itself was in turmoil as God erupted into action and announced to the angelic host that the time had come. At that moment, "*God turned around and left the (divine) chamber, shedding his robes as he went. The angels watched as his midnight blue mantle fell to the floor, so that all the stars collapsed in a heap.*"

The boundary between heaven and earth, between divine and human was torn open. God left behind the glorious courts of heaven. Terror-struck shepherds came face to face with surprised angels. Heaven and earth met and merged. On that night, God entered into our life so that nothing could ever separate us from Divine love. Instead of waiting for us to all become that God made us to be, God became one of us so we could be together eternally. Heaven is now an abandoned castle, filled with dust and cobwebs. God is here, working through us to make heaven out of our broken world. That is what difference Christmas makes.

Merry Christmas and *Shalom!*

Pastor John

Adult Education

Come feast on the Word and quench your thirst for Biblical knowledge! Join us for the most exciting hour of your whole week! Here's what's happening now in Gysan Hall every Sunday:

Jan 1-Feb 12 Lutheran Pastor Michael W. Foss brings us a proven plan to transform church members into impassioned disciples in his amazing book, "Power Surge." Rooted firmly in Jesus' teachings, Power Surge makes the case for moving away from a membership prerogative model of church affiliation. Using assessment tools, practical helps and transferable principles from the Prince of Peace's case study, this 6-week course shows us how to create a grace-centered model of discipleship, mission mindedness and living out our faith. Text is \$17; \$9.99 Kindle.

Service News

TEAM SERVICE has been working hard on several service projects. The Homeless Walk we participated in yielded great results for Reston Interfaith. They had 1500 walkers and received additional funds from Fannie Mae in the amount of \$25,000.00. A great success and CTK helped the homeless AND got some exercise! We gave the Emergency Food Pantry and nice food donation for the winter which was needed and appreciated.

We have ongoing projects as of this writing including the WATER OF LIFE campaign which has been very well received. SO many people have stepped up and purchased a system or 10 for the children of Haiti and Rwanda and beyond. It really is amazing that for \$55 we can supply a child and his/her family WATER FOR LIFE. We are well on our way to meet our goal of 100 systems and I will update you in February's newsletter. Angel Tree was another success with 80 gifts being purchased for kids who would not otherwise receive anything. They are being delivered this week. The Salvation Army bell ringing is always a resounding success. Many thanks to all who participated in that event.

Before the end of the year please consider a GIFT OF HOPE set up in the Narthex. It will really make a difference. Also, remember IT'S NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY ~ IT'S JESUS' BIRTHDAY! Why not make a donation toward WATER OF LIFE and spend there what you would have spent on someone else and let them know how much you care about others. We have letters for you to give stating that you made a purchase in their honor of clean water for life. Now that is an awesome CHRISTmas gift!

TEAM SERVICE thanks you all for your participation and generous hearts! We can make a difference and WE ARE! Merry CHRISTmas!

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

Christmas Party

We held a very festive Christmas party at the home of Carol and Pat Murphy on the evening of December 10. There were 85 Christ the King people in attendance! We all had a great time and raised money for Church kitchen items and new tablecloths for hospitality events, including receptions and funerals. We thank everyone who attended and brought appetizers or desserts. A special thank you to the organizers, Jill Peterson and Suzanne Gaibler, and their many helpers: Bill Hiatt, Gary Peterson, Mitch and Donna Kiffe, Doug Gaibler, Susan and Bill Canis, Glenn and Marge Sjoblom, Karen and Phil Magley, Joyce Weber, Jane and Tom Cooper, Art Evans ("Santa") and the "elves" (Kathi Evans and Kim Kennedy), Dave and Dolly Whelan, Steve Benson, Ann Neaves, Allan Rupp, Mary Wilson and Audrey and Allen Wild.

January "Brady Brunch":

On Sunday, January 15th, Annette Brady will once again be hosting her famous "Brady Brunch" between services in the Church Narthex! Stop by for coffee, treats and conversation after the first service and before the second!

