



# *the Voice*

December 2006

The Official Newsletter of Hosanna Lutheran Church

## From the Pastor:

**“All the ends of the earth  
shall see the salvation our  
God” (Psalm 98)**

Probably artists have portrayed the Christmas scene more than any other Bible story. Without much trying, we can envision the scene. Whether it is from a painting, a story, a song, or even a Christmas television show, we have “seen” this birth, so to speak, many times.

The scene is set well enough that we see the people and hear the sounds—the barn lit at night by lamps; the animals making chewing sounds while Mary and Joseph are talking quietly. Perhaps Jesus is crying or nursing. The shepherd come excitedly followed by townspeople.

The Christmas star is bright in the sky,  
just as we imagined.



Now, take a moment  
to imagine yourself

somewhere in this scene. Where are you? Who are you? How do you respond? This is the crux of the whole Christmas story: God has given us a Christmas present—God’s only son. What is our response?



Where do we fit into the picture? Step out from the picture now, and go from Bethlehem into your world. Tell this great news of great joy to those you meet.

Christ our Savior has come!

Peace and Joy to you this Christmas,

Pr. Ann Marie

(excerpts from Everlasting Light, by Sandy Dixon)



## It's all in the Family... Prayer Chain

### Continuing Prayers of Concern:

Many suffer ongoing challenges to life and health. Please keep these names near at your times of prayer and hold them before God who knows our every need. The Howard Dupler Family with his passing, Dawn Campbell, Keith Burns, Steve Wysocki, Charley Combs, Scott Kirkpatrick, Mavis Klopfer, Pauline Cross, Chuck Davis, Phil Key, Shirley Wagy, Harry Siebert, Miss Mason, Neil Frank, Ed Alldredge, Lindsay Spencer, Nancy Oliva, Donna Ragatz, Clay Scott, Lani Scott, Harold Smith, Dan Shifflet, Joe Mascari, Judy Kellet, Yoshi Campbell, and, all those who continue to suffer from illness. For all those who risk their lives for the sake of freedom from oppression, especially men and women in uniform.

### Our Shut-ins

Mary Bauerle, Chuck Beach, Helen Curtis, Irene Krafft, Harry Siebert, Ruth Wood.



is scheduled for Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5 PM. Pizza, salad and drinks will be provided; please bring desserts to share.

### Pres' Corner

Right off, I would like to thank all those who wrote reports for the Congregational meeting. With the Darlene Gillenwater presentation on the Stephen's Ministry, Tim Connor and Todd Spring's presentations from the Trust Fund, combined with

Mary Marvin's professional document folder, we were able to present a well rounded view of what Hosanna has got going on. In fact, I thought we looked like we knew what we were doing. Which is good.

The schedule change discussion continues. Both Worship and Youth Committees have major input into the exact details of how any change would be instituted. Last month, we placed a comment survey regarding this in the Sunday Bulletins. We received 42 responses of which 28 were positive and 14 expressed negative concerns. We will continue to welcome your written input, and Council will continue to review this subject. We will strive to balance the needs of the whole congregation. The date we implement any change is still up for discussion and if a change is made, it could easily be later than January.

May the Holidays be a blessed one for you and yours,  
Your brother in Christ,  
Fred McLeod

### MORNINGSTAR BIBLE STUDY

Our annual Christmas potluck luncheon will be held on Dec. 14th at 11 a.m. at Betty Brown-Rose's house, 124 Stonegate Dr. (S. of 16, off Watkins Rd.) Bring a dish to share and join us in fellowship, games, and prizes.

We'll continue our study in Book 24, Pg. 38; "Not All Israel Is Israel". The Apostle Paul's epistles are the very bedrock of our Christian faith, and he shares a clear view of salvation by Grace through faith + nothing.

### HOSANNA PIECEMAKERS...

Congratulations and thank you to Ron & Pauline Cross and Darlene Gillenwater for their tie bids on the Holiday Comforter...a second quilt was provided by the Hosanna Piecemakers rather than cutting the quilt in half! The proceeds will be a blessing to the Lutheran Border Servants Corp and the ministry of Ryan Steinmetz. There is more about this new ministry in this newsletter, please read it and consider what along with your prayers you can do this holiday season.

