

# The Shepherd's Voice

December 2024

439 E. Norvell Bryant Hwy, Hernando, FL 34442



### PASTOR'S PAGE

### A Merry and Blessed Christmas to You and Yours,

The celebration of Advent 2024 that begins on Sunday, December 1st, is a special season in our church year as we prepare ourselves for the coming of the Christ Child. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin phrase "Adventus Domini", meaning "Arrival of the Lord". It is the season marked by "anticipation", "hope", "repentance", and "preparation". These themes will be emphasized during our worship services through liturgy, music, scripture, sermons, and prayer. In addition, there is the symbolism of the lighting of the Advent Candles on each of the four Sundays reminding us of the gifts of "Hope", "Peace", "Joy", and "Love" given to us as gifts through the birth the Christ child. You will also notice that the paraments and the stoles being worn are blue symbolizing "hope" and "royalty", once again, pointing to the birth of Christ the Newborn King. If we want to share in the joy of Christmas, we need to prepare ourselves for the good news of Christmas. I invite you to join us each Sunday during Advent as well as to our Wednesday Evening Advent Services at 6:30 PM preceded by our 5:30 PM. Soup Suppers on December 4th, 11th, and 18th. Then, join us to joyfully celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Christmas Eve, December 24th, at our 5:00 PM Candlelight Service. Your family members, friends, and visiting guests are also invited. As we receive all these wonderful gifts and blessings wrapped up in the birth of the Christ Child, let us joyfully share them with all whom we

birth of the Christ Child, let us joyfully share them with all whom we meet along our life's journey.

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### **A Christmas Prayer:**

God of Bethlehem: Christmas is for everyone. Every human being, every living thing. Every place. Every person. Every time. Christ is here, there, and everywhere. Everything past, present, and future. Christ is all in all. Christ is your "Yes" to us. You are, thus we shall be. Christmas is for love. Christ is love. Christmas is Christ. We thank you and welcome your divine blessings given to us and all people through the birth of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen

With Christmas Joy, Peace, and Love, Pastor Bob



December 13th





### **Church Council News**



The Council met on November 14th and approved the following items:

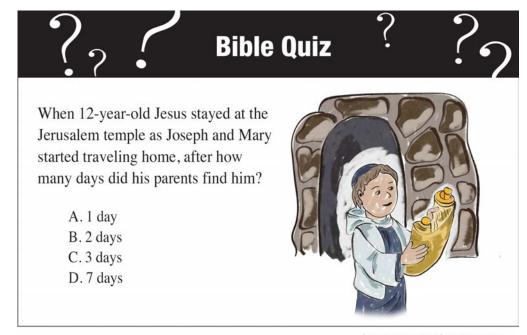
- Approved the change in building use request for the Spanish Language Church from Mondays to Tuesday evenings.
- Approved Enduring Gifts funds to purchase new white banners (All Saints, etc.)
- Approved the request from Food For the Poor to speak on Feb. 9, 2025.
- Approved the license purchase for "I Heard the Bells" video from Sight & Sound.
- Approved the first showing of "I Heard the Bells" for December 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.
- Approved returning to live streaming for Sunday Worship.

### **Executive Council Meeting**

December 5th @ 9:30 AM

**Council Meeting** 

December 12th @ 3:00 PM



### President's Message



I want to thank everyone who helped with the Thanksgiving takeout meals. Whether you donated food, helped prep, or give out the meals, your generosity was greatly appreciated. We served 24 meals this year. If there is enough interest next year, we may have a sit down dinner with the takeout option still available to those who cannot attend.

If you plan on coming to the first showing of "I Heard the Bells", please signup as soon as possible. We need an accurate count for the license and to ensure we have enough room in Fellowship Hall. Feel free to invite your friends and neighbors too. Admission is free and we only ask you to bring a non-perishable food donation to benefit S.O.S. Food Pantry.

I was recently made aware of the Florida – Bahamas Synod's E-Spirit weekly newsletter. While the Synod's website has been a valuable tool for me since becoming President, I was unaware of the newsletter. It is chock full of information of things happening within the Synod as well as local congregation news. You can sign up for the weekly newsletter here <a href="https://fbsynod.com/e-spirit-archive/">https://fbsynod.com/e-spirit-archive/</a>

Finally, I want to say a huge thank you to those serving on Council whose terms will be ending this month. Thank you to Carole Wagner, Ron O'Keefe, Vera Swade, Shelly Fortin, and Bill Mehnert for serving and for your contributions to the Council.

