

*Luke 2:11 (ESV)*

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

**Christmas Bazaar:** Cotta Guild will hold their annual Christmas Bazaar on Saturday, December 3, from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P. M. All ladies of the congregation are encouraged to participate. We will have “white elephants”, crafts, baked goods, candy, and Christmas cookies for sale. All items should be brought to the church on Friday or no later than 9:00 A. M. on Saturday morning. Lunch will feature hot beef sandwiches, sloppy Joes, homemade pies, coffee, and fellowship.

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**Bazaar Deliveries:** If any of St. Paul Lutheran shut-ins would like the Cotta Guild Bazaar lunch delivered to them on Saturday, December 3, please call the church office at 835-2647 with your order. You have a choice of a hot beef sandwich or a sloppy Joe for \$3.00 and a piece of pie or a dessert for \$3.00. You may indicate a first and second choice, and we will try to accommodate you. Delivery will begin around noon. The deadline for ordering is noon on Friday, December 2. If you order a meal, you can also place an order for a dozen or two of Christmas cookies, which are \$3.00 a dozen.

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Cotta Guild will meet Thursday, December 8, at 6:15 PM to carpool to Lakeshore Nursing Home for Christmas caroling.

We will return to the church for disbursement of our Christmas Bazaar funds during our business meeting.

Devotions will be led by Judie Waters, Christian Life Chairperson.

Lunch will be served by Barb Denn’s circle.

Remember when you send your December card to your Secret Sister, tell them your identity as their Secret Sister for 2011. We will draw new names in January.

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**Cotta Guild – October 10, 2011**

Our meeting opened with prayer at 7 PM by Cindy. The secretaries report was approved with noted corrections. The treasurer’s report was approved. Cindy thanked March, April, and May circles for serving. Judie’s circle is next in turn to work. Our “reveal” for our secret sisters will be in December. Cindy reminded us to keep them in our prayers and thoughts. We will table our constitution changes until January 2012.

We worked on the Advent wreaths tonight. We will do shut-in baskets on November 13, at 1 PM. Each circle is to supply two dozen cookies. On November 26, at 8:30 AM, we will meet to bake cookies for the bazaar. Each circle is to provide two workers.

Linda Seifert’s circle was assigned to set up the chancel trees for Christmas. They should be up by November 26, as the church will be decorated on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

Election of officers took place. All were running unopposed. Kathy Flostad could not run for public relations because she has served three terms. A replacement for public relations is needed. Please consider serving if you are called.

President-Judie Waters, Vice President-Cindy Wood, Secretary-Barb Denn, Treasurer-Linda Seifert, Delegates-Bev Schroeder and Linda Seifert, Alternate Delegates-Esther Dietrich and Vivian Bohmbach, Overseer-Verna Kuhn, Public Relations-open.

Our meeting to do the 2012 Cotta Guild booklets will be Wednesday, November 16, at 4:30 PM. We will need to do circle changes.

For the bazaar, each circle is to furnish seven pies and 1- 9x13 dessert. Pies are to be half fruit and half soft. They are to be at the church on that Saturday, Dec. 3, by 9 AM.

Our next meeting is December 8<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 6:15 PM and carpool to Lakeshore Inn for singing. November birthdays were Mildren Kuschel, Vera Mittelsteadt, Joan Proechel, Malinda Fennert, and Eleanor Billard. We sang “Happy Birthday”.

There will be a spring rally meeting for LWML at Wilton on November 21, at 1:30. This will be to plan the spring rally and select delegates.

The meeting was adjourned. We did a prayer service and sang songs. Then we enjoyed a delicious lunch served by Helen Schmidt’s circle.

Kathy Flogstad, Public Relations

## Church Library Additions—December, 2011

### **Easy Books:**

Two Arch Books, which are rhyming Bible story books, have been added to the church library.

Tried and True Job, by Tim Shoemaker, is the story of God allowing Satan to test Job's faithfulness to Him by taking away his blessings. Job remained faithful during his trials, and God blessed Job. Satan still attacks us during trials; we have the Holy Spirit to strengthen us and keep us faithful. Call number: A-Sho

God's Fire for Elijah was written by our Pastor Giles Zimmer. This is the story of God miraculously proving there is one true God by bringing fire down to burn Elijah's water-drenched sacrifice. Call number: A-Zim

Three Christmas storybooks have been added to the library collection.

