



# THE SHEP NEWS



Weekend E-Newsletter • December 20, 2009 • 4th Sunday in Advent Worship: 9AM- ELW Service; 10 AM-Sunday School/Fellowship; 11 AM -Sing 'N Rejoice

## OUR MISSION

- To invite all people to know the unconditional love of Christ;
- To share Christ's love through words and deeds;
- To empower people to serve Christ in the world.

[www.goodshepherdmd.org](http://www.goodshepherdmd.org)  
[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)



God's Work  
Our Hands



Luke 1:39-45

## Sermon on the Amount December 13, 2009

Needed weekly \$6703  
Debt Reduction 560

**TOTAL RECEIVED \$4657**  
Needed for Budget **\$6703**  
Worship Attendance 206  
Sunday School 75  
To Make Budget **\$14903**  
Owed Reserve Fund 17,510  
Your help with weekly expenses is appreciated



50th Anniversary

[www.mar-lu-ridge.org](http://www.mar-lu-ridge.org)

## Visitations

Every Monday morning for 16 weeks they leave their house before dawn for their 8 A.M. appointment at the hospital. For the four hours that her 12-year-old daughter undergoes chemotherapy, Mom will be right there. During those mornings together, they will read, play games, watch videos, talk. Their Monday mornings are anxious times — but precious. For this mother and daughter, the Spirit of Mary's Child is with them.



cousin in the last months of what must have been a very difficult pregnancy, but also to seek the elder Elizabeth's counsel and support during her own struggle to understand what is happening. In Mary and Elizabeth's visit and in our own similar "visitations" the Spirit of God is present in the healing, comfort and support we can extend to one another in such moments. In the stirring of the infant in Elizabeth's womb, God calls to humanity in every time and place: I am with you every step of the way. I am with you in every storm. I am with you when the night seems unending. In Mary's Child, the inexplicable love of God becomes real to us, the peace and justice of God become possible.

*Pastor Ron*

Every Tuesday afternoon, after a full day of her own classes, Kristen, a high school senior, heads to the community center. For two hours, she tutors kids from city grammar schools in the mysteries of math and the secrets of English grammar and vocabulary. In Kristen's patient explanations and words of encouragement, God's compassion is revealed to kids at risk.

It is the first time the brothers have spoken in years. They've been estranged over a family matter, the details of which are long forgotten but the hurt and mistrust linger. But for the good of the family, they seek to repair their broken relationship. In every awkward word exchanged, in every attempt to move on, in every admission of hurt and anger between the two brothers, God is reborn.

In this Sunday's Gospel, Mary travels "in haste" to be with her cousin Elizabeth. Luke never says exactly why she goes, but we can guess: Mary wants to be with her beloved

## A Few Advent-Christmas Devotionals

remain in the Gathering Area. Thanks to Donna Willoughby and our writers for bringing this devotional to us at this season of the year!

**Sunday School Pageant** this Sunday, December 20th, 9AM Worship. Called "A Traditional Christmas Pageant", the children and youth will re-enact the Christmas story with a number of Christmas carols sung throughout.

## 8th grade Confirmation Class:

There will be no Sunday School confirmation class on Sunday December 27. Merry Christmas. Evie Timberlake.

## Christmas Eve at Good Shepherd

**5PM - Contemporary Service (suitable for families with small children) Puppets**

**6:30PM- Organ Medley of Christmas Music**

**7PM - Traditional Candlelight and Carol Service** with Special Music and Puppets for Children

**9:30PM- Shepherd Brass**

**10PM - Traditional Candlelight and Carol Service with Special Music**



## Christmas Love Tree

The Christmas Tree in the Gathering area serves as the annual Mitten Tree. Place children's mittens and hats on the tree. They will be distributed to local schools and will help keep kids warm this winter.



## Prayer Con-

**cerns:** Family of Orpha Zimmerman, who died Monday, December 14th; Family of Molly Pyburn, who died Wed., December 9th; Gary Stone, diagnosed with esophageal cancer; Gene Schoonover, back surgery, now at home, Patrick Covert, son of Loretta and Norm Covert, recovering from emergency surgery, New York; John Day, brother of Janet Fisher-Day, York Hospital; Andrea Reaves at the death of her grandmother; Paul Miller and Greg Miller, brothers of Evie Timberlake, Bobi Alleman (Sister of Loretta Covert); Molly, cousin of Bobbie Donaldson, Ron Knerr, Bernie Abrecht; Lee Brohawn; Lucas

Phelan; Sandy Kessler, Kathleen Shook; Phyllis Culler, Dale Lutz, Carolyn Hellman; Prayer requests, phone: Peggy Beers (301) 663-9741/Marilyn Ayres (301) 663-1997; or E-mail Evie Timberlake [2timbers@verizon.net](mailto:2timbers@verizon.net).

**Adult I Sunday School** meets Sundays at 10AM in the Community Room. They have begun a new study/DVD series on THE TEN COMMANDMENTS. This Sunday, the 3rd Commandment is reviewed.

**Adult II Sunday School** meets in the Fireplace Room, 10:15 AM - open discussion of contemporary issues from NPR's "Speaking of Faith". All are welcome

**Homebound:** *Becky Molesworth; Polly Carmack; Charles Thompson; Mary Nelson; Alice Willoughby; Agnes Gamer; JoEllen Gluscevic; Jo Adams; Belva Bell; Marjorie Deater; Kathleen Shook, Citizen's Nursing Home, Rosemont Ave., Frederick; Barbara Adams, Rena Hall, now at Tranquility Care, Jefferson Pike, Frederick. Dolores Beach is now at Somerford Place in Whittier.*

**Orpha Zimmerman** a long-time member of Good Shepherd, joined the Church Triumphant on Monday, December 14th after an extended illness. She was 89 years old. She is predeceased by her daughter, the late Jessica Palmer and her second husband, William Zimmerman. Her sister, Charlotte Ahalt, is also a member of Good Shepherd, as well as her niece, Doris Magaha. A private graveside service will be held on Friday, December 18th, 11 a.m. at the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery, Middletown, MD.

