

# TIDINGS

IRVING PARK LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3938 W. BELLE PLAINE AVE. • CHICAGO, IL 60618-1997

Vol. 33, No. 12

December 2006



**IPLC**

**I**nviting in God's Name  
**P**roclaiming the Gospel  
**L**iving in Fellowship  
**C**aring for others

## A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE PASTOR

Advent is by far my favorite season of the church year. Not only are we seeing the beginnings of changes in creation around us- mornings are crisper, and snow is starting to fall, but we are seeing the beginnings of the changes in our own church- the sanctuary is now adorned in blue and our advent wreath takes a prominent position in our worship space.

Too often, Advent becomes a time of "waiting until Christmas", but it is so much more than that. Advent is not just the few weeks before Christmas, it is the beginning of the church year- a time when we do much more than just wait and remember the birth of Jesus, we recognize that the future and the past are blurred into the season- *God breaks into our reality right now*. Advent bridges time and space, asking us to plead for our Immanuel, God-with-us, yet also recognize that our Immanuel **is** with us, joining us for worship, meeting us at the altar rail, infused into our lives as people of God.

Most of us will keep an advent calendar in our homes, opening the little windows for each day of the advent season. This advent, I encourage us to recognize the in-breaking of God into each new day, instead of merely "counting down until Christmas" taking time to look around us and see Immanuel, God-with-us, in breath, in snowfall, in bread broken. Let us not just wait out these days with anticipation of Christmas, let us really live into these days, recognizing the blurring of the past story of God's people with the future, leading us to live an incredible present.

In the Peace of the Season,

Pastor Petersen



## HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

World War II hit Irving Park Lutheran Church hard. Eleven of our service personnel died in battle. By the end of WWII, 388 IPLC sons and daughters had served their country.

A box containing letters from almost 250 IPLC members was recently discovered in a church storage area. Thankfully, during WWII, Pastor Joshua Oden and church secretary Mildred Bogren had the foresight to save the letters. Now, more than 60 years later, we'd like to return as many letters as possible to the relatives of our World War II heroes.

The letters provide a fascinating insight into the entire war effort and life in the 1940s.

"The Tidings" literally had a worldwide circulation during WWII. Our letter writers often mentioned they were grateful to receive "The Tidings," prayer books, letters and cookies from the folks back home. Letters came back from around the globe, including Pearl Harbor, Africa, Italy, France, England, Australia, New Guinea and the Philippines. One was even written on a submarine. Also, there are countless stories of life at military bases across the country. They all had one thing in common ... they truly appreciated IPLC and looked forward to returning home.

A few highlights from the hundreds of discovered letters:

There are letters from a few of our current members, and copies of letters written by Pastor Oden. One soldier wrote a compelling letter written to his 1-year-old son. There are scores of "V-Mails" and newspaper clippings, including a story on the fighting Davis family of Milburn, Eldridge, LeRoy and Melvin. There are letters from politicians, including First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt (who was invited to attend one of many Service Flag dedications at IPLC).

Many are from homesick, lovesick and just plain sick soldiers. One was writing to Pastor Oden from his Red Cross hospital bed as actor Basil Rathbone was entertaining the troops. Another wrote about taking communion at a church in Europe with Gen. George Patton kneeling next to him. There also are many inspirational letters to Pastor Oden from Edmund Lust, who was killed in action.

Elsewhere in this edition of "The Tidings" is a list of the letter writers. You may find names of a grandparent, uncle, aunt, cousin or neighbor. We'd like to return the letters, but to relatives only. If you are interested in linking IPLC's past with the present, please contact Ralph Greenslade either directly at church on Sunday mornings or via e-mail at [Slade1039@comcast.net](mailto:Slade1039@comcast.net).

Ralph Greenslade

## EHOPIA ORPHAN PROJECT

The AIDS pandemic is a tragedy that is sweeping through the African continent. Approximately 2,500,000 people are dying every year and it is estimated that there are more than 13,000,000 AIDS orphans, with almost no infrastructure to support them. In Ethiopia there are at least a million orphans already and many more are expected as the growth of AIDS continues throughout the country. About one in six AIDS orphans is HIV-positive.

