

# The CHLC Crier

## for December 2005

The Newsletter of  
College Hill Lutheran Church  
and the Brammer Student Center

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### A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR

As a child, one of the things I always looked forward to in December was the annual viewing of the Charlie Brown Christmas special on television. Along with the hijinks of Snoopy, the ranting of Lucy, and the filth of Pigpen, Charlie Brown wants to understand the true meaning of Christmas. To answer his query, Linus steps forward, the spotlight focusing on him, as he recites the Nativity account from Luke chapter 2. It was always fun to listen to retelling the account, reaching a climax at the words of the angels to the shepherds:

**I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.** Luke 2:10-11 (NIV)

“Good news of great joy.” Doesn’t that sound wonderful? We prepare ourselves this Advent season to receive the good news that brings us the greatest joy of all. We spend four weeks preparing our hearts and refocusing our minds on our relationship with God, recognizing how great our need for a Savior is. Then, when Christmas finally arrives, we *are* filled with joy as we celebrate that great gift of our Savior, God descended to earth in human flesh to be our brother and to be our substitute, taking from us God’s wrath over our sin and giving to us life everlasting.

May that good news and great joy fill you not only in this season, but all the year through. The blessings of the Christ be with all of you always.

In Christ,

*Pastor Ogilvie*

### A SEASON OF COMFORT AND JOY

We live in a world where war, disaster, illness and poverty are harsh realities. There are so many sources of news and information that fill us with fear and uncertainty. It is easy to grow discouraged with all that we see going on around us. While we do despair over the often harsh conditions of life, our Lord does not want us to lose hope.

The theme for our Midweek Advent Worship will be “Comfort and Joy.” We will be taking a look at how the coming of Jesus is news that brings comfort and joy into our fallen world. The loving gift of God in His Son allows us to rejoice even amidst the hardships and heartbreaks of life.

Our weekly schedule will be as follows:

6:00-6:45 p.m. Meal and fellowship  
7:00 p.m. Worship

Be sure to make worship a part of your Advent preparations. The inward preparations are far more important than the outward preparations. Come, and invite your friends to join you.

# Lutheran Student Fellowship News

## MIDWEEK ADVENT SERVICES

Midweek Advent Services start November 30. Invite your friends to join you for the evening starting with the free meal at 6:00 p.m. Stay for the worship at 7:00. LSF Bible study and fellowship follow at 8:00.

Can't spend the whole evening? Then join us for as long as you can. The van will pick you up. See the van schedule for Midweek Advent.



It is an annual event. Following the Midweek Advent Worship on November 30, all college students are invited to join in decorating the church for the season. Join in the fellowship as we focus on the significance of the decorations we hang. We will start about 8:00 p.m. that evening.

## DECEMBER 9, CHRISTMAS PARTY

The annual College Hill LSF Christmas Party is Friday, December 9, at 7:00 p.m. Bring a wrapped gift for a white elephant gift exchange and join us for games, food and good times to celebrate the season!



## END OF THE SEMESTER POTLUCK

Students, come and be the guests of the congregation on Sunday, December 11, for this wonderful meal. Join your friends at CHLC as we

celebrate the end of another academic semester. Share in the joy of the season as we share a meal together.



## SNO-BALL RETREAT IS COMING SOON

The annual Sno-Ball Retreat for college students is coming up in January. The retreat, held at Camp Io-Dis-E-Ca January 20-22, is a great opportunity to join together with other college students from around Iowa and enjoy God's creation. This year's retreat will focus on the theme, "Combating the Big Three: The World, The Flesh, and the Devil." Costs for the retreat will be subsidized by LSF. Your cost for the entire weekend is \$30. If you would like to go, but cannot stay the entire weekend, you can get a reduced rate.

## SPRING BREAK SERVANT EVENT

For all of those interested in going on spring break with our group. As of yet we are still looking at locations, however, Denver, CO appears to be a strong possibility for the trip. There will be a

sign up sheet downstairs on the bulletin board so that we can start getting information to you, this does not obligate you to go, it just gives us your email address to show that you are interested.