### Remember Our Military Members:

*Jason Feser, Jeffrey Feser, Eric Feser.* Prayers for Jeff Feser deployed to Iraq Wed., November 18th. His address is **1st Lt. Jeffrey Feser, HHC 1sst BDE 1AD/Bravo 6-1 CAV (RSTA0 FOB Warrior, Iraq APO AE 09338.**

*Lord, please hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them even as they protect us. Bless them and their families during the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. Amen.'*

**Passion Play August 2010** *Seats still available for Pastor Ron's 2010 trip to the Passion Play in Oberammergau in Bavaria, Germany, August 4-14 that includes visits to Prague, Budapest and Vienna- with continuing visits to Oberammergau and Munich. Reservations still open for the trip. Brochures are available in the Gathering Area. Pastor Ron [ronrv@comcast.net](mailto:ronrv@comcast.net) or [www.travron.com](http://www.travron.com).*

### From the Financial Secretary

Third quarter 2009 Giving Statements are available in the Gathering Area and can be picked up. *Please check your pledges. If you need to catch up or if you would like to make additional Gifts, please do so by **Sunday Dec. 27th**.* Any Gifts received after Sunday Dec. 27th will be recorded in tax year 2010. Questions, please call *Bill Thelemann* 301-620-1535 or [thelemann@comcast.net](mailto:thelemann@comcast.net).

### Coffee and Chocolate Still

**Available** Thanks for your support of the Fair Trade Fair and purchasing leftover chocolate and coffee. We still have items left for sale -- they make great tuck-in gifts! See Pat Schoonover or Diane DeMarco, [ddemarco2@comcast.net](mailto:ddemarco2@comcast.net) or cal 301-696-8886. We cannot return them. All profits go to Lutheran World Relief.

**Food Donations Welcome** Please keep in mind the great needs of the community as we move into winter. Pick up just one additional non-perishable food item and bring it with you on Sundays to put in the food collection box in the Narthex. Let's keep that box full. Thanks to *Nicholas Brie* of the Social Ministry team for taking the donations to the food bank each week.

### Spinning A Good Yarn

Good Shepherd has received a donation of yarn, knitting needles, and other craft supplies and unfinished projects. The donor would like us to use as much as possible to make blankets, hats, and anything else we can for others who may have a need. If you would like to use some of these supplies to make blankets for children who are hospitalized, lap blankets for nursing homes or hospitalized patients, or donate new stuffed toys, please let *Pat Schoonover* (301-473-8736 - [sewinglady@xecu.net](mailto:sewinglady@xecu.net)) or *Loretta Covert* (301-663-3344 or [goodshp14@aol.com](mailto:goodshp14@aol.com)) know. Or you can place them around the "Gift of Love" tree in the gathering area.



**Christmas Blanket** During the holiday season, the 7th Grade Confirmation class will be holding a raffle for a Christmas blanket put together by the class. We will be collecting food for the Frederick Food Bank for the raffle. Each time you drop off a non-perishable item, write your name and phone number on the paper provided and place it in the container, located near the Education Bulletin Board. Winner will be chosen at the 11AM service on Sun. December 20th.

### Books for Our Troops

**Operation Paperback** collects gently used books and sends them to American troops deployed overseas. Since 1999, they have shipped over 950,000 books to locations around the globe. If you have paperback books to donate, leave them on top of the cupboards behind the coat-rack marked Operation Paperback, and the Social Ministry team will get them to a drop-off site. Operation Paperback is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

### Poinsettia Orders

**due Sunday, December 20.** \$8.00 per poinsettia.

Make payable to 'Good Shepherd Lutheran Church.' Please indicate either 1) In Memory of '\_\_\_' or 'In Honor of '\_\_\_' or 'To the Glory of God by '\_\_\_'. Poinsettias may be picked up following the 10AM Christmas Eve service or on Sunday, December 27th.



**Christmas Caroling** The North-Frederick/Thurmont NeighborTalk group will be caroling among Seniors at Homewood at Crumland Farm **Sat., December 19th, 2:30PM.** We'll sit among our friends there and encourage each other to sing the old familiar carols as well as sharing our favorite Christmas stories. The congregation is welcome to join in. Call Janet at 301-304-0374 or [jdrippeon1@aol.com](mailto:jdrippeon1@aol.com) for questions.

**Simply Giving®** is a program of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans that lets people give their church offering by using electronic funds transfers, like many already use for other commitments, enabling us to support the Church's mission consistently throughout the year. See the note on the Stewardship/Faith Response information board in the Gathering Area.

### Good Shepherd Preschool

will host an Open House on Friday, January 8 at 9:30 a.m. Registration for the 2010-2011 school year will begin on January 12, with a priority registration period for church members, current students and alumni. The registration fee is waived for church members. For more information, call 301-695-5855.

### Congregation Council Officers 2009

Pres: Janet Rippeon Fisher [jdrippeon1@aol.com](mailto:jdrippeon1@aol.com) 301-304-0374  
Secretary, Sandy Hagen, [Sandra.Hagen@gmail.com](mailto:Sandra.Hagen@gmail.com)  
Treasurer: Jean Van Tassel [jvantassel@aol.com](mailto:jvantassel@aol.com)  
Financial Sec'y: Bill Thelemann [thelemann@comcast.net](mailto:thelemann@comcast.net)