

The Bells

WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday: 10:15 AM

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Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

Happy New Year! No, I haven't completely lost my mind. (I know it's around here somewhere.) If you grew up in the church, you know that on Nov. 29 we begin a new church year with the season of Advent. Advent is a time of preparation and anticipation leading up to Christmas which we celebrate on Dec. 25 and the celebration continues until Epiphany on Jan. 6, 2016. In contrast to the world around us, where "Prepare the Way" means shopping, decorating, and baking, the focus of Advent is two-fold. On the one hand we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who came into the world as both God and man so that our sins might be forgiven. On the other hand, we anticipate the day when Jesus will return to the earth to bring an end to this world. Those will be scary days, but we can look forward to the end of the world with confidence because, by faith in Jesus, the end of this world will mean the beginning of a new life with Christ for eternity. Therefore, during Advent we repent of our sins and believe they are forgiven for the sake of Christ's death and resurrection.

To help us prepare for His coming (first and second) we will have **midweek services** on Wed. evenings at 7 p.m. **Dec. 2, 9, & 16**. We also would like to make available some daily Advent devotions. Lutheran Hour Ministries has been preparing them for years, but a few years ago they stopped printing them. Just as they seized the opportunity to reach out with the Gospel via radio in the 1920's, now they are reaching out via the internet. You can sign up at **lhm.org** to have an Advent devotion sent to you daily via e-mail, OR we can download a master copy and print it in the church office for you to pick up. Here is the description from the LHM website.

Advent Devotions from LHM Now Available for Download

How often do you face your day with a sense of fear and dread? Holiday seasons like Thanksgiving and Christmas can easily lose their joy and delight when little things relentlessly nag at us and annoy us. Maybe the busy preparations of the season have you down, or perhaps you are reeling from a major life crisis or catastrophe.

Addressing this unsettling seasonal phenomenon will be *Fear Not!*, the 2015 Advent devotions written by Lutheran Hour Ministries' Theological Editor and Writer Rev. Wayne Palmer. These thought-provoking meditations will study the events of our Savior's birth as recorded in the first two chapters of the Gospel of Luke and remind us that God is the One fully in charge, reigning beyond our circumstances, granting us the daily grace to trust in Him, even when life clouds our vision.

Fear Not! is now live at www.adventdevotions.net. Here you can find the downloadable version, which includes a large-font text, bulletin inserts, bulletin shells, and PowerPoint slides. Audio availability begins November 29. *Fear Not!* will also be available as an e-mail subscription throughout the Advent season. A Spanish offering for Advent, *En la tierra paz* (Peace on Earth) by Rev. Dr. Sergio Schelske from Buenos Aires, Argentina, will be available soon.



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LHM's Advent devotions make a great outreach tool. These messages can be forwarded as an e-mail to family members and friends who might not celebrate Christmas or believe in Christ as Savior. For men's or women's group meetings or for classroom use, these devotions serve as an excellent way to begin a meeting or classroom period. The universality of the message—that faith looks to God and not to our earth-bound circumstances—works in any and every context.

Sharing Advent devotions with someone you know is a great way to get involved in a meaningful outreach effort this Christmas. Why not pick up a copy for yourself and one to pass on to a friend! Or sign up for a daily copy via e-mail. See you in church AND BIBLE STUDY! Bring a friend!—*Pastor Fred*

The Lutheran Hour—December Sermon Schedule

December 6

"The Voice"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

The voice of John the Baptist calls us to repent and trust in the Savior Who walked in our shoes.

(Luke 3:1-20)

December 13

"The Lord is Near"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

God's message is simple and straightforward: Jesus is near—put your trust in Him!

(Philippians 4:4-7)

December 20

"The Gift in the Manger"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

From the manger to the cross to resurrection life, God is in the giving business for all of us to receive and believe.

(Luke 2:8-12)

December 27

"No Regrets"

Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus

Jesus invites you to leave your burden of regret at the foot of His cross.

(1Timothy 1:16)

POP Annual Christmas Dinner

The annual Christmas Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 20th, following the Sunday morning worship service. We will be having a traditional Christmas dinner with turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, green bean casserole, and rolls and pie for dessert. Deadline for receiving your reservation is Sunday, December 13th. There will be a charge of \$8 per person this year. Unfortunately we **will not be able to accommodate walk-ins** on December 20th. Please return the inserts found in Sunday's bulletins to Sandy Kostelnik. Thank you.

