



# Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center

## CHRISTMAS ALREADY?

Order forms were sent home on Thursday, October 20th for this year's child-made Christmas gifts and on November 1st, the children will begin making their Christmas presents for their parents and family. These gifts need to be completed and mailed away when finished. Order forms should already have been returned to the office to ensure delivery before Christmas. This is the gift your child will wrap and give to you at our Christmas Party on (either) December 20th, 21st or 22nd. We encourage you to have your child make this gift. If you have not yet returned a form, please see Karen. We may still be able to complete a project although it's pre-Christmas delivery can not be assured.

## **Thanksgiving Luncheon**—return form by Friday, November 12th

On Thursday, November 17th, at 12:15pm, we will be having our annual Thanksgiving turkey luncheon. Parents of our Thursday lunch children are invited to join us in the church basement for our meal. Children who do not ordinarily have lunch with us on Thursdays, are invited to join us if accompanied by a parent. To purchase and prepare appropriate quantities of

food, the attached reservation form and \$6.00 /extra person (child or adult) MUST be returned by 5:30pm on Friday, November 11th if you wish to attend. Because of seating limitations, we ask that the guest list be restricted to only one or two guests per 'Thursday child' and one guest per each extra, 'non-Thursday' child. We hope you can

join us for our Thanksgiving feast!! (P.S. If you would be available to help with either setting-up or cleaning-up the luncheon, we would appreciate your assistance. Please see Karen or Cathy to make arrangements.)



## "O Give Thanks to the Lord." Psalm 105:1

*We are SO blessed at Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center. We are thankful for all of our beautiful children and their incredibly supportive families. We are thankful for our awesome staff and for our wonderful facilities. We are thankful for our health, our friends, our family and the great country in which we live. We are thankful for the opportunity to share the story of God's Love each and every day.*

"O Give Thanks to the Lord."

**-Thanksgiving Holiday-**  
**Messiah will be closed**  
**on Thursday, November 24th**  
**and Friday, November 25th**



**WE WISH YOU A**  
**HAPPY**  
**THANKSGIVING**  
**HOLIDAY!**

Messiah Lutheran Child  
Care Center

November 2011

Volume 11, Issue 11

- **Upcoming dates of note:**
- **Wednesday November 16th-** Cookie dough and Gourmet Popcorn pick up-[page 2](#)
- **Friday, November 11th- 5:30pm-** Thanksgiving luncheon reservations (& \$) due-[page 1](#)
- **Friday, November 11th (5:30pm) and Monday November 28th (9am)-**Manna orders due- [page 5](#)
- **Saturday, November 12th-** Messiah Harvest Festival [pg 5](#)
- **Thursday, November 17th 12:15pm-** Thanksgiving luncheon-[page 1](#)
- **Monday, November 21st- Wednesday, November 23rd-** Thank you God for our Families week-[page 4](#)
- **Thursday, November 24th and Friday November 25th-** Messiah Child Care Closed for Thanksgiving holiday-[pg 1](#)
- **Monday, December 5th-** Silent Auction begins for first row seating at the Christmas programs-(ends at noon, December 9th) [page 2](#)
- **Monday, November 28th (9am)-**Manna orders due- [pg 5](#)



## Fund Raising Info-

**Fun Fair-**In January, the fun fair committee will begin the new year with a meeting on **Thursday, January 26th**. We will need **LOTS** of help, so everyone who can attend this meeting is encouraged to participate. If you are unable to attend, see Karen ahead of time so we can place you on the committee you wish.

**Entertainment Books-**Entertainment Books (\$25.@) will be available until Christmas. They make **GREAT** gifts!!

**Cookie Dough Sales-**Thank you to those who ordered (and sold!) our delicious cookie dough and popcorn. The ordered dough and popcorn will arrive at Messiah on **Wednesday, November 16th, by 9am**. Please make arrangements to pickup your order on Nov. 16th even if your child is not scheduled on that day, since we do not have enough space to refrigerate very much cookie dough.

**Manna-**Manna gift cards are one of our more profitable fund raisers and it is **VERY** easy to assist us....And, by the way, it doesn't cost you **ANYTHING!!!** If you buy gift cards through our school, the

vendor gives us a percent of what is paid-and you get the full value in your gift cards!!! Try it...you'll like it!!

