

# The Shepherds Staff

**Inside this issue:**

Pastor Art's Message	1-2
-Bread Bakers & Takers	3
-Food Pantry Needs	
-Blood Pressure Check	
-Nursery Schedule	4
-Pointsettia Order	
Love & War—a new session	5
-Ministry Support	6
-Happy Birthday December	
-Christmas Eve Services	7
-Famous Quotes	
-Children's Christmas Pageant	
Youth Ministry	8
-Olentangy Men's Chorus Concert	9
-ASLC Cantata	
-Cookies needed for Journey to Bethlehem	
- P.I.N. Toys	
- Hat, Mitten, Scarf	
Journey to Bethlehem	10-
Time to Smile	11
December Calendar	12
Last Page—The Bridge	13

*A Message from Pastor Art*

*“I’ll be Home for Christmas”*

If you get a moment in your schedule during December, read Matthew 1:18-25 “How God came to us so that we could go to Him”.

We live in difficult times—times of anxiety, worry, fear, frustration, constant change, helplessness. I guess that could be said of any time in history—the same feelings, different circumstances. It can get you down if you didn’t have hope in something or someone. Hope is what keeps us going. Hope is continuing to believe that God is with us no matter when or what. That’s why I love Christmas. Christmas is my hope—maybe the hope of all of us.

Let me tell you a story about a baby in my former church. She lives in a house that has a wind chime hanging by the back door. Often when her mamma or daddy takes her out of the house, they stop and let her reach out her hand and grab one of the dangling pieces of the wind chime and make music. She begins to smile even (I know because I’ve seen it) before the music begins and once it does, her face is wreathed in indescribably ecstasy. When you see the joy of a baby and hear the music of chimes, you feel that longing again, for a time when beauty and joy will be at everybody’s fingertips. The music the baby makes catches you by

surprise and makes you wonder if something eternally important has taken place. I can’t explain how a thing like that happens. I only know that there are moments in this life when you hear music rippling through a chime or taste bread on Sunday morning or feel the touch of a loving hand or see a baby smile from ear to ear and you know for sure that God is good, and you feel completely at home in the world. God came into our world at Christmas so that we can go to Him. So celebrate the Gift of God’s Son: **Celebrations provide the occasion -**

- ◆ To remember
- ◆ To pause and to reflect
- ◆ To sort out and to analyze
- ◆ To recall joys and sorrows

There are a thousand reasons for celebrations—

- ◆ Time to take stock
- ◆ Time to reflect
- ◆ Time to share
- ◆ Time to cherish
- ◆ Time to let go
- ◆ Time to renew acquaintances
- ◆ Time for bonding
- ◆ Time to forgive
- ◆ Time to count blessings

Celebrate the joys of struggle.  
 Celebrate the rewards of faithfulness.  
 Celebrate the challenges.  
 Find time to celebrate.

*Merry Christmas—Pastor Art*

And then think about this when you celebrate Christmas.....



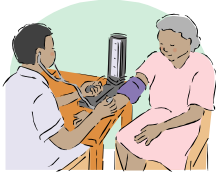
We weren't BORN yesterday. We are from Missouri. But we are also from somewhere else. We are from Oz, from Looking-Glass Land, from Narnia, and from Middle Earth. If with part of ourselves we are men and women of the world and share the sad unbeliefs of the world, with a deeper part still, the part where our best dreams come from, it is as if we were indeed born yesterday, or almost yesterday, because we are also all of us children still. No matter how forgotten and neglected, there is a child in all of us who is not just willing to believe in the possibility that maybe fairy tales are true after all but who is to some degree in touch with that truth. You pull the shade on the snow falling, white on white, and the child comes to life for a moment. There is a fragrance in the air, a certain passage of a song, an old photograph falling out from the pages of a book, the sound of somebody's voice in the hall that makes your heart leap and fills your eyes with tears. Who can say when or how it will be that something easters up out of the dimness to remind us of a time before we were born and after we will die? The child in us lives in a world where nothing is too familiar or unpromising to open up into the world where a path unwinds before our feet into a deep wood, and when that happens, neither the world we live in nor the world that lives in us can ever entirely be home again any more than it was home for Dorothy in the end either because in the Oz books that follow *The Wizard*, she keeps coming back again and again to Oz because Oz, not Kansas, is where her heart is, and the wizard turns out to be not a humbug but the greatest of all wizards after all.

