

Sunday school continues into December with enhanced studies of Advent and Christmas.

**NOTE: There will be no Sunday School on Sunday, December 28 for children or youth...**the Adult Bible study class will meet in the fellowship hall at 9:45 and all adults are welcome to attend.

**The children will assist in leading worship on December 21 by presenting their Christmas play.** Parents are asked to be sure the leaders know if their child will participate and to have their children at the rehearsals.

**Children Church leaders for December & January:**

- December 7: Trudy Whitener + Helper
- December 14: Shelia Kelly + Helper
- December 21: **None** due to Play in worship
- December 28: Judy & Mollie Caldwell
- January 4: Brandy Milton + Helper
- January 11: Tom/Melissa Bocchino
- January 18: Carmen De Nicholas & Natalie Hullander
- January 25: Maria & Madison Carr

Leaders, please subscribe to **Sermons4kids** online to get the children's story and activities for Children's church. We really want to try to be with the Gospel lesson as much as possible. Also, if you are unable to cover your Sunday, try to switch with someone else. If you are unsuccessful, please call Beth. In the event of an emergency keeping you from your time, call Beth.

**Kids' Club** meets at **3:00 pm on Saturday, December 20** at the church after Christmas caroling. We will have hot cocoa, cookies & Santa.

There will be a **Children/Family** worship service at **1:30 pm on Christmas Eve**. We encourage any of you who cannot attend the 11:00 pm service to be a part of this brief service.

**God's Eden Sunday School Schedule:**  
**December Study "Advent & Christmas"**  
December 7: Cooking  
December 14: Games  
December 21: Video (or rehearsal for play)  
December 28: **No Children's classes**

**January Study Theme "The Disciples"**  
January 4: Art  
January 11: Drama  
January 18: Cooking  
January 25: Computer


**You are invited to join in the Christmas Caroling to our shut-ins.** Meet in the church parking lot and be ready to leave at **2:00 pm on Saturday, December 20.**

*Beth Brittain, Christian Education*


**Christmas Eve Schedule**

1:30 pm	Children's Christmas Eve brief Worship Service
10:45 pm	Prelude
11:00 pm	Candlelight & Holy Communion Worship Service





**Bible Study/Lunch**  
**Tuesday, December 9**  
**12 Noon—1:00 pm**  
Bring pot luck or a sandwich...just come!





Lutheran Church of the  
**Holy Comforter** **COMMENT**  
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Micah Kearney, Pastor    email: micahkearney@gmail.com  
Greg Cline, Organist /Choirmaster  
Rev. Beth Brittain, Christian Education  
Kristen Williams, HCY Advisor  
Dianne Lail, Communications



<sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus." *Luke 1:30-32*

**Communion Opportunities for December**

- December 7 Second Sunday in Advent
- December 21 Fourth Sunday in Advent
- December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 11:00 pm  
(December 14 following the Service)



Dianne Lail, Communications/Office Manager  
Volume 35, No. 12

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE** 9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service  
**Church Office Hours** Monday-Thursday  
8:30 am—3:00 pm

## FROM THE PASTOR

Grace and Peace,



As we enter into the liturgical season of Advent, the start of a new Church year, we enter into a time where the Church recognizes that we are a people who are waiting in anticipation of something. Some of the scripture lessons we've wrestled with on Sunday mornings have helped us look at this, as we've read Jesus' parables which call us to both be prepared for Christ's coming again, and also to be active in building Christ's kingdom while we wait. Advent is a time when we both remember how God's people awaited the Messiah that would come in Jesus Christ, as well as profess our faith that Christ will come again.

This faith in Christ's coming again means that Advent is also a season of hope. We are bombarded with news and information that would seem to suck any sense of hope out of us. In the Middle East, among other places in the world, Christians are persecuted to the point of death, modern day martyrs of the faith we share. In West Africa the Ebola virus is taking the lives of thousands of people who do not have the means to fight its spread on their own. Thousands of children die each day due to living in poverty. Here in the United States, however you feel about the situation, it is apparent that we are a country still dealing with deep wounds of racial divide and inequality, brought to light most recently in Ferguson, MO.

