

# THE SEED

Merry  
Christmas

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CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWSLETTER

NO. 12

December 2007

REV. DR. PAUL K. SCHWARTZKOPF, PASTOR

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Dear Friends in Christ,

“Peace on earth” is one of the themes of Christmas. As the church of Christ, we pray for peace and we work for peace.

I want you to know about the very significant work for peace that our own Presiding Bishop of the ELCA, the right Rev. Mark Hanson, and other leaders of the Lutheran World Federation are doing.

In the secular media, I have seen little about the efforts of our religious leaders to work for peace on our planet. I read about these efforts for peace only in church periodicals. To my knowledge only the Washington Post published the open letter from Muslim clerics on the Post’s web site.

This fall 138 Muslim clerics from around the world, including more than a dozen in the United States, published a 16 page open letter which quoted both the Christian Bible and the Muslim Qur’an to demonstrate that both religions have two basic commandments—love of the one God and love for one’s neighbor. The letter appeals to both Muslims and Christians to live and practice this common tenet of our faiths.

The November 13, 2007, issue of the The Christian Century gives much of the rest of the story. In August 2005, Bishop Mark Hanson and other leaders of the Lutheran World Federation met with Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad in Jordan to discuss issues of peace among Muslims and Christians. Prince Ghazi bin Muhammad is the principle motivator of the letter which is titled “A Common Word Between Us and You”, and which has been sent to Christian Church leaders around the world.

We can thank God that our own presiding Bishop Mark Hanson has worked so diligently on our behalf and on behalf of the world so that this promise of Christmas— “Peace on Earth” - can be pursued in our time.

You can read the Christian Century article in our periodical library or pick up a copy on the table outside my office.

Bishop Hanson’s reply to the Muslim letter is also on the table.

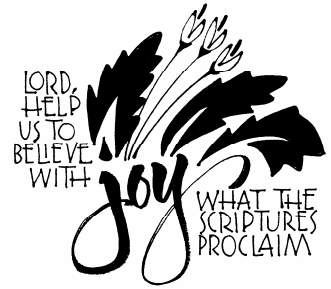
May the peace of God, which exceeds human comprehension, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus this Advent and Christmas season and all seasons throughout the year.

Yours in Christ,

Paul K. Schwartzkopf

# Come Get the Message

from Pastor Schwartzkopf



Enhance your worship by reading the theme for the day and the Biblical word on which it is based. Then come to worship round the Word of God.

December 2,                      1st Sunday in Advent                      **“READY AND WAITING”**

On the first Sunday of a new church year, we are ready and waiting for Christ's return on the first Sunday of eternity. Read Matthew 24:36-44.

December 9,                      2nd Sunday in Advent                      **“PROMISES WE CAN TRUST”**

Both lessons and today's Gospel give us promises from God. We can count on God to keep these promises. Read Isaiah 11:1-10, Romans 15:4-13, and Matthew 3:1-12.

December 16,                      3rd Sunday in Advent                      **“A SERMON OF POETRY AND SONG”**

Our choir, directed by Amy Stollberg, and readers will preach the gospel in song and poetry as artistically as the ancient prophet wrote in Isaiah 35:1-10.

December 23,                      4th Sunday in Advent                      **“CONSIDER JOSEPH'S FAITH”**

In the three year cycle of scripture readings, the years of Mark and Luke focus on Mary, the mother of our Lord. This year, we hear Joseph's side of the story in Matthew 1:18-25.

December 24,                      Christmas Eve                      **“HIS STORY IN HISTORY FOR YOU”**  
**5:00 PM and 8:00 PM**

In Luke 2:1-20, the evangelist carefully identifies the time and the place of Jesus' birth, but this message for all times and all places means nothing for us until we hear it in our time and our place.

December 30,                      1st Sunday of Christmas                      **“GOOD AND EVIL”**

The slaughter of the innocents in Matthew 2:13-23 illustrates the dark side of this world in which Jesus was born to bring light.

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## **NEW DIRECTORY PICTURES**

In January, we'll take photographs for an up-dated picture directory. Watch for dates and times in the January Seed. If you want to retain that youthful look in your current picture, you can. You don't have to have a new photograph taken.