From: "*Listening to Your Life*"

By: Frederick Buechner

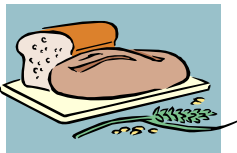
Pg. 115-116

\*\*\*\*\*



**Blood Pressure Checks** — *The 2nd Sunday of each month* the Holistic Health and Healing Ministry Team will be offering blood pressure checks between 10:30 and 11:00 am in the Church Office. Brenda Daugherty, a registered nurse, and other members of the Holistic Health and Wellness team will be present conducting the checks. High blood pressure is known as a silent killer. Frequent blood pressure checks and taking steps to reduce your blood pressure can lower your risk for heart disease, heart attack, and stroke. ***Be sure to have yours checked!*** *Check out the literature holders in the hall past the office. There are many articles to help you maintain health and wellness.* ***Hand sanitizers*** are now installed by each rest room, in *The Gathering Place*, and in both halls of the Sunday School rooms.

### Love Loaf Ministry



If you thought it felt good to be a recipient of a LOVE LOAF after you were a guest at worship, you can pay it forward.

### **BREAD BAKERS AND BREAD TAKERS FOR OCTOBER**

<p>December 4: <u><b>Bread Bakers:</b></u> LaVonne Bankoske</p> <p><u><b>Bread Takers:</b></u> Bill &amp; Miriam Barker</p>	<p>December 18: <u><b>Bread Bakers:</b></u> Becky Simmons</p> <p><u><b>Bread Takers:</b></u> Mary Bucey</p>
<p>December 11: <u><b>Bread Bakers:</b></u> Ann Matzke</p> <p><u><b>Bread Takers:</b></u> Jim &amp; LaVonne Bankoske</p>	<p>December 25: <u><b>Bread Bakers:</b></u> Christmas Day—No bakers</p> <p><u><b>Bread Takers:</b></u> Christmas Day—No takers</p>

Willing bakers and takers are needed. To volunteer for this ministry, Contact Sally Rathje to help out.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY IN NOVEMBER**



**People in Need (PIN)**, the Food Pantry in Delaware, has need for the following items this month:

- ◆ Stove Top Stuffing
- ◆ Cranberry Sauce
- ◆ Jello
- ◆ Canned sweet potatoes
- ◆ Pie crust mix
- ◆ Canned pumpkin
- ◆ Cream style soups
- ◆ Bar hand soap
- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Toilet Paper

If you would like to contribute any of these items, paper products, or any canned or boxed food, please place them in the grocery cart in the gathering space. All Shepherds Lutheran Church members have been very generous in their support of this community project, and your contributions are deeply appreciated.

**Our Nursery is Now Open—Here's December Schedule**

12/4	9:30	Jenna Strayer	11:00	Laura Oboczky
12/11	9:30	Kristen Manivilovski	11:00	Karen Nussdorfer
12/18	10:00	Stephanie Mampe—Cantata Sunday		
12/25	Only one service @ 10:00 am —no nursery Christmas Day			

*If you'd like to sign up to help in the nursery at either the 9:30 or 11:00 am services, please contact Stephanie Mampe by email: [mommamamps@yahoo.com](mailto:mommamamps@yahoo.com). Thank You!*

\*\*\*\*\*



**Sunday, December 4th** is the last day to sign up for Poinsettias .... If you're interested, please fill out one of the forms handed to you with your bulletin on Sunday.

The poinsettias will cost \$8.50. Be sure to make your check payable to All Shepherds Lutheran Church and also to write "POINSETTIA" on the memo line so the Financial Secretary knows where to credit your donation. Plants may be taken home after the late service on Christmas Eve. Thank you!

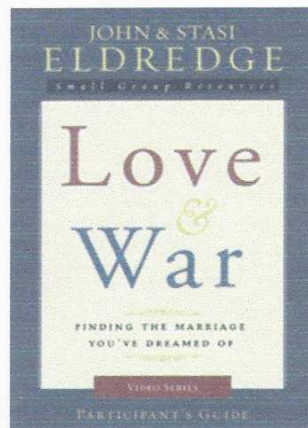
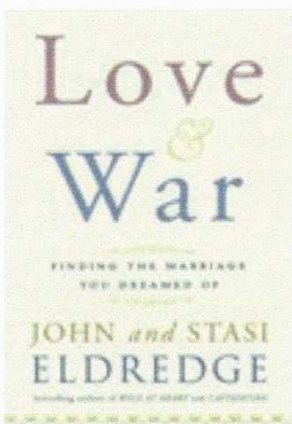
# Love & War

## Find Your Way to Something Beautiful in Your Marriage

With refreshing openness that will grab you from their first words on the Love & War eight-session DVD video study - designed for use with the Love & War Participant's Guide in a small group or retreat setting - hosts John and Stasi Eldredge candidly discuss their own marriage and the insights they've gained from the challenges they've faced. Each talks independently about what they've learned, giving their guidance a personal immediacy and balance between the male and female perspectives that has been absent from all previous group studies on this topic.