***A Moment to Reflect and Anticipate:
Thoughts Concerning 2012***

As most of us do at this time of the year, I have taken a moment to reflect *and* to look forward to the coming year— personally, as a member of this congregation, and as your Director of Youth and Family Ministries

Wow! We have been busy and have seen several changes in 2011. Our surroundings have certainly changed—updating of the narthex, the ladies bathroom renovation and the new carpet. More importantly, we have a Preschool director and a new Pastor.

I was impressed this past year by the way this congregation spent their time, while the call committee led us through the process of searching for a new pastor. We did not languish and stall; but keep moving forward and went about our work.

We have been blessed by the results of the call committee's hard work. God has given us the opportunity to work alongside Pastor John and Dorann Bradford. I believe them to be driven by the Spirit and compelled by their love of God, love of people and love for each other.

My hope for this congregation, in 2012, is that we continue to be a congregation where all CTK disciples become an active part of what God is doing in this congregation. I pray each of us feels compelled by the Spirit to take leadership roles or become a part of the structure so that no ministry is centered in one person but has a healthy diversity of gifts and talents.

The way we live our lives as Christians is not generally celebrated by the world. Sometimes, it is even in opposition to what the world expects. God calls us to make tough decisions and difficult choices. Sometimes we are called to stand outside the norm; but keep in mind we never stand alone. We have Christ and each other. We move forward trusting in the grace of God. We are not timid about our work; but, as Luther put it, we "sin boldly". We trust in a forgiving and graceful God and in those people whom He sends to walk with us. We do not let our failures or our mistakes stop us from doing what we have been called to do. Make no mistake. We *all* have been called to carry the gospel outside the walls of Christ the King and we have *all* been called to care for our neighbor and each other, especially the children and youth of this congregation.

Several people have asked me how "it is going" and how "is it working out" with the arrival of Pastor John. Well, I believe the call committee did a fine job and I say, "Well done!" As a member of this congregation

and personally, I am better person for having the opportunity to work alongside John and Dorann Bradford and for this I give God my thanks.

Looking forward to 2012 and to where God is calling Christ the King.

Until then . . .

God's peace and blessings,

Deb Cantrell

Your Director of Youth and Family Ministries

National Youth Gathering – New Orleans

All participants of this year's youth gathering in New Orleans,

Please check your email boxes for important information concerning this year's gathering. Make a note two final payments will be due on March 15 and June 1. (Amounts included in email.) There will also be two *mandatory* meetings before the gathering. It is imperative that these meetings are attended by both the youth and one or more parent. We will be preparing ourselves for the trip and discussing important information. We expect everyone to attend, with the only exceptions being illness, family emergency, earthquake, hurricane, major snowstorm or the final rapture. In all seriousness, please be there. Your attendance is important for the quality of the trip and the experience. The dates and times will be noted in the email and reminders will be posted in the monthly newsletters, bulletins and emails.

NOTE TO THE CONGREGATION: PLEASE SAVE YOUR TREASURES FOR OUR ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE. IT WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 5TH. The funds raised will help to defer the cost of this year's trip to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. We will accept all items that are gently used and in working order—including furniture (however, we cannot accept mattresses). Further details will be included in future newsletters and bulletins.

In July 2012, 16 youth and five chaperones—Deb, Pastor John, Kevin Magley, and Taz and Melanie Miller-Cvilikas—will be traveling to New Orleans to continue the work begun in 2009.

Operation Sharehouse/Stop Hunger Now

In January, we will start collecting our quarters so we can fund the supplies for our annual *Operation Sharehouse*. The children and youth will bring home containers to start their collection which will conclude on Super Bowl Sunday, February 5th. We will also need the adults to do their part. Checks are certainly welcomed.

Once again, we are asking the entire congregation at Christ the King to work together to raise \$3750 and to help package 15,000 meals on February 12 directly after the 11:00am worship service.

