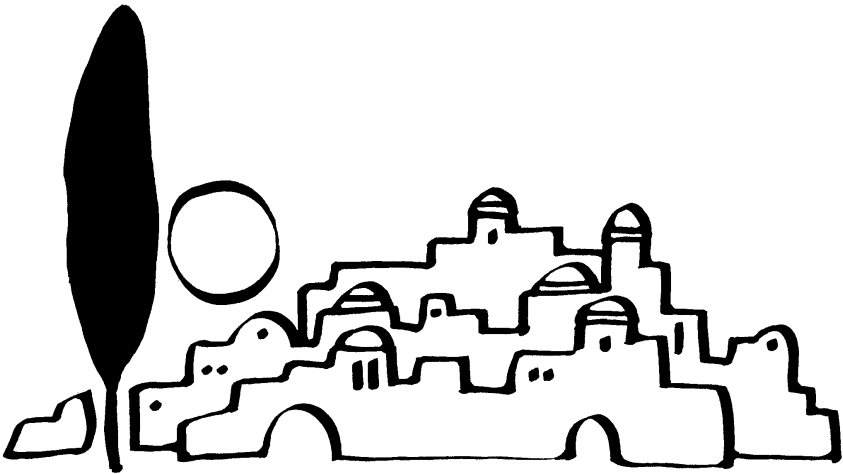


Messiah Lutheran Church

www.wefoundmessiah.org

Email messiahluth500@bellsouth.net

500 Baytree Road Valdosta, Georgia 31602
Pr. Richard Pieplow, MDiv. Ministers: Every Member
Church Office: 244-0143 Pastor's Home: 244-2831



TELL · JERUSALEM · THAT
HER · SAD · DAYS · ARE · GONE

I S A I A H

4 0 : 2

December 07, 2008
Proclaiming GRACE
God's Riches At Christ's Expense
Est. January 3, 1956

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ! John called people to repent, to clear the decks, to completely reorder their lives so that nothing would get in the way of the Lord's coming. Isaiah calls us all to be heralds with John, to lift up our voices fearlessly and say, "See, your God is coming!" We say it to one another in worship, in order to say it with our lives in a world in need of justice and peace.

**WELCOME WITH JOY AND A FEW SHORT ANNOUNCEMENTS
RINGING OF THE BELLS AND SILENT MEDITATION**

+ Please stand as you are able for these parts of the service

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS MUSIC by Bailey Pieplow and Chandler Christians

+ **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who is the light and life of all the ages.

C **Amen.**

P Trusting in Jesus Christ, who came to share our humanity and bring light to this broken world, let us come before God without fear to make our confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Comforting God,
C **we confess before you and in the presence of one another that we are sinners who fail to live as you desire. So often we place our trust in ourselves and not in you. We do not love each other as you have commanded. Because of us, your whole creation suffers. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, forgive us. In your boundless patience and mercy, lead us to live by faith in your promise. Amen.**

P God's love for us is greater than all our sins.
God promises full pardon and complete forgiveness to all who turn from sin and place their trust in Christ, the light of the world. Hear and believe the good news that all your sins are forgiven.

With God nothing is impossible.

C **Amen.**

+ GREETING

P Grace and peace be with you in the name of the Triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come.

C **And also with you.** (*Greet one another in the pew around with the unity and peace offered through our Lord Jesus Christ.*)

+ BLESSING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P Holy are you, God of righteousness and peace; you promised to wait with patience for all to come to repentance, and to send your prophet to cry in the wilderness to prepare the way of the Lord.

As we light these candles, open our ears to hear you speak tenderly to your people; open our hearts to see you as a shepherd who gently leads his flock. Comfort us, O God, and forgive the sin of your people.

C **Reveal your glory to us, and speak to us your word of peace. Amen.**

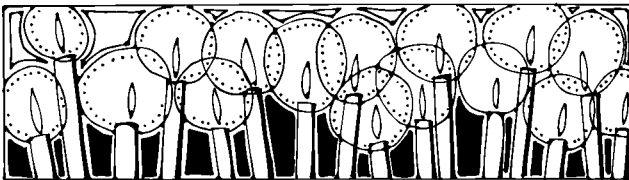
Light two candles. First candle HOPE. Second candle PEACE (and He shall be called ...Prince of Peace, Isaiah 9:6).