## GRADUATING? STUDENT TEACHING? LET US KNOW

It may seem too early to be thinking about the end of the semester, but if you are graduating at the end of this semester, or heading out for student teaching or an internship, you are well aware of how quickly the end of the semester is creeping up. If you are in one of these categories, please let

Pastor Ogilvie or the church office know by Sunday, December 4. We would like to recognize those who are finishing their course work, or at least their classroom work, this semester.

## FINALS GETTING TO YOU? DE-STRESS WITH LSF

If the pressures of finals week get you down, come join your friends in LSF and unwind Monday through Wednesday evenings during Finals Week. These de-stressors will help you relax, unwind and recharge. There will be fellowship, food and fun. The fun begins at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 12 with Squishy Night. Make and play with squishy

stuff just like you did when you were a kid. Tuesday at 7:00 p.m., we get seasonal with Christmas Fun. We will watch Christmas videos, have cocoa and a Christmas craft. Wednesday following Advent worship, it will be an evening of Food Games. It will be fun for all.

## NEED A RIDE? WE'LL GIVE YOU ONE

If you need a ride to worship, Bible study or any activity, you can catch one in the CHLC van. It will make the rounds before most activities, and always before worship and Bible study. The scheduled stops for worship and Bible study are listed below:

<b>Worship</b>		<b>Midweek Advent—Nov. 30 Dec. 7 &amp; 14</b>			
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Meal	6:00 p.m.	Worship	7:00 p.m.
<b>Van Stops</b>		<b>Van Stops</b>		<b>Van Stops</b>	
Towers	9:35 a.m.	Towers	5:35 p.m.	Towers	6:35 p.m.
Horseshoe	9:40 a.m.	Horseshoe	5:40 p.m.	Horseshoe	6:40 p.m.
Quad	9:45 a.m.	Quad	5:45 p.m.	Quad	6:45 p.m.
ROTH	9:50 a.m.	ROTH	5:50 p.m.	ROTH	6:50 p.m.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all. We wish you a safe journey home and look forward to your return. To our graduating seniors, know that you are always welcome to come back and visit.



## IT'S TIME TO ORDER POINSETTIAS AGAIN

The orders for poinsettias need to be in by Wednesday, December 1. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

The cost is \$10. To pay for poinsettias call Carolyn Macomber 987-2028.

## EVENING GUILD CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Evening Guild Christmas Party will be held on Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Doris Mauer, 3215 Homeway Drive. This annual event will be hosted by the Guild Officers. Guests are asked to bring a tree orna-

ment. The ornament may be used or new, but please have it wrapped. The ornaments will be presented to the Vinton Lutheran Home for use on their numerous Christmas trees after we have enjoyed seeing them.

## ELECTIONS

The nominating committee is preparing the ballot for the January Voters' Assembly. If you would like to serve on the board or have questions about the various positions call either Tim Gamble 230-1140 or Virgil Mauer 266-6394.

## GIVINGPLUS

If you have not used up your "GivingPlus" funds from Thrivent for 2005 it is still not too late. Get your forms in by 12-15-2005 to get credit for 2005. Forms are available from the secretary's office.

## LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRY NEWS

Lutheran Hour Ministries TV specials "Red Boots for Christmas" and "Puzzle Club Christmas Mystery" dates, times and channels should be out soon. Watch the church bulletin for details.

The Lutheran Layman for November/December is a commemorative edition regarding the work of the late Dr. Oswald Hoffmann. Copies are available at the church for your reading pleasure.

## FIREWOOD AVAILABLE

College Hill Lutheran Church has a large amount of firewood available to members. See it at the church by the outside basement steps, just off of the parking lot. Cost is a free will contribution. You haul. See properties committee for details: Keith Macomber or Bob Bolte.

## END OF SEMESTER—CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

Join your family and friends at CHLC as we celebrate the end of another academic semester. We will enjoy fellowship over a potluck meal following worship on Sunday, December 11. Share in the joy of the season as we share a meal together.

College Hill family members are asked to bring two dishes to share. Single members are asked to bring one dish. Students will be the guests of the congregation for this wonderful meal.