## Council Highlights – November 13, 2007

Present at the November 13 meeting of the Council were: Bonnie Conover, Bruce Holderbaum, Stuart Peters, Bob Rhinberger, Trish Santos, Bonnie Scranton, Pastor Schwartzkopf, Mary Shank, Richard Tabb, and Kathy Wolters. Excused: Stu Bell, Mel Dillman, and Rose Probert.

President Bonnie Scranton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Bonnie Scranton provided the opening devotions. Bonnie Conover will provide the devotions for December 11 Council Meeting.

**Announcements:** Being no announcements, the minutes of the October 9, 2007, were approved as printed in the Seed.

**Reports of Financial Secretary and the Treasurer:** Written reports filed and motion to approve by Bonnie Conover, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kathy Wolters. Approved by Council.

**President's Report:** Thanked Bonnie Conover for a very successful Ploughman's Luncheon and also Dick Tabb for the successful Stewardship Luncheon and programs.

**Pastor's Report:** Written report filed. Pastor also reported that the Pastor's Conference will be held at Christ Lutheran Church next Tuesday, November 20.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Dick Tabb read a thank you from the Lutheran Child and Family service for our donation. Bruce Holderbaum reported that the work on the new directory is progressing. Will take new pictures of members on January 13, 20, and 27. Anyone that wants a new family picture in the album is requested to sign up. If you just want them to use the picture they have in the directory now, just let them know.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Rose Probert asked to be released from her duties as a Council Member and was so granted. This position will be filled at the Annual Meeting.
- Summer Pre-School is a possibility to be held at Christ Lutheran for two weeks in June and again two weeks at a later date. Pastor will continue to work with Rose Probert on this matter.
- We have been asked if we would like to have a Jazz Mass for worship in 2009 during May or September. Kathy Wolters made a motion to have this, seconded by Bob Rhinberger and approved.
- After much discussion, the following motion was put on the floor, "We will allow special exceptions to the no alcohol policy, upon approval of the council in a regular meeting when an active member of the congregation is the responsible sponsor of the event and is present for the duration of the event. This approval is for moderate use of wine and beer only." Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stuart Peters. This motion passed with a vote of 7 yes, 2 no.
- Ministry Teams were reminded to have their budgets in by December 2 at the latest. We were reminded that we are going to be on a very tight budget and may have to cut some spending.
- Mark your calendar now to attend the Annual Congregational Meeting to be on January 27, 2008.
- Mel Dillman and Dick Tabb were appointed to the nominating committee from the Council. Three additional members from the congregation will be asked to serve on the committee. Dick Tabb was appointed to convene the first meeting and then they are to elect their chairperson.

### **MINISTRY TEAM AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Stewardship:** Dick Tabb reported that the pledges are being turned in better than last year and that the amount of pledge is slightly ahead of last year. He also thought we should give some consideration to doing something other than a dinner for Stewardship, as the attendance was not as good as expected.

**Service:** Stuart Peters reported that the Reverse Offering has been distributed and need to have items to church by November 18, as Wendy, Stuart, and Chris will be sorting the baskets for delivery. Also there is a shortage of money to buy the perishable items for the baskets. Perhaps someone would like to donate some money for them.

**Property:** No report. It was brought to the attention of the Council that they again had trouble with the garbage disposal. We need to make all users aware that they have to run clear water at least two to three minutes after turning the disposal off. The drainpipe is very long and has lots of turns! Also that the dishwasher needs to be run on a regular basis as the gaskets and washers tend to shrink when they dry out, causing the dishwasher to leak. Pastor reported that Dr. Ali left her personal plates here, giving us permission to use them. We have packed them up in boxes and they need to be stored in a safe place. If we do use them, we need to repack them and store them somewhere safe besides the kitchen.

**Worship:** Bruce Holderbaum reported that the hymns for services have been selected through January 6 for both Advent and regular services, and that they have chosen a new song for the congregation to learn each month.

**Witness:** Bonnie Conover reported that she was very pleased with the Ploughman's Luncheon. That she had lots of great help and that more money was turned over to Camp Callahan than any other organization in the past. Also that Jim and Sandy Callahan was very helpful with the lunch. The final tally to Camp Callahan was over \$3,400.