Grace and Peace,

Joe



# Meet a Seminary Student

My Name is Dana Paulsen. I am a Luther Seminary Student, seeking ordination in Word and Sacrament.

My academics are completed and I am currently working on my CPE certification. I will be seeking endorsement and completing my year of internship in Florida beginning this spring. I recently moved to Inverness, from a rural town in northwestern Wisconsin called Luck. My 14 year old son, Josh, just started high school at CHS. He loves basketball, nature, and music. I worked as a music teacher for 25 years, giving back to the community that I was born and raised in.

During this time, I experienced many different types of ministries. I have worked with children and family ministries most of my life. Along with 2 years volunteering at the Luck Nursing Home focusing on memory care through music ministry. Music is a powerful tool and I will be continuing that ministry here in Florida. God continues to provide new opportunities for ministries that I care deeply about. Behavioral and mental health, recovery, and women's prison ministry are just to name a few.

I am looking forward to joining Intern Rick in providing a Eucharist service in surrounding Nursing and Assisted Living Facilities. Josh and I are grateful for this opportunity to be near our family and to create new relationships through faith.

Dana

# WELCA NEWS



As a community of women created in the image of God called to discipleship in Jesus Christ and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society and the world.

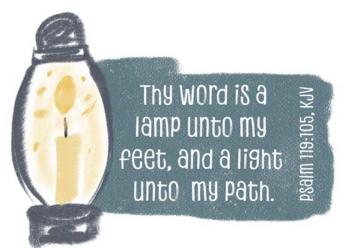
Our December circle meeting will be a luncheon at La Pergola on Tuesday, December 17th at noon. If you'd like to come, please RSVP to me at <a href="mailto:sthennessey1@charter.net">sthennessey1@charter.net</a> by Friday, December 13th.

We are still working on the book club idea. Any suggestions welcome!

Nancy Gomes and Sally Hennessey attended the Fall Gathering at Warren Willis Conference Center from November 8-10. Our own Anne Storan was also there, of course, presiding for her last year as President of the Florida-Bahamas SWO. The weekend was filled with moving worship, good workshops, great fellowship, and too much food. A highlight was 550 United Methodist youth, who we cheered as they left their worship service in the auditorium and we waited to go in for ours. This was reversed when they waited for us to leave so they could go in. It was so encouraging to see that many youth excited about their faith in Christ!

Sally Hennessey, of hithereader under CC BY-NC https://www.pngall.com/party-png/download/54388





# Fellowship



Our Fellowship Committee meeting will be held on Monday, December 9th, 2024, at 1:30 PM. We are asking our committee members to attend if their schedule allows.

We would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank you" to the many people who have volunteered to help with setting the buffet table, serving coffee, and cleaning up in our Fellowship Hall before and after Sunday worship this year. They are: Margot Berger, Maggie Breggar, Sue Buldiger, Janet Burfeindt, John Colson, Cherie Earl, Nina Giglio, Amy Gilbert, Nancy Gomes, Ginny Gopadz, Aagot Green, Roberta Hall, Patrick Hennessey, Carol Herbst, Pat Howard, Jackie Imes, Richard Imes, Yolanda Jacobs, Dianne Johnson, Linda Kranauer, Barb Lauer, Beth Lauer, Sharon Maxwell, Eloise Mongardi, Karen Monsen, Margaret Ohsiek, Pat Ouwerkerk, Marcia Reichert, Betty Sanger, Ann Serafin, Cara Stickler, Tom Stickler, Judy Teague, Martie Zacharczyk, and Dale. If I have omitted your name, please accept my apology.

During the months of December, January, and February, we will be offering hot chocolate as well as tea and coffee after worship on Sunday. On December 7th, children will be baking cookies for our congregation.

We would also like to thank our generous congregation who have baked and provided desserts for our buffet table this year. It is most appreciated!

Elaine Giammasi, Chair John Giammasi, Co-Chair

If you would like to order a magnetic name tag please contact Donald Marchetti at (401) 568-8017 or <a href="mailto:11thhoursigns@gmail.com">11thhoursigns@gmail.com</a> Cost is \$5.00.



