



Olive Branch

Mount Olive Lutheran Church
2170 Havasupai Blvd. Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403
January 2011, No. 671

“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him would not perish but have eternal life.” (John 3:16)



Greetings & Happy New Year to All,

As I was preparing to write to you this month, I couldn't help looking back over the last 12 months and recalling some of the highlights of the year. I recall our stewardship campaign and the 10 apples Pastor Ray Christenson used in his sermon and Sunday Brunch afterwards. I recall commissioning of our first six Stephen's Ministers in our new Stephen's Ministry Program; our Easter Services; the Building Forums; our Vacation Bible School; the "Appreciation Services" we held for our Veterans during "Operation Gratitude" and the Certificates of Appreciation we handed out to the VFW, Marine Corp League, and American Legion and the apple pie and ice cream afterwards. I recall the While Burro Sale, Reformation Sunday, and the 6 youth confirmed that day; our Thanksgiving Dinner; and all the new members who joined Mount Olive over the past year. For me, 2010 was a very good year.

As I look forward to 2011, I do so with faith that God is on His throne, that He is in control, that Jesus Christ is Lord of heaven and Earth and that Christ is head of the Church. Jesus Christ gave us a mission, to spread the Good News of "Salvation through faith in Jesus Christ," to the people of Lake Havasu City and beyond. As Lutherans we get to do that through "God's Grace." We understand that we have been blessed to be a blessing. So, let us walk by faith following Jesus Christ as He leads us into a New Year together.

We know already 2011 will bring us Rev. Matthew March as our new Associate Pastor, and with him will come his wife Rachel and their three children, Elizabeth, Amanda, and David. We know that we have a Building Committee working on plans for remodeling and new construction projects for our campus.

So may we enter 2011 excited by all the new opportunities that lie before us. Please join me in praying for Mount Olive and all the people that gather here that we may fulfill the mission and ministry that Jesus Christ has created and called us to do here in Lake Havasu City. May we all give our Utmost for His Highest! May God Bless us all in the coming year! See you in Church.

Pastor Jim Price

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FELLOWSHIP, SERVICE, and EDUCATION

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sundays at 9:15 am

YOUTH BIBLE STUDY - Sundays at 9:15 am

ADULT BIBLE STUDY - Sundays at 9:15 am
Wednesdays 9:30 am

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP - Tuesdays at 9 am

STEPHEN'S MINISTRY See weekly bulletins

QUILTERS - Thursdays at 9 am

PRAYER SHAWL twice a month

NEW BEGINNINGS 1:30 pm - see calendar

MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC...

Treble Clef Singers - Mondays at 4 pm

Bass Clef Singers - Tuesdays at 4 pm

Carillon Ringers - Wednesdays at 5:00 pm

Chancel Choir - Wednesdays at 7 pm

Cherub Choir - Sundays at 10:30 am

LISTEN to the "*Winds through the Olive Trees*"

Sunday mornings at 9 am on KNLB FM 91

www.knlb.com and "**The Lutheran Hour**" at 10 am

Mount Olive Lutheran Council 2010/11

Liaison for

Don Jimison.....	President.....	Respite House
Kathy Ronningen..	Vice-President..	Christian Ed.
Millie Elrod.....	Secretary.....	YES
Steve Philo.....	Treasurer.....	Stewardship
Andy Anderson.....		Building
Amy Conway.....		Faith & Family
Marion Dietz.....		Fellowship
Mike Flesher.....		Social Concerns/Outreach
Joanne Hamilton.....		Worship
Jack Polster.....		Columbarium
Kelly Hays-Thorson.....		Mutual Ministry
Will Wright.....		Property

From the Council President...

The Semi Annual Meeting went very well, for those in attendance know the congregation approved the recommendation from the Call Committee to extend a call to Matt March as Associate Pastor. The letter of call went out to Matt and he has agreed to accept and should be here sometime in January. On behalf of the congregation I would like to thank Mike Cummings and the Call Committee for all the hours of hard work to bring this call to a successful conclusion.

Also the Congregation approved the 2011 balanced budget presented by our Treasure Steve Philo. Copies of the budget are available in the office.

The Building Committee Chairman Curt Schmaltz stated we are going to have four bidders on our project. Curt had requested the bids be returned by 12/15/10 and all bids have been received by the 12/15/10 dead line.

