

KIRK'S LOG

Stardate: December 13, 2009

Focus Scripture – Luke 3:7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Preacher: The cast of "Believe"

Music: Kate Sauer, Music Director
Linda Gilmour, Chancel Choir/Children's
Music & Praise Band Director
Dorenda Morse, piano

Adult Ed: Floyd Coppage

Lay Reader: Bruce St John

Usher/Greeter Team: John Davis, Kirby Lewis
Cindy Hutchinson, Paula Paul

Hospitality: Gail Chynoweth

Advent Candlelighting: The Eberhardt family

Lock Up: John Davis

Those for Whom We Pray

Our members: Ted Bradley and Nancy Eberhardt;

Our homebound members and friends: Fran Doty and Anis Johnson;

Our extended family: Robert Chynoweth (George & Marilyn Chynoweth's son), Sarah Drain (Roger & Dalva Hailstone's daughter), Alice Dudoich (Lynn Foiles' sister-in-law), Ted Feng (Patrick Xavier's uncle), Sam Ferolie (friend of Jon & Karla Mitovich, serving in Afghanistan), Brian Festa (Lori Festa's brother), Fran Haley (Michael Haley's mother), Joan Hall (Ted Bradley's sister), Tracy Hutchinson (Cindy Hutchinson's sister-in-law), Bobbi Luft (friend of COGS), Veronica McCarter (Mercy Martinez-Nunnally's sister), Justin Zel Montgomery (Linc Nagle's son-in-law, serving in the Police Department), Amy Mueller (daughter of Susan Olson-Phillips & Det Phillips), Bailey Ellen Paul (Paula Paul's granddaughter), Lorraine Quintana (Phyllis Wilson's friend), Cheryl Warnke (niece of Ethel Shepard), for others for whom we have been praying, and for those whose names are known by you and God.

Announcements

STAFF newsletter deadline – this Thursday, Dec. 17.

Christmas Project – The Ministry of Justice and Community Interface is encouraging members to support East San Jose Elementary and Project Share. Project Share will provide us with the needs of two families. We will have envelopes on the trees in the social hall and hallway for you to take. For cash donations, please indicate which of these two projects you would like to support. We will have tags for the family requested needs as soon as we get them. Project Share needs their donations by Dec. 18th.

Donations of magazines and newspapers for the older kids Sunday School class – If you have any magazines or newspapers you can donate, please place them in the labeled box in the church entryway.

REMINDER to those who have not yet paid for the poinsettias they ordered – If you have not yet paid for the poinsettias you ordered, please make a check payable to "COGS" and write "Poinsettias" on the Memo line of the check. Place your check in the offering plate or in the Financial Secretary's mailbox, or you can mail the check to COGS. Payments must be received by next Sunday, Dec. 20. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS EVE
7:00 p.m. – candlelight, carols, choirs

CAPTAIN KIRK'S LOCATOR

Welcome! Thank you for worshipping with us today. We'd love to have a record of your attendance with us, so please fill out the information below and give to an usher.

Sunday, December 13, 2009

8:30 10:30

Name _____

Check here if your address, phone, or e-mail has recently changed.

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Work Phone _____

Email _____

Spouse's/Partner's Name _____

Children's Name(s) and Age(s): _____

This is my:

1st time 2nd time 3rd time

I attend Church of the Good Shepherd
 I am a member of Church of the Good Shepherd

How I first heard about Church of the Good Shepherd:

- Friends Family TV Ads
- Yellow Pages Location
- Newspaper Ads/Articles
- Website/Internet

(Continued on reverse)

“Celebrate the Season” a Christmas Cantata next Sunday, 10:30 a.m.

A Christmas Cantata, “Celebrate the Season,” by Joel Raney, will be presented next Sunday by the Chancel Choir during the 10:30 worship. The music is light and upbeat and cleverly incorporates traditional Christmas hymns woven into each movement, punctuated by inspirational readings that tell the story of the prophecy and birth of Jesus.

“Expressions of Christmas from Around the World”

– George Chynoweth & Bill Artman invite you to attend “Expressions of Christmas from Around the World”, a free concert presented by the Madrigal Singers and the Rio Grande Youth Singers **TODAY**, December 13, 4 p.m., at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 5301 Ponderosa Ave. NE; phone: 881-9626. Directions: From Montgomery, go south on San Mateo two blocks (2nd block is long) to Ponderosa Ave. on the east side. Turn left (east) on Ponderosa to church address.