## DINNER THEATER

Mark your new calendars. February 10 & 11 are the dates for the annual LSF Dinner Theater. You don't want to miss this event.

## ADOPT A FAMILY



Every year the congregation of College Hill adopts a family for Christmas. A Christmas tree is placed at the back of the church and will have ornaments with tags attached to them with a Christmas gift wish. Please attach the tag to the package and place it under the Christmas Tree. Non perishable food items, laundry items and paper products will also be gathered in a basket. Your gifts must be delivered to the church no later than Sunday, December 18. In past years your generosity has been overwhelming and very much appreciated.

## ANNUAL ADVENT BRUNCH

Ladies of the congregation are invited to the annual Advent brunch on Saturday, December 3, 2005 from 9:30—11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker will be the Reverend Donald Pook sharing his experiences with

Lutheran Bible Translators. Watch for you invitation, Ladies. Mark your calendar and respond to Miriam at 266-3234 saying, "Of course, I'll be there."

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS IN WORSHIP

As you celebrate the birth of Jesus once again this year, join us for worship. We gather on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 7:00 p.m. for a service that will include candlelight and the singing of familiar Christmas hymns and carols. We gather again on Christmas Day, De-

ember 25, at 10:00 a.m. for a service with Holy Communion to celebrate the incarnation of our Lord. Make worship a part of your family's Christmas celebration. There is no Christmas without Christ.

## FAREWELL TO THE OLD, WELCOME TO THE NEW

The old year passes, the new year begins. Join us in a time of worship and reflection thanking God for all the blessings of the past year and praying for new and continued bless-

ings in the coming year. Our New Year's Day worship with Holy Communion will be Sunday, January 1 at 10:00 a.m.

## SUNDAY SCHOLL STUDENT ALERT!

Plans are progressing for the Children's Christmas Worship Service on Sunday, December 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m.

To prepare for the service all students will rehearse on Saturday, December 3 and Saturday, December 10 at 9:30—11:00 a.m. We are fortunate that LYF and LSF students have agreed to assist. Board of Education members Darci Russell, Beth Ackles and LYF sponsor Becky McBurney are preparing the service. Remember practice time is 9:30—11:00 a.m. the first two Saturdays in December. Please make every effort to be present.

The worship service will be followed by our annual Christmas Potluck.



Following the rehearsal on December 10 the students will be invited to attend the Sunday School Christmas party in the Fellowship Hall. There will be games, prizes and food. Parents may plan to pick up their children at 12:30 p.m.

There will NOT be Sunday School on Christmas Day, December 25, 2005 or New Year's Day, January 1, 2006



## Lutheran Youth Fellowship

### CHLC High School Youth Group “NEWS”

**What’s new in December?** On Monday, December 12, the youth will be helping sort food at the Northeast Iowa Food Bank from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This activity will provide us the opportunity to serve our community.

An afternoon Christmas party for children and mom’s from the Women’s Shelter is tentatively planned for the weekend of Dec. 17—18 at CHLC. We’ll be playing games and providing craft activities for the kids, as well as a story time, cookie decorating, and providing a light meal. We’re anxious to share Christ’s love with these children and their moms. Watch the bulletins in December for more details.

At the last youth meeting it was decided to have a Christmas sledding party and then use the Pizza Hut certificates won at the District Bowling Tournament to go out for pizza. A date for this will depend on snow.

The high school youth will be participating in the Christmas program scheduled for December 11 during the worship service.

Because Christmas falls on the last Sunday of the month and New Year’s Day is the first Sunday in January, the next youth meeting will be held January 8 during the Sunday School hour.

**What’s been happening** On November 8 Denise Tjarks and five high school girls enjoyed the Rebecca St. James Concert held at West High School. Rebecca shared some core truths regarding important issues facing youth today in addition to singing some great music.

Several youth also attended the LSF JUMP high school retreat weekend.

**“Bible Time and Breakfast”** continues to meet every Sunday morning starting at 9:00 a.m. in the fireplace lounge downstairs. The rule is: no Bible, no breakfast. No one has gone hungry yet.

