

# WEEKLY WORD



A Publication of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, Urbandale, Iowa

**December 10, 2006**  
Second Sunday in Advent

## The Faith of Mary

by Pastor Ron Burcham

Teenagers are invincible! Just ask them; they know the risks of driving too fast—accidents won't happen to them. For the most part, teenagers believe the improbable, take risks that we would never dream of and fervently pursue their passions. Their view of the world is not as tainted as that of adults, for they have not been disappointed or seen the worst side of people. Maybe that is why I like teens; they still believe they can revolutionize the world; no common-sense talk will change their mind. Something deep inside of them says anything can happen.

**"Now that is faith! No list of questions, concerns or apprehensions—Mary knew God would be faithful and take care of her."**

I wonder if that is why God chose Mary, a teenager, to give birth to the son of God. After all, who else would believe the angel's words: "You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus." Mary did. It was not important for her to understand everything, although she was curious about the technicality of having a child as a virgin. But after the angel answered her question, she simply stated, "I am the Lord's servant; may it be to me as you have said."

Now that is faith! No list of questions, concerns or apprehensions—Mary knew God would be faithful and take care of her. After all, she was the Lord's servant. Who else but an invincible, believing, passionate teenager could have such faith?

I know what you are thinking: you would certainly believe if you had a conversation with a real angel. But is that true? In the Old Testament, the children of Israel were surrounded by a pillar of a cloud during the day and a pillar of fire at night. Pretty dramatic in my book, yet even with God's presence always before them, they grumbled and their faith fluctuated. Even in our lives,

how quickly we forget the daily miracles: when our health is restored, a job offer is made, or relationships are restored. We see God in our lives, but like the children of Israel, when another challenge arises, we question his abilities.

Hebrews 11:1 states, "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see." It is the faith that God has poured out into our hearts that enables us to believe the impossible, have strength for the tough times and know that God will not let us down. Mary had that kind of faith. She became the Lord's servant and gave birth to the Son of God by believing in God's ability.

Our faith is in a God who keeps his promises, a God who loved us so much that he came, lived among us and died in our place. Our faith is in a God that will never leave us nor forsake us.

Our God is such a God that we are invincible! With him all things are possible. Maybe it is time for us to have the faith, belief, trust and even the confidence of a teenager.

### Index

|                     |       |
|---------------------|-------|
| Calendar . . . . .  | 10-12 |
| Children . . . . .  | 8     |
| Last Week . . . . . | 10-11 |
| LWML . . . . .      | 6     |
| News . . . . .      | 1-7   |
| Offering . . . . .  | 10    |
| Youth . . . . .     | 9     |

## Starbucks and Stravinsky

Join us as we share the sounds, aromas and tastes of the season in the Gathering Place today! All profits go to the upcoming Uganda trip.



## Need to Get Connected

Feeling a bit disconnected? In a large congregation like Gloria Dei, it is easy to feel lost. Stop by the small-group sign-up table in the narthex today. We are looking for hosts and individuals who would like to participate in our small-group study starting in January. This will be an opportunity for you to get connected with others at Gloria Dei. If you have questions, contact Pastor Meyer at 278-5544, ext. 224.

## Upcoming Classes

### 2007 Weddings

Are you planning to be married at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in 2007? A pre-marriage class will meet in rooms 130/132 on Tuesday nights from 6:30-8 p.m. beginning January 16. This class is required and will meet for six weeks. It is also a great option for couples getting married elsewhere (i.e., back home). The cost per couple is \$20. You can sign up for this class by e-mailing Pastor Phillips at [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com).

### Discovery 101

Our four-week new member class for people wanting to join Gloria Dei from a non-Lutheran background will be offered Wednesday nights in rooms 127/129 from 6:30-8 p.m. starting January 10. You can sign up by calling the church office or e-mailing Pastor Phillips at [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com).

### DivorceCare

Our support group ministry will hold a class for those who have gone through the pain of divorce on Tuesday nights in the Youth Center from 6:30-8 p.m. beginning January 9. The ministry is offered for a suggested donation of \$18. You can register for the class by completing a registration form at the Information Center. Registration will be limited to 20 participants. For more information, contact Pastor Phillips at [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com).

