

# LIFE TOGETHER This Week

Week of December 31, 2024 Vol 166 Real Faith For Real Life





#### MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary's Fantastic Fridays Lunch

The lunch program is a great way to serve hands-on with MBHS leadership, staff and

volunteers and see the immediate impact of serving others a meal in an inclusive and welcoming space. We need FPLC members to provide the meal components and serve lunch at the Fantastic Fridays lunch program held at Hephatha Lutheran Church. There are two ways to help:

#### If Cooking or A Little Grocery Shopping is for You:

On the sign-up page, choose which part of the meal you'd like to supply. We're providing chili, rolls, fruit salad, butter, shredded cheese, hot sauce and homemade cookies. If you are signing up to make the chili, you will be sent a recipe to use, as all the chili will be combined. If you would like to be reimbursed, just let Stacia Hickey know. Meal items are due to FPLC by Thursday, January 9 at noon. Sign up through the link below.

#### Serve the Meal and Experience the Day First Hand:

Join us on Friday, January 10 from 11 am – 1:30 pm to serve lunch to the guests. Not only do you serve the meal, chat with guests, staff and volunteers, you join the prayer and sharing circle—a low stress, prayerful and enlightening time to fill you heart.

#### Sign Me Up!

Sign up for both options through this link, on the "Serve in the Community" page of our website or through the QR code at the signup table on Sunday mornings.

#### **Questions?**

Stacia Hickey has participated in this program several times and will be there Jan. 10. Contact her at 414-352-8990 or <a href="mailto:stacia@foxpointchurch.org">stacia@foxpointchurch.org</a>.





### Grief Support at Fox Point Church

Have you experienced the loss of a loved one? Do you need encouragement and support as you navigate

your grief? Would you like an opportunity to meet with others on a similar journey? If so, please reach out to Pastor Bruce by phone or by email; 414-352-8990; pastorbruce@foxpointchurch.org.

#### Cookies for Luther Manor

January is the month that FPLC is scheduled to provide cookies for the 200 plus Luther Manor Health Care Center residents.



The cookie drive is a way to reach out and make the day brighter for the residents during challenging times.

Luther Manor is requesting either store-bought packaged cookies or homemade cookies. Softer purchased cookies without nuts or seeds comply with the dietary needs of many of the residents. Please deliver them directly to the church office by noon, Friday, January 24. If you need someone to pick up the cookies, please call Janet Quail, 414-967-7942. Oh, and if you can bake an extra 2 dozen for our MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary Fantastic Friday lunch at the same time that would be great! See article at left for details.







#### **Soles for Jesus**

Shoes. They are a basic luxury that we take for granted every day as we choose our favorite pair from our closet. Millions of people across our globe live barefoot lives. Not only does

this cause health issues, it makes injuries more prevalent. It also keeps people from work and school, where shoes are required.

We are holding a shoe drive for Soles for Jesus now through January 31. They accept new and used shoes for children or adults, male or female. All sizes and types of shoes are welcome donations. Shoes not appropriate for others to wear are recycled and turned into other materials, like playground flooring. The shoes are sent to developing countries in Africa.

At the end of January, some of our Confirmation students will be going to the Soles for Jesus warehouse to learn more about their mission and to volunteer sorting, washing and packing shoes. (Confirmation families, see page 9 for details and to register.)

To learn more about the mission of Soles for Jesus go to their website for videos, statistics, pictures and more.

#### **Soles for Jesus.**

A donation box will be located next to the Welcome Desk starting the first Sunday in January. Questions? Contact Stacia Hickey; <a href="mailto:stacia@foxpointchurch.org">stacia@foxpointchurch.org</a>.



#### **FPLC '25 Blood Drives**

Tues
January 28
1 – 6 pm

Thurs
March 27
1 – 6 pm

Thurs
May 22
1 – 6 pm

Tues
July 22
1 – 6 pm

Thurs
October 30
1 – 6 pm

Despite 65% of the population being eligible, only 3% of Americans currently donate blood. Be a hero and donate blood to help save lives! Thank you for donating. Never donated before? Become a first-time donor!!

