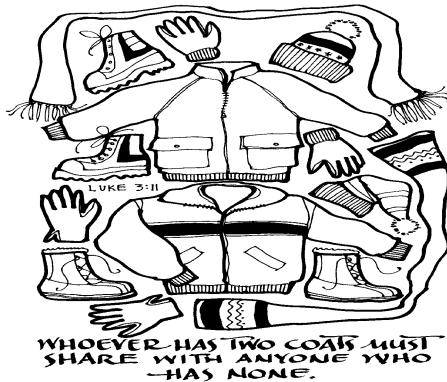


Grace Lutheran Church

24542 Melbourne Road
Strathroy-Caradoc, ON



Third Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2012

WORSHIP SERVICE. 9:00 a.m.

Rev. James Scholz, Senior Pastor - pastorjsflc@rogers.com

Rev. Oscar Castillo, Pastor - pastorocflc@rogers.com

Cell Phone 226-377-3343

Office: Ph: 519-245-3078 fax: 519-685-1480

Rev. John S. Obeda, Pastor Emeritus

Elizabeth Biser, Secretary Mrs. Linda Aitken, Organist

Website: www.gracelutheranstrathroy.com

Email: admin@gracelutheranstrathroy.com

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP: The day is coming, O Lord, when you will clear away our sins and gather your people together. Make us ready to receive you and make us glad to call you the Christ, the Son of the living God.

O Jesus Christ, the Bringer of Good News, may your Good News come alive in us.

WELCOME TO ALL OF YOU in the name of our Saviour, especially the visitors who have joined us this morning. If you do not have a church that you call home, we invite you to make Grace your spiritual home. Amid the trials and tribulations of life it's good that we can come to our Lord for strength through His Word. Please introduce yourself to the Pastor, and fill in the "Worship attendance registration" at the end of the pew.

OUR WORSHIP TODAY

ORDER OF SERVICE: Printed Order of Service
(with Sunday School Children's Christmas Service)

LIGHTING OF ADVENT WREATH (see insert)

HYMNS: 515; 849; O Come, Little Children; 361; 365; 380; 387

FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 3:14-20 (pg.790)

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:4-7 (pg.982)

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 7:18-28(29-35) (pg.863)

SERMON: "Rejoice in the Lord!" - Zephaniah 3:14-20

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES: "Something Special Happened Here"
(Luke 2:6-15)

Speaker Emeritus of the Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus
Pastor Ken Klaus takes us to Bethlehem and the place where God began to make good on the promise He made to redeem a world of lost sinners. Hear this inspirational message on 1290AM CJBK on Sunday, December 23th at 9:00a.m. Streaming audio and pod-casts at www.lutheranhour.ca

SERVING IN GOD'S HOUSE TODAY:

ELDER OF THE MONTH: Matt Mulligan

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:



Special Needs: John Crowther, Else Jacobsen, John and Maria Paal, Pat Phillips, Alan and Carol Schmitt, Sandra Stewart, David and Imogen Strike, Sandra Stockman, Grace Woolner, Doris and Niels Jensen, Susan Gajdos, Ellen Phillips, Pastor Kenneth Voege, Konrad and Rosemarie Gmehlin, Nancy Curtis, Lois Juritsch, David Holden, Jeremy Bancroft, David Chamberlain, Harold and Leone Sillers, Melissa MacLean

Homebound: Becky Ames, Paul and Ana Greksa, Jean Mountenay, Melvin Dale

Family Focus: Jack and Diane Geurkink; Charlie and Colleen Gobert; Paul and Ana Greksa; Konrad and Rosemarie Gmehlin

ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK: 42 ('11:42)

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: 7

OFFERINGS: Current \$1,160.00; Missions \$30.00; Building Fund 65.00 **PTL!**

FAITH-GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH has organized a trip to Nicaragua for December of 2013 to hold VBS, Adult Bible Study and to undertake some construction projects. This team will organize a few fundraising activities next year. If you would like to donate to this Mission trip, please write "Nicaragua Mission trip-2013" on your envelope beside "other".

MISSION OF THE MONTH: Mission Services of London (MSL)

Did you know last year they: provided 70,000 nights of accommodation; served 215,342 meals; provided services for 1,749 persons in our residences; provided services for additional 1,716 individuals living on the street with mental illness; and served 13,946 people on their voucher program. If you wish to provide an offering to our December Mission of the Month, please remember to write MOM on your gift. For further information go to www.missionservices.ca.

NEW YEAR'S EVE SERVICE with Holy Communion will be at Our Saviour this year. Service begins at 7:30 p.m.

THE SACRED SEASON OF ADVENT continues today and we again prepare our hearts to greet the Saviour who came, who comes, and who is coming again. Advent mid-week services continue Wednesday, December 19th at Faith at 7:15 pm. Last Wednesday's theme was "Joseph: Protecting Father". The focus for this week will be "God, the Father: The Faithful Father".



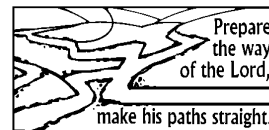
PLEASE REMEMBER to bring God our regular offerings and tithes as well for the ongoing work of His Church. God calls us here to be in His glorious presence, that He may bless us. Let us commit ourselves to Him who is our forgiveness, life and salvation.

