



DECEMBER 2011

# The Good News Letter

## Jesus is Lord!

Website: [christepiscopalchurchofdelavanwi.org](http://christepiscopalchurchofdelavanwi.org)

Phone: (262) 728-5292 • Fax: (262) 728-5213 • E-mail: [christchurch@pensys.com](mailto:christchurch@pensys.com)

Newsletter Editor: Roberta Karstetter • Newsletter entry deadline is the 3rd Sunday of ea. month

### **From Our Rector, Father Bill Myrick:**

*“T’was the night before Christmas and all through the house not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse.”*

This line from the poem, “Twas the Night Before Christmas”, by Clement Moore paints a nostalgic picture of a time gone by, a time when life seemed simpler, quieter, less frantic than the mobs of people rushing the entrance of the Wal-Mart store on today’s news. The television was filled with images of people being trampled, pepper sprayed, tasered and handcuffed. Black Friday turned out to be the biggest shopping day ever... people spent even more than the Three Wise Men who brought pure gold.

It is so easy to get swept up into the frenzied “spend, spend, spend” attitude of our 21st century Christmas. Running here and there filling shopping carts and credit cards to the breaking point hardly resembles Moore’s image of Christmas. The death of Walter Vance in West Virginia makes “Black Friday” look much more like Good Friday, but Good Friday never had so much interest.

Not only am I certain that our children’s heads are not filled with visions of “sugar plums” but that they have no idea what a sugar plum is. The image of Scripture provides an even sharper contrast to the “rat race” Christmas of our day. A child born to common folk who were forced into making an untimely trip to be “enrolled” in the “City of David,” had no funds for presents, a tree, an iPod, or even a night of shelter, are the origin of today’s foolishness. The Men’s Shelter has often used the ad slogan, “Not everyone will be home for Christmas.” Truer words were never spoken of Jesus Himself. How do we re-claim a truer meaning of this season, of this day we call CHRIST-MAS?

Just maybe it would be a good thing to read one of the two birth stories as recorded in the Bible. The first can be found in Matthew 1:18-25, the other in Luke 2:1-20. I know that you have heard them before, maybe even many times, but reading them BEFORE we enter this very

busy season may just help us to re-member what the season is all about. Maybe that knowledge will slow us down just a little so that we might appreciate the gift given to us in the person of God’s Son.

The reality is that if you haven’t received that Gift, Christmas makes no sense...no sense at all.

So I ask you to consider some of the non-profit organizations listed below. Maybe you could give a gift to one of them in the name of someone you are grateful to have in your life. In that way you could avoid the frenzied rush all together.

May the God of all hope bless you and prepare you as a child of God, for the reception of His Son and all whom the Son cares about.

[Human Concerns / 14th Apostle](#) - offers financial assistance to those in need. Checks can be made out to Christ Church, memo: Human Concerns

[Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless](#), c/o Community Action, Inc., 1545 Hobbs Drive, Delavan, WI 53115.

[Walworth County Emergency Homeless Shelter](#), P.O. Box 226 Delavan, WI 53115.

[Episcopal Relief & Development](#), [www.er-d.org](http://www.er-d.org), mail donations to: P.O. Box 7058, Merrifield, VA 22116-7058.

Support our [Companion Diocese in Tanzania](#) (see page 6 of this newsletter).

### **Or Try Some of These Outward Focused Ideas!**

- \* Pay or reduce the bill for the person behind you an any line (Grocery store, post office, fast food, etc.).
- \* Take your neighbor’s trash to the curb and bring back the trash container afterward.
- \* Wash windshields of people during your lunch hour.
- Tip your server at a restaurant in a BIG way (30% or more) and ask if there is anything you can pray for them.
- \* Take quarters, offer to pay for washes at the Laundromat.
- \* Visit a nursing home, offer a small gesture of kindness, homemade art from your child, a listening ear and a smile.

# Dinner & Game Nite Fun!

Friday, Nov. 11th's event was a big hit with all ages!