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

C **By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives;**

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen



Second
Sunday
in Advent

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40

In grand, flowing, poetic lines, the prophet known as Second Isaiah announces that the exile of God's people in Babylon is over. The Lord will deliver Israel in an exodus more magnificent than the exodus from Egypt. This word can be trusted, because the only enduring reality in life is the word of the Lord.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.

⁵Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

⁶A voice says, "Cry out!"
And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"

¹⁰See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,

and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

L The Word of the Lord C Thanks be to God.

THE KING OF GLORY by Willard F. Jabusch

TOSB #206

Refrain

The King of glory comes, the nation rejoices;
Open the gates before Him, lift up your voices.

Who is the King of glory; how shall we call Him?
He is Emmanuel, the Promised of ages *Refrain*

+ **GOSPEL: Mark 1**

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;

³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,"

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P The Gospel of the Lord. C Praise to you, O Christ.

HARK, THE GLAD SOUND!

LBW # 35

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes, The Savior
promised long;
Let ev'ry heart prepare a throne and ev'ry voice a song.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, Your welcome shall
proclaim,
And heav'n's eternal arches ring With your beloved name/

Too-oo-oo-oo Busy!!!
'Twas the Night Before Christmas

One Rehearsal Christmas Plays

By: Kendra Smiley

Presented by the kids and youth of Messiah Lutheran

Christmas Play Cast

Four students	Little Angel – Sarah
Bailey	Shepherd 1 – Grayson
Madalyn	Shepherd 3 – Dakota
Katie	Shepherd 2 – Josh
Matthew	
Pastor – Chandler	Angel 1 – Alicia
Angel 2 – Alina	Angel 3 – Jade
Angel 4 – Liberty	Angel 5 –
Gabriel – Katie	Innkeeper – Tage
Reader 1 – Zach	Reader 2 – Bryce
Reader 3 – Mike	Reader 4 – Kimberly
Reader 5 – Stephanie	Shopper 1 – Kelsey
Shopper 2 – Sean	Wife Shopper – Charlotte
Grocery Shopper -	Male shopper -

Congregation joins in singing:

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor sheperds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night,
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

+ THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
**ALL I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

+ PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Response:

P Stir up your power, O God;
C stir up your power and come.

+ OFFERING IS GATHERED
OFFERING PRAYER

P God of faithfulness, we bring before you the precious gifts of your creation, and with them our very lives.
C **Teach us patience and hope as we care for those in need and prepare for your Son's advent into our hearts. Amen.**

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

+ PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right and good that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everliving God. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.

+ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

+ LORD'S PRAYER

+ THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come, the table is ready. These are God's gifts for God's people.

DISTRIBUTION

What is this Bread? What is this Wine? At Messiah Lutheran Church, the Holy Supper of our Lord is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that we receive “the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.” Our Lord welcomes to His table those who have faith in these words, “given for you” and “shed for you...for the forgiveness of sin.” Please extend hand out to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or from individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Pastor follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup in the rack on the communion rail. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing “that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ.”

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Join in singing the following selections from various resources:

LBW # 50

“ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY”

Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all
the earth;

Once you sang creation's story; Now proclaim Messiah's
birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the
new-born king.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o'er your flocks
by night,

God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the
new-born king.

Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam
afar;

Seek the great desire of nations, You have seen his natal
star.

Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the
new-born king.

All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the
new-born king.

LBW # 60

“HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING”

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners
reconciled!”

Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies;
With th’angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in
Bethlehem!”

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.”

Christ, by highest heav’n adored; Christ, the everlasting
Lord!

Late in time behold Him come, Off-spring of the Virgin’s
womb;

Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, Ris’n with healing in His
wings.

Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second
birth.

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.”

ISN'T HE?

JOHN WIMBER

BOB # 126

Isn't He beautiful? Beautiful, Isn't He?

Prince of Peace, Son of God, Isn't He?
Isn't He Wonderful? Wonderful, Isn't He?
Counselor, Almighty God. Isn't He, Isn't He,
Isn't He, Isn't He?

