



# Highlands Happenings

**December 10, 2015**

## Decorating the Church

Many hands make light work! Come to sanctuary **this Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> from 10-12**, and join in the annual Hanging of the Greens.

## The Gifts of the Magi

This Sunday, **December 13<sup>th</sup>**, Mary Williams and Pastor Stahlberg will have a dialogue sermon on the Gifts of the Magi.

## 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.

## Tara and Eric McConnell's 2nd Annual Holiday Goods Exchange Party!

Join us once again to celebrate the season and share home-made goods/crafts with each other **this Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**. For more information and to RSVP, click on this link <http://evite.me/hUvkv5uu4h>. This is a Holiday party, with the element of enjoying each other's talents. **How it works:** Guests are welcome to either bring items that they've made to exchange/sell, or just come and enjoy the party and peruse the crafts from other guests. There is no pressure to buy anything! The fun is in seeing the many unique items and just enjoying the party. Items can include anything from art, food, crafts, seasonal items, etc. All forms of creativity are welcome. Please also bring a dish or snack to share. All are welcome. **Please let us know if you plan to bring a craft/food to sell/trade so we can arrange space for you!** <http://evite.me/hUvkv5uu4h>

## The Moms' Group Christmas Party

The Moms' Group is having a Christmas Party **this Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4pm** at the Miliuses. There will be food, fellowship, and family fun!

All are welcome - hope you can join us. Email Sara ([saramilius@gmail.com](mailto:saramilius@gmail.com)) for more info.

## Candle-Lighting Ceremony

On the 2nd Sunday in December, every year, The Compassionate Friends (a support group for parents who have lost a child) has a world-wide candle-lighting ceremony. At 7p in every time zone, candles are lit. So as candles burn down in one time zone they are lit in another, creating a 24 hour vigil.

**Date & Time:** December 13, 2015 - 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM

**Location:** Olinger's Crown Hill, 7777 W. 29th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, CO

**Highlights:** The candle ceremony will start at 6:45 PM and the lighting of our candles at 7:00 PM which includes honoring our children by speaking their name, special music and reading of poems by bereaved parents and siblings.

**For more information:** [https://www.compassionatefriends.org/News\\_Events/Special-Events/Worldwide\\_Candle\\_Lighting.aspx](https://www.compassionatefriends.org/News_Events/Special-Events/Worldwide_Candle_Lighting.aspx)

## 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!

[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](mailto:lj3997@yahoo.com) for more information.

### Bedding for Lutheran Refugee Services

There has been a wonderful outpouring of donations of bedding for Lutheran Refugee Services! We will bless these offerings on **Sunday, December 13th**. You can still bring your donation if you like: they are in desperate need of twin, full, and queen (no king please) sized sheet sets, pillows, and blankets (bed size blankets only). These donations will immediately help refugees being resettled in the Denver area.

### Christmas Pageant Rehearsal

The children will be doing a Christmas program on December 20<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup>**. 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.

### 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.

### 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.

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

### THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

### Moms' Group Fundraiser Update

Thank you to all who ordered coffeecakes! We raised \$275 through cake sales and received \$250 more from Thrivent by forming an Action Team! We will be donating gift cards and baby hygiene kits to The Gathering Place on December 20th. Thank you everyone who made this a success!!

### Hats and Gloves

**Thanks to the generosity of our congregation** here at Highlands Lutheran Church, 22 warm hats, 17 pairs of warm gloves, and several warm scarves and pairs of socks were given to St. Francis Center last week. A special thank you to **Mary Williams** for delivering them for us.

### Our Beautiful Christmas Tree!

A big thank-you to **Ron Morales** whose family owns the Christmas tree lot on the corner of Sheridan and 52nd Ave in Denver! He very kindly donated a beautiful tree to HLC. The spirit of giving is alive and well in Denver!

**May God bless you and keep you in His Grace!**