FPLC is offering Blood Drives in Fellowship Hall throughout 2025. These dates are open to the public as well, so invite a friend to donate with you!

To sign up: Click **HERE** 

#### Men's Club Skydiving!!!

We'll have guest speaker and FPLC member, Chris Whittet, tell us about skydiving! Come hear about his adventures in the sky.

Date: Thursday, January 16

**Times:** 11:30 am

Cost: \$10; includes lunch

**Location:** FPLC; Fellowship Hall **Sign up:** In Fellowship Hall

Contact: Jim Kimmel; jim.kimmel42@gmail.com









### Women's Club (Men Invited!) The Purposeful Purse Project

Our guest speaker is Nancy Yarbrough, founder of Fresh Step Learning, Inc., which is a non-profit, faith-based organization. They have made great strides in the community through their outreach and advocacy for domestic violence, human trafficking, and other struggles that plague our society. From August – October, members of FPLC and local businesses made donations of purses and personal care items to go in the purses. At

the Women's Conference in October, women assembled 50 purses to donate to participants of Fresh Step Learning, as a symbol of hope for the future. Learn more about this organization during this program.

Date: Wednesday, January 8

Times: 11:30 – Gather in Fellowship Hall for Fellowship.

12:00 – Lunch; with presentation to follow.

Cost: If you donated anything or any time to this purse project, your lunch is free, due to a Thrivent Action Plan. If not,

please bring \$10 as a donation, for the cause.

Location: FPLC; Fellowship Hall

Sign up: In Fellowship Hall by Sunday, January 4th, noon

Contact: Gail Sommerfeld at <a href="mailto:sommerfeld56@gmail.com">sommerfeld56@gmail.com</a> or 262-395-0396.

**Our Next Meeting is:** 

February 12 | 11:30 am

From Holocaust to Civil Rights

Help Needed: January 5, 19 & 26 All at 10:30!

#### **Coffee Hosts Needed!**

Hosts make the coffee and serve the donuts on Sundays. You are still able to attend the church service. Just

slip in at the back as the service is starting and slip out as it's ending. Families are welcome to volunteer with their kids! It's also a great Service Opportunity for our Confirmation students (with an adult).

9:00 am shift: (Approx 8:15 am – 10:15 am) Cut up the donuts, brew the coffee, and set things out.

10:30 am shift: (Approx 10:15 am – 11:45 am) Keep the coffee brewing, fill the donut trays as needed and clean up afterwards.

If you'd like to help with this important part of Sunday mornings, please sign up with the link below or contact Lori Barrieau in the church office if you have any

questions; <u>lori@foxpointchurch.org</u> or 414-352-8990.



#### Women's Book Club January 13; 7 - 8:30 pm

The January book is *The Art Thief* by Michael Finkel. We meet in the lower

level in the Meeting Space (next to the lower level Cafe). For a full list of the books, see our <u>website</u>. Questions: contact Joanne Ginster; <u>imginster@yahoo.com</u> or (414) 491-8939.



#### **Hospital Visits**

If you or a loved one is hospitalized and would like a visit or call from a pastor (or just for them to know you are hospitalized), please call the church office; 414-352-8990. Due to

HIPAA rules, hospitals are not allowed to share with us that you are a patient.





#### Chili Throwdown!

One of our most popular social events, the Chili Throwdown is a fun event for all!

#### **Chili Tasters**

Come to sample tasty, homemade chili and rate your favorite recipes and help determine the winning chefs. There will be a beer tasting station for adults and hot dogs & chips for the kiddos.

#### Do you make the world's best chili? Prove it!

We are looking for chili chefs who will enter their finest chili recipe into our competition! Attendees will vote for their favorites and a best Chili King or Queen will be crowned. There will be prizes for Chef's Choice, 2nd Runner Up, and Best Presentation. It's a fun-filled, no-pressure cooking experience.

