



# The Spirit

## PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

**Volume 3 Issue 12**

**December 2011**

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,*

*The Angel said to the shepherds, “Do not be afraid, I bring you glad tiding of great joy. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord.”*

*“Do not be afraid” is the message to focus on at the beginning of this holiday season. There are so many things at work in the world to cause us to have fear: the uncertainty of the current economic atmosphere, unemployment and under employment, wars and rumors of wars currently underway in the world, foreclosures and the list goes on. If we focused on any of these things for a long period of time we would be filled with fear. Just as God broke into the routine lives of the shepherds with good news He comes to us today with good news as well. “Fear not, a Savior has been born. He is Christ the Lord.” He alone is the one who brings peace not on earth but within your heart. He satisfies your internal desires with good things. He comes to you to makes sense out of all the doom and gloom around us. This holiday season focus on the one who brings peace and you will find your fears disappearing. In this world you will always have those things that will cause your hearts to be afraid. Remember we are only sojourners of this world. Jesus has come to deliver us from this world. May this holiday season remind you of the eternal joy that awaits us outside of this world.*

*Rejoicing in His presence.*

*Pastor Liebich*

### **A PRAYER**

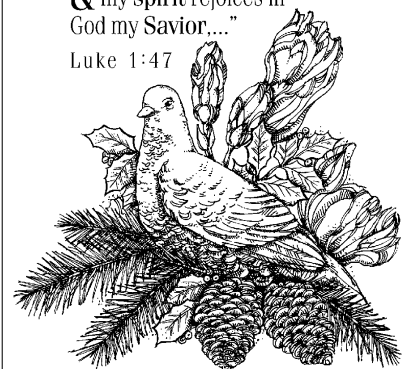
Ah, Dearest Jesus, Holy Child, make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,  
within my heart, that it may be a quiet chamber kept for Thee.

My heart for very joy doth leap, my lips no more can silence keep,  
I too must sing, with joyful tongue, that sweetest ancient song,

Glory to God in highest heaven, who unto man His Son hath given while angels  
sing with pious mirth.  
A glad new year to all the earth!

“My soul magnifies the Lord,  
& my spirit rejoices in  
God my Savior...”

Luke 1:47



## ***Early Learning Center Update***



### ***FROM THE DESK OF THE DIRECTOR:***

Wow! Welcome to the last month in 2011. It seemed as if this year flew by. Is it because we have received so many blessings this year? For me, it was New Job, New Home, New Friends and Family. We have a new church, new School and new opportunities to be of service to Christ. As we look forward to celebrating the Holidays, let's make sure that we remember the real reason for the season.

Put these words of mine in  
your heart and soul ....  
Teach them to your children ....  
Deuteronomy 11:18-19, NRSV

Let's keep the Christ in Christmas as we celebrate His birth. This is the season of giving and it amazes me how Christians keep on giving and giving and giving.

I think of all the time and talents given to the Early Learning Center and to the students, families, teachers and myself. Just another way of Christ showing His love for us.

I wish “**JOY**” for you all this Holiday Season. That stands for Jesus on You!

Please join us for all our upcoming December Events:

December 10<sup>th</sup>, Parent Shopping Day, Happy Birthday Jesus Party.

December 11<sup>th</sup>, Ms. Cynthia's Installation/Kids sing in Church at the 11:00 service.

December 12<sup>th</sup>, Picture Day

December 18<sup>th</sup>, Church Christmas Program

December 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Center Closed

***May you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in Christ!***



## Nativity Sunday



Peace Lutheran Church Council invites you to participate in "Nativity Sunday." Please bring a table-top Nativity set for display at fellowship time on Sunday, December 4th. Tables will be available, along with place cards, for any information that you might want to share about your Nativity set. Please arrive a little early (before the 9:00 a.m. Service) to allow time to set up.

Questions can be directed to Renee Dunn or Jane Aller.

### Scholastic Book Fair Coming to the ELC December 12th 13th and 14th



Stock up on those early EDUCATIONAL Christmas gifts for your kids or grandkids, while helping out the Early Learning Center.

*The book fair hours:*

Saturday December 10th	1:00-4:00 p.m.
Sunday December 11th	10:00-11:00 p.m.
Monday December 12th	12:00-1:00 p.m. 4:00-5:30 p.m.
Tuesday December 13th	12:00-1:00 p.m. 4:00-5:30 p.m.



