

December 4, 2011

# Breeze thru the Leaves



## THIS WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

### Sunday, December 4

Dalrymple Newly-Wed Shower – after 2<sup>nd</sup> service  
Confirmation – 1 PM

### Monday, December 5

### Tuesday, December 6

Concordia University – E2/E7&8 – 4:45-8:45 PM

### Wednesday, December 7

Meal – 6:30 pm

Advent Service – 7:30 PM

Bells – following the service

### Thursday, December 8

Bible Class – 10 AM

Choir – 7 PM

### Friday, December 9

### Saturday, December 10

Men's Breakfast – 7:30 AM

Trustee's Meeting – 9:00 AM

### Sunday, December 11

Cookie Walk – between services

Confirmation – 1 PM

## WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP

For 11-20-11

Living Praise Service - 53

Traditional Service - 43

Sunday School - 48

### Offerings

**General:** \$4,689, \$4,518, **\$4,767, \$3,370**

(Needed each week: \$ 5,068)

**General for this month: \$17,344**

(Needed for November: \$ 20,272)

**"Growing Towards the Future": \$584**

(Debt Retirement Fund)



### DID YOU KNOW...?

The TOL Angel Tree benefits two groups this year: Good Samaritans of Garland and the TOL College Connection.



*Newly-Wed Shower for our own*

*Matt & Hailey Dalrymple*

*TODAY*

*following the Late Service*



Advent Services begin on Wednesday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>. There is a meal served at 6:30 pm and the service begins at 7:30 pm. There is no cost for the meal, but donations to cover the cost are appreciated. The Board of Fellowship prepares and serves the meal and the following groves are asked to assist by providing desserts and helping with the clean up.

November 30<sup>th</sup> – Hickory Grove

December 7<sup>th</sup> – Pecan & Olive Groves

December 14<sup>th</sup> – Maple Grove

December 21<sup>st</sup> – Live Oak Grove



*The Senior Youth are hosting a Cookie Walk on Sunday, Dec. 11<sup>th</sup> before and after the Education Hour. You may bring your own tin or purchase one from the Youth. Cookies will be priced by the size of the tin. Anyone who would like to donate cookies to this event is greatly appreciated. The proceeds will go toward the Sr. Youth's trip to Glorybound Texas in July 2012.*



Young at Heart is once again sponsoring the Angel Tree. This year's Angel Tree will benefit Good Samaritans of Garland and the Tree of Life College Connection. Good Samaritan is a comprehensive assistance program dedicated to the prevention of poverty, hunger, and homelessness in Garland. They provide utility and food assistance and provide coordination with other agencies. The TOL College Connection is a link to our youth who attend college. They receive cards and/or treats and gift cards several times throughout the year. This lets them know they are still an important part of our congregation and shows our love to them and our support of their education. To support the Angel Tree, just purchase \$10 gift cards from Walmart and deposit them in the box under the Angel Tree. Thank you in advance for your generosity!



## TIME TO START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

Young at Heart would like to help you get a head start on your Christmas shopping. Why not buy friends and family a garden stone? These stones are beautiful and most cost only \$35. Place your orders soon to be ready for Christmas. Or you could purchase TOL Cookbooks for those on your gift list. These sell for \$10.50 each, but if you purchase 5 or more the cost is \$10 each.

## YOUNG AT HEART CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Young at Heart Christmas Party will be on Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. We will have our traditional Christmas potluck and white elephant gift exchange. Also remember to bring items to fill the baskets for our homebound friends. Make plans to attend!



Once again we will be ordering poinsettias to adorn the altar for Christmas. Order forms are in the bulletin. The cost is \$7.50 per plant and you may take your plant home following the 11:30 pm Christmas Eve service.



**Midweek Advent Services**  
**November 30th, December 7th, 14th, 21st**  
**Meal 6:30 pm, Service 7:30 pm**

**Children's Christmas Program**  
**Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 am (Education Hour)**

**Christmas Eve**  
**Family Service – 7:30 pm**  
**Candlelight Service – 11:30 pm**

**Christmas Day**  
**10:00 am**  
**No Sunday School**

**New Year's Eve**  
**Service at 7:30 pm**  
**Game Night following**

**New Year's Day**  
**10:00 am**  
**No Sunday School**



**Children's Christmas Program**  
**Sunday, December 18th**  
**during Sunday School hour (10:00 AM)**  
**in the Sanctuary**  
**Everyone is invited – especially parents,**  
**grandparents, and extended family!**

Please come and **"Follow the Star"** with us to Bethlehem to honor the "new baby" in a manger - **Baby Jesus**. Our children - young and older - are depicting the **joy and wonder** of finding the **"True Star of Christmas"**. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall/Narthex immediately following, and a special guest will be there handing out the Children's Sunday School Christmas gifts.



You are appreciated! !! Thanks to all who spent Saturday morning decorating our church home: Patty and Ron Gibbs; Mary and Joe Mobley; Pastor and Janis Herbert; Jan and Ted Keitch; Jerry Matzek; David, Kara, Bryan and Katie Jander; Janet Schutz; Lee Wilson.

**NEWS FROM NATHANIEL & CANDICE HILL**

Dear Members of Tree of Life:

Grace and Peace to you from Jesus Christ, our Lord!

As I write to you today, Candice and I are enjoying a little bit of time in Texas during the seminary's two-week recess between the fall and winter academic quarters. The last number of months have been very busy for us but also very enjoyable. At the end of July, I finished my vicarage in Baton Rouge and we packed up our home to move back to Saint Louis. We are now living in an apartment just two blocks away from the seminary. Candice is working out of our home for Horizon Milling, the company that hired Candice when we moved to Baton Rouge. When they found out that she had to resign from her job for our move back to Saint Louis, they offered her a position with their corporate office that she can do from anywhere in the country. Sometimes this means that she has to travel for work, but most of the time she gets to work from our home with our dog, Ziva, by her side. God has really taken care of us by providing seamless employment for Candice through our move back to Saint Louis.

Upon arriving back at the seminary, I chose to take an ambitious course schedule during the fall and winter quarters so that in the spring I can take a little bit lighter schedule. This fall, I took five classes: Exodus and the Torah, Pastoral Leadership, Biblical Theology, Systematics IV, and Theological Ethics. This kept me very busy, but I really enjoyed the things that I learned. While I miss being in the parish, it is nice to be able to engage in full time learning once again.

The process that will lead to my first call to a church has already begun. We have filled out our placement application and interviewed with the placement directors at the seminary who will be in charge of finding a place for us. We have no idea where we might be placed, but there are many churches who are looking to call a pastor from the seminary this year. I know that God knows exactly where he will be sending us.

As we continue in our last year at the seminary, please keep us in your prayers as we continue to keep you in ours!

God's Blessings,  
 Nathaniel Hill  
 4<sup>th</sup> Year Seminarian – Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis, MO

**WHITE ROCK CENTER OF HOPE**

White Rock Center of Hope is in need of macaroni and cheese. **They are also in desperate need of coats, especially for adults**. Bring them to church, place them in the White Rock box on the table by the office, and Jan Keitch will deliver it to White Rock. Thank you in advance for helping those in need!

**ITEMS NEEDED**

Allie Banda is seeking the following items: electric wheelchair, walker, potty seat with back, and a power chair. If you have any of these items available please contact Allie at 972-613-6927 (home) or 972-841-1549 (cell).