### **Child Care Patio and Garden-**

Families are **always** welcome to add an engraved brick to Messiah's patio. If you wish to donate a brick, forms are available in the school office. When 20 brick orders have been returned to the office an order will be placed with the brick company. We hope to place an order by May. Please consider donating a \$75 or \$125 brick!!

**Escrip-** If you haven't already done so - please register your Dominicks Fresh Values card or your credit card with escrip. Then each time you use your card, a percentage of your purchase will go to Messiah. You don't have to mention anything nor does it add any cost to your bill. There are no coupons to remember or special days to shop. This is such an easy way to help out our school! Please consider partnering with us and signing up today. It's easy to participate! We simply need parents to go online at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) and register their Fresh Values Card and/or credit/debit cards. (You do not need to do both - you can register just one

card without registering the other-  
-Click on "Members and Supporters"  
-Click on "Sign-up"  
-Enter "Messiah Lutheran Child Care Center:"  
-Follow the instructions given -Or if you prefer, you can give us your number(s) and we will register them for you. Just stop in the office and we can help you. Thank you for your support!!

## Conferences

Conferences have already been held for Kindergarten, Pre-K3, Miss Ro's Pre K-1 class, Younger 3's, Pre-K 1 Up and both of the Pre-K 2 Up classes. If you still need to sign up for a conference, the sign-up sheets are next to the teacher's classrooms.

**Tuesday, November 1st and  
Wednesday, November 2nd**  
Pre K-1 down -Miss Janelle

**Thursday, November 3rd and  
Friday, November 4th**  
Pre K-2 down -Miss Laurie

## Christmas Program -Front Row Seats Auction

**-Monday, December 5th through noon Thursday, December 8th**

Beginning on December 5th, we will be auctioning off our front rows in a

- silent auction that will take place throughout the week. These seats provide your family perfect seats to watch the performance and take photos/videos without needing to maneuver the crowds!!! Additionally, no one will need to arrive early to 'get a good seat'...your front row seats will be waiting for you at any time!!!
- On Monday the 5th, silent auction sheets will be posted next to Miss Karen's office and parents are welcome to make bids until noon on Thursday, December 8th when the bidding will end and winners will be notified. Bids for each row will begin at \$50. \$10 will be the minimum bid increment after the initial bid.
- There are 2 front rows for each performance, so the top 2 bidders for each program will have a row reserved for their family.
- In addition to writing bids on the silent auction sheets, bids can be emailed to [messiahchildcare@sbcglobal.net](mailto:messiahchildcare@sbcglobal.net) until 11:45 on Thursday, December 8th. Any bids that are e-mailed to us, will be entered on the silent auction sheets in the order that they are 'date and time stamped'. No bid will be accepted after noon on December 8th.
- The performance dates for the classes are:
  - **Tuesday, December 20th at 4:15pm**-Miss Laurie's Pre K-2 class, Miss Cristina's Pre K-3 class and Miss Terri's Kindergarten class.
  - **Wednesday, December 21st at 4:15pm**-Miss Cindy's Pre K-2 class, Miss Suzanne's Pre K-2 class and Miss Janelle's Pre K-1 class
  - **Thursday, December 22nd at 4:15pm**- Miss Cindy's Younger 3's, Miss Suzanne's Pre K-1 class, and Miss Ro's Pre K-1



## Field Trip to "Mrs. Claus-A Holiday Musical"

On Wednesday, November 30th, the children will be going to St. Patrick's High School (5900 West Belmont, Chicago) to see "Mrs. Claus-A Holiday Musical". (Extra tickets are available for those children who do



not ordinarily attend on Wednesdays, but would like to add an extra day to their schedule that week). Each classroom will need the help of 2 (or 3, if we have enough tickets) adults to help chaperone on the trip.

The permission form is attached at the end of this newsletter and is available under 'field trips' on our web site. Permission forms will also be placed in your child's files. Sign up to join us, if you would like to enjoy a morning at the theater.