Saint Nicholas: The Real Story of the Christmas Legend was written by Julie Stiegemeyer. 300 years after Jesus lived on earth, Nicholas was a pastor in Turkey, which is historical fact. Stories of his generosity, in response to Jesus' love for him, were widespread. His kindness and care are modeled every time we give a gift out of love. Call number: A-Sti

The First Christmas Present was written by Marilyn Sommerer. This picture book retells the Christmas story teaching that Jesus was the perfect first Christmas gift, who brought us joy and peace. Call number: A-Som

Away in a Manger is a beautifully illustrated book of this favorite Christmas carol to share with your young children. Call number: A-Awa

### **Books for Adults:**

The Constantine Codex, written by Paul L. Maier, is a fiction story of a Harvard professor and his archaeologist wife who uncover an ancient biblical manuscript containing the lost ending of Mark and an additional book of the Bible. Powerful forces don't want the codex to become known to the public. Also in this mystery are insights into Islam. Our church library has the books A Skeleton in God's Closet and More Than a Skeleton by Paul Maier. Call number: 1-Mai

Jotham's Journey: A Storybook for Advent, written by Arnold Ytreeide, is a fiction book to read to your children during Advent. It has short chapters for each day of Advent. Jotham, a ten-year-old boy in search of his family, encounters dangers but also friendly wisemen, shepherds, innkeepers, and finally the Savior, born in Bethlehem. Call number: 5-Ytr

Eerdmans Handbook to the Bible is an aid in understanding what the Bible has to say to us today. Many maps, charts, and photographs make this a helpful Bible study tool. Call number: 10-Ale

In the Fullness of Time was written by Paul L. Maier. It is a compilation of three of his books—The First Christmas, The First Easter, and The First Christians. Early Christianity is made alive by Dr. Maier's research and insights of the history and archaeological finds of that era. Call number: 14-Mai

Thank you to those who donated books. Stop in the library at your convenience. It is located next to the Sunday school superintendent's/LLC's director's office in room 103 on the lower level of the education building.

Cindy Wood

### **Daily Bible Reading**

As we begin another Christian Church Year, and as we approach the end of another calendar year, we come to the conclusion of our yearly Bible reading schedule and conclude with the reading of the book of Revelation. There we see portrayed the birth of Christ and His conflict with Satan. (Revelation 12) We also read of Christ's Incarnation in John 1. Paul also writes about the "great...mystery" of the incarnation of Jesus Christ (I Timothy 3:16) and that in the Christ Child "dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily." (Colossians 2:9) Again we see how the truths of Christmas fill the whole Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The Old Testament prophesied about the Messiah Who would come. The New Testament records the fact that the Messiah came "in the fullness of time" to save us from our sins that we might be God's adopted sons and daughters in faith. (Galatians 4:4-5) May the righteousness of the Holy Christ Child fill your Christmas and the New Year with endless Joy!

### **DECEMBER:**

1. Romans 5,6,7,8
2. Romans 9,10,11,12
3. Romans 13,14,15,16
4. Ephesians 1,2,3,4
5. Ephesians 5,6; Psalm 119:1-80
6. Philippians 1,2,3,4
7. Colossians 1,2,3,4
8. I Timothy 1,2,3,4
9. I Timothy 5,6; Titus 1,2,3
10. II Timothy 1,2,3,4
11. Philemon; Hebrews 1,2,3,4
12. Hebrews 5,6,7,8
13. Hebrews 9,10,11
14. Hebrews 12,13; Jude
15. James 1,2,3,4,5
16. I Peter 1,2,3,4,5
17. II Peter 1,2,3; John 1
18. John 2,3,4
19. John 5,6
20. John 7,8
21. John 9,10,11
22. John 12,13,14
23. John 15,16,17,18
24. John 19,20,21
25. I John 1,2,3,4,5
26. Psalm 117; 119:81-176; II John; III John
27. Revelation 1,2,3,4
28. Revelation 5,6,7,8,9
29. Revelation 10,11,12,13,14
30. Revelation 15,16,17,18
31. Revelation 19,20,21,22

### **St. Paul Lutheran Little Lambs Childcare**

Merry Christmas Everyone! December is just around the corner! It is hard to believe! Where has 2011 gone? We have been able to still go for some walks if we bundle up and we are still going to story time at the library on Wednesday mornings.

