



LIVING GOD NEWSLETTER

Sunday Worship 8 & 10:30 AM

~~Sunday School 9:15 AM~~

A church for all people

3200 Horseshoe Pike

Honey Brook, PA 19344

Phone: 610-273-9383

Volume 17, Number 11

Pastor Richard Moore

December 2007

Advent A New Church Year

On Sunday, December 2, we begin a new church year, with the season of Advent. The four week Advent season is designed to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ on Christmas Day.

In our already busy and hectic lives, we tend to add more activities at this time of year. Using Advent calendars and daily devotions around the candles in an Advent wreath and weekly worship, we can seek to calm down and allow room for God's spirit to grow. Devotional materials for families and adults are available on Sundays. Perhaps this will allow us to arrive at the manger on Christmas Eve in the same way the shepherds did — in wonder and awe.

Christ is Born!



Holiday Events

December 4 Women's Christmas Dinner, 6 p.m. at the church. This year's hostess is Stacy Greene. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board.

December 8 - 7 p.m. Greenwood Singers Holiday Concert

December 15 - Buffet Lunch & Take Out followed by the Blue Grass Christmas Dinner/Concert

Details on back page

Finance Committee Approved by Council

This new committee was developed when Council approval in October. The purpose of the Committee is to "manage the operating budget and oversee long-term investments." This means developing the budget, monitoring income and expenses, establishing procedures, and overseeing government filings.

One of the first projects for the committee was the Stewardship Campaign. If you have not already received the Stewardship letter, you will shortly. We need you to send in your Time, Talent and Treasure form and the pledge card. You may drop these in the mail or bring them to church.

This will enable us to develop a more accurate budget, as well as look at areas where volunteers can perform tasks in the church as part of their spiritual growth, and help save the overhead costs of the operations at Living God Church.

If you have any questions regarding the financial aspects of the church contact Carol Schmidt, Chair at (610) 873-7966 or CarolSinex@comcast.net.



Craft Show A Success

Crafters displayed holiday and other crafts, baked goods were plentiful, the soup was on and shoppers filled the hall. Proceeds from the 4th Annual Holiday Bazaar totaled over \$3400 (including matching funds from Thrivent Financial) when the day was over.

We couldn't have done it without you and the craft show committee sends a big thank you to all the crafters, everyone who donated raffle items, and wonderful baked goods and of course our kitchen staff for their soups, burgers, hot dogs, and 'chicken picking'. Thanks also to the cleanup crew that put the sanctuary back in order for Sunday services.

Once again the warmth of fun and fellowship was felt as we worked together on a project and got to know each other better.



Eve Services

December 24
 3:30 p.m. Traditional
 5:30 p.m. Blue Grass Special
 7:30 p.m. Features
 Children's Sermon
 11:00 p.m. Traditional
 Candlelight Service

CHRISTIANITY 101

The final two classes are:

December 9 - The Doctrine of the Church and

December 16 - The Doctrine of the End Times

classes are held at 9:15-10:15 a.m.

We are on the web at
www.livinggodchurch.org
 Email: living_god@verizon.net

Education Team News Leader, Mary Walleth (610) 273-4471
 Council Rep, Doug Thompson (610) 942-4471
 Contact Mary or Doug if you would like to volunteer to help.



For all

Recent changes to Sunday school classes may be confusing. Some places and times have changed. Mary Walleth is our Christian Education Director for 2007/2008. Ages 3 through 5th grade meet following the Children's word at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

Ages 3 to Kindergarten meet in the Nursery Room.
Grades 1 through 5 meet in the Large Classroom.

The **Junior High Youth Class** (children in grades 6th through 8th) meet from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. in Pastor Moore's office. Not a confirmation class, Mrs. Dana Kegerreis and Pastor Moore are teaching the class.

