

D E C E M B E R 2 0 1 0

TABERNACLE LUTHERAN CHURCH

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA



Tabernacle Lutheran Church

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✧ Annual Meeting ✧



DON'T FORGET!

On December 12th we will be having the annual congregational meeting immediately following the service. Please plan to stay for this very important meeting. The decisions that are made have an impact on all of us and it's

important that every one is there so that all of our voices are heard. If you have any questions, contact one of the members of the council or send an email to the church and we'll put you in touch with someone.



*A Look Into
In This Month's
Edition:*

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Quick Calendar



Sunday: 9:30 Sunday School, 10:30 Worship

Tuesday: 10 am Bible Study, 7 pm Tabernacle Interdenominational Choir

Wednesday: 7 pm Bible Study

Thursday: 7 pm Choir, 7 pm Prayer Group

Friday: Friday Night Word

Health Watch

What to Keep in Your First Aid Kit:

- Adhesive tape
- Anesthetic spray (Bactine) or lotion (Calamine, Campho-Phenique) -- For itching rashes and insect bites
- 4" x 4" sterile gauze pads -- For covering and cleaning wounds, as a soft eye patch
- 2", 3", and 4" Ace bandages -- For wrapping sprained or strained joints, for wrapping gauze on to wounds, for wrapping on splints
- Adhesive bandages (all sizes)
- Oral antihistamines -- diphenhydramine (Benadryl causes drowsiness) or loratadine (Claritin doesn't cause drowsiness) -- for allergic reactions, itching rashes. Avoid topical antihistamine creams because they may worsen the rash in some people.
- Exam gloves -- For infection protection, and can be made into ice packs if filled with water and frozen
- Polysporin antibiotic cream -- To apply to simple wounds
- Nonadhesive pads (Telfa) -- For covering wounds and burns
- Pocket mask for CPR
- Resealable oven bag -- As a container for contaminated articles, can become an ice pack
- Safety pins (large and small) -- For splinter removal and for securing triangular bandage sling
- Scissors
- Triangular bandage -- As a sling, towel, tourniquet
- Tweezers -- For splinter or stinger or tick removal

First Aid Kits

Almost everyone will need to use a first aid kit at some time. Take the time to prepare a kit to have available for home and travel. First aid kits may be basic or comprehensive. What you need depends on your medical training and your distance from professional medical help. Ready-made first aid kits are commercially available from chain stores or outdoor retailers. But you can make a simple and inexpensive first aid kit yourself.

Make sure you know how to properly use all of the items in your kit, especially the medications. Train others in your family to use the kit. You may be the one who needs first aid! Pack and use barrier items such as latex gloves to protect you from bodily fluids of others. Check the kit twice a year and replace expired drugs. Find out the phone number of your regional poison control center at the American Association of Poison Control Centers Web site and keep the number with your kit.

Where to keep your first aid kit:

- The best place to keep your first aid kit is in the kitchen. Most family activities take place here. The bathroom has too much humidity, which shortens the shelf life of items.
- The travel kit is for true trips away from home. Keep it in a suitcase or backpack or dry bag, depending on the activity.
- A first aid kit for everyday use in the car should be just like the home first aid kit. For that matter, you could keep similar kits in your boat (inside a waterproof bag), travel trailer, mobile home, camper, cabin, vacation home, and wherever you spend time.

from www.webmd.com



A GUIDE TO
OBSERVING ADVENT



From Relevant Magazine

Advent pulls us out of our own patterns and pushes us to observe God's plan of salvation and promise to "make all things new". Whether at church or at home, use Advent as a time to reflect on your own heart and anticipate what Jesus' birth did for humanity. Below are some ideas of how you can reflect at home either by yourself or with your family.

November

28th

The Hope Candle
Read Isaiah 11:1-10. Discuss the hope of Advent- the hope we have because of Christ's birth and the hope we have in Christ's second coming.

December

5th

The Peace Candle
Read Matthew 3:1-6. This passage remind us to repent and seek Christ's peace. Reflect on the peace that Christ's life, death, and resurrection provides.

