

the sower

... sowing the seeds of a new creation. . .

reflections. . .



All I can say is that if Luther really is the person responsible for bringing the Christmas Tree into the church, he blew it! The evergreen, by its very nature, is a symbol of immortality. From all appearances, it never dies. Always living! Forever green! Even in the coldest, darkest of places!

But, the truth is, here in the church, we don't believe in "evergreen." We don't believe in "immortality." We believe in death. . . in death and in resurrection! Death is real. It's all around us. And there's a time for everyone. . . for everything. . . even pine trees!

So, this advent, we'll be trying something different. Don't worry! We'll still have a Christmas Tree! But instead of being front and center, it'll be off to the side and set back a bit. This year, the main focus, instead, will be on a pear tree. No lights. No decorations. No leaves! Just a bare, empty sapling. Actually, nothing more than a stick. But a stick that – come Springtime – will come alive! A stick that will be raised! That will be reborn! Buds! Blossoms! Leaves! Fruit! That is what faith, for us, looks like! Not death-less. But dying. . . dying and rising!

No. Here in the church, we don't believe in immortality. We don't believe in ever-green. We believe in Christ! We believe in Christ crucified! Christ crucified and Christ rising! That's what we believe. . . even here at Christmastime!

until next month. . .

pastor bob



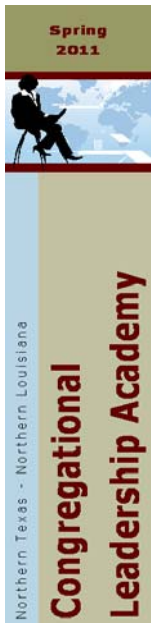
december a.d.2010

News Briefing

December 2010

Congregational Newsletter Insert. More information available at www.ntnl.org

Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana



Leadership Academy

Registration Deadline Extended

Leadership should never simply be assumed; it should be cultivated and taught – for example, (1) how to understand and appreciate the congregation as a living, striving, purposeful, emotional system or (2) how skilled leadership can proactively promote the health and effectiveness of the congregation. These two items are, in fact, two of the learning goals of the upcoming *Congregational Leadership Academy* (on NTNL.org – click on “Leaders” / “Academy”). Congregations are invited to send a leadership team of 3-5 persons (including the pastor) to take the training over three weekends during Lent, 2011. The training is especially helpful in the areas of conflict management, reconciliation processes and healthy community life. Presenters are seasoned and trained congregational leaders. Act now to submit your application before the end of 2010.



Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus

Advent, Arlington, offers a Thanksgiving Eve service (Tuesday) so those going out of town can gather for worship. • **St. Luke's, Richardson**, offers a *Lost and Grief Class*. • **St. Paul, Crawford**, had a patriotic concert in November. • **Trinity, Wichita Falls**, was host to a concert by choirs from local schools.. • **Faith, Wichita Falls** surprised its pastor with a *Pastor's Appreciation Potluck*. • **Our Redeemer, Grand Prairie**, dedicated a wall of crosses given by members and friends. • **Grace, Carrollton**, had a *Bring a Friend Sunday*. • **New Life in Christ, Duncanville**, had a State Fair Sunday in which foods, games and prizes like the State Fair's were offered. • The daily devotional, **Christ in Our Home**, features devotions by Pastor Stan Meyer for the last half of December. • **Calvary, San Angelo**, had an appreciation dinner for worship assistants.

Fire at Briarwood – On November 6 a fire destroyed the trailer home at Briarwood that housed the Operations Director, Matt Baumhardt. He lost many precious possessions, including his dog Willabee. Please remember him in prayer and consider a donation to Briarwood's *Staff Housing Fund*.

Prison Break – Senior High students of the Lutheran Youth Organization (LYO) gather at the Crowne Plaza in Addison on January 14-16 under the theme, *Prison Break*. The featured speaker is Sean McMillan.



Pastor Mindy Roll is the new ELCA Campus Pastor for the Brazos Valley (Texas A&M and the Blinn College campuses). She comes from Faith, Bellaire (Houston) originally and graduated from Texas A&M in 2003. She is a graduate of Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg. You can contact her at MindyRoll@yahoo.com.

