



# *The Redeemer*

## *Review*

Proclaiming Christ into the 21st Century

Volume 12

December, 2005



### **Holiday Schedule**

**Advent Festival**

**November 27, 4:00 p.m.**

**Children's Christmas Program**

**December 11, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Christmas Worship in Music**

**Featuring Our Adult Choirs**

**December 18, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Christmas Eve Worship**

**December 24**

**5:00 p.m. - Family Service**

**7:30 p.m. - Traditional Worship**

**11:00 p.m. - Communion Service**

**Christmas Day Worship**

**10:30 a.m. - One Service Only**



## Angel of the Month Amy Meyer

*by Bev Wilkes*

Amy has been a member of *Our Redeemer's* along with her husband, **Dan** and children, **Sarah, Nicholas** and **Emily** for many, many years.

Amy has been active in almost all aspects of our church as well as working as a special education teacher for the public schools and raising three beautiful children. When I first met Amy nine years ago, she co-chaired the annual Craft Fair with me. She was very active in the UMW, has been on many committees and bowled in the church's Bowling League. Right now, Amy is the Co-Chairperson of the Education Committee and often attends the Ad Council meetings. All these things are bring done while she makes sure that her children have a good Methodist upbringing and they can be seen in both of our children's choir as well as in Sunday School.

Amy has been a very good friend to our young members and was one of the people who began the Mom's Nite Out. She is a great helpmate to anyone who is in need of assistance and she always makes sure that she points people in the right direction so they can help themselves. Our church is very lucky to have a person with a great deal of knowledge to help lead our children forward. We all wish her wonderful holidays with a true Christmas spirit!

### ***Redeemer Review***

Published Monthly by  
*Our Redeemer's*

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**Worship Services at 9:00 and 10:30 am**

**Pastor:**

**[Rev. Bill Shaw](#)**

**Church Secretary:**

**[Donna Echtner](#)**

**Director of Youth Ministries:**

**[Marianne Rogenski](#)**

**Co-Editors:**

**Jim Cottrell**

**Jerry Mc Daniel**

## Micah Ministries

### *Adding Justice to Mercy (With a Good Dose of Humility)*

*by Bruce Bedingfield*

Our church has begun a new ministry this year, concentrating on social justice. It is based on Micah 6:8 (“...And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God”)

Church members have been meeting this fall to explore ways our congregation can help to promote social justice. So far, we have decided to start by emphasizing hunger as a social justice concern. Hunger would seem to be a natural topic for *Our Redeemer’s* as it is already such a high priority among our “caring ministries” (e.g. CROP Walk, Society of St. Andrews, Rogers Park Soup Kitchen, etc) Christ can truly look at *Our Redeemer’s* and say, “For I was hungry, and you gave me food.”

How, then, do “Justice Ministries” differ from Caring Ministries?

Justice ministries don’t compete with, or take the place of our Caring Ministries. They complement them. Caring Ministries say, “You are hungry and we will feed you”. That is the essence of Christian service. Justice ministries, on the other hand, say, “You are hungry, and that is not right.” Ideally Justice Ministries can approach the roots of hunger.

It might involve writing a letter when politicians consider a vote to cut food stamps. It might involve empowering the poor to produce food. It might sometimes involve simply studying a problem, knowing the Holy Spirit may eventually lead us to act. Through it all we don’t pretend to have all the answers (that’s where the humble fellowship comes in.)

Between now and the end of the year, Micah Ministries will be supporting the church’s holiday campaign for the Heifer Project. This is a wonderful example of a hunger ministry that provides families around the world with a source of food, then encourages them to share their animal’s offspring with others. They even provide small loans to help the poor start businesses. We urge you all to support the Heifer Project

Micah Ministries is open to the entire congregation. Please consider becoming a part of this social justice ministry as we seek God’s direction for our work.

Micah Ministries’ next meeting will be Tuesday, January 10 at 7:30 PM.



## *Christmas: From Holiday to Holy Day*

Christmas is a wonderful time for us as followers of Christ. We remember the coming of hope into the world in the person of a child. This gift of the baby Jesus tells us that God did not withhold anything from us, but gave us his Son, that we might know his love and his redeeming grace. Much of what we try to do at Christmas reminds us of that gift of a child, the hope that was born into the world and the joy that comes with knowing God's amazing love.