December

12th

The Joy Candle
Read John 1:19-34. How does God's redemption grant us joy? Discuss how to be joyful even in brokenness.

December

19th

The Love Candle
Revelation 21:1-4. This passage reminds us that God will make all things new. How should that animate us to love each other better?

December

25th

The Christ Candle
Luke 2:1-20. This is the culmination of what we have prepared for. Reflect on the hope, peace, joy, and love offered by Christ's birth.

**I AM A
CHRISTIAN**

BY
MAYA ANGELOU

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin."
I'm whispering "I was lost,"
Now I'm found and forgiven.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
and need CHRIST to be my
guide.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
and need HIS strength to carry
on.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
and need God to clean my mess.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
but, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain,
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
who received God's good grace,
somehow.



Biblical Stewardship



It's About Heart

Biblical stewardship calls a Christian to give back to God through tithing. The word "tithe" merely means "a tenth." A Christian, therefore, ought to set aside a tenth of his or her income for God.

"Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

For God, tithing is not only about a percentage. Tithing has more to do with one's heart during the act of giving than the actual amount given to God.

The Bible offers this story: "As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow

put in two very small copper coins. 'I tell you the truth,' he said, 'this poor widow has put in more than all the others. All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out her poverty put in all she had to live on'" (Luke 21:1-4).

The woman gave two copper coins-what amounted to a fraction of a penny. This seems a trivial amount. However, God viewed her trivial amount with more regard than the large offerings of the rich. Why? By giving all she had, the woman showed utter devotion to God. She was willing to offer everything she possessed to show love to God.

Biblical stewardship is a giving out of devotion rather than duty. It's about the heart of the giver, not wealth

Biblical stewardship provides help for the less fortunate. The Bible states, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27).



Giving does not end with tithing. God asks that the giving heart be extended to those who need it most-widows, orphans, and the

poor. As a Christian, one must reach out to those in need, sharing the blessings one has received from God.

Our Companion Synod in Tanzania

The **Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)**, a member of the Lutheran World Federation, is made up of over 2.5 million people in 20 dioceses, approximately 6.5% of the population of Tanzania.

The ELCT organizes its ministry into four categories: finance and administration, mission and evangelism, social service and women's work, planning and development. In the area of finance and administration, the ministry includes investments, scholarships, and personnel. Mission and evangelism includes outreach both within Tanzania and abroad, as well as youth ministries. Social service and women's work includes health care, education, and women's programs. Planning and development consists of economic development projects, disaster relief and readiness, financial co-ops, and advocacy.

Due to the rapid growth of the ELCT, it emphasizes leadership development by

providing educational opportunities. The Tumaini University System now has six branches with more than 9,000 students. It offers degrees in theology, ministry, education, special needs education, business, law, medicine, mathematics, and music to name a few. The Tumaini University system develops leaders not only for the ELCT but also for the nation. Makumira University College, one of Tumaini's branches, includes the largest Lutheran seminary in Africa. It serves Tanzania and surrounding countries.

The Dioceses of the ELCT own and operate an extensive health care system including 21 hospitals and numerous dispensaries. ELCT provides more than 15% of the health care services delivered in Tanzania. In addition to medical and surgical services, the ELCT is in the forefront of HIV/AIDS education



and prevention, the treatment and prevention of malaria, and hospice and palliative care.

The ELCT and her dioceses own and operate 47 secondary schools throughout the country, as well as schools for the deaf, special needs, teachers' and nurses' training, vocational training, and Bible schools. These schools have a long history of providing quality education and attracting qualified students.

A Recipe From The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania

The people of **Tanzania** eat a diet that is typically sub-Saharan African, based on cassava, cornmeal, coconut (in the coastal areas), bananas, rice and a variety of vegetables. The island state of Zanzibar (known for cloves), was part of the Sultanate of Oman from 1698 to 1830, so that part of the country has a strong Arabic influence in its cooking.