Living DiscipleLife: Leadership Formation for Mission – Join one of the remaining days of Prayer and Conversation: **Dec. 4** (Shepherd King, Lubbock) • **Jan. 15** (St. Luke's, Richardson) • **Jan. 29** (Calvary, Richland Hills) • **Mar. 26** (Bethel, Avoca).

FYI...

December Emphasis: LSS Nelson's Children's Center

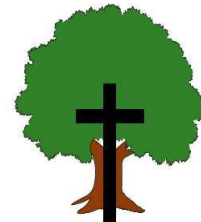
- ❖ **Notice:** The **2011 Mission Assembly** is set for the Hurst Conference Center in Hurst (www.hurstccc.com). The assembly begins on April 29 (not 28 as previously announced), concluding on May 1. Watch NTNL.org for information.
- ❖ **Christmas Vespers** – the annual event to welcome the Advent and Christmas seasons – is a concert of sacred music offered by Texas Lutheran University. The dates are December 3-5 in Seguin. Contact: www.TLU.edu/events/vespers.
- ❖ **Men's Ministry:** Learn more about what's happening in Men's Ministry at NTNL.org / “Partners” / “Lutheran Men in Mission”. The web page also has the link to a new informational video about LMM.
- ❖ Have you heard of **DiscipleLife Alive!** yet? Keep listening. It's about our shared future, leadership, and aspirations.
- ❖ As you plan your giving for Christmas, think of the **ELCA World Hunger Appeal**. Gifts large and small make a world of difference. Learn more at www.elca.org/hunger.

Northern Texas – Northern Louisiana: The DiscipleLife Synod – Sowing and Growing Disciples of Jesus

To receive *News Briefing* electronically or by regular mail, contact SynodOffice@ntnl.org, 214.637.6865, or sign up at www.ntnl.org.

The Briarwood Vine

Providing a Natural Setting Where People Experience God's Love
December 2010



UPDATE ON THE FIRE AT BRIARWOOD

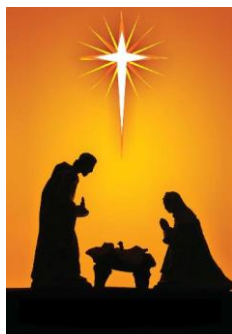


First, a thank you to everyone who has called, written, offered prayers, and offered financial assistance as we continue to work to recover from the fire

(on Saturday, November 6th, the trailer in which our Operations Director Matt Baumhardt lived was destroyed by a fire). We are exploring several different options at this time. If you would like to partner with us to provide adequate housing for our staff, you can send a financial contribution and designate it to the "Staff Housing Fund."

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS RETREAT – DECEMBER 11-12

Briarwood's Annual Advent/Christmas Retreat for 4th graders through Middle School will be December 11 to 12 (Saturday and Sunday). We are planning another great retreat as we journey through the season of Advent.



The cost is \$60 per youth participant (\$30 for additional children from the same family). Adult chaperons are free. Cost includes four meals, snacks, overnight accommodations, a take home craft project, and lots of fun. Advent activities will include songs, games, campfire, arts & crafts, and Bible study.

More information is on our web site (www.briarwoodretreat.org). A brochure and registration form can be downloaded from our web site. Registration deadline is December 6th!

NEW YEAR'S EVE HIGH SCHOOL "LOCK-IN" PARTY



Ring in the New Year in a fun, safe, and alcohol free environment, surrounded by other young Christians. This will be a lock-in style event with numerous activities offered all night long for you to enjoy. We will be

providing food, drinks, and fun. Briarwood staff will be supervising all activities in both the main lodge and in the sleeping lodge. Highlights include Wii tournaments, a musical countdown to Midnight, a wide variety of games, late night pizza, and a sunrise Worship service to kick off 2011 in the right way. A light brunch will be offered on Saturday morning.

