

HOME BIBLE STUDIES

Some families have opened up their homes for Bible Studies. Please let pastor Steve know if you would like your home to be used regularly for Bible Studies.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS

A Box for Food Bank donations is near the entrance to the sanctuary (right next to the table where bulletins are displayed each Sunday). Please bring canned goods for the many going hungry. Christmas is a time of hope – let us bring hope to those who need it desperately this Christmas. ***Bring canned goods for the poor and homeless!***

NEW TABLES

We now have 11 new plastic tables. The recent batch of 6 tables is an anonymous donation. 35% lighter and more durable than the regular ones, the new tables make for easier set-up and clean-up after activities. All are encouraged to donate. Lighter chairs are also an option. If you are unable to purchase 1 table, you may share the commitment with another person or a group of persons who can share in the financial burden. For more information, please contact Chris Holm, Church Facilities Coordinator at (206) 762-8576.

ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

Our **Annual Charge** conference is officially scheduled for **January 21, 2009**. Rev. Pat Simpson will officiate as our District Superintendent. Chairpersons of all committees are encouraged to prepare their written reports and submit them a month before the Charge conference.

The charge conference directs the work of the church and gives general oversight to the church council, reviews and evaluates the mission and ministry of the church and elects the members of the church council, and recommends candidates for ordained ministry. The charge conference has also been done as a worship service to add a spiritual aspect to the meeting. Be sure to add this date to your calendars.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 7, 2008

LAS POSADAS JOINT WORSHIP

December 21 at 11 am

On December 21, Highland Park UMC and *El Dios Viviente* will have a joint service at 11am, featuring a reading of the *Las Posadas* (Shelter for the Holy Family). In the Hispanic tradition, one of the oldest celebrations *Las Posadas*, was created by the Augustinian Father Diego de Soria about 1587 to introduce Christianity to the New World. Readings from the bible equate the Holy Family's search for a room at the inn to each person's openness to Christ's coming. At the end of the service, we will sing in English and Spanish, a portion of the traditional hymn as arranged by Barbara P. Garcia who has graciously allowed us to use the arrangement which was first introduced at the Convocation of United Methodists in Worship, Music in 1993. Many thanks to Pastor Gerardo Guzman who has helped plan and translate the service so that everyone can participate. ***Please bring food to share for the fellowship after the joint service.***

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

A **sign up board** has been set up next to the door into the sanctuary. Please take a look at the board to know how you can serve during Sunday services. We are continuously looking for volunteers to usher/greet, to read the scriptures, to serve coffee during the coffee hour, and to donate flowers. If you feel you are being called to serve in any of the ministries mentioned above, please contact the following coordinators: Alice Hoskinson and Cecilia Granadosin.

SUNDAY SCHOOL REMINDER

Sunday School is at 10am each Sunday. Everyone is urged to come early on Sundays to participate. Terry Holm teaches the adult Sunday School class while Josh Granadosin teaches the youth and young adults. If and when there are children, Elise Stevenson and Cecilia Granadosin will teach them. We are in need of additional teachers who will share the load with those who are already teaching.

SPECIAL SERVICES

There will be a [Christmas service December 24 at 7pm](#). A [New Year's Eve Service](#) will also be held December 31.

TODAY'S FLOWER OFFERING

The Altar flowers are given in thanksgiving to the Lord for Nash's birthday (November 30) from the Velasco Family.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES and AD COUNCIL MEETING

Add to your calendar: the next [Board of Trustees and Ad Council](#) meeting will be on Tuesday, [December 9 at 6:30 and at 7:30 pm](#), respectively.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

7	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00	Second Sunday of Advent
	2:00 pm	El Dios Viviente (Hispanic Language Service)
9	6:30 pm	Board of Trustees Meeting
	7:30 pm	Administrative Council Meeting
13	10:00 am	Men's Breakfast
14	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00	Third Sunday of Advent
	2:00 pm	El Dios Viviente (Hispanic Language Service)
21	10:00 am	Sunday School
	11:00	Fourth Sunday of Advent – Joint Christmas Service (Highland Park UMC & El Dios Viviente)
24	7pm	Christmas Eve Service
25		Christmas Day
31	7pm	New Year's Eve Service

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We now have 11 new plastic tables. The recent batch of 6 tables is an anonymous donation. 35% lighter and more durable than the regular ones, the new tables make for easier set-up and clean-up after activities. This will allow all people of different ages to use the facilities without straining themselves physically. All are encouraged to donate. Lighter chairs are also an option. If you are unable to purchase 1 table, you may share the commitment with another person or a group of persons who can share in the financial burden. For more information, please contact Chris Holm, Church Facilities Coordinator at (206) 762-8576.

PASTORAL VISITS

Please let Pastor Steve or Alice Hoskinson or Anne Read (visiting/inviting team) know if you are in need of a pastoral, home or hospital visit. Call the church office (206) 763-0710 or Pastor Steve (425) 702-8021.

Hold In Your Prayers:

*Jasna Avdic, Buck family; Ruth Carlson;
Lyn Lorenz; Bill & Mercedes Lauterbach & children;
Sugar Lauterbach, Ed & Dorothy Laymon; Michelle Libby;
Doratheia McMillan, Mike & Kathy Manning;
Wanda Minor; Carol & Al Missen; Wendy Morgan;
Kathy Northrop; Paul Salisbury; Aaron Taylor;
Marjorie Tracy; Keith & Diane Hedrick & children,
Debbie & Terry Hoskinson; Earl Buell, Elvin Lee;
Art Opfer; Dennis Sweeney; Linda Tucker,
Wendy Morgan, Denny Stevenson, Bette Nelson,
Trudy O'Daffer, Peg McCormack, Marion Zaske*