Chai – African Tea

- An easy, delicious, and warm drink to enjoy with friends and family

Boil and let simmer:

- 4 cups water**
- 2 to 4 tsp. of black tea leaves**
- 1 tsp. cardamon**
- 3 to 4 cinnamon sticks**
- 1/4 to 1/2 cup of sugar**
- (Honey (to taste) can be used instead of sugar as a sweetener)**

Add **3 or 4 cups of milk** and let it heat again.

*This recipe from the ELCA website does not call for it, but most Tanzanian chai recipes also include 4 pods of crushed cardamon and the option of small amounts of ginger root either sliced thinly or crushed.



FUN & GAMES



Crossword Puzzle

Birth of Christ

DOWN

- Who were tending their flocks by night
- Who announced the birth of Christ to the shepherds
- The wise men bowed down to Jesus to _____ him
- Jesus was born in this town
- "The _____ of peace" - one of the titles of Jesus
- mother of Jesus
- Jesus was born in a _____
- The shepherds were in the _____ when they saw an angel

ACROSS

- The wise men followed a _____ that led them to Jesus
- human father of Jesus
- There was no _____ at the inn for Jesus
- one of the gifts of the three wise men
- Jesus could not stay at the _____ because it was full
- and on earth _____, goodwill toward men (Luke 2:14)

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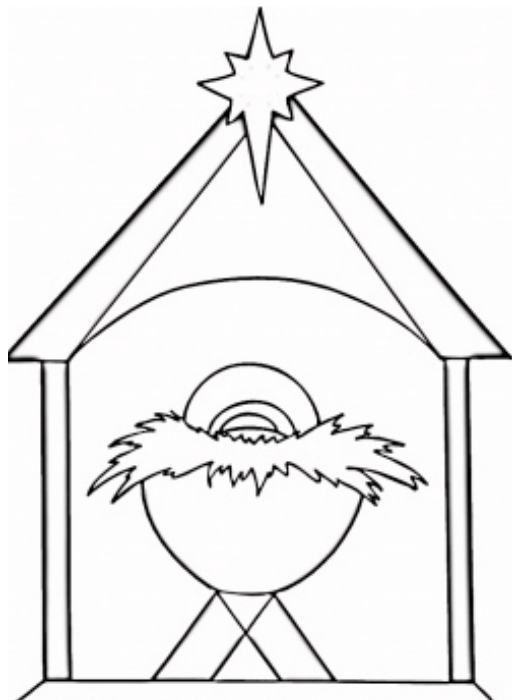
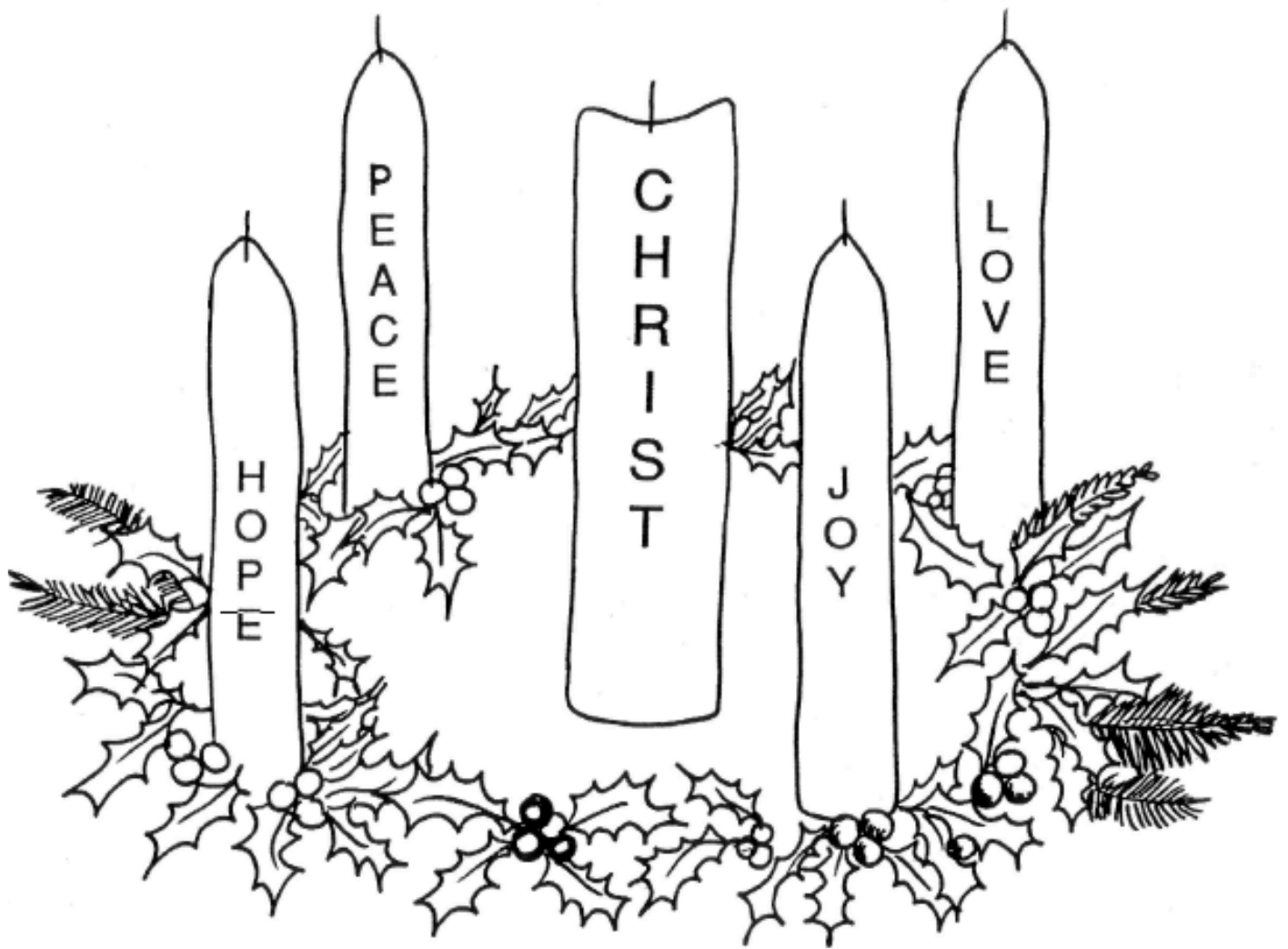
More puzzles at <http://biblewordgames.com>