12/09 thru 12/29 presentation by each firm to the building committee.

1/2/11 to 1/10/11 review of bids and bid comparison summary made by Curt.

1/11/11 review of bids and presentations by entire Building Committee. Selection of the winning bid by the Building Committee with our reasons for so doing.

1/18/11 presentation by Building Committee to the Council of the winning bidder with the reasons to support our decision.

The Council has agreed to request a one year lease agreement at \$375.00 per month from the Respite House, or Mount Olive will remove itself from the project.

Mount Olive has been offered some used seats from the bowling alley. The Property Board recommend we use the seats for the outdoor amphitheater, however the Council decided we are not ready to do anything with the amphitheater or make any decisions regarding the hill, until after the total building project has been determined. Pastor stated he would not be using the amphitheater in the future. The Council rejected the seats and will not receive or use the seats. Please extend our thanks to the bowling alley for thinking of us but we cannot use the seats.

Our Stewardship Drive will start on January 8 & 9.

I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a very Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Don Jimison Council President

Winter Worship Hours

5:30 pm Saturday
8:00 & 10:45 am Sunday

Baptisms

Maddox Carter Cosentino

Anna Grace Anderson

The Worship Center

Open for individual prayer and
meditation Monday thru Friday
8:00 am to 3:00 pm.



Our Sympathy and Prayers...

...to Kelly, Mitch, Brianna Thorson and family on the passing of Kelly's father Roger Hays on 11/4/10 in Mankato, MN

...to Marquita McKnight and family on the passing of her father Bob Dill on 12/7/10 in Nebraska.



Lessons for the Month of January

January 1 & 2 Jeremiah 31:7-14, Ephesians 1:3-14, John 1:[1-9], 10-18, Psalm 147:12-20

January 8 & 9 Isaiah 60:1-6, Ephesians 3:1-12, Matthew 2:1-12, Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14

January 15 & 16 Isaiah 42:1-9, Acts 10:34-43, Matthew 3:13-17, Psalm 29

January 22 & 23 Isaiah 9:1-4, 1 Corinthians 1:10-18, Matthew 4:12-23, Psalm 27:1, 4-9

January 29 & 30 Micah 6:1-8, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, Matthew 5:1-12,

STEWARDSHIP DRIVE STARTING IN JANUARY

Our 2011 stewardship campaign will begin the weekend of January 8th & 9th and continue through Sunday January 29th. This year we will again be using the “**The New Consecration Sunday**” stewardship program, by Pastor Herb Miller, as last year.

The New Consecration Sunday stewardship program is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay their dues, we will treat our people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. **The New Consecration Sunday** stewardship program encourages people towards proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question of, “What percentage of my income is God calling me to give?”

Each week different members from our congregation will give a short temple talk encouraging us to grow spiritually by contributing a specific percentage of our income as a commitment to our faith in Jesus Christ.

On Saturday January 28th and Sunday January 29th we will complete our stewardship program by holding our Consecration Weekend Worship Services and Pledge Drive. During our worship services that weekend we will be instructed and inspired regarding our giving back to God, and climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire and commit everyone to attend our Consecration Weekend worship services on January 28th & 29th. The Stewardship team and the Church Council are encouraging everyone to participate in our Consecration weekend events.

On Sunday January 29th those who have filled out a Reservation Card will gather in the Parish Hall from 9am to 1pm to enjoy a free catered Celebration Brunch.

We, the members of the Stewardship Committee, want to thank you in advance for your enthusiastic participation in our Consecration Weekend Services and Celebration Brunch on Sunday January 29th.

Sincerely,
The Mount Olive Stewardship Committee

VISITATION MINISTRY NEWS



Christmas is the season of our Savior's birth. What a blessing it is to work for our Lord and Savior. It is indeed a privilege for me to visit, to pray, and to bring Holy Communion to our homebound members of the church family. After every visit I stop and reflect upon the wisdom that they shared with me and how very special these members are.