Adult chaperons are welcome to join us for the night and if they want to "crash" a room will be provided. Parents are also welcome to simply drop-off their kids on Friday night and pick them up on Saturday morning. Please register early so that we can guarantee the event.

Cost - \$15 per person. This includes overnight accommodations, all programming and materials, staff costs, and meals and snacks. (Adults will be provided a Quail Run motel style room.) Adults stay free! A brochure and registration form can be downloaded from our web site at www.briarwoodretreat.org. Registration Deadline is December 6th. (Please Note: Total registration must be 25 or more by December 6th for Briarwood to host this event.)

BRIARWOOD SUNDAY BRUNCH DECEMBER 5 – 10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

Come join us for our popular Sunday Brunch. For more information, including a full menu and pricing, check out our web site – www.briarwoodretreat.org.

We believe that God's purpose for Briarwood is to provide a natural setting where people experience God's love.
Thank you for your partnership in the camping and retreat ministry of the synod.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER APPEAL

JESUS SAID,
GO AND DO
LIKEWISE LUKE
10:37



The ELCA's World Hunger Appeal is known internationally and nationally as one of the best managed and most effective programs in existence. It is focused on building sustainable programs for the poor and hungry by offering not just food for today, but training, supplies, equipment and education for tomorrow. Through efforts such as "Stand with Africa" and the "Millennium Development Goals," the ELCA targets poverty, famine, epidemics, health and mortality issues. The World Hunger Appeal works cooperatively with other programs to leverage every dollar that is given.

Stand with Africa efforts assist communities and churches in Africa to banish hunger, overcome HIV/AIDS, and build peace. Examples? In Liberia over 300 counselors and health workers have been trained to educate others on HIV/AIDS. In Sierra Leone women leaders are taught strategies for disease prevention. In Kenya farmers are taught better farming techniques, including crop diversification. In Niger 68 farmers and others have access to loans to improve their family income. In Mali farmers are given lines of credit to purchase agricultural equipment, establish grain banks, and improve literacy and nutrition through education. (Learn more at www.ELCA.org/hunger.)



Millennium Development Goals have been adopted by the U.S. and 188 other countries in a commitment to cut extreme hunger by half by 2015. Besides attacking extreme poverty, the goals include achieving universal primary education, promoting gender equality, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS and malaria, ensuring environmental sustainability, and creating global partnerships for development. The goal of the ONE campaign is to direct an additional one percent of the U.S. budget to help the poorest countries meet the Millennium Development Goals. (Learn more at www.ELCA.org/advocacy/ONE.)

Sub-Saharan Africa Did you know?

10% of the world's population lives in this region, but 24% of the world's under-nourished and 27% of the world's refugee and displaced people live there.

Life expectancy for a woman in this region is 49 years; a man's is 47 years.

Out of every 1000 live births, 175 children will die before age 5 in this region.

Over half of the households in this region now have access to improved water sources thanks, in part, to the efforts supported by ELCA's World Hunger.

One fourth of the world's Lutherans live in Africa (especially Ethiopia and Tanzania).

Fifty-four of the 65 ELCA synods have a companion synod relationship with a Lutheran African church.

Our 2007 Synod Assembly urged 100% of our congregations to engage in at least one earnest effort to support the World Hunger Appeal each year.

ELCA Presiding Bishop Calls on Members to Give to ELCA World Hunger



CHICAGO (ELCA) -- The Rev. Mark S. Hanson, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), has called on members to give to ELCA World Hunger, pointing out that all funds given now will be matched dollar for dollar.

Hanson made the comment in a video message posted Nov. 29 on the ELCA website at

<http://www.ELCA.org/hunger/yearend>.

At his online Town Hall Forum Nov. 21, Hanson said the ELCA made commitments to domestic and international partners to raise \$20 million in ELCA World Hunger funds in 2010. However, he said giving to ELCA World Hunger was down about 20 percent. He challenged ELCA members to make up the difference by the end of the year.