As I think and pray about these situations it makes me not only wait in anticipation for Christ's second coming, but yearn for it. We need Christ, both in order to live with hope through these horrendous situations that might otherwise cause us to lose faith, and in order to one day bring Creation to full redemption. As we move through this season of Advent toward Christmas, toward celebrations with family and friends and all that comes with the holidays, let us be people who live in hope. Let us be people who live in such a way that we witness to the work Christ has done, is doing, and will do in the world. Let our lives be reflections of the deep and abiding love God has for God's people in the midst of a world too often blind to it. And let us continue to pray as Christ taught, that God's kingdom come on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Micah

(Matthew 6:9-13) *"Pray then in this way: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one."*



## MUSIC NEWS

Everyone gets busy during the month of December. I don't know why that seems to always come as an annual surprise to me. All of the children and adults (and their families) involved in the music ministry at Holy Comforter have particular busy schedules this year. Here are some of the highlights...

- \* **Holy Comforter Chamber Choir** will sing during the annual *Belmont Tree Lighting* at 5:30 pm on **Monday, December 1st**. Come and join us!
- \* **Advent Wednesdays** (Meal, Vespers) with **Chamber Choir rehearsing after each service**.
- \* **The Church Choir of Holy Comforter**, along with the choirs from Queen of the Apostles, **will present a Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 7 at 4:00 pm**. The Cantata will be accompanied by orchestra in *Cardinal Gibbons Chapel*. This is just up the street on the campus of Sacred Heart. **A reception will follow** in Queen of the Apostles fellowship hall. If you want a seat it is highly suggested that you arrive very early. Children's ensembles from both of our congregations will also present seasonal selections. Two remaining rehearsals: **Children's Ensemble dress rehearsal is at 6:00 pm** on Wednesday, **December 3** at *Cardinal Gibbons Chapel*. **Church Choir dress rehearsal** with orchestra is **1:30 pm** on Saturday, **December 6** at *Cardinal Gibbons Chapel*.
- \* **Shirley & Tommy Causby** will host the **church choir Christmas Dinner** at their home on **Saturday, December 13 at 6:00 pm**. All choir members and spouses are invited. Dessert will follow at Greg Cline's home.



- \* **December 14** we celebrate with our annual ***Hanging of the Green***. The service involves children of all ages actively participating during this beautiful hour of worship.
- \* **Saturday, December 20 at 2:00 pm** we invite everyone to join us as we go **Christmas Caroling** to some of our shut-ins nearby. Parents, this is a wonderful way for your child to learn the most familiar Christmas Carols. Many in the past have commented that, "It was the highlight of our Christmas." Come one and all as we share this gift with those who are unable to worship among us.
- \* **Sunday, December 21** our children will present their **Christmas Play during the worship service at 10:30 am**.
- \* **Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion**: Prelude begins at 10:45 pm.

A very blessed Advent and Christmas to everyone in the Holy Comforter family. It is a personal gift to be a servant in your midst!

**Greg Cline**

### Heather Mauney Yount Memorial Playground Project

Please join us in finalizing the playground by indication on your check memo line or offering envelope:

**Playground Project.**

### CHILDREN'S WORSHIP SERVICE LEADERS

December 7: Trudy Whitener + Helper  
December 14: Shelia Kelly + Helper  
December 21: **None...**Christmas Play in worship  
December 28: Judy & Mollie Caldwell



## New Church Council Members Elected

**Sunday, November 23** at the congregational meeting four (4) new members were elected to serve on the church council. The following four persons will serve a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2015:

- Steve Bingham
- John Crist
- Kathy Graves
- John Koehler

**Thank you to all those willing to be put on the ballot.** Your willingness to serve was very much appreciated. **Thank you also to those who have served** and will rotate **OFF** the council: Debbie Baker, Debbie Neagle, Billy Joye, and Trudy Whitener.

The NC Synod delegates for 2015 were approved. They are **Leslie Crist & Elliott Williams**.

A new church constitution suggested by the NC Synod and approved by Holy Comforter Church Council was accepted and approved. Also approved was the 2015 budget.

**Tim Baker, Council President**

**The Women's Morning Circle** will meet for a Christmas potluck lunch at the home of Shirley Causby on **Wednesday, December 17th.**



Future meetings will be held in March, May and September. We also plan to do special projects during the year.