Christmas Word Search

Advent, Angels,
Beauty, Birth, Cards,
Carols, Census,
Children, Christ,
Church, Creche,
December, Family,
Feast, Festival,
Garland, Giving,
Goodwill, Herod,
Holiday, Holly, Holy,

Icicles, Jesus, Joseph,
Joy, Lights, Love,
Magi, Manger, Mary,
Merry, Music,
Nativity, Noel,
Pageants, Peace,
Prayer, Santa, Season,
Shepherd, Sleigh,
Snow, Star, Stocking,
Trees, Yule

S	S	T	N	A	E	G	A	P	C	I	S	U	M	Y
T	M	S	E	A	S	O	N	R	E	Y	A	R	P	L
O	A	U	R	Y	L	O	H	C	N	M	N	O	E	L
C	R	S	D	E	Y	D	E	R	S	W	O	N	S	O
K	Y	E	L	L	D	W	E	E	U	B	I	R	T	H
I	T	J	I	A	N	I	H	C	S	T	A	R	H	P
N	U	M	H	D	A	L	Y	H	E	L	U	Y	G	E
G	A	D	C	V	L	L	A	E	L	M	O	D	I	S
F	E	O	R	E	R	G	D	V	C	J	B	R	L	O
L	B	R	U	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	E	A	J
T	M	E	H	T	G	B	L	V	C	T	G	H	R	C
R	A	H	C	H	E	V	O	L	I	N	S	P	E	A
E	G	T	S	A	E	F	H	M	A	N	G	E	R	R
E	I	Y	R	R	E	M	S	L	E	I	G	H	F	D
S	A	T	N	A	S	P	T	C	H	R	I	S	T	S



Merry Christmas from
Morris, the cat

From the Pastor

Find Your Spiritual Gifts

In this season of Advent, as the world focuses on giving and receiving worldly gifts, I would encourage each of us to remember that God has already given each Christian two vitally important gifts. The first is the gift of faith in his son, Jesus Christ, who has made salvation available through his work of redemption, and the forgiveness of sin.

