

THE CHRONICLES

Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

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December 2015

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has shined. ...for a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forever more. The zeal of the Lord of host will do this.

With the last Sunday in November the season of Advent has arrived! Advent is a wonderful time to bring together and celebrate our story of faith in biblical times, the here and now, and love forward with great anticipation of life as it will be in the fullness of time.

It is important that we are connected to the biblical story of faith. How the prophets spoke of the birth of the Savior. Watching and waiting for years. Preparing and anticipating through so much of history. And, it is important to know that throughout the world Christians are preparing, anticipating and waiting for the coming of Christ.

We have condensed our vision of preparing, watching and waiting to four short weeks. Our hardships and struggles are often limited to being over-scheduled and under-focused. But, for the people of Israel, it was many, many years of waiting and watching. Their time of waiting was challenged by great hardship, false hope and wondering.

Each Sunday in Advent a candle on the Advent wreath will be lit, reminding us of our watchfulness of the coming of the Lord. Connecting us to our story of faith, giving voice to our part of God's unfolding drama. God's great love for us, sending Jesus and an infant reminding us that peace will reign and that the eternal light will shine brightly

In Christ,
Pastor Becky

Council Corner

COUNCIL News at a Glance

Council met on Nov. 23 - highlights of items discussed:

Stewardship – the Stewardship Drive culminated Nov. 15 when members brought their pledges forward. Those who have not yet turned in a pledge form are encouraged to do so.

Mission Investment Plan – We reviewed the proposed budget for 2016 and will present it to the Congregation at our upcoming Congregational meeting Dec. 13

2016 Council – The Nominating Committee is seeking members to fill the various Council positions and is making headway. The slate of proposed officers will be presented at the Congregational Meeting.

Upcoming – Congregational Meeting, Emily Ann Trail of Lights, Healthy Congregation Workshop

President – Blaine Nelson

Vice President – Autry Burns

Secretary – Chris Weaver

Treasurer – Mary Rodgers

Member at Large – Shirley Schliessmann

JoAnne Miller – Advisor (non-voting)

SAVE THE DATES

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

The Worship Service for Christmas will be held on **Christmas Eve at 5:30pm.**

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

The Prayer Shawl Ministry will meet on Sat. **Dec. 5th** at the church at 9:30am. For questions, contact Pat Ehrhart at 512-964-0800.

CHRISTMAS AT BLUE HOLE

Blue Hole hosts a Christmas caroling evening on Dec. 5th from 5-8pm. Pastor Becky will be leading the singing at some point, her specific time will be announced later.

WORSHIP AND SYMBOLS OF CHRISTMAS

On **Dec. 6th**, during worship we will recognize the Symbols of Christmas with decorating the tree.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a church-wide congregational meeting on Sun. Dec. 13th immediately following worship. See article below.

LCR EVENING AT EMILY ANN

LCR will be the hosts of the Emily Ann Trail of lights on Mon., Dec. 14th. We will hand out hot chocolate and direct visitors. Please come out for a fun evening of service.

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES

Newsletter articles will be due on Sat. Dec. 19th. The early deadline is due to the holidays.

PASTOR BECKY OPEN HOUSE

On Dec. 20th from 1-4, Pastor Becky will have an Open House Celebration at her new home at 434 Cinco Ninos, Wimberley.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

The next council meeting will be held on Mon. Dec. 21st at 9:30am.

BLUE CHRISTMAS

On Mon. Dec. 21st, there will be a Blue Christmas Worship Service. This is a service for those who are struggling to find the joy of Christmas this year; whether due to the flood, death of a loved one, or just life itself. Anyone is welcome to attend.

NO ADULT EDUCATION ON DEC. 20TH OR DEC. 27TH

AMAZON DONATION

If you do your holiday shopping online at Amazon.com please consider using the [Amazonsmile.com](https://www.amazon.com/amazon-smile) website which allows you to select Lutheran Church of the Resurrection. The church receives a donation from Amazon on a quarterly basis of 5% of the amount spent by those who use this program.



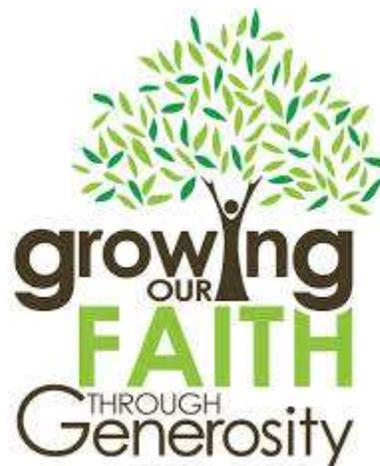
CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, December 13th following worship we will have our first end of the year Congregational Meeting. Topics on the agenda include: proposed Mission Investment Plan for 2016 (budget) and election of new council members. Please plan to attend this important December meeting.

LCR STEWARDSHIP EFFORT

LCR held a Stewardship Campaign “Growing our Faith through Generosity” October 4 – November 15. On Sunday, November 15 members brought their pledges forward and hung them on the giving tree. Thanks to all who participated and have made their pledge to our church.

As a reminder, if you have not yet turned in your Partnership Promise (pledge), please do so as soon as possible. Council is preparing the budget for 2016 and it will be most helpful to have an accurate projection of anticipated income. You may put your pledges in the offering plate or give them to Jo Anne Miller.