The **Adult Sunday School** class will resume on January 6 and continue the study of *Spiritual Classics*. This is weekly readings keyed to the twelve important spiritual disciplines for the Christian life. A discussion of the topic follows the reading, and then individual ideas and opinions are shared about how the topic relates to today's world. The adults meet in the kitchen from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. Please feel free to join us for one class or all of them. Carol Schmidt is the facilitator.

Outreach Team News Leader, Lana Wolfe (610) 273-9180
 Council Rep, Jerilynne Santors (610) 942-3073
 Contact Lana or Jerilynne if you would like to volunteer to help.

Christmas Ingathering Shares God's Love

This Christmas, the congregation of Living God Church is sharing the joy of Christmas and God's love with needy children, infants and their mothers, seamen at the Seamen's Church Institute in Philadelphia and children in the care of the Lutheran Children & Family Services. Shoebox gifts are being sent to needy children who are victims of war, poverty, natural disasters, disease and famine through Samaritan's Purse.

On November 25, the baby items pictured here were assembled into layettes for shipment by Lutheran World Relief to infants and their mothers in refugee camps, mission hospitals and villages around the world.



The gifts shown here were purchased and wrapped by individuals and families and will fill the wish lists of 75 children in the care of Lutheran Children & Family Services.



The numerous bars of soap you have noticed in the foyer are for the Seamen's Institute located at Second and Arch Streets in Philadelphia.

The Seamen's Institute has been ministering to seafarers on the Delaware since 1843 and has been an outreach project of Living God Church for several years. Besides soap, some years, other items such as coats, men's clothing and paperback books were collected to support this ministry.

Children's Events

St. Nicholas Day Celebration

Saturday, December 15th

12:30 - 2:00 p.m.

Ages 3 through 5th grade

Crafts
 Storytelling
 Activities
 Caroling

You Are Invited
 to a



Performed by the
 Sunday School Children
 of
 Living God Church
 Sunday, December 23
 At 4:30 p.m.
 Refreshments provided

Greeting Card Ministry

Paula Horner coordinates this ongoing ministry to send greetings and prayers to anyone who attends Living God Church. If you know someone who should receive a card for a birthday, illness, sympathy, retirement, graduation or other event, please call Paula at (610) 273-1026. The full name and address of the recipient must be provided.




News Around the Parish

Congratulations to **Travis Trego**, the son of **Carla and Patrick Trego**, who was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout at a Court of Honor ceremony held at Living God Church on November 17.

Travis is a member of Boy Scout Troop 37, Elverson, and a Junior at Twin Valley High School.

He has held various leadership positions in his troop. His Eagle service project was a conservation project at the Lamb Tavern Wildlife Preserve in Wallace Township. Travis and his parents are members of Living God Church.

Seven churches took part this year in the **Community Thanksgiving Service** held at the Honey Brook United Methodist Church. The offering of \$961 was donated to Steeple to People. This included \$450 in match-

 ing funds from Thrivent Financial.

Recently, nine people from Living God enjoyed dinner at **Rider's "Restaurant"** in Downingtown. Proceeds from the dinner also benefited Steeple to People.

Thank you to the **Building & Grounds Committee** for the Installation of the baby changing station in the ladies rest room.

Telephone Prayer Chain

Living God Church has a telephone prayer chain. Members will pray daily for two weeks for each person or situation. If you have a prayer request contact:



Dotti Wilkie (610) 942 3608
 Peg Bothell (610) 273-3586
 or Bettye Ulmann at
 (610) 273-4510

Please submit names for the Sunday Prayer list to the church office. All prayer requests are confidential and will not be printed upon request.

Fellowship Team News Leader, Liz Risbon (610) 286-5201
 Council Rep, Chris Mauchline (610) 942-3424
 Contact Liz or Chris if you would like to volunteer to help.