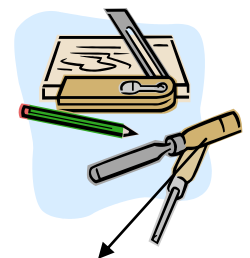
The persons that I meet come from varying backgrounds – both in regard to their life careers and geographical locations. Having grown up in Massachusetts where small industry and fishing were the types of work the people engaged, it has been an education for me to learn about our friends from the mid-west who were farmers and to learn how they lived and worked their farms. Today, most of these farms have been bought out by larger corporations, and to me that is sad. The people from these areas – Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Idaho and Wisconsin are survivors and know that value of working the land and seeing their labors grow into fruits and food. Many of them still farm a small portion of their land when they return to their homes in the summer. With every seed they plant, nurture and harvest, there is a miracle that God has given them. I have learned much from so many and appreciate every bit of knowledge and history they share with me.

Some of the women from our church have been in the military during World War II, and they served in the United States Military and the Military of foreign countries. Two of our parishioners faithfully transcribe the written word into Braille characters for the National Blind Society and also for teachers within our own school district. I could go on and on, but I just want to share what a wonderful wealth of talent, love, character and faithful parishioners we have at Mount Olive Lutheran Church.

During the holiday season do not think that you cannot be served Holy Communion if you are ill or hospitalized or just at home. We are ready to serve you whenever it is desired. May God Bless our Congregation as we enter the New Year of 2011. Pray for Peace on earth, Good Will to all of humanity. Remember – prayer changes everything!

Suzanne Waldron B.S. Visitation Minister

WOODSHOP MINISTRY



The tools are piling up, and it's time to move ahead. If you have any interest in woodworking, please join us on Saturday, January 15, 2011, at 9:00am. We will meet at the Youth House garage and begin putting together a plan for our shop. Many tools have already been donated, and I thank all the donors for your generous contributions to this ministry. Don't miss out as the planning and organizing will be an exciting time and an important part of getting started.

Any questions, call Jim Day at 855-5637 (h) or 760-887-7818 (c)

Youth Page

Blurb:

In the busy-ness and commercialized aspects of the Christmas season, we hope that you took the time to remember and focus on the reason for the season.

Now that things have slowed down, it's time to get back into the swing of things. We know that you all have a lot of commitments to school, sports, clubs, etc, but we hope to see as many of you as possible at our upcoming youth activities. Looking forward to good times with friends; new and old.:



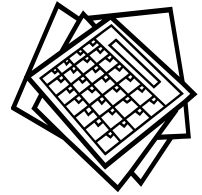
Spaghetti Dinner!
Sponsored by the Youth
Saturday, February 5th
4pm to 8pm

COME ONE, COME ALL!
ENJOY THE FEAST!

All youth should be there at 3:00 pm to help with set-up and to stay after-

ALL YOUTH!!!

Please contact the Deweys at 680-6098 to sign up for a time slot to help sell calendars. It only takes a short time after the services, so it's an easy commitment to make.



Next Youth & Family Meeting January 11th at 7pm

WELCOME PIZZA PARTY

for Pastor Matt March
and his family

Saturday, January 22nd following the
5:30 pm Worship service

We would like to see as many of the youth as possible at the 5:30 service and the party so we can get to know the March family, and they us.



CAR WASH

Sunday, Jan 9th
7:30 to 11 am
(weather permitting)

**Parents are needed to
organize
and supervise.**





KEEPING PACE WITH THE WOMEN OF MOUNT OLIVE

By Carol Tande

Kitchen Cleaning for January are
Naomi Circle members



WELCA Coordinating Council will not meet in January. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 1st at 9am. **Naomi Circle** will meet on Monday, January 10th at 9:30 am, and **Lois Circle** will meet on Tuesday, January 11th at 1:30 pm. Both circles will begin studying Really Bad Girls of the Bible (a sequel to Bad Girls of the Bible) and will continue that study through 2011.



Needed: A new Resource Committee Chairperson. Duties will include appointing people to work with her to create advertising for future WELCA functions.

The new layettes chairperson is
Joyce Ruscitti.

Thank you, Joyce, for accepting the job.

The “**Baby Shower for Jesus**” was held in the Parish Center on December 11th. We watched an entertaining video presentation by speaker and author, Liz Curtis Higgins, who wrote Bad Girls of the Bible and Really Bad Girls of the Bible. The women attending enjoyed a very good meal and were generous in their giving of articles for babies and small children. We appreciate all you generous women! The items will be donated to worthy, local charities.

The Mount Olive Quilters held a successful **Quilt Sale** on December 4th and 5th.