It will be a great night of eating chili and connecting with friends old and new! To register to attend or to cook, click the links to the right.



### **Knitters and Crocheters Needed! Soap Sacks**

Soap Sacks are hand-knit or crocheted drawstring bags that hold a standard size bar of soap. The sacks can be used simply to hold the soap or people can leave the soap in the bag and use it as a soap-filled wash

cloth. FPLC will fill each bag with a donated bar of soap and deliver them to our partners in Milwaukee to give to their pantry guests. Some of the guests are homeless or move frequently.

They may not have access to soap or washcloths on a regular basis. If you can't make these but would like to help, donate standard-sized bars of soap in our food carts.

This is an ongoing project, so you may donate these any time in our Food Donation Cart or at the Welcome Desk.

If you wish to include a standard-sized bar of soap with the Soap Sacks you donate, please keep the soap in its wrapper before putting it inside the sack. That way it stays clean until it reaches its recipient. Donations can be left in our food donation carts.

See the links below for instructions. If you have a pattern you'd prefer to use, that's fine! We just ask that they be similar in size, have a drawstring or tie to close the sack and that you use cotton yarn.

A sample will be in Fellowship Hall on the Sign Up Tables!

If you have any questions, please contact Stacia Hickey; <a href="mailto:stacia@foxpointchurch.org">stacia@foxpointchurch.org</a>.







#### **Kids' Church!**

Our new Sunday morning program for kids, **Kids' Church**, has started! If your children are participating in Kid's Church and haven't been registered yet, click the appropriate button below to fill out the registration form ASAP.



Our preschool friends-Little Foxes-will continue to meet in the lower-level Preschool Room.



Our younger elementary friends (K5–3rd grades)–our Faith Explorers–will meet in the Movie Room in the Sunday School hallway. We will use a variety of rooms in this area, based on our different activities each Sunday.



Our older elementary kids (4th-6th grades)-our Faith Builders-will now meet in the Café area, which gives them the space they need to build their faith and community in new and varied ways.

If you have questions, contact Julie Schlifske, Director of Children's Ministries; julie@foxpointchurch.org. Of course, you are welcome to come downstairs on any Sunday to meet our new teachers and see our programs in action.

#### **Preschool Registration:**

Do you have a child who will be age 3 as of September 1 through 4 years old?



#### **Elementary Registration:**

Do you have a child who is in K5 – 6th grade this fall?









#### The Basics of Baby Massage: A Parent Infant Class

Best for babies 2 weeks to under 12 months and their parent(s)/guardian(s). Infant massage can relieve fussiness, pain and discomfort for the baby as well as help babies fall asleep sooner and sleep more restfully. Bring your baby, a blanket and wear comfy clothes to class as we will be on the floor. Handouts will be provided.

**Date:** January 17; additional sessions are on the 3rd Friday of the month.

It's a one-session class, but can come to more if you would like.

Time: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm Limit: 6 families per session

Registration: Call or email Angie Biersach,

414-207-2808 or

angiebiersach@gmail.com to RSVP.







#### Special Drive for MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary

One of our members, Whitefish Bay HS Junior, Kennedy Knapp was given the opportunity to create a "passion project" for a final

exam in one of her classes. She wanted to conduct an essential-item drive for a Milwaukee homeless shelter, and chose FPLC partner MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary. For the rest of December and the beginning of January, she will be collecting full-sized shampoo, conditioner and body wash for MBHS. The last day for donations is January 5. A drop-off box is located next to the Welcome Desk. Kennedy said, "I am so thankful to take this on and help the greater Milwaukee community!

Thank you for your help!"



#### **High School Youth Group**

At Youth Group, our vision is to create an atmosphere for high schoolers to grow, connect, worship and serve.