### GriefShare

Our grief support ministry will begin its winter session on Thursday nights in the Youth Center from 6:30-8 p.m. beginning January 4. This ministry is offered for a suggested donation of \$18. You can register for this class by completing the registration form at the Information Center. Invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to this comforting ministry. For more information, contact Pastor Phillips at [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com).

Gloria Dei  
8301 Aurora Ave.  
Urbandale, IA 50322  
515-276-1700  
[www.gloriadeionline.com](http://www.gloriadeionline.com)



### Sunday Schedule

Sunday Worship  
7:45, 9, 10 and 10:30 a.m.  
Staffed Nursery from 8 a.m.-noon  
Educational Times at 9:20 & 10:20 a.m.

### Saturday Schedule

Saturday Worship at 5:30 p.m.  
Grace Place at 5:50 p.m.  
Staffed Nursery from 5:15 p.m.

### Staff e-mail:

**Rev. Ronald Burcham**  
*Senior Pastor*  
[rburcham@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:rburcham@gloriadeionline.com)

**Rev. Kendall Meyer**  
*Director of Adult Ministry*  
[kmeyer@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:kmeyer@gloriadeionline.com)

**Rev. Tim Phillips**  
*Director of Congregational Care*  
[tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mrs. Heather Dingman**  
*Family Ministry Admin Assistant*  
[heather@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:heather@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mr. Tim Kightlinger**  
*Director of Youth Ministry*  
[tim@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tim@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mrs. Karen Kennedy**  
*Director of Publicity & Promotion*  
[karen@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:karen@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mr. Steve Kohtz**  
*Director of Worship Ministries*  
[steve@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:steve@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mrs. DeAnn Haas McCue**  
*Director of Family Ministry*  
[deann@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:deann@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mr. Chris Onsrud**  
*Director of Media Ministry*  
[chris@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:chris@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mrs. Laura Rath**  
*Senior Pastor Admin Assistant*  
[laura@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:laura@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mr. Brandon Simpson**  
*Facility Manager*  
[brandon@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:brandon@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mrs. Terry Steinke**  
*Director of Early Childhood Ministry and Tiny Treasures Preschool*  
[terry@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:terry@gloriadeionline.com)

**Mr. Bill Wishman**  
*Interim Business Manager*  
[bill@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:bill@gloriadeionline.com)

**Governing Board**  
276-1700

## Offerings

In order to receive giving credit for 2006, your offering must be received by Sunday, Dec. 31 or postmarked by Saturday, Dec. 30, 2006. All items postmarked after Dec. 30 or received after Dec. 31 will be credited to 2007, even if the date is written for 2006. Your gifts to support our ministry are always appreciated. Thank you for your support.

## LHM Advent Devotions

An Advent devotion, "Love Was Born at Christmas," is available from Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM) starting today. The devotions are no longer available as printed booklets, but can be downloaded from <http://www.adventdevotions.net>. If you have any questions, please call 800-752-9636.

## Advent Devotional

Advent devotionals are available today at the Information Center. Pastor Meyer, Karen Hoff, Jim Riddle and Sue Wilson wrote this devotional.



## Worship Service Ministry Partners

We are thankful for our helpers today who assist in providing a great place to worship.

|                  |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Elders:</b>   | <b>7:45 a.m.</b> | <b>Organist:</b> |
| Devin Wren       | Dennis Dean      | Lynn Hays        |
| Ken Meythaler    | Mike Collins     | <b>Acolytes:</b> |
| Gary Wasko       | Joe Gilg         | Alex Meyer       |
| <b>Ushers:</b>   | Kory Meyeraan    | Cole Scavo       |
| <b>Northwind</b> | Dan Timmons      | Kofi Manteaw     |
| Randy Bosworth   | <b>9:00 a.m.</b> |                  |
| Brad Gerke       | Jeff Monson      |                  |
| Mike Mahler      | Don Pevestorf    |                  |

## God's People in Prayer

Blue prayer request cards are beneath the pews. Please indicate your prayer request and place the card in the offering plate. We have both e-mail and phone prayer chains available. Call Pastor Phillips in the church office, 276-1700, or Diane Young between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 993-3870 or Joan Kickbush after 5 p.m. at 987-4864 with your request.

