

The Lyons Community Church

Mid-Week Message

Wednesday, December 2, 2015

It won't be long now....

I shared on Sunday that I was in Walgreen's last week with my daughter Lillian and my mother Vikki visiting from SC, when 2.5-year-old Lillian announced loudly, "Ladies and gentlemen...." (and then, after a dramatic pause - wonder where she gets that?)... "Christmas is STARTING!"



Like it or not, ready or not, the Advent and Christmas season is upon us. Last Sunday, we arrived at church to find an empty manger with twinkling stars above it. But it won't be long until that unlikely cast of characters shows up to fill the stage - a young mother on a donkey, a scared father, a special baby boy, shepherds with their smelly animals, angels with their blinding starlight, and then a cast of astrological star-gazers from the East, bringing their exotic gifts to worship the Baby-King. Yup - the Christmas story has always been full of surprises and unexpected visitors.

But it has also been full of HOPE (our First Advent focus on Mary last week) and LOVE (this Sunday's Second Advent focus on Joseph of Bethlehem). We're taking a Musical Christmas Journey this season, studying some favorite carols juxtaposed against the physical Israeli settings of this most well-known story on earth. We're trying to reclaim some of the story's riches, to revel in some little known or long forgotten details, to meet the Christ-Child in a fresh new way this season - through music and the embodiment of place.

This Sunday at 11am, we'll even throw in the Sacrament of Holy Communion, the baptism of Jackson Rocco Palmeri, and the new member reception of his parents Roy and Ginger. It is sure to be a celebration you won't want to miss! And in the afternoon, you are invited to continue celebrating at our new home (1419 Morningside Drive, Longmont 80504) for a



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Sunday, Dec. 6

Sermon: Second Advent—A Musical Journey, *The LOVE of Joseph of Bethlehem* -
Rev. Emily Flemming

Scripture: Matthew 1:28-24
(NRSV)

Reader: Mark Boys

Refreshments: Mark & Christine Boys

Children's Ministry: Dana Curton and Kitty Keim

Pastor's Message (continued)

Christmas Drop-in. Ready or not, here we go....

Merry Christmas, y'all -

Pastor Emily

Prayer Team

You may make prayer requests by contacting Pastor Emily Flemming (Emily@lyonscommunitychurch.org) or Prayer Team Chair Kitty Keim (kathkeim@earthlink.net). You may also join the Prayer Team at any time by contacting either of these ladies.

Current prayer team members include: Holly & Steve Beck, Mark Boys, Pam Browning, Sandi Fikes, Janet Freeman, Vance French, Alyssa Frideres, Ellen Hine, Jani Little, Steve Mikesell, Jerry & Jean Peila, Carol Pranschke, Richard & Deborah Salmon, Debbie Tabor, and Sandra Willis.

Prayers

Joys: birthday of Brian Whitehead on 12/5; baptism of Jackson Rocco and his parents Roy and Ginger Palmeri as new church members on Sunday; Chili Supper we host Saturday night; anticipation for the Spontaneous All-Age Christmas Pageant Extraordinaire on Dec. 13

Concerns: Jerry's heart health and ongoing tests; Jim Olinger; Donna Lee; Sandra's niece Shanda; Steve's brother Brad; grief of Marie and Sandi; Diane Duncan; traveling mercies; local, national and global violence, homelessness and fear - esp. for the terrorist attack on Planned Parenthood in Colorado Springs and those who risked and lost their lives there

Announcements

Emily and Regis would like to warmly invite everyone to their annual Christmas drop-in this Sunday from 3-5pm at their new home at 1419 Morningside Drive, Longmont, 80504

The Care Team will meet on Thursday, Dec. 10th from 4-5pm in Wesleyan Hall (downstairs).

Reminder: There is no Ministry Council meeting this month. Enjoy the extra time with loved ones!

Sunday Dec. 13th is our first-ever spontaneous, All-Church Christmas Pageant. All are welcome!



Christmas Pageant

**The Spontaneous
All-Age
Christmas Pageant**

