



CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
14700 S. 94th Avenue, Orland Park, Illinois
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News Bulletin for Christmas Weekend
The Weekend of December 24 and 25, 2011

Our Advent preparation and anticipation culminate today in the celebration of the Lord's incarnation. The good news of the Lord's return to Zion (Isaiah 52:7) is realized in the birth of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh (John 1:14). The Father's love for us comes down to us in His Son, "Word of the Father now in flesh appearing! O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord."

SPECIAL GIFTS With glory given to God, we acknowledge the following gifts presented in support of our church's ministry:

- \$100 from Nicholas and Sandra Falco in loving memory of † Harold Panzegraf and † Antoinette Vaccari. Home Welfare.
- \$50 from Doloris Stamp in loving memory of her husband † Bob. Chicago Uptown Ministry.
- \$100 from Louise Seemann and Adam Seemann in thankfulness for the blessings received this year of having secured employment. General Fund.
- \$100 from Karen Bartak in loving memory of her husband † John. Home Welfare.

2012 Offering Envelopes available in Fireside Room.

CHRISTIAN COMFORT In the assurance of eternal life, we offer Christian comfort to the family and friends of † **Vera Jennings**. Vera, mother of Ruth Mitchell, died on Monday, December 19.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER REQUESTS We remember the following in our altar and personal prayers this week. **Long-term prayer needs are found in the weekly *Prayer Power* publication.** Altar/Prayer Power request slips are available on the table in the narthex.

For healing and strength: **Pearl Balzano** – Brentwood Rehabilitation Center; **Paul Blackney** (brother-in-law of Pastor Walt and Carol Ledogar) – recovering from heart procedure; **Celeste Branding** – recovering; **Veronica Burden** – recovering at home, anticipating rehab at RIC; **Lois Eichmann** – medical testing; **Don Feenley** – recovering; **Jeff Graser** – cancer care; **Arlene Herbold** – medical care; **Mildred Hewitt** (mother of Martha Murphy) – cancer care; **Evelyn Hilsmier** (mother of Connie Boehm) – medical care; **Michele Howard** – cancer care; **Julie Jancik** – medical care; **Aaron Jothan** – renewed cancer care; **Carmen Koehler** – medical care; **Ray Koehne** – medical care; **Pauline Krass** – medical care at home; **Dawn Kuric** (sister of Hope Kuntzman) – medical care; **Lynn Luetgert** – home; **Barbara Mentz** – Provena-St. Joseph, Joliet; **Trudi Momsen** – medical care; **Rick Paquette** – cancer care; **Diane Perkowski** – cancer care; **Eugene Proksch** (father of Bonnie Proksch) – recovering at home; **Timothy Reiter** – cancer; **Angela Schmidt** – recovering; **Robert Schmitz** (brother of Rachel Sibick) – recovering from surgery; **Ida Stevens** – recovering from surgery; **Annie Tracy** (cousin of Lee Reinbolt) – critical care; **Lorraine Urbanic** – recovering; **John Wagner** – medical testing; **Dolly Walsh** (member of Support Our Troops) – medical care; **Christine Watson** (sister of Mary Dexter) – cancer care; **Gail Wren** (sister of Hope Kuntzman) – medical care.

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
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NEW YEAR'S EVE, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31
5:00 p.m. Holy Communion

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Worship – Holy Communion

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8 – Regular Worship Schedule Resumes
8:00 a.m. Worship
9:30 a.m. Worship – Holy Communion / Christian Education Hour
11:00 a.m. Worship – Holy Communion

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BANNS OF MARRIAGE In anticipation of their weddings next weekend, we publish the banns of marriage for:



Susan Imrisek and Michael Wick. Pastor Ledogar will conduct the wedding worship on Friday, December 30, at Christ Lutheran Church.



Ivy Gibson and Glen Hurt. Pastor Nettleton will conduct the wedding worship on Friday, December 30, at Orland Chateau.

CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE Congratulations to **Brian Riegler** (son of Lee and Ruth Riegler) and **Elizabeth Davis**, who will be united in marriage on New Year's Eve.

CAROLING THANK YOU Thank you to the 28 youth and 8 adults who spread Christmas joy to 15 of our homebound members. A special thank you to Darleene Bonnema, Beverly Christensen and Karen Delcourt for preparing and serving a wonderful meal for us after the caroling. What a great time we had sharing the love of God!

OPLATKY A limited number of Oplatky Christmas wafers are available in the narthex. "Oplatky" is derived from the Latin for "atonement" and is a symbol of forgiveness in Christ. The wafer is often broken and given to loved ones at Christmas gatherings as a sign of peace and sometimes with the words: "In honor of Jesus' birth we offer each other this symbol of peace. Peace be with you." Please help yourself to an Oplatky with a Blessed Christmas from Pastor Ray and Jo Ann.

OWLS NOTES We will be taking down the decorations in the sanctuary on **Friday, January 6**, beginning at 9:00. The next regular OWLS meeting will be held on Thursday, January 12, at 10:00. Annual dues of **\$12.00** are due by this meeting.

"MAD" NIGHT Faith and hope are the twin engines that power this uplifting, bittersweet tale based on the true story of Tyler Doherty. Join us on **Friday, January 6**, at 6:30, for **LETTERS TO GOD** – the story of an 8-year old boy who battles brain cancer and turns to God as his own private pen pal. Tyler writes and mails his missives daily, and his steadfast undertaking not only moves his family and friends, but also alters the life of a despairing postman who opens the boy's letters. Approximately two hours with discussion to follow.

STEPHEN MINISTRY AND H.E.R.O.E.S. The Stephen Ministry Organization (St. Louis, Missouri) has been chosen by the U.S. Military to serve as a confidant to the soldiers and sailors coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan. In order for a military person and/or their spouse to receive this care and comfort, they must first be screened by H.E.R.O.E.S. personnel. They will then be assigned to a Stephen Minister that has been further trained in the H.E.R.O.E.S. program. That training is intended to make the Stephen Minister capable of handling the Post Traumatic Stress and, at times, the Post Traumatic Stress Disorder that most of these young men and women experience while serving. ***As of December 1, the Stephen Minister Program at Christ Lutheran Church is proud to announce that we have two Stephen Ministers ready to assist.*** We are blessed and honored to be a part of this wonderful program.

FAMILY IN NEED A Blue Island family of five had to leave their home this past week, leaving all of their possessions behind. They are now in need of many things. The children need clothing in size 9 (girl), size 8 (boy), and size 24 months (boy). Also needed is furniture – tables, lamps, kitchen table/chairs, etc. If you would be able to assist this family in any way, please contact Pam Van Auken at 708-259-7701.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

(December 25, 2011 – January 1, 2012)

Monday		CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED
	4:15 p.m.	Emotions Anonymous
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	<u>NO</u> LWR Quilters
	3:30 p.m.	<u>NO</u> Wildfire Dance
	5:00 p.m.	<u>NO</u> Jr. Chimers / Handbells
	8:00 p.m.	<u>NO</u> Darts
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	<u>NO</u> Women's Devotional Group
	4:45 p.m.	<u>NO</u> Confirmation Classes
	5:00 p.m.	<u>NO</u> Cherub Choir
	7:00 p.m.	<u>NO</u> Christ Choir
Thursday	6:30 p.m.	Wedding Rehearsal
	7:00 p.m.	A. A. Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Helpmates
Friday	4:00 p.m.	Imrisek-Wick Wedding
	5:30 p.m.	Gibson-Hurt Wedding (away)
	7:00 p.m.	Al-Anon Meeting
Saturday		<i>NEW YEARS' EVE</i>
	5:00 p.m.	Worship – H.C.
Sunday		<i>NEW YEARS' DAY</i>
	8:00 a.m.	Worship – H.C.
	10:00 a.m.	Worship – H.C.