## Old English Advent Tea Sunday, December 4th

2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

hosted by & held at

**Christ Episcopal Church**

503 E. Walworth Ave.

**\$5 per person (children 12 & under free) Hats required, gloves optional.**

Come and enjoy delicious teas & beverages, delicious and unique appetizers as well as fun and fellowship!

Beautiful tables set up by the women of the parish, and grand gentlemen servers will graciously make this Old English Advent Tea a time to remember!

**All women, daughters, nieces, granddaughters, cousins and friends are invited!**

**Saint Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, will also be making an appearance to delight all ages!**

**Contact Christ Church for reservations, 262-728-5292.**

Good Food, Fun & Fellowship!

Thanks to Tanya Dennis & Teresa Williams for the photos they took of the fun!

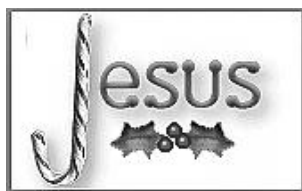
## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Don Bearder  
 5 Katlyn Brellenthin  
 5 Vito Episcopa  
 7 Ian Frank Carthey  
 8 Emily Peyton Wiese  
 10 Ron Lonze  
 10 Eric Wolbach  
 13 Zane Walters  
 15 Delores Poplar  
 15 Steve Wassam  
 16 Nancy Folkers  
 16 Deb Weber  
 17 Ginni Jacobson  
 17 Jeffrey Jacobson  
 17 Jackson Pelnar  
 18 Mark Britt  
 18 Sue Drefs  
 20 Patricia Gustafson  
 21 David Bliss  
 22 Emerald German  
 22 Patricia Leverick  
 24 Rebecca Seymour  
**25 JESUS OUR LORD**  
 25 Jeremy Nelson  
 26 Madison Ashley Fry  
 26 Ted Kalisz  
 26 Susan C. Kearney  
 27 Ben Hawley  
 27 Beckett Pelnar  
 29 Philip Lane  
 29 Terrance Williams  
 30 Sandra (Gifford) Getka  
 30 Robert B. Llewellyn  
 31 Rev. William Myrick



## DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

5 Ted & Jan Kalisz  
 6 Larry & Jody Stickney  
 9 Charlie & Sandra Getka  
 17 Marla & Duane Matranga  
 24 Gordon (Chip) & helly Mentz-Mornard  
 31 Larry & Penny Jo Blatterman



**The Reason for the Season**



**Walworth Co.  
 Emergency  
 Homeless Shelter**

### **2011/2012 Shelter Schedule**

**For Shelter: (262) 903-WARM (9276)**  
**For Volunteer & Shelter Info: (262) 215-3451,**  
**ask for Deb Weber.**

November 27th p.m. - December 4th a.m.: Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, N5690 Cobblestone Road, Elkhorn.

December 4th p.m. - December 11th a.m.: Wesley Woods Retreat Ministries, 250 Stam Street, Williams Bay.

December 11th p.m. - December 18th a.m.: Wesley Woods Retreat Ministries, 250 Stam St., Williams Bay.

December 18th p.m. - December 25th a.m.: Inspiration Ministries, N2270 State Road 67, Walworth.

December 25th p.m. - January 1st a.m.: Delavan United Methodist Church, 213 S. 2nd St, Delavan.

January 1st p.m. - January 8th a.m.: St. Benedict's Catholic Church, 137 Dewey Avenue, Fontana.

January 8th p.m. - January 15th a.m.: Chapel on the Hill, N2440 Ara Glen Drive, Lake Geneva.

January 15th p.m. - January 22nd a.m.: St. John's Lutheran Church, 104 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn.

January 22nd p.m. - January 29th a.m.: First Baptist Church, 212 S. Main Street, Delavan.

January 29th p.m. - February 5th a.m.: Creek Road Community Church, W7778 Creek Road, Delavan.

February 5th p.m. - February 12th a.m.: The River of Life Christian Church, 405 E. Walworth Avenue, Delavan.

