



The Messenger

*News about our church,
our ministries and our people*

November 2012

Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool

About This Issue...

- Mark your calendar for important dates of service to your church
- Stewardship Appeal kick off November 4
- New pictorial directory planned
- A Special Time needs your help
- November begins and ends with a Festival

The next issue of The Messenger will appear in December. Deadline for articles is November 21. See last page for details.

Thanks,
Judy Johnson

Sunday, November 4

Breakfast

9:00—11:30

The Youth is hosting a Sausage, Gravy and Biscuit breakfast Sunday, Nov. 4 from 9-11:30. It's a free will offering fund raiser. Be sure to stop by to support our youth.

Introducing the Darcys

Guest Pastor for November

We welcome Kieran and Joan Darcy, from the Minneapolis-St. Paul area, to Living Waters.

Born on a small farm in Ireland, Pastor Kieran was one of seven children. He received his early education in local schools. He attended a seminary in Dublin, and came to the United States in 1965.

He has served in congregations in Florida, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Although interested in all aspects of the ministry, Pastor Kieran says that leading worship and caring for the elderly have been two of his prime concerns.

Kieran met his wife, Joan, in Florida in 1972 and they were married in 1980. They have three children and three grandchildren.

Joan was born in New York City, NY. She has a degree in Religious Education and Christian Ministry. She has worked with youth for over 40 years, serving as a Director of Christian Ed and Youth Activities in many of the congregations Pastor Kieran served.

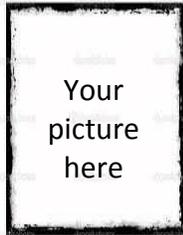
Their interests are camping, walking, jigsaw puzzles, and Wii. They love spending time with the grandchildren and are also beginning to volunteer at their youngest grandchild's school. They volunteer weekly at the Minnesota Zoo in the farm area.

They look forward to meeting and ministering with us.

Pastor Darcy will be delivering the message on November 11.

New Pictorial Directory Planned

**Sign-ups start
November 11**



Our Pictorial Directory is five years old. It is nice to look at it and reminisce, but if you want to recognize someone who joined the church since 2008, it is not very helpful.

So, to fix that problem, we are preparing a new directory and we would like to have everyone who attends Living Waters to get their picture taken by the professionals at Life Touch, formerly Olan Mills. The bonus is that everyone who gets their picture taken not only will receive a free 8 x 10 photo of themselves but they will receive a copy of the new directory when they come out in the spring.

Appointments will be made and photos taken at Living Waters. Beginning November 11, you can sign up between services in the social hall or through our website for a December day and time that is right for you. Those who have pictures taken in December will have photos in time for Christmas gifts. January sittings will be scheduled at a later time. Please note that appointments are not scheduled through the church office.

Putting together a new directory is a lot of work and a lot of fun. If you would like to help, contact Gayle Backiel at 423-6609.

Church Mortgage Refinanced

The Board of Directors has announced that we have secured a lower interest rate for our mortgage, saving over \$40,000 on our loan. We have reduced our payments and shaved one and a half years off the loan. We will have our mortgage paid off in 15 years.

Preschool News

We are in full swing here at the Preschool. Our VPK class is nearly full with 18 students; our other class is starting to fill with eight enrolled.

We had a fun time in this month with various community helpers visiting us. We were able to see the inside of a police car and talk about stranger danger with a police officer, we had a visit from a nurse, a baker, guide dogs and of course, the fire department.

We raised about \$270 through our Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser! Thank you to all who helped!



Prayer Shawl Ministry Celebrates One Year

Our prayer shawl ministry has been creating prayer shawls for just over a year. Deaconess Georgia Van Hoesen, our visiting pastor in September of 2011 brought us information about starting this ministry and we have been going strong ever since.

Prayer shawls are knitted or crocheted and given to those who are ill, struggling, or deserve a special blessing. We presented information about this ministry to other churches of the Gulf Coast Conference on October 20, in the hope that they will begin their own prayer shawl ministries.

Festival Sundays in November

The month of November begins and ends with festivals of the church, marking the end of the church year. Advent heralds the beginning of the new church year.

All Saints Day, which falls this year on November 4, is a universal Christian Feast that honors and remembers all Christian saints, known and unknown. For Lutherans, the day is observed by remembering and thanking God for all saints, both dead and living. It is a day to glorify Jesus Christ, who by his holy life and death has made the saints holy through baptism and faith.

One reason we remember the saints is precisely because they were such great stewards of God's grace while among us. Often, the churches in which we worship were built because of the sacrificial giving of those who have gone before. And so too, it is logical

that our annual Stewardship Appeals are in November. We are using red as our liturgical color for this festival day.

Christ the King Sunday falls on November 25 this year. Officially called the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, it is celebrated on the Sunday before Advent, the final Sunday of Ordinary Time or Time after Pentecost. Christ the King Sunday was once celebrated on the last Sunday of October, but since the calendar reforms of 1969, the feast was moved to its current schedule. It is fitting that the feast celebrating Christ's kingship is observed right before Advent, when we liturgically wait for the promised Messiah (King). The liturgical color for this festival is white.