Look out for the special containers which will be handed out during Sunday school hour and will also be available in the narthex so everyone can participate.

November Attendance		
	8:30	11:00
11/6	41	76
11/13	49	114
11/20	64	101
11/27	45	80
Average for Month	50	93
Average for Month 2010	68	102
Average for Month 2009	60	93

November Stewardship			
	Income	Expense	Net
November 2011	44,576	44,670	-94
November 2010	45,744	43,293	2,481
2011 Year to Date	490,156	525,859	-35,703
2010 Year to Date	484,196	558,806	-74,610

Prayer Concerns

Prayers - Linda Darrell & Janice Forman, Lynne Roots, Tami Phillips, Florence Wild, Carol Saenger, Hansen Watkins, Robert Babirak, America Palazzo, Maggie Nation, Jayme Milani, Richard Bohl, Gail Magley, Shannon Murphy, Kayla Michelle Pounds & Georgette George, Stewart Wade, Albert Edward Baker, III, Betty Elkins, William Brady, Lisa Jackson & the Odonnell Family, Dawn Erdmann, Bill Wagner, Christopher Rossbach, Dodie Borland.

Military Personnel - Maj Hans Weber, Jeremy Adams.

January Birthdays

Congratulations to members celebrating a birthday!

Bill Smith 1/1
 Michael Ehlenberger 1/2
 George Hanna 1/3
 Kaitlin Hill 1/4
 Madison McConnell 1/4
 Amy Swineford 1/5
 James Garner 1/6
 Will Wilson 1/8
 Richard Pherson 1/9
 Thomas Takis 1/9
 David Maurstad 1/11
 David Theurer 1/11
 John Zmuda 1/12
 Eric Guidi 1/14
 Matthew Halvorsen 1/16
 Kyle Babirak 1/17
 Benjamin Hawkins 1/17
 Bergen Ridenour 1/17
 Stephen Siebert 1/17
 McKenna McConnell 1/18
 Matthew Zimmerman 1/18
 Haydn Riffe 1/19
 Thaddeus Wood 1/19
 Andrea Anderson 1/20
 Alexandra Hummel 1/20
 Carol Knight 1/20
 Douglas Gaibler 1/22
 Samuel Maruca 1/22
 Dolly Whelan 1/22
 Dorann Bradford 1/24
 Harry Brill 1/24
 Lynne Steel 1/24
 Douglas Rambo 1/25
 Mark Spoto 1/26
 Peder Neaves 1/27
 Courtney Wild 1/27
 Jack Metelski 1/28
 Scott Wainner 1/28
 Michael Tozer 1/29
 Michael Buckingham 1/31
 Tracey Shenk 1/31

**If you don't see your name or another family member - contact the office to update your data*

January Service Volunteers

Thank you for so generously giving of your time & talents!

Please note that there are changes from the projected list published last month

If you are unable to serve your assignment, it is your responsibility to find a replacement from the volunteer listing provided to you.

For Bulletin accuracy, please notify the office of any changes by the preceding Thursday.

If you cannot find a replacement, call Charles Schwab at 703 689-3769 for assistance.

