

King of Kings Grapevine

Bethany

December

Craig



"And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14)

These words from the Gospel of John always fill me with a sense and awe and wonder and gratitude. To think that God became a man in the Person of Christ in order to rescue the likes of me (and, of course, the whole human race) from eternal destruction simply goes beyond our understanding. And yet, this is what God has done for in Jesus! What love! What grace! What mercy! What hope! I want to cry and sing all at the same time! I have written some songs in my time, but I find it hard to write or find better words for the Advent and Christmas seasons than those from the pen of Don Francisco, a song simply titled, "The Christmas Song..."

"The day the God of majesty was given to the earth; a Gift of such magnificence we can never plumb its' worth.

And the rudeness of the setting, just ignites the jewels' fire; a pearl beyond the greatest price, the joy of mans' desire."

May God the Holy Spirit inspire in us an infectious joy this Advent and Christmas season!

Pastor Russ



December Worship at 10:00 AM At Craig Church

December 4 & 11
Bible Class with Jojoe

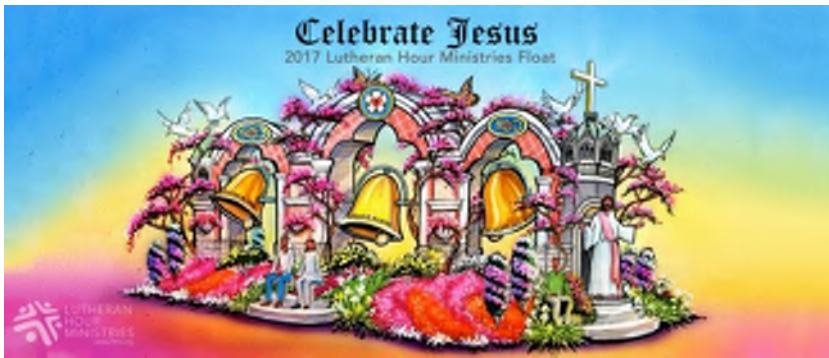
December 18
Sunday School Christmas Program

December 24 Christmas Eve
4:30 PM Worship at Dickson
7:00 PM Worship at Craig
With communion
9:00 PM Worship at Raven

December 25 Christmas Day
10:00 AM Worship at Craig
With communion

January 2017
Worship at Bethany

LWML Participating in the 2017 Tournament of Roses Parade



LWML President Patti Ross will participate in the upcoming Tournament of Roses Parade as a rider on the Lutheran Hour Ministries float. The float will portray Christ Jesus as the Founder and Perfector of our faith. It will recall a significant person: Dr. Martin Luther, who took a major step of faith in the Reformation 500 years ago. The float will carry living

examples of Gospel proclaimers in the appearances of former Speaker Dr. Dale Meyer, Speaker Emeritus Dr. Ken Klaus, and Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, current Speaker of The Lutheran Hour. The float will salute the 100th anniversary of the International Lutheran Laymen's League, which led the way in launching The Lutheran Hour in 1930. Additionally, the float will recognize LWML's 75th Anniversary



Food Bank Christmas Musical Evening

Come to the Raven Log Church on Friday, December 9th for an uplifting evening of music featuring the Doll Sisters, SGQ, the Kure Family, Don Bouvette and Pastor Russ. The concert will begin at 7:30 PM with cider and cookies to follow.

Cash donations for Local Ministries/Spruce View and District Food Bank will be gratefully accepted. These gifts are considered charitable donations.



Tannis and Ryland Collison
On the birth of their baby girl

Frankee Hope born October 19, 2016

Proud grandparents are Morris and Marla Engman



Huxley Stephen Barr
Sunday November 6, 2016.

Parents are Liesel and Brett.

Proud grandparents Kelly and Elaine Thompson



Canadian Forces Chaplaincy

As part of Lutheran Church–Canada's service in congregations and reaching out to others, LCC serves our nation by training and providing chaplains to the Canadian Forces. Through regular and reserve chaplains, LCC shines the light and love of Christ in some unique contexts and challenging environments. Whether at home in chapels or overseas in the field, the blessings of the Gospel are carried forth by our faithful padrés to men and women in uniform, and their families.