## Thanksgivings

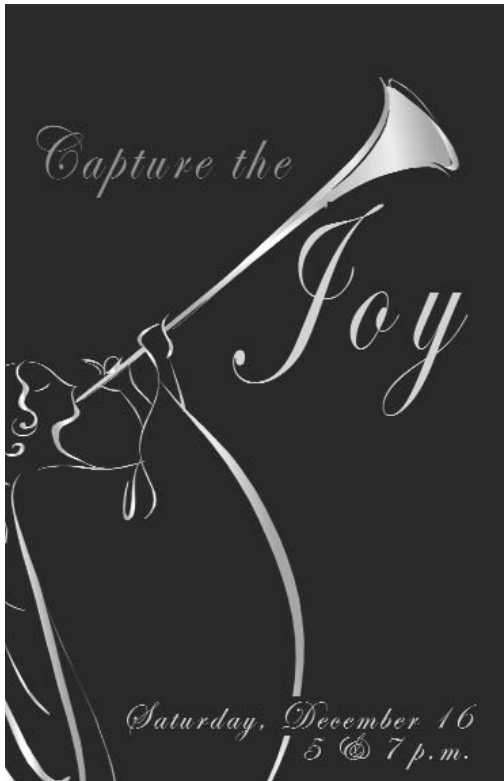
- For our nation and the freedom we enjoy
- For our families

## Prayers

- Ismael Serfino, father of Daff Miller, who is very ill
- For the health of Vi Elliot
- For Howard Ingersoll, who is battling cancer
- For healing for Dennis Spark
- For Michael Uding, who is recovering from surgery
- For David Dohlman and his family as they grieve the loss of his father
- For our children's Christmas programs
- For our Christmas services
- For those who have lost loved ones this year
- For all who visit Gloria Dei to be strengthened in their faith

## Prayer Ministry Team

If you are interested in joining the prayer ministry team, please e-mail [tphillips@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:tphillips@gloriadeionline.com) with your name, e-mail address and phone number.



## AN OR AND MA VEN

Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors to this year's cantata:

"Capture the Joy"  
Saturday, Dec. 16 at 5 and 7 p.m.

If you are interested in participating, please call the church office at 276-1700.

**Orchestra Rehearsals:**

Wednesday, Dec. 13                      6:15-6:45 and 8-8:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 16                         9-12 a.m. (dress rehearsal)

## Giving Tree: Take a Tag from One of the Trees



**Share with God's people who are in need.**  
– Romans 12:13

Our families are in need. These families have been given to us by Lutheran Social Services, Hope Ministries, and AGAPE Pregnancy Center.

1. Please visit our giving trees, which are located in the narthex and Gathering Place.
2. Take tags from the tree and purchase the gifts.
3. The wrapped gifts need to be returned today, Sunday, Dec. 10.

Thank you to the many people who have called to volunteer. If have questions regarding the mission, contact Joy Linquist at [joy@linquists.com](mailto:joy@linquists.com) or 276-3052.

## Advent by Candlelight



Advent by Candlelight was held last Monday, when more than 200 women gathered to eat pastries made by their hostesses, view the beautifully decorated tables, listen to Pastor Meyer's devotion and the music by the GodZ GuyZ. "Mary, Have You Heard" and "The Lord's Prayer" were among the favorite songs of the evening. Lynn Hays coordinated this year's event. The youth assisted in serving and cleaning.

## Rehearsal Times

Thank you for sharing your musical talents during the Advent Lessons and Carols services on Sunday, Dec. 24 at 7:45, 9 and 10:30 a.m. If you have any questions, contact Julie DenHerder at 251-4632.

### Orchestra Rehearsals:

|                    |                               |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday, Dec. 14  | No rehearsal unless needed    |
| Wednesday, Dec. 20 | 6-7 p.m.                      |
| Thursday, Dec. 21  | 6-8 p.m.<br>(Dress rehearsal) |

### Choir Rehearsals:

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Thursday, Dec. 14 | No rehearsal unless needed    |
| Thursday, Dec. 21 | 6-8 p.m.<br>(Dress rehearsal) |

**Please note:** The 10 a.m. worship service in the Family Life Center will not be offered Dec. 24 or 31.

## Bake Sale This Week

Honduras Mission Team 2007 will host a bake sale today. Come grab some goodies to eat or take home! Proceeds will support the mission trip in June 2007.