The Love & War DVD and Participant's Guide show you how to step into the great adventure of a fruitful Marriage God has waiting for you and your spouse ... together.

Walking alongside John and Stasi Eldredge, you and your spouse will discover how your individual journeys are growing into a story of meaning much greater than anything you could do or be on your own.



Love & War in paperback **ISBN-10:** 0307730212  
Participant's Guide **ISBN-10:** 0310329213

Optional Couples Devotional **ISBN-10:** 0307729931



**Who:** Marital couples or individuals in committed relationships

**What:** DVD-based Group Study

**When:** Monday Evenings, 7 - 8:30  
October 17, 24, 31  
November 14, 21, 28  
December 7, 14

**Where:** All Shepherds Lutheran Church,  
6580 Columbus Pike, Lewis Center  
(740) 548-0115  
[allshepherdslutheranchurch.org](http://allshepherdslutheranchurch.org)

**How Do I Sign Up / Ask Questions?:**

Please contact Sharon Williston, PC-CR,  
CDCA at Beacon Counseling Center  
(614) 776-5311, Ext 7 or send a message  
to [sharonw66@gmail.com](mailto:sharonw66@gmail.com)

**Cost:** FREE\*

\*You will need to purchase the book and participant's guide: [ransomedheart.com](http://ransomedheart.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [half.com](http://half.com), [hpb.com](http://hpb.com)

December Ministry Support Volunteers



\*\*\*\*\*  
 \* The following people are \*  
 \* celebrating birthdays in the \*  
 \* month of December. We \*  
 \* wish them a very Happy \*  
 \* Birthday! \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

\* If you know of anyone who \*  
 \* needs to be added to this \*  
 \* list, please call the office at \*  
 \* 740-548-0115. \*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

- \* ♦ Tricia Draper 2 \*
- \* ♦ Sally Rathje 2 \*
- \* ♦ Tom Anthony 3 \*
- \* ♦ Kristen Lillemoen 7 \*
- \* ♦ Jim Hansen 13 \*
- \* ♦ Elisabeth Fleckenstein 17 \*
- \* ♦ Matthew Little 19 \*
- \* ♦ Marissa Schneider 19 \*
- \* ♦ Jeff Kopp 21 \*
- \* ♦ Phillip Allen 22 \*
- \* ♦ Jesse Semach 25 \*
- \* ♦ Beverly Wean 25 \*
- \* ♦ Jordan Goyer 27 \*
- \* ♦ Mark Walsh 29 \*
- \* ♦ Danielle Segelhorst 30 \*

**ASSISTING MINISTERS**

	8:15	9:30	11:00
4	John Westinghouse	Linda Pohle	
11	Debbie Turner	Jim Tucker	
18	Ann Matzke	"Cantata" Only one worship service 10:00	
25	No Service	Bob Horbatt - only one worship service At 10:00 am	No Service

**USHERS**

	8:15	9:30	11:00
4	Andy Doehrel	Jim Rather	
11	John & Joanne Westinghouse	Tim Peddicord	
18	Ann & Bill Matzke	Jim Rather 10:00 am Cantata service	
25	No Service	Tim Peddicord	No Service

**ACOLYTES**

	8:15	9:30	11:00
4		Payton Naylor / Megan Doherty	
11		Kristen Bartel / Haley Wray	
18		Carl Fischer / Sam Fischer @ 10:00 am Cantata Service	
25	No Service		No Service

**PROJECTIONISTS**

	8:15	9:30	11:00
All	The Crowson Family	Alex Norris	

**GREETERS**

	8:15	9:30	11:00
4	Sandi Anderson	Max & Mary Bucey	
11	Sandi Anderson		
18	Sandi Anderson	Scott & Janine King 10:00 am Cantata Service	
25	No Service		No Service

**COFFEE CLEAN-UP**

DEC	Sue Fraley / Bev Wean		
-----	-----------------------	--	--

\*\*\*\*\*

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES 2011

You are invited to any/all of the three services offered  
Christmas Eve:



- ◆ 5:00 pm—Children’s Christmas Program
- ◆ 7:00 pm—Contemporary Service with Candlelight
- ◆ 9:00 pm—Traditional Service with Candlelight

