



**DECEMBER 10 & 11, 2017**



The second Sunday of Advent denotes the lighting of the second advent candle - the candle of preparation. Throughout Scripture, God asks that people prepare themselves for His presence. Before the birth of Christ, many prepared the way for Him, like Mary and Zechariah, Anna and Simeon, and some prepared their hearts to welcome Him in through obedience, sacrifice and repentance. As we remember their preparation for His birth, we prepare our hearts for His second coming.

**HEARTFELT THANKS -**

- The family of Richard Spangler would like to say, "Thank you", for the prayers, food and visits we received during his illness and passing. We are very blessed by our Park Hills family. - Linda & family

**FEELIN' FROSTY MOTHER/DAUGHTER BRUNCH** - mark your calendar for Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9:30-11:00 am, for delicious food, a winter craft, lots of laughter, door prizes, and entertainment. 160 tickets will be available for \$5.00 each. (Girls 5 - 90 are welcome☺) We will sell tickets in the lobby beginning Sunday, December 31, January 7 and 14.

**CHRISTMAS INVITE CARDS** are available at the Welcome Center. Take several and invite your friends or neighbors to one of our Christmas services.

**HELP BEAUTIFY OUR WORSHIP CENTER** for Christmas. Poinsettias may be ordered in honor or memory of loved ones. The cost is \$10. Sign up at the Welcome Center. **Last week to sign up!**

**PARK HILLS CHURCH CHRISTMAS 2017** - We are mindful that Christmas Eve falling on a Sunday presents a special holiday service schedule. Take note we will have **no Sunday morning services on the 24<sup>th</sup>**. Please join us Sunday evening for Christmas Eve services at 4:00 or 6:00 pm. We gather this night to celebrate the hope we have because of the birth of Jesus Christ! There will be **NO CHILDREN** or **STUDENT MINISTRIES** on Christmas Eve, **ALL** ages are encouraged to attend the service together. There will be special activity packets for children to pick up at the beginning of the service. **(NO MONDAY NIGHT CHURCH DECEMBER 25<sup>th</sup>.)**

**CAN WE HELP YOU WITH TRANSPORTATION?** - We are offering bus transportation to the **4:00 pm** Christmas Eve service. Sign up at the Welcome Center today.

**OUR DAILY BREAD 10 - DAY CHRISTMAS DEVOTIONALS** are available at the Welcome Center.

**TAKE NOTE! - ONE COMBINED SERVICE ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>, at 10:00 am** - Please join us as we gather as a church family and joyfully witness the baptisms of our brothers and sisters. Baptism Sunday has a very celebratory tone, you don't want to miss it! There will not be adult or youth Sunday school on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Children's ministries will be offered for ages birth to 1st grade. **No Monday Night Church on January 1st.**

Baptism is an important event in the believer's walk with Jesus Christ. If you are interested in being baptized at our December 31st service, please call the church office at 815.232.6159 to speak with one of our pastors **before Monday, December 11th.**

**PASTORS' & STAFF CHRISTMAS GIFT** - At this time of year it is our tradition to take a collection as a Christmas love offering for our pastors and support staff. If you wish to participate, please ensure that your contribution arrives at the church office in an envelope marked, "Pastors' & Staff Christmas Gift", **no later than Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Envelopes are available at the Welcome Center.

**2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES** are available in the lobby, across from the café. If you don't see a box there with your name on it please contact the office and we will provide you a set. If you wish to donate and not use envelopes a great option is online! [www.parkhillchurch.com](http://www.parkhillchurch.com), click the Subsplash link at the top of the page.

**PLAN A DATE NIGHT IN DECEMBER!** - Stop at the table in the lobby for some great date night ideas to do with your spouse! Childcare sign-up located at the table.

**SAVE THE DATE, NEW YEARS EVE DATE NIGHT!** - Resist the temptation to be asleep by 10pm this New Year's Eve! The marriage ministry team invites you and your spouse to an unforgettable date night with food, entertainment, and fun on December 31<sup>st</sup> from 8pm-midnight in the Chapel. Sign up for this great event at the Date Night table or online. There will be no childcare option for this event.

**GREAT LAKES DISTRICT HURRICANE CRISIS TRIPS** - EFCA regional superintendent, Daniel Grell is organizing and leading two district trips which individuals can join. The first trip will leave on Saturday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, with a return on Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. The team will travel to and assist with hurricane recovery in the Corpus Christi area alongside Bayshore Bible Church (EFCA). The second trip will leave on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, with a return on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. The team will travel to and assist with hurricane recovery in the Houston area. If you are interested in joining one of the GLD hurricane recovery trips alongside other individuals from churches across the GLD, please contact Daniel Grell at dgrell49@gmail.com for further details.