# Serving Our Savior

### **Update from October / November 2024**

Families served: 427 / 415

People served: 1,119 / 1,131

Pounds of Food: 57,360 / 24,815

Average pounds per person: 51.3 / 21.9









352-462-0901 SOS Food Pantry PO Box 640774 Beverly Hills, FL 34464 email sos4food@gmail.com

Can goods always needed

Reverse Advent Calendar- Good Shepherd's Reverse Advent Calendar which supports our SOS Food Pantry will start the 1st of December. We will collect donations of canned goods for each day of December until Christmas day. A flyer with a list of the canned goods needed will be on the table in the Narthex. Please do not bring in your donations until the week of Christmas. You can put your donations on a designated table in the back of Fellowship Hall. On Christmas day we will donate the contents to the SOS Food Pantry. (See attached list at end of Newsletter) Make copies and share with your friends and neighbors.



### Craft 'n Share



We will not meet on December 11, 2024 as previously printed. Have a good Christmas all!

WE WILL MEET NEXT January 22, 2025, from 10 AM to 2 PM. Bring your lunch; beverage and dessert will be provided.

We welcome Nancy Justiano's return to Craft and Share. She has graciously agreed to Chair Craft and Share starting in 2025. On November 14th, Nancy, Ann Serafin, and Maggie reviewed the Craft Closet and began to donate excess items from Craft closet. We still have a large bin of 4 ply and even baby yarn in the closet. See blue bin marked "YARN".

In January, we hope to start making Adult Clothing protectors for a local Assisted Living facility.

We have good supply of fabric but could use a bathroom hand towel for the backs. If you are out shopping, consider picking up a couple. Dollar stores have inexpensive supply.

In October, 5 of us met and we made 15 eye glass/pen holder cases from men's ties for our shut-ins for Christmas gifts. They were inserted in a Christmas Card. They are in Library/Intern Rick's office for our Eucharistic Ministers to deliver as they make their visits.

Another project is making pillowcase dresses which we will ship soon to the Michigan facility who forward them on to Africa or where needed. We have assembled pillow case dress kits and have a pattern if you would like to sew at home. We thank Diane Kolm for sewing several to be mailed.

Also thank you to our home crafters. We gave out several prayer shawls to bereaved families. We have two large bins of Prayer Shawls and Lap Robes for members or friends who are ill or in a rehab facility. If you know of someone who needs one, they are in the south closet next to Quilter and Craft and Share closet (the far north closet by rear windows in Fellowship Hall.) Please sign them out on clip board saying who they are going to and who delivered them.

Thanks,

Maggie Bregger

Next meeting January 22nd

# Worship and Music

December 3rd @ 1PM - Meeting

Choir will meet at 7 PM after Advent Service.

Choir and Bells will be on break from Dec 17th to Jan 6th. Bells start on Jan 7th and Choir starts on Jan 8th.



Readers for December 29th Lessons and Carols service:





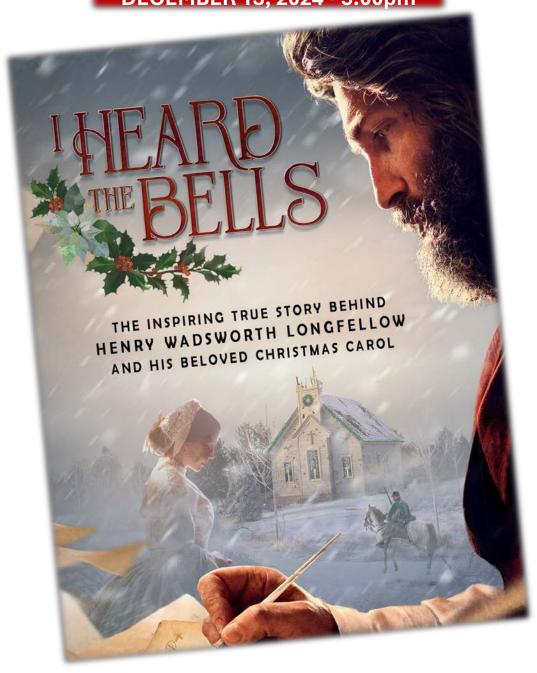
# Health Ministry

Your Faith Community Nurse is Kathy Metz, she can be reached @ 352-746-1911 and the Health Team members are: Barb Lauer, Donna Pease, John Colson, and Leith Masters. We will provide blood pressure screenings on the last Sunday of the month after worship.