10:00 am—One service Christmas Day

\*\*\*\*\*

**Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.**

**- Calvin Coolidge**



**Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.**

**--Norman Vincent Peale**

**Perhaps the best Yuletide decoration is being wreathed in smiles.**

**-Unknown**

**I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year.**

**-Charles Dickens, Ebenezer Scrooge, A Christmas Carol**

**Whatever else be lost among the years, Let us keep Christmas still a shining thing: Whatever doubts assail us, or what fears, Let us hold close one day, remembering Its poignant meaning for the hearts of men. Let us get back our childlike faith again.**

**-Grace Noll Crowell**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Be a part of “The Best Children’s Christmas Program” ever!!!**

The show is an adaptation of the book “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever”, by Barbara Robinson. The Herdman family were the worst kids in the whole world and had never been to church before. They end up changing Christmas Eve for everyone as they take part in the Christmas play, but first they have to learn what the Christmas story is all about!



**Children’s Christmas Program/Christmas Eve Service**

**December 24<sup>th</sup>, 5pm Service**

*Please watch for more information!*

*There will be plenty of roles for everyone! Please plan to participate in the fun!*

*Information will be posted in the toolkit and in the Sunday School Hallway!*

# aslc ym

## December Schedule of Events

December 2-4—Winter Retreat! *Expected of all in Confirmation, highly encouraged for all youth and friends grades 6-12. See youth bulletin board for details!*

December 9 and 10—Journey to Bethlehem. Sign up to help out with this AWESOME annual event!

December 11—Face2Face Christmas Party! 6:00-8:00 PM (note the change in ending time from usual)

December 18—Confirmation 6:00-7:30 PM (mentors meet at 5:00)

December 24—Christmas Eve worship at 5:00, 7:00 and 9:00 PM. Merry Christmas! See you in the new year!

## Face2Face Christmas Party!

**December 11, 2011  
6:00-8:00 PM  
(please note the ending  
time change!)**



**Please bring a snack to share (drinks will be provided) and a wrapped gift under \$15 for a gift exchange. No gift tags! No gag gifts please! Friends are welcome!!**

Kara Jones, Youth Minister, is generally in the office on Wednesday afternoons and evenings and all day on Sunday. She is in the office other days as well but these days may shift from week to week. Kara is also available by appointment. She can be reached at [sparkykj3@gmail.com](mailto:sparkykj3@gmail.com) or 740-815-6411.



**DECEMBER 4TH** from 7:00—9:00 PM. We will be listening to the voices of the Olentangy Men’s Chorus. Also filling the church with music will be “Side By Side”, “Murphy’s Law” and “3:6 West”.

**DECEMBER 18TH**— ASLC Choir with their Christmas Cantata at the 10:00 am Church Service. They have been practicing for many weeks so we should pay tribute to their time and talent and make it a point to be there to listen and enjoy!  
Voices shared with us ..... worth hearing and time worth spending

\*\*\*\*\*

We will once again be providing hot chocolate and cookies for our visitors to Bethlehem on **December 9th & 10th**, and a pot luck afterwards for the cast and helpers. There is still time to sign up in The Gathering Place area to help out with this event. It is truly one of All Shepherds community signature events, with many hands working together to make it happen. Thank you.



\*\*\*\*\*

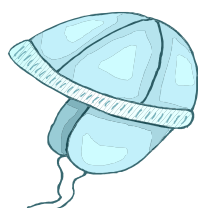
**P. I. N. TOY DRIVE**

We are always collecting **UNWRAPPED NEW TOYS** for girls and boys, ages 1 year thru 12 years old. There will be “toy” tags on the table in the Gathering space. All the toys need to be returned to the Church by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH**, as their distribution date is early in December. There are boxes around and under the table for your donations.

*And we can also use your donations for:*

**HAT, MITTEN & SCARF TREE**

Would you like to help a child have warm hands and ears, and feel “warm” all over yourself? Why not bring a new pair of children’s or teenager’s mittens and gloves, or a winter hat or scarf, to be given to the Delaware County Children’s Services Organization? We will have a Hat, Mitten and Scarf tree in the Gathering space on November 20th, 27th and December 4th. In order for their staff to have time to distribute your gifts in December, **these items need to be returned to the Church by December 11th.** Please stop by and take a “gift tag” from the tree.



+



+



+



=





*This year give the gift that gives back. Be involved in the journey to Bethlehem. How can we/I give this wonderful gift?*

- \* Assist with the building of Bethlehem
  - \* Sign up as a Coordinator
  - \* Sign up to be a Merchant(s)
  - \* Sign up to be a Guide
- \* Sign up to have a speaking part
  - \* Sign up to help in the Kitchen
  - \* Attend the event

**When is it?**

December 9<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 to 9:00

December 10<sup>th</sup> - 6:00 to 8:30

How can learn more about this event? Review the attached description, ask Cynthia Semach when you see her, or email her at [Cynthia.Semach@anthem.com](mailto:Cynthia.Semach@anthem.com)

Where can I/We sign up? Out in the gathering space of the church or email:

[Cynthia.Semach@anthem.com](mailto:Cynthia.Semach@anthem.com)

(Please don't assume that I know you are going to be there!)