## Our Website-

Please remember that Messiah's web site ([messiahchildcare.com](http://messiahchildcare.com)), has the current newsletter and current monthly calendars on it at all times. For your convenience, calendars and newsletters are uploaded by the first of each month. Other relevant information on our site includes Messiah's parent handbook, field trip permission forms, annual calendars, fund raising information, and much more. *P.S. If you never received a copy of Messiah's parent handbook, stop in the office and pick one up.*

## November Birthdays

- 1 Saanvi S.-4 years old
- 3. Maria T.-3 years old
- 4 Diya A.- 5 years old
- 4. Riannon J. -3 years old
- 5. Jordan R.-3 years old
- 7. Calyx H.-4 years old
- 7 Miss Laurie
- 7 Pastor Lynne
- 10 Jack M. -4 years old
- 11 Miss Laura
- 11 Miss Kristin
- 13 Kymmi L.-4 years old
- 16. Matthew H.-5 years old
- 17 Charlotte A.-5 years old
- 18 Phoebe W.-3 years old
- 20 Layah W.-4 years old
- 21 Lily H.-5 years old
- 22 Matthew M.-5 years old
- 22 Miss Terri
- 23 Anna O.-4 years old
- 25 Sophie B.-4 years old
- 29 Teagan B.-5 years old

## Thank you-

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Halloween/October celebrations special. We appreciate everyone who helped chaperone our trip to Party Time Palace. At our Halloween parties, the children certainly enjoyed the delicious treats and the various Halloween prizes. Thank you to everyone who helped with the parties by supervising games or providing refreshments. Your assistance was much appreciated.



## Christmas Holiday closures-please note dates differ from curriculum calendars

-return attendance information form by Friday, December 9th



**Christmas Closings-** Messiah Lutheran Child Care will be closed during the week of December 26th as well as on Monday, January 2nd for the Christmas/New Year's holiday.

There will be no tuition charged for the week of December 26th.

To assist us in our staffing, please let us know if your child(ren) will be at Messiah on Tuesday, January 3rd, Wednesday, January 4th, Thursday, January 5th, and/or Friday, January 6th. We would appreciate if you would fill in the Christmas holiday attendance form (which will be distributed in the December newsletter) and return it to Karen or Cathy by December 9th, so that we can appropriately prepare our staff for that week.

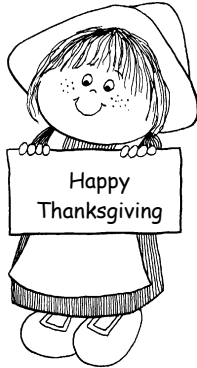
Regular tuition will be charged for the week of January 2nd.



## Thank your God, for our Families

week of November 21st

During the week of November 21st, we will be celebrating how thankful we are for our families. During the week, each child will be invited to bring one guest to class. The guest may be a grandparent, a parent, an aunt or uncle or a sibling (over age 12, please). Each class will be sending home a form so that the classroom teacher will know who to expect on which day. On the same form, we will be checking on which of our children will not be attending school that week. We appreciate your quick return of the form.



## Librarians visit

The Park Ridge librarians will be visiting Messiah on Tuesday, November 8th and on Wednesday, November 9th. They will present a twenty minute storytime program in each classroom.

## Thanksgiving Morning Church Service



There will be a **10:15am** church service at Messiah Lutheran Church on Thanksgiving morning. Everyone is welcome to attend!!  
A reminder that Sunday morning Church service at Messiah are held at 10:15am with Sunday School and Adult Education from 9-10am. Please feel invited to join us on Sunday mornings!!

## Reminders/Notes:

**-Please,** remember to turn off your car when picking up or dropping off your children and please do not leave any children unattended in your car.

**-Please,** check your child's extra clothing bag to be sure that the clothing is appropriate size and season-wise

**-Snacks—** Homemade is tasty, but state law requires only store bought snacks be served at Messiah. Snacks must be peanut free.

Please check the label to make sure snacks have no **PEANUTS OR PEANUT OIL** in the ingredients.