	<i>Date</i>	<i>8:30 am Service</i>	<i>11:00 am Service</i>
Acolyte	1/8	Lillian Baker	John Schindler
	1/15	Christopher Miner	Ian Moran
	1/22	Laura Hawkins	Patrick Romance
	1/29	Laura Zimmerman	Ellie West
Assisting Minister	1/1	Kathy Zimmerman	Victoria Wagner
	1/8	Mark Baker	Lynne Roots
	1/15	Art Evans	Carolyn Saba
	1/22	Bernadette Medlin	David Whelan
	1/29	Charles Schwab	Floyd Gaibler
Cantor	1/1	Pastor John	Karen Magley
Communion	1/1	Art Evans	Juli Benson
Assistant	1/8	Tom Cooper	Bill Canis
	1/15	Amy Swineford	Bob Wharen
	1/22	Charles Schwab	Steve Wilson
	1/29	Michelle Hawkins	Karen Magley
Crucifer	1/8	Lillian Baker	Elizabeth Ellinger
	1/15	Christopher Miner	Thora Toloczko
	1/22	Laura Hawkins	Alexis Apostolou
	1/29	Laura Zimmerman	Tommy West
Lector	1/1	Sharon Davis	Gloria Rossbach
	1/8	Ellen Lokker	Victoria Wagner
	1/15	William Miner	Cody Jones
	1/22	Art Evans	Bill Canis
	1/29	Ernie Fergusson	Kristine Chadwick
Ushers	1/1	Ernie Fergusson Rene Fredette	Bill Canis, Kristine Chadwick Linda and Rudy Chatlos
	1/8	Milt Critchfield Dan Medlin	Angie and Kary Froscheiser Janet and Bill Hiatt
	1/15	Donna and Paul Setzer	Bob Hummel, Mitch Kiffe Judy Lombardo, Phil Magley
	1/22	Jim Hawkins Rene Fredette	Shane McKinley, Brett McMillen Bob Mickert, Mitch Neaves
	1/29	Kathy and Tim Zimmerman	Dave Rudorfer, Joe Steel Carolyn and Peter Saba
Greeters	1/1	Karen and Andy Sweet	Lisa and Joe Anderson
	1/8	Ellen Lokker and Mark Baker	Juli and Steve Benson
	1/15	Paula and Ernie Fergusson	Barbara and Charles Veitenthal
	1/22	Lori and Rene Fredette	Lynne Simmons, Eileen Smith
	1/29	Lois and Nate Holeman	Linda and Brett McMillen
Council Host	1/1	Mark Baker	
	1/8	Mitch Neaves	Peter Saba
	1/15	Victoria Wagner	Steve Wilson
	1/22	Bill Hiatt	Donna Kiffe
	1/29	Kary Froscheiser	Juli Benson

Projected February Service Volunteers

Please review these projected assignments.

*If you are unable to serve the assignment, please try to find a replacement and notify the church office.
If you cannot find a replacement, call Charles Schwab at 703-689-3769 for assistance.*

	<i>Date</i>	<i>8:30 am Service</i>	<i>11:00 am Service</i>
Acolyte	2/5	Scott Pennebaker	Lucy Kreutzer
	2/12	Caroline Maruca	Taylor Shenk
	2/19	Elena Fergusson	Braeden Smith
	2/26	Emily Sweet	Avery Neaves
Assisting	2/5	Mark Baker	Jeanne McKinley
Minister	2/12	Art Evans	Brett McMillen
	2/19	Bernadette Medlin	Carolyn Saba
	2/26	Charles Schwab	Victoria Wagner
Communion	2/5	Bernadette Medlin	Carolyn Saba
Assistant	2/12	Charles Schwab	Lynne Simmons
	2/19	Ellen Lokker	Antonia Siebert
	2/26	Art Evans	Dolly Whelan
Crucifer	2/5	Scott Pennebaker	Abigail Kreutzer
	2/12	Caroline Maruca	Brittany Hendrix
	2/19	Elena Fergusson	Katherine Hanna
	2/26	Emily Sweet	Gregory Benn
Lector	2/5	Tom Cooper	Peter Saba
	2/12	Gloria Rossbach	Eileen Smith
	2/19	Rachel Zmuda	Jenny Hendrix
	2/26	Ellen Lokker	David Whelan
Ushers	2/5	Milt Critchfield Jim Hawkins	Lynne Roots, Shane McKinley Bill Canis, Kristine Chadwick
	2/12	Donna and Paul Setzer	Linda and Rudy Chatlos Janet and Bill Hiatt
	2/19	Paula and Ernie Fergusson	Bob Hummel, Mitchell Kiffe Judy Lombardo, Joe Steel
	2/26	Kathy and Tim Zimmerman	Mitch Neaves, Steve Wilson Bob Mickert, Dave Rudorfer
Greeters	2/5	Bernadette and Dan Medlin	Carolyn and Peter Saba
	2/12	Sindy and Charles Schwab	Lynne Simmons and Eileen Smith
	2/19	Ellen Lokker and Mark Baker	Barbara and Charles Veitenthal
	2/26	Karen and Andy Sweet	Dolly and David Whelan
Council Host	2/5	Ernie Fergusson	Liz Spoto
	2/12	Mark Baker	Tom Cooper
	2/19	Mitch Neaves	David Whelan
	2/26	Charles Schwab	Victoria Wagner

