



Messenger

Engaging Enthusiastic Followers of Jesus

December 16, 2011



DECEMBER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 18 – 4th Sunday of Advent

Worship Services at 8:00, 9:00 & 10:30am
Christmas Pageant in a Bag at 9:00 & 10:30am
No Sunday School will be held.



CHRISTMAS EVE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

10:00am – Communion Service

4:00pm – Children’s Service

In the Hispanic tradition of Latin American countries, especially in Mexico, one of the oldest celebrations is **Las Posadas**. It was created in the 16th century to introduce Christianity in the New World. The celebration takes place during Advent, from December 16 through 23, with a special service on December 24 (A Christmas Eve Service of Las Posadas). “Las Posadas” means “the inns” or “the shelters” in Spanish and commemorates Joseph and Mary’s difficult journey to Bethlehem and their search for shelter prior to the birth of Jesus. It is a wonderful Christian celebration, anticipating and preparing for the coming of Jesus into our own homes and hearts. At this service together we will celebrate with the joyful songs of Christmas, with a dramatic reenactment of Joseph and Mary’s search for shelter, and with the retelling of the events of Jesus’ birth.

5:30pm – Communion Service

(Due to large numbers attending the 5:30pm service, when maximum seating capacity is reached in the main sanctuary extra seating will be provided in Fellowship Hall)

7:30 & 11:00pm

Candlelight Communion Services

Sunday, December 25 – Christmas Day

Holy Communion

9:00am—One Worship Service

No Sunday School will be held.
No Nursery childcare will be provided.

Sunday, January 1 – New Year’s Day

Holy Communion

9:00am—One Worship Service

No Sunday School will be held.
No Nursery childcare will be provided.

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Health Ministry

Living Healthy Is A Prayer

Flip Your Lids...

Clean, pink Yoplait lids that is - into the basket on the Welcome Kiosk from now until December 18. For every pink lid from Yoplait yogurt, Yoplait will make a donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Help support this breast cancer cause.



Joyful Hearts

“Tis the season!! You may already sense that time is running out and that you may not be ready for Christmas. The shopping, the baking, the entertaining... your “to do” list is never ending.

Do you feel you need to make the most of the time you have left before Christmas arrives? Making the most of our time doesn’t always mean staying as busy as possible, even though there is a lot to do. In fact, it may mean stepping off the treadmill and asking ourselves if we are busy with the right things. Make the holidays be about sharing time with friends and family, not stressing out about food and a clean house. Five years from now, even a year from now, will anyone remember what you served or how your house was decorated? What they will remember is the precious time you spent together.

Carve out moments of quiet between addressing holiday cards and decking your halls to open yourself to God’s presence. Take time to reflect and share with your loved ones the true meaning of Christmas. Renew your spirit and allow God to speak to your heart during this season of grace.

This holiday season, may you be guided by the true “Spirit” of Christmas and rejoice in the Gift of God’s love and promise of everlasting life through His son, Jesus Christ.

“Glory to God in the Highest and Peace to His people on earth.”

Happy Holidays!!!
Peace and health in Christ,
Joni Ledzian

Church Office.....	414-352-8990
Monday-Thursday.....	8:00am - 4:00pm
Friday.....	closed
Church Fax Number.....	414-352-1482
Website.....	www.foxpointchurch.org
Email.....	church@foxpointchurch.org

Fellowship

Women's Club

Wednesday, January 11, 2012

11:00am in Fellowship Hall
(Please note earlier starting time)

"The Tests of Our Lives"

Karen Lippert, Presenter

Life is hard. In this message, Karen will discuss the reality of the difficulties of life. More importantly, she'll give Biblical examples of those who have passed difficult tests in their lives. Finally, she'll discuss the purposes that these tests have in our lives as Christian women. Each woman will receive strength and encouragement for the days ahead.

Karen spoke to our FPLC women at a recent Women's Retreat and was so well received, we have invited her back to share with us once again. To accommodate her schedule, we will serve lunch at the earlier time.

Please sign up at the notice in the Welcome Area. The luncheon cost is \$7.00 a person. Guests are welcome.

New Music for Christmas!

Following Pastor Bill's suggestion that you need to listen to some great Christmas music to let your heart prepare, you may pick up an excellent CD of piano music here at FPLC for \$10. Elizabeth Caswell's CD, *The Christmas Album*, is available for purchase today at the Welcome Kiosk. In the tradition of George Winston and Lorie Line, Ms. Caswell plays sacred and secular Christmas favorites on her own Steinway, which used to belong to Diana Krall. Elizabeth is a graduate of Augustana College and the University of Iowa. Sales of these CDs, \$10 each, will further benefit our outreach ministries.

