

**December, 2014**

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Dear Dear DeGraff~

As I write you this Christmas pastoral letter right before Thanksgiving I find myself pausing in the midst of all the hustling and bustling ahead of us to truly give thanks for each one of you. Yesterday I gave a new neighbor in De Graff a tour of our building and as I did I was again reminded that YOU ARE THE DEGRAFF CHURCH! What a blessing you are to me and especially to this community!!!

As I thought of what I wanted to write in this letter a few additional thoughts have come to my heart and mind. In the midst of a month where we make shopping lists for groceries and gifts I want to invite you to take a minute to stop and make a list of all that you are thankful for. May that list truly be longer than the list of things you need or want. And from this list may you become increasingly aware of the abundance that the Lord has blessed you with. When we can focus on the One who blesses us so richly we can better focus on what we already have! And from this abundance we can truly share with others!!! We call this having an asset based ministry mindset! One of my favorite teachings!!!!

All this brings me to this thought. Re-gifting! To some this is a terrible thing but to this theologian it is the most organic and purest sense of giving I can fathom! When we have gifts that mean the world to us, our most natural and loving instincts is to share them. A box of chocolates, a sled, a good book, etc.

As you make out your list of things you might want to give another perhaps you can save yourself a trip to the store by looking at all that you already have and consider giving some of your treasures away. Yes, it hurts a tiny bit to part with some of our treasures but that is where the beauty is, in our sacrifice.

Just a thought from this sentimental packrat. Out of all that God is and has, He gave us His only son! Share HIM with all this CHRISTmas!

Love you much!

Pastor Kym

Worship Highlights for Advent      theme song "What Child Is This?"

**Sunday Nov. 30**

Lighting of the Prophecy Candle    Isaiah 2:2-5 NIV  
Ministry of Music Nadine Tussing

**Sunday Dec 7th**

Lighting of the Bethlehem Candle    Isaiah 11:1-10 NIV  
Dave Knight preaching. Holy Communion will be served the next Sunday.  
Adult Choir "Come and Worship"

**Sunday Dec. 14th**

Lighting of the Shepherd's candle    Isaiah 35  
Holy Communion will be served this Sunday!

**Sunday Dec. 21st**

Lighting of the Angel's Candle    Isaiah 7:10-14 NIV  
Ministering in music and song will be both the Adult Choir "Gloria"  
and the Bell Choir

**\*\*Sunday Dec. 21st at 6:00 P.M. the Annual Children's Pageant**

**Wednesday Dec. 24th at 7:00 P.M.**

"O Holy Night" Candlelight Communion Christmas Eve Service Luke 2:1-20 NIV  
Lighting of the Christ Candle    Isaiah 9:2-7  
Adult Choir "Noel! Sing We Noel!"

**Sunday Dec. 28th**

"Endings and Beginnings"                      "Peace Lightning" will be singing  
    ...the cycle if life...  
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 NIV



Do you like to read to kids? The Kids Learning Place is looking for volunteers to read to the kids...Just call Mollie at 585-2911...they are also looking for someone to dust! (But before you contact them on that, you first have to be pre-approved at Kris's house.)

There were 98 boxes of brownie mix donated to the Five Loaves Food Pantry...THANK YOU!!!!!!

Now we need 90 boxes of candy canes by Dec. 14!!!



# Trustees

We are now on our fourth snow plowing service for this year and we have not used anyone yet. We do not have an easy lot to plow. We have a person (Greg Bell) lined up to plow for us but the cost will be in the \$100 range which is 50% more than last year. Therefore, for everyone's info (please pass to others who need this info) the following guidelines will be used this winter:

**We will not plow for two or three inches of snow.**

**If we have significant drifts we will plow.**

**Visitors and workers at our Church will need to wear footwear accordingly.**

**We will clear sidewalks.**

**We will salt as needed.**

This may come as a disappointment, but we ask that you work with us to control expenses for our Church.

David Knight  
Ch. Trustees



Remember, when the Riverside Schools are closed for weather, so is the church and all activities for that day!

The Children's Christmas Play will be held on Sunday,  
Dec. 21st at 6 p.m.

Peace Lightning Children's Choir will be singing on  
Sunday, December 28th.

Date	Children's Sermons	Greeters	Lay Reader
Dec. 7	Nancy Knight	Sandy Dammeyer Mary Bell	Pat Bonar
Dec. 14	Pastor Kym	Terry & Shirley King	Chad Perk
Dec. 21	Deb Orr	Meghan Orr Martha Siders	Karol Rader
Dec. 28	Kelly Kauffman	Alan & Sue Walls	Bruce Weeks
	<b>Jr. Church</b>	<b>Nursery Help</b>	
Dec. 7	Kids Stay	Linsey & Kaitlyn	
Dec. 14	Cummins	Linsey & Kaitlyn	
Dec. 21	Shelley Perk	Linsey & Kaitlyn	
Dec. 28	Kelly Kauffman	Linsey & Kaitlyn	

LEADER

## Bits and Pieces...

### Finance News

Nov. 13, 2014

The minutes and financial reports were approved.

Loose change offering for Oct. = \$80.13

Receipts from Power Lifting Event \$263.10

Approved an Honorarium to Bruce Boyd for help in preparing for the Consecration Sunday

Approved a compensation of \$100 be paid to Colleen Flora for the Vessel Care classes

Approved a donation of \$125 to 5 Loaves Food Pantry in the name of the Power Lifting Team from the receipts.

Pastor Kym discussed plans for the New Consecration Sunday, Nov. 16th

Next meeting will be Dec. 11th.



# December

December 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11/30	12/1	2	3	4	5	6
	Exercise!	Fitness Group Exercise!	Wanda Schlumbohm Praise Team Choir	Fitness Group Sr. Lunch Cub Scouts Exercise!		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
S.L.A.M.	Trustees Exercise!	Fitness Group Exercise!	Treva Stahler Praise Team Choir	Cody Weeks Fitness Group Sr. Lunch Finance Cub Scouts Ad Board Exercise!		Kirby Stahler
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Mason Armbruster Logan Acres Service <i>2:30pm</i>	Bev Renkert Exercise!	Fitness Group Exercise!	Praise Team Choir	Betty Black Christopher Smith Fitness Group Sr. Lunch Cub Scouts Exercise!		Newsletter Due Nadine Tussing Movie Night
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Kevin Smith Eunice Yoder Christmas Program <i>6pm</i>	Exercise!	Fitness Group Exercise!	Praise Team Christmas Eve Service <i>7pm</i>	Jesus!	Lisa Ransbottom	
28	29	30	31	1/1	2	3
Deb Mohr	Exercise!	Fitness Group Exercise!	Praise Team			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
S.L.A.M.	Exercise!	Fitness Group Exercise!	Praise Team	Fitness Group Sr. Lunch Cub Scouts Exercise!		

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Kym James, Pastor



growing spiritually and showing Christ's love through action in our community

**Mission Statement:**

**“To grow spiritually and show Christ’s love through action in our community.”**