**-Please,** remember that it is **VERY** important for our staffing that **all children are dropped off and picked up within their contracted hours.** Children who are contracted to arrive at 9am are asked to wait until 9am to enter the classroom so that the teachers have time to prepare the activities for the day. We are staffed to be with the 4 1/2 hour students and full day students during this set up time, but need the additional teachers to be free for moving in and out of the classroom while they are gathering materials. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. (Please note that the clocks in the hallways and entryway are 'atomic clocks' and are the standard by which we set all of our other clocks.)

**Medications—** Please advise us, in writing, if possible, if your child is taking any medication at home on either a temporary or ongoing basis. Please include the condition that requires the medication, the name and dosage of the medication, the expected duration of the medication, any possible reactions or side effects and any other relevant information that would help the staff or paramedics in the event of an emergency.

## Messiah Class Openings-

We still have openings in our Wednesday/Friday Younger 3's class-beginning

on January 11th and in our T/Th younger 3's class. There are openings for our winter parent- tot classes on Mondays or Tuesdays, beginning on January 9th and there are (mostly full day) openings still available in our Pre K-1, Pre K-2, Pre K-3 and Kindergarten classes. Please stop in the office if you have questions about specific openings or are interested in Parent-Tot or Younger 3's applications.



## Miss Pat's Christmas Dance/Movement Programs

Miss Pat's Dance/Movement classes will be presenting their annual production of 'The P'Nutcracker Suite'.



The performances will take place on Monday, December 12th (for the Monday class) and on Tuesday, December 13th (for the Tuesday class) and Wednesday, December 14th (for the Wednesday children). All parents, friends and families are invited to attend the 11:15am programs in the church basement. If you have any further questions, see Miss Pat or Miss Karen.

## Manna-Gift/Shopping Cards-3 holiday ordering dates-Orders due: Friday, November 11th (5:30pm), Monday, November 28th (9:00am) and Friday, December 9th (5:30pm)

We will be placing 3 Manna gift/shopping card orders before Christmas.

Remember, these cards make wonderful gifts themselves, *but additionally, you may use them yourself to purchase Christmas gifts or routine household items at the store.* They are also easy to use at Jewel or Dominicks when you are doing your weekly grocery shopping or at a service station when you regularly fill your car with gasoline.

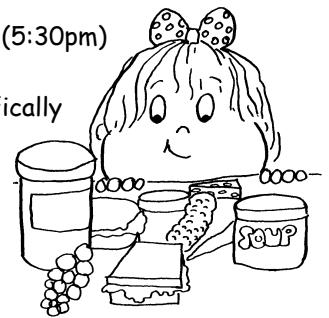
Additional Manna form ideas:

1. You may purchase a manna gift certificate, in any dollar amount. The gift certificate recipient may then personally select gift cards for that amount.
2. Happy Foods, Global Handmade Hope and Moretti's in Edison Park are local vendors that are on the manna orders-
3. Standing orders can be placed for shopping that you do on a regular basis. We will automatically place your order each month and you pay for your order when you pick up your cards. You are still welcome to place additional orders each month for added cards.

Forms will be placed in each child's hallway files and may be used for any of the 3 ordering periods. Extra forms will be available in the hallway near the offices if your form is lost or if you need a second form.

- The first orders need to be returned to Messiah's office by **Friday, November 11th (5:30pm)** for delivery on Tuesday, November 15th at noon.
- The second order (standing orders will NOT be placed on the second order unless specifically requested) will be placed at **9am on Monday, November 28th** for delivery by Wednesday, November 30th (or sooner).
- The final holiday order forms need to be returned to Messiah by **Friday, December 9th (at 5:30)** for delivery by Wednesday, December 14th (or sooner).

Thank you for your support!



### Rita's Readings

#165 **Kids Are Worth It!** by Barbara Coloroso The author encourages and challenges us to make conscious choices in our parenting—to do it in a loving, non-shameful way and to treat our children with the respect they deserve. The subjects covered run the spectrum from bedtime to money matters; chores to sibling rivalry. There are wonderful quotes throughout that put things in perspective.

