

Some Scripture:

As it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

*Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and **all flesh shall see the salvation of God.**" Luke 3:4-6*

A Devotional Thought:

Our recent trip to Washington D.C. to visit our daughters reminded me of a friend who was also visiting in The District several years ago. Their young and excited children jumped on a Metro train... and the doors closed before the parents could get on it. Can you imagine the parents' anxiety while their child disappeared down the underground tunnel? It is a parental fear that is almost impossible to feel unless we have been in a similar situation? Perhaps the word panic most accurately describes it?

Just before reminding the faithful of Israel about the above promise from Isaiah, Luke tells of the story of the 12 year old Jesus in the temple sitting among the teachers without his parents' knowledge. Joseph and Mary discovered after a days journey that their son was lost. When they finally found him, Mary said, *Your father and I have been looking for you anxiously.* Then Luke jumps 18 years forward telling about John the Baptist proclaiming repentance and baptism for the forgiveness of sins. Then we are reminded of Isaiah's promise that **all flesh shall see the salvation of God.** In this we are reminded that Jesus' ministry was to reach **all lost children of God.**

Christians have understood "all flesh" to refer to all humanity. God's salvation is available to everyone. Perhaps God's anxiety over any and all "lost" children is similar to ours. The ministry of Jesus is our ministry today. Perhaps if we had the same *panic* for the lost children of God as we do for our own children our evangelism efforts might be greater?

Pastor Scott Zimmerer

A Prayer:

Lord God, forgive us our lack of *panic* for your lost children. Help all of us to follow Jesus with a heart for sharing his Good News. Bless and lead us as his baptized followers to help **all flesh to see God's salvation** for Jesus' sake. Amen.

A bit of Church Humor:

Little Johnny and his family were having Sunday dinner at his Grandmother's house. Everyone was seated around the table as the food was being served. When Little Johnny received his plate, he started eating right away.

"Johnny! Please wait until we say our prayer." said his mother.

"I don't need to," the small boy replied.

"Of course, you do," his mother insisted. "We always say a prayer before eating at our house."

"That's at our house," Johnny explained. "This is Grandma's house and she knows how to cook!"



New Adult Sunday School Class begins this Sunday

Pastor will begin a series using the book:

Power Surge: Six Marks of Discipleship

Join us every Sunday at 9:30 in the overflow room

TONIGHT!!!

Advent Evening Dinner and Program

Beginning this Wednesday we will be joining St. Paul's, Farmers Branch for their Mid-Week Advent Dinners & Worship. The program for December 2, 9, & 16 will be to gather at St. Paul's for a casual, light potluck supper followed by *Holden Evening Prayer*. The pastors will alternate weeks in offering a brief scripture meditation based on our Acts Bible studies. St. Paul's is located at: 13605 Webb Chapel Rd Farmers Branch.

What Happen Last Sunday?

- ✘ Pastor was with family in Pennsylvania ~ Thank you to Bryan Swenson for leading worship.
- ✘ It was the Plata's last Sunday ~ They leave Tuesday for Costa Rica
- ✘ All family Sunday School – An Advent Event and making of Advent wreaths

What Happens Next Sunday?

- ✘ Worship Services 8:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.
- ✘ Sunday School Hour
- ✘ Adult Sunday School begins new series: *Power Surge*

Assisting With Worship	8:15 a.m.	10:45 a.m.
Acolyte	Hannah McClenaghan	To be announced
Worship Assistant	Sarah McClenaghan	
Greeters	Terry Vaziri	Jodi & Barry Reiner
Lay Reader	Tom Bolger	Gloria Putz
Ushers	Darrell Davidchik & Tracey Flood	Chuck & CJ Schero
Counting	Don Gulliksen & Chris Wagner	
Pianist	Pam Adgate	
Guitar	Richard Gall	

Altar Guild	Set Up	Clean Up	Bread
12/6	Patti Hutchinson	Isabel Anders	Isabel Anders

Prayer Concerns...

NEW CONCERNS: The family of Harvey Haas who died 11/26/2009 (uncle of Daniel Haas); Selma Grover (gall bladder surgery 11/29 – mother of Sylvia Belanger); Jean Hutchinson (heart attack & massive brain damage– mother of Dan Hutchinson); Cherry Langley (home - post-kidney stone infection); The family of Ray Beduhn who died on 11/21/2009 (Uncle of Karen Schmid & Caroll Scott); The family of Frances Meador who died on 11/23/2009 (sister-in-law of Caroll Scott); Col. Mark Davis, U.S. Army (brain cancer- nephew of Paula Parker); Isabel Anders; Jan Wilson; Ron Nelson (heart meds); Mason Billiot (immune deficiency); The 7 leaders of Iran's Baha'i community imprisoned; St. Paul's and Grace as we seek to discern God's will for our future; Antonio Avona (knee replacement surgery); Jerry Finnell (final stages of cancer – friend of Clint Frank); Carl Rewerts; Heidi Deters (cancer – friend of Gloria Putz).

