



# Happynings

December 11, 2009

## This Week's Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalms: Isaiah 12:2-6

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

**The newsletter and calendar for Good Shepherd Lutheran Church (ELCA) Rochester • Minnesota**

### Blue Christmas, Sunday, December 20 at 5:30pm

Is this time of year hard for you?

Instead of joy do you often feel heart ache as the Christmas season approaches?

You are not alone.

For many, the approaching Christmas holiday does not bring with it all the joy and happiness that is advertised on television or in greeting cards.

Many are facing the upcoming holiday season after the death of a loved one or after a divorce. Some are dealing with chronic illness while others have been unable to have children. Still others feel pressured and overwhelmed by holiday preparations.

If any of this rings true for you, or if you would simply like to get away for a time to feel renewed, comforted and in the presence of a caring community, then come to the Blue Christmas Worship Service. It is for you.

Through music, readings, Holy Communion, prayer and a time to slow down and reflect... kindness, calm and peace have an opportunity to reach inside of us. The Blue Christmas service is for everyone who longs for this kind of peaceful worship experience, but especially for people who have suffered a loss or for whom the holidays make the heart ache. Come, bring a friend, a family member, come alone... but come...you are invited.



### Advent & Christmas Poinsettias

To enhance our worship experience during Advent and Christmas, GSC will again be adding poinsettias to our seasonal sanctuary décor. You may purchase a poinsettia for this purpose and bring it to your own home after the Christmas Eve

service. Many members buy a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. The price of the plant is \$8 and can be placed in the offering plate, dropped in the mailbox outside the office door, or turned into the office during regular business hours. You can use the form below to note how many poinsettias you are ordering and who they are honoring.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

### THIS WEEK AT GOOD SHEPHERD

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 11

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

5:30pm          Worship

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

8:00am          Worship

9:15am          Education Hour, Adult Bible Study

10:30am        Worship

#### MONDAY, DECEMBER 14

5:45pm          Worship Committee

6:30pm          Celebration Handbells, Education Comm.

7:30pm          Jubilation Handbells

#### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15

7:30am          Men's Coffee

10:30am        Staff Meeting

2:30-9:00pm    Lifetouch Photography (B, C, Library)

#### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:30am          Stay & Play

5:20pm          First Word

5:30pm          Praise Kids, Ring & Sing, Praise Link, Wed. Night Air, Confirmation

6:00pm          Simple Supper

6:45pm          Worship

7:30pm          Remix, Joyful Noise Singers

#### THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17

7:00am          Adult Bible Study

2:30-9:00pm    Lifetouch Photography (B, C, Library)

7:00pm          Sisters in Faith

#### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18

2:30-9:00pm    Lifetouch Photography

#### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19

9:00am          Quilters

10am-4:30pm   Lifetouch Photography

5:30pm          Worship

#### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

8:00am          Worship

9:15am          Birthday Party for Jesus (FH), Education Hour, Adult Bible Study

10:30am        Worship

4:00pm          Crazy Caroling (meet @ GSC)

5:30pm          Blue Christmas service

**The 50th Anniversary Committee** would like to express our thanks to all of you who contributed to the GSC Bake Sale; both to the bakers and to the shoppers! Due to your generosity, a total of \$1,000 was collected to help fund our upcoming Aug. 28th & 29th 2010 Anniversary Celebration! Many Thanks!

**SCRIP CARDS:** The Holiday Season is upon us and we encourage you to consider purchasing SCRIP cards for your gift giving!!!! We now have VISA gift cards in amounts \$25, \$50, and \$100 denominations. Remember to order early so that your cards can arrive on time. If there is something you don't see please ask as there are many other gift cards that can be ordered that we don't keep in stock. Please direct questions to Erik Schlicht 507-258-0258 or theschlichts@gmail.com.

**Senior High Ski Trip** – Lutsen Mountain – January 28-31. Cost: \$250 (transportation, lodging, 3 days of lift tickets. Does not include cost of ski rental). \$150 if you are not skiing. \$100 deposit and health release due to church by Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, with remaining balance due January 10<sup>th</sup>. Call Jeff Brown (287-0465), Marie or Dan Johnson (252-0720) for information.