So far, Lord

Dear Lord, so far today I've done all right. I haven't gossiped, haven't lost my temper, haven't been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or over-indulgent. I'm very thankful for that. But in a few minutes, Lord, I'm going to get out of bed. And from then on, I'm probably going to need a lot more help. Amen

—Anonymous



Women's Fellowship

Women Hold First Meeting

A dusting of snow had fallen, thicker amounts in some areas, but nine women gathered on November 19 to brain-storm ideas for a women's fellowship group.

During the two hour social, the ladies got acquainted and discussed activities they could pursue in the future.

The groups goal is to explore ways to create a nurturing, caring community at Living God Church through fellowship opportunities.

The group will share their ideas at the Women's Christmas Dinner on Tuesday, December 4 at 6 p.m. The next social for ladies is planned for Monday, January 14, 2008 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the church. You can also talk to Bettye Ulmann, Liz Risbon, Catherine Cattell, Pat Baer, Ursula Stewart, Mary Petrofske, Fran Atkins, Deanna Arndt or Josie Davis after worship some Sunday. Be forewarned, our enthusiasm is contagious!

Building a Future for God's People

We will observe a milestone in 2008. October 31, 2008 will mark the 15th Anniversary of the organization of Living God Lutheran Church as a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

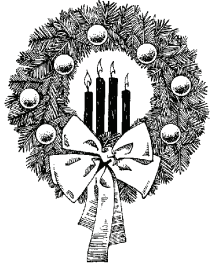
We have come a long way with God's help and guidance and have had many special experiences and faced a number of challenges, the greatest, up to now, probably being the building of a church.

Beginning in the January edition, I will attempt to tell the story of the congregation and what activities and months and years of planning led to the church building where we worship today. This will include the events that bring us to the present.

Please Note:

Deadline for newsletter items is the 15th of the month. They should be sent to

mom@evenlink.com
 or left in the newsletter box in the Resource Room at church.
 Opinions & comments about the new format are also welcome.



Living God Lutheran Church

3200 Horseshoe Pike
Honey Brook, Pennsylvania 19344

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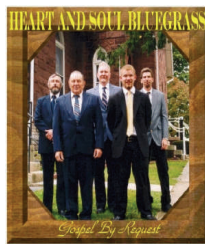
Holiday Music Fills The Air

Saturday, **December 8**, the **Greenwood Singers** will perform a holiday program at Living God Church beginning 7 p.m. For over 18 years, the group has been entertaining audiences throughout the tri-state area including performances at the Bethlehem Musikfest, the National Cathedral and the State Capitol. The choir is comprised of Chester County residents and is under the direction of Barbara Reid. Admission is free. A good will offering will be taken.



Then on Saturday, **December 15**, a **Bluegrass Christmas Concert and Dinner** will be held to benefit Living God Lutheran Church ministries. The concert will feature Sweet Water Bluegrass and Heart & Soul Bluegrass.

A Lunch Buffet and Take Out will be available from 12 - 3:30 p.m., with a special children's menu of hot dogs, and macaroni & cheese along with the smoked ham, sweet potatoes, green beans, spiced apples & dessert which will be served at the evening dinner.



Tickets for the children's lunch or take out are \$5 for children 2-10, \$8. for adults. The ham dinner will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. and the concert will begin at 7:00 p.m. Advanced tickets for the evening event are \$15, at the door \$20. Advanced tickets have seating priority. For tickets contact Donna at the church office (610) 273-9383.

Donations Needed

A Silent Auction will be part of the December 15 Bluegrass Christmas Concert and Dinner. Donations for the auction are needed by December 10.

If you have any questions, or want to donate something, call Debbie Wenke at (610) 269-3937.

★ **The Christmas Star** ★
★ *by Mary Garren* ★
★ May the Light that shone ★
★ from the Christmas Star ★
★ On that night so long ago ★
★ Fall on you this Christmas night ★
★ and set your face aglow. ★
★ May it shine from your eyes. ★
★ May it rest in your mind. ★
★ May it burn in your Spirit bright. ★
★ May the Peace it spoke to a ★
★ weary world. ★
★ Bring joy to your heart tonight. ★
