

Happy Birthday 

DECEMBER

01 Braeston Brummet	17 Judy DeLuka
03 Wendy Goodwin	Arlene Jostes
Ashlee Dilley	18 Rich Burdzilauskas
Kody Johnson	20 Kelly Lovelace
04 Nancy Flowers	Brakston Brummet
05 Shellie Meiners	Courtney Jo Billings
Jamie Houck	Nicholas Harston
06 Sarah Collins	22 Patricia Stevens
Tara Hampton	Aaron Lovelace
Kolin Reynolds	Rhiannon Winn
07 Chase Vieweg	Parker Detmers
08 Maggie Allen	Jaxson Batty
Austin Leigh	23 Sharon Huddleston
09 Landon Engelman	25 Deneen Steck
12 Anna Adkins	Jeston Brummet
Joshua Billings	26 Randy Richardson
Mattie Johnson	Nathan Johnson
13 Desiree Johnson	Rece Landis
15 Juanita Cassidy	27 Audrey Sabol
Jody Huddleston	29 Marjorie Osborne
Bailey Taylor	30 Pam Johnson
16 Leslie Farris	31 Donald Eller
	Kayla Kates
	Dennis McNeill

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

Dec. 5th - Jerry and Dorothy Crow (41st)
- Cy and Leona Durbin (70th)
Dec. 16th - Todd and Lisa Leigh (22nd)
Dec. 18th - Lester and Patty Stevens (7th)
Dec. 19th - Kris and Erica Detmers (13th)
Dec. 27th - James and Alice Woolard (3rd)
Dec. 30th - Hank and Barb Ruffing (43rd)

Please let the church office know if there are any additions or corrections to the Birthdays and Anniversaries! Thank you!

DECEMBER 2011

† For You †

Christmas is *the* celebration of the Savior coming into the world. This is not the one who comes to find out if you've been naughty or nice. The Lord God Almighty already knows there is no one who is nice and that every one is worse than naughty. But please remember -- Jesus came not to condemn the world, but to save the world and everyone in it, including all who are reading this! (Jn 3:17) He has come to set us free - and He comes as a baby in a manger!

It is this Babe in Mary's arms that is true God! And this true God, the Jesus of Bethlehem, is the same true God who is the Jesus of Golgotha. We may not separate them - there is only one Jesus, not two! It is the same body and blood at both places - at the manger and the cross! Jesus was born in order to die . . . to shed His Blood to pay for the sins of the world . . . to give His Body unto death . . . to suffer hell in order to open heaven . . . to die in order to give life! Yet even this is not enough. Jesus could have died a thousand times and you can hear that truth a thousand times - and it still would not be of any benefit to you.

Jesus died. True!
But it would be of no benefit to you until you heard that Jesus was crucified and died -- *for you*. That Jesus rose again from the dead - *for you*. That He gave His life *for you* -- *for you*!

In fact, Jesus could have been born a thousand times and you could hear this truth year after year - and still it would not be of any benefit to you.

Jesus is born. True!

It would not be of any benefit until you heard that Jesus was born - *for you, for you!*

God did all this *for you!* And pardon the pun: *This Babe's for you!*

My friends, you could show up on fifty Sundays in fifty years, to see the children and hear the Christmas Story, but it would not be of any assistance until you realized that this is the true story of the Birth of the Savior *for you!* Or as the shepherds heard from the Christmas angel:

But the angel said to them,
"Do not be afraid.

I bring **you** good news of great joy that will be for all the people.

11 Today in the town of David a Savior has been born **to you**;

He is Christ the Lord.

12 This will be a sign **to you**:

You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 2:10-12

This is the true account of what God has done *for you* so that *you* may have a
now of peace
and
an eternity of joy!

A Blessed Christmas to you!
Pastor Bert

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Thursday, December 8th, 7:00 p.m.

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING

Sunday, December 11th, 11:00 a.m.

(to adopt 2012 Budget and elect officers)

ELDERS MEETING

Tuesday, December 13th, 7:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE PROGRAM PRACTICES

Saturdays – Dec. 3rd, 10th & 17th, 9-10:00 a.m.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE MTG.

Tuesday, December 27th, 7:00 p.m.

TRINITY CHOIR NOTES

The seasons of Advent and Christmas are filled with the music of the Advent (Coming) of our Lord and Savior and the music of Christmas as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, our Savior.