The second is the gift of one or more special abilities, which are to be used for the purpose of unifying the body of Christ and for the growth of God's Kingdom. In today's vernacular, these God-given abilities are often referred to as "spiritual gifts". As Lutherans, we believe that these "gifts" are received through our baptism.

Like other "gifts", it is impossible to fully appreciate and make use of our spiritual gifts until they have been opened or identified. Thankfully, there are a number of spiritual gift inventories available that can help us discover what our spiritual "gifts" may be.

Online spiritual gift inventory sites

For those of you who are into technology, a number of websites that contain spiritual gifts inventories are now available online. The ELCA's website contains a "**Spiritual Gifts Assessment Form**" which can help you begin to identify your spiritual gifts by guiding you through scripture review, scripture references, and a self-assessment inventory. This website can be accessed at "<http://www2.elca.org/evangelizingchurch/assessments/spiritgifts.html>".

In addition, to the ELCA website, I would strongly encourage you to visit some of the other spiritual gift websites available via the internet including:

<http://mintools.com/spiritual-gifts-test.htm>

<http://buildingchurch.net/g2s.htm>

Finally, it is my prayer in this Advent season that you will take the opportunity to discover your spiritual gifts, and that you will continually look for opportunities to use your gifts to help build up the kingdom of God. To God be the glory!

Pastor Rodgers



Church Bulletin Bloopers

The Fasting & Prayer Conference includes meals.

The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'

Our youth basketball team is back in action Wednesday at 8 PM in the recreation hall.
Come out and watch us kill Christ the King.

Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to a conflict.

Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.



Coffee Hour After Sunday Service



We're continuing the post-service coffee hour. Remember to come on up for some fellowship and some delicious food after church every Sunday. It has been a wonderful opportunity to spend time together and to talk with each other. Hopefully you've all enjoyed the coffee hour. If you haven't stuck around for one yet, give it a try this Sunday. As they say, the more, the merrier! There is always room for you and you're always welcome.

Bowling Party

**DECEMBER
11TH**

6 PM - 8 PM

**SHOE
RENTAL:
\$2.25 PER
PERSON**



**GHERIS
LANES**

**65TH &
MARKET
STREET**

**WEST
PHILLY**



December 2010



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Bible Study 10 am	1 Bible Study 7 pm	2 Choir Practice Prayer Group 7 pm	3	4 Council Meeting 10 am
5 Sunday School: 9:30 am Worship: 10:30 am	6	7 Bible Study 10 am	8 Bible Study 7 pm	9 Choir Practice Prayer Group 7 pm	10	11 Bowling Party 6-8 pm
12 Congregational Meeting Sunday School: 9:30 am Worship: 10:30 am	13	14 Bible Study 10 am	15 Bible Study 7 pm	16 Choir Practice Prayer Group 7 pm	17	18
19 Christmas Luncheon Sunday School: 9:30 am Worship: 10:30 am	20	21 Bible Study 10 am	22 Bible Study 7 pm	23 Choir Practice Prayer Group 7 pm	24 Christmas Eve Worship 8 pm	25 Christmas Day
26 Sunday School: 9:30 am Worship: 10:30 am	27	28 Bible Study 10 am	29 Bible Study 7 pm	30 Choir Practice Prayer Group 7 pm	31 New Year's Eve Worship 8 pm	

Upcoming Events:

- Saturday, Dec. 11: Bowling Party
- Sunday, Dec. 12: Congregational Meeting
- Sunday, Dec. 19: Christmas Luncheon immediately following service
- Friday, Dec. 24: Christmas Eve Service
- Friday, Dec. 31: New Year's Eve Service

Don't see your event on the calendar?
Notice something missing?
Submit events for the
January newsletter by
Wednesday, December 29!