January Calendar of Events

For an up to date, interactive calendar, got to www.gflutheran.org

*If you have a meeting, or other event that is not listed, or to schedule a meeting or use of rooms in the building,
Please contact the church office to have the information added to the master calendar*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2 <i>Church Office Closed</i>	3 7:00am Men's Breakfast	4	5 4:30 pm Girl Scouts 7:30 pm King's Choir	6	7
8 <i>Baptism of Our Lord</i> 2:30 pm Girl Scouts	9	10 7:00am Men's Breakfast	11 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry 7:00 pm Girl Scout Unit Meeting	12 7:30 PM King's Choir	13	14
15 <i>Epiphany 2</i> 2:30 pm Girl Scouts	16 <i>Martin Luther King Jr. Office & KKP Closed</i>	17 7:00am Men's Breakfast 11:00 AM Cedar's Luncheon	18	19 4:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:30 PM King's Choir	20	21
22 <i>Epiphany 3</i> 2:30 pm Girl Scouts	23	24 7:00am Men's Breakfast	25	26 7:30 PM King's Choir	27	28
29 <i>Epiphany 4</i> 2:30 pm Girl Scouts	30	31 7:00am Men's Breakfast	Saturday Schedules: 7:00 pm AA Group Sunday Schedules: 8:30 & 11:00 am Worship Services 9:30 am King's Cherubs & Kids 9:45 am Sunday School 6:00 pm King's Ringers 7:00 pm AA Group			



Christ the King Lutheran Church
10550 Georgetown Pike
Great Falls, VA 22066-2416
www.gflutheran.org

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Great Falls, VA
Permit No. 27

Return Service Requested

Mailed 12/15/11

Christ the King Lutheran Church

Office Phone - (703) 759-6068 Office Fax - (703) 759-7918
Email - ChristTheKing.GreatFalls@verizon.net www.gflutheran.org

Church Staff

Rev. John Bradford, Pastor

(703) 759-6068 ext. 22 pastorjohn.bradford@verizon.net

Deb Cantrell, Director of Youth and Family Ministries

(703) 759-6068 ext. 40 deb.cantrell@verizon.net

Mike Swineford, Church Administrator

(703) 759-6068 ext. 21 mike.swineford@verizon.net

Jane Cooper, Coordinator of Music/Director of Vocal Music

(703) 759-6068 janesjoy@verizon.net

Andrew Dobos, Organist/Director of Instrumental Music

(703) 759-6068 amdobos@aol.com

Tracey Shenk, Director of King's Kids Preschool

(703) 759-6935 kingskidspreschool@verizon.net

Satva Silva & Silvia Locks, Nursery Attendants

Joyce Weber, Newsletter Circulation

Church Council Members

David Whelan, President; Peter Saba, Vice-President;

Mark Baker, Secretary; Bill Hiatt, Treasurer; Kristine Chadwick, Financial Secretary

Donna Kiffe, Fellowship; Liz Spoto, Learning; Tom Cooper, Property

Juli Benson, Service; Mitch Neaves, Staff Relations; Charles Schwab, Worship & Music

Kary Froscheiser, Finance; Steve Wilson, Youth;

Ernie Fergusson, Stewardship; Victoria Wagner, Witness