**Chances by Choice** is a non-profit foundation started in 2002 by Margaret Fleming, a recognized expert in the field of international adoptions. In the summer of 2006, spurred by their recent work with HIV-positive orphans in Ethiopia, Chances by Choice started a project to build an orphanage complex in Ethiopia to provide for the care and support of HIV-positive orphans. The vision is to build an orphanage complex which can provide adoption, education, job training, and medical services within a single facility.

In July of 2006, former IPLC Ministry Project Coordinator Norman Clearfield traveled to Ethiopia and witnessed

firsthand the incredible poverty of Ethiopia and the devastation caused by AIDS. Since then, Chances by Choice has made tremendous strides toward realizing our dream of opening an orphanage.

We have almost completed the process of securing the necessary legal agreements to begin orphanage operations in Ethiopia, and we have identified three staff people who are interested in helping us get our orphanage project started in Ethiopia. As soon as we have secured our first \$20,000 in funds, we will be able to begin hiring staff.

Please join us at IPLC on December 3<sup>rd</sup> when after worship lunch will be served and we will be showing a ten-minute video about our project work in Ethiopia. Norm will be available after lunch to answer questions the project.

Also, please mark your calendars for the afternoon of Sunday, January 14, 2007, when Rob Clearfield and friends will be performing a benefit concert for the Ethiopia project at LaSalle Street Church in Chicago. More information will be available in the January Tidings.

## FROM MIDWEEK COORDINATOR

"Jesus is the reason for the Season"! What wonderful words to remind us why we; Deck the Halls, honor the Silent Night and then Go tell it on the mountains! During this joyous occasion for Christians and others alike, we are encouraged to share God's love with the spirit of peace, hope and joy for all.

On behalf of IPLC Midweek Worship, we invite you share your time, talent and gifts by joining us on Thursday, December 7th for our Christmas potluck and Communion Worship service featuring FAITHCHICAGO and the GRACE Praise Dancers of IPLC, celebrating the songs of the season.

Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol? Come back on December 14th and join us for our Christmas Carol sing-a-long!

Asking God to guide us in all we do and believing that Much prayer, brings about Much POWER!

Merry Christmas!!!!!!

## Tired of Waiting in Line? Uncertain of What to Buy for that Special Someone?

This year, you can give the gift that will last for years- a new hymnal! Hymnals can be given in honor of a friend or relative, or in the name of a person you wish to surprise for Christmas! Each hymnal will have your dedication on the inside cover, and will last for years to come. With each hymnal that you support with your donation you will be able to take an older green hymnal home. Please consider giving to this wonderful part of our worship life!

## JAM'IN WITH JULIE



If you are wondering when you read the Sunday bulletin what the "Jam'in with Julie" calendar listing is all about, it's a music program for pre-schoolers. The instructor Julie Helenius, an Old Town School of Music alum has been a local music teacher for many years. In fact she was the Magic Mushroom music teacher for a couple of summers in the early 1990s. She has been leading her neighborhood preschool class

since that time. This fall she was in need of a new "home" after about ten years at Mount Olive church and IPLC welcomed her here.



On Wednesday and Friday mornings in Victory Hall she hosts three sessions each day for a total of 60 one, two and three year olds. The children along with their moms, dads or nannies participate in singing, rhythm exercises, movement, dance, puppetry and make believe. Besides experiencing the joy of music, Jam'in with Julie classes provides a time for moms to connect with their kids as well as with other parents and children. The first session ends Nov. 17th and the next session begins Wednesday, November 22nd. Call Julie Helenius at 267-7607 if



## *IPLC Service Men*

*These are the names of IPLC members (and a few politicians) who corresponded with the church during World War II. Their letters were recently discovered, and IPLC would like to return as many letters as possible to their relatives. Please see the "Historically Speaking" article for more details.*