Chaplains of the Canadian Forces serve both God and nation by bringing their unique gifts with which they are endowed by God, to the military personnel of our nation in the broad, challenging, diverse, and ever-changing environment of the Regular and Reserve forces of Army, Navy and Air Force. While the financial benefits of a CF Chaplain are often much better than what a parish minister normally receives, the requirements and stakes are also much higher! Like any officer or soldier, they must endure the hardships, separations, and deprivations of those whom they serve. Like any minister, they must provide dynamic and genuine ministry with a shepherd's heart.

War is hell, and no one can speak to it more articulately than a military chaplain who sees life and death through the lens of God's love and eternal protection in Jesus Christ.

Peacetime, too, can be a lesser hell for men and women serving in faraway lands or on distant seas, in dangerous skies, or even in another part of this country. Wherever he or she serves, a soldier is still a long way from home, from family, and often from a Christian congregation.

Lutheran Church–Canada has a proud heritage of providing Christian witness and nurture to those who serve their country in war and peace.

[Have you ever considered offering word and sacrament ministry in military chaplaincy?](#)



**PARKLAND ZONE LUTHERAN WOMEN'S
MISSIONARY LEAGUE
INVITES ALL OUR LADIES TO THE "SWEET
LIFE CAFÉ" RETREAT
FRIDAY, APRIL 28 – 30, 2017 AT 4H CEN-
TRE AT WESTEROSE
DETAILS COMING IN 2017**



**STEPHEN MINISTRY GROUP B Training meeting
on Tuesday, December 6 at 7 PM at Bethany Lu-
theran Church Please read Module 21 on Page
537
STEPHEN MINISTERS GROUP A
Pot Luck Supper at Wendae & Bill Whitehead on
Monday, December 12 at 6 PM**



Good turnout for King of Kings
Planning session on Saturday
October 29, 2016.
Some people like to have fun!!!



Thank you!

to Meryl Branson for sending suggestions for our Newsletter name.

The word Grapevine is a noun that can have the following meanings:

1. a vine that bears grapes.
2. Also called grapevine telegraph. a person-to-person method of spreading rumors, gossip, information, etc., by informal or unofficial conversation, letter writing, or the like.
3. a private or secret source of information.



A cheque for \$1000 was presented to Jessie Branson to assist in paying the expenses of her participation in the Nicaragua mission trip. The funds came from the CLBI Scholarship Fund established from a bequest from the Estate of Margaretha Nissen. The purpose of the Fund is to encourage young people to pursue Christian education at Christian institutions or through Christian programs. The Scholarship Committee believes Jessie's trip is a mission trip but also an educational opportunity that will inspire and equip her.

Young people, active in the Church, from the Spruce View area, are encouraged to apply for financial assistance to pursue Christian Education.



NICARAGUAY MISSION TRIP TO CHINANDEGA

On the first Sunday in Advent, pastor talked about putting on Christ and being part of a team. We have a team of 18 people that will be traveling to Nicaragua in January. They are part of a team that is King of Kings Lutheran Church and other churches in our area. We are part of Lutheran Church Canada that is supporting and encouraging us and we will be working with our brothers and sisters in Nicaragua who are also part of that same team. We are all using the gifts and talents God has given us to encourage and support each other. What a great team!

Our travel arrangements are all booked. We have banners ready. We have some craft bags to put together and gifts to be made, so watch for announcements on those projects if you would like to help. Most of our fundraisers are done and we are so thankful that it looks like we will have attained our goal of \$20,000.00 USD. Thank you all so much for all of your support. What a team!

We will still have a box set out for donations of prescription glasses, nail polish and anything else that people may want to donate. Please know our space will be limited, but we are still looking for a couple of hand pumps to pump up soccer balls and a guitar or two. We are also looking for prayer partners for each of the travelers, please see a sign up sheet on the church bulletin board.

I am attaching 3 pictures. One is from a VBS, one is doing nails in a community and one shows the wall that we will be adding to, that surrounds the mission centre property.

Again, thank you for your support and prayers.

Melanie Kuhn

Nicaragua Mission Team 2017

Rev. 5: 9 – 10 “. . . by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God . . .”



A community of believers, proclaiming **Christ's truth** and practicing **Christ's love!**

First Sunday in Advent **Worship Service and Dinner**



Elaine teaching the children's message



Nicaragua Team



What Is the Advent Wreath?

The Advent wreath is a circular garland of evergreen branches representing eternity. On that wreath, five candles are typically arranged. During the season of Advent one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday as a part of the Advent services. Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ.



