

# BETHELITE

A city-wide church with a world-wide ministry

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

December 14, 2011 † Volume 61, No. 12

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

### December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Please join us at 4:00 pm for the all-new Children's Christmas Pageant, *The Little Cradle Rocks Tonight in Glory*. Shepherds, angels, animals, wise men, Mary and Joseph, Jesus and the children's choirs will present the Nativity story in the Sanctuary.

**Reception following at 5:00 pm in the Emmaus Room**

### Christmas Worship

#### Christmas Eve-Saturday, Dec. 24

- 3:00 pm Children's Choirs
- 4:30 pm Youthful Praise Choir
- 5:45 pm Latino Service en Español
- 7:15 pm Bethel Choir
- 9:00 pm Bethel Choir
- 11:00 pm Women's Choir,  
Creative Worship Singers

Holy Communion at all worship services

Child care available 2:30 pm - 10:30 pm

#### Christmas Day-Sunday, Dec. 25

- 10:00 am Worship with Holy Communion



**Chrismons**, century-old symbols depicting the life of Christ, have been made by Bethel members since 1968. These symbols decorate our Sanctuary trees. Through the generosity of University Hill Farms Circle, you may pick-up your free copy of the book, *Chrismons at Bethel*, at the Hospitality Desk and Reception Desk.



### Posadas December 19-23

All are invited to enjoy this traditional celebration of the journey of Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to the Inn (Posada) at Bethlehem. Each day, customs from a different area will be featured, including Mexico, Central and South America and Puerto Rico. On the fifth day, we will enjoy a bi-lingual potluck. All evenings begin at 6:30 pm in Borgwardt Hall. *Sponsored by Bethel's Latino Ministry. Pr. Jaime Dubon: 257-3577 x 338*



# FROM THE PASTOR

First of all let me say how good it is to be here. I have been warmly embraced and feel very welcomed. Thank you.  
During this Advent season our days are filled with much preparation...some deeply meaningful and other preparation simply busyness. It used to greatly increase my anxiety when I would already be feeling overwhelmed with the crush of anticipation and preparation, and then consider some, much, any or all of it meaningless rather than meaningful.

My personal prescription for approaching this Advent time, is to remind myself of the basic question that I often ask staff and lay leaders to ponder as I begin a meeting with them. My basic question is this: "Where have you seen Jesus?"

We know that Advent is an unusual time where we are waiting for something that has already happened and we are waiting for it to happen again. And, in the midst of it all, we believe the living Jesus is constantly present with us even as we prepare to celebrate his coming to us. (It is a bit of a paradox, I know.)

If I can simply remember to ask myself, in the midst of both the meaningful and less-meaningful, *Where is Jesus?* Suddenly the less-meaningful becomes weighted with its own importance. I did ask the program staff to reflect on that question at this week's staff meeting... and the

## Where have you seen Jesus?

answers caused us all to be filled with wonder and joy and the powerful presence of Jesus that constantly surrounds us.

Ah, you ask, "And where, Pastor Scot, did you see Jesus this week?" Many places, but one was with a meeting I had with a couple of Bethel members who shared with me their passion and desire to serve God's children in their most vulnerable times. These two shared their vision of Lutheran United Assisting after Disaster (LUAD). I was struck by their faith that had fueled this passion. Indeed, Jesus is shining through their plans to be of service when needed.

And how about you? Where have you seen Jesus? In these final days of Advent, I would encourage you to be looking. You will find him in swaddling cloths lying in a manger, but you just might find him in the everyday pathways of your life.

*Advent blessings to you all, Pastor Scot*



# EDUCATION

## Getting Ready for Sunday School

**Story:** Angels Visit **Biblical Text:** Luke 1:26-38 SPARK Story Bible, pages 196-201  
**Bible Point:** God sends messengers to bring good news.  
**Key Bible Verse:** *Therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God.* Luke 1:35b  
**Prayer:** Dear God, Thank you for unexpected surprises. Help us to know that you are always with us. Give us wisdom to hear your voice and peace to listen to what you say. Thank you for your promises and for sending your Son, Jesus. Amen.