Copies of

More Food for Body and Soul

will be displayed on a table in the Narthex, and they are selling for only \$10 each.

The **WELCA Tea** is scheduled for February 19, 2011, from 11 am to 1 pm. Naomi and Lois Circles look forward to hosting that each year and we invite all you women of Mount Olive to attend. Bring your friends too!! There is no cost for this event.

Our Annual “No-Bake Bake Sale”

will be held on February 12 & 13, 2011. This is how it works: Estimate the amount of money you would spend in order to create baked items for the sale. Then just donate the money in an envelope marked WELCA. Envelopes marked “WELCA BAKE SALE” will be available at each service that weekend. If, for some reason, you don’t receive a designated envelope, feel free to use any envelope and just write WELCA on it. We’ll find it!! Checks may be written to “WELCA Bake Sale”. Proceeds go to Y.E.S. (Youth Education Scholarship) for students who attend Mount Olive.



In January the circles will start studying REALLY BAD GIRLS OF THE BIBLE. Cost is \$17. Checks can be written to Mount Olive Lutheran Church with a memo in the check’s bottom left corner “Christian Education”.

January Birthdays

- 1 Ann Bucher
Monte McCue
Alex Mills
Bill Scheel
- 2 Wanda Karlin
Joyce McCloud
Jessica Monasmith
- 3 Tammi Dukes
Carol Hendricks
- 4 Thomas Runberg
- 5 Randy Janssen
Brenda Naugle
Larry Hanson
- 6 Karen Kyle
Peggy Lamb
- 7 Bonnie Lynd
- 8 Fay Combs
Marion Dietz
Herb Ryen

- 10 Doris Ferguson
Bonnie Matzick
- 12 Ellenora Todhl
- 13 Kristen Gutierrez
Marlene Overgaard
- 14 Lillian Cook
- 15 Jack Polster
Ed John
- 16 Herb Anderson
Joyce Carlson
Tori Haynes
Diane Wickstrom
- 17 Lance Matzdorff
Cathy Price
- 18 Lexi Jones
- 19 Jan Andersen
Jean Anutta
- 20 Joshua Melvin
Clarice Ziner
- 21 Richard Duncan
Doris Miller
Jim Rucks
- 22 Judy Day
Alice Johnson

- 23 Ruth Bautz
Dennis Bertles
- 26 Mel Carlson
Sharon Flesher
- 28 Shirley Schultz
Ralph Winkler
- 29 Al Siegert
- 30 Bob Iverson
Ed Monroe



September Gifts Received

In Memory of:
Chuck Breymann

From:
Belle Kastoll for the Music Fund



Directory Changes and Additions:

Marlene Overgaard	1713 Hale Drive Albert Lea, MN 56007	
Ken & Shirley Utz	Heather Ridge 907 Pittsburgh Ave. North Canton, OH 44720	330-768-7054
Terry Williams		727-7338

A Little Help Needed!

Our resident bulletin folders Ken & Shirley Utz have moved to Ohio. The Utzes have been folding our weekly bulletins for over a year now and their help was greatly appreciated!!!! We are now in need of a few people who can spare an hour or two on Friday (every once-in-awhile) to prepare our bulletins. If you would like to help, please call the office at 855-2299. Thanks so much in advance.

Thrivent Financial for Lutherans Notice:

Eligible benefit members received a letter in August telling them they are eligible to participate and giving them an estimate of the amount of "Choice Dollars" they will be able to help direct to thousands of Lutheran nonprofit organization, including Lutheran congregations.

2010 dollars can still be directed to your choice organization, including Mount Olive Lutheran Church until March 31, 2011.

Please direct any questions to your Mount Olive Advocate: Jim Day, Illa Moore or Pat Scheel

PARISH NURSE NOTES:

The Parish Nurse activities have definitely increased. It is a wonderful time of the year. More smiling faces, lots of festivities, and so many loving hearts. I have always felt that I am successful by the people around me.