We'll continue to cut quilt blocks at home and turn in materials (fabric appropriate for quilts), sheets, blankets (for fillers), and thread (put in the hallway next to the church office, marked "quilting". We'll meet in March to begin tying and call me for supplies if you're willing to help. Bars of soap (in their original wrapper) can be put in the box marked for same for next years "ingathering".

I received the following report from the Central Ohio Conference regarding the Lutheran World Relief ingathering in October. This year 25 congregations delivered the following items to Upper Arlington for shipment: 996 quilts, 1176 school kits, 792 health kits, 159 sewing kits, 227 layettes, 25 blankets, 3014 bars of soap, and \$755.00 to Project Comfort! The truck was full! Gratefully your sister in Christ,  
Darlene Butler  
(964-1411)

### CARE Corner...

We will continue to have the Christmas sign-up sheet in the narthex. The Leads Center will be providing Hosanna with the names of local families we will be helping for the holidays. Please take a moment to sign up for the various food items and gifts.

The Care Committee will also be collecting items for **NEW BEGINNINGS**. Everyday household items such as towels, pillows, and extra long twin-size sheets, and little alarm clocks are needed. There is also a need for Mc Donald's and Wendy's coupons for the children during the break from school. You can bring those items on Sunday December 17<sup>th</sup> and, we will see to it that they get to NEW BEGINNINGS.

Please take a moment and open your hearts to this very worthwhile endeavor. It has been requested that the toys and clothing be left unwrapped so that the parents may see the gifts and wrap them themselves. All donations should be at the church before the 10:30 service on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so very much for your continued generosity.

If you have any questions, please feel to call Lillian Meade at 740-927-8566.  
*Thanks for Caring and Sharing*

### Hosanna Red Hat Honey's

We wish all of you and yours a very joyful Holiday Season.



caroling  
christmas

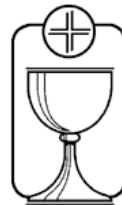
### SR. LYO News...

SR. LYO Christmas Party is scheduled for Wednesday, December 20. We will meet at the church at 6:30 p.m. for Christmas Caroling. Then we will go to Nancy Rich's house for the Christmas Party. Please bring a \$10 gift for the gift exchange marked for a boy or girl.



### Lutheran Woman Today Bible Study...will meet

Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-11:20 AM at Hosanna. Our study, Suffering as the Consequence of Sin, is the 4<sup>th</sup> session in the series entitled Hope in God in Times of Suffering. In this session we explore the types of suffering that are associated with sin. They include suffering as the consequence of our own sin, the consequence of the sins of others, and the tragic effects of our sin on the very structures of our life together. An offering will be received for Thankoffering, an annual offering that is sent to WELCA's (Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) Churchwide Headquarters to be used for world outreach programs. Lunch at the Nutcracker Restaurant will follow our study. Plan to join us!



**Communion Visits...** Please be aware that if you, as a member of Hosanna become seriously ill and cannot attend one of our Sunday Worship Services, you may contact the church office at 740-927-3548 to arrange to have Holy Communion brought to you at your home.

### Altar Guild

Advent is the beginning of the new church year. The paraments are blue because it is the color of hope, a central theme for Advent. The Advent wreath which originated after the Reformation has four blue candles, representing the four weeks of waiting during Advent.

Christmas is the festive celebration of the Nativity of our Lord, the Word made Flesh. The paraments are white which is the liturgical color symbolizing the light and purity of Christ and our great joy at His birth. A Christmas tree is adorned with white lights and Chrismons ( taken from the word "Christ monograms") these are symbols of Christ which have been made by members of the congregation.

Altar Guild's annual Christmas party will be held Thursday, December 14th at 7PM at the home of Diane Arps. Please bring a Christmas ornament to exchange ( under \$10) and a dessert or appetizer to share. We also will be collecting hats and mittens to donate to LEADS. Come join us for a fun filled evening! RSVP Diane at 927-5685 or for further information.

The next regular meeting will be Thursday, January 11, 2007 at 7:15 PM. For further information, please call Terrie Baker 927-6562 or, Rini Terry 927-8806.

