



December 17, 2015

Christmas Eve Service

We will have one service on Christmas Eve, at 4:30 pm on Thursday, December 24th. Childcare will be provided.

Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

The children will be doing a Christmas program on December 20th at the beginning of the service. The children in the preschool class are practicing a couple of songs during Sunday School to sing at the program. **There will be a rehearsal for the service at 10 AM on Saturday, December 19th.** They will go through the program and pick out costumes. Please plan to stay and help us "corral"....it should be a relatively short time. Other children are invited to be in the program, but any child younger than 3 does not have to attend the rehearsal. However, please let us know if you want your child to participate in the manger scene, so we can set aside a costume for Sunday morning. Any questions, please contact Sue Wittkopp or Nancy Lintvedt.

Bishop Gonia issues "Statement by Christian Faith Leaders in Colorado on the Reception of Syrian Refugees"

Bishop Gonia wrote a statement that was signed by our ecumenical partner bishops and church leaders and released by the Colorado Council of Churches. To read, click this [link to the statement online](#).

Solidarity with the Colorado Muslim Community

From Patty Lawless: A special shout out to everyone who responded so quickly to our invitation to show our solidarity with the Colorado Muslim Community this past week. <http://coic.weebly.com/blog>. We encourage faith leaders and your congregants to attend the Open Houses at neighborhood mosques this coming Saturday, December 19. We are aware of the following gatherings:

Denver Islamic Society Open House, Sat. Dec. 19, 2:30-5:00 pm, 2124 S. Birch St., Denver 80222,
denverislamiccommunity.com

Islamic Center of Boulder Open House, Sat. Dec. 19, 1:00-3:00 pm, 5495 Baseline Rd., Boulder 80303,
bouldermuslims.com

Christmas Service in the German Language

Messiah Lutheran Church will celebrate their 12th year of having a German Christmas service! If you are interested, it will be held on Sunday, Dec. 20 at 5:00 p.m.

Extra Ear-Buds?

Our hearing device earbuds are disappearing. If you've seen them, or have an extra pair to contribute, please place in the basket on the narthex table.

Name Tag Sundays

Name tags will be available in the narthex through the season of Advent. We encourage you to wear one each Sunday and to select a decorative sticker to add to your name tag that speaks to you.

There is a Giving Tree in the narthex!

Could you find it in your heart to occasionally bring in a grocery card for \$10 or \$20 to give those who are less fortunate? We often have phone calls or visitors who need a little help with groceries or personal care items. A grocery gift card can make a lot of difference! Please consider bringing a gift card to hang on the tree. These cards will become part of the Pastor's Discretionary Fund to help those who come to our door. Thank you!

Children's Corner

Our Children's Corner has been a great asset to our littlest worshippers. To continue its success, please remember to clean up after your child and remind them to use their indoor voices. Parents may make use of the nursery space for more spirited play, as needed.

Ushers Needed!

As you know, our teams of ushers serve on alternating Sundays. It would be helpful to have a few more volunteers so that we can create another team for this rotation. As an usher, you will have the opportunity to greet everyone who comes in, some of them for their first visit to HLC! It's a great way to share your enthusiasm about our worship community. Lorraine Rumpeltes has a complete list of ushers' duties to guide your service.

Please contact Lorraine at lj3997@yahoo.com for more information.

Celebrating Together

Highland Christian Church and Highlands Lutheran Church will be celebrating birthdays together in the coming year. We kick off our festivities on January 3rd with a chili and cake celebration after worship. Would you be willing to bring some chili or cornbread? There's a sign-up sheet on the narthex table. Mark your calendars and join us in cake celebration the first Sunday of every month, in the fellowship hall.

Bienvenidos Food Bank

In December, we are collecting canned fruit and pasta/pasta sauce. Donations will be blessed on **December 27** and then delivered to the Bienvenidos Food Bank for distribution to hundreds of families in our community.

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Spanish Classes

Spanish classes will resume on **Monday, January 4th, at 5:00pm.**

Refugee Mentoring Training

Lutheran Refugee Services has a volunteer program to train people who are interested in mentoring a refugee family. Volunteers will help with a variety of services to help the refugees to become acclimated to life here in Denver. The training sessions are **January 6, 13 & 20 at 6pm** at 1600 Downing St. We need 4-8 volunteers; contact Pr. Stahlberg if you're interested. Also, they are always in need of bedding and kitchen items.

Tennyson School Children

Pastor Sondra has requested that we keep the children at Tennyson in our prayers. The approaching holiday season can be very difficult for them.

Swords into Plowshares

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/the-rev-jacqueline-j-lewis-phd/guns-into-plowshares_b_4630004.html

We have brought the subject up with area churches at the North West Spiritual Leaders and they are in agreement and support with our initiative. We have also contacted the Denver Police Department to see what are the regulations regarding handling of guns, and are waiting for their response!

May God bless you and keep you in His Grace!