- Bonnie also reported on the Habitat for Humanity house in Mendon. Said they will finish the wall boarding and mudding will start next week. Also, that there is a garage standing on the property that can be useful with a new roof and would like siding to match the house. Said they need about \$200 for the project. Bruce Holderbaum made a motion to let us use \$200 from the Witness budget for this, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dick Tabb and was approved.
- Bonnie also said they were planning a Christmas Tea on December 1 at 2:00 p.m.
- As the cost of the Lutheran magazine comes from the budget, Bonnie wanted some input as to how many people actually read the magazine and if they would be willing to pay for it themselves.

**Learning/Youth:** Trish reported that Akaloo is going well and that the children are making cards and book marks for the nursing homes and are going to go caroling to Curtis Creek on December 12. The Children's Christmas Service will be held on December 9 at 5:00 p.m.

**Fellowship:** Reminded Council that the Hanging of the Greens will be December 2 with a carry-in dinner and decorating the church for Christmas. Mary Shank is to furnish the baked ham.

The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Shank, Secretary

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING—Tuesday, December 11, 2007, at 6:30 PM**

## **PLOUGHMAN'S LUNCH**

We have reached new heights with our 5th Annual Ploughman's Lunch. Camp Callahan—which serves disabled youth and adults—is the recipient of the funds we've raised. The net receipts are \$1,769.18 which are being matched with \$1,700.00 from Thrivent for a total of \$3,469.18. Thanks be to God and thanks to all who worked so hard to make it happen.

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## **DAVE RAMSEY FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY**

Our second course of the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University has concluded successfully. Again, participants increased their net worth by thousands of dollars by applying the principles of the course. Furthermore, participants developed a greater appreciation of the reality that all that we have belongs to God. Our money, our stuff is really God's money and God's stuff. It's a Biblical concept,

The next course will begin in February. Talk to Pastor Paul or Stuart Peters if you want more information or want to improve your financial status or want to reduce your debt.

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## **CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

Sunday School children—and EVERYBODY WHO WANTS TO JOIN THEM—will sing Christmas Carols at Curtis Creek Retirement Center on South 36th Street on Wednesday, December 12, beginning at 5:15 p.m. Meet at church at 4:45 to carpool or go directly to Curtis Creek by 5:00 p.m.

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## **REVERSE OFFERING** **Thanksgiving Baskets and Christmas Baskets**

Thanks again for your very generous response through the Reverse Offering. We provided food for four needy families that were identified through the Quincy School District. They need a lot of food. Two families have 5 children in each. And we have provided. Thank you!

In December we'll do another "Reverse Offering" in which worshipers take something out of a collection basket. Then you bring back the food item printed on the slip of paper that you have taken out of the basket. The food items are put together and delivered to needy families in Quincy. If there is anyone who can help to deliver these baskets, please contact the Church



## CHRISTMAS PLAY

**Sunday, December 9 - 5:00 p.m.**

Mark your calendar for December 9 at 5:00 p.m. We will have a Christmas Play directed and produced by our amazing Barb Holderbaum. The title is ANGELS NEED MUSCLES.

We will have three (3) REHEARSALS FOR THE PLAY. The schedule for the rehearsals is:

Wednesday, November 28	6:00—7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 5	6:00—7:00 p.m.
Saturday, December 8	10:00 a.m.—Noon

We would like all the children and young adults to participate. Please call the church if you are interested.

Following the play, we'll have a soup supper. Fellowship Ministry Team will provide soups. Bring a Christmas dessert or hors d'oeuvres.

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**Lutheran Social Services of Illinois**

CENTRAL / SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

## *Special Events*

### **DECEMBER 13, 2007**

Elisabeth Von Trapp Christmas Concert  
Thursday, 7:30 p.m.  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
1617 E. Emerson  
Bloomington, IL

### **DECEMBER 14, 2007**

Elisabeth Von Trapp Christmas Concert  
Saturday, 12:00—2:00 p.m.  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
2477 W. Washington Street  
Springfield, IL

**For more information about LSSI or the events,  
Contact Becky Moore at 217/522-4296; e-mail [Becky.Moore@LSSI.org](mailto:Becky.Moore@LSSI.org);  
Or visit [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org)**

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*AVERAGE SUNDAY  
WORSHIP ATTENDANCE  
for January through November 18*



45 Weeks 2007	96
47 Weeks 2006	91



## Hanging of the Greens

We'll decorate the church building—inside and outside—for Advent and Christmas on Sunday, December 2, after the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Of course, we'll eat first. Fellowship Ministry Team will provide baked ham (thanks to Mary Shank) and drinks. Bring a dish to share and sign up on Sunday morning or phone the church office (224-1624) to let us know how many are coming. After we have eaten, we'll decorate.