Christmas Eve Choir



Singers are invited to join our choir for the 11:00pm Christmas Eve service. This worship service, featuring candle lighting and communion, is a highlight of our church year, and we invite past, present, and potential future choir members to join us to make it a great event. We will rehearse on Thursday, December 22, at 7pm and meet on Christmas Eve at 10:15pm. Returning college students, relatives, and guests are especially welcome to join us. Come sing! Please RSVP to Kevin Bailey at bailey@foxpointchurch.org.

Cookie Exchange

Monday, December 19
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 and your own container, if you'd like. Containers will also be available at the exchange. (See flyer with guidelines available at sign-up.)

All interested men and women are invited to participate. Refreshments will be served.

Please sign up at the notice in Fellowship Hall.

Please note: This is not the same as the cookie sale at the Holiday Boutique where a variety of cookies were sold by the pound. At the Cookie Exchange, you will share equally with those who participate and you will go home with a beautiful assortment of cookies ready to serve your family and guests at Christmas. Questions? Email Barbara Froemming at BFroemm@aol.com or call her at 414-352-7890.

Outreach

2012 Dinner Fellowship Dates

It's time to fill those 2012 dates for the Dinner Fellowship at Serenity Inn. FPLC takes a meal there for the residents, men in rehab for drug and/or alcohol abuse, three times a month. Members prepare a meal at home and take it warm to the Inn at 2825 W. Brown by 6pm on the second Thursday, the third Friday, and the fourth Wednesday of each month and share food and fellowship with six to ten men in residence. The dinner conversation delivers a powerful anti-drug/alcohol message--especially appropriate for our young people.

Thanks to all those who signed up in the last week. Open dates include Jan. 20, Feb. 22, March 8 & 28, April 12 & 20, May 10, 18, & 23, June 15 & 27.

See the signup at the Outreach Kiosk, contact Lorraine Buehler at lcbuehler@cs.com (964-8933), or signup online at volunteerwiz.com/calendar/foxpointlutheran.

Thanks for considering this rewarding use of your time and talent.

Christmas Cards

As Christmas cards begin arriving at your house, remember to save them after the holidays and bring them to church. Polly Reed collects them and takes them to the Salvation Army to be repurposed!

If you happen to still have cards from last year, she will gladly take those too! Drop them off at the Welcome Kiosk!



The Mt. Meru Coffee Project

It's About Doing Justice, Providing Security, and Doing Ministry

The **Mt. Meru Coffee Project** is not a "project of the month" or a "project of the year". It is a project for life – for the life of the farmer and the life of the congregation. Once it is started, it is essential that it be sustained or the people we are trying to help will fall back into the hole of injustice and poverty.

The Project IS about doing justice. In Tanzania, justice is done by paying farmers a fair price for their coffee, offering them a "hand up" and enabling them to help themselves.

Over 10 years ago, the Project was a "life line" to the small farmers in the Meru Diocese. It encouraged them to grow coffee because they would receive a fair price for it. Over time, other buyers raised the price they paid farmers for coffee.

Today, the market for coffee is strong, and farmers who kept growing coffee are reaping the rewards for their perseverance. Today, the Project is a "safety net" for the farmers. When/if market prices fall, the Project will ensure that farmers will continue to receive a fair price for their coffee.

Locally, justice is done by making a change in our coffee buying patterns and routines. It is about buying and serving Mt. Meru Coffee instead of super market or convenience coffee. Buying and serving Mt. Meru Coffee should be considered a ministry rather than an expense. Mt. Meru Coffee may cost more than super market coffee, but it is a high quality coffee, and paying a premium is part of doing ministry and pursuing and achieving justice.

The Mt. Meru Coffee Project - doing justice, providing security, doing ministry - and **DOING JUSTICE NEVER TASTED SO GOOD!**

Mt. MERU
COFFEE PROJECT

Outreach

Thank You from Marissa Gordon FPLC Promising Scholar

You may recall that your Outreach Committee gave 8 scholarships over the summer to college students from three Central City churches: Peace, All Peoples, and Cross Lutheran. In October, we followed up with "Care Packages" donated by the parents of our Beyond High School students. Our confirmation students assembled the packages which included two cards/letters from these 7th and 8th graders as well as a letter from the pastors. Here is a response from one of the recipients. Marissa's home church is Peace Lutheran; she is attending Florida A & M University in Tallahassee and received a Promising Scholar Award for the second year. Her \$400 scholarship helped her pay for books and supplies.