### Outreach

JOIN US IN FELLOWSHIP TO WATCH

DECEMBER 13, 2024 • 5:00pm



Please sign up in the Narthex.

One name per line.

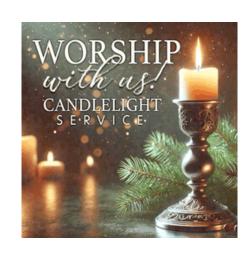
# **Special Dates**

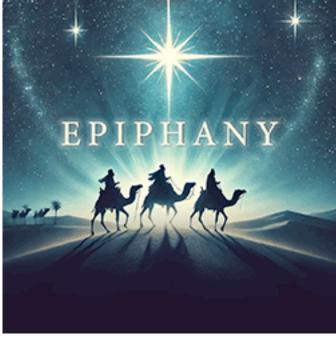
- 1 First Sunday of Advent
- 8 Second Sunday of Advent
- 13 Greening of the Church
- 15 Third Sunday of Advent
- 21 First Day of Winter
- 22 Fourth Sunday of Advent
- 24 Christmas Eve
- 25 Christmas Day
- 31 New Year's Eve













### First Thursday @ Noon Lunch @ Angelotti's

# December 2024



Wednesdays @ 9 AM

A Time for Prayer

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 10A Worship	2 1:30P Social Ministry Meeting	3 11A - WELCA Board Meeting (Cattle Dog)  1P - Worship & Music Meeting  6:30P - Bells	4 7:30A - SOS 1:00P - Newcomer's Club 5:30P - Soup 6:30P - Service 7P - Choir	5 7:30A - SOS 9:30A Executive Council 1P Outreach 2P Stewardship	6 8:00A – Workday on Grounds	7
8 10A Worship Sureay School Second Sunday of Equal Exchange Coffee & Tea	<b>9 1:30P</b> - Fellowship	10 6:30P - Bells	11 7:30A - SOS 5:30P - Soup 6:30P - Service 7P - Choir	12 7:30A - SOS 3:00 P Council Meeting	13 8:00A – Workday on Grounds Greening of the Church  5P - "I Heard the Bells" Movie	14
15 10A - Worship Sunday School	16	Noon - WELCA Luncheon at LaPergola	18 7:30A-SOS 5:30P - Soup 6:30P - Service 7P - Choir	7:30A - SOS  10A-11:30A Citrus Hills POA Meeting	20 8:00A – Workday on Grounds	DEADLINE: Newsletter Articles
Worship Sunday School		5P - Service	We send joyful greetings as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Please join us to worship our newborn King and Savior!	26 7:30A - SOS  10A Christian Education	27 8:00A – Workday on Grounds	28
29 10A Worship Sunday School	30	31				
Blood Pressure Sercencing						13

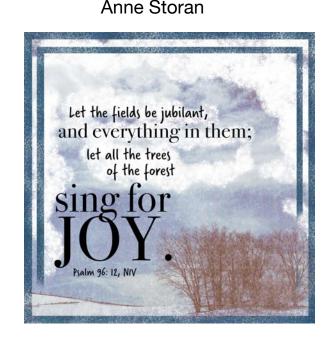
### **ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS**



Jim & Amy Gilbert 12/19/70
Kevin & Cindy Towne 12/19/87
Nate & Sauny Williams 12/29/62



4 - Jaqueline Imes	11 - Bob Lackner Dylan Nelson	20 - Frank Romanelli	
6 - Carol Lee Johnson	12 - Cindy Gaertner	21 - Joann Frost	
0 - Oaioi Lee Joilison	12 - Ollidy Gaerther	23 - Judy Fischer	
7 - Gail Sotrines	13 - Karen Robidoux	25 - Chris Bahner Faye Lowe	
	15 - Shirley Storsteen	Ester Page-Wood	
9 - Janet Burfeindt	19 - Maggie Kirkeby	26 - Lainey Sorrell-Fowler	