PLEASE SAVE YOUR POP TABS and bring them in to Grace. You can place them in the designated container.



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PRESENTATION is being held today within our morning service. The theme will be "Christ is Born Today". Come and support our children as they retell the story of our Saviour's birth!

LIFE QUOTES: "What happened in that Bethlehem stable was nothing less than the personal arrival of the One who will keep you and me out of hell. For millennia, men and women had lived and died, waiting and hoping that this day would come ... (Micah 5:2) ... Isn't it just like God to do His world-changing work in a little town, in the middle of the night, in an animal shelter? May the light streaming from the stable touch your face this Christmas and make you smile." *Rev. Mark Jeske, Time of Grace* - A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life · www.lutheransforlife.org



ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS from Lutheran Hour Ministries are available today. As we prepare to greet the King, who came, who comes, and who is coming again, may these booklets help you find hope and joy in His appearing.

OUR SPECIAL OFFERINGS: Our special gift envelopes have been designated as follows this Christmas season:

- our Advent midweek offerings support Concordia Seminary, Edmonton
- Christmas Eve offering supports our District and Synodical Missions
- Christmas Day offerings will support our Building Fund
- New Year's Eve supports Concordia University College in Edmonton.

You can always designate your offering any way you choose by writing on the envelope. Remember, though, that the special envelopes should not be used as substitutes for our regular gifts to the work of the church. Our faithful stewardship provides the needs of our congregation.



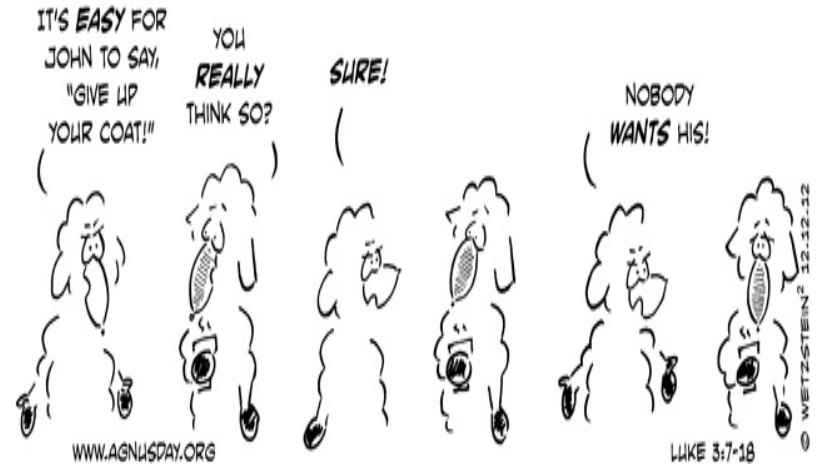
THE JOYOUS SEASON OF CHRISTMAS is a wonderful time to invite people to come and worship the Newborn King. Our festive services are as follows:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| December 24 - 7:00 pm | Christmas Eve Service - Grace, Strathroy |
| December 24 - 7:00 pm | Candlelight Carol Service @ Faith |
| December 25 - 10:00 am | Christmas Day Celebration w/Communion @Grace |
| December 25 - 10:00 am | Christmas Day Celebration w/Communion @Faith |
| December 31 - 7:30 pm | New Year's Eve Service w/Communion @ Our Saviour |

FAITH RENOVATIONS: Praise The Lord! We are pleased to report that the \$157,500 borrowed from Faith's Church Extension Fund account for the sanctuary renovations has been fully repaid as of November 2012. Everyone should be happy that this has been accomplished because this is another reflection of how our Lord has blessed and is continuing to bless our congregation.

We also wish to advise you that any money on the Building Fund line on your offering envelopes will now be applied to the \$46,766.55 that was also borrowed from Faith's Church Extension Fund account for the Lift installation. The remaining amount of this loan is \$41,248.48.

FAITH/GRACE BUDGET 2013 was approved Dec. 2nd by the voters. This Budget will be presented here today following the service by our newly elected Treasurer, Barb Werner. Please make it a priority to stay for this presentation. This Budget reflects the work God will carry out in our midst for the coming year as well as our own responsibility as stewards of the gifts He has given us.



Agnus Day appears with the permission of www.agnusday.org

THIS WEEK AT FAITH AND GRACE

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|---------------|------------|---|
| Mon. | 9:30 a.m. | Office Prayers |
| Tues. | 9:30 a.m. | Office Prayers/Staff Meeting |
| | 6:30 p.m. | Christmas party for confirmands at Faith |
| | 7:30 p.m. | Elders |
| Wed. | 9:30 a.m. | Office Prayers |
| | 6:20 p.m. | Soup Supper |
| | 6:40 p.m. | Chimers |
| | 7:15 p.m. | Advent Service |
| | 8:15 p.m. | Choir |
| Thurs. | 9:30 a.m. | Office Prayers |
| | 2:00 p.m. | Pastor Castillo at Grace |
| | 5:00 p.m. | Confirmation classes at Grace |
| Fri. | 9:30 a.m. | Office Prayers |
| Sun. | 9:00 a.m. | Grace Morning Worship with Holy Communion |
| | 9:30 a.m. | Faith Sunday School/Bible Class |
| | 11:00 a.m. | Faith Morning Worship with Holy Communion |