Our **Summer Mission Trip** is to Kansas City, Kansas on June 20-25, 2010. With the recent downturn in the economy and a climbing unemployment rate, families in Kansas City are struggling in many ways. To reserve your spot please turn in a \$50 deposit by January 8, 2010 to Pastor Karen.



The blizzard may be over, but the photo taking isn't. We want every family's picture in the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Good Shepherd Pictorial Directory, but only a few spots for photo appointments are still available. **We have extended the online scheduling**, so you can go to [www.goodshepherdchurch.net](http://www.goodshepherdchurch.net) and click on the blue Lifetouch link and schedule your own appointment. But if you're not computer savvy, you can still get your appointment by calling Robyn Floyd at 261-0750 or by emailing her at [rwfloyd1@charter.net](mailto:rwfloyd1@charter.net). Choose from Dec. 15, 17, 18, 29 or 30 from 2:30 to 9:00. The schedule on Saturday, Dec. 19, is currently filled up. Get a free 8 X 10 family portrait plus your own free copy of the anniversary church directory. Make your appointment today!

For those who are scheduled for Lifetouch photo appointments this coming week, please enter the building via the north door by the office and proceed to the library for check-in 10 minutes before your appointment time. Don't forget, if you bring a canned or boxed food donation to your appointment, you will receive \$5 off your order. Seniors 60 and older receive 20% off their portraits.

I just wanted to say thank you again from Zumbro Valley Mental Health Center, for the amazing generosity of Good Shepherd, for our clients once again this year. You truly are a Blessing for those in need. Thanks you so much for letting me share in this blessing, I always look forward to it.

Blessings, Julie Halferty

## PRAYERS

+ For all members of Good Shepherd, especially: Mark & Linda Persson (Jeremy, Danielle), Joe & Angela Peter (Caleb, Brianna), Pamela Peterson, Wayne Peterson.

## + December 13, 2009: 3rd Sunday in Advent

First Lutheran in Blooming Prairie, Concordia Lutheran of Pickerel Lake in Albert Lea, First English Lutheran in Faribault, Rejoice! in Northfield, Msingi Lutheran Church in Tanzania (partnered with First, Faribault), Amani Lutheran Church in Tanzania

## BIRTHDAYS

- 11th Bud Alcorn, Corey Goetsch, Josie Hemker, Emma Korngable, Madison Sheehan
- 12th Andria King
- 13th Sarah Fish, Marcia Hockert, Andrea Osman
- 14th Lynne Billing, Laney Lindor, Beth Suginaka, Holly Tagtow, Kevin Wulff
- 15th Makayla Griffin, Sarah Krolak, Scott Skalisky
- 16th Paul Halverson, Guy Havelick, Zabryna Stahnke, Kirk McCamish, Gail Price
- 17th Jeff Brown, Jan Butorac, Sarah Friedli
- 18th Gale Chilson, Sarah Jones
- 19th Scott Kolar, Tracy Tollefson

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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Phone: (507) 289-1748

Office hours ..... 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Monday - Friday

E-mail info. [gscsecretary@goodshepherdchurch.net](mailto:gscsecretary@goodshepherdchurch.net)

### Worship Services (with Holy Communion)

Wednesday 6:45PM; Saturday 5:30 PM;

Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM

### Staff

Dave Berg..... Pastor  
Karen Pahl..... Pastor  
Jack Friedli..... Pastoral Assistant  
Cynthia McLaren ..... Associate in Ministry  
Mike Thilges ..... Office Administrator  
Roger Harty, Mark Kubat, ABC ..... Custodians  
Mike Thilges [gscsecretary@goodshepherdchurch.net](mailto:gscsecretary@goodshepherdchurch.net)  
**Web site** ..... [www.goodshepherdchurch.net](http://www.goodshepherdchurch.net)  
Paul Willemsen, Admin.. ([willemsen@charter.net](mailto:willemsen@charter.net))