## INNOCENCE IS PRICELESS

One Sunday morning, the pastor noticed little Alex standing in the foyer of the church staring up at a large plaque. It was covered with names and small American flags mounted on either side of it. The six-year old had been staring at the plaque for some time, so the pastor walked up, stood beside the little boy, and said quietly, 'Good morning Alex.'

'Good morning Pastor,' he replied, still focused on the plaque. 'Pastor, what is this?'

The pastor said, 'Well son, it's a memorial to all the young men and women who died in the service.'

Soberly, they just stood together, staring at the large plaque. Finally, little Alex's voice, barely audible and trembling with fear asked,

*Which service, the 8:00 or the 10:45 ?'*



Just a little humor to put a smile on your face!! You don't stop laughing because you grow old...You grow old because you stop laughing!

Attending a wedding for the first time , a little girl whispered to her mother, 'Why is the bride dressed in white?' The mother replied, 'Because white is the color of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life.' The child thought about it for a moment then said, "So why is the groom wearing black?"

*(If you'd like to share laughter, please submit your LOL prior to next month's newsletter .. Laughter is always good for the soul!)*

# DECEMBER 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27 * WORSHIP SERVICES: 8:15, 9:30, 11:00 AM Advent NO KIDS KINGDOM Sunday School 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Baptism - Christopher Mampe 12:00 PM InSpirited Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Face2Face 7:45 PM - 9:00 PM H2H Extra Rehearsal</p>	<p>28 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 3:00 PM Love &amp; War 7:00 PM The Bridge</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 10:30 AM Qigong 7:00 PM Peals of Praise 8:00 PM A+Anon 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>30 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM Shepherds Choir</p>	<p>1 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>2 Winter Retreat in Chillicothe 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>3 Winter Retreat in Chillicothe</p>
<p>4 Winter Retreat in Chillicothe 8:15 AM First Light Worship 9:30 AM Joyful Now Worship 9:30 AM KIDS KINGDOM SS 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM Baptism - Vivian Rough 11:00 AM In Spirited Worship 11:00 AM KIDS KINGDOM SS 12:00 PM Church Decorating 7:00 PM InSpirited Rehearsal 7:00 PM Olentangy Men's Chorus</p>	<p>5 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM The Bridge</p>	<p>6 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 10:30 AM Qigong 7:00 PM Peals of Praise 8:00 PM A+Anon 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>7 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM Love &amp; War 7:00 PM Shepherds Choir</p>	<p>8 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>9 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM Journey to Bethlehem</p>	<p>10 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM Journey to Bethlehem</p>
<p>11 8:15 AM First Light Worship 9:30 AM Joyful Now Worship 9:30 AM KIDS KINGDOM SS 10:30 AM Blood Pressure Check 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School 11:00 AM In Spirited Worship 11:00 AM KIDS KINGDOM SS 12:00 PM InSpirited Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM Face2Face Christmas Party</p>	<p>12 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM The Bridge 7:30 PM Church Council</p>	<p>13 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 10:30 AM Qigong 7:00 PM Peals of Praise 8:00 PM A+Anon 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>14 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 6:30 PM Mutual Ministry 7:00 PM Love &amp; War 7:00 PM Shepherds Choir</p>	<p>15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>16 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>17</p>
<p>18 8:15 AM First Light of Worship 10:00 AM Christmas Cantata 11:00 AM Adult Sunday School 12:00 PM InSpirited Rehearsal 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM Confirmation</p>	<p>19 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM The Bridge</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 10:30 AM Qigong 7:00 PM Peals of Praise 8:00 PM A+Anon 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>21 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM Shepherds Choir</p>	<p>22 First Day of Winter 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>23 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>24 5:00 PM Children's Christmas Pageant 7:00 PM Contemporary Candlelight Service 9:00 PM Traditional Candlelight Service</p>
<p>25 Christmas Day 10:00 AM Christmas Day Service</p>	<p>26 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM The Bridge</p>	<p>27 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 10:30 AM Qigong 7:00 PM Peals of Praise 8:00 PM A+Anon 8:30 PM AA</p>	<p>28 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group 7:00 PM Shepherds Choir</p>	<p>29 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>30 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM Alpha Group</p>	<p>31</p>