

Spirit of Hope Update



Saturday:

5 p.m. "the Lift"

Saturday Night Alive following communion

Sunday:

8:45 a.m. Blended Service

No Jump Start this Sunday

11 a.m. Contemporary Worship

Sermon Text: Mark 13:24-37

Holy Communion at all services. Nursery available Sundays.

Spend "Thanksgiving Eve" with us. Today, Wednesday, November 23rd at 6:30 p.m. SOH members, friends and guests will present their "thanks" in a special way. Participants will be asked to write on cardboard sheets, what God has done in their lives. To see what this will look like, "google" the term "Cardboard Testimonies". All participants with signs are asked to meet at the church **at 6 p.m.** If you don't want to do a testimony, come anyway and share this unique experience with us. Everyone is asked to bring a non-perishable food item for their offering.

Thanks to all who helped 7 families in the area have a real Thanksgiving Dinner. Your generosity made their celebration possible!

The downside of being a "people pleaser" will be the focus of our **Adult Forum** discussion as Pastor Glen continues to share some observations by *Dr. Carl Jung* concerning the *dark side* that lives in each of us. Join us at 10 a.m. Sunday, November 27th in the large classroom.

Church Council Constitutional Meeting is next Tuesday, November 29th at 6:30 p.m. in the large classroom.

An **Identity Theft Talk** is coming Thursday, December 1st at 10 a.m. All are invited to this informative session. Join us in the Narthex.

Mark your Calendars - Spirit of Hope's Family Advent Craft Night is coming Saturday, December 3rd following the "Lift" service (5 p.m.) and **Monthly Potluck** (6 p.m.) All are invited to bring a dish to share and then spend some quality family time preparing for Advent by making decorations/gifts for family and friends (or even yourselves!)

Christmas Spirit? Let's Hear It! Children's Christmas Program will begin practice Sunday, December 4th at 10 a.m. Practice continues on Sunday, December 11th, 10 a.m. and Saturday, December 17th, 9 a.m. The program itself will be presented on Sunday, December 18th at 10 a.m.

New Member Weekend is Saturday, December 3rd and Sunday, December 4th. Please take some time to welcome these newest members to Spirit of Hope!

Order your Poinsettias for Christmas! The cost is only \$10 a piece - look for the forms in the Narthex. The deadline is Sunday, December 18th.

SOH Christmas Family Fun Night is coming Saturday, December 17th, 6-9 p.m. Pizza, carolling, cookies and hot chocolate will be part of the fun! Sign up in the narthex.

Take a Star from the tree in the narthex and bring a wrapped gift for a child at Christmas. You can be a *star* in a child's life in this way.

Blanket Weekend is scheduled for January 21-22, 2012. Share some warmth and bring a blanket for someone who has no relief from the cold. Needed are your new or gently-used blankets, sleeping bags, quilts and afghans. Each church service that weekend will have a special offering time to place donations at the altar. Talk to Meri Weiler (701) 680-7065, if you have questions.

New Coffee to help **victims of violence** - An exclusive blend of coffee beans that will benefit LWR's East African producer partners is now available. This smooth, balanced blend of African whole beans will help the mothers, sisters, and daughters who have been affected by the ongoing sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Ask for **Congo Coffee Project** (whole bean only) which is only \$8.25 per 1 lb. bag. Equal Exchange will donate \$1 per bag, selling it to the Panzi Foundation through our wholesale program. *See the LWR display in the narthex for more information.*

Consider Serving - Have you thought about being a candidate for a *Spirit of Hope* leadership position? Now is the time to throw your name into the ring. Open positions include: Chairpeople for some of our ministry teams, people to serve on Church Council, people to serve on the audit team and people to represent us at Synod Assembly. These positions will be filled by the congregation at our **Annual Congregational Meeting** on January 29, 2012. See future updates for more details. Contact Dorothy Hansen, 480-292-9033 or jerrydorothy@cox.net and she will forward your interest to the Nominating Committee.

Make a difference. With so much changing, many are asking themselves what they can *do*. If you are, consider joining the small but faithful group of members and friends who clean our church. Just 2 hours a month devoted to varied tasks from light housekeeping to floor waxing and rug shampooing can enable you to *really make a difference* to all who worship here. Besides the many physical benefits, this ministry can bring you the absolute joy of being part of an extremely important task force. The need is great - *but the rewards are greater*. If you can help, contact Jerry Hansen at 480-292-9033.