Advent Wreath Candles

Set on the branches of the wreath are four candles: three blue candles and one pink candle. In the center of the wreath sits a white candle. As a whole, these candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world.

On the first Sunday of Advent, the first blue candle is lit. This candle is typically called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, primarily Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. This candle represents hope or expectation in anticipation of the coming Messiah.

Each week on Sunday, an additional candle is lit. On the second Sunday of Advent, the second blue candle is lit.

This candle typically represents love. Some traditions call this the "Bethlehem Candle," symbolizing Christ's manger.

On the third Sunday of Advent the pink, or rose-colored candle is lit. This pink candle is customarily called the "Shepherds Candle" and it represents joy.

The fourth and last blue candle, oftentimes called the "Angels Candle," represents peace and is lit on the fourth Sunday of Advent.

On Christmas Eve, the white center candle is traditionally lit. This candle is called the "Christ Candle" and represents the life of Christ that has come into the world. The color white represents purity. Christ is the sinless, spotless, pure Savior. Also, those who receive Christ as Savior are washed of their sins and made whiter than snow.

Celebrating with an Advent wreath during the weeks prior to Christmas is a great way for Christian families to keep Christ at the center of Christmas, and for parents to teach their children the true mean-



**Canadian Lutheran
World Relief®**

On behalf of Canadian Lutheran World Relief, thank you very much for your donation that recently arrived at our Winnipeg warehouse. Because of your support we are able to place essential aid into the hands of men, women and children around the world that desperately need your help.

Most recently we have dispatched a container of supplies to South Africa and Swaziland. These shipments focused largely on orphans, as well as schools. For families that have already lost so much a warm quilt or a carefully prepared We Care kit means a lot.

We are happy to report that in 2016 the We Care program shipped 10,204 quilts and blankets and 15,776 We Care kits. Together we were able to send 34,211 kg of aid, valued at over \$314,358. We know that with your help we will be able to do so much more in 2016.

The challenges facing the world's poor are immense, but together we have the opportunity to make a positive change in the lives of those displaced by war, famine and natural disaster. Thank you very much for your continued support of CLWR and the *We Care Program*.

Sincerely,

Ian Mair, We Care Program Assistant

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us..." Roman 12:6a

The Board of Church Life is seeking:

two people from Craig to share the **ministry of organizing** the time of refreshments and fellowship events when King of Kings Lutheran Church is worshipping at our Craig location. **AND....**

two people from Dickson to share the **ministry of organizing** the time of refreshments and fellowship events when King of Kings Lutheran Church is worshipping at our Dickson location.

If you would enjoy serving God and your brothers and sisters in this way, please contact Deb Allen at 403.506.2024. Thank you for your prayerful consideration!



Please copy and paste the link below to watch the live stream of Bronwyn Jr Viola recital on December 3 at 1:30 pm

<https://youtu.be/5nNcrLOdIQk>



LAMP MINISTRIES

LAMP has compiled daily **Advent Devotions**, written by volunteers and staff, of their experiences ministering to aboriginals in Canada's north. They can be downloaded for free by going to Lamp's website: www.lampministry.org - click on Resources - click on Advent Devotions. At this same site you can also sign up to receive them automatically to your email each day.




Request for All Boards

Please have 2017 budget reports to Cheri Vohs by December 31, 2016

Voters meeting: January 19, 2017 7:00 pm Craig
Voters meeting: April 20, 2017 7:00 pm Dickson

LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES



For those of you who might remember watching the *"This is the Life"* television series from the 50's, 60's, 70's and 80's, LHM has put together nine of these old TV shows, put them on DVD and added to them so they can be used in small group study settings. These old shows featured some up-and-coming young actors like Jack Nicholson, Leonard Nimoy and Angie Dickenson, just to name a few. These can be obtained by contacting the Kitchener office of LHM (helpful@lll.ca) or by calling Sharon toll free at 1-800 555-6236. (Classic set \$48 Cdn; Deluxe set includes a book for \$55 Cdn). For home-school parents, LHM also has another **"Online Mission Trip"** planned for 2017. This year they will be inviting students to go with them to Madagascar January 23rd-27th. More information and registration available at www.lhm.org/onlinemissiontrips/

King of Kings Lutheran Church
Box 12
Spruce View, Alberta T0M 1V0

Website:
kingofkingslutheran.ca

Bethany: 403-728-3382
Craig: 403-728-3829

Editor: Lona Fawcett
lona_f@yahoo.com