Yet it often seems difficult to celebrate this season of God's hope and joy. We just seem to get pre-occupied with the demands and expectations of the season. As your pastor, I would suggest we begin to re-claim Christmas, and resist the flood of cultural expectations and clever marketing associated with this holiday. I admit that is not an easy thing to do. Practices such as gift giving are important in showing love and friendship to others. So what if we started one step at a time, and this year focused on the practice of gift giving.

For the last 3 years we as a church have participated in the Heifer Project. This program takes donations and then buys animals and other things that people can receive so that they can raise their own food. This year in your Christmas budget set aside a percentage of what you plan to spend and commit it to the Heifer Project. For example, set aside 10% – 25% of your Christmas spending and commit it to purchasing a goat, a heifer, chickens, ducks, rabbits or other animals that will help people feed themselves and take care of their families. As part of the program you can buy these as a gift for a friend or family member or a pastor (I got 2 goats last year. It seems like I always get goats. I'm not sure what that means). Your family or friends will then know you care for them, while at the same time you will fulfill Christ's mission to "feed the hungry." By simple, intentional steps like this, I believe we can begin to take this "cultural holiday" and transform it into a "**Christian Holy Day**".

Merry Christmas,  
*Pastor Bill*



## Youth News

### *Advent Festival*

The Advent Festival is November 27 at 4:00 p.m. We will decorate the church for Christmas. Santa will visit and talk to the younger children! As in the past, the youth council is looking for confirmation students to help with the Santa pictures. If you are interested let Marianne know ASAP! This would count as service to the church!

### *Attention Jr. and Sr. High families:*

On December 18 the Family Ministry of ORUMC is organizing a Christmas Caroling outing for all members of ORUMC. The youth are an important part of the church and it would be great if we could have many of you participate in this event! It is a wonderful time of service and fellowship and a great tradition. So, bundle up and come on out!

### *30 Hour Famine*

I know that it seems too early to start thinking about this event, but it will be here before you know it! This year's famine is February 24-25 with Famine Sunday the 26th. Please consider participating in this amazing event. It is for all Jr. and Sr. High students. The fast starts at 3pm on Friday and students come to the church at 6pm. The fast ends at 9pm on Saturday with a huge potluck

in Wesley Hall. During the fast we play games, do Bible studies, participate in a service project, go on one outing, and just have tons of fun and fellowship together.

Youth Council will begin handing out participant packets after Christmas. The students are challenged to raise \$120 in sponsorships which would feed one hungry child for 4 months. Look for more info next month but start planning now!

### *Attention Sr. High*

New schedules will be available before Christmas so be on the lookout!

### *Schedule of Events Confirmation*

#### **December**

- 4 Class 4:00-5:30 p.m.
- 18 Christmas Caroling 2:00 –5:00 p.m.

#### **January**

- 15 Class 4:00-5:30 p.m.
- 20-22 Ski Trip
- 29 Class 4:00-5:30 p.m.

### *Sr. High*

#### **December**

- 4 MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship) 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 11 MYF 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- 18 Christmas Caroling 2:00-5:00 p.m.

Please note that there will not be MYF on Dec. 18. We will be Christmas caroling with the church family!



## Youth Ski Trip January 20-22

### Schedule:

Friday evening-leave ORUMC at 6:30 p.m.  
Saturday-Skiing or snowboarding at Alpine Valley  
Saturday evening-Entertainment by a live Christian band  
Sunday morning-Worship service and return to ORUMC

### Cost:

Includes lodging, food and fellowship at Wesley Woods as well as the lift ticket and a lesson at Alpine Valley:  
\$95 per person (with ski/snowboard rental)  
\$76 per person (without rental)

Note: Scholarships are available; please do not let the cost of the trip prevent you from going.

If you are in junior or senior high school or want to chaperone please call **Cathy Mottar** at 630-682-5890 or 630-802-5976 or email [mottarcr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mottarcr@sbcglobal.net) for a registration form.

*Everyone must turn in a completed registration form and payment by December 18.*

## Sunday School Christmas Program

Education and Music Committee are working together to present a Children's Christmas Program on **Sunday, December 11** at both services. Parents and Sunday School teachers have requested that we minimize the number of Sundays children are performing in worship service. In an effort to honor this request, all interested children's groups in the church, including Joyful Noise, Cherubs, Random Ringers, and Sunday School will be joining together to present an old fashioned Christmas Program - complete with bathrobes.

