



Messenger

Engaging Enthusiastic Followers of Jesus

December 14, 2012

December Worship at Fox Point



December 23

4th Sunday in Advent

“Christmas Carols Revealed”

The faith story behind some of our favorite Christmas Carols



NO 8:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:00 and 10:30 Worship

NO Sunday School for Children K5-6th Grade
Preschool Sunday School will be held for 3 & 4 year olds.
Nursery Childcare provided at 9:00 & 10:30

December 24

Christmas Eve

10:00 a.m. Communion Service

4:00 p.m. Children’s Service

“Christmas Pageant in a Bag”

5:30 p.m. Communion Service

7:30 and 11:00 p.m. Candlelight Communion Services

December 30

NO 8:00 a.m. Worship Service

9:00 & 10:30 Worship

9:00 & 10:30 Sunday School – Children age 3-6th grade

In this issue...	Worship Survey Results.....Pg. 5
Health Ministry.....Pg. 2	Outreach Partners.....Pg. 6
Fellowship.....Pg. 3	Women’s Retreat/Serving.....Pg. 7
Outreach.....Pg. 4	All in the Family.....Pg. 8

Health Ministry

Pink Lid Collection Deadline is Near



Yoplait pink lids will continue to be collected until Sunday, December 16. The special pink lids are no longer stocked in grocery stores, so please deposit the lids that you have assembled in a basket at the last kiosk behind the Welcome Kiosk. Yoplait makes a donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation for every pink lid we send to them.

Save These Dates To Save a Life!

The 2013 blood drive dates are : February 12, April 30, June 25, August 20, October 22, and December 30! Please put them on your calendar!

Living Healthy Is A Prayer



***“May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you grace and Peace”
(2 Thessalonians 1:2)***

People all over the world are searching for grace and peace. In the life of any believer, these are two powerful forces. First of all, we are saved by God’s grace through our faith. We cannot earn His grace and forgiveness, but out of love for us He gives it to us anyway. Grace is God’s favor that opens the door to our salvation. His grace also empowers us to live the life that He has called us to live on earth.

Peace is every bit as powerful. It is not just a feeling we experience; it is a state of being. Peace means, “to set at one again.” We are settled internally and nothing externally can move us from our position of peace. In other words, the world can come crashing down around you but if you keep your eyes and heart focused on God, you will be at peace. Peace means to be in the midst of change and still be calm in your heart.

Receive His grace and peace especially during this busy holiday season. In the midst of shopping, wrapping, and baking, don’t lose sight of the true meaning of Christmas ... and you will find peace.

**Christmas...is a time for reflecting on the blessings of GOD’S love-
A time for thankfulness and prayer...
A time to be happy in the joy He has given us
Through the birth of His son Jesus Christ.**

Have a blessed and Merry Christmas.

Peace, health, and healing in Christ,
Joni Ledzian

Fellowship

Cookie Exchange

Tuesday, December 18 —7:00pm Fellowship Hall

Now is the time to select your favorite Christmas cookie recipe and plan to join in the fun (and time-saving experience) of sharing with fellow FPLC members. Just prepare **6 dozen** of your best holiday cookies to exchange. Bring them, along with your own container, if you'd like, to the exchange. Containers will also be available (**See flyer with preparation guidelines, available at sign-up.**)

Please sign up at the notice in the Kiosk Area. Questions? Email Barbara Froemming at bfroemm@aol.com or call her at 414-352-7890.

YOUTH GROUP!

7-8:30pm Sunday Nights

Dec. 16: Holiday Dinner Party
NO Youth Group Dec. 23 or 30.

Women's Club Luncheon

Wednesday, January 9, 2013
11:30am. in Fellowship Hall

Ellen Blathers
Special Guest

Ellen Blathers is the executive director of Serenity Inns, Inc., a transitional living facility in Milwaukee for men in recovery from drug and alcohol abuse. As part of the recovery process, individuals from churches and other organizations bring dinner each night to the men in residence and their innkeeper. Fox Point participates in "Dinner Fellowship" three times a month. Our members who sign up take a prepared meal and dine with the men. FPLC member Lorraine Buehler is on the board, and is our Dinner Fellowship coordinator. Other FPLC members who are currently on the board, or have been on the board, include Dave Romoser, Ralph McClure, Bill Krugler, and Dick Kinney. Debbie McGregor assists with their grant writing projects. Ellen will speak to us about the process of recovery for the men in residence and for those who graduate from its program.

You may sign up at the kiosk registration area beginning Sunday, December 23.

\$7.00 per person — Guests are welcome.



Hark! The Fox Point Family Carolers Sing!