We welcome all! Whether you go to church every Sunday, or have never stepped foot inside FPLC, if you're interested in exploring your faith, fellow-

ship and having some fun—come join us! If you need a ride, we encourage carpooling (responsibly). If anyone needs a ride, please let us know and we WILL figure something out so all can attend. We do need people to RSVP to these events; a link to do so will be sent out ahead of time. If you have any questions about Youth Group, please contact Hannah Knapp; <a href="mailto:hannah@foxpointchurch.org">hannah@foxpointchurch.org</a>.

#### Jan 12: Chicago Mini-Mission Trip

We will be taking the train to Chicago to serve those in need! Come travel in the city, serving those who need help; 8am-5pm, estimated time.

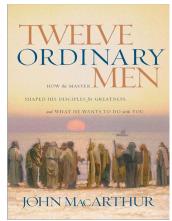
RSVP is required for this event:



#### New Year - New Flexible Bible Study Opportunities

They were perfectly ordinary men in every way. They were prone to mistakes, mis-statements, wrong attitudes, lapses of faith and bitter failure. Their teacher described them as slow learners and somewhat spiritually dense. In fact, their teacher had chosen them for just those characteristics. They are "12 ordinary men" who you and I can relate to. They are 12 ordinary men whose ministry turned the world upside down. They are 12 ordinary men whom Jesus loved deeply.

Both the Monday Morning Study Group, (open to all adults), and the Wednesday Evening Women's Study Group, (for women only), will be studying the book Twelve Ordinary Men by John MacArthur. You can choose to read the book (already purchased for you for \$10 – half price) one chapter per class, or you can attend the study and learn through the discussion.



Day/Time: Mondays; 10 – 11:30 am; every other week

Start Date: January 6

**OR** 

Day/Time: Wednesdays; 6:30 - 8:00 pm every other week

Start Date: January 8

Contact: If you have an interest or questions about this study, please contact study leader, Deacon Ruth Schmidt;

262-424-3344; schmidtyruth@aol.com.

Treat yourself to a closer look at Jesus' disciples.

Treat yourself to an incredible time getting to know a group of faith-filled men and women.







#### **Serenity Inns Dinner Fellowship**

Serenity Inns is a residence for men in recovery from alcohol and/ or drug abuse in Milwaukee. FPLC has a long volunteer relationship with SI. Volunteers needed: 2025 dates Great SOP for Confirmation Families!

What to expect when volunteering?

Volunteers make dinner and take it warm to the Inn by 5:45 pm (for a 6 pm start time). You join them for dinner and conversation. The number of residents is around 12-14. Two families can volunteer together! You'll be cooking for yourselves, the men and the innkeeper. You're usually on your way home by 7 pm.

"Dinner Fellowship taught me things about myself I never knew. Serenity Inns changed my life. Serenity Inns saved my life."

Please prayerfully consider volunteering at Dinner Fellowship. Sign up on the website (see link below) or on the sign-up in Fellowship Hall. Questions? FPLC member Lorraine Buehler is happy to answer any of your questions; <a href="mailto:lcbuehler@cs.com">lcbuehler@cs.com</a>

Have a buddy? Feel free to sign up with another person or family to prepare the meal and go to dinner together!

Click here to sign up!





### Sheepshead at FPLC Dates: Jan 10 & 24

Declared the official card game of Milwaukee in

1983, Sheepshead is a staple to Wisconsin card players. Are you interested in joining a group of Sheepshead players to meet at church for some friendly competition? We play in Fellowship Hall, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. We will have "learning aids" available to help with the basics, and experienced players to guide you.

We are looking forward to sharing the fun! For more information, contact Jim Schmidt at <a href="mailto:schmidtyjim@aol.com">schmidtyjim@aol.com</a>.



#### Fox Point Moms Fridays, Jan. 3, 17 & 31; 9:30 - 11 am

This is for moms of all ages with children or grandchildren of all ages! We'll support each other on mom and family issues and discuss a short devotional at each meeting.