#421 **The Family Manager Takes Charge** by Kathy Peel

Decorating, menu planning, budgeting, and cleaning are just some of the topics covered in this book on organizing and managing your life. Each chapter gives helpful tips and ideas presented in an easy to read format so you don't get even more overwhelmed! Many of the chapters have ideas of what kids can do to pitch in and help or ways for them to get more organized themselves

**Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>**  
**- 9:00-3:00 -**  
**Admission Free!!**

### Messiah's Annual Harvest Festival

Messiah Lutheran is holding its 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Harvest Arts & Crafts Festival to raise funds for the current and future needs of our church/school campus. The Festival will feature a Holiday Bazaar with both handcrafted items, as well as direct sales vendors – including, but not limited to jewelry, wine, handbags & tote bags, children's books, homemade candy and food products, floral arrangements and miscellaneous gift items. We'll also have a silent auction featuring children and adult art work and gift baskets and a raffle for items donated by the vendors. Plus Manna cards will be available!

Special activities for children include a Santa Store, where children can shop inexpensively, for gifts that they can give on Christmas. Additionally, we'll have a take-home craft activity for the children to do while you shop and a great Face Painter!!

A Concession Stand will also be available!! Please come (hungry) and join us to do your holiday shopping!!

### Parent-Tot Program

We will begin our winter Parent-Tot classes on January 9th, 2012. The class will be for 9 weeks, on Mondays starting, **January 9th to March 12th**, (no class on January 16th due to holiday) from 9:10am-10:10am and from 10:30-11:30am and for 10 weeks on **Tuesdays, from January 10th to March 13th from 9:10am-10:10am**. The spring session will run during the weeks of March 19th to May 22nd (10 weeks) on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The class includes stories, projects, music, snacks and free play.

Please see Karen or Cathy if you would be interested in registration forms for any of our Parent Tot classes. The cost will be \$70 for the full 10 week session. (\$63 for the 9 week session) Forms can also be found on Messiah's web site.

# Fall Fun-





## Messiah Christmas Ornament

Remember your child's pre-school and Kindergarten years at Messiah Lutheran Child Care with a specially commissioned, keepsake Christmas ornament. This lovely, ornament was designed in celebration of Messiah Lutheran Church's 50th year anniversary, and is available for all Messiah Child Care and Church families and friends. The ornament is a glass ball that has been individually hand-painted on the inside with a picture of our church and education building. The back of the ornament is painted with the stained glass window of Jesus, which is located behind the altar of our church, as well as our church's name and anniversary dates. The ornaments are packaged in red silk boxes and are available in Karen's office for \$15 each.

## Lice and flu and strep (oh, my!)

**FLU:** Our illness policy, at Messiah, remains essentially the same during this year's flu season.

- All children who show signs of the flu, (fever, cough, sore throat, achiness, etc.) need to stay at home. Please err on the side of caution, by keeping children at home, rather than spreading germs through the school's student and staff population.
- Parents should call Messiah to report illness and describe their child's symptoms for our records.
- Children should not return to school until they have been **FEVER FREE for 24 hours WITHOUT THE USE OF FEVER REDUCING MEDICATION!!!**
- Parents should be prepared to react promptly to a call from school if your child becomes ill with a fever during the school day and must be sent home. This may include making alternate pick-up arrangements for your child in the event that you are unable to pick up your child quickly.
- After an illness, in the interest of your own child's compromised immune system and their lack of resistance to other disease, we ask that you give your child an extra day of home rest, to totally recover and build their resistance before returning to school

### **LICE:**

Whereas District 64's lice policy changed 2 years ago, Messiah continues to enforce a **no-nit policy** at our school. Checking your child's head frequently, along with prompt, thorough treatment, is a parental responsibility. If your child has head lice, please report it to our school and keep your child home until he/she is nit-free. Children need to be checked before re-admittance to school. With the large number of reported cases in the public schools, it is imperative to remain diligent (at home and at Messiah) to watch for itching or scratching of the scalp and to do regular head checks. Lice is not a disease, has nothing to do with cleanliness and is not a reflection of poor parenting. It is however, a nuisance that is easier to manage in the early stages, before it affects the whole family. There are natural shampoos and oils (Tea tree, and others), that may help prevent lice, gels and hairsprays may help, and keeping your child's long hair tightly wrapped close to the head (buns, tied up braids, cornrows, etc.) may also discourage infestation. At Messiah, we always keep all nap pillows and blankets in plastic bags, and if needed, we remove hats and most dress-up clothes from the classrooms and, will provide plastic bags for hallway coats and hats.