Yes, You are beautiful! Beautiful, yes, You are!
Prince of Peace, Son of God,
Yes, You are! Yes, You are, Wonderful!
Wonderful, yes, You are Counselor, Almighty God.
Yes, You are, yes, You are,
yes, You are, yes, You are!

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+ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P God for whom we wait, we give you thanks for this meal of life
that you have set before us.

**C May our sharing of this heavenly food, in which you are
present even now, nourish our faith, strengthen us for
service, and deepen our hunger for the coming of your reign
on earth as in heaven. Amen.**

+ THE BLESSING

P God our Father fill you with the light of divine love.
Amen.

P Jesus, our Emmanuel, bring you assurance he will come again.
C Amen.

P The Holy Spirit lead you until the dawning of the new day.
C Amen.

P Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now
and forever.

C Amen.

+ SENDING

BOB # 134

Jesus name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord
Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word.

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is with you.
 C Thanks be to God.

***You're invited to the fellowship hall for
 some refreshments served by LWML, Div.
 4.***

***Order Poinsettias for Christmas services.
 Envelopes available at the stand where
 flowers are ordered. Suggested donation
 \$10.***

MESSIAH MESSENGER

Messiah Lutheran Church, 500 Baytree Road, Valdosta, GA.
Announcements and news for the week of December 07 – December 14, 2008

EVENTS THIS WEEK

TODAY	Sunday Classes	9:15	AM
	2nd Sunday in Advent	10:30	AM
	Refreshments served by LWML, Div. 4		
	Piano Recital by students of Kay Vincent	3:00	PM
MONDAY	Joyful Noise Lunch Red Lobster	11:45	AM
	LWML December meeting		7:00
	PM		
TUESDAY	PHI MU ALPHA presents		
	TOYS FOR TOTS BAR B Q	12:PM -6:	PM
	TOYS FOR TOTS CONCERT	7:00	PM
WEDNESDAY	Jr. Confirmation Class	5:00	PM
	Choir	7:30	PM
THURSDAY	Thursday Group Christmas lunch	12:00	PM
	Baytree AA group	7:30	PM
SATURDAY	Baytree AA group	7:30	PM
NEXT SUNDAY	Sunday Classes	9:15	AM
	3rd Sunday in Advent	10:30	AM
	Stirring Up Advent Recipes for Relationships		
	Service Two: Grace		

WE ARE DEVOTED TO OFFERING ... "God's Love, Our Response"

2008 Budget Goal	\$ 134,716.00
Goal per week	\$ 2,591.00
Goal to Date	\$ 124,368.00

Offerings for 2008 Budget – as of 11/30	\$ 132,863.00
Thanksgiving Eve offering	\$ 309.00
Offering Last Sunday 11/30	\$ 1,645.00
Weekly average for 48 weeks	\$ 2,768.00
Designated Offerings:	
Building Fund	\$ 20.00
Organ Fund	\$ 0.00

Note: On 11/23 gifts to building fund (\$75) were in memory of Lillian Lawrence and Linda Klement’s mother, Lorna Hanson

“God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that ... having all that you need, you will abound in every good work” (2 Cor. 9: 8)

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are a gift and a warm reminder of God’s love to bloom where you are planted from Pernel Jones in memory of her husband, Charles Jones, and in honor of Alison and David Sumner’s anniversary.

Thanks for the gift of flowers to enhance our worship, and to glorify the Lord our God and Savior. To order flowers, please use the registry located on the stand in the hallway toward the fellowship hall.

WE ARE DEVOTED TO PRAYER Acts 2: 42

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: ..Missed on this list? Please leave a note in the church office with name and birth date.

ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES deployed: Jeremy Christians in Korea; Dan Shannon, Paul Kannon deployed to Iraq also Kevin Sparks (Robins AFB, GA) Brian Sparks (Navy, VA) deployed to the middle east area.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING PATIENTS/SHUT-INS

- Rusty Hatcher at Heritage House Nursing Home
- Otto Peterson, Advent Village, FL. Nursing Home
- Mike Lagioia, Friendship Home
- Steve Keller, chronic kidney stones
- Vi Heidemann, heart condition

NEW JOYS & CONCERNS:

- Dan Jansen had surgery for kidney stones on Wednesday at Shands, Gainesville, FL., and treatment to reduce swelling where he had a plate inserted in his head is pending until all infection is cleared.
- Rusty Hatcher had surgery to insert stent in his throat last Tuesday
- Our condolences to Betty Zipperer whose sister-in-law, Wyoline Zipperer, joined the Saints Triumphant last Sunday.
- Verna Hodge had biopsy on Thyroid gland Wednesday, results pending.

LIST OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Name	Concern/joy	Requested by	Relationship
Larry Ballowe	Lou Gehrig’s disease	Rae Hubbard	friend’s brother
June Orrison	cancer	Gloria Cook	cousin
Nancy Pieper	cancer	Lee & Sunny Schilly	friend
Belinda Judy	brain tumor	Dorothy Hauge	friend
Pr. Duane Hoyer	brain tumor	Warren Gee	friend
Kaylie Ellis (age4)	leukemia	Ellen Mitchell	friend
Gary Pasquinzo	chemo treatments	Bob Burns	uncle Mina Ark
Virginia Anderson	Alzheimer’s	Betty Zipperer	sister

Mary Bennett	kidney removed	Susan Keller	friend
Roy McDanielle	lung disease	Duane Hauge	friend
Ricky Harrell	needs kidney transplant	Erin Jansen	uncle
Elizabeth Rabon	cancer	Erin Jansen	grandmother
Linda Brightwell	cancer	Tina Wright	friend/co-worker
Diane McNamara	breast cancer	Pat Simpson	niece
Trudy Sigmon	radiation treatment	Nancy Stewart	friend
Ruth Eikelberg	Rehab	Nancy Stewart	mother in MI
Dr. Bradley Woodward	cancer	Pernell Jones	friend
Maebeth Gerisch	nursing home care	Ed Gerisch	wife
Charles Todd	tests on pancreas	Dana Black	friend
Melanie McDonald	brain seizures	Mary Kichen	cousin
Peter Dotlich	colon cancer	Bo Miller	friend
Suzanne Padgett	chemo pending	Kay Vincent	coworker
Will Parker	stroke, surgery pending	Dorothy Hauge	brother-in-law
Karen Lane	tests for tumor at Mayo	Kathy Lane	Vern's daughter
Teri Williams,	complications with pregnancy		
Vickie Johnson	health issues	Dana Black	mother
Bobby Joe Johnson	health issues	Dana Black	step-father
Jamie Barnhart (25)	kidney failure	Amber O'Quinn	friend
Roger	heart issues	Linda Klement	friend
Berry Shaffii	bone marrow transplant	Linda Welch	co-worker
Donna Bramlett	undergoing tests	Dick Rockey	sister

WE ARE DEVOTED TO WORSHIP Acts 2: 42

Organ/Piano
Choir Director
Reader

Acolyte
Presenter, Children's message
Greeters
Nursery
Ushers

Altar preparation/Chancel care
Sound tech
Custodians
Altar linen
Flower service
Flower beds
Grass cutting
Floor Maintenance Smith's Janitorials

Church Council.....

Kay Vincent, president
Jan Sparks, financial secretary
Jeff Moxley, stewardship
Bo Miller, worship
John Mitchell, property

Kay Vincent
Marjorie Fix
Charlotte Black, First Reading
Katie Black, Gospel
volunteer

Nancy Sult, Tina Wright
Ellen Mitchell & Cyndy Pieplow
Deanese Willis
Ed Sheeley, Jesse Sheeley
Bo Miller, Jeff Moxley

Lisa Tinney
Volunteer
Bob & Valerie Behnke
Fran Sparks
Helen Whitten
Whitten family
Fred Daniels 245-0483
Laverne Smith 229 387-6060

Sandy Adams, v- pres/secretary
Kathy Lane, treasurer
Cindy Mitchell, youth
Vacant, evangelism
Dana Black, Christian Ed.