We're creating a judgment-free time to mentor each other, vent, ask parenting, family or spousal questions and be a

support to each other. We meet twice a month. Haven't joined us before? No problem, join any time. Thanks!

If you have any questions, contact Diane Knapp; <a href="mailto:diane@foxpointchurch.org">diane@foxpointchurch.org</a>.





### Fox Point Moms—Evening Group; Tues, Jan 7 & 14; 6:30 - 8 pm; Heritage Rm

This adult group offers a safe, open space to support moms of any age. We will begin with a podcast (Revived Motherhood) by Becky Thompson, who offers realistic and supportive faith-based advice for today's busy moms. This will be a time to mentor and support each other and discuss parenting and

family issues. Please RSVP so we know how many people to expect. Thanks!

If you have any questions, contact Diane Knapp; diane@foxpointchurch.org.

Join the Group







#### Meru Coffee at Home!

#### Support Mt. Meru Coffee Farmers and Drink Delicious Coffee at Home!

You can purchase Mt. Meru Coffee (beans, ground, regular, decaf, sample flavor packs, Seasonal Premium Mt. Meru coffee, k-cups) at church to brew at home.

Not only is the coffee delicious, but your purchase helps support the growers running small coffee farms in the Meru District of Tanzania.

Stop by the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings or in the office during the week to make your purchases.



#### **Caregivers Support Group**

Led by FPLC member Susan Halling, a marriage and family therapist, this group is for caregivers dealing with changes

in family dynamics. Challenges include: role reversal, juggling responsibilities, handling dementia, loss and transitions as we move into uncharted territory. The group meets Fridays at 10:30 am in FPLC's first floor Heritage Room. If you are interested in joining or learning more, please call the FPLC office at 414-352-8990.



#### **Bayside Garden Cards**

Keep the birds well fed by purchasing feeders or seed at Bayside

Garden Center. They also have beautiful indoor plants from tiny to large to keep your home feeling cozy during the winter months.

Bayside Gardens helps us send teens in Tanzania to high school—an FPLC commitment of \$10,000 a year. All you have to do is purchase Bayside gift cards at church (NOT at the garden center). We retain 15% of each card's cost, which helps us keep our promise to our partner dioceses in Tanzania. Cards can be purchased at the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings or in the church office during the week.



Point your camera at the QR code to access the registry; or click on the Amazon logo.





#### BHS REGISTRY

Help the guests of MacCanon **Brown Homeless Sanctuary stay** warm and well-fed this winter.

- Go to our registry (use the QR code below or search Amazon's custom gift registries for MBHS)
- Select and pay for the items you choose
- · They will be sent directly to MBHS's delivery address

Purchase items where you like and deliver to FPLC by November 30.

- Crock pots
- Toaster ovens
- Space heaters
- Electric skillets
- Electric hot plates
- Blenders (for those who have trouble chewing)

QUESTIONS?



stacia@foxpointchurch.org







All the information you need can be found on our website here: **Confirmation**. If you have any questions regarding Confirmation, please contact Lori Barrieau; <u>lori@foxpointchurch.org</u>.

#### **Upcoming Dates:**

January 22—Workshop

January 25—SOP volunteering at Soles for Jesus (see below)



### **Soles for Jesus Confirmation SOP Space is limited to 25 students, sign up soon!**

Soles for Jesus is a Milwaukee-based non-profit which collects new or used shoes and ships them to impoverished areas in Africa. They rely heavily on volunteers to make this work happen!

Confirmation students have the opportunity to work together organizing, cleaning and packing shoes for shipment. They'll also hear more about the organization and the people it serves—the millions of people living a barefoot life. They are exposed to illness & injury daily without shoes. People cannot go to school or get a job; shoes are required in those places. Even worn shoes are a treasure in a developing country.

We'll need 4 FPLC adults with 25 students. Although you don't need to attend with your student, we do need 4 adults to supervise. Once the parent and student slots on this form are full, we are at their group capacity.