#### Let us remember:

Benefiel, Larry & Karen

Brit-Busler, Elizabeth

Clark, Dawn

Cashman, Dan

Costa, Denise

Johnson, Carol Lee Kauth, Gerry

Jimenez, Jeanette

Hassinger, Doug & Donna

Koch, Michael

Krenauer, Linda

Lauer, Barbara

Lawrence, Ivalee

Lepore, Linda

Masters, Leith

Meltesen Family

Mongardi, Eloise

Page-Wood, Jeremy

Pawelko, Diane

Peterson, Gloria

Wagner, Carole

#### Those who are shut in or residing in assisted living homes:

Chacon, Carol

Frost, Joann

Hartsfield, Sylvia

Lowe, Faye

Moll, Bob

Philipp, Dick

Pufahl, Jean

Whitcomb, Ray

#### All who serve our country in the military:

Burba, Jake

Ceballos, Jason

Corsino, Mykael

Day, Kenneth Harrington, Bryan

Heinz, Karinne

Hickman, Richard

Hicks, Nathan Holman, Evan Jackson, Brad

Johnston-Garcia, Christian

Luchay, Alan McCann, Jim

Miller, Tyler Much, Jason

Piott, Trenton

Radloff, Steven

Posa, Codymicheal

Radosevitch, Eric Springer, Dennis Stroble, Jeramy Swain, Jr., Terry Thomas, Peter Chris

Thompson, David

Timpe, Chris



#### **Relatives and Friends:**

Arbuckle, Amy & Matthew

Balastieri, Casey Barber, Steve & Kitty

Beeftink, Paul Bluver, Linda & son

Blyth, Ruby Brace, Quin

Brugger, Tristan Burkhardt, Faith & Dina

Cahoone, Bill

Campano, Thomas

Cato, Cecelia Cipollone, Elaine Crooks, Candi

DeVenuto, Lisa Dortin, Rachel Drake. Matthew

Farmer, Tom Fidwell, Eloise

Fowler family

Fratto, Joseph

Garling, John Gifford, Judy

Goetter, Lisbeth

Goetter, Thomas Goforth, Jeffrey Goodloe, Ernestine

Graves, Janice & Declan

Hertel, Karl Hunt, Jim

Iudiciani, Georgia Johnson, Jim

Kraft, Carter

Koch, Dennis & Linda

Lahera, Andy Lavaja, Jim

Lewellen, Emily Anne

Lobenthal, Jean Loftin, Tracy

Longworth, Kathy <sub>15</sub>

Lublemon family Pach, Barbara Sbani, Carol Welch, George Lundsford, Victoria Page-Wood, Jake Scheetz, Cathy & Family Wells. Emmarie Magnotta family Parruche, Linda Ama Sillen, Rita Wierzel. Rosalee Williams, Dorothy Magrum, Corbin Pope, Jeff Small, Brenda & Steven Pope, Rick Smrdel, Terri Wilson, Karen Maidhof, Dexter, Gary, Jeremiah McHugh, Mark Queen, Max Stewart, Sam Wizard, Joe & Dana Meidl, Nancy Rajotte, Keith Stuart, Neil & Family Wolff, Jack Mena, Steve Ralph, Bruce Thatcher, Jean Wood, Harper Nickerson, Mike & Beth Rambaldini, Jim Thompson, Lori Woods, Donna Jean Nine. Tim Riccio, Gino Traywick, Edward Woolf, Nick O'Berry, Darlene Robertson, Jeanine Wright, Matthew Tuegel, Chuck O'Keefe, Chris Rothmeyer, Heidi Vulkelich, Alejandra

Please take this prayer list and use it in your private or family devotions in the coming month. You can see that our congregation has a great many people who are in need of our prayers. Please let us know if your loved one is no longer serving in the military. Contact <a href="mailto:gslchernando@gmail.com">gslchernando@gmail.com</a> for any updates.

### **Newsletter Editor**

# **ALL** submissions for the **newsletter** or website should be sent to

gslchernando@gmail.com.

