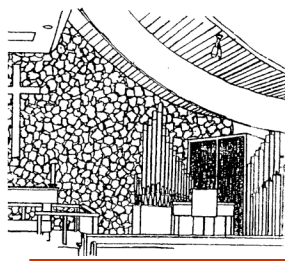




www.stthomaslutheran.org  
17700 Old Cutler Road  
Palmetto Bay, Florida 33157

DECEMBER 2011  
Newsletter  
Volume 37th 12th Issue



# No DOUBTS

DECEMBER 2011

A Monthly Newsletter of St. Thomas Lutheran Church

## \$\$ REMEMBER YOUR OFFERINGS \$\$

Through November 30, 2011 we have received \$98,900 in offerings which is \$11,400 below the amount budgeted for the eleven months and \$9,300 below where we were in November 2010. In November 2011 we paid \$4,500 for necessary roof repairs that were not budgeted for. **PLEASE**, we need your support to meet our current expenses.

## DECEMBER HOLIDAY EVENTS

- 12/10: Lutheran Services Christmas Party 12:00 –2:00 pm
- 12/11: Sunday School Christmas Pageant 6:00 pm (Cake will be served afterward)
- 12/17: Congregation Christmas Party at the Scotts 6:00 pm
- 12/23: Caroling at Eastridge: Meet at church at 6:00 pm or meet at Eastridge dining room at 6:30 pm.

## CHISTMAS EVE SERVICES



5:30 pm Christmas Eve Service  
& Concert with Miami's Top Brass

11:00 pm Service

St. Thomas Lutheran Church  
17700 Old Cutler Road  
Palmetto Bay, Florida 33157-6326  
Phone: 305-232-1227 email: stthomaschr@aol.com  
www.stthomaslutheran.org  
The Reverend Daniel Coy, Pastor  
Deborah Wong Mar, Organist



## FROM THE PASTOR



**Reverend Daniel C. Coy, Pastor**  
 Pastors Office Phone: 305 232-1227  
 Pastors Home Phone: 305 254-5558  
 Pastors Cell Phone: 305 302-5094

There is an old story about a man who punished his 3-year-old daughter for wasting a roll of gold wrapping paper. Money was tight, and he became infuriated when the child tried to decorate a box to put under the Christmas tree. Nevertheless, the little girl brought the gift to her father the next morning and said, "This is for you, Daddy."

The father was embarrassed by his earlier overreaction once he realized the gift was for him. He opened the gift, but his anger flared again when he found that the box was empty. He yelled at her, "Don't you know that when you give someone a present, there's supposed to be something inside of it?"

The little girl looked up at him with tears in her eyes and said, "Oh, Daddy it's not empty. I blew kisses into the box. All for you, Daddy." The father was crushed. He put his arms around his little girl, and he begged her forgiveness. He kept that gold box by his bed for years. Whenever he was discouraged, he would take out an imaginary kiss and remember the love of the child who had put it there.

In a very real sense, each of us has been given a gold container filled with unconditional love and kisses from God. Through the sacrifice of Jesus, God's "one and only Son," we have the access to eternal life. While there are those times when it seems as if God has left us to make it on our own, and there are those times when it appears as if we cannot go any further in life, there is no more precious possession anyone could hold than the gold box filled with the love of God.

**In Christ,**

**Pastor Coy**



## PRAYERS & BLESSINGS

### Members

Amy Petrusky Brown  
 Bud Plehn  
 Ella Derr  
 Ginni Egan  
 Helen Marlar  
 Lilian McKinley  
 Louise Yankowskas  
 Wes Roberts  
 Dalia Berge

### December Birthdays

12/1 Phil Stieve  
 12/7 Nataly Snyder  
 12/9 Christopher Houghtaling  
 12/10 Jeannette Veranes  
 12/15 Christine Palmer  
 12/21 Chase Calais  
 12/23 Jordan Kissane  
 12/29 Sarh Boorman

### Worship Assistants

#### LECTOR

Mary Scott

#### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Mary Scott

#### ACOLYTE

12/4 Needed  
 12/11 Needed  
 12/18 Needed  
 12/24 Needed  
 12/25 Needed

#### ALTAR GUILD

Annemarie Roberts

#### USHERS

12/4 Sherrill Ehlen/Diana Orme  
 12/11 Sherrill Ehlen/Diana Orme  
 12/18 Sherrill Ehlen/Diana Orme  
 12/24 Needed  
 12/25 Youth

We ask that you extend your prayers to:

### Family & Friends

Abby Duff	Maria Gentle
Alice	Michael Lamons
Berit Try	O'Campo Family
Charles Acheson	Orin Coy
Dolly	Priscilla
Dr. Ermilio Rosado	Sally Real
Heather Grier	Schooley Family
Jacqueline Jimenez	Scott
Jim Crouse	Tanya
Johnson Family	The McCune Family
Mack McCullough-	Vic
Melodie	

### December Flower Dedications

Thank you to everyone who sponsored December flowers.

