

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Remember to invite your friends, coworkers, neighbors and family to our **Christmas Eve Worship Service** on Tuesday, December 24 at 5:30pm. Take some extra postcards from the Gathering Space or your pews to hand out.

Faith Des Peres is participating in the **Christmas Joy Offering** of the Presbyterian Church (USA) as a means of expressing and experiencing God's love. The flyer in the pews today explains more about this special offering which continues through our Christmas Eve Service. If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to Faith Des Peres and note that the gift is for the Joy Offering. Thank you.

Year-end donations to the church: Contributions that you wish to include on 2013 tax documents must be in the church office no later than Sunday, December 29, or in the mail postmarked no later than December 31.

TODAY

Pastor Annie will be on vacation from December 25th through January 1st, though you may still contact her in an emergency. Many thanks to **Rev. Joe Marting** for leading worship on Sunday, December 29th. The church office will be closed on December 25th and January 1st.

Congratulations to section leader **Samantha Stout**. Sam has completed the Master of Education degree at Lindenwood University. In addition to her work at Faith Des Peres, Sam is an elementary music teacher for the Parkway School District and also serves as an assistant director for the Kirkwood Children's Chorale. We're proud of your accomplishment, Sam!

Congratulations to **Cynthia Williams Phelps and her new husband, Chuck Phelps**, on their marriage yesterday, December 21st, in Fulton, Missouri. Look for a photo on the bulletin board in the Gathering Space.

THIS WEEK

Sun, 12/22 10:00 am Childcare
10:30 am Worship & special music by *A Fifth Above*, woodwind quintet
10:45 am Sunday School & Tweens Class
11:30 am Coffee and Fellowship
12:00 pm Older & Wiser Lunch, Zodiac at Niemen Marcus, Frontenac Plaza
Mon, 12/23 *Tai Chi does not meet tonight.*
Tues, 12/24 5:30 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service
Wed, 12/25 *Christmas Day—church office closed.*
Sun, 12/29 10:00 am Childcare
10:30 am Worship (Rev. Joe Marting will be preaching)
Sunday School and Tweens classes do not meet today.
11:30 am Coffee and Fellowship

THIS MONTH

Have you thought about a new year resolution? How about reading the entire Bible in one year? If that sounds challenging, it is! But, it's doable . . . and more fun with a group of people. It takes about 20 minutes a day. Of course, it also requires some energy to plan reading time into your daily schedule. If this is something you'd like to try, e-mail Annie at pastor@faithdesperes.org or sign-up in the Gathering Space. Reading schedules are provided, and monthly get-togethers to touch base are optional (time to be decided by participants). Readings begin January 1st. Together, we can do this!

January 5, 2014

The **Annual ADG Book Study** will be on three consecutive Sunday afternoons (January 5th, 12th, and 19th) from 12:00 – 1:30 PM in the Gathering Space. Lunch (sandwiches, salad and drinks) will be available for a small fee, and the discussion will be from 12:30 – 1:30. This year's book is *Zealot: The Life and Times of Jesus of Nazareth*, by Reza Aslan. Copies of the book can be obtained from the church office for \$16.50. The book can also be purchased at local bookstores (\$27.00), or ordered from Amazon (\$16.36 for a hardback copy, or \$11.75 for a Kindle version). A sign-up sheet for lunch is in the Gathering Space. Please let Marie in the church office know that you'll be attending so she can send you a reading guide (adminasst@faithdesperes.org).

COMING SOON

March 26, 2014

Tour Churches of Souldard with the History Team and find out why St. Louis was once called the "Rome of the West." Visit Trinity Lutheran, St. John Nepomuk, St. Vincent De Paul, St. Mary of Victories and St. Raymond's. Have a Lebanese feast for lunch (at your expense) and see the "Who's Who" of St. Louis. Cost is \$49. Make reservations with Betsy Stoll (stolldickandbetsy@att.net) or call 314-821-0533.