## Check Out the Bookstore

Check out the Toolshoppe for your one-stop holiday shopping. We have many household items that will add Christmas cheer to your house during the holiday season. If you are planning on purchasing items that need to be ordered, such as Gloria Dei's logo clothing, we recommend you order today because of the holiday rush. Thank you and see you soon!

toolshoppe  
Books & Gifts



## Meeting Dates &

### Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle will meet Thursday, Dec. 14. at 9:30 a.m. at church for their annual Christmas brunch.

### Rebekah Circle

Rebekah Circle will meet Thursday, Dec. 14 at 7 p.m. at the home of Rosalie Petersen, 109 N. Jacob, Grimes, 986-3697.

### Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will have a Christmas party on Dec. 11 at 5:45 p.m. For additional information, please contact Leanna Hansch at 277-1615.

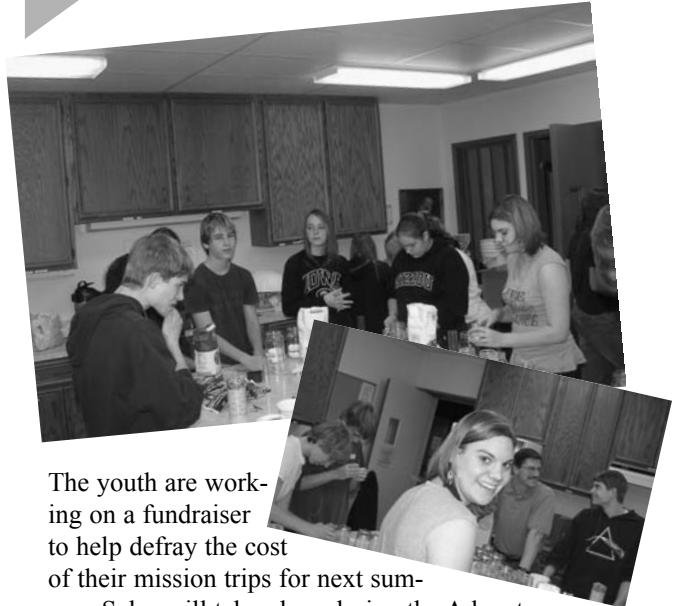
### Sarah Circle

Sarah Circle will meet Monday, Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at the home of Kim Brienzo, 3907 76th St., Urbandale. Please bring your Secret Pal gift or a gift to exchange if you did not have a Secret Pal this year. If you would like to, bring your favorite Christmas snack with the recipe to share as well.

## Grace Tiles

The pre-ordered G.R.A.C.E wood holders are in a box next to the Information Center. Each holder has an individual label, so pick yours up today or during the week. If you did not order one, it is not too late. Please sign up at the Information Center by Monday, Dec. 11.

## Gloria Dei Youth Fundraiser



The youth are working on a fundraiser to help defray the cost of their mission trips for next summer. Sales will take place during the Advent meal on Wednesday, Dec. 13 and during worship services Dec. 9-10 and 16-17. The items being sold are:

- Brownie in a jar - \$8
- Cupcake in a cup - \$5
- Hot cocoa mix (pint) - \$5

Keep these items in mind for Christmas gifts for day-care providers, teachers, co-workers, secret Santas, neighbors, friends and more.

## RUSH

### A retreat for young adults at Camp Okoboji

Memorial Lutheran Church and Student Center, Ames, will sponsor a retreat for young adults Dec. 30-Jan. 1 at Camp Okoboji. High school seniors are invited to join with college-age adults for two-and-a-half days of teaching, fellowship and fun. RUSH is an acronym for Resolve, Unite, Share, Heal. The cost is \$62. For more information or to register, go to: <http://www.rushwithchrist.org>.