**Date:** Saturday, January 25 **Time:** 9:00am – 11:00 am

What to Wear: This is a hands-on job, so all should dress appropriately in clothing that can get dirty and damp.

Location: (We'll meet there): Soles for Jesus

8835 W Heather Ave Milwaukee, WI 53224

Sign Up: You must RSVP to attend. Click the link to register: Soles for Jesus

Questions: Contact Stacia Hickey; <a href="mailto:stacia@foxpointchurch.org">stacia@foxpointchurch.org</a>.









#### **Keep the Pantries Stocked**

Your generous donations allow FPLC to continue donating nutritious, filling and culturally-appropriate food to our partners. Each of the 3 pantries we support receive at least one delivery of food & personal care products a month.

All Peoples Church has served 16,000 individuals at their pantry this year. MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary serves 200+ households and individuals weekly. It's easy for their supplies to dwindle each week, so it's important we help them restock on a regular basis.

If you have any questions, please contact Stacia Hickey; <a href="mailto:stacia@foxpointchurch.org">stacia@foxpointchurch.org</a>.

**Note:** We cannot accept any expired foods; check labels. We are looking for filling and culturally-appropriate foods, not specialty items.

#### **Food Needs:**

**Baked Beans**Canned black-eyed peas **Ensure Infant Formula** 

**Dinty Moore Stew** 

Canned fruit

Canned beef and chicken

Soup (not tomato) Baby formula

Spam
Sardines
Peanut butter

**Canned Yams** 

**Chicken Noodle Soup** 

Tuna Salmon

Vienna sausages Mac & cheese

Canned vegetables

16 oz oatmeal

**Canned Pasta** 

Pasta Sauce in cans or plastic Honey Nut Cheerios/Cereal

Hamburger Helper

Jelly

#### **Personal Care Items:**

(Regular full-sized preferred, not bulk size)

Men's deodorant
Women's deodorant
Body wash
Toothpaste
Shampoo/Conditioner
Feminine products
Diapers sized 4-6
Body lotion
Toilet paper
Lip balm
Vaseline
Dish soap

**Razors** 

\*\*Standard-sized Bar soap: We have a special need for bar soap to fill the soap sacks our knitters/crocheters have been busy making. See page 5 for info on those.



#### **Kitchen Angels Needed**

It's feels good when you walk into an organized, clean and well-supplied kitchen when you are ready to cook, serve a meal, prepare for an event.

#### What is a Kitchen Angel?

That is exactly what our Kitchen Angel team does here at FPLC. They make sure we have plenty of ground coffee for Sunday morning, that the creamer is stocked and fresh, that dishes are put away in their proper places and that there are clean towels ready for washing and drying the dishes. Once a year they get together to do a big deep-clean of the entire kitchen.

#### What's Involved if I Volunteer?

Each person who signs up to be an Angel chooses one month during which they check the kitchen supplies and lets the office know what needs to be ordered. They also launder the towels. Generally they do this once a week on a day of their choosing.

The whole group meets once a year to give the kitchen a thorough cleaning. With up to 12 helpers, this goes pretty quickly!

#### How Do I Sign Up?

You can sign up right in Fellowship Hall, where you will be able to choose which month you would like to be an Angel. There is a list of instructions next to the sign up. You will also be emailed the instructions and a contact list of all the other Angels for guidance.

This Sounds Awesome (and super helpful to FPLC), but I Have Some Questions

Sandy Gepfert can answer all your Kitchen Angel questions! Just give her a call! 414-351-0374.



#### Ouilters/Piecemakers: Join Us!

Join us as we make quilts for those in need. New members are always welcome and we'll teach you what to do. Bring your

lunch and enjoy a break with other quilters. Come and go as your schedule permits.

