

Announcements for Sunday, December 2, 2012

New Announcements

Members of the Prayer Group are lighting the Advent Candle in today's service.

A service of remembrance and thanksgiving for the life of Elaine Rasmussen, will be held at Faith Church on Saturday, December 1st, at 11:00 a.m. A reception and graveside service will follow. Elaine's family request that gifts in her memory be made to Faith Church.

We hold in our prayers the family of Marvin Shammo, who died Monday, November 26th.

A service celebrating Marvin's life was held at Dostal Bokas Funeral Services at 6245 Columbia Road in North Olmsted on Friday, November 30th, at 10:00 a.m. Condolences may be sent to Marvin's wife, Carol, and daughters Gail and Suzanne at 23280 Harms Road, Richmond Heights 44143. The family requests that gifts in memory of Marv be made to Faith Church.

This year's Giving Tree is up and full of ornaments!

Gifts this year will benefit the children of Providence House, a crisis nursery offering emergency shelter and care to children who are actively at risk for abuse and neglect due to family crisis. Take an ornament, or two, off the tree, purchase the item and place it, unwrapped, under the tree. All items must be new. Donations will be accepted through December 23rd. Thank you for your support!

Ingathering 2012: As we did in our Ingathering for the past couple of years, we will be collecting cash donations from December 2nd through December 23rd. The cash will be donated to the New Covenant Lutheran Church Hunger Center on Hayden Avenue. While food donations are always welcome, cash is preferred by the Hunger Center because of its wonderful multiplicative effect. With your cash donations, food from the Cleveland Foodbank is purchased by the Hunger Center at an enormously reduced cost, thereby making our dollars go much further in alleviating hunger than they would by purchasing from retailers. Please join us as we seek to help those who are hungry in our community.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 16th at 12:00 Noon. The annual report of the congregation will be available for pick up after worship on Sunday, December 9th.

Join us for Christmas caroling! Following the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 16th, we will be caroling to our shut-ins from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. following a special lunch for carolers. Please sign up on the bulletin board opposite the kitchen before you leave church next Sunday.

The Faith Reading Group, this Wednesday, December 5th, will discuss Corrie Ten Boom's *The Hiding Place*, starting with refreshments in the kitchen at 7:00 p.m. followed by discussion at 7:30 p.m.

A Christmas Recital will take place here at Faith on Saturday, December 22nd at 3:00 p.m. Teacher, Oksana Melnychenko, invites everyone to the recital in the church Social Hall.

Previous Announcements

The UCC responds to hurricane Sandy: In conjunction with our disaster-relief partners in the eastern states, the UCC is responding to the devastation caused by Hurricane Sandy with food, clothing, medical supplies, and other necessities. **If you would like to donate financially to this effort**, you may do so on line at the UCC web page (www.ucc.org "Donate Now") or by writing a check to Faith with the subject line "Disaster Relief" and putting it in the collection plate or getting it to the church office. We will send one check to Wider Church Ministries before Christmas. In the meantime, please keep all those affected in your prayers.

Update on Bread for the World Letters: Thank you for your generous response to writing letters to the lame-duck Congress advocating for protecting programs that support hungry and poor people here and abroad. To date 36 letters have been sent and a few more are being finished. Some of us are making phone calls as well. We remember that 95% of food for hungry people comes from federal programs such as SNAP, WIC, and federal school meals, while 5% of food for hungry people comes from the private sector such as food banks and churches.

It's a Christmas Concert! Presented by The Northcoast Women's Ensemble on Tuesday, December 11th, at 1:00 p.m. The Faith Seniors invite everyone to come and bring their friends to enjoy this special holiday concert.

Faith Church Preschool would like to respectfully request that the members of Faith Church consider a purchase toward the Our Town and All Around Books fundraiser. Books are available for \$28.00 (\$11 to the school) and offer a large selection of coupons to surrounding area businesses including The Chardon Brew Pub.