#### December 4, 2011

In Memory of Cliff Seale  
 By Anita Seale

#### December 11, 2011

In Memory of Violet Plummer  
 By Margaret & Shay Scofield

#### December 18, 2011

In Honor of Our 39th Anniversary  
 By Rick & Carol Petrusky

#### December 25, 2011

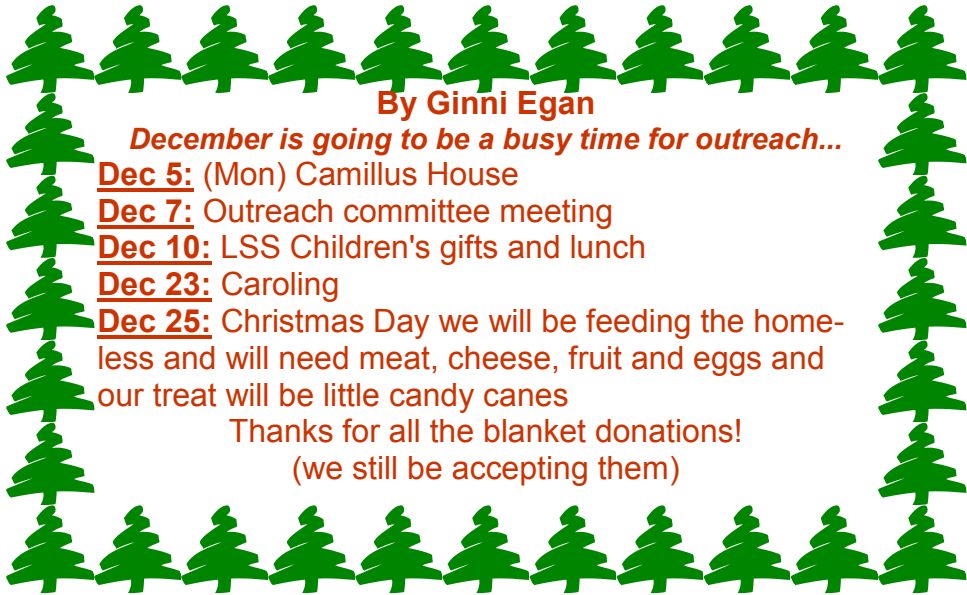
In Loving Memory of  
 My Husband Gene & My Son Fred  
 By Joan Steffens

### Eternal Candle

*The Eternal Candle will burn during the month of December  
 In loving memory of my parents, Alma & Percy Roberts & other loved ones.  
 By Helen Marlar*



# OUTREACH



By Ginni Egan

December is going to be a busy time for outreach...

**Dec 5:** (Mon) Camillus House

**Dec 7:** Outreach committee meeting

**Dec 10:** LSS Children's gifts and lunch

**Dec 23:** Caroling

**Dec 25:** Christmas Day we will be feeding the homeless and will need meat, cheese, fruit and eggs and our treat will be little candy canes

Thanks for all the blanket donations!  
(we still be accepting them)

# FALL EVENTS



The Congregation enjoy's another annual Thanksgiving Fish Fry.



Diana Orme, Kim Derr, Joan Steffens, Carol Petrusky, Ebba Peterson at the Women's Retreat



Thanks to everyone who made this year's Fall Fair A big success.



# POINSETTIAS



Poinsettias will decorate the sanctuary for Christmas Eve services. If you wish to order a plant, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate. Plants may be taken home following the 11pm Christmas Eve Service.

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ plant(s) at \$ 6.50 each to be dedicated as follows:

Given in honor of:

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Given in memory of:

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From: \_\_\_\_\_



# December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 am Bible Study Decorate the church 7:00 pm	2	3
4 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Communion 11:00 am Choir Practice Food Pantry Collection	5 Cook for Camillus House 7:00 pm	6	7 Worship Service with Healing 7:00 pm Outreach Committee	8 10:00 am Bible Study	9 	10 Lutheran Services Party 12:00 pm—2:00 pm
11 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Choir Practice	12	13 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	14	15 10:00 am Bible Study	16 	17 Congregational Christmas Party at the Scotts 6:00 pm
18 9:00 am Sunday School 10:00 am Communion 11:00 am Choir Practice <b>CHRISTMAS PROGRAM &amp; RECEPTION 6:00 pm</b>	19 	20	21	22 10:00 am Bible Study 	23 Caroling at Eastridge Meet at Church at 6:00 pm or at Eastridge at 6:30 in the dining room	24 5:30 PM Concert & Service 11:00 PM Service 
25 <b>MERRY CHRISTMAS</b> 10:00 am Worship 	26	27	28	29 10:00 am Bible Study	30	31