Mission of the Month – Christmas Gifts for the Day Laborers

LCR will again provide Christmas bags filled with basic necessities for the day laborers who gather at the Catholic Church. You can help by taking a tag from the giving tree in the narthex, purchasing the items on the tag and returning it by Dec. 13th. Or you can donate financially and the elves will purchase the supplies. Also, gently used men’s outer wear (coats, caps, gloves, boots, ...) are also welcome.

Everyone is invited to assemble the gift bags after worship on Dec. 13th and distribution will be on Sat. 12/19.

New Date for Healthy Congregation Workshop #3

– Sat. January 30, 2016

Healthy Congregation Workshop #3 has been rescheduled for Sat. Jan. 30th, 2016. This workshop is for all members in a leadership position and is encouraged for everyone. This workshop will be free of charge and will promote a growing together as a congregation. There will be more information coming.

Thank You

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY Road Cleanup –THANKS!

Thanks to all who came out to help with the road clean-up: Frank Bauer, Brandon Merkord, Al Strobel, Blaine Nelson, Dianne Kilpatrick, Colten Kilpatrick, Lois Hickman, David Johnson, Whitney Cargill, Jim Rodgers and Mikki Sogge.

The team collected 19 big bags of trash, and located some unusual items, i.e. a waterproof watch, an old Frostie root beer bottle, and several credit cards and ID's that we returned to the owner. Everyone had fun and got the job done in no time.



WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

Thank you to Pat Ehrhart and Raine St. Claire's yoga class for their donation of new church vacuums!!

Kudos to the Reformation Day Cast!

Belated KUDOS and a huge THANKS to all who participated in *Martin Luther Comes to LCR*, a Reformation Sunday skit commemorating and celebrating the work of Martin Luther. You did a wonderful job of giving meaning to this important time in the history of our church. The photo collage in the narthex depicts some of the events in Luther's life that were so delightfully brought to life by LCR's players.



In closing, cast members led the congregation in singing *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*. Shown left to right are John Fox – Tetzl; Corey Heidt – Martin Luther; Rebecca Heidt – Kate Luther; Students Natalie Merkord, Bella Raska, Benjamin Raska, Colten Kilpatrick and Vince Gordin. Not pictured are “Flashback” Sign Carriers Abigail Burttschell and Claire Valentine, and members of the congregation—the villagers—who purchased indulgences. Thanks also go to Sunday School teachers Lynn Raska, Carrie Valentine and Lois Hickman for assisting with rehearsals and for allowing class time to practice. A big thank you to William Gear for his French Horn accompaniment and professionalism.

Prayer List

We continue to pray for all who are ill and recovering and receiving treatments or testing especially: Doris King, Beverly Ladzinski, Mitch and Estelle Hill, Tyler Proue, Ginny Bouzard, Kay Ann Stenson, Melinda Pace, Molly Trebus (friend of Sogge family), Lora Hall, Zachary Doan, Lee Buse, Lynn Kimrey and Richard Polk (friends of Whitney Cargill with cancer), Robert Sherwood (bone cancer), and all caregivers that devote their time for those they love.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY 🎂				Happy Anniversary	
12-06	Robert Sherwood	12-27	Londa Burns	12-26	Lori & T Temoney
12-07	Rebecca Heidt	12-28	Claire Valentine	12-27	Lynda & Bob Pyle
12-17	Christian Sherwood	12-29	Dene Burttschell	12-31	Joyce & John Bradshaw
12-24	Linda Snyder	12-31	Lynda Pyle		
			CONGRATULATIONS!	Note: If we missed your special day or printed it incorrectly, please notify the church office...	

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

December	6	13	20	24	27
Assistant Minister	Shirley S.	Lois Hickman	Chris Weaver	Blaine Nelson	Corey Heidt
Acolyte	Bella Raska	Claire Valentine	Abigail Burttschell	Vincent Gordin	Aiden Boger
Reader	Angie Rose	Vincent Gordin	Mikki Sogge	Autry Burns	Natalie Merkord
Ushers	Gayle & Ron Weir	Travis/Colten Kilpatrick	Al Strobel/Autry Burns	Arturo Flores/Mikki Sogge	Merkord Family
Altar Guild	Shirley S.	Dianne Kilpatrick	Chris Weaver	Pat Ehrhart	Shirley S.
Greeter	Lynn Raska	Joan Mohr	Angie Rose	Blaine Nelson	Jo Anne Miller
Counters	Tamela/Arturo Flores	Jason Valentine	Brandon Merkord	None needed	Jo Anne Miller/Shirley S.

NOTE TO READERS: The **Scripture readings** for the week you serve **will be in your box** at the beginning of the month. **We encourage you to** take them home and **read through them prior to your Sunday to share your gift** with the congregation.

Pronunciation Guides are available – one under the Lectern (where you read) and the other in the Church office. Feel free to take and use them whenever needed.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE:

If you can't be present on the Sunday you are signed up to serve, please remember to **find your own replacement!!**

This is vital to making sure all leadership roles are filled each week.

Thanks! ☺

Bulletin Folders

Dec. 2: Blaine Nelson

Dec. 9: Shirley Schliessmann

Dec. 16: Paula Johnson

Dec. 23: Pat Ehrhart

Dec. 30: Shirley Schliessmann