Older children have had the opportunity to volunteer for speaking and non-speaking roles. Lynn Gaska, our Christmas Program Director, will be contacting those volunteers soon. All children will have the opportunity to sing. Preschool - Kindergarten will be singing 3 verses of Silent Night and one verse of Away in a Manger. First -sixth grade will be singing Silent Night, The First Noel, and Hark the Herald Angels Sing. We would appreciate it if you could dust off those Christmas CD's and practice at home with your younger children.

We are asking that parents support us by planning to attend an important practice on **Saturday, December 10**. We would also appreciate it if you could please consider staying **for both services on Sunday, December 11**. Many adults have worked hard



to put this program together during the Sunday School and Choir Rehearsal time in an effort to respect family's busy schedules. If at all possible we would greatly appreciate your support by attending the practice and the two services on Sunday. Thank you for your support of this project!

**Rehearsal Schedule**

**Non-speaking Roles:**

Costume Fitting/Meeting:

Sunday, November 20th, 10:15-11:15 a.m.  
- Wesley Hall.

**Speaking & Non-speaking Roles:**

Rehearsal: Sunday, December 4th, 10:15-11:15 am. - Wesley Hall.

**All Children Participants:**

Dress Rehearsal: Saturday, December 10th, 8:30 am - 11:30 a.m. - Sanctuary.

Please try to attend all rehearsals as sched-

uled. The Saturday, December 10th Dress Rehearsal is extremely important. Thank you for all your support.

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**Come Caroling With Us!**  
*December 18, 2:00 p.m.*

We would like to invite everyone that loves to sing Christmas carols to come with us caroling on December 18 at 2:00 p.m. We will be caroling with the youth of the church at different locations in the area.

We will meet at the church at 2:00 p.m. and go caroling until 5:00 p.m. and then return to the church for a potluck. We will provide the Sloppy Joe main course.

We hope that this will be a multi-generational event that we can all enjoy together. If you need a ride, or would like more information, please contact **Amy Johnson**, 630-372-4722.

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**Finance Report**

The following are the financial results through the end of October. Income from congregational gifts and tithes is \$250,024 which is about 9% below budget. Operating expenses are about 6% below budget. Total operating income is \$289,647. Total expenses are \$293,360 for an operating shortfall of about \$3,713. At the November 17 meeting, the Ad Council approved the Finance Committee's recommended budget of \$369,000 for 2006.

**YTD Actual vs. Budget Through August 2005**

	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Change</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Congregation Gifts & Tithes	250,024	273,382	(23,358)	-9%
Sprint Rent	21,094	21,094	-	0%
Other Income	18,529	17,607	922	5%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>289,647</b>	<b>312,083</b>	<b>(22,436)</b>	<b>-7%</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>293,360</b>	<b>313,207</b>	<b>(19,847)</b>	<b>-6%</b>
<b>Net Income (Loss)</b>	<b>(3,713)</b>	<b>(1,124)</b>	<b>(2,589)</b>	



## December Crisis Center Items

by *Robin Erickson*

As the winter's months are here the items for December will be hats, scarfs and gloves for men, woman and children. On average in December the center will give out 10 of these every day to the countless people who will stop in. That is over 300 hats, scarfs and mittens in the month of December alone. ***Our Redeemer's*** is so generous and helpful in making sure that the center is able to provide these kinds of items on an ongoing basis.

There are a lot of opportunities every month but especially in the month of December for volunteers. If you, your office, friends or family are looking for a place to get involved during the holidays please call the center at 847-697-2380 ask for **Lisa Sampson** or call **Robin Erickson** at 847-538-8085. Thank you all for your support of the center through out the year. God bless you all for giving back and helping make a difference in so many lives!

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## UMM Advent Breakfast *December 3, 8:30 a.m.*

The Elgin District United Methodist Men will hold their Advent Breakfast at Cary UMC on December 3 at 8:00 a.m. We will leave ***Our Redeemer's*** at 7:30 a.m. All men of the church are invited.



## Gifts from the Heart

### *December 4 - Bring Gifts*

A special thank you to the families and individuals who signed up to provide Christmas gifts to children this year. Your efforts are very appreciated by ChildServ, as evidenced by the recent Religious Outreach Award given to the members of ***Our Redeemer's***.