### Sunday School Christmas Schedule

**Saturday, December 17**  
10:00 am Rehearsal followed by the Christmas Craft Brunch  
**Sunday, December 18**  
9:15 am Sunday School and Rehearsal  
4:00 pm Christmas Pageant  
5:00 pm Christmas Reception in the Emmaus Room  
*There is no Sunday School on December 25 and January 1. Please worship with your families. Classes resume January 8.*

### Pastoral Staff

Scot Sorensen  
Jaime Dubon  
Curt Everson  
Duane Hanson  
Sarah Harrold  
John Swanson

*Senior Pastor  
Interim Latino Ministries  
Visitation & Worship  
Bethel Horizons  
Evangelism & Mission  
Confirmation, Visitation &  
Women's Ministries*



### Program Staff

Mary Conlin  
Annette Durkin  
Stacy Gahlman-Schroeder  
Anita Grue, AiM  
Gary Lewis  
Alice Mowbray  
  
Sandy Ripp  
Jacqui Shanda  
Susan Straus  
Ray Weihofen

*Director XYZ & Volunteers  
Director of Communications  
Assistant to the Senior Pastor  
Coordinator of Youth Ministries  
Director of Music - Organist  
Business Administrator &  
Director of Development  
New Member Coordinator - Wedding Secty.  
Director of Parish Education  
Family Life Coordinator  
Asst. Business Administrator, part-time*



### Office Information

**Hours:** Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
**Phone:** 608-257-3577 **Fax:** 608-257-4044  
**Email:** bethel@bethel-madison.org **Web site:** www.bethel-madison.org  
 Bethel.Lutheran.Madison.WI @Bethel\_Lutheran Bethel-Lutheran-20-30

# NEWS & EVENTS



## Confirmation Prayer Friends

Volunteers needed to pair with our first year Confirmation students. Call Gretchann or Pr. John Swanson to serve in this important youth ministry, 257-3577.



Pastor Scot at the Reception between services, Dec. 4

## Current Christian Concerns - 7:00 am

- Dec 15** Obama Care: What Is It?
- Dec 22** The Trinity
- Dec 29** 20 Questions

## Feed and Read

*How Starbucks Saved My Life*, by Michael Gill, will be discussed over lunch at noon on **Dec. 19** in the Library.

## Book Women - Dec. 19 at 7:00 pm

Discussing two books about faith: *Reclaiming the "L" Word* and *Made For Goodness*.

## Bethel Horizons-Volunteers Needed

We need your help with an activity for 8-12 year olds on Saturday, **Dec. 17**, 8:45 am - 5:00 pm. Transportation and meals provided. Lindsey: 608-574-3993.

## Library Schedule

Bethel's Library will be closed **Dec. 21 - Jan. 7**, except by appointment with Jacqui Shanda, 257-3577.

## Annual Holiday Blood Drive

The Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Center will host this drive on **Dec. 23**, 7:00 am - 2:00 pm. Free holiday t-shirt, treats and childcare. Bethel will host a Blood Drive on **Jan. 11, 2012** from 1:00-6:00 pm. Please call Dale Holmen, if you are able to help with Bethel's volunteer effort: 241-4751.

## Christian Men's Fellowship

Outdoor enthusiast, Ben Browning, will share his wild turkey hunting adventures. **Dec. 20** at 10:30 am in Borgwardt Hall.

## Epiphany Event - January 6



Please join us for a Ken Lonnquist production of *Old Befana*

A fish fry dinner will be served at 5:30 pm followed by the all-ages production at 6:15 pm. Child care for the really

tiny will also be available. Suggested donation of \$10 per adult, \$5 per child under 12. Families who preregister for this event will receive an Epiphany gift the night of the show! Susan Straus: 257-3577.

## Million Pound Challenge

Registration for Bethel's annual exercise and weight loss venture with the Princeton Clubs begins now! For every pound of weight you lose, or hour of exercise you complete between Jan. 1 and May 31, Princeton Clubs will contribute 10 pounds of food to be distributed through our Food Pantry. Register for Bethel's team - Go to the website:

[www.princetonclub.net](http://www.princetonclub.net), click on the Million Pound Challenge icon. Each week, you send an email chronicling your achievements. All info is confidential. Jacqui Shanda, 257-3577 x 333

## Stewardship 2012

Please return your Estimate of Giving (Pledge) card to Bethel's office.

Pastor Scot preaching at the 9:15 worship service, Dec. 4



A ministry of and for people in their 20's and 30's. Welcome to this faith-filled fellowship and service!

- Jan 4** Serving at Second Harvest Potluck at Pr. Sarah's, following with a White Elephant Gift Exchange.
- January 14 event** Ice skating at Tenney Park. Meet at the shelter house, 2:00 pm. Café Zoma at 3:30 pm for hot cocoa
- Epiphany Lectionary** discussion: 10:20-10:40 am in Genesis Café, **Jan. 8-Feb. 19**.

# A DVENT

## BY CANDLELIGHT

150 women (plus a few men), enjoyed beautiful music, elegant table decorations, holiday desserts and a presentation by Senior Pastor, Scot Sorensen.