### **Sunday, December 2**

11:40 a.m. Lunch and Hanging of the Greens

Mark your January calendar for our celebration of Epiphany and taking down the Christmas decorations. The date is Sunday, January 6, after the 10:30 a.m. service. We'll share soup and sides about 11:40 a.m. and then take down the decorations. Fellowship Ministry Team will provide several soups. Bring a relish or snack or a dessert.

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## *CHRISTMAS EVE*

Christmas Eve candlelight communion services will be the at the same times as last year, 5:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

You have two choices for worship Christmas Eve:

Before dinner at **5:00 p.m.**

After dinner at **8:00 p.m.**



Both services will include the singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight. In both we'll celebrate Holy Communion. As in the past, the 5:00 p.m. service will have some parts designed specifically for children



## ANGEL TREE

Beginning December 2, you can pick up names of children from the Angel Tree to purchase Christmas gifts. These children are sons and daughters of prisoners. Through the Angel Tree program, we can provide them with some Christmas gifts. The gifts need to be purchased and wrapped and brought to the Church by December 16, Anyone willing to help deliver these gifts please contact the church.

# ***POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS***

We will decorate our chancel with poinsettias this Christmas season. The Altar Guild will purchase the plants. We invite you to donate a poinsettia in memory of or in honor of a loved one. Your order and check need to be received in the church office by December 16. If poinsettias can be purchased at a lower cost, the remainder of the money received will be deposited in the flower fund, to reduce costs for future flower purchases.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Poinsettias at \$10.00

\_\_\_\_ Given to the Glory of God

\_\_\_\_ Given in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Given in Honor of \_\_\_\_\_



**Please make check payable to *Christ Lutheran Church Altar Guild* and return to the church office or place in Sunday offering by Sunday, December 16. Thank you.**

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You are invited to our

## Christmas Tea

Saturday, December 1, 2007

2:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m.

Christ Lutheran Church

RSVP 217 - 224 - 1624



Christmas time is here at last  
For some it's slow, for some it's fast  
So take a moment and you will see  
There is nothing like a cup of tea

And for all you little girls who want to play  
Please join us on this wonderful day  
Bring your teddy and sit for tea  
We'll have lots of fun, just wait and see

# Time and Talent

## Christ Lutheran Church

We offer our lives for the work of our Lord  
Through our congregation, we offer the following time and talent.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I offer to help do the ministry of Christ in the following ways:

Put first name or initial on your choices.

### Fellowship Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Wednesday soup suppers in Lent
- Provide food/serve after funerals
- Women of the ELCA
- Sunday morning fellowship (coffee hour)
- Other fellowship gatherings
- Lutheran Men
- Dogwood Block Party

### Stewardship Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Fall stewardship campaign
- Coordinate volunteers
- Time and Talent sheets
- Count Offering

### Learning Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Teach or help in Sunday School
- Wednesday Akaloo
- Adult Forum Sundays 9:15
- Bible Study for adults
- Vacation Bible School
- Jr. or Sr. High School Youth Ministry
- Special Activities for kids

### Property Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Outside work days
- Inside work days
- December decorate for Christmas
- Do repairs as needed

### Service Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Angel Tree (Christmas gifts for children of prisoners)
- Thanksgiving/Christmas/Easter Food Baskets-reverse offering
- Prayer Warrior
- Blood Pressure screening

### Witness Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Identify and welcome visitors to worship
- Deliver gift to visitors
- Books 'n Brew book discussion
- LWR Collection
- Web page
- Dogwood Festival Float
- November Ploughman's Lunch

### Worship Ministry Team

- Ministry Team Member
- Usher
- Acolyte
- Reader
- Assisting Minister
- Deacon (Communion Assistant)
- Altar Guild
- Choir / soloist
- Instrumental Music
- Greeter
- Flowers
- Sound / video technician
- Readers theatre
- Seasonal decorating

OTHER MINISTRY ACTIVITIES I WOULD LIKE TO DO:

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Check out our new web site:

[christlutheranquincy.com](http://christlutheranquincy.com)

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### **PLEDGE FORM**

On the left side of this page is a Pledge Form on which you can indicate the amount of money that you intend to contribute to the ministry of Christ Lutheran Church in 2008. Please fill out a form and put it in the offering plate by December 2 so that our church council can use the total amount pledged to prepare the budget for 2008.