**STREP:** It can be assumed that there is probably ALWAYS a child at school who has asymptomatic strep throat or who may be only days away from showing symptoms. If your child develops a sore throat, temperature, irritability, etc., strep should be considered. All of the 'flu rules' (above) should be followed for strep as well.

## Silpada Jewelry Fund Raiser-week of November 28th

With Christmas right around the

corner, a former Messiah parent, Sally Petterson will be on hand to show you all that **Silpada Jewelry** has to offer. This high quality jewelry makes a perfect gift for friends, family or just from you-to-you. Many of the pieces of jewelry will be available to see, feel and try on during the week of November 28th, at a table right near the school offices and Sally will be on hand on Thursday and Friday to answer questions and take orders. If you would like to preview the jewelry now, catalogs are currently available on the counters outside the school offices. All profits from this sale will support our child care's playground and computer upkeep and improvements. Delivery of your jewelry will be in plenty of time for Christmas. Happy Shopping!!

# November

*Child Safety Month, National Drum Month*

Let your child help you prepare dinner.

Go to the library.

## Sandwich Day

Make your favorite sandwiches for lunch.



Make a pretend wristwatch for your child.

Sing "London Bridge" together.

Look for pairs of things.

Make shapes with craft sticks.



Tell familiar stories in your own words.

Play Hide and Seek.

## Cookie Monster's Birthday

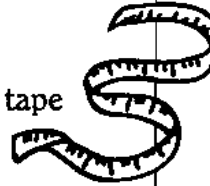
Eat cookies.

## Veterans Day

Talk about what it means to be a veteran.

Turn on the radio and dance.

Measure your heights with a tape measure.



Make a tunnel out of blankets and chairs.

Count to 20 together.

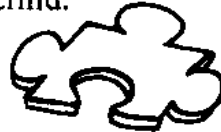
## National Young Readers' Day

Snuggle up and read together.

Make a grocery picture-list for your child.

Drop clothespins into a bucket.

Do a puzzle with your child.



Decorate construction paper to make placemats for your Thanksgiving celebration.

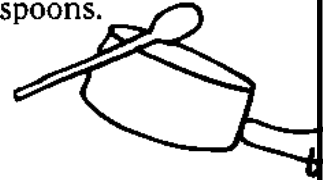
Play Simon Says.

## Thanksgiving

Name three things you're thankful for.

Cut pictures in half and mix them up. Match the halves.

Bang on pots and pans with wooden spoons.



Teach your child his or her phone number with area code.

Show your child how to skip.

Dump two identical boxes of crayons or markers into a container. Find the matches.

Name two things your child did today that you were proud of.

Think of funny flavors for ice cream.



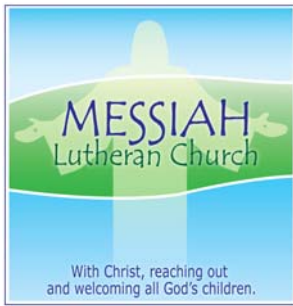
Look for purple things in your home.



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The Messiah

# MESSENGER

Highlights from the November 2011 Issue

## FROM THE PASTOR

### hos·pi·tal·i·ty<sup>2</sup>

November Greetings!

This month begins a season of hospitality in our culture. The holidays tend to bring many opportunities to attend or host a gathering with friends, co-workers and family.

While many of us find the joy in hosting, welcoming, and serving others in our own comfortable environments, God calls us to another definition of hospitality. We are called to a spiritual hospitality – that is, using our spiritual gifts to make room, be ready and available for the needs of others. This takes us past our fears, mistakes and calls us to live joyfully in accepting grace, forgiving ourselves and others and seeing Christ in each person we encounter.

In a resource from the ELCA, we find “The spirituality of hospitality is based on the premise that, having been saved by the gracious hospitality of God, we are invited and inspired to respond.”

The more we practice the spirituality of hospitality, the more it becomes second nature to us and we are able to make room in our hearts, be ready with our presence and available to share Christ’s love.