Pastor Scot enjoying this sold-out Women's Ministry event on Dec. 7

Kit, Mary Lou and Jo

Light Table

MC: Jeanne



## Dec 18 Sunday - 4 Advent

- 7:45a Coffee Fellowship (*Fireside Gallery*)
- 7:55a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 8:30a Childcare available until 2:00p (*Nursery*)
- Genesis Café Open (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- Fair Trade Coffee Sale (*Parking Lot Foyer*)
- 8:45a Library Open until 11:45a
- 9:00a Giving Hope for the Holidays (*Emmaus Rm*)
- 9:15a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- Sunday School
- 9:45a Worship Rehearsal for 10:45 (*Choir Rm*)
- 10:15a Cherub Choir (*Rm 202*)
- Children's Choir (*Rm 216A*)
- Youthful Praise Choir (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 10:30a Bhutanese Christmas Party (*Fireside Gallery*)
- ESL Class (*Rm 216B*)
- 10:45a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 12:30p **Worship-La Santa Misa** (*Sanctuary*)
- 1:30p Refrigerio (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 4:00p Christmas Pageant (*Sanctuary*)
- 5:00p Christmas Reception (*Emmaus Rm*)

## Dec 19 Monday

- 8:30a Friendship Pad Volunteers (*Rm 104*)
- 9:00a XYZ Board Meeting (*Library*)
- 12:00p Feed and Read (*Library*)
- 6:30p Posadas (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 7:00p Bethel Series-New Testament (*Rm 200*)
- Bethel Book Women (*Library Media Rm*)

## Dec 20 Tuesday

- 8:00a Homeless Book Club Movie (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 8:30a Homeless Book Group (*Rm 216*)
- 9:00a Library Open until 12:00p
- 10:00a Homeless Support Services (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 10:30a Homeless Spiritual Support Group (*Pentecost Rm*)
- Christian Men's Fellowship (*Fireside Gallery*)
- 12:00p Homeless Christmas Meal (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 3:30p Eagle's Wings After School (*Pentecost, Fireside*)
- 5:00p Grupo Latino Practica de Musica (*Sanctuary*)
- 5:15p Women's Choir (*Choir Room*)
- 6:30p Posadas (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- Creative Worship Singers (*Choir Rm*)
- Latino Senior High Youth Group (*Youth Rm*)
- Spanish Class (*Room 216*)
- Rebuilding at Bethel (*Rm 101, Good Shepherd Chapel, Library*)
- Conversational Norwegian (*Library Media Rm*)
- 7:15p Bethel Horizons Board Meeting (*Rm 201*)
- 7:45p Worship Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)

## Dec 21 Wednesday

- 9:30a **Worship Service** (*Good Shepherd Chapel*)
- 10:00a Homeless Support Services (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 3:30p Eagle's Wings After School (*Pentecost, Fireside*)
- 5:30p Bethel Ringers (*Rm 202*)
- 6:30p Posadas (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- Hot Topics (*Youth Rm*)

## Dec 22 Thursday

- 7:00a Current Christian Concerns (*Library Media Rm*)
- 8:30a Bulletin Stuffers (*Library*)
- 10:00a Homeless Support Services (*Pentecost Rm*)

- 2:00p Christmas Garden Decorating (*Emmaus Rm*)
- 3:30p Eagle's Wings After School (*Pentecost, Fireside*)
- 6:30p Posadas (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 7:00p Bethel Choir (*Choir Rm*)

## Dec 23 Friday

- 11:00a Christmas Garden Decorating (*Emmaus Rm*)
- 6:30p Posadas Bi-lingual Potluck (*Borgwardt Hall*)

## Dec 24 Saturday-Christmas Eve

- 2:30p Childcare until 10:30p (*Nursery*)
- 3:00p **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 4:30p **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 5:45p **Worship Service - Latino** (*Sanctuary*)
- 7:15p **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 9:00p **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 11:00p **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)

## Dec 25 Sunday-Christmas Day

- 10:00a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)

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If you have material for the *Bethel*ite, please contact the Editor.  
 We reserve the right to edit all submitted material.  
 The deadline for each issue is the Wednesday prior to the issue date.

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DEC 17 5:00 PM DEC 18 7:55 AM 9:15 AM 10:45 AM  
 PASTOR JOHN SWANSON

12:30 PM-SPANISH PASTOR JAIME DUBON

Psalms 89:1-4, 19-26 Luke 1:26-38

### TELECAST INFORMATION

<u>Madison</u>	<u>Green Bay*</u>
10:00 am WKOW-TV 27	8:30 am WACY-TV 32
<u>Eau Claire</u>	<u>Milwaukee-Cable 15*</u>
10:00 am WQOW-TV 18	9:30 am WPXE-PAX 55
<u>La Crosse</u>	<u>Wausau*</u>
10:00 am WXOW-TV 19	9:00 am WFXS-FOX 55
<u>Dubuque*</u>	9:30 am & 9:00 pm KFXB-TV 43

\*Telecast delayed one week.

**Today's statewide telecast is given  
 in loving memory of Roger Loff.**