## New Life Ministry Action Team

Do you like babies? Do you enjoy celebrating births? Do you like to support our youngest members? If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, you may want to join the New Life Ministry Action Team. This team will support families with newborns by visiting, listening and presenting items from the congregation to our newest families. We need grandmothers and new moms and all those in between. We need people who like to visit, cook and sew. If you are interested in joining this new and exciting ministry, please contact Terry at 278-5544, ext. 305 or [terry@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:terry@gloriadeionline.com).

## Sewing Bags

We are making cloth bags for families who have newborns. If you can sew, please pick up a plastic bag, which contains five cloth bags, and return them by the end of the year. Instructions are included; if you have any questions, contact Terry at 278-5544, ext. 305 or [terry@gloriadeionline.com](mailto:terry@gloriadeionline.com).


## Wednesday's Meal




**December 13**

- BBQ pork sandwich
- Corn
- Peaches

The cost per meal is \$2.50; children ages three and under eat free.





### 5 p.m.

## Tiny Treasures Updates

Two teachers from Tiny Treasures, Salena Reimer, lead teacher for the two classes for three-year-olds, and Anna Wiescorek, assistant teacher of the three-year-old and four-and-five-year-old classes, will be leaving in December. Both of these teachers have been very important to our preschool program; Salena is a busy mom whose family needs have made it necessary for her to stop teaching and Anna's husband is being transferred out of state. They will be hard to replace. Please keep our school and especially this transition in your prayers.

God has already provided a replacement teacher for Salena's position. Christy Marshall (a preschool mom from last year) has accepted the position and brings lots of experience and excitement to the job. But we still need a replacement for Anna's assistant teacher position Monday-Friday from 8:30-noon. If you know of anyone who would be interested, please contact Terry at 278-5544, ext. 305.

## Playgroup

Tiny Treasures will hold a Friday morning playgroup for children ages 2 1/2 thru 3 1/2.

- February-May 2007
- 9:15-11:15 a.m.
- \$40 a month

For more information, pick up a brochure at the Information Center.



# Christmas Plans

## Children's Christmas Programs

### Elementary Children

All elementary students in kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to participate in this year's Christmas program, "A Piece of Christmas," during the 10:30 a.m. worship service on Sunday, Dec. 17. We will rehearse from 8-9:30 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 16.

### Preschool Children

Preschool children ages 2-5 are also invited to participate in our Christmas program, "The Shepherds' Christmas," Sunday, Dec. 17 at the 9 a.m. service. Practice will be held:

- Saturday, Dec. 16 from 8-8:45 a.m.

## Gingerbread Tea: A Sweet Experience



Some of the classrooms were transformed into a Christmas wonderland for the "Gingerbread Tea" held Saturday, Dec. 3. Approximately 120 people enjoyed spending time with their families to build gingerbread houses and eat pastries.

## Faith Alive: Get Ready to Visit Bethlehem

Bethlehem Village will be the focus of Faith Alive for the next three weeks. All Faith Alive students and their friends should go directly to their classrooms. All children in preschool to fifth grade will take part in the village experiences. All classes will dismiss at 7:05 p.m.; preschool and kindergarten children will return to their classrooms and grades 1-5 will dismiss from the Family Life Center. Advent worship begins at 7:15 p.m. in the sanctuary where families are encouraged to worship together. Join us for a special time as we hear the news of our Messiah, Jesus, born in a small village called Bethlehem!

## Advent Schedule

Please remember that Faith Alive dismisses at 7:05 p.m. for Advent worship Dec. 13 and 20.





gloriadeiyouthministry

luke 9:23

### Wednesdays

#### Service Hours

Seventh grade will be doing service hours at the midweek Market Place during December. Sixth and Eighth grade will have regular classes December 13. Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth grade will be doing service hours on December 20.

**No confirmation classes on Dec. 27 and Jan. 3.**

### Junior High

#### Castaway

Join us this Sunday at 9:20 or 10:20 a.m. for a high-energy time of study and fellowship.