### **Final Day**

<b>Wednesday December 14th</b>	<b>12:00-1:00 p.m.</b> <b>4:00-5:30 p.m.</b>
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As you purchase items from the Book fair , you are helping the Early Learning Center get new and exciting educational items to enhance the learning experience of our students.



## **Children and Youth Ministry**

And Jesus took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in His arms, He said to them, "Whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me, and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me." (Mark 9:36-37)

### **CHILDREN'S CHURCH UPDATE**

We are continuing to offer children's church for children ages 3 years old through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at the 9am worship service. When we have enough assistants, we may consider offering it at the 11am worship as well. If you are interested in becoming an assistant once or twice each month, please let us know!

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSIONS!**

Children helping children! Since the summer, the children have been bringing donations to help the Immokalee Pregnancy Center (IPC). The IPC is dedicated to changing one heart, saving two lives.

Mission:

Immokalee Pregnancy Center is a **Christ-centered ministry** (Col. 3:23-24) committed to upholding the **sanctity of human life** (Gen. 1:27, Ps. 139:13-16) by demonstrating the love of Christ to women facing unplanned pregnancies through the provision of **spiritual, physical, and emotional support** (Mat. 25:40) and by **proclaiming the Gospel** (Mark 16:15, Duet. 30:19-20), to the end that women are empowered to choose life for their babies and themselves.

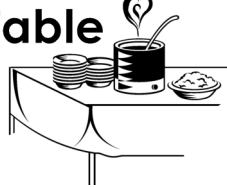
Accomplishing the mission is done through offering free pregnancy tests and educational resources. If a woman is not pregnant, they give counseling and classes on Godly living. If a woman is pregnant, she can receive counseling on adoptions or raising the child, and can earn points through education classes and "shop" for items for her baby. These are just a few of the many services they provide, in both English and Spanish.

IPC is the only pregnancy center in Immokalee other than Planned Parenthood, and Planned Parenthood strongly supports and encourages abortions. Most women do not have transportation to travel the 45 minutes to Naples or Fort Myers, which makes this Christ-centered pregnancy center, which is within walking distance of most homes, a critical ministry in Immokalee.

### **WE NEED YOU!**

We are looking for people who love Jesus and love children! We specifically need a Sunday School teacher for the 3-5 year olds, Sunday School assistants, substitute teachers, and a snack coordinator. Please pray for these positions to be well staffed and pray about getting involved in some way! Thank you.

## Peace Around the Table



*Our first dinner will be a pot luck in the Fellowship Hall, January 15th at 5:30 p.m. and each month thereafter dinner in private homes. There will be a sign –up sheet on a table in the Narthex after both services, starting November 20th. The reason for the late start this year is due to the Dedication this month and then, of course, Christmas in December. Hopefully more of our northern friends will have returned by that time*

*also. When you sign up, please indicate if you will be willing to Host a dinner in your home, how many people you can accommodate and the month or months you plan to host. Our procedure has been to have a group of 6,8, or 10 people. With the host supplying the main course and beverages, and assigning a salad, vegetable or dessert to the guests. This is a good way to meet others in small, social gatherings outside of regular meetings and worship at the church. Everyone is welcome, so please remember to sign up. If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at 434-5960.*  
*Elsie Schneider*



Human  
Care

The “Star” tree is up in the Narthex! Human Care has put up the “Star” Tree holding stars and ornaments listing items for you to choose and purchase. Our local

LUTHERAN Hispanic Ministry, Amigos en Cristo, will benefit and Pastor Selle has requested food donations and gift cards this year instead of toys. There is a dire need for food and he will designate the individuals and family members to receive the gift cards.

It’s very simple—choose one or more stars/ornaments from the Tree, purchase the designated dry, packaged or canned food, put the items in a bag, tape your star to the bag and return to the church by the DEADLINE: DECEMBER 18TH. No wrapping is necessary. Human Care will deliver immediately following the deadline.

Let’s all count our blessings and help prevent the hunger that many in our local area are experiencing. Open your hearts and you will be blessed! A special thanks to everyone who participates. Remember: The JOY is in the giving!