On this note, I would love to thank all those who have donated to the Parish Nurse Fund (A.M., R.R., V.K., D.W., E.S., V.H.) and if I missed anyone, I am so sorry. Please know that I used the funds to purchase DME (durable medical equipment), such as a new wheelchair, a special shower chair, and four gait belts. A big thanks to Rose of Sharon for giving us a 50% discount on the wheelchair. I wouldn't have been able to complete many tasks without the Havasu Mission of Love. I think of them as the ways and means committee when I call them with my request; they are fast with the way they can do it, and they mean to get it done as fast as possible. Thanks to the following: Jim Day, Bill Dewey, Butch Erickson, Wayne Glasnapp, Frank Hamilton, Bob Jewkes, and Mike Lunderborg. The Havasu Mission of Love also donated \$100.00 to the Parish Nurse. I would like to thank the Social Concerns group for giving me the opportunity to do the Parish Nurse study for one year; it has been an amazing journey.

Now for the health care information for this month. More people in Havasu means more germs and viruses. Protect yourselves with the following reminders: dress for our changing weather; avoid crowds, by limiting visits to the doctor's office, urgent care, emergency room, and the hospital as much as possible; practice good hand hygiene, cover your cough (if necessary, cough into your elbow, shoulder, or down the front of your shirt if you don't have a tissue); masks are good for short intervals, don't wear the same mask multiple times as this won't protect; get plenty of rest; eat a healthy diet, I strongly encourage a good multivitamin; drink plenty of fluids; and if you have heart, high blood pressure, or thyroid problems, please, please, consult your primary care doctor or call me if you are considering over-the-counter cold remedies. And if you should catch a virus, don't feel that your flu shot has failed you, as there are many viruses that the flu shot doesn't cover.

Jesus is the reason for the season, and we thank the Lord for the most amazing gift that a Father could give His children. bj

P.S. Blood pressure clinics in January are scheduled for the 6th, 12th, 19th, and 26th



ADVENT BLESSINGS

What a warm blessing was received by all worshippers during this past advent season. It was a joy to celebrate with our Advent wreath, special songs, and Wednesday night worship. Thank you to the families who participated in the Advent Candle Lighting during worship services: The family of Vall and LouAnn Striyle, Lee and Linda Nord, Darlene Powers and Hailey Ramsey, Frank and Joanne Hamilton, the family of Larry and Christie Olsen, the family of Monica Milton, the family of Michael and Jennifer Amell, Billy and Janice Dewey, the family of Steve and Ginger Ahrens, Monte and Diane McCue, Mike and Sharon Flesher, and the family of Fred and Jean Anutta. Another big thank you to those who participated in the Wednesday evening presentations: Judy Day, Brenda Naugle, Marion Dietz, Pr. Jim, Dr. Marshall Johnson, Janet May, Steve Ahrens, Janice Dewey, Jean Anutta, Cathy Price, Rollie Miller, Butch Erickson, and Mike Flesher. The family of Mount Olive had a great beginning in the new church year.



Remembering Our Military - Operation Gratitude

The military personnel who received gratitude boxes were sent Christmas cards from the congregation. They will also receive holiday cards throughout this year. Second boxes are being prepared to send. We would like the names of family and friends serving in the active military not only in our all year congregation but also those who spend their winters with us. Leave a note with their name, address, and where they are serving in box 73 in the narthex. Also include your name and relationship to that person. We continue to accept donations of hard candy, puzzle books, playing cards, beef jerky and other items you think a service person that is far from home might enjoy. Cash donations are welcome as postage is needed to send each box and stamps are included. Continue to write notes of encouragement and a bit about yourself as they are sent with each box along with blank notes for the person to send to their family and friends. A box is available in the Parish Center for these items. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS will resume in January. This group, formerly known as ***Sun and Snow Birds***, will meet at noon on **January 17th** for potluck lunch. The purpose is fellowship and eating good food! This year all residents, fulltime and part-time, are encouraged to participate. Everybody is welcome to share in the fun whether guests, winter visitors or fulltime residents.

Circle your calendar...**February 21 and March 21**

***“Make new friends and keep the old.
One is silver, the other gold.”***

Cooks for Christ

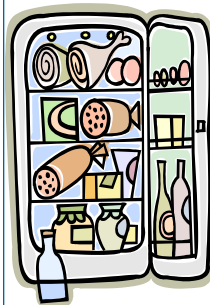


WE ARE READY TO COOK.....Saturday Jan 8th.... we are all excited to start this journey.....but we need your HELP... our freezer is clean and working, so we need it to get filled with food. We are asking for donations of cash or gift food cards to purchase food and supplies for our cooks. The container in located in the Narthex and needs to be filled. This is a new adventure for our church and we are praying that it will be a great success; our group is excited and ready to get started. Cooks for Christ is providing meals for those who have had surgery or ill and cannot cook during recuperation. Further information will be known after our first cook session. Pray for us as we get started.....Lou Ann Striyle and members.