- A): Carl Ahlgren, John Ahlstromer, Alan Almquist, Joseph Almquist, Alfred Amundsen, Grace Westberg Amundsen, Carl H. Anderson, Clarence H. Anderson, Donald Anderson, Frank Anderson, Gerald Anderson, Goran Anderson, Harvey Anderson, J. Milton Anderson, Richard L. Anderson, Roy Anderson, Thorward Anderson, Roy Andrews, Joseph Aubry.
- B): Raymond Baker, Ray Begy, LeRoy Benson, Raymond Benson, Charles Bentz, Roy Berg, Carl Berglund, Lawrence Berglund, Ralph Bersell, Clarence Billburg, William Blumhagen, Eugene Borgeson, John Bredesen, Philip Brewer, Rodney Brewer, Alderman Brody, Dorothy Brown.
- C): Haldor Carlsen, Arthur Carlson, B. Helge Carlson, Bill Carlson, Carl Carlson, Carling Carlson, Edward Carlson, Frank Carlson, Harold Carlson, Russ Carlson, Sven Carlson, Werner Carlson, Ray Cashman, Arthur Clark.
- D): Eldridge Davis, LeRoy Davis, Melvin Davis, Milburn Davis, Robert De Grave, Howard Dernehl, Ralph Dernehl, Claris Donelson, Herbert Dulberg.
- E): James Ebenholtz, Robert Edstrand, Harold Eichmann, Reuben Erickson.
- F): Phyllis Favor, Russell Finn, Sigurd Fredrickson, John Friedstrom, John Fridlund, William Froehlich.
- G): Carl Gilbert, Kenneth Glay, George Glay, Janet Goranson, William B. Goranson, Carl Graf, Rueben Greenquist, Dwight Herbert Green, John Greenslade, Robert Grevin.
- H): K. Hamlander, Chester Hammerberg, Paul Hammerberg, William Hammond, Leonard Hansen, Albert Hansen, Lester Hansen, Norman Hansen, Carl "Bert" Hanson, Donald Hanson, Melvin Hasenberg, John P. Hedlund, Clifford Heitland, Herbert Ray Helgeson, Jack Hendricks, Raymond Henning, Raymond Herda, Alexander Hermann, Gordon Hetland, Howard Hjerstedt, Robert Hoffman, Victor Hokanson, Kenneth Holmberg, Marshall Holmgren, Warner Holmgren, Alfred Holmquist, William Hoveland, George & Betty Hrodey, Tom Hrodey, Paul Huxmann.
- J): Albert Jacobson, Paul Jancovic, Oscar Jansen, Charles Jantho, Adeline Johnson, "Bob" Johnson, Calvin Johnson, Carl Johnson, "Chick" Johnson, Clifford Johnson, Harold Johnson, Herman Johnson, Kurt Johnson, Raymond Johnson, Robert D. Johnson, Robert E. Johnson, Robert G. Johnson, Rodney Johnson, Harry Joerger, Robert Jones, Edward Jordan, Elmer Jurgens, Fred Jurgens, Kenneth Jurgens.
- K): Al Kaad, Arthur Kalmar, Mayor Edward J. Kelly, Gustave Kielhack, Harry Kiernozycki, William Kiley, George Koutsogianis, Robert Kroening, Burchard Krogh, Raymond Kuempel, LeRoy Kussy.
- L): J.K. Landon, Dorris Larson, John Larson, Marvin Larson, Marius Lassen, J.G. "Gus" Lays, Albert Leapley, Leonard Lindblom, Carl Lindroth, Lillian Lindskog, Clifford Lindstrom, Norman Lindquist, Harry Linn, Richard Lund, Carl Lundgren, Carl Lundquist, Franklin Lundquist, Edmund Lust.
- M): Albert Mack, Harold Major, Donald "Bud" Magnuson, William Magnuson, Maynard Marwede, Warren McCann, Einar Mehl, Kenneth Mehl, Walter Mortensen, George Moyland, Leonard Munson, William Munson.
- N): Francis Narowetz, Lawrence Nelson, Leonard Nero, Albert Neumann, Raymond Nicholson, Mark Norcutt, Holger Nordin, J. Richard Nord.
- O): Henry Oberg, Joshua Oden Jr., Roy Ohlson, John Ohrn, George Olsen, Norman Olsen, Walter Olson, John Origer.
- P): George Palm, Earl Pearson, Farris Peterson, LeRoy Peterson, Wesley Peterson, Wilton Peterson, Edward Pollex, Harry Porz.
- R): "Ray", Fred Reisner, William Rieker, Roy Rissling, Stanley Rolph, First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt, Robert Rosberg, Donald Roth.
- S): Robert Sandberg, Russell Sandquist, Harold Seagren, Warner Sevander, C.E. Smaha, LeRoy Smith, Clarence Soderstrom, Victor Soderstrom, Charles Specht, George Stockwell, Lester Sundling, Chester Sundstrom, Arthur Swanson, Mae Swanson, Melvin Swanson, Walter Swanson, Eugene Sriver.
- T): George P. Traxel, Charles Thomas, Russell Thompson.
- W): Frederick Wagner, Randolph Walinder, Harold Waller, Walter Wallstrom, "Warren's Mom", Robert Wassergord, Clarence Wehmhoefer, Robert Weiss, Russell Wende, Raymond Westcott, Phyllis Whellen, Ray Wickstrom, Edson Willaman, Robert Willaman, Arthur Williams, Richard Williams, Ralph Wohland.