**Pat Koehler, Morning Circle President**

Jenn and I would like to, once again, **thank everyone** for the abundance of compassion and excitement given us at the birth of Nathaniel. We have been humbled by your generosity time and time again, from the gifts and warmth of the baby shower, to the food and kind words provided us now that we are home. You have truly been a witness to deep community in Christ as we celebrate God's continued work of creation with the birth of our second son. Just to report, Jenn and Nathaniel are both doing quite well, and Gabriel is adjusting to his role as big brother surprisingly well.

With gratitude,  
Pastor Micah (and family)



### TREASURER'S REPORT: (Warren Heller)

Report for Month	October	Year-To-Date
Budget Expenses:	\$19,519.92	\$195,199.17
Actual Expenses:	16,858.83	180,466.44
Offerings Received:	17,349.36	174,551.42
Gain (Loss) for Period:	\$ 490.53	( \$ 5,915.02)

The **Kids' Club** will meet at **3:00 pm** on **Saturday, December 20** At church for cookies, Cocoa & Santa after Christmas Caroling!



All information for the January newsletter is due to Dianne by December 18.

## CHURCH SCHEDULE:

**Wednesday, December 3**

5:45 pm Dinner, **6:30 pm Vespers**  
Chamber Choir after Vespers

**Saturday, December 6**

8:30 am **Confirmands** host at HolyC  
1:30 pm **Final dress rehearsal** of choirs at the *Cardinal Gibbons Chapel*  
7:00 pm **Staying Connected** Meets at church to make Christmas crafts, *Gift Exchange*

**Sunday, December 7 2nd Sunday in Advent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am The Service w/**Holy Communion**  
**4:00 pm Christmas Cantata** at *Cardinal Gibbons Chapel*; **Reception follows**

**Tuesday, December 9 Agape Lunch Bunch**

12 Noon Bring Bible/potluck lunch or sandwich

**Wednesday, December 10**

5:45 pm Dinner, **6:30 pm Vespers**  
Chamber Choir after Vespers

**Saturday, December 13**

6:00 pm Church Choir Dinner at Causby's home

**Sunday, December 14 3rd Sunday in Advent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am **Hanging of the Green** Service  
Church Council meets after

2:-4:00 pm **HCY crafts with HolyC kids!**

**Wednesday, December 17**

5:45 pm Dinner, **6:30 pm Vespers**  
Chamber Choir after Vespers

**Saturday, December 20**

2:00 pm **Christmas Caroling**, leave from church  
**Kids' Club** meets after for cocoa, cookies & Santa

**Sunday, December 21 4th Sunday in Advent**

9:30 am Sunday School  
10:30 am **Children's Play** w/**Holy Communion**

**Wednesday, December 24 Christmas Eve**

1:30 pm Brief Children's Service  
10:45 pm Prelude  
11:00 pm **Candlelight & Communion** Service

**Sunday, December 28 Holy Innocents, Martyrs**

9:30 am No Children's SS; Adults in fellowship hall  
10:30 am The Service

## ASSISTING MINISTERS:

**LECTORS:** Billy Joye, Jr., Chief Lector  
Dec. 14: Julia Gunter; Dec. 24: Beth Brittain

**ACOLYTES:** Becca Gatlin, Alec Via

**CRUCIFERS:** Noah Rogers, Madison Carr

**ALTAR GUILD:** (Team 2)

Louise Day, Co-Captain  
Brenda Daly, Co-Captain  
Donna Bean Nancy Powell  
Becky Richards

**COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:** (Team C)

Sherry Alexander Greg Garrison  
Courtney Gatlin Volunteer

**EUCHARIST PRESENTERS:**

December 7: Shelia & Tim Kelly  
December 21: Brenda Daly & Louise Day  
December 24: Need Volunteers (11:00 pm)

**GREETERS:**

Dec. 7: The Naults; Dec. 14 & 21: Pat Koehler  
December 24: Carmen De Nicholas  
December 28: Need Volunteer

**TELLERS:** Janet Achor & John Koehler

**USHERS:** Need Volunteers

**FLOWERS:**

December 7: Kathy Graves  
Shelia & Tim Kelly  
December 14: Beth Brittain (both vases)  
December 21: Mark & Rebecca Yount (both)  
December 24: Julia Gunter (both vases)  
December 28: Jack, Laura & Khloe Tench  
Mark & Rebecca & Alec Via