Preparation for Pastor Matt

As we look forward to the arrival of Pastor Matt and his family, I would like to have them arrive with some food in the cupboards and refrigerator. I know when we moved from across the country how wonderful it was to find food waiting for us here in Lake Havasu. So....watch for more information on how you can help stock the pantry for the March family or give me a call. Thanks so much.

Cathy Price 928-855-3310.



2011 Lenten Devotional

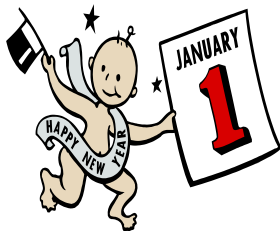


In the past Mount Olive has produced several devotional booklets for us during the Lenten season. The first year Rev. Greg Mannel's theme was "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring the Good News." The second devotional booklet's theme was "Loved by God." This year we would like to create and produce our third booklet. This year's theme is "Blessed are they whose hope is in the Lord," taken from Psalm 146. We are asking everyone to take some time to reflect on and write their own thoughts or favorite bible verse and send it in for the booklet. Entries can be sent to the church office via email (preferred) to "mtolive@citlink.net" or brought into the church office. The deadline for all entries for the 2011 Lenten Devotional Booklet is 12:00 noon on January 27th. Thank You!



NEXT COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday, January 18,
7:00 pm

Everyone is welcome!



Vanilla Instant Dessert

Bottom Layer

1 - 7oz. pkg. coconut
1 small pkg. slivered almonds
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 stick margarine
1 cup flour

Melt margarine and mix all ingredients in bowl until crumbly.

Brown in oven at 350 degrees on large cookie sheet for about 15-20 min., stirring occasionally. Spread on bottom of 13 x 9 pan reserving 3/4 cup to sprinkle on top of filling.

Filling

2 & 3/4 cup milk
2 (3.5oz) boxes vanilla instant pudding
1 (8oz.) container of Cool Whip

Combine milk with pudding, stirring until thick.

Fold Cool Whip into thick pudding mixture. Spread mixture on bottom layer and chill.



PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

We are continuing to keep our hands busy and are ready to keep our ministry growing in 2011! Any snowbirds are sincerely welcome to join our fun and fellowship. It doesn't matter if you crochet fast, knit slow, or want to exchange pattern ideas; we are glad to see you!

Any names of people who need prayer shawls are encouraged whether it is here in Havasu or out of state. We will make sure the shawls get shipped. Anyone that has a sudden need to be surrounded by prayer can have one also. Just let us know and we will get a shawl with a letter about our ministry (instead of a name tag) to them ASAP!

Pam Anderson and Shelly Hales will now be helping Kathy Sporre deliver shawls and organize the picture taking. Our next meetings will be January 11th at 10:00AM and January 25th at 6:00PM. Have a blessed 2011!



***Really Bad Girls Bible* Study - Evening Study**

Suzanne Waldron will begin the "*Really Bad Girls of the Bible*" evening study on Thursday, Jan. 13th at 6:00 pm. The group will meet in the Youth House each Thursday through March 3rd. Everyone is invited... books available to those who ordered on Jan. 1-2 at Services. Those who wish the book set (\$17) call Jean Anutta ASAP to order the set (book & workbook). Her number is 453-5475. See you there!



Weekly "*Really Bad Girls of the Bible*" Study

The weekly "*Really Bad Girls*" will have their organizational meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 11, at 9:00 in the Youth House on Clarke Dr. We will decide when, where, and time at this meeting. If you can't make this meeting, please give me a call with your preference and also any questions. Book sets available services beginning Jan. 1-2 for those who ordered early. If you would like to order a set (\$17) call me also at 453-5475. See you there!

Jean Anutta, Chairman, Christian Education Board



Calling All Readers

The Christian Education Board is initiating a Book Club. This is an invitation to ALL readers: Seniors, Mids, Teens, Kids; anyone who likes to read. The organizational meeting will be on Thursday, January 13 at 1:00, in the Parish Center. Bring a book to share. If we have lots of readers, we will break into groups according to reading preference. If you are a teen or a child and cannot make this meeting, please call and we will set up a time to meet with you. Any questions, please call Cathy Price 855-3310, Jean Anutta 453-5475, or Marion Dietz 855-7612.