In his video message Hanson said there are more hungry Americans now than in the past 15 years. "In this harsh economy, families are hurting. They are hungry. Many of you have felt personally the impact of the economic downturn or know someone who is struggling. It is to you that Jesus' words of promise are spoken," he said.

Hanson also said that gifts to ELCA World Hunger "are one way those who are hungry now will be filled."

The ELCA presiding bishop cited several examples of how gifts to ELCA World Hunger are making a difference.

"Because of your gifts to ELCA World Hunger, children like Brian, a preschooler in Detroit, is filled with a free, nutritious lunch at school each day," he said. "Your gifts help youth like the American Indian college students I met who told me that ELCA World Hunger grants made it possible for them to get an education. And your gifts help people like Jim, a senior citizen in South Carolina." Jim Freeman's story is chronicled in a video on the ELCA World Hunger website, the ELCA presiding bishop said.

Hanson concluded his message by asking members to encourage their congregations to take up a special offering for ELCA World Hunger. "Pray that we do all we can to make sure no one goes hungry, here or around the world," he said.

You can contribute online at <http://www.ELCA.org/hungerdonate> or by calling 800-638-3522. Contributions may be sent by mail to ELCA World Hunger, P.O. Box 71764, Chicago, IL 60694-1764.



check it out. . .
www.elca.org/hunger

mind games



Isaiah 11.6

from...

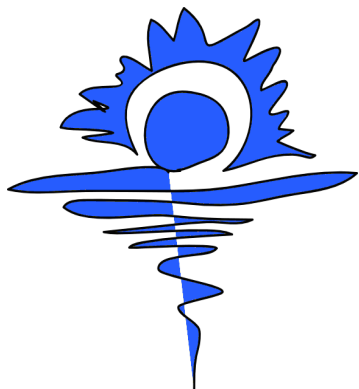
<http://peace.mennolink.org>

BACK AT THE BEGINNING OF SEPTEMBER, after four years of sharing life and facilities, Church-on-the-Journey continued its voyage, relocating to Memorial Christian on Andrews Hwy. In response to that move, during the next two months, members of this congregation held a series of meetings to discuss where we would go from here. The decision was made NOT to react and cut back our ministry; but, rather, to renew our efforts in three primary areas.

First, we would organize small-group, in-home bible studies to bring people together and to provide newcomers easier "entry points" into our community. We would, also, like to see if it would be possible to do this ministry in partnership with the people at Hope Lutheran! Sherice Barndt will lead this effort.

Secondly, it was decided that we needed to be more intentional in inviting people into worship and in following up with those who accepted the invitation. Fred and Ginny Behnken will head this focus.

And, finally, we felt that it was important to continue making our facilities available to other faith-based organizations in the community. The group felt that the pastor was best positioned to do this.



Of course, we all agreed that any response to this change would take time. There would be no "quick" fixes. If you have any questions, concerns, or

would simply like to lend a hand, feel free to contact the pastor (bbarndt@juno.com * 694-1373), Sherice (sbarndt@juno.com * 689-9274), or Fred and Ginny (fred_behnken@grandecom.net * 262-3374)!

+ + +

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS

BREAK for the Tuesday

Evening Study Group

continues! We thought it best

not to compete with Advent

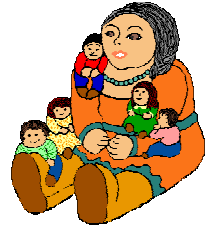
Midweeks! But things'll resume

the second Tuesday after New Year, Jan

11th! Just after making your resolutions for

the new year. . . like learning more about

Jesus!?!



+ + +

IF YOU WERE WONDERING. . . There



still is Sunday School

for the kiddoes AND

the adults every Sun-

day morning! Just be

here at 9:15 (or so)!

And don't worry!

We'll finish up in time

for worship. Sherice teaches the younger

disciples. Pastor, the older. Last week, the

adult class finished up its "glimpse" at

heresies in the early church and will be

moving on to something new. So, join us

this coming Sunday, Dec 5th, and you can

help choose the next topic! We meet in

the fellowship hall. If you're not sure

where it is, just follow your nose! The

coffee'll lead the way! Any questions, give

the pastor a call (694-1373). . . or drop a

line or two (bbarndt@juno.com) . . .