### Stephanie

### December Deadline is **December 16th**







#### SUNDAY SCHOOL/NURSERY

Susan Fowler

#### **USHERS**

#### December 1st & 8th

Cara and Tom Stickler Susie Steinour

#### December 15th

Harv Johnson Lois Lenhart Vera Swade

#### December 22nd

Sue Buldiger Lois Lenhart Ann Serafin

#### December 24th

Harv Johnson Gladys Kean Dennis Moore

#### December 29th

Sue Buldiger Dennis Moore Ann Serafin

#### **MEDIA CENTER**

Fran Stetson John Gifford Joe Adams Dan Cashman

Donate QR code Click for Link

#### **LECTORS**

#### **December 1st**

Marty Zacharcyzk

#### **December 4th**

Sue Okimoto

#### **December 8th**

Vera Swade

#### **December 11th**

Pat Mainster

#### **December 15th**

**Shelly Fortin** 

#### **December 18th**

John Giammasi

#### December 22nd

Ann Serafin

#### **December 24th**

Tom Krenauer

#### **December 29th**

Brenda Landfried

#### **DEACON** in Training

John Colson





# CHURCH STAFF Pastor Bob Yankovitz

Office: 352-746-7161 Fax: 352-746-5013

E-mail: pastor@gslchernando.org

#### Intern Rick Mainster

Cell: 352-207-8140

Email: <a href="mailto:shallowthinkin12.rm@gmail.com">shallowthinkin12.rm@gmail.com</a>