Child Care Volunteers Needed – We hope to find some child care volunteers! As a congregation, we need to provide occasional child care (“baby sitting”) during special programs and activities at the church. This will help our children be engaged and to stay safe while allowing their parents the freedom fully to participate in programs, meetings, rehearsals and other activities. Can you help? Length of time will vary from one to three hours, and we can work in “shifts” if needs be. Please contact Kirk Wortman by phone (856-1004) or e-mail (cogs@goodshepherdunitedchurch.com) to put your name on the Child Care Volunteer list.

THE CHRISTMAS FUND – National UCC Special Offering – The Christmas Fund provides Christmas gift checks to low-income retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ, and is the primary source of annual funds for the General Synod Plan of Supplementation of Small Annuities, administered by the Pension Boards on behalf of the UCC. **The Christmas Fund** is the only source of income supporting the UCC Health Benefits Supplementation Plan for low-income annuitants. And, it provides emergency grants to active and retired clergy and lay employees in times of unforeseen financial crisis. If you are able to provide a donation to **The Christmas Fund**, you will help to make a positive impact the lives of over 1,600 families in 2010. Without a doubt, your gift will bear witness to the loving presence of Jesus Christ in the life of someone who needs a tangible expression of our compassion and care. Offering envelopes for **The Christmas Fund** will be included in the bulletin on December 13th and 20th.

Wolf Creek Ski Trip - January 15-18, 2010 –

Let it snow!! COGS’s annual ski trip at Wolf Creek, CO, scheduled over January 15-18, rapidly approaches. Lift tickets will be \$44.20/day (adults) or \$23.80/day (kids & seniors). X-Country trails, equipment rental, and lessons are also available. Hotel accommodations at the Holiday Inn Express, Pagosa Springs will be \$80.00/night. A group dinner is planned for Saturday night. Sign up on the poster in the hallway, the tear-off sheet below, or call/e-mail Suzanne Miller (453-6838 / suzmill3r@comcast.net).

COGS Adult Ed

Adult Ed classes run from 9:15 to 10:00 a.m.

Adult Contemporary Theology Class

The group is studying the book, *The Dishonest Church*, by Jack Good, a retired U.C.C. pastor. –
with *Floyd Coppage* at 9:15 a.m. in the parlor

Church Meetings for the Week of December 13-20, 2009

Sunday: ***Third Sunday in Advent***
One service only, at 10:30 a.m.
All morning Coffee
9:00 a.m. Breakfast Club
9:15 a.m. Children’s Education Time
9:15 a.m. Adult Education Time:
“Contemporary Theology”
10:30 a.m. Worship –featuring ***Believe, a Christmas Play***

Monday: 7:00 p.m. Council meeting

Tuesday: 1:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Group – parlor
6:00 p.m. Handbell rehearsal
7:00 p.m. Centering Prayer Group – parlor

Wednesday: 3:00 p.m. Spirituality Study Group

Thursday: 6:00 p.m. Praise Band rehearsal
6:50 p.m. Men’s Ensemble rehearsal
7:30 p.m. Choir rehearsal – sanctuary

Saturday: 10:00 a.m. Christmas Cantata rehearsal – sanctuary

Sunday: ***Fourth Sunday in Advent***
One service only, at 10:30 a.m.
All morning Coffee
9:00 a.m. Breakfast Club
9:15 a.m. Children’s Education Time
9:15 a.m. Adult Education Time:
“Contemporary Theology”
10:30 a.m. Worship –featuring
Celebrate the Season, a Christmas Cantata

How can I help?

Are you available to usher on Christmas Eve?

Yes, I will usher at the 7:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve. (There will be only one service Christmas Eve, at 7:00 p.m.)

Would you like to help with the luminarias on Christmas Eve?

Yes, I can help set the luminarias out and light them at 4 p.m. on Christmas Eve.

Yes, I can help clean up the luminarias at 10:00 a.m., Saturday, December 26.

Can you “do” Hospitality (simple snacks) on a Sunday in January or February, after the 8:30 service or after the 10:30 service?

I will do Hospitality in January, after the **8:30** service.

I will do Hospitality in January, after the **10:30** service.

I will do Hospitality in February, after the **8:30** service.

I will do Hospitality in February, after the **10:30** service.

Carol St John will call you to set up a specific date and answer questions.