**Date:** Tuesday, January 21 **Time:** 9 am – 1:30 pm **Location:** Fellowship Hall

**Contact:** Ellen Feider; 414-435-8440;

efeiderwi@gmail.com



Lois Doss

### PRAYER LIST All in The Family

Join us on Sunday, for the virtual service. If you or your family need anything we can help you with, call the office at 414-352-8990 or email church@ foxpointchurch.org!

**Prayer Requests** 

Now you can make a prayer request through our website. Click Prayer Requests to submit a form or submit a request through email—church@foxpointchurch.org.

**Military** Alex Grant Cooper Ian Danny Kyan David Matthew

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

Woody Barksdale Kim Bell Cammy Endres Jay Blair Paul Erickson Brenda Erin Kathy C Frank John Chamberlain Rick Frank Charley Andrea G. Cheryl Jenny G. Richard Choi Joan Gildner Christine Guy Chrystal Anna H. Claire Heidi Curt Claus Sue Hiller Lila Jerabek Colin Rosie Conaway Jim Craig Joan Lyle Dabney Joeli Pr. Dan John Daniel Ion

Donna Jordahl

Julia Randy K. Helen Kappmeyer Karen Kath Jim Kimmel Corrine Kraus Leslie Linda Pr. Luke Jan M. Laurie M Steve M. MaryEllen Matt Pat Meyer Michael

Mike

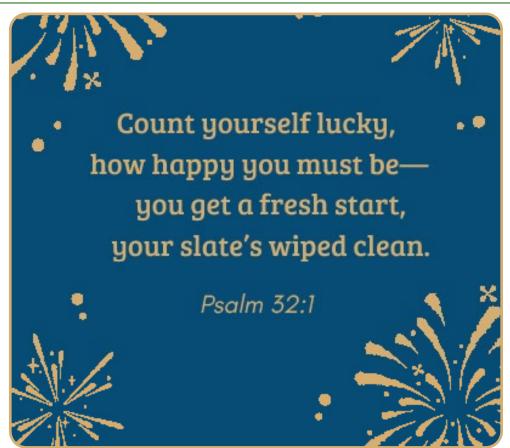
Nancy

Patrick Peter Tan Popatas Mary R. Rebecca Mary Ellen Resenhoeft-Bloomquist Rick Robert Dave Rotter Mark Selander Stephen Jane T. Terry Thad Michael Miller Tom Mike Umland

Curt Nash

Marla O'Brian

Robert Palmer







Written by FPLC member, Mary Buscher. This devotion was first shared on Wednesday, December 25. If you would like to receive Mary's devotion on a weekly basis, please sign up here: Weekly Devotion.

Hello Blessed Christmas!

"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulders, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." – Isaiah 9:6

Our Men's Club recently heard Jeff Shoemaker, Director of Music and Technology, speak about the innovations complementing the church expansion. Video screens to green screens, festive holiday lighting –we are beneficiaries of some truly amazing know-how!

Welcome to Christmas 2024 at Fox Point Lutheran! In addition to that new technology, we also share the joy of preparing our beautiful church for the celebration of Jesus' birth. We love the colorful ribbons, evergreen wreaths and garlands, gingerbread house decorating, and cocoa in the Point Café. Our choirs "of angels" sing for us, candles glow, and the annual Christmas Village event comes around again. Sparkling décor, delicious treats, hymns of joy and glory...all befitting the birth of the Lord Jesus!

Two thousand years ago, though, technology was limited – the word was spoken and scribed on tablets of clay. Jesus' bed was a cattle manger. No LEDs, just the wonder of a newborn, and the moon and the stars.

Walking in a softly lit passage at last year's Christmas Village we saw a sign: "Shhh...baby Jesus is sleeping." The baby, the sleeping infant is the Savior who came into the world – to rock our world! It's 2024 and the wonders imparted by Our Heavenly Father endure in our hearts. We have waited...the time for His birth is now...we worship, we pray, we greet Him. The gift... the perfect gift, the little Lord Jesus has come to us. We pray and give thanks. Hallelujah, love has come down... Christ is born!

Merry Christmas! – Mary