Topic: I Gotta Have It Luke 12:34

**No Castaway on Sunday, Dec. 17, 24 and 31.**



### Mark Your Calendar!

The 30-hour famine will be held April 27-28, 2007. In 2006 our group was one of the highest fundraisers for the World Vision's 30-hour famine organization. All teens 12 years and older are invited to participate in saving kids lives! An initial planning meeting will be in January. Those that feel led to help with the organization of this year's event, please contact Kim Phillips at 254-1036 or e-mail: TNK4JC1@msn.com



*The youth recently went to the Youth Gathering, which was held in Des Moines.*

### Senior High

#### Fundraiser

The youth are working on a fundraiser to help defray the cost of trips next summer. Sales will take place during the Advent meal on Wednesday, 13 and during worship services on Dec. 9-10 and 16-17. The items being sold are:

- Brownie in a jar - \$8
- Cupcake in a cup - \$5
- Hot cocoa mix (pint) - \$5

#### Senior High Dodgeball Challenge/Christmas Party

Sunday, December 17, 6-9 p.m.

- Teams of 6 (each team must have at least one male/female playing)
- Registration fee: bring an unwrapped toy \$10 or less to the event
- Register your team by Dec. 13
- Outreach event: bring friends
- Free food
- Prizes

#### The Island

Join us this Sunday from 6 to 9 pm as we gather at the Island. **Topic:** Passion: A Gift from God

**The Island will not meet on December 24 and 31.**

# Week of December 10-16

## Sunday, December 10

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 9:00 a.m. Mission Bake Sale
- 9:20 a.m. Relevant Topics
- 9:20 a.m. Stepfamily Survival
- 9:20 a.m. Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Family Life Center with Communion
- 10:20 a.m. Journey with Dr. Luke
- 10:20 a.m. Castaway
- 10:20 a.m. Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Young Couples with Children
- 6:00 p.m. The Island- Psalm 18:2
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## Monday, December 11

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 6:45 p.m. Men's Basketball
- 7:00 p.m. Spirit Nurturers
- 7:00 p.m. Purpose-driven Bible Study

## Tuesday, December 12

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands Group
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 6:00 p.m. Foundation Meeting
- 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community Restorative Mtg.
- 6:30 p.m. Kindermuisk Imagine That

## Wednesday, December 13

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. Music Alive

- 5:30 p.m. Gloria Dei Orchestra and Choir
- 6:15 p.m. Faith Alive (Bethlehem Village)
- 6:15 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chorale
- 6:15 p.m. The Gloria Dei Chapel Choir
- 6:15 p.m. Lord, I Want to Know You Class
- 6:15 p.m. Lead Gloria Dei
- 7:15 p.m. Advent Worship
- 7:30 p.m. The Alleluia Rings
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei's Infusion Worship Team
- 8:15 p.m. Gloria Dei Bells

## Thursday, December 14

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 9:30 a.m. Iowa Lutheran Teachers Conference
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Thirsty Worship Team
- 6:00 p.m. Urbandale Community Restorative Mtg.
- 6:30 p.m. Daisy Brownie Troop

## Friday, December 15

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice

## Saturday, December 16

- 8:00 a.m. Elementary Christmas Program Rehearsal
- 8:00 a.m. Preschool Christmas Program Rehearsal
- 9:00 a.m. Gloria Dei Bells
- 10:00 a.m. Adopt-A-Family Pickup
- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Team
- 5:00 p.m. Cantata
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service
- 5:50 p.m. No Grace Place
- 7:00 p.m. Cantata

| Outpouring of Love (Dec. 3) |           |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| General Fund Offerings      | \$33,686  |
| YTD Offering                | \$530,322 |
| YTD Budget                  | \$616,630 |

| Attendance for Dec. 2-3 and Dec. 6 |      |                   |     |
|------------------------------------|------|-------------------|-----|
| Northwind                          | 162  | <b>Communion</b>  |     |
| 7:45 a.m.                          | 186  | 7:45 a.m.         | 159 |
| 9 a.m.                             | 406  | 9:00 a.m.         | 271 |
| 10 a.m.                            | 92   | 10:30 a.m.        | 144 |
| 10:30 a.m.                         | 246  | <b>Advent</b>     |     |
| <b>Total</b>                       | 1092 | Wednesday, Dec. 6 | 267 |