Saturday, Dec. 15, 3:30

We had a wonderful time last year caroling to some of our home-bound members and to residents at Seven Oaks. We are looking for families, children, youth, choir members, those who can't carry a note—anyone and everyone—to join us again this year for this heartwarming way to share the real gift of the season with others.

Please meet in Fellowship Hall at 3:30. We will meet back in Fellowship Hall at around 5:45 for pizza and hot chocolate.

Questions? Please contact Julie Schlifske at julie@foxpointchurch.org or at 262-238-1682.

Winter Small Groups are Warming Up

"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas, everywhere you go..." I am humming along as I write that. I love this time of year--with the beautiful lights and the gift-giving and the sweetness of life lived with God--which is about the gift of the light of life itself.

Living life with God is what Small Group Ministry at FPLC is all about. It is about connecting and growing, in relationship with God, and in relationship with others. Good news! Our Winter Small Groups are getting ready to start up again. Signup for small groups will begin on January 2nd, at church and online (at foxpointchurch.org).

There will be groups meeting at a variety of times--weekdays, morning, noon, and night, and weekends too. The topics will vary as well. Are you interested in a verse-by-verse intensive study of a book of the Bible? There is a small group for that. Are you a Bible-beginner, looking for a user-friendly introduction to the Good Book? There is a small group for that. Are you interested in enriching all your relationships with a deeper, wider, quicker, lighter, sort of love--a love that is more than can be expected and comes to you (and through you) from your God? Are you longing for a more meaningful prayer life? There is a small group for that.

Keep your eyes open for more information in the coming weeks!

Pastor Bruce

Outreach

Dinner Fellowship, 2013

Some of you have been waiting for the 2013 signup to take dinner fellowship to Serenity Inn, so here it is. For those new to the idea, Serenity Inn is a residence at 2825 W. Brown in Milwaukee for men in recovery from alcohol and/or drug abuse; FPLC takes a warm meal to the 5-10 residents three nights a month, the second Thursday, the third Friday and the fourth Wednesday. Over dinner, the men share their stories, and guests may participate by listening and/or sharing their stories as well. The anti-drug, anti-alcohol message is especially appropriate for our young people.

Sign up at the Outreach Kiosk on Sundays, by contacting Lorraine Buehler at cs.com/414-964-8933 or online at volunteerwiz.com/calendar/foxpointlutheran. Open dates are January 10, 18, Feb. 14, 15, 27, March 14, 15, 27, April 11, 19, 24, May 9, 17, 22, and June 13, 21, 26.

Thanks for considering this worthwhile opportunity to reach out to the community!

Donate Some Warmth!



It is the season to warm the hands, heads and hearts of our partner churches. Help us fill the mitten tree with new hats, mittens, and scarves. The tree is located in the Fellowship Hall. We will be collecting items until December 16.

An Opportunity to Help out with The Gathering!

Saturday, January 5

We have all the help for day of but could still use some food donations. We need cookies, coffee for drip/perc coffee makers, and fresh milk. There is a separate sign-up sheet at the Outreach Kiosk. Contributions need to be brought to the church office by Thursday, January 3.

It's Scholarship Time Again!

It's when we remember the young people in our sister parishes in the Meru Diocese who will be unable to stay in secondary school without our help.

FPLC sends \$5000 to each parish each year, \$2500 in January and \$2500 in July. The money helps as many as 60 students in Ngarenanyuki and more than 40 students in Usa River pay for their school fees, supplies, and uniforms. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic success, but primarily on need—students who have lost one or both parents are given first consideration.

When you support a student with your donation, we want you to have a Tanzania-related gift in memory of your generosity. See the ornament tree in Fellowship Hall for examples of the gifts, and be assured that the financial support makes a real difference in the lives of these students.

Here is another student's expression of gratitude: (Remember that the first language of these students is Swahili.)

Dear Sponsor,

...This comes to you with a world of appreciation and thanks for the thoughtfulness and kindness you've shown to me for two years now.... I finished my Advanced Level last year...and plan to join my first degree program this year...taking education basing in language.

For today let me end up here. May our Almighty God bless you more and more and may the word of God be alight to your feet.

Yours,

Niwaeli Manyaeli Maturd

Ready to Pick Out Your Christmas Tree?

Buy it with a Bayside Garden Center debit card!

You can use it for all your holiday purchases--wreaths, ornaments, indoor plants, vases--and they are good forever!

The best part is that we get to keep 15% of the value for Tanzania scholarships.

Available at the Welcome Kiosk on Sundays...or during the week at the church office.

Worship Survey Results

Dear Fox Point Lutheran Church Family,

It has been 6 months since our worship and music survey, and I would like to share some results and insights we have gained from your responses.