*Thank you so much for the wonderful care package! I am glad to hear that you are keeping me within your prayers. God has definitely kept me on the right path. Even though the semester is almost over, he has definitely done some wonderful things. This summer I have an internship with one of the big four accounting firms, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, in New York City. I am very excited for what the future has in store for me! I am doing very well in school and I can't wait to come home to some beautiful cool weather. This Florida weather is becoming a little too hot for me. Thanks again!
God's peace,
Marissa Gordon*



Mt. Meru Gift Packs

You can give a gift and also make a contribution to a valuable mission – Mt. Meru Coffee.

The Gift Pack contains a 12 oz. bag of Mt. Meru Coffee (Drip Grind – either Decaf or Regular) and a Free Trade Christmas Tree ornament handcrafted in Indonesia hand wrapped as a meaningful gift for one of your coffee-loving loved ones. The cost to you is \$18, the value to mission is immeasurable. Gift Packs are available by the kiosks in the Welcome Area.

Mission (and Giving) never tasted so good!

Buy an Ornament or a Tote Bag; Support a Scholarship

Look for the ornament display as you enter Fellowship Hall and consider buying an ornament from Tanzania, the profits of which support the scholarships we give to approximately 70 students from our two sister parishes in Tanzania, (Usa River and Ngarenanyuki). These scholarships are often the deciding factor as to whether students can stay in school or not. We send \$5000 each year to each parish, and scholarship committees there accept applications from many more than the 70 recipients. Scholarships are awarded based mostly on need and grades--with orphans receiving first consideration.

Ornaments "prices" begin at \$10, \$25, and \$50 and from there go to \$100, \$200, \$250, \$500 and all the way to \$1000. Check out the ornament display board to consider the options. Ornaments will be available through the holiday season, but "shop" early to have the best selection.

Another option to support the scholarships is to purchase one of the tote bags lovingly designed and created by Kaela Buraczewski from fabric she or others received while visiting the Meru Diocese with one of the FPLC mission groups. Your donation of \$50 gives you one of the beautiful totes.

Your Tanzania Outreach Partnership (TOP) Committee thanks you for considering this opportunity to help students in Tanzania stay in school.

The Gathering Thanks You!

Thank you for helping make this year's Thanksgiving meal at The Gathering a success! The 25 turkeys cooked by members of Fox Point Lutheran were enjoyed by our guests on Saturday November 19. With your help, The Gathering served 640 adults and children a nutritious and tasty Thanksgiving feast. Guests enjoyed the fellowship of sharing this special holiday meal together. We are thankful for you, our volunteers, for making the holiday brighter for our guests. By sharing your time and effort, you have helped make a difference in the fight against hunger.

Small Groups/Important FYI

Second Semester Small Group Sign ups to begin January 8!

FPLC's first "Semester Small Group Program" was a success and we are very excited about the various topics being offered next semester such as Timothy Keller's "Reason for God", C.S. Lewis's "The Screwtape Letters", Lisa Whittle's "Whole", and Timothy Keller's "Gospel in Life, Grace Changes Everything". Participants and leaders for the first semester found the groups to be enlightening and fulfilling and a great chance to get to know others in our church family.

Signups for next semester's small groups will take place online and at church starting Sunday, January 8, 2012, and ending Sunday, January 29. The actual small groups will start meeting the week of January 29, 2012. Groups will meet weekly for 6-8 weeks, depending on the topic and will be offered at various times during the days and evenings. If you have a topic you would like to have added or have the calling to be a leader of a new group, please contact Pastor Bruce Cheever at brucecheever@me.com so it can be included in the curriculum guide. If you want to sign up for a group, keep watching....more info to come!

Preparation for First Communion for 5th Graders - Sunday, January 8



We will be holding a special bread-baking Communion workshop on Saturday, January 7.

Letters with more information about the workshop and communion will be mailed soon. Once you receive them, please return your response cards as soon as possible.

If you have a child 6th grade and older who has not had communion instruction, please contact the church office at 414-352-8990.

FPLC Preschool Open House

Classes for 2012-2013 now forming

Fox Point Lutheran Preschool is now taking applications for the 2012-2013 school year. Please join us at our Open House where you can see our classroom, meet our staff and learn more about our wonderful program.

Open House:

When? Monday, January 9 from 5:30-7:00pm

Where? Fox Point Lutheran Church -
7510 N. Santa Monica Blvd. in the preschool room
(enter on the south side of the building by the playground).

Questions? - call Heather Klug 414-431-6042

***Classes fill quickly, so we recommend
registering early.***



Serving

<u>December 18</u>		
8:00 Klasner/Kurtz Team 9:00 Janik Team 10:30 Gebel Team		Ushers
9:00 Susan Shaw-Weaver, Zamora family 10:30 Mark & Terri Chelmowski		Coffee Hour
Kathy Sauer		Welcome Kiosk
9:00 Will Kammerait, Joey Pennington 10:30 Alec Felton, Eric Mullins		Acolytes
Judy Theune		Worship Assistant
9:00 Tim Callan, Connie Zachowski 10:30 Chris & Anne Noyes		Super Greeters

Women's Retreat



“Cherishing the Gift of Relationship”

February 3&4, 2012

Our Women's Retreat will be held at the beautiful Grand Geneva Resort on Friday, February 3 and Saturday, February 4, 2012. Please join us for our 5th 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!

