

# ADVENT GAZETTE



## Carry the Light of Hope this Advent

**THOUSAND OAKS** — How are you preparing for the coming of the Holy Child this year? Pastor Tim Delkeskamp will be preaching on the 4 “Be’s” of Advent: *Be Ready, Be Baptized, Be still, Behold*. Find out more about being called to carry the light of hope! And please join us as often as you can for a wide range of events this Advent season, each honoring the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

## Let's Celebrate Christ's Birth Together!

Ascension will have five services on Christmas Eve, Sunday, Dec. 24, beginning at 3 PM and continuing every two hours through 11 M. (Please note: there is no regular morning service this day.) Special family services will be held at 3 and 5 PM.

Traditional services are scheduled for 7 and 9 PM, while a candlelight communion service will be held at 11 PM.

On Christmas Day, come join us for Christmas Morning Worship with Holy Communion at 9:30 AM.

## Family Snow Fun & Hanging of the Green

Don't miss out on one of our most cherished new *and* old traditions! On Sunday, Dec. 3, there'll be snow play fun in our parking lot from 4-5 PM. We'll be having s'mores by the fire pit, food truck fare, and our youth will be serving lefse, hot off the grill, with a selection of toppings!

At 5 PM, we'll head into the sanctuary for lighting of the Christmas Tree and carols. Families with kids who might wish to head home after the first 15 minutes are welcome to do so, while the rest of us enjoy beloved Christmas music together until 6 PM.

All are welcome! Bring your friends for the fun!



- December 1 & 2** – (5-8 PM Friday and 10 AM-2 PM Saturday) Lefse making
- December 2 & 3** – (9-11 AM Saturday, 10:30 until completion) Hanging of the Green Prep
- December 3 (Sunday)** – Advent begins; 4-5 PM

**Family Fun Snow Time; 5-5:15 PM, Lighting of the Tree and Carols; 5:15-6 PM Hanging of the Green**

**December 6 (Wednesday)** – 7 PM Taize Advent service  
**December 9 (Saturday)** – 6 PM Worship Service with *Ka Mele Wai 'O Ke Anuenue* dancers, and afterwards, a special dance in Founders Hall, with “Aloha Santa”



**December 10 (Sunday)** – 7 PM Compassionate Friends memorial service  
**December 13 (Wednesday)** – 7 PM Taize Advent service  
**December 15 (Friday)** – 6 PM School Christmas Program, “Glorious Night”

**December 16 (Saturday)** – 6 PM Cowboy Christmas Worship Service



**December 17 (Sunday)** 3-5 PM Caroling (Meet at the bus in the big parking lot!)

**December 18 (Monday)** – 9 AM Bumblebees Christmas Program

**December 19 (Tuesday)** – 9 AM Honeybees & Ladybugs Program

**December 20 (Wednesday)** – 9:30 AM Threes & Fours Program; Early dismissal, school Christmas break begins; Taize Advent service, 7 PM

**December 24 (Sunday, Christmas Eve)** – Christmas Eve services, 3 PM, 5 PM, 7 PM, 9 PM, 11 PM with Holy Communion

**December 25 (Monday, Christmas Day)** – Christmas morning service with Holy Communion 9:30 AM

## Carolers, Let's Bring Cheer

Bring some joy to those unable to come to worship this season! Meet at the bus in the big parking lot.  
3-5, Dec. 17



# ADVENT GAZETTE continued

## WEDNESDAY EVENING TAIZE SERVICES

A time to refocus on the real reason for the season, Wednesday Evening Taize services are being held at Ascension through Advent. Taize services center on distinctive and repeated prayer chants, usually lines from the Psalms or other pieces of scripture, repeated or sung in canon. The repetition is designed to help meditation and prayer.

Dec. 6, 13 and 20 Sanctuary – all at 7:00 PM



Don't Miss Our  
School Christmas  
Program!

Dec. 15 at 6 PM



## Poinsettia Dedications

Would you like to dedicate a poinsettia plant for the sanctuary in honor of, or in memory of family members or other loved ones? Please use a flower envelope from the pew rack and write what you want to say. Place in offering box or return to office by Dec. 17.

Dedications will be published online and in print. Donations are \$10 his year.

### SPECIAL SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICES!

## Hawaiian Dance

The *Ka Mele Wai 'O Ke Anuenue* dance group returns to add a beautiful dimension to Saturday night worship. (Nancy Lee is a member.) After the service, there will be a special dance in Founders Hall, complete with "Aloha Santa." Dec. 9 at 6 PM



## Cowboy Christmas

If you've been to one of these services before, you know how special cowboy Christmas worship can be. There's music and surprises from Country Spirit & friends that'll make you feel like you're out under a blanket of stars by a campfire, feeling mighty close to God. Wear your Western clothes if you like. Afterward, enjoy Nancy Lee's legendary Dutch oven cobbler. Use this QR code or visit our ALCTO.org signups page to sign up for



cobbler. Dec. 16 at 6 PM

## Get Inspired with Our Advent Devotional

Thank you, Dan Lareva, for 20 years this year of shepherding the creation of our annual Ascension Advent Devotional!

Each year, members and the pastors of our congregation volunteer to write a devotional for the Advent season, and students from our school provide artwork. The booklet, which is a project of our Library Committee under Dan's direction, is a wonderful vehicle for spending a little time each day thinking about Jesus and what His birth means. There will be printed copies available soon in the Narthex. You'll also be able to find the writings on our Facebook and Instagram pages.



Follow this code to our newsletter, where you will find the latest updates on all of our activities!