# DECEMBER 2006

- 1 Revelation 11:7-19
- 2 Psalm 76
- 3 Jeremiah 33:14-16, Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13, Luke 21:25-36
- 4 Numbers 17:1-11
- 5 2 Samuel 7:18-29
- 6 Luke 11:29-32
- 7 Isaiah 1:24-31
- 8 2 Peter 3:1-18
- 9 Psalm 90
- 10 Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11, Luke 3:1-6
- 11 Isaiah 40:1-11
- 12 Isaiah 19:18-25
- 13 Luke 7:18-30
- 14 Numbers 3:5-13
- 15 2 Peter 1:2-15
- 16 Psalm 126
- 17 Zephaniah 3:14-20, Isaiah 12:2-6  
Philippians 4:4-7, Luke 3:7-18
- 18 Numbers 16:1-19
- 19 Numbers 16:20-35
- 20 Luke 7:31-35
- 21 Micah 4:8-13
- 22 Acts 28:23-31
- 23 Psalm 85
- 24 Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:47-55  
Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-55
- 24 eve Isaiah 9:2-7, Psalm 97  
Titus 3:2-7, Luke 2:1-20
- 25 Isaiah 52:7-20, Psalm 98  
Hebrews 1:1-12, John 1:1-14
- 26 Luke 2:1-20
- 27 Luke 3:23-38
- 28 Psalm 148
- 29 Genesis 1:1—2:4a
- 30 Psalm 150
- 31 Hebrews 1:1—2:4

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Nancy & David Hall—December 14, 1996

## YOUTH BAPTISM ANNIVERSARY

12.28.03—Grace Stumme

## BIRTHDAYS

- |                    |                        |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 1 Ayla Benson      | 15 Wendy Faucher       |
| Dianne Plambeck    | Lillian Heminover      |
| Loretta Sherman    | Alan Johnson           |
| 3 Holly Lundquist  | 16 Kathleen Swanson    |
| Aimie Rucinski     | 17 David Hall          |
| Rochelle Wilson    | 18 Rebecca Haneberg    |
| 4 Santos Rivera    | Sylvia Harrison        |
| 6 Shirly Atkinson  | 20 Holly Cheslak       |
| 7 Dallas Brodersen | Gloria Rucinski        |
| 8 Patricia Desecki | Kenneth Swanson        |
| 9 Brooke Petersen  | 23 Noel Nape           |
| 10 Reuben Erickson | 24 Lee Stein           |
| 11 Marie Grunst    | 28 James Smith Grattan |
|                    | 30 Marga Burbatt       |
|                    | 31 Jeffrey Greenslade  |

## Special Events for December

December 2, 4:00 pm: Installation of Rev. Brooke Petersen as IPLC's Pastor. A reception will follow at the Parsonage, 4108 N. Harding.

December 3, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: Immediately following 10:30 worship we will gather for a meal and a presentation by Norm Clearfield concerning **Chances By Choice**, an adoption service for children with HIV/AIDs, especially serving Ethiopia. We will take part in **Hanging of the Greens** following this presentation and lunch.

December 7, 6:00 pm: Mid-week Christmas Potluck. Worship at 7:00 pm with GracePraise Dancers and Faith.

December 10, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Joining us for worship is Rev. Said Alibouni, Division for Global Mission- Middle East and Europe. The Fine Arts Committee will host **Peace Tales Around the World** presented by the Kidworks Touring Theatre Co., with the **Interfaith Children's Choir of Irving Park**.

December 14, 7:00 pm: Mid-week Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long

December 17, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent: 10:30 Worship-Annual Sunday School Program **The Special Shepherd**

December 24, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: 10:30 a.m. Worship

December 24, Christmas Eve: 11:00 p.m. Lessons and Carols Candlelight service

December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Morning: 10:30 a.m. Communion Service

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am-Chapel, Sunday School,  
Adult Studies  
10:30 am-Traditional Service  
11:45 am, Ensemble rehearsal

## MID WEEK WORSHIP

Thursdays at 7:00



Meeting a parishioner on the street, a pastor asked why he had not seen the fellow at worship very often. “Well,” the man complained, “it seems like every time I go to church you sing the same old hymns.”