**Please remember to return the unwrapped gifts on Sunday morning, December 4,** as they will be delivered to ChildServ on Sunday afternoon.

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## Giving Envelopes

Giving envelopes for 2006 are available for pickup in the Narthex. If you would like envelopes and do not have 2005 envelopes, please contact Donna in the office, 847-882-6116.

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## UMM Monthly Meeting *December 10, 8:00 a.m.*

***Our Redeemer's*** regular monthly men's meeting is at Old Country Buffet on Barrington Road at 8:00 a.m. on December 10. All men of the church are invited to both meetings.



## United Methodist Women *December 10, 9:00 a.m.*

All women of the church are invited to attend our Saturday, December 10 Breakfast Meeting at 9:00 a.m. in the Wesley Room. Come and join us for Fun, Friendship and Fellowship.

The program will be our Annual Prayer Partner Ornament Exchange. This is your chance to reveal yourself to your Prayer Partner and bring them an ornament for Christmas. We will also find out who our secret Prayer Partner will be for 2006.

This is a fun event and a festive Breakfast will be provided.



## Habitat For Humanity *December 17, 7:00 a.m.*

Habitat for Humanity is a Christian housing ministry that welcomes all people dedicated to building decent, affordable housing for families in need, while empowering families to help themselves.

All are invited to join the *Our Redeemer's* work crew at 7:00 a.m. on December 17.

We will travel to the Carter Woods Habitat project in Lake County and spend the day working on a habitat house. Contact **Rob Mottar**, 630-682-5890, if you have questions or would like to attend.



## Mom's Night Out *December 8, 7:00 p.m.*

WHERE: Maggiano's

WHEN: Thursday December 8, 7:00 p.m.

WHAT: A night of food and fellowship, where someone else does all the cooking and cleaning!

Mom's Night Out is for all moms, but especially for those with school aged or younger children.

To find out more or to make a reservation please call **Annette Brown** at 847-882-8629 (home) or 847-341-8445 (cell) or email her at [annetteb421@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annetteb421@sbcglobal.net).

Reservations are not needed but it is always helpful to know how people are coming when getting a table. If you can't make it until later please feel free to join us for dessert!

## Church Ladies Nite Out *November 30, December 28*

The Church Ladies will be going out on Wednesday, November 30 to La Campagna on Army Trail Rd at 7:00 p.m. On Wednesday December 28 we will be ending the year with a dinner at the Chinese Garden on Plum Grove Rd and Schaumburg Rd at 7:00 p.m.

Please join us and bring a friend! If you are in need of a ride or have any questions, please call **Beverly Wilkes** at 630-837-7889. Come join us in good fellowship, good fun and good food!

## Video System Installation

The Ad Council has approved the installation of a new video projector system in the sanctuary. The Worship Technology team recommended a system including two ceiling mounted projectors, two remote-controlled retractable screens and a computer and controls. The screens will be mounted on either side of the sanctuary in the general location of the existing screen. The computer and controls will be mounted in the existing sound console.

The Ad Council approved spending \$15,000 on the installation. The cost will be covered by an individual donation of \$10,000 and a \$5,000 gift from the memorial committee.

The video system installation will be coordinated with a Trustee project to install three ceiling fans in the sanctuary. The plan is to have the installation completed by the end of the year.



The video system will require additional volunteers to prepare material and to operate the system on Sunday morning. Contact Worship Committee chair, **Jill Wood-Naatz**, 847-884-7709, or Technology Team chair, **Steve Miller**, 630-837-5205, if you are interested.

## Schaumburg Rotary Club Auction



*Brenda Raffaelli has been a part of Our Redeemer's for nine years and a member of the Schaumburg Morning Rotary club for two years. She provides the following information about the Rotary Art Auction.*

Rotary is a worldwide organization, which promotes monetary funding for the communities and promotes worldwide peace, health and goodwill to all nations. The Schaumburg Morning Rotary club supports a variety of local projects, such as, assisting the library's literacy program, the YMCA, the food pantry, and hosting foreign exchange students. They have given grants to: the boy scouts, the YMCA, local vocational scholarships, the Wellness Center-Palatine, Super SIDS, the Kenneth Young center, and many others.