The first thing I would like to do is thank you. 275 people responded to the survey both online and in written form. The responses were both powerful and helpful as we fashioned worship for fall 2012. They also helped us to make decisions as to how we staff our worship and music program.

Below are some of the highlights from these 275 responses:

*34% were male, and 66% were female.

*47% had children, and 53% had no children.

*The highest response came from the 45-54 age group (28%), then the 55-64 group (25%), and finally the 35-44 group (18%).

*The highest response was from those who belonged to the church 11-22 years (24%), followed by 6-10 years (18%), and finally 23-30 years (15%).

*7% came from the 8 AM worship attendees, 49% from 9:00 AM worship attendees, and 44% from 10:30 AM worship attendees.

*The most important reason for choosing a worship service was time of service (60%), followed by style (40%), and then finally having friends at the service (2%).

*69% of those responded had attended another worship service.

*61% prefer traditional worship, and 43% prefer contemporary worship.

What this told us is that we have a wonderfully diverse congregation who love to worship God but whose worship is affected by the pace and style of life. We have a healthy mix of ages, styles, long-term, and short-term members, which helps us to keep our congregation diversified and strong.

We learned the most from your comments. We learned what you enjoyed and did not enjoy about your worship experience. We have put your comments to use as we have planned and staffed our worship experience during the last 6 months. Our church is never a finished product, but your participation in our survey has been very helpful in making us a better congregation with even more powerful worship.

Below are some of the key insights we gleaned from your responses:

*Members of Fox Point Lutheran Church love the pastors' preaching and state emphatically that the messages have meaning and impact on their lives. We will continue to strive for excellence in our preaching and are honored that you feel it is relevant and faith-filled.

*The music of the church also received wonderful reviews, but we listened to your comments about style and quality. This has moved us to implement changes in staffing and planning to make sure that our music stays strong and is a vital part of our members' worship experience.

*We received many requests for a Saturday evening service, and in the next year we will evaluate if, how, when, and the style of a potential Saturday service.

Thank you for taking the time to respond, and please know that it was of great value! The survey has gone a long way toward making our worship and music stronger as we work together to become even more engaged and enthusiastic followers of Jesus Christ.



Pastor Bill Knapp
Lead Pastor
FoxPointChurch

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foxpointchurch.org
(414) 352-8990

Our Outreach Partners

As a follow up to our report on your generosity, people have requested more information about our Outreach partners. They will all be here in April for our Outreach Fair so you can learn more about their wonderful work. You can share your time and talent with them any time throughout the year and as part of our Service Day in May.

All Peoples Church, 2600 N. 2nd Street—A dynamic Christian community in the heart of the Harambee neighborhood. Their programs include Kids Working to Succeed, Wednesday Night Alive, a food pantry, a community garden (new greenhouse coming!), and the promotion of racial justice.

Cross Lutheran Church, 1821 N. 16th Street—People from all walks of life find a home at Cross, a vibrant church offering weekly meals for the hungry and homeless, the Bread of Healing Health Clinic, a food pantry, a new job development effort and FPLC tutoring program.

Serenity Inns, 2825 W. Brown Street—A seven-month transitional living program for homeless men recovering from alcohol and drug addictions addressing their physical, spiritual, emotional, financial, and social needs. Our members cook and share meals with them three times a month and offer leadership support and operational funding.

Kujichagulia/Seedfolks Youth Ministry—The Kuji food pantry is located at Good Shepherd Church, and Alice's Garden at 21st and Garfield offers children's programming, job/learning opportunities for inner city young people, adult environmental and agricultural education, Junior Master Gardeners, and Garden Mosaics as well as garden plots for 100 very diverse families.

Shoreline Interfaith, 1200 E. Hampton—Volunteers from North Shore congregations serve older adults living in our areas who lack help from family and friends--transportation and escort to medical appointments, grocery shopping, minor home repairs, and advocacy.

Sojourner Family Peace Center—Sojourner provides education and resources to counteract domestic violence, operating a 44-bed shelter that has provides safety and support services to thousands of women and children, a 24-Hour domestic violence hotline, a Domestic Abuse Victim Advocacy program in the D.A.'s office, legal emergency assistance, and children's advocacy.

Next Door Foundation, 2545 N. 29th Street—An educational and social service center, Next Door helps children and families build educational and life skills with from birth through adulthood. Volunteers read to children, help with Books for Kids, tutor adults, or serve as aides in the head start and infant programs.

Luther Manor, 4545 N. 92nd Street— Founded by our church, this retirement community has lots of jobs for volunteers from working in the resale shop, to serving as coffee cart hosts, helping seniors in the Adult Day Care Center, and bringing in your pet to delight residents.

