

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, December 2nd

Sunday School - 8:45am (*All Ages*)

First Sunday of Advent Worship - 10:00am

Shepherds - Jackie Roy & Victor Johnson

Communion Elders - Kammy Johnson & Doug Niewold

December Birthday & Anniversary Fellowship after worship

Tuesday, December 4th

Bible Study - 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 5th

PAMA Meeting - Noon @ Monical's

Youth Group - 7:00pm

Choir Practice - 7:00pm

Thursday, December 6th

UCC Clergy Meeting - 10am to Noon

Sunday, December 9th

Sunday School - 8:45am (*All Ages*)

Second Sunday of Advent Worship - 10:00am

Shepherds - Greg Anderson & Don Lawrence

December

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1st - Nancy Taylor

15th - Storm Smith

22nd - Ivan & Priscilla Andreae

28th - Brock Johnson

Peace Lutheran Church
200 W. Arnold, Thomasboro, IL
"A LIVE NATIVITY PAGEANT"
Sunday, December 2, 2012, 4-7pm
Free Food & Drink inside
Kid's Activities & Christmas Music

Dec. 23rd - Knights Templar Service
Communion Elder - Jim Niewold

Poinsettia Memorial/Honorariums

Would you like to sponsor a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one for the Christmas season? This year, poinsettias will be burgundy in color, wrapped in foil with a bow and a drip pan for \$15.00 per plant.

Please make checks payable to the Federated Church and indicate on the check memo that it is for a poinsettia and drop it in the offering plate or mail to the church.

Please indicate below your name and who you are dedicating the plant to.

Your name: _____

In Memory/Honor (circle your preference) of:

Lord, We ask thanksgiving, comfort, healing and faith for these friends and family members

Marissa Williams, Don Lawrence, Wickie Roy,
Bob LaVahn (Robin's stepfather), Mike-Active 101st Airborne,
Janet Goudy, Alan Turner, Bill Cofel,
Jeff & Barb Legener, and Marcella Woodworth

Homebound or in Nursing Homes

Sue Moore, Donald Rhodes
Jani Fraim, Wanda Larson, Marcella Woodworth

For the month of December, please bring *pickles, syrup, flour,
white/brown sugar & peanut butter* for the Food Pantry.
As always, all non-perishable food items are welcomed.

Pastor Colleen Lawrence, Minister
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pastorfglc@gmail.com • www.paxtonfederated.com
Organist - Priscilla Andreae

December 2nd, 2012
First Sunday of Advent



The Federated Church of Paxton
10:00 a.m. Worship Service



Welcome to our guests!

Please take a minute to sign our guest book located at the back of the sanctuary.

Sharing of Joys, News, Concerns

Opening Prayer

*BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***Gathering** He whom shepherds came beholding,
In the arms of faith enfolding,
He, the universe upholding,
Our Good Shepherd, Christ draws near.

Lift your eyes, God's mercy knowing;
Like the stars in heaven glowing,
Count God's blessings overflowing.
Look, O shepherds, God is here!

*** Call to Worship** (*responsively*) *Isaiah 25, Psalm 24*

One: O Shepherd of Israel, you lead your people like a flock.

All: All who believe, as Abraham did, receive your promised righteousness.

One: We are the people you care for, the flock for which you provide.

All: You make us lie down in green pastures; you lead us beside the still waters; you restore our souls.

One: All of us were like sheep who had gone astray, turning to our own ways.

All: You lead us in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake.

One: From death you raised our Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep.

All: Even in the valley of darkest shadows, your rod and staff provide comfort.

One: "Have no fear, little flock, for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom."

All: At your table we are secure; our heads are anointed, our cups overflow.

*All who are able, PLEASE STAND

One: The Lamb at the center of the throne will be our Shepherd, to wipe away every tear from our eyes.

All: And we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

One: All who believe, as Abraham did, receive the Lord's promised righteousness.

***Hymn** Where the sheep are safely grazing,
Shepherds, sing, your Shepherd praising,
Grateful hearts and voices raising
To the Lord who cares for all.

See, in answer to our yearning,
God's great love so brightly burning.
To our need the Lord is turning,
For God hears our plaintive call.

Prayer of the Day

The First Lesson *Genesis 15:1-6*

Hymn Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

The Second Lesson *Romans 4:17-25*

Hymn Oh, come, blest Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

***Gospel** *John 8:31-47, 56-58*

The Shepherd Abraham

While Abram watched his flocks, the Lord of hosts drew nigh
To offer precious promises beneath a star-filled sky.

Our God in love provides a wonderful surprise:
A child of hope the future holds—O shepherd, lift your eyes!

A sacrifice awaits, a gracious God's reward.
With faithful Abraham behold the mountain of the Lord!

To pastures rich and green, through valleys dark and deep,
In grace God chooses, calls, directs; the Shepherd leads his sheep.

Message

***Hymn** *"The God of Abraham Praise"*

PH, #488

The Offering

Sacrament of Holy Communion

*TAKING OUT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

*Benediction

Hebrews 13:20-21

One: From death God has raised our Lord Jesus, the Great Shepherd of the sheep.

All: His sacrificial death guarantees the eternal covenant.

One: May the God of peace provide you with every good thing you need in order to do his will.

All: And may God, through Jesus Christ, do in us what pleases him.

One: And to Christ be the glory forever and ever.

All: Amen.

***Closing Stanza** God's dear flock, rich blessing reaping,
Guided waking, guarded sleeping,
Safe within the Shepherd's keeping,
Keep the faith of Abraham!

*Victor Johnson as Abraham & Jackie Roy as Sarah
Brian Funk will be providing the Voice of God.*