The Art Auction in February is our major fund-raiser annually. Our Rotary club could really use some HIGH-QUALITY merchandise or service donations from some of our community vendors.

If you have connections with any community providers and would like to contribute to the Rotary Auction, please contact **Thomas Meyer** at 847-381-5959 or email him at [tjmeyer@comerica.com](mailto:tjmeyer@comerica.com).



**From  
United Church of  
Rogers Park**

Dear Friends,

THANKS to EVERYONE who has supported us recently in your very generous donations of time, money and baked goods! We always appreciate the wonderful group of people who come each month to help with our Sunday evening meal. It is so nice having groups who know what to do and who know many of our guests. It enhances the community spirit we wish to bring to our feast. Our mission is more than providing physical food.

THANKS to all those who baked for our 100th Anniversary celebration. Besides the over \$300 we raised, this event brought many of our Rogers Park neighbors into our church and programs. We had such a wonderful (and busy) weekend making new friends and seeing many from the past.

THANKS to the United Methodist Men's Fellowship. Your generous financial donation will greatly help toward covering the cost of our Kitchen Renovation. And, thanks to all who have come to help with some of our building projects. We of the Community Feast really like the extra table space under the stage. It is perfect for our new tables!

And THANKS to everyone else who has helped us in some way through financial support, your shop and share support and your prayers.

As we begin our 22nd year of serving our weekly meal and move into the Christmas Season, we praise and THANK GOD for all the friends and support we have received. We couldn't do this alone. God bless you all!

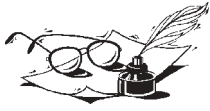
Grace and Peace,  
**Judy Kline**, Coordinator



A huge "thank you" to the walkers and sponsors of this year's C.R.O.P. Walk! We were blessed with a beautiful Fall day and 20 enthusiastic walkers including: **Katie and Hope Sullivan, Andrew and Regina Byrnes, Doug and Carolyn Meneely, Shirley and Jerry McDaniel, Sharon and Brandon Jung, Joe Shallcross, Don Wiebel, Abie Betts, Cathy Stout** and daughter, **Jim and Jill Naatz, John and Edie Machonis, and Lance Foss.**

Your combined efforts helped raise \$1,747.00 (\$200.00 more than last year). Twenty-five percent will go to relieve hunger in our community through the Kenneth Young Center and Pads. The remainder will assist those in New Orleans and other devastated places throughout the world. Bravo Church Family, your caring is making a difference!

Thanks again,  
**Edie Machonis**,  
CROP Walk Coordinator



# Personal Notes



## Celebration of the Saints

On November 6 we honored the memory of those who have died within the last year:

<b>Marilyn Amour</b>	<b>Craig Artis</b>
<b>Mary Baehr</b>	<b>Peggy Beck</b>
<b>Julie Berado</b>	<b>Lorraine Berado</b>
<b>Jim Call</b>	<b>Hollice Childers</b>
<b>William Floyd Churchill</b>	<b>Betty Conger</b>
<b>Lloyd Dall</b>	<b>Jade Day</b>
<b>Tom Ensign</b>	<b>Bill Fejes</b>
<b>Kimberly Goetz</b>	<b>Lois Gratz</b>
<b>Donald Gumpert</b>	<b>Joseph Hernandez</b>
<b>Ralph Hoffman</b>	<b>Rev. Daniel T. Jackson</b>
<b>Lillian Kehrberg</b>	<b>Nancy Knoppel</b>
<b>Daniel LaMere</b>	<b>Faye Lewis</b>
<b>Kenneth Lovell</b>	<b>Fred Madden</b>
<b>Lois McDonald</b>	<b>Marie Mendoza</b>
<b>Dinh Nguyen</b>	<b>Wesley Nohr</b>
<b>Betty Nordli</b>	<b>Betty Oster</b>
<b>Maddox Ricci</b>	<b>Romona Scubic</b>
<b>Steve Seroni</b>	<b>Margaret Tayler</b>
<b>Jerome Topol</b>	<b>Jim Warman</b>
<b>Mark Woodward</b>	<b>Antoinette Ziebell</b>

## Baptisms

The following were baptized on November 6:

**Andreas Stout** and Paige Eleanor Stout, daughter of **Andreas** and **Cathy Stout**.

**Kaitlin Venee Morris**, daughter of **Sherri** and **Richard Morris**.



The congregation extends deepest sympathy:

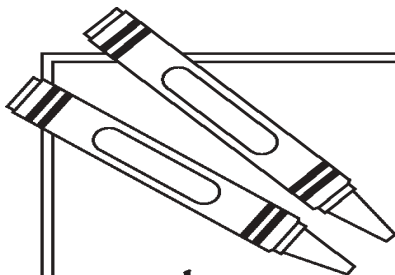
to the family of **Julie Berado** on her death.

to **Robert Hernandez** and his family on the death of his father, **Joseph Hernandez**.

to the **Mottar** family and the **Niewinski** family on the death of the Mottar's close friend, **Felix Niewinski**.

## December Birthdays

- 12/05 Matt Young
- 12/07 Blake Breda
- 12/07 Lukas Torgerson
- 12/08 Joey Dombek
- 12/14 CJ Kulprathipanja
- 12/21 Abby Hill
- 12/22 Jill Murphy
- 12/27 Brendan Gorvett
- 12/27 Tara Hernandez
- 12/28 Kevin Balk
- 12/29 Nicholas Pope
- 12/30 David Miller
- 12/30 Steven Miller

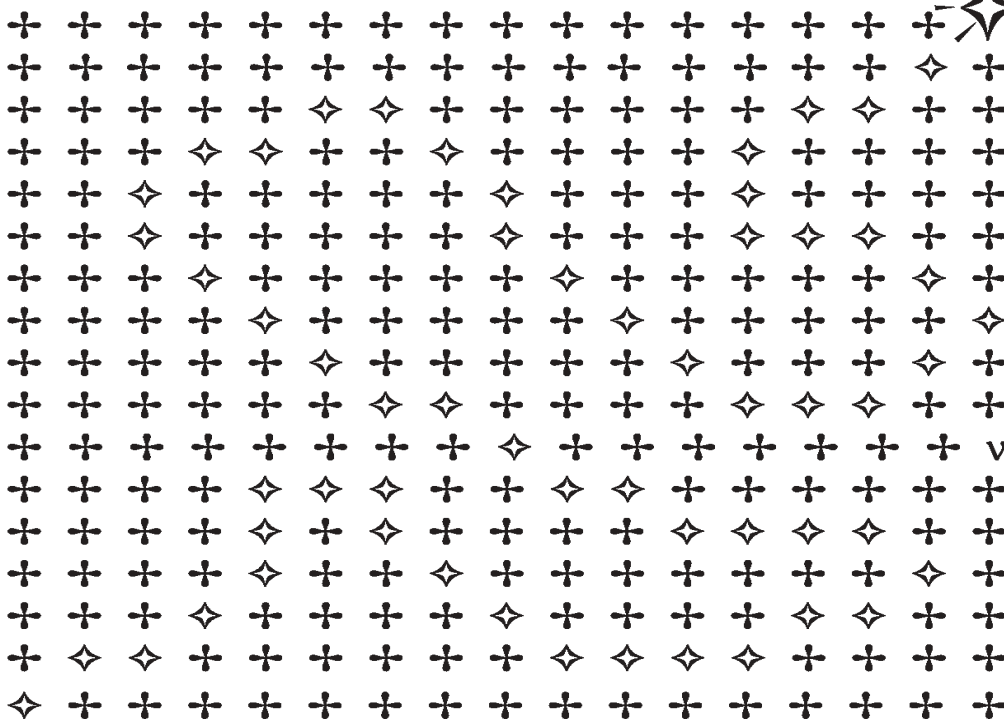


# Just for KIDS

## The Star that Led to the King

The wise men from the East saw a bright star. They followed it to the place where the child who would be King of the Jews was born. When they went inside, they saw baby Jesus with His mother, Mary. They bowed down and worshiped Him. (Read *Matthew 2:1-11*.)

Help the wise men follow the star ✧ path that leads to baby Jesus.



**START**



Use the code to fill in the blanks and find out what gifts the wise men brought.

♥ = A   ✨ = E   † = I   ⊕ = O   \* = Y

G  LD   FR  NK  NC  NS    M  RRH

⊕   ♥   †   ✨   ✨   \*

ANSWERS: GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, MYRRH

*Our Redeemer's United Methodist Church*  
1600 W. Schaumburg Road  
Schaumburg, IL 60194-3900

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



*December*

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