**FACC** (Freeport Area Church Cooperative) is asking for donations of canned fruit and fruit juices for the month of December. Donations may be left in the bin in the Lobby. Thank you for your continued generosity!

**ITEMS NEEDED FOR UPCOMING HONDURAS MISSION TRIP** - **Thanks for your generosity thus far!** We have enough Match Box cars but are still in need of: Adult and children's vitamins (NO gummies please), ibuprofen 200 mg, hair pretties for girls. Donations may be left in the bin in the Lobby. Questions, contact Rod Wedel at 815/291-7608.

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY** - We will NOT be meeting in December. Keep working on the Pocket Prayer Squares/Cloths. New members are always welcome. We can help you get started learning to knit or crochet. For more information, contact Linda Long 815/369-4895 or Dianne Statfield 815/238-6629.

**FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE (FCN)** - FCN's will be doing free blood pressure screenings again January 28<sup>th</sup> between services (9:45 - 10:30 am) in the Music Room Annex.

**NEW TO PARK HILLS?** - Stop by the Welcome Center for more information about our church! We would love to meet you!

**CONNECT CARD** - If you are new to our church, have an address or phone number change, have a prayer concern, or would like more information about Park Hills, please fill out one of the connect cards found in the chair pockets and drop it in the offering plate.

**MEAL MINISTRY** - If you would be willing to make a meal for someone recovering from an illness or surgery, please contact Wendy 815/541-5204 or Charmaine 815/821-5211.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES:**

- **RAY VANDER LAAN DVD SERIES ON THE HOLY LAND** - taught by Dale Miner & Bill Kuhlemeier, 9:00 - 10:00 am in the Library.
- **HEBREWS** - taught by Pastor Cliff, 10:00 - 11:15 am in the Chapel.

**SUNDAY MORNINGS for KIDS:**

Parents and families, following are your children's Sunday morning options, designed to give your children a deeper experience in God's word, no matter which service they attend.

- 8:45 a.m. one combined nursery (ages birth through 3 years), staffed with volunteers who really love caring for your little ones.
- 8:45 a.m. one combined class (ages 3 years through 5th grade) that follows the same topic as the sermon to allow for families to have meaningful conversations throughout the week on what we are all learning.
- 10:30 a.m. two age-appropriate nursery options. (Parents decide when it is suitable for their three-year-olds to move up to the next class).
- 10:30 a.m. three age-appropriate (ages 3 years through 5th grade) classes, that make use of the entire service time. You are able to drop off your children with their teachers in their classrooms starting at 10:15 a.m.

We support your decision as families to attend service together. Children are always welcome in the service.

**CHECK OUT MONDAY NIGHT CHURCH 6:30 pm in the Chapel!**

**PARK HILLS EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**  
2525 W STEPHENSON ST - FREEPORT, IL 61032 815-232-6159  
Office Hours: M-Th 9 am - 4 pm & Fri 9 am - 12 pm

**DID YOU KNOW?** – NOW you can view and/or listen to the weekly sermons on our PH mobile app (parkhillchurch) and website (www.parkhillchurch.com). You can also download a copy to your computer or mobile device for listening offline! You will also find the Sermon Based Small Group Questions (SBSG) and the weekly bulletin in electronic form on the mobile app each Sunday morning.

**READING PLANS FOR OUR LUKE SERIES ARE AVAILABLE** at the Welcome Center, the church website (www.parkhillsefc.org) and the church app.

**“SECOND HALF”** is a ministry at Park Hills composed of retired and semi-retired individuals who have a heart for serving within our church family. The members of Second Half recognize their God-given talents and this ministry is one of the ways they continue to use those gifts. In the short time of our existence, multiple projects have been completed with more being planned. These opportunities have been a blessing to those who have worked together. Please contact the church office with any questions about this ministry.

**MIDWEEK OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN AND STUDENTS— Something for everyone in your family!**

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS for 18months thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade**

Check out AWANA 6:30 to 8:00 pm

[www.parkhillskids.com](http://www.parkhillskids.com)

Puggles (18 months thru 3 years)

Cubbies (3 and 4 years)

Sparks (K thru 2nd grade)

T&T (3rd through 6th grade)

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS for MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade**

Check out CORE 6:30 to 8:00 pm

[www.parkhillsyouth.com/CORE](http://www.parkhillsyouth.com/CORE)

**TUESDAY NIGHTS for HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Check out Frontline 6:30 to 8:00 pm

[www.parkhillsyouth.com/frontline](http://www.parkhillsyouth.com/frontline).