**February 12th p.m. - February 19th a.m.: Christ Episcopal Church, 503 E. Walworth Avenue, Delavan.**

February 19th p.m. - February 26th a.m.: St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 107 W. Walworth Street, Elkhorn.

February 26th p.m. - March 4th a.m.: Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, N5690 Cobblestone Road, Elkhorn.

March 4th p.m. - March 11th a.m.: St. Benedict's Catholic Church, 137 Dewey Avenue, Fontana.

March 11th p.m. - March 17th a.m.: Inspiration Ministries, N2270 State Road 67, Walworth.

**The Shelter is always looking for volunteers at all sites, contact the numbers above for more info.**

## Advent - Subverting the Secular World

We have to tackle a number of years. There's the school year, the secular year, the shopping year, and the poor neglected church year. In a sense we live in all of them, and keeping our feet planted in each reality is no easy thing. All too often we only remember that the church has a year when we look at the bulletin on Sunday and try to figure which Sunday after what we are in.

Of all these years, the Christian year presents the greatest challenge. It reminds us that we are citizens of another place and owe our allegiance to another ruler. The early Christians were persecuted and killed because they claimed that "Jesus is Lord." Perhaps today we are regarded as rather eccentric when we whisper the same words. They remind us that our faith is no private, personal thing, but that we are citizens of the kingdom of God.

We are subversive. We seek to bring the love of Christ into the secular world because we believe that ultimately the world will be restored to God. In the meantime, we work and pray to transform what is into what shall be.

Advent Sunday begins yet another year. It sets our sights on the miracle of Christ's birth, that God invaded this planet in the form of a helpless child. This vulnerable God walks with us, takes our flesh, re-creates the human race, suffers, dies and so is in all our sufferings and in our deaths. He rises again giving us the hope of resurrected life in a new heaven and a new earth.

We perhaps moan about a secularized Christmas that begins before Thanksgiving and ends abruptly on the day after Christmas. Rather than moaning, we can meet the challenge it presents. We can be subversive by keeping Advent in holy preparation. We can keep Christmas by observing the twelve days in joy, gratitude and compassion for God's poor and needy, rather than throwing out the tree on December 26!

Above all we can humble ourselves before the baby who is King, and offer him our lives in obedience and hope.

~ The Rev. Tony Clavier is Rector of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, La Porte, in the Diocese of Northern Indiana. ~



## Women of Joy Bible Sharing

Thursday Mornings

9:15 - 10:45 a.m.

**Please Note: This session of Bible Sharing will end in December. Only two sessions in December on Thursdays, 12/8 & 12/15.** Held at Christ

Church in the upstairs classroom. Enter through the back glass 5th St. ramp door. We can provide bibles, or bring your own. **Come & share, come & experience the joy of the Lord, which is our strength with other women on the journey with Christ!**

Contact Susanne Nelson or Christ Church at 728-5292.



## Judge Not

I dreamed death came the other night  
And Heaven's Gates swung wide;  
And then, with kindly grace,  
An angel ushered me inside.

And there, to my astonishment,  
Stood folks I'd known on earth;  
Some I'd judged and labeled  
As unfit - of little worth.

Indignant words rose to my lips,  
But never were set free, for  
Every face showed stunned surprise -  
They'd not expected ME!

## "Advent"

...is taken from the Latin word "adventus" meaning "coming."

During the season of Advent, we are preparing for the coming of Christ, both in His Birth at Christmas & at the Second Coming.

Advent is the beginning of the Church Year. It begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas day, which is the Sunday nearest November 30. This year the 4 Sundays of Advent are November 27th, December 4th, 11th & 18th.

Each Advent we are called to prepare ourselves, it is a season that teaches us the value of waiting and patience. Just as we take time to prepare a special dinner or dress the nursery for a new baby, we should prepare our hearts during the Advent season to welcome the Christ.