ON-GOING CONCERNS: Betty Opalecky (cancer treatment began 8/24 – friend of Mary Howard); Luke Sullivan; Kay Sembrick (Corinthians Rehabilitation Center); Corey Wilson; Janice Brokens; Marianne Howard; the men and women of the Armed Forces. Also keep in your prayers the members of Grace who are unemployed and their families, and the members of Grace who are homebound.

Weekly Calendar...

Wednesday	12/2/2009	9:30 AM	Book Study (The book of Luke)
		6:00 PM	Advent Pot Luck/Worship St Paul's Lutheran Church
Thursday	12/3/2009	10:00 AM	Quilting
		7:00 PM	Adult Choir Practice
		7:00 PM	Cub Scout Pack 405 Den 6 & 7
		7:00 PM	Quilting
Friday	12/4/2009	10:00 AM	Nativity Exhibit at LDS Church
Saturday	12/5/2009	10:00 AM	Nativity Exhibit at LDC Church
		7:00 PM	WELCA Ladies Night Out Wine & Cheese Party
Sunday	12/6/2009	8:00 AM – 1:00 PM	BLOOD DRIVE
		8:15 AM	Worship
		9:30 AM	Sunday School & Adult Discussion
		10:45 AM	Worship
Monday	12/7/2009	1:00 PM	Staff Meeting
		6:30 PM	God & Me (Scouts)
		7:00 PM	Pack 405 Committee Meeting
		7:00 PM	Youth Committee Meeting
Tuesday	12/8/2009	7:00 PM	Council Meeting
		7:00 PM	Troop 723

 *Thank You* 



Bryan Swenson for preaching & presiding over the services last Sunday in pastor's absence.

Future Events and Notes. . .



DECEMBER 13th, 2009

The Property Committee
will host its annual
Luther's Pub "Holy Happy Hour"
between and after
Worship Services.

Come enjoy your favorite
pub drink & grub.
Awards will be handed out!



Please note the change in date for Scandinavian Hour

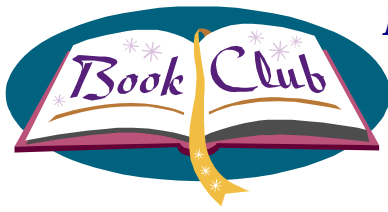


Sunday, December 20

9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Scandinavian Hour

*Share a plate of your favorite
Scandinavian or holiday goodies.
Join the festivities in the kitchen
between services for
fun, food, and fellowship!*



Read the book of Luke in the Bible and join the Wednesday morning Book Club today for a lively discussion at 9:30 a.m. Coffee, tea, and refreshments provided.

Carrollton Community Nativity Exhibit

Christ the Savior is born. Come share these good tidings of great joy depicted in hundreds of nativities from around the world. Local choirs will be providing seasonal music.

The display is open to the public on:

Dec 3rd 7 ~ 9 pm and Dec 4th & 5th 10 am ~ 9pm

The display is featured at the LDS congregation at 4000 Nazarene, Carrollton
(off of Hebron just west of 121)

Admission is FREE

Website: carrolltonnativity.com

COLLEGE and HIGH SCHOOL GRADS ~ CHRISTMAS GET TOGETHER



Come "hang out" with your friends from Grace Lutheran at the Lewisville Main Event on Monday, December 21 from 8 till???. Cost: \$21.60 w/tax. Bring a friend if you want. RevSEZ will pop in to meet everyone and catch up.

The following notes were received from our college youth or their parents in response to their final's gift from the church:

Michael was really surprised and pleased with the Starbucks card! Thanks so much for orchestrating this program.

-Linda Smalley

Hey Mom - the Starbucks gift certificate was great. Tell Grace people thanks for me.

-Jared Swenson

Nathan was surprised to get the Starbucks card and he thought it was really neat that Grace remembered him at school.

-Jean Witte

Ben said he really liked the Starbucks card.

-Pam Adgate

Thank you so much for my Halloween card and gift card from Grace!! I love getting mail because I don't get much very often, and I especially don't get mail with Starbucks gift cards in them, so thank you!

-Emily Ehlers

Amy was really surprised to get mail from Grace. The gift card was really appreciated.

-Joan Gulliksen

Thank you for my card and Starbucks card.