2015 Altar Flowers

The Altar Flower Calendar signup sheet for 2016 is now posted on the bulletin board. There will be one arrangement allowing for one request per weekend and the cost is \$15.00.

Altar flowers can be purchased in celebration of a special occasion, in memory of someone, or to the "Glory of God and His love for us". Payment envelopes should be marked "Altar Flowers" and placed in Sandi Morgan's mailbox. Please make checks payable to Prince of Peace. Thank you!

UUMC Food Pantry

As the holidays approach please remember to donate pantry items generously as we support Unionville United Methodist Church's food pantry. Quite often phone calls are made to our office requesting a helping hand in the form of a meal. We are so proud to be able to say that we are a collaborative partner in the effort to help local families put a meal on the table when they may have otherwise been unable to do just that. Thank you in advance for your giving spirit and your willingness to reach out to those in great need. Please consider donating the following items: Applesauce, cream of chicken or cream of mushroom soup, hamburger helper, grape or strawberry jelly, pancake mix and syrup, canned pears or pineapple, soap, toilet paper, shampoo and conditioner. THANK YOU!

Concordia Lutheran Ministries

Concordia will host the Third Annual Live Nativity on Sunday, December 13 from 4-7 p.m. at Haven II (148 Marwood Road, Cabot, PA 16023). The nativity will feature Concordia staff, residents and live animals. There will be hot beverages and refreshments inside as well as live Christmas music. This will be a "walk-through" nativity, so guests are encouraged to dress warmly. Performances will be very half hour. Admission is free. Parking at entrances 5 and 6.

For a list of all of Concordia's coming events, visit www.concordialhm.org/events-news or call the development office at 724-352-1571 ext 8363.



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE
Order deadline December 13, 2015

***This year we are offering a 7" Pot of RED Poinsettias
The price is \$12 each***

*If you would like to order one of these beautiful plants
to beautify our sanctuary for the holidays, in memory of
a loved one or to thank Our Heavenly Father for His many blessings,
please fill out the order form below and leave it in
Sandi Morgan's mail slot.*

*In past years, your plants have made our altar as pretty
as a Christmas card. So please consider a purchase.*

***And remember to take your plant home
after which ever Christmas service you attend.***

Thank You and God Bless You

Yes I would like to order ____ plants @ \$12.00 each

Total Due \$ _____

In Memory Of _____

Your Name _____

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Birthdays

Bob Dietrich	1
Kathy Osten	4
Terri Humphrey	5
Rachel Humphrey	8
Stephan Fatschel	20
Derek Mengel	20
Tom Sigler	20
Jason Mengel	23
Bonnie Keen	24
Jane Wilson	24
Diane O’Palka	25
Don Wunnenberg	29
Alice Dietrich	31
Jennifer Weedon	31

Baptismal Birthdays

Eric Bendekovic	
Allison Bendekovic	
Darryl Gunther	1
Terri Humphrey	1
Beau DeThomas, Jr.	3
Zach Eckstrom	3
Sarah Nuerge	5
Andreas Fatschel	18
Twila DeThomas	24
Carrick Skuse	24
Stone Parker	25

Servants in Ministry

Greeter

- 6- Ed/Sandi Morgan
- 13-Darryl/Lynn Gunther
- 20- Rich/Ethel Clayton
- 27-Ruth/Avis Miller

Reader

- 6-Ron Doerr
- 13-Tom Sigler
- 20-Darryl Gunther
- 27-Mary Nuerge

Acolyte

- 6- Tyler Borgman
- 13-Nikolai Podeszwa
- 20- Cade Skuse
- 27-Cole Skuse

Altar Guild

Sandi Morgan

HELP WANTED

Looking for
GREETERS & READERS
for our Sunday service.
Please call
or email

Wendy Liston if you are able to
volunteer.
Thank you!