### Administrative Assistant Shirley McField

Phone: 352-746-7161

Email: gschurch@live.com

#### STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Building / Property** 

Harv Johnson 352-270-3391

**Christian Education** 

Sue Fowler 352-464-0571

**Enduring Gifts** 

Dan Cashman. 352- 400-6024

**Evangelism (Outreach)** 

Tom Stickler 610-659-5553

**Fellowship** 

John & Elaine Giammasi 352-527-8706

**Finance** 

Gail Sotrines 352-860-1765

**Mutual Ministry** 

Sharon Maxwell 352-249-7032

**Pastoral Care** 

Intern Rick Mainster 352-207-8140

**Social Ministry** 

Vera Swade 352-637-5308

Stewardship

Sally Hennessey 440-796-9055

Technology

Fran Stetson 352-419-7227

Worship & Music

Renate Williams 352-228-7809

#### **COUNCIL LIAISONS**

**Building / Property** 

John Colson 352-634-5470

**Christian Education - YOUTH** 

Carole Wagner 352-270-8485

**Enduring Gifts** 

Ron O'Keefe 401-474-0416

**Evangelism (Outreach)** 

Tom Stickler 610-659-5553

**Fellowship** 

Gladys Kean 352-514-6998

Finance

Kathy Swartz 352-746-5374

**Mutual Ministry** 

Sharon Maxwell 352-249-7032

**Pastoral Care** 

Bill Mehnert 352-513-4624

**Social Ministry** 

Vera Swade 352-476-9072

Stewardship

Sally Hennessey 440-796-9055

**Technology** 

Fran Stetson 352-419-7227

Worship & Music

Sally Hennessey 440-796-9055



#### WEBSITE

gshernando.org
Webmaster: Stephanie Adams
NEWSLETTER
gslchernando@gmail.com





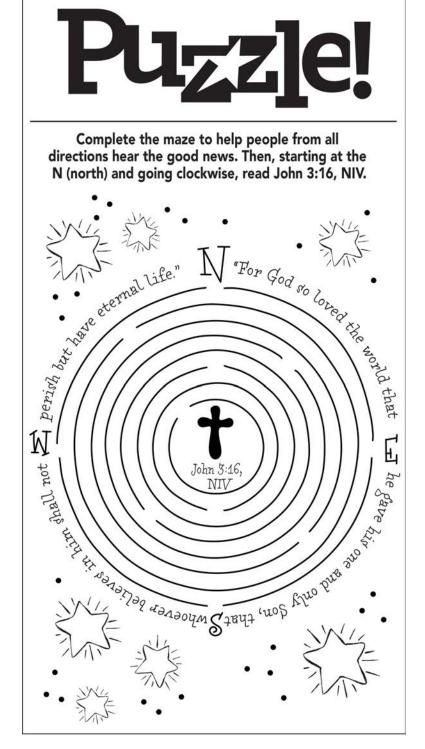
# Kid's Corner

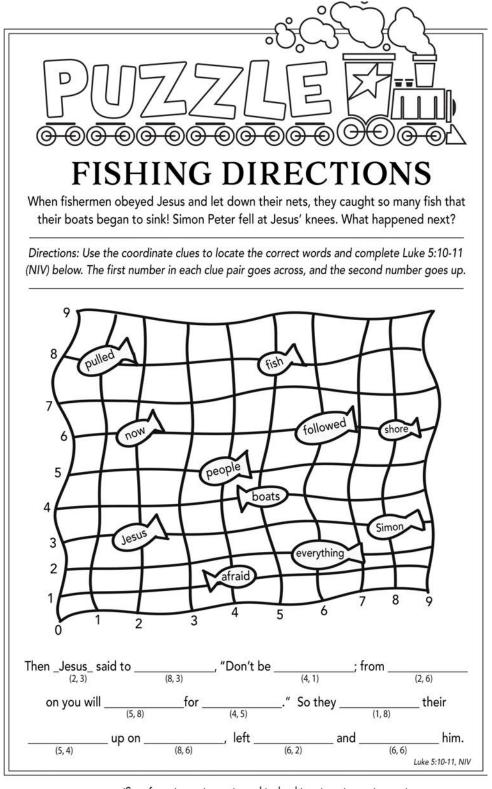




#### What you do:

- From the egg carton, cut out the 12 cups. From the lid, cut out two fish tails.
- On a protected surface, turn the cups upside down. Paint the outside of each cup and both sides of the tails. Let dry.
- Thread the needle with an arm's length of twine. Tie a knot at the end.
- Thread the needle through the end of the tail. Tie another knot an inch from the tail.
- Thread the needle through one upside-down cup. Pull the twine through until the cup rests on the knot.
- 6. Continue tying knots an inch above each cup and threading on another cup until you've strung six cups. Tie a knot above the last cup and leave a long string to hang the fish. (You can make two fish with each egg carton.)
- 7. Add googly eyes or buttons to the last cup to make a face.





Answers: Jesus, Simon, afraid, now, fish, people, pulled, boats, shore, everything, followed



Hope

◊ Day 1: Jeremiah 29:10-14

♦ Day 2: Romans 15:8-13

♦ Day 3: 1 Peter 1:3-12

♦ Day 4: Hebrews 10:19-39

♦ Day 5: Psalm 33

♦ Day 6: Titus 2:11–3:8

Joy

♦ Day 13: Philippians 4:4-9

◊ Day 14: Psalm 16

♦ Day 15: James 1:2-18

♦ Day 16: Psalm 30

♦ Day 17: Luke 2:8-20

♦ Day 18: John 15:1-11

Peace

♦ Day 7: Isaiah 9:1-7

◊Day 8: John 14:1-7, 25-31

♦ Day 9: John 16:25-33

♦ Day 10: Romans 5:1-11

♦ Day 11: Ephesians 2:11-22

♦ Day 12: Colossians 3:1-17



♦ Day 19: Micah 7:18-20

♦ Day 20: Romans 8:31-39

♦ Day 21: John 3:16-21

♦ Day 22: 1 John 4:7-21

♦ Day 23: Philippians 2:1-11

♦ Day 24: 2 Thessalonians 2:13 – 3:5

♦ Day 25: Ephesians 2:1-10





# ADVENT CALENDAR

Please collect the items listed below and place them on the designated table in the back of Fellowship Hall the week of Christmas. We will donate the contents to SOS Food Pantry.

December 1 – box of cereal

December 2 – peanut butter

December 3 – stuffing mix

December 4- boxed potatoes

December 5- hamburger helper\*

December 6- canned fruit

December 7 – canned tomatoes

December 8- canned tuna

December 9 – dessert mix

December 10 - jar of applesauce

December 11 – canned sweet potatoes

December 12 – cranberry sauce

December 13 – canned beans

December 14 – box of crackers

December 15 – package of rice

December 16 – granola bars

December 17 – package of pasta

December 18 - spaghetti sauce\*\*

December 19 - any "cream of" soup

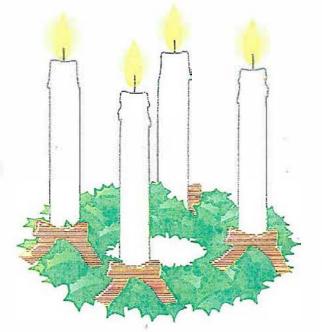
December 20 – tomato soup

December 21 – diced tomatoes

December 22 – can of mixed vegetables

December 23 – can of carrots

December 24 – can of peas



<sup>\*</sup>This product does not need to be a name brand product. Store brands are perfectly acceptable.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Please, for safety and storage reasons, make sure this spaghetti sauce is packaged in a can or plastic jar.