Did you find the Arrow?

Carmen Findley found the arrow in the December issue of our Olive Branch!! Carmen won an angel statue for her home. You too can be a "Winner" by being the first person to bring your Olive Branch in to the office on **January 4th, starting at 8am. Show us the arrow, you win!**

Good Luck!!!



2011 Offering Envelopes

have been placed in the narthex mailboxes. Please take the one with your name on it; if you do not find one, advise the Office. Note the envelopes included for initial offering (cost \$3.50) for The Lutheran (\$7.95) for flowers, and for mission, as well as for weekly current expense & building.

I Am The New Year

I am the new year. I am an unspoiled page in your book of time. I am your next chance at the act of living.

I am your opportunity to practice what you have learned about life during the last twelve months.

All that you sought and didn't find is hidden in me, waiting for you to search it out with more determination.

All the good that you tried for and didn't achieve is mine to grant when you have fewer conflicting desires.

All that you dreamed but didn't dare to do, all that you hoped but did not will, all the faith that you claimed but did not have—these slumber lightly, waiting to be awakened by the touch of a strong purpose.

I am your opportunity to renew your allegiance to Him to said, "Behold, I make all things new
I am the new year."

Friedens Lutheran Church
Friedensville, Pa

Submitted by *Darlene Mindler*

WILLIAM HARNES **IN CONCERT**

You will not want to miss hearing the wonderful voice of William Harness. His concerts include music and witness to our Savior. His various styles of music - country western, contemporary, traditional, classical – allow him to reach all ages. Mr. Harness shares his love for the Lord and makes each a concert a time to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ. Plan to attend, bring a friend, share your joy in the Lord.



JANUARY 30, 2011
4:00 P.M.

“William Harness is an extraordinarily talented singer whose concerts have lifted thousands to a deeper appreciation of God’s goodness.” ...Pat Robertson, founder of CBN

Pastor-Led Adult Education Opportunity

Members and winter visitors are invited to come to adult education opportunities offered at Mount Olive. Sunday mornings from 9:00 – 9:15 Coffee and Donuts are provided in the Church Narthex. Then from 9:15am – 10:15am in the Sanctuary Pastor Price is offering a Video Bible Study called “*The Promised Land*,” filmed in the Holy Land. A handout is provided and all are invited to attend.

You are invited

To a Bible Study called “The Challenge of Islam” in two parts: 1) What is Islam? and 2) Defending the Christian Faith. It will be condensed, VBS style, on January 17-21 from 9:00-11:30 at Lamb of God Lutheran Church, 2791 Inca Dr. The study was developed by Sam Shamoun, an Arab Christian, for Lutheran Hour Ministries. Those who have completed or are involved in Mount Olive’s “Inside the Revolution” should find this complementary study beneficial.

PICTURE DIRECTORY

Calling all members and associate members: You can still sign up for your family portrait and inclusion in the directory. Olan Mills will be back on January 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 27, 28, 29



Thank You...

Thank you to so many wonderful friends for all you did during my recent surgery and slow but sure recovery.

Thank you for the beautiful prayer shawl, all the food, flowers, hospital visits, telephone calls and the prayers offered in my behalf—all will be held in deepest gratitude the rest of my life.

Thank you, **Lil Cook**

I wish to thank all who helped us while I was in the hospital and when I came home. Also the friends who visited and brought food and communion. We will be relocating to assisted living in Ohio, closer to our children. Thanks for your friendship and encouragement. For those of you who prayed for our daughter Patricia—Thank you, she is back to work after double knee surgery, Sept 13.

God Bless You All, **Ken & Shirley Utz**

A Big Thank You to Illa Moore for the beautiful job she did making the Stephen Ministry Banner.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thank you to Shirley Utz for donating yarn to the Prayer Shawl Ministry. It will be used for making prayer shawls and baby blankets.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry

Thank you to Ken and Shirley Utz for their dedication and assistance in folding the weekly bulletins every Friday for over a year! We wish you happiness in your new home in Ohio! You will be missed! **Pat Rodriguez**

Thank you for the beautiful altar flowers and to Carlos & Peggy for delivering them. Thank you to Evelyn Cramer & Kathy Sporre for the beautiful prayer shawl and praying for me.