-Lauren Tamberelli

Adam really appreciated the Starbucks card

-Brenda Altenhofen



CHURCH DIRECTORY: *If you had any issues with photos taken on 10/29/2009, give Marlene Koonce a call (972)713-8366. She will schedule another sitting.*



**WELCA - Grace's Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
- it's time for a Ladies Night Out!**

Please sign up on the WELCA bulletin board for a fun evening of Wine & Cheese at the home of Terry Vaziri, 1320 Red Maple Drive, Carrollton, TX 75007, 972.492.5728. This party will be **Saturday, December 5 at 7 p.m.**

Please sign up to bring one of the following: wine, cheese & crackers, or fruit. Unlike other WELCA events, this one is for ladies 21 years old and older.

Feel free to bring a girl friend.



Mark your calendars! Our next chance to contribute to community via our **Blood Drive is this Sunday December 6th.** Please call the church to reserve a spot to donate. Also invite your family, friends and neighbors to give this precious gift of life. Blood supplies are very low ~ they need our help. The Blood Mobile will be in our parking lot from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m.

In September we had a great turn out, but still fell short of our goal of 25 people! In the spirit of the season, please give and help us meet our goal!

If you have any questions, please contact Peggy Davidson at peggy.davidson@mkcorp.com

Advent and Christmas are almost here!

The Adult Choir needs your voice this Advent and Christmas season. We need your help in making the music for our worship exciting, joyful and meaningful. The Adult choir will be singing for the Live Nativity on December 20th, the 7 p.m Christmas Eve service, as well as all Sundays during the month of December. Please talk to Gary Adgate if you are interested in singing during this wonderful time of the year. "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given!" Isaiah 9:6



The Return of the Kids Choir!

The **Sunday School Kids Choir** returns to sing on the 6th of December. They will sing their own version of *Soon and Very Soon*.

They will also return on the last Sunday in Advent (Dec 20) to sing *Hear the Angels*. If we have enough kids here for the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service I would love for them to sing *Go Tell it on the Mountain*.

Parents please check your calendars so your child can participate in these four praise opportunities. The **Sunday School Kids Choir** is for all children up through 5th grade. If your child is in this group please call or e-mail me with the dates your child can participate.

Grace Lutheran is also having a **Live Nativity** on December 20 from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m. If we have enough kids interested they could sing a few of their

tunes during this time. The Adult choir will also be singing.

Thanks and Gods' Peace!

Gary Adgate

469-261-1317 adgate@mac.com

JYO/SYO Advent Celebration at Briarwood-December 11/12



The JYO and SYO will be having an "Advent Celebration Retreat" on the 11th of December at Briarwood Retreat Center. Come join us for campfires, games, songs, Bible study, service project, pizza and worship as we explore the meaning of Advent 2009. Cost is \$45 and includes: Friday night pizza, breakfast/lunch on Saturday and your stay in the brand new Oak Grove cabins on Friday night!

Sign up on the Youth Ministry bulletin board if you are interested. If you have any questions please call Gary Adgate at 469-261-1317.

The Gift Tree



The Metrocrest Social Service Center will again conduct a Holiday Program that distributes food and gifts to needy persons in our immediate area. As in the years past, Grace Lutheran is supporting this program. From November 29th through December 13th, gift/food tags will be available on our felt tree by the office door. If you would like to participate, simply remove the tag(s) of your choice from the tree, purchase the item(s) and return to the church by late service on December 20th.

A suggestion is to let each member of your family shop for someone their own age. This way everyone gets involved and appropriate gifts are chosen for all! Returned items may be placed under the tree in the Sanctuary. Gift items should not be wrapped. Our donations will be delivered to the Metrocrest Holiday Store where families can "shop" for their gifts. Call Janet Johnson at (972) 393-1107 with questions. Thank you for your generous support.

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

5 MINUTE CHOCOLATE MUG CAKE

AKA: *The most dangerous chocolate cake recipe in the world*

4 tablespoons flour	4 tablespoons sugar
2 tablespoons cocoa	1 egg
3 tablespoons milk	3 tablespoons oil
3 tablespoons chocolate chips (optional)	a small splash of vanilla extract
1 large coffee mug	

Add dry ingredients to mug, and mix well.. Add the egg and mix thoroughly.

Pour in the milk and oil and mix well.

Add the chocolate chips (if using) and vanilla extract, and mix again.

Put your mug in the microwave and cook for 3 minutes at 1000 watts (high).

The cake will rise over the top of the mug, but don't be alarmed!

Allow to cool a little, and tip out onto a plate if desired.

EAT! (this can serve 2 if you want to feel slightly more virtuous)..

Q: And why is this the most dangerous cake recipe in the world?

A: Because now you are only 5 minutes away from warm chocolate cake at any time!

We'd like to keep this section going... Please submit your recipe to Pastor or Paula