

# Refrigerator News

December 3, 2017



## This Week at Lincolnshire

Monday, December 4

9:15 a.m. Women's Bible Study

Thursday, December 7

7:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study @ Bells

Monday, December 4 through Friday, December 8

Paul and Cheryl Thomas...

will be at their daughter's in California beginning Monday, December 4 through Friday, December 8 to watch their granddaughter perform in a Christmas program at her school and to celebrate their daughter's birthday. We pray for their safe travels, pleasant weather and an enjoyable time with their family!

*Advent is here.*

Today, December 3 is the first Sunday of Advent. It is the day when the church officially begins to prepare for Christmas. Advent means "coming," therefore, we make ready for the coming of the Lord.

Where should we begin? With ourselves, of course. We should prepare our hearts for Christ to live in them fully. Get rid of the clutter within – the odds and ends of foolish thoughts and familiar sins we find difficult to "let go and let God handle."

Advent is heart-cleaning time, so call in the Holy Spirit Cleaning Service and make room for the best Guest anyone ever had. Start now! Let the Spirit "Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today" (from "O Little Town of Bethlehem".) The cleaning service has a guarantee: "When our 'Worker' finishes with your heart, you'll have the best Christmas ever!"



## Next Sunday's Highlights

December 10...

Lincolnshire's newly formed *Handbell Choir* will perform for the first time. They will play "Away in a Manger."

During the worship service, the history of "O Christmas Tree" will be given by Jane Vorndran and Zoey Vorndran. The song will be sung in English and German.

A puppet skit about a Christmas Tree (a very opinionated tree!) featuring the children, the Thomases and four others.

The Christmas Walk Booths will remain open on the 10th.





December 2	Zakk Strole
December 4	Richard Strole
December 5	Joe Henderson
December 7	Pat Fair
December 18	Mildred Dietzel
December 19	Katie Kolb
December 21	Lowell Shearer
December 22	Dwayne Fairchild
December 31	Casey Drudge

December 17 Anniversary of Jack and Judy Steckly

Good Christian Men Rejoice

Good Christian men, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice  
 Give ye heed to what we say,  
 Jesus Christ is born today.  
 Ox and ass before Him bow,  
 and He is in the manger now.  
 Christ is born today!  
 Christ is born today!

“The Story of “Good Christian Men, Rejoice” (Hymn No. 210) The story of this hymn has always been about accessibility to the Christmas story. In the late medieval period, there was a tradition of using folk songs to teach illiterate church-goers the Gospel story. This hymn is a good example of that practice. Written in a combination of Latin and German, it would be familiar in both the vernacular and the language of the Church. When set to a familiar folk tune, the people would be able to sing along with ease, and would understand the story.

Over the centuries, this hymn has been translated into many different languages, so many more people could hear and sing these beautiful words that call us to praise. A missionary diary claims that on September 14, 1745, at the Moravian mission in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, this hymn was simultaneously sung in *thirteen different languages*. What a marvelous thought, that we can sing the same song with brothers and sisters in Christ around the world, celebrating the story that began all of our own stories.



This is the first Sunday of Advent and it is a time when we celebrate again the coming of our Lord and affirm the joy that Christ brought to the world. During the worship service, we will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas with wreathes, greenery, poinsettias, placement of the Crèche and the lighting of the first Advent Candle.

Immediately after the worship service, a special Congregational meeting will be held. At this time, all members in attendance will be asked to vote “yes” or “no” to the calling of Drs. Paul and Cheryl Thomas to a shared position as our pastor. This call must be affirmed with a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> majority vote by ballot. Your attendance is very important and appreciated.

A light meal will be served to celebrate the morning’s activities.

After the meal, stay and shop at the CHRISTMAS WALK in the FELLOWSHIP HALL. The booths offer a variety of items to help you with your Christmas shopping.

