

ANNOUNCEMENTS – DECEMBER 14, 2014

DATES TO REMEMBER THIS WEEK

Today: **Christmas Project Donations Due!**
 11:00AM Ladies Aid/Fellowship Club Potluck
Wednesday: 4:30PM 5th/6th Grade Confirmation
 5:30PM 7th/8th Grade Confirmation
 7:00PM Advent Midweek Worship
 7:45PM Choir
Thurs: 10AM-2:30PM Adjustment to Blindness Class
 11:00AM Seminary Home Chapel
 No Women's Bible Class This Month
Sat: 9:00-11:00AM Christmas Program Practice
Next Sunday: Fourth Sunday in Advent
 9:00AM Sunday School and Bible Class
 9:45AM Fellowship Time
 10:00AM Worship with Holy Communion
 6:00PM Children's Christmas Program

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Today - Lilian Germann-Hutter
Monday - Johnathon Burns
Tuesday - Kim Frazier, Bill Langhans
Thursday - Mary Augustin, Patricia Schmitz
Saturday - Linda Rehder

IN OUR PRAYERS

Willard Holst, Jeanette Falkner, Bill Langhans, Hermann von Knobelsdorff, Leonard Dicke, Dolores Cedar, Kari Janssen (cancer treatments), Melissa Barbey (brain tumor), Neil Stemmann (cancer treatments), and the family and friends of Richard Diercks (as they mourn his passing).

CHRISTMAS MILITARY OFFERING - TODAY

A basket has been placed at the back of the sanctuary today for those who would like to give a holiday donation for the military men and women of our congregation. The total amount received will be divided equally between our military brothers and sisters. Thank you for your generosity!

POTLUCK TODAY - EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

The Ladies Aid and Fellowship Club of Immanuel invite you to a Christmas potluck following the Divine Service this morning. The event will be held in the fellowship hall. For those who brought a \$5 gift, we will also have a little holiday game/gift exchange.

GOODHUE COUNTY CHRISTMAS PROJECT GIFTS DUE

If you signed up to bring gifts for the Goodhue County Christmas Project, your donations are due today! If you do not have your gift with you today, please speak with Bobbi Langhans (385-8167) for additional directions. Thank you to everyone who participated this year and thank you for your kindness to those in need.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

The Christmas Program of our Sunday School students will be held next Sunday, December 21st, at 6:00 PM.

Refreshments will follow the program in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to come and hear the Christmas story!

(OVER)

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT CONCORDIA

A free Christmas dinner with all the trimmings will be served on Christmas Day from noon to 1:30 PM at Concordia Lutheran Church in Red Wing. Everyone is welcome! For delivery, please call the church at 388-5447 or Carol Steffenhagen at 388-4361. This is a Thrivent sponsored event.

IMMANUEL SCHOOL BUILDING MEMORABILIA

Time is running out to submit your memories of the Immanuel School Building! Items will be accepted through December 21st at which time the memory box will be sealed. You may place your photos, notes, letters or other small memorabilia in the orange box by the Box Tops Collection bins. Please note: These items will NOT be returned. If you have questions, talk to Bonnie Kassen. Thanks!

LIFE QUOTES

December 14 "In the Christmas story, God descends to reascend. He comes down ... down to the very roots and sea bed of the Nature He has created. But He goes down to come up again and bring the whole ruined world up with Him." *C.S. Lewis, from "Miracles"* – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org

"THE LUTHERAN HOUR" – Sunday, December 21, 2014

8:30AM on KCUE-AM; 6:00PM on KDHL-Faribault (920)

"Surprised by Grace"

Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz

God's grace comes as a surprise and blessing to those who deserve none of it. (Luke 1:26-38)

REVIEW: THE DOCTRINAL POSITION OF THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

Of the Means of Grace (Continued from last week)

Since it is only through the external means ordained by Him that God has promised to communicate the grace and salvation purchased by Christ, the Christian Church must not remain at home with the means of grace entrusted to it, but go into the whole world with the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments, Matt. 28:19, 20; Mark 16:15, 16. For the same reason also the churches at home should never forget that there is no other way of winning souls for the Church and keeping them with it than the faithful and diligent use of the divinely ordained means of grace. Whatever activities do not either directly apply the Word of God or subserve such application we condemn as "new methods," unchurchly activities, which do not build, but harm the Church.

We reject as a dangerous error the doctrine, which disrupted the Church of the Reformation, that the grace and the Spirit of God are communicated not through the external means ordained by Him, but by an immediate operation of grace. This erroneous doctrine bases the forgiveness of sins, or justification, upon a fictitious "infused grace," that is, upon a quality of man, and thus again establishes the work-doctrine of the papists.