# Week of December 17-23

## Sunday, December 17

- 7:45 a.m. Traditional Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Traditional-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 9:00 a.m. Preschool Christmas Program
- 9:20 a.m. Relevant Topics
- 9:20 a.m. Stepfamily Survival
- 9:20 a.m. No Castaway
- 9:20 a.m. No Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:00 a.m. Contemporary Worship Service in Family Life Center
- 10:20 a.m. Journey with Dr. Luke
- 10:20 a.m. No Castaway
- 10:20 a.m. No Grace Place, Ages 2-Grade 5
- 10:30 a.m. Elementary School Program
- 10:30 a.m. Contemporary-Blend Worship Service in Sanctuary with Communion
- 5:30 p.m. Young Couples with Children
- 6:00 p.m. The Island- Psalm 18:2
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

## Monday, December 18

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball
- 6:45 p.m. Men's Basketball

## Tuesday, December 19

- 1:00 p.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands Group
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball

## Wednesday, December 20

- 10:00 a.m. Bible Study with Pastor Meyer
- 5:00 p.m. Midweek Meal
- 5:30 p.m. Music Alive
- 6:00 p.m. Advent Orchestra Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Caroling with Gloria Dei's Music Ministry
- 6:15 p.m. Faith Alive (Bethlehem Village)
- 6:15 p.m. Lord, I Want to Know You Class
- 7:15 p.m. Advent Worship
- 7:30 p.m. The Alleluia Ringers
- 7:30 p.m. Gloria Dei's Infusion Worship Team

## Thursday, December 21

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Sew and Sews
- 2:00 p.m. Home School Choir
- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice
- 6:00 p.m. Gloria Dei Thirsty Worship Team
- 6:00 p.m. Advent Choir Rehearsal

## Friday, December 22

- 3:30 p.m. Mt. Olive Basketball Practice

## Saturday, December 23

- 4:00 p.m. Northwind Worship Team
- 5:30 p.m. Northwind Service with Communion
- 5:50 p.m. No Grace Place

| Educational Attendance for Sunday, Nov. 19 and Wednesday, Nov. 29 |                |              |               |            |             |
|---|----------------|--------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
|   | Saturday, 5:50 | Sunday, 9:20 | Sunday, 10:20 | Wed., 6:15 | Misc.       |
| Preschool   | 15             | 33           | 23            | 28         | Music Alive |
| Elementary  | 24             | 75           | 29            | 102        | 67          |
| Junior High   | 2              | 24           | 13            | 100        | Wed. Meal   |
| High School   |                |              |               |            | 98          |
| <b>Total</b>  | 41             | 132          | 65            | 230        |             |

# Christmas Schedule

Feel free to invite your neighbors and friends to all the Christmas activities as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior.

• **Wednesday, Dec. 13**

Advent service at 7:15 p.m.

• **Saturday, Dec. 16**

“Capture the Joy” Cantata at 5 and 7 p.m.

• **Sunday, Dec. 17**

Children’s Christmas programs  
9 a.m.           Preschool children  
10:30 a.m.   Elementary children

• **Wednesday, Dec. 20**

Advent service at 7:15 p.m.

• **Saturday, Dec. 23**

Northwind Service at 5:30 p.m.

• **Sunday, Dec. 24**

Advent Lessons and Carols services at  
7:45, 9, and 10:30 a.m.

**Please note:** There will be no 10 a.m. worship service in the Family Life Center.

• **Sunday, Dec. 24**

Family-friendly service at 4 p.m. in the Family Life Center

• **Sunday, Dec. 24**

Traditional Christmas Eve services at 4:30, 6 and 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary

• **Monday, Dec. 25**

Christmas Day service at 9:30 a.m. in the sanctuary

• **Saturday, Dec. 30**

Northwind service at 5:30 p.m.

• **Sunday, Dec. 31**

Regular Sunday services at 7:45, 9, and 10:30 a.m. Communion will be offered.

**Please note:** There will be no 10 a.m. worship service in the Family Life Center.

• **Monday, Jan. 1**

Office closed

**Special note to parents:**

Faith Alive will dismiss at 7:05 p.m. on Dec. 13 and 20 for Advent worship. Faith Alive will not be held Dec. 27 and will resume on Wednesday, Jan. 10.

Grace Place will not be held Saturday, Dec. 16 to Sunday, Dec. 31. Enjoy the holidays with your family in worship! We will start again Saturday, Jan. 6 and Sunday, Jan. 7.