AND, IF YOU HAVEN'T HAD THE CHANCE. . .

make sure you get to at least one of this year's Advent Midweeks! The evening begins with a light meal served between 5:45 and 6:45. The women of the church hosted the first on Dec 1st. Outreach will serve on the 8th and "Kids-to-Camp" on the 15th!



Also, this year, Sherice will offer something new! From 6:15 till just before 7:00, there will be a craft time for the kids! Then, wrapping things up will be a short devotion and "Holden Evening Prayer" – possibly, the best worship you'll ever experience here at Midland Lutheran. As you can tell from the image above, we've, even, done a little "tweaking" of the fellowship hall to enhance the occasion. By the way, the topic for the devotions is "Finding God in the Most Unexpected". If you'd like to come but don't, usually, get out at night, give us a call and we'll do our best to make sure you get here! **694-1373**

+++

THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

will hold their annual Christmas Luncheon Wednesday, Dec 8th. Bible study begins at 11:00. And a potluck (salads) lunch follows at noon! This year, the women will gather at Barbara



Porsch's home, 2313 Stutz Place. Any questions, give her a call: 683-4474

+++

IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE THAT IT'S BEEN SEVEN YEARS

since the congregation council voted NOT to heat the building during the month of November! (Fortunately, it was a warm Fall, that year!) The reason was to set aside a "nest egg" that we could, then, invest in a new ministry to the community. Tthe fruit of our efforts was the Second

Saturday Pancake Breakfasts! They began February the following year! And they've been our gift to the community every month ever since! The next breakfast will be Dec 11th! If you haven't, yet, come!

Now's a great time not just to share good food! But to spend some time with friends

you may not, even, have met yet! Doors open at 9:00! We serve until 11:00! And if you can't stay long, we even offer



take-out! Any questions, talk with Fred! Or Lonnie! Or Dave! Or Ruth! Or Jonathan! Or Joshua! Or Sherice! Or. . . you get the idea! Come on down! And bring your newspaper! Or better yet, a friend, too!

+++

WELL, WE'VE NEVER DONE IT BEFORE,

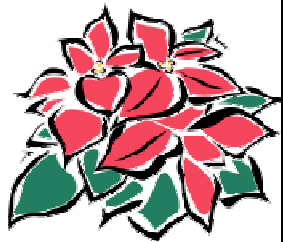
but how about a caroling party! The past couple years, we rode around the

neighborhood on a trailer sitting on bales of hay. But this year, we'll be standing still!



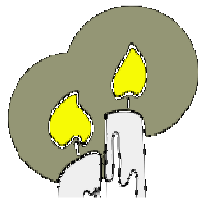
Around a fire! Singing all the old favorites! With the neighbors! It'll be Friday evening, Dec 17th, from 7-8:30. We'll provide the fire pit, the wood, and the cocoa! And invite everyone else to bring goodies to share! Like I said, we've never done it before.

But it's worth a try! AFTERALL, IT IS CHRISTMAS! If you'd like to help cross a few



T's or dot a few I's, let me know. . .

bbarndt@juno.com *
694-1373



+++
THIS YEAR, CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP will begin at 7:00, Friday evening, Dec 24th. Carols! Candlelight! Communion! All in order to proclaim the birth of god among us! The birth of god and the love god has for us! This is a special time. For family! For friends! But, most of all, for church! If you'd like to be here but find it difficult to

get out at night, please, please, PLEASE give us a call and we'll find a way to get you here! 694-1373

+++
AND SPEAKING OF CHRISTMAS. . .

If you'd like to share a poinsettia Christmas Eve or. . . if you would like to donate a blanket to be distributed to those who need one by the people at Casa de Amigos, fill out the slip at the bottom of this page and mail it or drop it by the church office on or before Sunday, Dec 19th. Or just give us a call and we can take the information over the phone! Your gifts can, then, be dropped off any time before Wednesday, Dec 22nd. Or, again, if need be, we can stop by and pick it/them up for you.