I have found that this type of hospitality goes past merely giving to others. Part of moving to a spiritual hospitality involves our own transformation. Receiving hospitality will change our hearts and actions so that we can be available to others. There is a sense of vulnerability and humility when one is in need that deepens our relationships and strengthens our mutual humanity.



In the book *Making Room: Recovering Hospitality as a Christian Tradition*, author Christine Pohl emphasizes the spiritual benefits of entertaining angels. Pohl points out the human toll that providing hospitality takes on the givers, and many times a select few carry the enormous burden. Yet, in many stories when one entertains angels or has received hospitality from those whom they have sought to serve, an underlying story emerges. A story of a hospitality giver who is tired, discouraged, and spiritually empty and unable to give anymore. And when that transformation occurs, the giver finds fulfillment, life, and hope in the receiving of hospitality from others who would typically be the recipients.

I pray that you find the opportunity in this season of hospitality to be both the giver and the recipient.

In Christ,

## NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS



### CHRISTMAS CHARITIES Collecting from Nov. 27 -Dec.11

Once again we will be collecting goods to help out those less fortunate than ourselves. For **The Night Ministry**, serving the homeless of Chicagoland, we put hats, gloves, and scarves on our **Giving Tree** in the narthex. We are looking for **mostly adult items**, and asking that they be **STURDY, WINTER ITEMS**, rather than "magic gloves" which are very thin. The Child Care Center is also collecting gloves for this ministry... THANKS! Deadline for donations is **December 11<sup>th</sup>** – the Night Bus will be delivering the items to people in need on December 17-18, so we need to pack everything up and ship it before that.

Also, we are doing **LSSI's Gifts for Kids** again this year. Gift tags will be available in the narthex. Pick a tag, purchase a present, and bring it wrapped to church by **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** to be sent to LSSI in time for their Christmas Party. Gift cards are also welcome... remember, you can use our Manna program, deadline November 27<sup>th</sup>, delivery of cards Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Remember those  
who are less  
fortunate



Moni Ryczek has agreed again this year to coordinate the gift tags, so contact her if you have any questions at 847-692-6972.

### HARVEST ARTS & CRAFTS FESTIVAL



Our 6th annual festival will be held **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 3:00 p.m.** Proceeds will go to MAP fund for building improvement. Here's some highlights:

**Vendors** – This year we're pleased to welcome vendors who are raising funds for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Fund, a water project in Africa, and a Salvation Army home in Jamaica. In addition, two vendors represent Fair Trade companies that offer unique, sustainable, handcrafted products. We might be treated to a pottery wheel demonstration by a pottery vendor and ornaments that can be decorated for a great Christmas present! Other vendors include jewelry, gluten-free mixes, candles, handbags, children's books, and floral arrangements.

**Silent Auction** – items so far include tickets for the Chicago Bears, Rush & Wolves, tickets for various shows, gift certificates for area restaurants and entertainment and gift baskets and a raffle for items donated by the vendors.

**Santa Store** – where children can shop inexpensively for gifts that they can give on Christmas. Additionally, we'll have craft activities, Veggie Tale movie & related activities at 10:00 & 2:00 for the children to do while you shop and a great Face Painter!!

**Harvest Café** – available for lunch or a snack!!

**The Maine Township Food Pantry** needs replenishing so bring a non-perishable food item to help out and receive a **free raffle ticket!**

**Come Out & Shop** – bring your friends and neighbors!! ENJOY!!

### THANKSGIVING DINNER AT MESSIAH

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm

Worship is followed by a community dinner with all the trimmings. Watch for opportunities to pitch in, or join us for this traditional meal. We have invited the public to this event, and are asking for folks to let us know if they are coming so we can plan food accordingly. Please let the office know if you intend to come.



### TUESDAYS IN ADVENT WORSHIP

This year we will offer a brief worship service during Advent. Starting **Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**, we will have an informal service which will complete in time for Choir practice. Come at 6pm for a light supper. Services will follow each Tuesday in December, concluding Tuesday 12/20. We invite you to join us during the busy season of Advent for a few moments of quiet reflection and praise.