Anniversaries:

Charles & Susan Szabo	1
Craig & Lori Voland	6
Willis & Kathy Voland	11
Pr. Michael & Mary Podeszwa	22

Prayer Concerns:

Please keep the following
members & friends in
your prayers:

- ❖ Kathy Voland for recovery after a fall.
- ❖ Joyce Hewlett for healing after foot surgery.
- ❖ Bill Hewlett being monitored for atrial fibrillation.
- ❖ Gene Reddel.
- ❖ Continued prayers of healing for Twila DeThomas’s stepfather and niece and Willis Voland’s sister; Betty Ann.
- ❖ Terry McCall who is at an Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility recovering.
- ❖ Tom Lumley (friend of Willis and Kathy Voland) who had heart surgery and is recovering at home.
- ❖ Additional prayers for those battling cancer: Rich Kardos (Tom & Colleen Sigler’s nephew), Bob Greer (youth leader at Darryl Gunther’s former church), Mary Guthrie (wife of Darryl’s co-worker), Carol Helkowski, Pastor Michael, Margaret Rombold, Milt Scott and Joan Doerr.

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Kristina's Preschool News

Whoever said that time stands still? That is certainly not true for this preschool! We have been so busy that we need more time. Do you believe that the holidays are upon us? What a busy time! Both classes have started practicing for their Christmas programs. They are so precious! This is something definitely worth seeing! If you have a chance to come and see these little angels in action you will see why we love our jobs!

Four year olds

The four year olds talked about the first Thanksgiving Feast. We are all thankful for the many great things God has given us. We practiced recognizing and drawing shapes and are still working hard on our letters and numbers. We made thankful turkeys and pilgrims. We have also started on printing our names in upper and lower case letters, not all capitals. Try to reinforce this at home. We have finished all the evaluations so please send them back as soon as possible. Thank you!

Three year olds

The three year olds topic for the month was "Shapes" and we talked about what we were thankful for. What a lively group this is! They have a favorite time and its snack time of course. They are so cute and we are having fun with them! They keep us on our toes. We are still working on recognizing our names. Some do and about half still are having trouble so try to work on that over the holidays as well. I will try and send some ideas home over vacation. The threes are working hard on their alphabet books and they love getting stickers to put on their books.

Mrs. Shuttleworth & Miss Kristina

Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's Preschool News

*Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!
(Chronicles 16:34)*

The month of November is always a time for us to reflect upon the things in life that we are truly thankful for. I personally use this time of year for reflection, and to thank God for my many blessings which include but are not limited to my two growing daughters and supportive husband at home. During the daily hustle and bustle of life, we sometimes take for granted the roof over our heads and the materialistic items we enjoy. Take all the extras away in life and you still have the love and support of our God!

Continuing with our letter and writing skills, this month we added three new letters L, P, and T. The letter L helped us focus on Love and Laughter while completing leaves with items we were most thankful for. The letter P coincided with Pilgrims of the 1st Thanksgiving. Both classes enjoyed drawing and coloring Pilgrims and Indians to put on display as I read them a short story of The First Thanksgiving. The letter T most certainly stood for THANKSGIVING! We read the book "*Thanks for Thanksgiving*" by Julie Markes. This was a perfect book to read during the week of Thanksgiving because of its language directly explaining to children what they should be thankful for. Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila's classes would like to say Happy Thanksgiving to you all!

Now that Thanksgiving is behind us, we will be continuing to plan for the class Christmas programs. The three year old program will be held on Tuesday December 22nd at 9am. The four year old program will be held on Monday December 21st at 9am. Refreshments will follow both programs for the children and their families in the fellowship hall.

As always, we are truly thankful that we get this opportunity to share class time with each and every student. We love all the willingness to learn. As this holiday season is quickly upon us, please have a safe journey through the hustle and bustle of the weeks leading up to Christmas.

Blessings to You and Yours,
Mrs. Smith & Miss Twila

December 2015

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Advent Service	3 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	4	5
6 2 nd Sunday of Advent 9:00 SS/Adult Class 10:15 Holy Communion Voters' Meeting <i>Following service</i>	7 6:30 Council Mtg.	8	9 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Advent Service	10 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	11	12 9:00 Men's Club
13 3 rd Sunday of Advent 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	14	15	16 11:00 Bible Study 7:00 Midweek Advent Service	17 6:00 Kidz Klub 7:00 Choir	18	19
20 4 th Sunday of Advent 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion POP Christmas Dinner Immediately following service	21 9:00 4 yr. old Christmas Program	22 9:00 3 yr. old Christmas Program	23	24 4:00 Worship Service 7:00 Worship Service	25 10:00 Christmas Day Service	26
27 1 st Sunday of Christmas 9:00 SS/Adult 10:15 Holy Communion	28	29	30	31		