## The Border Servant Corps What is The Border Servant Corps?

They seek to provide an opportunity for volunteers to work for justice, serve their neighbor and walk humbly with their God.

What do the Border Servant Corps do?

They host full time volunteers to work in social service agencies in the Las Cruces/El Paso/Juarez area.

Provide opportunities for the volunteer to learn and teach about social justice, work toward systematic change and advocate on behalf of others.

Support volunteers who live in intentional Christian community, live simply and seek to grow spiritually.

The BSC mission came to the CARE committee's attention because one of our members, Ryan Steinmetz is now working in the Las Cruces area after spending a year there as a BSC volunteer. Ryan is the supervisor of the Children's Program for 20-40 children at La Casa which is an organization in Las Cruces that provides shelter, counseling, education on domestic violence and advocacy in a supportive environment. He also is involved with youth ministry at two churches.

While there is a need for clothing and school supplies, it is not cost effective to collect them here and send to Las Cruces. The silent quilt auction was held to raise funds for this mission.

In addition there will be a free will collection one Sunday in Advent.



**Poinsettia Order forms** are available in the pews. Please complete the form, enclose your payment (\$7.50 each) and, place in the offering basket. The deadline to order Christmas Poinsettias is Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>.

## The Sounds of Christmas are Coming to Hosanna!

### What/Where/When:

A FREE holiday concert is being hosted by Hosanna on Saturday, December 9th from 5:00-7:00pm.

### Who:

The group "**Midnight Clear**" is made up of six members who stay busy throughout the year with various individual musical endeavors. We come together for rehearsals in late October each year with the idea of doing Christmas shows in December...we particularly like playing to churches...we come from a variety of faith backgrounds and feel particularly gratified with the uniting spirit that is Christmas.

Midnight Clear makes use of vocals, acoustic guitar, mandolin, harmonica, etc. and performs a variety of carols, classics, originals, and sacred pieces. It is a group that's sure to inspire and delight us as we joyfully enter into this Christmas season!

### Why:

Besides being a **SUPER** way to usher in the season, a freewill offering will be collected to support the ministry of Midnight Clear and, to raise awareness and money in support of the proposed up-grade of our multimedia-complementary sound system.

By the way, in regards to our out-dated sound system (just in case you're not aware!), these are some of our current issues:

- Deterioration of donated components and equipment.
- Multiple sound systems and "patched" components do not work well together.
- Overflow seating in the fellowship hall is lacking proper sound for balanced music and clarity of spoken message.
- Inability to overcome the limited acoustics of our worship space for the Adult Choir and other "unplugged" offerings so that all worshipers can hear and experience those offerings.
- A need for a system that can accommodate a growing ministry!!!

Refreshments will be served. Please come and join us in the fun and worship! If you have any questions, contact Dana Layne at 614-853-2576 or [DanaNKidz@aol.com](mailto:DanaNKidz@aol.com).

**Hosanna Singles...** Seven of us had a great time traveling on Nov. 11th to Zanesville for the day. Pottery shopping/museum viewing, and great fellowship was our agenda. We even snuck in a couple quarters of OSU football in there. We all look forward to more great times together. Special

thanks to Debbie Hickman & Gary Smith for their guidance!!!

We will meet Sunday, Dec. 3rd, 5:00 PM, at the home of Linda Murray, 102 Granville St. in Alexandria for a potluck/bible study combo. **ALL SINGLES are welcome and encouraged to attend!** Call Linda at 740-924-8255 for directions

Special thanks to SUE MCLEOD for all her hard work on travel plans for the Women's Vacation group. Sue made some excellent choices and the 8 of us that attended—all had a great time.



**Announcements...**



Congratulations to Michael Seal; son of Steve and Mary Seal; on his recent engagement to Ms. Devon Jenny. A May 2007 wedding is being planned.

AARON MURRAY, son of Linda Murray, was recently selected for employment as a Criminal Investigator for The Immigration Department of Homeland Security. A 3-6 mo. background check is mandatory before employment begins.