**NURSERY:** (9:30 am-11:45 am)

December 7: Need Volunteers  
December 14: Jill Cassell & Makayla Brooks  
December 21: Need Volunteers  
December 28: Need Volunteers



# December 2014



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>We remember December 7, 1941 Attack on US Naval Base at Pearl Harbor by Japan which led to United States entry into World War II</p>	1 <b>St. Andrew, Apostle</b>	2	3	4	5	6
		7:00 pm Nar-Anon	5:45 pm Meal 6:00 pm Combined Children's Choir Rehearsal Chamber Choir after 6:30 pm <b>Vespers Worship</b>			8:30 am <b>Confirmands</b> host at Holy Comforter 9:00 am Final <b>dress rehearsal</b> of adult Choirs at <i>Cardinal Gibbons Chapel</i>  7:00 pm <b>Staying Connected</b> In fellowship hall to make Christmas craft. Gift exchange.
7 <b>2nd Sunday in Advent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service w/HC 3:15 pm All choirs due to meet at Sacred Heart 4:00 pm <b>Christmas Cantata</b> at Cardinal Gibbons Chapel  8:00 pm Nar-Anon 	8	9	10	11	12	13
		12 Noon <b>Agape Lunch Bunch</b> Bible Study/Lunch  7:00 pm Nar-Anon	5:45 pm Meal 6:30 pm <b>Vespers Worship</b> Chamber Choir after			10:00 am Children's <b>Christmas play practice</b>  6:00 pm <b>Choir Dinner</b> at the Causby's home
14 <b>3rd Sunday in Advent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am <b>Hanging of the Green</b> Church Council meets 2:00 pm <b>HCY</b> activities for Kids 4:00 pm Children's Ensem. 5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon 	15	16	17	18	19	20
		7:00 pm Nar-Anon	11:00 am <b>Morning Circle</b>  Christmas Potluck lunch at home of Shirley Causby 5:45 pm Meal 6:30 pm <b>Vespers Worship</b> Chamber Choir after			1:00 pm Children's <b>play practice</b> 2:00 pm Christmas Caroling Meet in parking lot 3:00 pm <b>Kids' Club</b> meets for hot cocoa, cookies, & Santa after caroling
21 <b>4th Sunday in Advent</b> 9:30 am Sunday School 10:10 am Church Choir 10:30 am The Service w/HC <b>Children's Christmas play</b>  5:00 pm Handbells 6:00 pm Church Choir 8:00 pm Nar-Anon 	22	23	24	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26 <b>St. Stephen, Deacon, Martyr</b>	27 <b>St. John, Apostle, Evangelist</b>
		7:00 pm Nar-Anon	1:30 pm <b>Children's</b> Christmas Eve Service 10:15 pm Choir meets 10:45 pm Prelude 11:00 pm Candlelight &  Communion Service			
28 <b>Holy Innocents, Martyrs</b> 9:30 am No Children's SS 9:45 am Adult Bible Class Meet in fellowship hall 10:30 am The Service  8:00 pm Nar-Anon	29	30	31			
		7:00 pm Nar-Anon				

We recognize and celebrate these  
birthdays in the month of December.  
We are thankful for the life and Spirit  
of those we celebrate.  
May the blessings of God flow  
in the life of each of you.



December 1	Madison Kelly
December 3	Travis Fleming
	Brenda Jenkins
December 5	Aaron Nault
December 8	Nathan Kelly
	Vivian Lane
	Brian Wallace
December 9	Bob Koehler
December 10	Melissa Lingerfelt
	Caitlan Reese
	Marguerite Shive
	Denise Wiegand
December 11	Beth Brittain
	Monique Estelle
December 12	Janet Achor
December 15	Greg Cline
December 19	Dennis Tucker
December 21	Denise Jenkins
December 24	Kurt Rogers
December 26	Beverly Robinson
December 28	Molly Koehler
December 29	Trudy Whitener
December 30	Blake Harper
	Elizabeth Tench
	Luke Via

NOTE: If we have unintentionally left any  
member's name off this list, or if there are  
any errors, please call the church office.