+++
CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW GRAND-PARENTS. . . TOM & LIZ DANEKER!

Cynthia has a little boy! > Liam Charles Ranous * born November 13th * 8 lb, 15 oz. * 21" < Mom, baby, and



grandparents are all doing great! And, if you're interested, Grandma & Grampa have more pictures!

name _____ email/phone _____

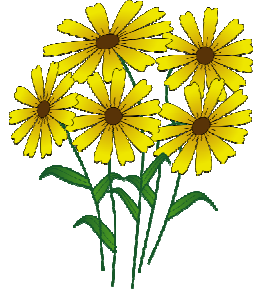
I am / We are. . . providing a poinsettia and/or blanket. . .

in memory of _____

in honor of _____

please have your gifts to the church on or before wednesday, december 22nd + thanks

THE FLOWER CHART FOR 2011 is ready! It's tacked to the wall in the lobby to the left of the doors into the worship area. Got all that!?! Just find the day, fill in your name and reason for giving: in memory. . . in honor. . . Any questions, talk with Norma! **697-4215**



+ + +



BTW. . . the "rice bowl" offerings for World Hunger Appeal (taken up the kids after the "sermonito"), is now, year-to-date. . .

\$2,106.20!

+ + +

AND ONE FINAL THING. . . When we talked about it a year-and-a-half ago, it didn't seem possible. Four major projects we were going to have to address in the very near future. Replacing five heating and air conditioning units in the older parts of the building! Replacing the entire roof! Replacing the cabinets in the kitchen in the parsonage! Repairing, resealing, and re-striping the east parking lot on the south side of the building! Well, as of two weeks ago, **THEY WERE ALL COMPLETED! EVERY, SINGLE ONE OF THEM!** There's no room left in this issue of "the SOWER". But next month, we'll have pictures! For now, thanks! For your faith! For your commitment! And, mostly, for your dreams!

+ + +

PLEASE KEEP THESE PEOPLE in your thoughts, words, & DEEDS. . .

Bessie Arthur; Bob Bales; the family and friends Bessie Arthur; Bob Bales; Sandra

Burress; Speck & Dorothy Chambers; Ted Chevront; Burgess & Sally Cooke; Margo Dollan and her family; Tony Garcia and his family; Gene & Terri Gordon; Neil Harris; David Herman, Evelyn Herrera; Zack Jemison; Janette Jenson; Scott & Devon Johnson; Lynelle Kestler; Bill & Shirley Landureth; Cassie Martin; Frances Matthews; Darlene McMahan; Martin Meissner; Cindy Nelson; Lawanna Nelson; Rose Neuman; Eden Nicole; Jeanette Price; Jim & Nick Roop; family and friends of Al Norma Saenger; family and friends of John Schroeder; Morris Snider; Don & Nelda Tergerson; family and friends of Holly Tucker; Marie Walker

For telephone prayer chain requests, please call Barbara Porsch (**683-4474**) or Ginny Behnken (**262-3374**)! If you'd like to be a link, please get in touch with either.!

+ + +

the BIRTHDAYS

dorothy chambers	12/01	carol reinert	12/20
ron meyer	12/01	connie saenger	12/21
amanda taylor	12/10	chita meyer	12/27
matthew keys	12/16	rachel meyer	12/27
nancy day	12/20	barbara porsch	12/27

+ + +

the ANNIVERSARIES

speck & dorothy chambers	12/11	62 yrs
henry & carole holstein	12/19	47 yrs
charles & barbara wolle	12/30	43 yrs

if we've - unintentionally - omitted a birthday or anniversary, please let us know

the LEADERSHIP of the CONGREGATION

president			
secretary	marylin boomer	carol reinert	treasurer
ministry team	council representative/team leader		
building and grounds			
education	sally cooke		
fellowship			
outreach	fred behnken		
stewardship & finance			
worship	norma saenger		
nominating team			delegate(s)
organist	chad hauris	bob barndt	pastor

the WORSHIP MINISTERS

	acolyte	reader	worship ass't	tellers	altar flowers
dec 05	eden brown	fred behnken	marylin boomer	del bowie & lonnie yee	
dec 12	jonathan yee	marylin boomer	rachel meyer	tom daneker & lonnie yee	
dec 19	joshua yee	gretchen shults	fred behnken	gerald & ruth mendenhall	
dec 26	lanie barndt	jonathan yee	eric kratky	fred behnken & alan sewell	the BARNDTs the YEEs
altar guild	norma saenger & mary yee		lonnie yee fred behnken	cantor lockup	