***O Come All Ye Faithful....***  
**Advent, Christmas & Epiphany**  
**Services & Events**



**ADVENT**

**Sun., Nov. 27th: 1st Sunday of Advent** 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Services.

**Wed., Nov. 30th: Wednesday Morning Bible Studies** continue through

Advent, following the 9:00 a.m. Worship Service, starting at 9:35, ending at 11:00 a.m.

**Sun., Dec. 4th: 2nd Sunday of Advent**, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Services

**Sun., Dec. 4th: SOCK DONATION SUNDAY.** Bring in a pair or two of new socks. We'll pass them on to the homeless shelters and hand them out to others too.



**Sun., Dec. 4th: Old English Advent Tea**, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., in the Parish Hall. Come, enjoy beautifully decorated tables by the women of the Church, delicious teas, appetizers and fun served by our grand gentlemen servers! Hats required, gloves optional. All ages are welcome. \$5 per person (12 & under free). A visit by St. Nicholas will also be a part of our afternoon, with a gift bag and free photos too for all ages.



**Sun., Dec. 11th: 3rd Sunday of Advent**, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Services.

**Sun., Dec. 18th: 4th Sunday of Advent & Greening of the Church**, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Services. Join us after the late service to decorate the church for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

We'll have hot chocolate, cookies, treats, seasonal music and fun! Many hands make the decorating go easy, fun and fast! Please stay and join us!



**Christmas Services**  
**Celebrating Christ's Birth**



**Sat., Dec. 24th: Christmas Eve:**

**9:30 p.m. Christmas Hymns** sung in the church in preparation of the Celebration of our Lord's Birth and our Worship of the Newborn King.

**10:00 p.m. Candlelight Holy Communion Service.**

All are welcome!



**Sun., Dec. 25th: Christmas Day:**

**One Service at 10:00 a. m. Christmas Communion Service** celebrating the birth of our Lord & Savior, Jesus Christ. All are welcome!

**Happy New Year!**

**Sun., Jan. 1st: 1st Sunday After Christmas**, 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Services.

Welcome in the New Year at Christ Church!

**Celebrating Epiphany**

**Epiphany is Friday, January 6th.**

We have, in years past, had an Epiphany Appetizer Pot-Luck Party. At the date of this newsletter, we had no host or hostess for this yet. If anyone would like to host a gathering, either in their home, or at the Church, please contact the Church office.



**Sun., January 8th: 1st Sunday After Epiphany**, Services at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m. **The 10:00 a.m. Service will be a Festival of Lights, with Sunday School students offering their gifts of song to the service too!** Parents and Students, check out upcoming notes regarding this Sunday coming soon.

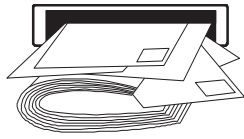


**Sun., Jan. 8th is also Mitten Gifting Sunday**

As the Magi brought gifts to the Christ Child, we invite you to bring gifts of mittens/gloves, hats or scarves on this Sunday. We will pass them on to guests of the Homeless Shelter & those who come for financial help. **Thank you for the gifts you give for others!**

## WE'VE GOT MAIL

Cards, Letters,  
Thanks, Emails



Dear Christ Church,  
On behalf of The Gathering guests, volunteers, staff and Board of Directors, thank you for your contribution of \$250 to The Gathering's ministry. Your gift will help us serve 100,000 of Milwaukee's hungry this year.  
Warmly, Virginia Schrag, Exec. Director.  
The Gathering of Southeast WI, Inc.