Susan Marshall will be our speaker this year. Susan is an author, speaker, and President of Executive Advisor, LLC, an independent consulting firm founded in 1997 that specializes in leadership development and executive effectiveness. She is a joyful member of St. Matthews Church in Oconomowoc. She celebrates the gifts she has been given and enjoys encouraging others to discover and share their blessings too.

This year we're going to focus on **Cherishing the Gift of Relationship**. How often do we recognize our relationships as gifts? Most of us take them for granted, never truly valuing them until they are threatened by argument, illness, or death. Yet each relationship is a gift in several respects. Relationship offers connection, a means of discovering ourselves in the responses of others, and a way to extend our best qualities to people we care about. During our time together we will examine some of the myths of relationships, the commitment we bring to them (or wish others would), what they say about us as individuals and how we can learn to truly cherish our relationships and in doing so, find their deepest joy.

The cost of this retreat is just \$190.00/double and \$260.00 for a single room, (sorry, no refunds). Each person is responsible for finding her own roommate. This price includes a reception Friday night and a dinner (alcoholic drinks extra), breakfast and lunch on Saturday. If you are able to join us on Saturday only, the cost for the day is just \$50.00. The WELL Spa and Salon will offer a 15% discount on any spa service (please schedule yourself). Feel free to invite a friend.

Husbands, are you looking for that special Christmas or Valentine's gift that says, “I Love You”? We can help you to surprise your loved one with this fabulous Get Away! We will help you make all the arrangements and package it in a festive bag. What woman wouldn't enjoy this experience and a little pampering!

Reservations are being taken in the Welcome Area. Final registration will be Sunday, January 15. For questions or scholarship inquiries, please contact Joni, your parish nurse at 414-352-8990 X 117 or stop by the registration table and talk with a volunteer. Joni Ledzian joni@foxpointchurch.org

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 -- Dated Material --
 Please deliver by Friday, December 16, 2011

Next Messenger: Dated Jan. 1; deadline Dec. 22



All in the Family



We encourage you to keep these people in your prayers during the week.

Prayer List

Steve Heronemus (brother of L. Barrieau)
 Sue Wolf (sister of Janet Quail)
 Jan Bergin
 Joel Villnow
 Fran Riley
 Anne
 Bob Lynch
 Kim
 Melvin Sato
 Paula Sandoval
 Don Hiller
 Stretch Luedeman
 Betty Arpe
 Sheila Dlugi
 Deb
 Carol Soik
 Danny Johnson
 (great-grandson of Lloyd Johnson)
 Lloyd Johnson

Deborah
 Janine Kolinski
 Ellie Fredericksen
 Marilyn Mechanic
 Ginny Muenta (mother of Marilee Nord)
 Olga Best
 Nikki Etheridge
 Gary
 Sue Lottes
 Verlie Keehn
 Clarence Plagens
 Erin Voll
 Elys Ketting-Law
 Jean
 Deb
 Virginia Ketting
 Pam Fuhry
 Marion Roepe
 Herold Praefke
 Charles Buscher
 Sue Hansen
 Doris Kuhlmann

Our sympathy to Jamie, Patti, and grandson Jake, on the death of Jamie's mother, Jane Ellsworth, November 30.

Military

Samantha Rablin
 Ben Halbert
 Parker Stratton

Congratulations

Chase William Adam, son of Brian & Cindy Adam and grandson of Helmut & Chris Adam, was born October 27.
 Tessa Louise Lueck, daughter of Brent & Laura (Kellner) Lueck, was baptized December 11.
 Vivian Laura Schultz, daughter of Ryan & Kristin (Kellner) Schultz, was baptized December 11.
 Ella Lennon Torgerson, daughter of Adam & Jennelle Torgerson, was baptized December 11.

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***

STAFF

D. William Knapp
 Bruce Cheever
 Dan Thurmer
 Kevin Bailey
 Heide Hongsermeier
 Julie Schlifske
 Joni Ledzian
 Jo Ann Berdelman
 Linda Cole
 Sharon Moore
 Mary Altstiel

Senior Pastor
 Associate Pastor
 Pastoral Care
 Director of Worship & Music
 Asst. Organist/Handbell Director
 Director of Children's Ministries
 Parish Nurse
 Director of Administration
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