We thank the members of the Senior Choir and accompanist, Iva Jones for sharing the love of God through their music.

We encourage more singers to join us as we prepare music for this beautiful season of the year.



*LET US ALL WITH GLADSOME VOICE
PRAISE THE GOD OF HEAVEN*

DONATIONS FOR SHUT-INS

LWML will once again be packing shut-in Christmas boxes. We would greatly appreciate donations of fruit, cookies, non-refrigerated snack-pack puddings/jello, and Kleenex (small cube boxes please).

Please bring these items to the church basement by Tuesday, Dec. 13th. Thank You!

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

The Advent and Christmas Season is a very special time!

We invite everyone to join us for the study of God's Word in Sunday School and Adult Bible Class.

Sunday School Hour is 8:45-9:45 a.m.

Practices for the Christmas Eve Service will be on SATURDAYS, DEC. 3RD, 10TH, AND 17TH from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

PLEASE NOTE: The practice on December 10th will be for Third Grade through High School ONLY. If you have any questions, please call Joyce Cress, 343-2882.



The Christmas Eve Service, WE SING OF HIS GLORY will be on Saturday, December 24th at 7:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH there will be a "Birthday Party for Jesus"

during Sunday School Hour (8:45 – 9:45 a.m.)

Children, Youth and adults will enjoy the music, activities and the wonderful message of the Gift of Jesus, our Savior.

Refreshments will be served.

Please plan to attend and bring a friend as we celebrate the Birthday of Jesus.

In December, our GROWING IN CHRIST

Sunday School lessons will be

"The Birth of John Foretold",

"An Angel Visits Mary",

"An Angel Visits Joseph"

and "The Birth of Jesus".

MONTHLY MAILER information for the January, 2012 Mailer should be turned in by December 20th !!

HANDBELL CONCERT

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, will be hosting a hand bell concert on Sunday,

Dec. 4, at 3:00 p.m. in Werner Auditorium on the Seminary campus. The Gateway

Ringers, one of St. Louis' best hand bell

choirs, will perform holiday music along with

the Seminary's hand bell choir. The public is

invited to attend at no cost. For more

information, please contact Ruth McDonnell

at 314-505-7102.



THE LEGEND OF THE CANDY CANE

According to legend there was a candy maker who wanted to invent a candy that was a witness to Christ.

First of all, he used a hard candy because

Christ is the rock of ages. This hard candy

was shaped so that it would resemble a "J"

for Jesus or, turned upside down, a

shepherd's staff. He made it white to

represent the purity of Christ.

Finally a red stripe was added to represent

the blood Christ shed for the sins of the

world, and three thinner red stripes for the

stripes He received on our behalf when the

Roman soldiers whipped Him. Sometimes a

green stripe is added as a reminder that Jesus

is a gift from God.

The flavor of the cane is peppermint, which is

similar to hyssop. Hyssop is in the mint

family and was used in the Old Testament for

purification and sacrifice. Jesus is the pure

Lamb of God, come to be a sacrifice for the

sins of the world.

So, every time you see a candy cane,

remember the message of the candy maker:

Jesus is the Christ!

POINSETTIAS

Help beautify Trinity by donating poinsettias for the Christmas Season. **Please put your name on them** - you may pick them up after New Year's Day.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

ALL ARE INVITED

Everyone is welcome to go **Caroling**

Sunday, December 11th, at 4:00 p.m.

The Trinity Fellowship Club will provide the

soup for supper when we get back and

TFC members are asked to bring

sandwiches and/or dessert.

We hope you can join in for the fun of spreading some Christmas cheer!

COME HEAR GOD'S WORD:

Christmas Eve Program

Saturday, December 24th, 7:00 p.m.

Christmas Day Divine Service

Sunday, December 25th, 10:00 a.m.

"Birthday Party for Jesus"

(during Sunday School hour)

Sunday, December 25th, 8:45 a.m.

New Year's Eve Divine Service

Saturday, December 31st, 7:00 p.m.

Ongoing Ambassadors For Christ

(O AFC) New Years Gathering 2012 will be

held at Christ Our Rock Lutheran High

School in Centralia, IL from 4 PM, Dec. 29th

through Jan. 1, 2012. Registration is OPEN

online at www.oafc.org and paper registration

forms can be found under the downloads

section on the website. This years theme will

be: "Unity Through Humility" and our

gathering is being planned by seminarian

Jacob Mueller. Hoping to see all of you in

Centralia this December.