Dear Friends,  
Thank you so much for your recent Adopt a Room contribution (\$5,400) to Community Action's Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless. Your contribution helps us continue our mission. We operate 12 units that temporarily house men, women and children. The major of the units house families. Within the past year we were able to keep 125 individuals off the street and in a safe, warm environment. We provided additional services to these individuals so they could obtain permanent housing and/or stabilize their lives. We truly appreciate your generosity.  
Sincerely, Lisa Furseth, Exec. Director and Marc Perry, Director of Planning & Development; Twin Oaks Shelter

Thank you for your recent gift of \$150. It came at a time when it was desperately needed so we are particularly grateful. Your faith and commitment make you a valued member of our Guideposts Outreach family. Your thoughtfulness and generosity are deeply appreciated. May you reap one hundredfold the goodness that you sow. Thank you and God bless you.  
Sincerely, Brian Porter, Pres. Guideposts Foundation

Thank you for your generous gift of \$250 to Our Next Generation. Thanks to your contribution, we are able to work with more volunteers and community partners to provide the intellectual, emotional and social tools necessary for inner city children to improve their academic outcomes. We appreciate your effort and commitment to ensure that more children graduate from high school and become responsible, productive citizens.  
Sincerely, Robert Dunn, Pres. CEO  
Our Next Generation, Inc., Milwaukee



## Support for our Newala, Tanzania Companion Relationship for Christmas

Looking for gift suggestions for someone who really doesn't need "a new tie" ? Check out the following....

1. The Cow Project herd now has 8 cows and a bull calf. The milk that is produced is sold to the community, the proceeds go to the Diocese of Newala.

2. 75 Aids orphans have places to sleep but need support for school, medical, clothing and eating expenses.

3. The CMM Sisters of Saint Mary's Cathedral parish who provide care for the orphans want to expand their chicken "herd" so that they can sell eggs (and meat) for support.

4. The HIV/AIDS workshop funded by a grant from our Diocese was a success. Priests from the Diocese of Newala and several choirs met with medical staff. They received training to educate the surrounding community. People were tested, nine were found to be HIV positive. They are slated to receive more medical help.

5. St. Michael's Health Centre Maternity Ward received equipment funding from the UTO, assistance is requested for refurbishing the Male & Female Surgical Wards.

Donations by check may be sent and made out to the Episcopal Diocese of Milwaukee, 804 E. Juneau Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202. The project choice can be indicated in the memo. If no choice is indicated, it will be Newala's choice. For more info contact Neil Radtke, Chairperson of the Companion Relation Committee @ 414-442-3173, email: njradtke@wi.rr.com



## The Episcopal Church Celebrates Advent Online

The Office of  
Communication  
of the Episcopal  
Church is offer-

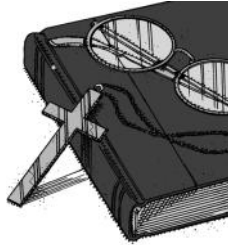
ing new ways to enjoy, share, and actively participate in observing the seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany. The Episcopal Church's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/episcopalian](http://www.facebook.com/episcopalian)) and Twitter presence ([twitter.com/iamepiscopal](http://twitter.com/iamepiscopal)) feature special Advent and Christmas postings inviting readers to share their thoughts and answer questions such as, "What's your favorite Christmas pageant memory?"

Postings on Facebook and Twitter also include a new Advent-related word each day from "Brother, Give Us a Word", by the Society of St John the Evangelist (<http://ssje.org/word>). Through Epiphany, special seasonal videos will be posted on Facebook and Twitter, including the annual Advent message from Presiding Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, holiday music, and personal reflections by Episcopalians. [www.episcopalchurch.org](http://www.episcopalchurch.org)

## Monday Night Book Club

recently finished the book, "Almost Christian" at the end of November.

**Look for another session of The Book Club again during the Great 50 Days of Easter, starting on Monday, April 9th.**



The new book we will be reading and discussing with be "Love Wins", A Book About Heaven, Hell, and the Fate of Every Person Who Ever Lived by author and pastor, Rob Bell.