TOGETHER AT FAITH DES PERES

PRAYER REQUESTS

Helen Barks | Joanna Gerst | Toy & Jerry Kircher | Barbara Moorman | Mackenzie Prophete
Mallorie Prophete | Jasmine Reece

THANK YOU!

Worship Team 3: Judy & Rufus Sisson, Mary & Steve Dingus

Liturgist: Dianne Modrell

Refreshments: Leslie Barnes

Music: A very special thank you to members of *A Fifth Above* for the beautiful selections today during worship. It is always a pleasure to have them join us! Thanks to Samantha Stout for graciously loaning us the chimes for the season. And thanks to Gay Spears for arranging everything. We are so blessed by your faithful ministry!

Meet the members of the woodwind quintet, **A Fifth Above:** **Andrea Clark** performs regularly with the St. Louis Civic Orchestra and the St. Louis Wind Symphony, where she is also president of the board of directors. She also plays with the University City Summer Band and the Mighty Mississippi Concert Band. **Cathy Woelbling-Paul** is an adjunct oboe professor at Webster University and Lindenwood University. She also teaches at the Webster University Community Music School and is an applied instructor in the Mehlville School District. Cathy currently performs with the Alton Symphony, Gateway Festival Orchestra of St. Louis, St. Louis Wind Symphony, University City Symphony, Webster Symphony Orchestra, and the Ballet Orchestra of St. Louis. **Katie Myler** has performed with the St. Louis Civic Orchestra as principal clarinet and with the St. Louis Wind Symphony. A member of the clarinet faculty with the Community Music School of Webster University, Katie is also the Youth Orchestras Coordinator at the school. **Daniel Shavers** has taught at Southeast Missouri State University and is in his 11th year of teaching at University City High School and Brittany Woods Middle School. Daniel performs regularly with the St. Louis Civic Orchestra, the St. Louis Philharmonic, where he is on the board of directors, the St. Louis Wind Symphony, and the University City Symphony Orchestra. The 5th member of the quintet, **Doug Luke** (French horn), couldn't be with us today, but he is planning to be with us on Easter.

Acknowledgements

Hymn #127:

Words and music: in the public domain. Music arrangement: Evelyn Simpson-Curenton
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Hymn #137:

Words: Cameroon song. Music: Cameroon melody. Transcribed and arranged: John L. Bell
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Christmas Doxology:

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Special Music Fund Donors: Faith Des Peres would like to acknowledge the donors and supporters of our Special Music Fund: The Janet Boyer Fund was established in memory of longtime Faith Des Peres member Janet Boyer, who was an accomplished musician and founder of Music Folk in Webster Groves. Gifts to the Boyer fund make appearances of musicians such as *A Fifth Above*, the *Jim Dandys*, and brass musicians for Easter possible, and in the past, gifts have funded the purchase of our electric keyboard. We thank the following donors for your generous support in 2013: Ron and Marilyn Scott, John and Beth Willock, Bill and Pat Malkemus, and Bernie and Leila Davis. Gifts were given by the following donors in honor of Clare Dingus upon her graduation from high school: Bernie and Leila Davis, Will and Charlotte Ridley, James and Terry Baker.

WE WELCOME YOU TO FAITH DES PERES FOR WORSHIP!

WHO WE ARE...

We are an inter-generational community. Adults and youth know each other on a first-name basis. We come from across the St. Louis metropolitan area. Some of our members have been here a long time, and some of them are new. We accept people for who they are and where they are on their faith journey. We are inquisitive by nature. We are not content with the same old answers to the same old questions, and we are OK with not having all the answers. We welcome young and old, singles and families, regardless of race, nationality or sexual orientation.

WHAT WE BELIEVE...

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve. (*From the PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith, 1983.*)

COMMUNION...

Because we believe Christ welcomes everyone to the table, we welcome everyone to the table. Anyone who trusts in Jesus Christ is welcome to take communion at Faith Des Peres; you do not need to be a member of this church to receive communion, and children may also receive communion.