NEWSLETTER: Articles for the December newsletter are due Monday, November 26.

CHRISTMAS PRACTICES: Practices for the Christmas program are Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. and Saturdays, December 8 & 15, at 10:00 a.m. Please contact Terri Kreier for a script/music for your child to practice.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: All voting members are encouraged to join us after the Divine Service on Sunday, December 9 for a congregational voters meeting. Items on the agenda include brief reports from current Council members, election of officers, and approval of next year's budget.

NOMINATIONS: In December we will be electing congregational officers for 2019 (chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, treasurer). If you are interested in serving, or have a name to suggest, please speak with one of the members of the nominating committee: Mike Dobbs, Kevin Pape, or Dawn Rousar.

CHURCH PHONE: We are in the process of switching to a new internet provider and a new line needs to be laid outside. Because our phone service operates over the internet, all church and preschool calls are immediately going to voicemail until line maintenance is completed. Church and preschool phone messages will continue to be monitored. Your patience is appreciated.

GIVING TREE: The Giving Tree is located in the narthex. If you are able, please take one or more envelopes from the Giving Tree in the narthex and help those in need this Christmas. Envelopes are marked as follows: A=adult; F=family; K=kid; S=senior. Please return the envelope and/or form inside with your gift by Wednesday, December 12. See Lisa Cruz with any questions.

FOOD DRIVE: A food drive will also be held in conjunction with the Giving Tree. You are invited to bring one or more non-perishable food items and/or paper products (tissues, paper towels, toilet paper, napkins) beginning next Sunday and place your donation in the boxes in the narthex by Sunday, December 16. Thank you for your generosity to your church family

PASTOR MAY: Donations (cash or check) for the May family should be placed in the offering plate by December 2 and earmarked "Pastor May."

SHOP WITH SCRIP: The next turn-in dates are December 2, 9, & 16. Consider purchasing gift cards for the annual Giving Tree. Shop with Scrip has physical gift cards as well as Scrip Now and Reload options. Go to <u>shopwithscrip.com</u> and use enrollment code B2LD2C7A55973. See Lisa Cruz with any questions, or Judy Yuenger to buy pre-purchased cards.

BENEFIT MOBILE: Sign up via <u>benefit-mobile.com</u> and designate Divine Shepherd as your charitable organization. Then download the app (Apple or Android). Benefit Mobile purchases qualify for our 50% cash back rebate. Purchased gift cards are instant and can be used immediately. You may also send these as a gift to an email account.

PROPERTY OR FACILITY ISSUES: If you notice something that needs repair or attention, please let the Board of Trustees know via <u>bot@ds-lcms.org</u>.

LESSONS & CAROLS: Concordia University Chicago will present its annual Service of Lessons & Carols on Saturday, December 1 (4:00 & 7:00pm) and Sunday, December 2 (4:00pm). You may also watch live on the web at <u>cuchicago.edu/live</u> on Sunday, December 2 beginning at 6:40pm.

EDUCATING A NEW GENERATION OF LUTHERANS: Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio. You can listen to Lutheran experts discuss topics like: The Advent Season, The Fourth Commandment and the Boy Jesus in the Temple, The Movie "Fantastic Beasts," The Birth of John the Baptist Foretold, and more. Listen on-demand at <u>www.issuesetc.org</u> and on the LPR mobile app.