New Mobil App for www.livingwaterslutheran.com

Our web site host has informed us that they have just released a new, mobile version of our website. The mobile version has been constructed with a small, touch-based environment in mind, and it behaves much like a native app would on your mobile device.

The mobile version will automatically pull up on any device with an HTML5-compatible web browser (including the iPhone, iPod Touch, and Android phones), and no area of the website has been left out. With few exceptions, all of the content that you can access from the full version of the website is available in the mobile version.

The menu for the mobile website is accessed by tapping on the menu icon in the upper, left-hand corner of the home page. You can also access the menu by sliding one finger from the left to the right of the screen. The application has not been tested on the mobile version on all types of mobile devices beyond iPhones and Androids, so the company would welcome your feedback if you experience issues with the mobile version on your device. They welcome any other feedback you wish to provide.

You may contact them at mychurchwebsite.net

Annual Stewardship Appeal For 2013

November 18—Commitment Sunday



We know that the Lord “loves a cheerful giver”—and so do the church leaders at Living Waters. Of course, it is hard to be both a “cheerful giver” and a “sacrificial giver” without the love of Christ in our hearts. Thankfully, Living Waters is a church richly blessed with members and friends who have the love of Christ in their hearts.

It is the time of year when we come to you and ask for the commitment of your financial support for the work of Christ at Living Waters in 2013. It is time for our Annual Stewardship Appeal.

The theme for our appeal this year, represented by the logo above, is:
“Abundant Joy, Overflowing Generosity”

On Sunday, November 4, local members can pick up their Annual Appeal Stewardship packet in the church lobby. This will save the cost of mailing the packet to you. Those who are out of town will receive their packet in the mail.

Please review the content of the appeal packet and prayerfully consider your response. On Sunday, November 18, please bring your Estimate of Giving Card for 2013 to worship and place it in the offering plate. If you are unable to attend worship on November 18, please mail this card to the church or drop this card off at the church office.

Thank you for doing what you can—and even more!

Decorate Your Church for Christmas December 1

Saturday morning, December 1, 9:00 is the time; decorating the church is the project. Take a bit of time to help bring the beauty of Christmas into our sanctuary, narthex and social hall.

Generally, this takes only about an hour and a half so you’ll be finished in plenty of time for your Saturday errands. Tall people are especially needed!



Annual Meeting of Congregation Sunday, November 25

Please plan to attend the annual meeting of the congregation, which will be held on Sunday, November 25, between services.

We anticipate the meeting will begin at 9:15. This is the meeting during which Living Waters members elect representatives to the Board of Directors and several committees.

Celebrating Alice Dever

Many of you sent a tribute which was published in a special booklet to remember our sister, Alice Dever. A member of Living Waters for more than 30 years, Alice gave generously of her time, talents and resources to our church. She passed away on September 26 and her Memorial Service was held on October 27.

The special booklet was a collaboration between Carol Sutton and Judy Johnson. Initially, the intent was to publish the quotes in this newsletter but your overwhelming response required a different distribution.

The booklet will be available on the church website for downloading. If you do not have access to a computer, you may request a copy from the church office.

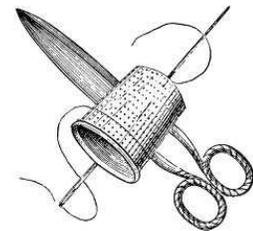
Cut-Ups Resume

Can you tie a knot? Pin batting and cloth together? Sew? Drink coffee and eat goodies?

Cut-Ups is looking for you. Come and help us put quilts together for the needy and homeless, and enjoy some friendly conversation.

Cut-Ups is starting up Wednesday, November 7, and meets each Wednesday from 9-11:30.

Contact Phyllis Serran for more details.



Please Help A Special Time

A Special Time Respite program needs "angels." During the last year our respite program lost some very dedicated "angel" volunteers due to unforeseen health problems. Would you like to be an "angel" and help to fill the void left by volunteers who are no longer able to help? Call Adeline Banks, 941-244-7870 or email: omadeline@comcast.net.

The Messenger is published monthly by Living Waters Lutheran Church with printed copies distributed the first Sunday of each month. Copies are also available at: www.livingwaterslutheran.com and via email distribution.

To have information included in the newsletter, please write your content and send it to Judy Johnson: j3john@comcast.net. Articles must be submitted by the 21st of each month for publication the following month and may be edited. Pictures are not printed.

Physical Address

Living Waters Lutheran Church and Preschool
12475 Chancellor Blvd.
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

Mailing Address

PO Box 8064
North Port, FL 34290

941-625-8090

www.livingwaterslutheran.com

Office Hours:

9:00am-Noon, Mon. - Thurs.

If you have questions about our church, its ministries or about becoming a member, please contact Pastor Dell Shiell via email at: pastor@livingwaterslutheran.com