During November we have been learning about Samuel and how he lived and helped Eli. We also have been talking about how Samuel heard God speak to him in the night.

For Veteran's Day, we colored pictures to honor our military; past and present. With Thanksgiving in November we made turkeys and thought of the things we can be thankful for in our lives.

In December we will be learning about the following things:

#### Bible stories

An angel visits Mary

Joseph

The shepherds hear the news

The birth of Jesus

#### Monthly Themes

The color yellow

The shape star

The letter P

The number 4

Christmas Season

Winter Time

As the Christmas season nears, we have formed a "Wish List" for Little Lambs. If your family would like to give any of these as Christmas gifts to the daycare it would be greatly appreciated. Or if you would rather give a donation towards any of these supplies/items let us know.

#### Household/office supplies

Gallon size freezer (zipper top) bags

Quart size freezer (zipper top) bags

Aluminum foil

13 gallon size garbage bags

Paper towels (pick-a-size brand)

Dawn dish soap

Bleach spray

Styrofoam plates

Small size paper plates

Masking tape

Scotch tape

Permanent markers

#### Snacks/Food

Fruit snacks

Cookies

Peanut butter crackers

Canned whole kernel corn

Canned cut green beans

#### Toys/Equipment

Indoor" toss type" games

Paint with water books

CD Player

DVD/VCR player

Donations towards new cribs

#### Art/Craft supplies

Yarn leftovers

Card stock

Buttons

Cotton balls (white or colored)

Dear children of our Heavenly Father,

When you read this article, you will already have celebrated Thanksgiving Day-2011. You will have lived through eleven months of the year 2011. No doubt you are making plans for the celebration of Christmas-2011. In days gone by, making plans for Christmas did not begin until after Thanksgiving Day was past, but now it seems we go from Halloween right to Christmas.

We seem to have forgotten that every day should be - 'thanksgiving day' - a day of giving thanks to our awesome God for the many blessings He pours into our lives every day. He has given us faith through baptism-forgiveness of sins through His suffering and death on the cross and His righteousness through His resurrection on Easter morning. Also our families, a roof over our heads, food and clothing, good health, and good friends-just to name a few. Scripture tells us in I Thes. 5:16-18 "Rejoice always, Pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you!"

And as we watch and pray we look forward with thankful and joyful hearts to the birthday of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The sights and sounds of Christmas; the Christmas carols, the bells, the Christmas baking, the presents (To remind us of the gift our heavenly Father gave us when He sent Jesus to earth to live a perfect life for us and to die on the cross and arise again so that we, His sinful children could live in heaven for all eternity).

During the Advent season (the three weeks before Christmas) we also prepare our hearts for the second coming of Jesus, the time when He comes back to earth to judge us and to take us to heaven to live with Him. There will be no more pain, no more tears-only joy and peace for eternity!

May our Lord continue to send you His best blessing always!

Your sister in Christ,

MaeDean

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**Call Committee**

The call committee met for eight hours and with prayerful consideration narrowed the list of nominees to the five which appeared to best serve the Lord in this place. The committee members are to be thanked for their diligent work on behalf of the congregation. The nominees will have background checks, and we expect to hear back sometime in late January. At that time the names will be made available to the congregation and a congregational call meeting will be scheduled.

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**From the Board of Stewardship:**

Budget Requested	Offerings	Over/Shortfall	Year Over/Shortfall
Aug. \$19,218.52	\$13,698.78	-\$5,519.74	-\$44,876.80
Sept.\$19,218.52	\$17,891.12	-\$1,327.40	-\$46,204.20
Oct. \$24,023.15	\$18,714.61	-\$5,308.54	-\$51,512.74
Nov.\$19,218.52	\$16,045.35	-\$2,573.17	-\$54,686.91

**Christmas Bazaar**  
**Saturday, December 3, 2011**  
**11:00 - 2:00**



**Hot Beef Sandwiches**  
**Sloppy Joes**  
**Homemade Pies and Desserts**

**Crafts, Baked Goods, Christmas Cookies,**

**White Elephants, Candy Shop**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

**314 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. E.**

**Waseca, MN**