

# THE SHEP NEWS



Weekend E-Newsletter • December 27, 2009 • 1st Sunday of Christmas • 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 2:41-52

## Sermon on the Amount December 20, 2009

Needed weekly \$6703  
Debt Reduction 560

**TOTAL RECEIVED \$-----**  
Needed for Budget **\$6703**  
Worship Attendance ----  
Sunday School ---  
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)

## 'Let Jesus show!'

It was time for the annual Nativity pageant put on by the children of the church. The manger was located in front of the altar steps. Mary was there in a blue mantle and Joseph in a cotton beard. The wise men were there with a handful of shepherds, and of course, in the midst of them all was the Christ Child, lying on the straw. The nativity story was read by the pastor with carols sung at the appropriate places, and all went like clockwork until it came time for the arrival of the angels — a "heavenly host" of the children of the congregation dressed in white and scattered throughout the pews with their parents.



At the right moment the angels were supposed to come forward and gather around the manger to sing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men," and that is just what they did — except there were so many angels that there was a fair amount of crowding and jockeying for position. One angel, about nine years old who was smaller than most of the other angels, ended up so far out on the fringes of things that not even by craning her neck and standing on tiptoe could she see what was going on. "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will among men," they all sang on cue, and then in the momentary pause that followed, the small girl electrified the entire church by crying out in a voice shrill with irritation and frustration and enormous sadness at having her view blocked, "Let Jesus show!"

The wise pastor decided to end the pageant right there. "Let Jesus show!" the child-angel had cried out, and while the congregation sat in stunned silence, the good father offered a quick final prayer and blessing, and everybody filed out of church with those unforgettable words ringing in their ears.

[From 'Secrets in the Dark: A Life in Sermons' by Frederick Buechner.]

May that be our prayer in the year ahead: "Let Jesus show!" in our homes and work places and schools; "Let Jesus show!" in our compassion, forgiveness and joy. May we not "lose" Jesus in the many demands on our time; may we not "hide" Jesus when the difficult decision has to be made; may we not "pack" Jesus away until next Christmas, but may

the "Word made flesh" make his dwelling place among us here, now and always, illuminating every one of our days with his wisdom and grace.

*Pastor Ron*

## Re-scheduled Sunday School

**Pageant** will take place this **Sunday, December 27th during the 9AM worship.** "A Traditional Christmas Pageant", the children and youth will re-enact the Christmas story with a number of Christmas carols sung throughout. Thanks to Marilyn Ayres and Lisa Long for helping with the production. Join us as the kids recreate the setting of the first Christmas

## 8th grade Confirmation Class:

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

**Prayer Concerns:** Don Klein, at the death of his mother from cancer; the 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.

## 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 1st 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).

## 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.

## 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 [goodshep14@aol.com](mailto:goodshep14@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 27th.

## 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.

**Looking for a Bible Study?** We have five 'NeighborTalk' groups currently available:

**NeighborTalk South** Carl and Michele Hildedrand, 5403 Georgetown Rd. Adamstown, MD 21710 • 301-831-8628

**NeighborTalk Northeast** Terri Baker, 2627 Mill Race Rd., Frederick, MD 21701, 301-663-4013

**NeighborTalk Northwest** Sue and Dan Steffen, 5511 Bootjack Drive, Frederick, MD 21702

**NeighborTalk North** Janet and Brit Fisher, 11232 Angleberger Rd., Thurmont, MD, 301-304-0374

**NeighborTalk East (Spring Ridge)** Diane and Attilo DeMarco, 6408 Fairbanks Ln., Frederick, MD 21701 • 301-696-8886

Sign-up's available in the Gathering Area of our Church. Regardless of where you live, please feel free to attend any location. Call one of the hosts (above) to find out dates, times and locations.

## 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).

**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.



Jeff Feser, son of Rich and Carol Feser, pictured recently in Tirkut, Iraq

**Offering Envelopes** are available in the Gathering Area to pick-up. Please, when you have opportunity, pick up yours. If you have opportunity to deliver someone's whom you know, please pick them up.

**December 20th Blizzard** wiped out a Sunday worship and our shared gifts to the congregation's operating funds. We appreciate your help in making up this lost Sunday before the end of our fiscal year. **Your stewardship does make a difference!**

**Furniture for Sale** One of our parishioners, *Mike Graysonn*, has some very good furniture for sale. Please visit Craig's list: <http://frederick.craigslist.org/fuo/1520649945.html> or you may call him at 301-473-2877. Items are expertly crafted of solid-wood and finished in dark Cherry wood.

- Bed features a four poster design with beautiful carved finials and metal scroll-work on the headboard and footboard.
- Dresser features three smaller drawers and six large, roomy drawers.
- Beveled glass mirror has a molded framed topped by metal scroll-work.
- Antiqued hardware and traditional molding accents.
- Set includes headboard, footboard, wood rails/slats, dresser, mirror, and two matching night stands.

## 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)