Lutheran Social Services—Their commitment is endless: programs serving people with who need help with addictions, parenting, subsidized housing, refugees and immigrants, adoption, runaways, counseling, inmate release and reentry, the homeless.

The Gathering—We provide volunteers six times a year for the Gathering which offers ten free meals a week at three locations for the poor and homeless.

Tanzania—We have partnerships with parishes in Arusha and Ngarenanyuki where we have built preschools and a tailoring school, provided \$10,000 in scholarships each year, purchased goats for widows raising orphans, run medical clinics, trained doctors.

Women's Retreat/Serving



Our Women's Retreat will be held at the beautiful Grand Geneva Resort on Friday, February 1 and Saturday February 2, 2013. Please join us for our 6th annual Women's Retreat and experience the joy and peace you will find within yourself. Ladies! It's retreat time! Time to get away and connect with God and each other! At our retreat, called, "The Power of Prayer", we will talk about what prayer is, why prayer matters, and what we can practically do to make prayer a bigger part of our daily lives. Reservations will be taken in the Welcome Area beginning Sunday, December 16. Final registration will be Sunday, January 13. For questions, please contact Joni, your parish nurse at 352-8990, X 117(joni@foxpointchurch.org) or stop at the registration table and talk to a volunteer. Hotel rooms are limited so early sign up is encouraged. Payment must be made when you register.

Serving

<u>December 16</u>	SERVING:	<u>December 23</u>
8:00 Dawn Braun 9:00 Colleen Ashenden 10:30 Rob Ricigliano	Lectors	9:00 No lector needed 10:30 No lector needed
8:00 Klasner/Kurtz Team 9:00 Janik Team 10:30 Gebel Team	Ushers	9:00 Keehn Team 10:30 Harland Team
9:00 Donna Metzendorf, Dolores Stops 10:30 Karen Davies, Laura Van Why	Coffee Hour Hosts	9:00 Ben & Peg Young 10:30 Dave & Kim Westfahl
Kathy Sauer	Welcome Kiosk	TBD
9:00 Ashley Heitz, Lauren Padgett 10:30 Brenna Grych, Ellie Van Why	Acolytes	9:00 Aaron Trattner, Claire Trattner 10:30 Bethany Ford, Carly Schulz
Susan Janik	Worship Assistant	Michelle Kornitz
9:00 Dean Eggert, Mark Metzendorf 10:30 Kevin Kosobud, Nathan Wischnewski	Super Greeters	9:00 Dan & Soon Hee Rauwald 10:30 Lori & Mark Langholz

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-- Dated Material --
Please deliver by Friday, December 14, 2012

Next Messenger: dated January 4; deadline Dec. 20



All in the Family



*We encourage you to keep these people in your prayers during the week.
Please contact the church office to add or remove a loved one's name from the prayer list.*

Prayer List

Steve Heronemus (brother of L. Barrieau)
Anne
Bob Lynch
Kim
Stretch Luedeman
Sheila Dlugi
Deb
Deborah
Nikki Etheridge
Verlie Keehn
Clarence Plagens
Pam Fuhry
Sue Hansen
Charlie Burton
John
Kate
Audrey
Julie Burger
Holly Beard (sister of Wendy Randazzo)
Jim
Judy
Herold Praefke
Jason
Dan Jones
Anthony
Eleanor
Sally
Jack
Tatum

Chloe Orvis
Marion Pohlmann
Andrea
Lee Nelson
Ellen
Marcia Kaye
Jim Krause
Glenn Buzzard
Jack DeMunck
Elaine Zarse
Edward
Ellen
Wayne
John Schwendel
Erik Erlandson
Randall Pack
Bud Miser
Mike Howard
Shirlee Rosendahl
Betty Samuelson
Laura
Donald Maloney
Bette Poelzer
Lucia Byal
Odelle Leonard
Susie
Kathy Dietrl
David Kramer
Art Baumgarten
Terri

Our heartfelt sympathy is with Cyndi, Jeff, Graham & Tristan Garland on the death of Cyndi's father, Reuben Bintzler.

Military

Samantha
Ben
Parker
David

Congratulations

Charles and Elizabeth Christenson, twins of Thomas & Tracy Christenson, were born November 21. Thomas III is the big brother and Larry Cianciola is the proud grandfather.

Giana Catherine, daughter of Kevin & Angie Gemignani, was born November 26. Jackson is the big brother.

Evelynn Sue Scheidegger, daughter of Daniel Scheidegger & Kelley Bartel, was baptized December 9.

In case of urgent pastoral care, call the church office at 414-352-8990.

*Pastors' cell phone numbers
Pr. Knapp 414-704-7070
Pr. Cheever 414-573-4138*