Darlene Hanley  
 495-2026



### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

*Installation of Ms. Cynthia Tillman  
 as Director of the Early Learning  
 Center, December 11th*

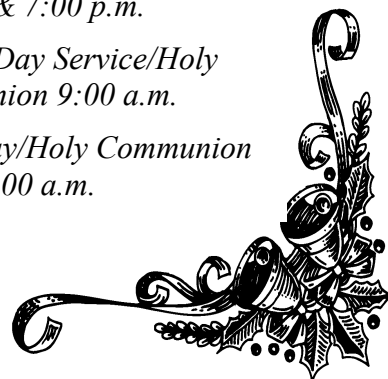
*Early Learning Center singing in  
 Church December 11th  
 at 11:00 a.m.*

*Choir Christmas Cantata  
 December 18<sup>th</sup> both services  
 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.*

*Christmas Eve Services  
 Candlelight/Communion  
 5:00 & 7:00 p.m.*

*Christmas Day Service/Holy  
 Communion 9:00 a.m.*

*New Years Day/Holy Communion  
 9:00 a.m.*



**Women of Peace / LWML**



***Women of Peace***

All Women who attend Peace Lutheran Church, whether year-round or seasonal residents, are members of Women of Peace.

**LWML-Lutheran Women Missionary League**

All Missouri Lutheran Churches have the opportunity to support this **Official Arm** (auxiliary) of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod for nearly **70 years**.

**What is LWML**

Women in Mission, mission outreach locally and globally through mission inspiration, mission service and especially **mission grants**.

***PROJECTS:***

***Itch'n to Stitch:*** Women of Peace sew with Faith Lutheran ladies on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesday of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church. The ladies bring their own lunch. We are making love quilts for the Women of Faith's retreat in February. You are welcome to donate a 12" x 12" square to be sewn into the quilts. These quilts will be donated for charity. Please place the squares under the Giving Tree.

***Coupons for Military Families*** Please bring in manufacturer's coupons that you don't use so they can be given to military families. Women at Island Walk will assemble and mail them to the different military bases. A box is labeled for their collection in the Narthex.

***Soup Labels and Box Tops:*** Please place the box tops and whole soup labels in the box under the bench in the Narthex.

Thank you for donating to our Free Will Offering. These funds will go towards our Operating expenses. We collected \$317.00 which will support the Zone Rally, Retreat, and World Relief.

Chrismon making is completed. Please notice the lovely Christ Monogram ornaments on our Christmas trees in the sanctuary.

Ribbon markers for our hymnals have also been completed and will be placed in our new hymnals.

**CALENDAR NEWS-**

December 7 and 21– Itch'n to Stitch will be at Faith Lutheran from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. please pack your lunch.

December 10– Women of Peace/ LWML meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. at our church, in the room across from Pastor's office.

1. We will decide what to be put into the Grandparents basket. This basket will be donated to Faith's Women Retreat.
2. We will begin boxing up our World Relief donations. Quilts, layette sets, school bags and supplies, and little dresses to be shipped to Africa. They will be weighed and labeled for shipment in February.

**We pray for our seminary students, visitors and military chaplains.**

## CHOIR DIRECTOR CHATS

"O Come All Ye Faithful, joyful and triumphant..." Hope you will join your Peace Choir and the Sunday School students on December 18th for "A Thrill of Hope" cantata by Joel Raney. Ask your neighbors, friends and grandparents to come. It will be a truly wonderful day in the life of our church. We are having all these "Firsts" this year. It is very exciting. Come and stand at the manger with the children and hear the choir sing of Hope, Love, Peace and Joy.

May God bless each of you in this joyful Christmastide.

With Christmas love,

Jan Grundeman, Director of Choirs

jangmusic@comcast.net 239-353-2216

## BRING YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS COOKIE FOR THE DECEMBER 18TH RECEPTION BETWEEN SERVICES!

Each year we ask everyone to share a plate of their favorite homemade Christmas cookie or bar to be served during the reception between services on December 18th. If you attend the 11:00 service you may drop your cookies off on Saturday the 17th between 9 and 11:00 or come early to be a part of this Christmas time together. If you have any Questions please feel free to call me at the above mentioned number.