Questions, or comments may be directed to Rich and Becky McBurney.

# December 2005 Volunteers

## GREETERS

- 4 Tim Gamble & Katelyn Madsen
- 7 Mauer Family
- 11 Kendra Meyer & Jill Bollinger
- 14 Lonergan Family
- 18 Blankenhagen Family
- 21 Mauer Family
- 24 Hankins Family
- 25 Bev Bolte & Flora Brewster

## FINANCIAL RECORDERS

- 4 Suzanne Riehl & Denise Tjarks
- 7 Virgil Mauer
- 11 Carla Christensen & Virgil Mauer
- 14 Suzanne Riehl
- 18 Suzanne Riehl & Johanna Baedke
- 21 Virgil Mauer
- 24 Carla Christensen
- 25 Denise Tjarks & Virgil Mauer

## USHERS

- 4 Richard McBurney & Nick Anderson
- 7 Tim Gamble & Mike Busch
- 11 Kevin DeVries & Brad Brons
- 14 Brent Gernant & Kevin DeVries
- 18 Jim Lonergan & Dennis Adolphs
- 21 Jim Lonergan & Tim Gamble
- 24 Bob Bolte & Ivan Hankins
- 25 Bob Bolte & Marvin Brewster

## READERS

- 4 Sean Huffnagle
- 18 Marcia Stirler
- 25 Becky Ogilvie

## ALTAR GUILD

- 4—11 Carla Christensen & Lynn Trepp
- 18—25 Flora Brewster & Cindy Loder

## FELLOWSHIP HOSTS

- 4 Stevenson Family—Suzanne Riehl
- 7 McBurney Family—Ranbarger Family—Msengi Family
- 11 Trepp Family—Johanna Baedke
- 14 Hankins Family—Karmyn VanLengen—Tim Gamble
- 18 Marcia Stirler—Ellis Family
- 21 Stevenson Family—Gutknecht Family—Janet Peterson
- 25 Madeline Bruce—Bolte Family




*Thank you for your help in serving the Lord and College Hill Lutheran Church*

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## December Birthdays and Wedding Anniversaries

- |    |                  |    |                 |    |                  |
|----|------------------|----|-----------------|----|------------------|
| 2  | Dianne Gutknecht | 15 | John Lilienthal | 29 | Miriam Krallman  |
| 8  | Liam McCleary    | 17 | Anna Ranbarger  | 30 | Bethany Madsen   |
| 11 | Flora Brewster   | 18 | Justin Berry    | 31 | Lillian Lonergan |
| 14 | Sarah Busch      | 26 | Grant Carver    |    |                  |

- |             |                           |          |
|-------------|---------------------------|----------|
| December 12 | John & Carol Lilienthal   | 26 years |
| December 27 | Robert & Dianne Gutknecht | 2 years  |
| December 30 | Virgil & Doris Mauer      | 49 years |

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <b>December 2005</b>						
<b>4</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship With Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7 Midweek Advent</b> 6:00 p.m. Advent Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship 8:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> Bible Study & Fellowship	<b>8</b> 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>9</b> 7:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> Christmas Party	<b>10</b> 9:30 a.m. Children's Christmas Practice 11:00 a.m. Children's Christmas Party
<b>11 Children's Christmas Worship Service</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Christmas Potluck	<b>12</b> January Newsletter Deadline 6:00 p.m. <b>LYF</b> to Food Bank 7:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> De-Stressor	<b>13</b> 7:00 p.m. Board of Directors' Meeting 7:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> De-Stressor	<b>14 Midweek Advent</b> 6:00 p.m. Advent Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship 8:00 p.m. <b>LSF</b> De-Stressor	<b>15</b> 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Evening Guild Christmas Party	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>UNI Graduation</b>
<b>18</b> 9:00 a.m. Bible Study and Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship With Holy Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21 Midweek Advent</b> 6:00 p.m. Advent Meal 7:00 p.m. Worship	<b>22</b> 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 7:00 p.m. Worship 
<b>25 Christmas Day</b> 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>