“Oh,” replied the preacher. “What hymns are those?”

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today’ and ‘O Little Town of Bethlehem.

# DECEMBER 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><b>What is Christmas?</b> Christmas is belief in the past, courage for the present and hope for the future. It is a fervent wish that every cup may overflow with blessings rich and eternal, and that every path may lead to peace.</p>					<p>1 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:00 Alkies Only 9:00 Men’s Volleyball</p>	<p>2 10:00 Confirmation 10:30 Basketball 4:00 Installation Service of Pastor Petersen, reception</p>
<p>3* Lunch with Norm Clearfield—Hanging of the Greens 3:00 Swedish Cultural Society</p>	<p>4 3:00 MAP 7:00 Explorers</p>	<p>5 3:00 MAP 7:00 Cub Scouts 8:00 Basketball</p>	<p>6 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 3:00 MAP 4:30 ICCIP 7:00 Bells, Girl Scouts 8:00 Chancel, Grace Praise</p>	<p>7 11:00 Hope Circle 3:00 MAP 6:00 Christmas Potluck 7:00 Midweek 7:30 B. Ball</p>	<p>8 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:00 Alkies Only 9:00 Men’s Volleyball</p>	<p>9 Youth For Understanding</p>
<p>10* 2:00 Fine Arts—Kidworks presents <b>Peace Tales from around the World</b> and the ICCIP</p>	<p>11 3:00 MAP 7:00 Explorers 7:30 Council</p>	<p>12 3:00 MAP 7:00 Cub Scouts 8:00 Basketball</p>	<p>13 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 3:00 MAP 7:00 Bells, Girl Scouts 8:00 Chancel, Grace Praise</p>	<p>14 3:00 MAP 7:00 Midweek 7:30 B. Ball</p>	<p>15 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:00 Alkies Only 9:00 Men’s Volleyball</p>	<p>16 10:00 Confirmation 10:30 Basketball</p>
<p>17* 3:00 pm Jupiter Lodge</p>	<p>18 3:00 MAP 7:00 Explorers 7:00 Miriam Circle</p>	<p>19 3:00 MAP 6:00 MAP Committee meeting 7:00 Cub Scouts 8:00 Basketball</p>	<p>20 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 3:00 MAP 7:00 Bells, Girl Scouts 8:00 Chancel, Grace Praise</p>	<p>21 3:00 MAP 7:30 B. Ball</p>	<p>22 9:00 Jammin’ with Julie 7:00 Boy Scouts 8:00 Alkies Only 9:00 Men’s Volleyball</p>	<p>23 10:30 Basketball</p>
<p>24* Regular Sunday Morning Schedule  11:00 pm Lessons and Carols Service with Communion and</p>	<p>25 10:30 am Christmas Morning Service</p>	<p>26  7:00 Cub Scouts 8:00 Basketball</p>	<p>27 7:00 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>28 7:30 B. Ball</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>

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Please Check weekly bulletin or go to [www.iplc.org/Calendar](http://www.iplc.org/Calendar) for updates and changes

# TIDINGS

DECEMBER 2006, VOLUME XXXIII, No. XI

Visit our Website: <http://www.iplc.org>

**Rev. Brooke Petersen**, Pastor  
[pastorpetersen@iplc.org](mailto:pastorpetersen@iplc.org)

**IPLC Office**  
[office@iplc.org](mailto:office@iplc.org)

## SERVICE SCHEDULE

Sunday:  
9:00 am Sunday School, Chapel and  
Adult Studies  
10:30 Holy Communion

Thursday, Midweek Worship  
7:00 pm

## CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL

Bruce Anderson	Phil Bole
Dwan Buetow	Alison Freels
Sue Geisler	David Hall
Elmer Haneberg	Sharon Iverson
Eleanor Kepp	Larry Lundquist
Noel Nape	Richard A. Plambeck
Bill Sherlock	Isaac Sporrang
Lee Stein	Sandra Stumme
Holly VanEssen	Darcie Wadycki

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Gordon Johnson  
Richard Wielock

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### Dawn Benson & Phil Bole

Custodians