"a servant's garb

*now wraps the one
who clothed the sky with light. . .*

nikolaus herman
1480-1561



average sunday attendance for november: **41**



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

+++++

midland lutheran church

2705 west michigan avenue * midland, texas 79701-5840

bob barndt, pastor

office: 432.694-1373 * home: 432.689-9274 * fax: 432.694-4631

webpage: www.midlandlutheranchurch.org

email: midluth@att.net or bbarndt@juno.com

sunday morning schedule: **learning hour @ 9:15 * worship @ 10:30**

office hours: monday-thursday, 9am-noon & by appointment

+++++

midland lutheran church

2705 w michigan av + midland, tx 79701-5840



nonprofit org.
u.s. postage
PAID
midland, tx
79711
permit No. 561

return service requested

december 2010



the PROPERs for december

the SECOND SUNDAY of ADVENT, December 5

the **PRAYER** of the **DAY**: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the **READINGS**: Isaiah 11:1–10 + Psalm 72:1–7, 18–19 + Romans 15:4–13 + Matthew 3:1–12

the THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT, December 12

the **PRAYER** of the **DAY**: Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the **READINGS**: Isaiah 35:1–10 + Psalm 146:5–10 + James 5:7–10 + Matthew 11:2–11

the FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT, December 19

the **PRAYER** of the **DAY**: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the **READINGS**: Isaiah 7:10–16 + Psalm 80:1–7, 17–19 + Romans 1:1–7 + Matthew 1:18–25

the NATIVITY of OUR LORD / CHRISTMAS EVE, December 24

the **PRAYER** of the **DAY**: Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.




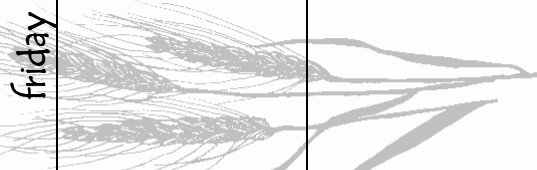







the **READINGS**: Isaiah 9:2–7 + Psalm 96 + Titus 2:11–14 + Luke 2:1–14 [15–20]

the FIRST SUNDAY of CHRISTMAS, December 26

the **PRAYER** of the **DAY**: O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

the **READINGS**: Isaiah 63:7–9 + Psalm 148 + Hebrews 2:10–18 + Matthew 2:13–23

december 2010

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
5  9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship	6  11:00am - women of the elca - salad luncheon	7 5:45-6:45pm - supper 6:15-6:55pm - kids' craft 7:00pm - evening prayer	1 5:45-6:45pm - supper 6:15-6:55pm - kids' craft 7:00pm - evening prayer	2 10:00am - folding, stuffing, labeling club  1-5:00pm - the patio	3 	4
12  9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship	13	8 5:45-6:45pm - supper 6:15-6:55pm - kids' craft 7:00pm - evening prayer	9  1-5:00pm - the patio	16 11:30am - congregation council  1-5:00pm - the patio	10  9-11:00am - pancake breakfast	11 neighborhood caroling party 7:00pm
19  9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship	20	14 15 5:45-6:45pm - supper 6:15-6:55pm - kids' craft 7:00pm - evening prayer	22 misd christmas holiday	23 7:00pm - christmas eve candlelight communion	17 	25  christmas day
26 9:15am - learning 10:30am - worship	27	21 28	29	30 10:00am - folding, stuffing, labeling club	31	