



December 24, 2015

A BLESSED CHRISTMAS SEASON TO YOU!

**Happening at Highlands
this week...**

Christmas Eve Service- TODAY!

We will have our Christmas Eve service, at 4:30 pm on Thursday, December 24th. Care for children under the age of 3 will be provided. There is a special gift on the kids' table for newcomer children!

Nursery News!

Tyler Starkweather offered to be our nursery attendant! He began his job last Sunday! He will provide care for children on Christmas Eve! Welcome aboard TYLER!

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.

Sunday, December 27, 10:00 a.m.

1st Sunday of Christmas Communion Worship, Lessons and Carols; coffee fellowship afterwards.

Sunday, 12/27: Highlands Messenger Deadline!

REMEMBER TO USE YOUR KING SOUPER CARDS

It is so easy to help our church get some extra funds for ministry!

Get your **King Soopers Card** active again! You can re-load your card and then do grocery shopping. King Soopers sends HLC a check for 5% of the money spent using the cards. It's a win/win/win situation. 100% of the amount on the card goes toward the cardholder's purchases/King Soopers gets our business/ Highlands Lutheran gets 5% of the amount from Kings. If you need a new card talk with Lorraine or Paul Rumpeltes.

**and next week...
Happy New Year!**

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? **Don't forget to sign up on the sheet on the narthex table.** Mark your calendars and join us in cake celebration the first Sunday of every month, in the fellowship hall.

VESPERS

HLC invites you to participate in the Wednesday evening vespers; a time of silence, pondering, prayer & study of Scripture!

Join us at 6:30 pm, every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday of the month!

Reaching Out in 2016

...So many opportunities for discipleship..

Bring food for the Food Bank any time

Our church has partnered with Bienvendidos Food Bank and we are collecting food from our congregation, but also from our neighborhood! Collection baskets are at the church entrance! Your donations are taken to Binevenidos Food Bank regularly. Thank you Pam McClune for taking care of the delivery!

Fair Trade Coffee

Our efforts for Fair Trade continue throughout the year as HLC has committed to serve and sell fairly traded coffee exclusively. Check out the coffee packages on the black shelves in our Narthex. (next to the sunflowers) Every one costs \$ 10. Please, put a check or cash in the box provided. Coffee always makes a good gift!

Refugee Mentoring Training

Lutheran Refugee Services has a volunteer training program for those 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 a group of 4-8 volunteers for one of those dates, preferably January 13th; contact Pr. Stahlberg if you're interested. Also, they are always in need of bedding and kitchen items.

A TICKET TO RIDE

Proposal by Mary Williams

Mary works at St. Francis, a day-time center for the homeless. One of the most pressing needs of those who are experiencing homelessness is transportation. Very few of those who are homeless have access to a car. The most common means of transportation are bus or by foot. One of the items that is most requested is a bus ticket. I would like to propose that Highlands Lutheran begins a year-long program where the congregation provides a flow of funds to purchase bus tickets for the community at St. Francis Center. This would begin during this Christmas season and continue through 2016. The goal would be to provide **50** bus tickets per month. Transportation is something that we take for granted. For a parent trying to get the kids to school or daycare, or trying to get to the grocery store, bus tickets mean that participants will be able to get there in a much more timely manner. Each month there would be a report back to the congregation concerning those who were benefitted by the bus tickets. Tickets, at full price, for a one way ticket is \$2.25. Those who are 65 and over ride at 50% reduced fare. Anyone with a disability also rides at a reduced rate.

Contact Mary Williams at: 720 480 3816 or mwilliams@iliff.edu if you want to help!

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY- Coming soon at HLC!

Ken Wiig and Pastor Stahlberg met with Molly McNearney, Faith Relations Manager, and Kyle Kissinger from Thrivent to discuss possibilities for cooperation in the near future. There will be a Habitat presentation **on February 7th**. The presentation will be on Neighborhood Revitalization Program in Globeville. Presentation will be after worship service and during the Birthday Coffee and Cake! Our fellow partner Highland Christian Church will also attend this event!

And last but not least...this Summer... June 11-25

Nicaragua Mission Trip

Remember we raised money to build a home in Somoto? Pastor Susan Kent sent out an e-mail out inviting us to participate in the next mission trip. In June of 2016, pastor Liliana will go to see for herself and help with this mission trip. Members of HLC are invited to restart the tradition of mission trips! There is an Interest Meeting for all potential travelers scheduled for Friday, January 29th at 6:30pm at Bethlehem Lutheran in Longmont.

Coffee and dessert will be provided by the Board.

Additional information can be found at our website: TheNicaraguaProject.org

Merry Christmas, and A New Year filled with CHRIST'S LOVE, GRACE and COMPASSION!