*"Millions of Christians have struggled with how to reconcile God's love and God's judgment: Has God created billions of people over thousands of years only to select a few to go to heaven and everyone else to suffer forever in hell? Is this acceptable to God? How is this "good news?"*

*Troubling questions--so troubling that many have lost their faith because of them.*

*But what if these questions trouble us for good reason?*

*What if what Jesus meant by "heaven," "hell," and salvation" are very different from how we have come to understand them?*

*Author, pastor, and teacher Rob Bell presents a deeply biblical vision for rediscovering a richer, grander, truer, and more spiritually satisfying way of understanding heaven, hell, God, Jesus, salvation, and repentance. The result is the discovery that the "good news" is much, much better than we ever imagined. Love wins."*

**Mark your calendar! Starts Monday, April 9th for 5 - 6 weeks. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. at Christ Church. Book info and price details out soon. ALL ARE WELCOME!**



Christ Church Book Club pictured (front, left to right); Deb Weber & Barb Bauer. (back, left to right); Ron & Susanne Nelson, Chip Mornard (discussion facilitator), Fr. Bill Myrick & Roberta Karstetter. Not pictured Patricia Leverick.

## A Friendly Reminder Is Your Pledge Current?

If you aren't sure, check with Treasurer, Roberta Karstetter at the Church office. Thank you for the support you have given to help the Christ Church ministries continue.



**The following was recommended to be printed in church bulletins or newsletters for your information;**

In order for you to claim a deduction for contributions you make to the church this year, we must receive your contribution by the end of the year.\*\*

Contributions that you make in the NEW year (2012) cannot be deducted on this years (2011) tax return even if the check is dated this year.\*\*

\*\***There is an exception** - a check that is written, mailed, and **POSTMARKED** this year can be deducted this year even if it is not received by the church until the new year.

If you have any questions please contact treasurer, Roberta Karstetter (262-728-5292).

**Please Note:** The Church Office will close at NOON on Friday, Dec. 30th for the 2011 Year.



Give our  
advertisers  
the

**GIFT**  
of your  
business



See their ads on page 11, and thank them for their support that helps us provide our monthly Good News Letter!

**Official Notice of the  
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING  
Christ Episcopal Church of Delavan  
Sunday, January 29, 2012, immediately  
following the 10 a.m. Service**

**Pot-Luck Brunch, bring a dish to share!  
Elections, Reports of Ministries & other business  
deemed necessary for the good of the parish.  
NO 8 a.m. Chapel Service on this day.**



## Vestry Snippets

The Vestry met on Tues., Nov. 15th, starting with a devotional sharing by Mark Britt, called "A Tisket, A Tasket, God Has Filled My Blessing Basket", and sharing around the table.

After approving the minutes from the last meeting, and taking time to go over letters received from Scherrer Construction and Engberg Anderson (architects), we heard from Greg Odden who was present to go over some of the unfinished work on the church renovations, and answer questions concerning the problem with the wood flooring in the nave, which is buckling.

Greg went thru all the points of interest and work associated with it. Much of the work has been completed in the last week or two, and other will be done in the coming weeks. The floor problem is one that is baffling, and the dehumidifiers put in the undercroft the last month have not corrected the buckling problem. Greg brought some humidity detection devices that will be put in various places in the undercroft to monitor the humidity levels. It was also decided that we needed an extension of the warranty on the floor if we are to go thru the seasons as suggested to see if time will correct the buckling. Greg indicated he would get us an extension.

Senior Warden, Barb Lonze gave the recommendations of the Outreach Committee, which the Vestry approved as follows: \$500 for the Haiti Project through the Diocese of Milwaukee; \$500 to the Rector's Discretionary Fund; as well as paying the budgeted amount of \$5,400 to Twin Oaks Shelter for the Homeless for a 1 year sponsor of a room.

Also approved, after discussion regarding our Church Web Site, which is undergoing major renovations, was a donation to Peninsula Systems for a shared web program. Jack Hicks, owner has given us free website programming and tech support for over 20 years, a donation of \$200 was approved with thanks to Jack.

Junior Warden, Ann Tarrolly, gave a report on the sale of the old rectory. It is listed with Hibi Real Estate and has had several showings already, with some interest, but so far no offers.