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### **TIME AND TALENT Sheet**

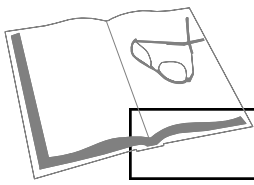
Please fill out a Time and Talent Sheet to inform our council and ministry teams about the areas of ministry that you'd like to do next year.

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### **PLEDGES**

Pledges are running ahead of last year.  
As of November 18, we have received:

Operating Expense	\$90,910
Building Fund	\$30,712



## WORSHIP LEADERS FOR DECEMBER

	December 2	December 9	December 16	December 23	December 30
<b>ASSISTING MINISTER</b>					
8:00 AM	Bonnie Scranton	Pat Bell	Sue Reeder	Ann Schwartzkopf	Joan Larner
10:30 AM	Bonnie Scranton	Sue McLennan	Jerry Shank	Barb Wilkinson	Bonnie Clark
<b>USHER</b>					
8:00 AM	Joan Larner	Stu Bell	Dick Tabb	Virgene Gilkerson	Jerry Shackelford
10:30 AM	Nona Miller	Wayne McLennan	Mary Shank	Butch Kuras	Bruce Holderbaum
<b>READER</b>					
8:00 AM	Ann Schwartzkopf	Marilyn Shackelford	Pat Bell	Jerry Shackelford	Sue Reeder
10:30 AM	Nona Miller	Peggy Bailey	Sue McLennan	Bonnie Clark	Stuart Peters
<b>NURSERY</b>	Ashley Stollberg	Elisabeth Jones	Ashley Van Camp	Emily Stollberg	Summer Santos
<b>ACOLYTE</b>					
10:30 AM	Erika Stollberg	Katie Bigley	Savana Santos	Summer Santos	
<b>GREETERS</b>					
8:00 AM	Bill & Kathy Wolters	Virgene Gilkerson	Stu & Pat Bell	Jerry & Marilyn Shackelford	Mel & Linda Dillman
10:30 AM	Kim Glasgow	Barb Rhinberger	Randy & Ruth Osterbur	Jerry & Mary Shank	Norma Tofall
<b>DEACON</b>	Crystal Bernett	Ron Larner	Dick Bernett	Missy Kuras	Wayne McLennan
<b>SOUND SYSTEM</b>					
8:00 AM	Kathy Wolters	Bonnie Scranton	Bill Wolters	Bonnie Scranton	Ann Schwartzkopf
10:30 AM	Dick Bernett	Stuart Peters	Olin Shuler	Bruce Holderbaum	Olin Shuler
<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>	Hanging of the Greens	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5	Group 6

*If you cannot help on your assigned Sunday, please find a replacement and call the office as soon as possible with any changes. Many Thanks!*



If you have a birthday in December and your name does not appear on the following list, we would appreciate it if you notify the church office.

- |          |                        |                      |
|----------|------------------------|----------------------|
| December | 1 Brian Reeder         | 16 Yasmin Tayyab     |
|          | Robert Hufendick       | Olivia Peters        |
|          | 2 Janet Shields        | 20 Pat Bell          |
|          | 5 Crystal Bernett      | 21 Jessica Stapleton |
|          | 6 Mariann Bergstrasser | 23 Gerald Shank      |
|          | 7 Mike Fannin          | 27 Joyce Leenerts    |
|          | Alison Schwartzkopf    | 28 Ron Larner        |
|          | Jennifer Roth          | Marilyn Shackelford  |
|          | 8 Jenna Wagy           | 30 Ty Zimmerman      |
|          | 13 Lindy Ward          | Evelyn Hughes        |
|          | 14 Robin Willer        | Kyle Osterbur        |



If you have a wedding anniversary in December and it does not appear below, please notify the church office.

- December 12 Richard and Crystal Bernett  
 16 Mark and Dianne Sill