Christian love, **Bonnie Lynd**

Thank you to everyone for your prayers and sympathy on the passing of my father Roger Hays on November 4, 2010.

Kelly Hays-Thorson

Thank you so much for the beautiful Christmas card and the box of goodies. It's very much appreciated, Greetings from Guam! Have a blessed Christmas and New Year,

God Bless! **Tiffany Cunha**

A long overdue Thank You to the members who have made it possible for our sound and screens to be possible. These people donate their time every week to make our services more inviting. A HUGE THANK YOU to Paul Wooster, Rebecca Dewey, Terry Williams, Mike & Candi Lunderborg, and Lee Nord.

Thank you All!



Coming Soon



Sweetheart Dinner **Friday, February 18th**

The Fellowship Committee has reserved a room at the Elks Lodge for couples to celebrate **"Sweetheart's Day"!**

Menu for the evening will be:

*Chicken & beef, salad,
potatoes & vegetables*

*A Sweetheart Cake will be provided by
the Fellowship Committee.*

The cost for this very romantic evening is only **\$32 per couple.**

Sign up sheets are in the narthex.

Deadline is January 16th!

STEPHEN MINISTRY:

"What does the Stephen Ministry logo represent?"

The logo is intended to convey what the Stephen Ministry is all about.

A cross appears at the center of the logo to remind us that everything Stephen Ministers do is done in the name of Jesus, by the power of his Spirit, and through his body, the church.

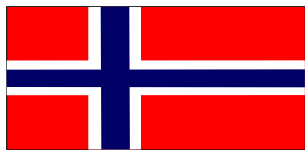
Two people are shown in the logo. Behind the cross is a broken person - a person in need of healing, a person in need of Christ's love and care. In front of the cross stands a person who has experienced the healing ministry of Christ - a person who has received the love and care of Jesus, a person who is being made whole.

The logo is thus designed to show that the path from brokenness to greater wholeness is through Jesus Christ and the ministry of Christ's people, including the ministry of Stephen Ministers.

Stephen Ministry motto: "Christ Caring for People through People"



The New Beginnings...



Thursday, January 20th,
*we are planning a
Norwegian Smorgasbord
Potluck with potato dumplings
and lefse (hopefully).*

***Reservations are required
for this event.***

Please contact **Berniece Wang** at
855-3489 for your questions and to
make your reservations.

Also, January 30th we will be
attending the Havasu Follies!

OPERATION GRATITUDE



Operation Gratitude annually sends 100,000+ care packages filled with snacks, entertainment items and personal letters of appreciation addressed to individually named U.S. Service Members deployed in harm's way. The organization's mission is to lift morale, bring a smile to a service member's face and express to our Armed Forces the appreciation and support of the American people. Each package contains donated product valued at ~\$125 and costs the organization \$15 to assemble and ship. For safety and security, assembling of packages occurs at the Army National Guard armory in Van Nuys, California. Since its inception in 2003, Operation Gratitude volunteers have shipped more than 600,000 packages to American Military deployed overseas.

From 2003 to today 600,000 packages have been sent to our service personnel through this program. This represents:
~ 4.8 Million pounds, equal to 2 ½ million TONS of product
~ \$6 Million of postage
~ 30 Million individual items
~ \$60 Million worth of product sent to the troops through Operation Gratitude since its inception in 2003.

Thanks to all of you who supported this project, we have the honor of being a part of this event.

Pastor
Visitation Minister
Youth Director
Council President
Editor:
Bulletin Assemblers

Jim Price
Suzanne Waldron
Lori Koenig-Abram
Don Jimison
Pat Rodriguez
Kathy Meehan
Carmen Findley
Joyce McCloud
Linda Jewkes

SATURDAY WORSHIP 5:30 PM
SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:00 & 10:45 AM

Listen to the
WINDS THROUGH THE OLIVE TREES
KNLB FM 91
www.knlb.com
SUNDAY AT 9:00 AM
and
THE LUTHERAN HOUR
SUNDAY AT 10:00 AM

In God We Trust

Serving Christ Together by:

Welcoming all - Growing in Christ - Sharing God's Love

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