Retiring Vestry members, Ken Oliak, Bob Swenson and Barb Lonze are on the committee to recommend potential candidates for the upcoming Vestry elections at the Annual Parish Meeting on Jan. 29, 2012. They will check with Fr. Bill to ensure the candidates are recorded members and meet the requirements for Vestry membership.

There are several items that will be put on Craig's list or Ebay for sale by Mark Britt. The electric handicap scooter, 2 refrigerators and even a kitchen sink!

The Treasurer's Report for October was approved, and the 1st Draft of the Proposed 2012 Budget was presented. Jean McKinney, Roberta and Barb Lonze had met several weeks earlier to come up with the first draft for presentation. Not all info was available at the time of the meeting, but figures from last year were used until we get more accurate information, and gather more pledge gift cards from parishioners for 2012. This first draft has a deficit of over \$63,000.00. The salary and benefits for church secretary, Deb Weber, who has a shared agreement between Christ Church and United Methodist Church was approved so that UMC could go forward with their budgeting process.

More Vestry news can be obtained from any Vestry member or in the Church office. The next meeting will be

Tuesday, Dec. 20th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Christ the King room and is open to all.

## The Advent Police



St. Swithin's cartoon, by The Rev. Jay Sidebotham, copyright 2002 (all rights reserved), was used by permission of The Church Pension Group and can be found at the CPG website @ <https://www.cpg.org>

## FREE - FREE - FREE Our Daily Bread - Daily Devotionals & Christmas Edition Devotional

We have available for ALL, copies of some wonderful devotionals for you to use in your prayer times, and to share with others too. Please check out the basket and the brochure/magazine holders for current issues.

The Our Daily Bread staff says, *"We pray that through these daily articles your own Christmas would become an even greater time of meaning and significance. As we are reminded together of the richness of God's gift to us, may our hearts be drawn to the One who makes all things new. Merry Christmas!"*

## 2012 Episcopal Church Calendars

Located at the entrances and in the Christ the King room are 2012 calendars for you to take home. They are unique calendars giving the saints days, and Eucharistic lectionary readings and notes on the back of each month too. They tell the various days of the Church Year and Seasons as well as the colors associated with them and their meanings.

**These are furnished to us as a donation from Betzer Funeral Home, for which we are thankful, please be sure to thank them too when you get a chance!**

## DOG TIRED....

An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard; I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep. An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off & on for several weeks.

Curious I pinned a note to his collar, *'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'*

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar, *'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3 and he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'*



## Adopt a Pew Sconce

With the new pews, we had to find another type of pew sconce or torch that would not ruin them. With help from The T. H. Stemper Co., we ordered these which are now set up in the nave. If anyone would like to help in the cost of them, by "adopting" a sconce, the cost of them was approx. \$100 each. However any donation, large or small would be very much appreciated!

## Thank You Christ Church Salvation Army Bell Ringers!

**Thank you to all who took time out of their Friday after Thanksgiving to ring the bells for the Salvation Army buckets at Wal Mart and at Shopko. We appreciate your donation of time to this worthy cause!**

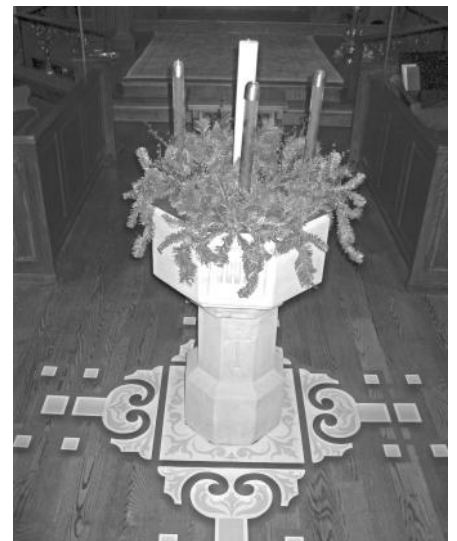


## New Advent Wreath & Location

You may notice, when entering the Church during this Season of Advent that we've found a new location for our traditional Advent wreath. We used to have it hanging on one of the columns, but since pews are now under that area, we decided to remove the cover to the baptismal font and place the wreath on top.