WE ARE DEVOTED TO SERVICE

Dec 14

Dec 21

Dec-28

Reader:	C Pieplow	L Welch	N. Olsen
Com Assist:	J Sparks	J Welch	K. Lane
Acolyte:	C Christians	A Sweeney	volunteer
Chancel:	K Sheeley	C Pieplow	V Behnke
Nursery:	T Wright	J Jansen	V Behnke
Greeters:	C Sweeney	D Rockey	B Zipperer
	N Boyd	D Rockey	F Sparks
Ushers:	W Tinney	S Davis	G Vincent
	L Tinney	T France	L Vincent
	G Klement	B France	J Willis
	L Klement	M Dauphinais	B Behnke

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE, please use sign-up sheet to offer your assistance at the 7:30 PM Candlelight service.

Mission Statement

A place of worship for all to know Christ, be energized by the Gospel and share Christ's love.

GRACE AND PEACE BE YOURS from Pr. Richard

Cade Ashton Longieliere was presented for Holy Baptism on Friday, Dec. 5, here at Messiah Lutheran by his parents, Javon & Dawn, and by sponsors: Kristen Scruggs and Terri Calleson.

LWML

"Christmas stockings"... jar in the narthex for you to empty your stockings by December 7.

Thank you from LWML for supporting all our mission projects throughout the year.

December meeting will be Monday, December 8, 7: PM. Joyful Noise lunch will be at the Red Lobster on December 8.

ANNUAL MEETING ON DEC. 14, ANOTHER BIG DECISION!!!

PROPERTY at 509 Pinetree (adjoining the church property along the back fence), as announced last Sunday, is for sale. In order for the church to consider purchasing the property to expand our land area and our service to the community \$500 earnest money, refundable if the congregation does not approve buying the house at the Dec. 14th meeting, was submitted in order to hold the property while more information and details are gathered. Again, everything is contingent on congregation approval of this at our Dec. 14 meeting. The offer made was \$98,000. Asking price \$104,900. Questions and concerns may be addressed to any member of the church council.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2009

Please pick up a copy of the 2009 proposed budget of \$134,486. The proposed budget amount does not include estimated monthly cost (\$500 - \$800 for mortgage, utilities, insurance, maintenance) of the adjoining property.

NOMINATED FOR CHURCH COUNCIL

Lisa Tinney & Gary Klement have agreed to serve on the church council as co-financial secretary.

Jolleen Christians has agreed to serve on the church council in the area of Evangelism

PIANO RECITAL, TODAY, 3:00 PM at Messiah Lutheran

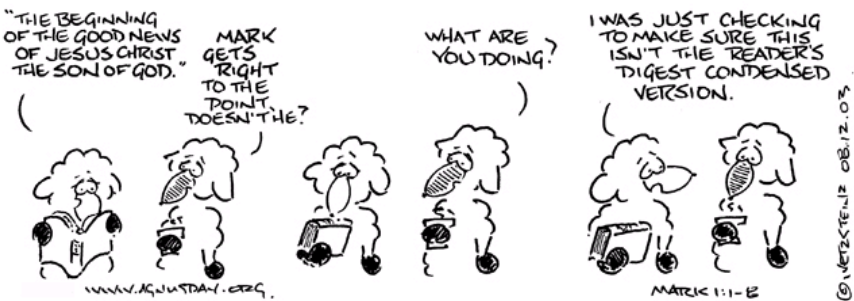
Please join us for a recital featuring the piano students of Kay Vincent. Bailey, Rob, Julianna, Katie, Phillip and Jaheim have been working very hard to prepare some special music for your enjoyment. Refreshments will be served.

PHI MU ALPHA musician fraternity at VSU invites you to support their TOYS FOR TOTS BarBQ and Concert on Tuesday, Dec. 9. The BarBQ will be served at Messiah Lutheran Church from 12 noon until 6: pm. Concert will be held at 7:30 PM in the sanctuary of Messiah Lutheran.

DONATIONS

2 toys for 1 BarBQ and 1 concert admission or 1 toy + \$ 7 donation

1 toy for concert admission or \$7 donation.
(toys are to be \$5-\$10 value, and unwrapped)



A·D·V·E·N·T
HOPE
PRAY
REFLECT
LOVE

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