

Announcements for Sunday, January 6, 2013

New Announcements

The Introit today is *I Wonder as I Wander* by Cathy Moglebust. It is performed by the Bell Choir and dedicated to all the people at Faith by Sue Jacquet.

Thanks to Donna Nedrow and everyone who assisted in last Sunday's service of lessons and carols while the pastor was on vacation. To the members of the Worship Ministry, to liturgist Linda Brooks, to the readers, and to the musicians a great thanks for assuming this responsibility.

The pastor would like to express his thanks to everyone at Faith for their Christmas cards, gifts, notes, and other expressions of affection and appreciation during the holiday season. Your thoughtfulness, kindness, and generosity mean a great deal to him. Thank you, and may you all have a blessed new year.

Coffee Hour Host Teams... Thank you to all who have stepped up to be a coffee hour host team! There are still several spots left to be filled. Unless we have 12 teams, we will be unable to move forward with the new hosting format. Please consider partnering with friends and hosting a social hour for Faith members and visitors 3-4 times a year. See Barb Holtz with any questions.

Ingathering 2012: Thanks to all at Faith Church for a successful Christmas Ingathering. We collected a total of \$912.00. This money will be going to the New Covenant Lutheran Church hunger center on Hayden Avenue.

Christmas Fund Offering: Our congregation has contributed a total of \$203.00 for our Christmas Fund Offering (formerly Veterans of the Cross) for 2012. This money benefits church workers in need of assistance. Thank you to all who contributed.

Fifth Sunday Offering: Thanks to everyone who contributed to our Fifth Sunday Offering for the repainting of the Social Hall chairs on December 30th. The total amount that has been received so far is \$399.50.

The Cleveland Ecumenical Institute for Religious Studies, on whose governing board the pastor sits, is offering a variety of courses during its winter term, which begins Jan. 12th (e.g., the death of Jesus, the thought of Teresa of Avila, religious zeal and violence, and Lent and Easter according to Luke). See their poster on the bulletin board for more information.

The Wednesday book discussions for 2013: Anyone is welcome to come to one or all. We start at 7:00 p.m. in the kitchen with refreshments and have the discussion in the parlor at 7:30 p.m. February 6th: *The Round House* by Louise Erdrich. March 6th: Richmond Heights Community Wide Book Discussion: *Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton (adult selection). April 3rd: No discussion due to Easter on March 31st. May 1st: *Killing Lincoln: The Shocking Assassination that Changed America Forever* (338 pages) by Bill O'Reilly. June 5th: *Seize the Day* by Saul Bellow. July 3rd and August 7th: No discussion due to summer break. September 4th: *The Man Who Was Thursday* by G. K. Chesterton. October 2nd: *Never Let Me Go* by Kazuo Ishiguro. November 6th: *Sailing Alone Around the Room* (poetry) by Billy Collins. December 4th: *The Testament of Mary* by Colm Toibin.

Previous Announcements

Today is the last Sunday--Letter Writing for Gun Control Measures: Come to the Parlor after Worship and write a letter to Congress and/or to President Obama. Tables will be set up with paper, envelopes, pens, addresses, and sample letters for you to consider. We can respond to the killing of 27 persons, including 20 children, in Newtown, Connecticut by expressing to national decision makers that this is the time to enact common sense measures to prevent the horrific gun violence that occurs far too often in this country.

Suppers for Eight is back! For those of you who have participated in the past, you know that it's a fun time filled with conversation and fellowship among members of Faith and their friends. For three months beginning in February, eight individuals (four pairs) will meet at a host house. You do not need to host a dinner to participate. There are openings for both hosts and non-hosts on the sign-up sheet which is now posted. The sign-up sheet will stay up through January or until it's full. This is a great opportunity to get to know fellow members of the congregation while having great food and a great time. If there are any questions, see Ron or Mary Ober.

Our food pantry overfloweth! Thanks to all who have donated non-perishables to our food pantry -- please stop for a while, we're full! Rick Lorentz will be donating our overflowing canned goods to an appropriate food distribution agency, and if you would like to help those in need during the coming months, please consider purchasing a gift card to a local grocer or other retailer (e.g., Target) that we can distribute when we receive calls for assistance. When we're ready to start receiving non-perishables for our pantry again, we'll let you know. Thank you for your generosity, and thanks to Lou Hein and Liz Duncan for keeping our pantry organized and operating.