**Prescription Drug Assistance...**

If you

- Are 18 years or older
- Live or work in Licking County
- Do not have prescription drug insurance
- Have maxed out your prescription drug coverage
- Have a prescription not covered by your insurance

You are a candidate for the Family Wize Prescription Drug Discount Card through The United Way of Licking County. This card

- Is free by calling 345-6685
- Averages a 20% savings
- Expires March 2008
- Covers a household

Additional information is available on the credenza below the church's main bulletin board. You may also go to [www.familywise.com](http://www.familywise.com) This is not an insurance program.

**The Mecklenburg Task Force...**

Southern Ohio Synod has asked Pastor Larry and Cindy Hoffsis to organize a tour to our partner congregations in Mecklenburg.

They have responded with a tour that will culminate with three days in Mecklenburg. Hosanna members will be overnight and Sunday morning worship guests with our partner congregation in Boisenburg.

The tour will begin in beautiful southern Germany (Salzburg, Ettal, Rothenburg ob der Tauber and Nuremburg.) In middle Germany, the tour will include all of the Luther sites: Eisleben, Eisenach, Erfurt, the Wartburg and Wittenburg. Prior to the culmination in Mecklenburg with visits to Bishop Beste and other partner congregations, tour members will spend two days in Berlin as an orientation to the many challenges presented to the Lutheran Church by Nazism and later by Communism.

Pastor Larry and Cindy Hoffsis are uniquely suited to lead this tour as they have been in on the partnership since its beginning in 1985, and following retirement, were invited by the Synod of Mecklenburg to work for a year in the Synod's Office of Services to Congregations.

For a brochure regarding the details of the tour, please contact Pastor Hoffsis at 937-435-5020 or [larryhoffsis@sbcglobal.net](mailto:larryhoffsis@sbcglobal.net) Or, contact our church office. If you have even the slightest interest, please act soon as space on Lufthansa and in the hotels is limited to 30 persons.



<b>December</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Terrie Baker</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>Susan Pugh</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>Debbie Pack</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>Robbie Sheets</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>John Conarro</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>Dawn Campbell</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>Joni Thompson</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>Carson Warner</b>
	<b>5</b>	<b>Allen Jackson</b>

- 5 Mark Borrow
- 5 Allison Priest
- 6 Scott Blum
- 8 Ryan Steinmetz
- 9 Scott M. Taylor
- 9 April Boehm
- 10 Sharon Mull
- 11 Ed Roach
- 13 Nancy Rich
- 14 Jackie Taylor
- 15 Layla Mock
- 17 Chris Ellis
- 19 Marie Percy
- 19 David Ritchey II
- 20 Billie Deitrich
- 21 Dale Pugh
- 21 Ken Tubaugh
- 22 Lynn Key
- 23 Randy Rich
- 23 Sam Stockdale
- 23 Paige Spencer
- 24 Katie Miller
- 25 Donald Humphries\*
- 26 Jarrod Carr
- 27 Penny Southard
- 27 Amanda Murray
- 28 John McGonigal
- 30 Brent Mull
- 30 Adam Thompson
- 30 Marlena Huhn
- 30 Abby Von Ahn
- 31 Amy Faust
- 31 Grant Huhn

December 31 Open for your occasion



- December 2 John & Jane Paxton
- December 12 Larry & Debbie Chamberlin
- December 14 Jim & Penny Southard
- December 15 Mike & Dawn Campbell
- December 17 Tom & Gail Lee
- December 17 Harry & Betsy Siebert
- December 23 John & Blanche Conarro

# Altar Flowers

- December 3 By Erv & Bonnie Babbert  
In Memory of their grandson, Logan
- December 10 Open for your occasion
- December 17 In Memory of John Heughebart by Anne Heughebart-Humphries
- December 24 In Memory of Vern Reidel by Bill & Billie Dietrich

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Sunday, December 24 <sup>th</sup>	9 AM	Carols & Lessons Service
Sunday, December 24 <sup>th</sup>	7 PM	Christmas Eve Kids' Klub Pageant Service
Sunday, December 24 <sup>t</sup>	11 PM	Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 31 <sup>st</sup>	9 AM	Traditional Service
Sunday, December 31 <sup>st</sup>	10:30 AM	Contemporary Service