## *The Anderson String Quartet*

*There was a tremendous response to the Anderson String Quartet who participated in our Dedication Service and then played at the reception afterwards. I know them as winners of the Naples Music Club Scholarship Chamber Ensemble Exhibition Spring 2001. They are wonderful musicians and performers.*

*Many of you asked about their Quartet name! Mrs. Drake responded like this: "So glad you asked about their quartet name! The kids chose "The Anderson String Quartet" as a tribute to Gregg Anderson, violinist in the Naples Philharmonic Orchestra and Director/Conductor of the Phil. Youth Symphonia Chamber program. Through they have since graduated to the Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, they still enjoy playing and performing chamber music together!"*

*Here are their ages and grades:...Misty Drake, violin, 15, 10th grade; Noelle Torres, violin, 13, 8th grade; Cassie Drake, viola, 13 8th grade; Vince Marcantonio, cello, 18, 12th grade.*

*They are truly dedicated and wonderful young musicians. It was our pleasure to have them play to the Glory of God at our church.*

*Musically in Christ,  
Jan Grundeman*



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY,**  
*Jesus!*

**From the Director of Children’s Ministries**  
**Let’s Give Thanks!**

**From the Director of Children’s Ministries**

*Happy Birthday Jesus! To think, our Lord and Savior gave up His power and divinity to become a helpless child...it is truly amazing. One of the ways I see God’s value on children is that He came to earth as a child. He sent His true, one and only Son into the world as a sacrifice so that you and I could be adopted and “to all who believe in Him, He gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1) As you celebrate the sights, sounds, and smells of the Christmas season, thank God for Jesus and ask Him to reveal to you how to grow closer to your Father and to live a life worthy of your calling as God’s precious child. Merry Christmas!*



**Birthdays**

Janet Dattilo	December 2
Dennis Large	December 7
Bryce Dattilo	December 15
Meredith Dattilo	December 18
Matthew Graham	December 19
Biz Slama	December 19
Christian Hooper	December 22
Tristan Pate	December 25
David Varisco	December 28
Rick Paganes	December 29

*We don’t want to leave anyone out. If you know of someone whose birthday we’ve missed, please contact the church office so we can update our records. Thanks!*

# Wise men still Seek Him!



*Jim and Darlene Hanley      December 27*




**YOUTH NEWS**

We had a great response with “Operation Shoe box”. We collected a total of 70 boxes. We wish to thank all of the folks who brought in boxes and supplies. Although the boxes have been shipped please continue to pray that they reach their destinations and also for the people working to get them there.

The Peace Youth Group Christmas party is on December 18th from 5-8 p.m. at the church! Please RSVP by December 15th to Eric Grundeman at 595-9161. More details will be available when you RSVP.

CR-Conference Room  
 CC-Children's Church Room  
 FH-Fellowship Hall

# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 Adult Bible Study-Craven Res. 6:30 Church Council Mtg	2	3
4 <b>2nd Sunday of Advent</b> 9:00 & 11:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School/Bible Study	5	6 10:30 Staff Mtg	7 10:15 ELC Chapel 10:30 ELC Music class 5:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice	8 6:30 Adult Bible Study-Craven Res.  	9	10 9:30 WOP-LWML
11 <b>3rd Sunday of Advent</b> 9:00 & 11:00 Worship/ Holy Communion 10:15 Sunday School/ Bible Study 12:15 Congregational Voters Meeting 2:00 Lutheran Hour Ministries/Workshop	12	13 10:30 Staff Meeting 5:30 Finance Mtg. 6:30 Elders Meeting	14  <b>Human CARE</b> 10:30 Human Care 10:15 ELC Chapel 10:30 ELC Music Class 5:30 Confirmation 7:00 Choir Practice	15 6:30 Adult Bible Study-Craven Res.	16	17 9:00-11:00 Choir Rehearsal 6:00 Peace Christmas Party
18 <b>4th Sunday of Advent</b> 9:00 & 11:00 Christmas Cantata	19	20 10:15 Heritage Health Care 10:30 Staff Mtg	21 10:15 ELC Chapel 10:30 ELC Music Class 5:30 Confirmation	22 6:30 Adult Bible Study-Craven Res.	23	24  Christmas Eve Services 5:00p.m. & 7:00 p.m.  
25 <b>Christmas Day</b> 9:00 Worship/ Holy Communion  	26	27 10:30 Staff Mtg	28 10:15 ELC Chapel 10:30 ELC Music Class No Confirmation Class 7:00 Choir Practice	29 6:30 Adult Bible Study-Craven Res.	30	31  



**Believe it or not, January is fast approaching. Please be thinking ahead about any items you might want to place in "The Spirit." Deadline for the January issue is December 16th. You can fax your information to the church office at 354-0073 or send by e-mail to [peaceluth@naples.net](mailto:peaceluth@naples.net). You can even call it in by phone if you wish at 354-9140. The church office hours are Monday through Friday 9:00-3:00**



# December

## Issue of Spirit

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