Fr. Bill made the base, attached the 4 candles, and Roberta decorated it with artificial greens, pine cones and berries. It's a great place for it and looks great too!

Being centrally located maybe will help us keep our focus centered too!





**Attention Youth  
(ages 3 yrs. - 5th grade)  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Sunday School is from 9:50 - 10:40 a.m. (approx.) on the dates listed. Starting just before the 10 a.m. service and runs during the service. The adult teachers & youth join the service at the "passing of

the peace", to sit with families for the rest of the service.

**Sun., Dec. 4th:** 9:50 a.m. Sunday School, upstairs room.

**Sun., Dec. 11th:** 9:50 a.m. Sunday School, upstairs room.

**Sun., Dec. 18th:** No Class, BUT stay after late church and help us decorate for Christmas - fun, food & more!

**Sun., Jan. 1st:** 9:50 a.m. Sunday School practice.

**Sunday School Teachers Needed**



Do you enjoy children? Have you gone thru the Safeguarding God's Children Training? If not, would you like to? If you can spare just one Sunday a month to help with our Sunday School class, we guarantee you will be blessed as

much as the youth! Sunday School meets from 9:50 - 10:40 (or when the Passing of the Peace occurs). We'll even have lessons for you too! Contact Roberta for info.

**NURSERY CARE**

Children age 3 years and under are welcome. Our nursery volunteers have gone through the Safeguarding God's Children workshop, or equivalent, and are glad to be able to provide care for your child during our church service.

**Schedule for December & January:**

**Service time starts at 10 a.m., Nursery Attendants please arrive by 9:50 a.m. Thank you.**

- Sun., Dec. 4th: Carol Smith
- Sun., Dec. 11th: Patricia Leverick
- Sun., Dec. 18th: Patricia Benson
- Sun., Dec. 25th: Sorry, No Nursery Care This Sunday.
- Sun., Jan. 1st: Teresa Williams
- Sun., Jan. 8th: Barb Lonze
- Sun., Jan. 15th: Carol Smith.

**Note:** Volunteers, if you can not make your Sunday, contact one of the other volunteers as far in advance as possible. **Thank you for your time to this ministry!**

**Sunday School Lessons About Advent**

Lucas and Ryan made Advent wreaths, talked about what we are waiting for during Advent, and how we can honor God in our waiting and preparing for the coming celebration of Jesus birth as well as His second coming.



**Attention Students & Parents  
Sunday After Epiphany - Jan. 8th \* 10 a.m.  
Festival of Lights Service with Songs &  
Offerings from the Sunday School Youth.**



We will be practicing for this during our meeting times on December 4th, 11, and Jan. 1st. It is important for us to know whether your child can be here on Jan. 8th, and also for the Sundays we meet.

Look for more information in December being sent with your children.

On January 8th, we will need students to be at Church by 9:30 a.m.

**Thanks for your support!**



Christmas is  
love tugging  
us back to  
God with  
the powerful  
clasp of a  
tiny hand  
reaching out  
from a  
bed of straw.

The  
Nativity  
Window  
at  
Christ  
Church

**WE WELCOME YOU!**

**Sunday Services**  
8:00 a.m. Holy Communion Service in the Chapel.  
A smaller service in an intimate setting.  
10:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Church. Signed  
service the 1st and 3rd Sunday of each month.



\*Nursery avail-  
able, or chil-  
dren may stay  
in for the  
service.

\*Contemporary, traditional, hymns & praise.

**Weekday Services held in the Chapel**

(enter through the 5th St. doors)  
Wednesdays 9:00 a.m. followed by Bible Study for  
those who wish to stay.



**Christ Episcopal Church**  
**P.O. Box 528**  
**Delavan, WI 53115**

Address Service Requested

December 2011  
Good Newsletter

