



Tree of Life Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, English District

The church that cares, our roots are strong

Newsletter

Worship Services

Sunday - 10:00 am
Communion Weekly

Location

Whispering Pines Park Recreation
Center
1700 Forest Drive
Inverness, FL 34453

Mailing Address

2659 E Gulf-to-Lake Hwy #410
Inverness, FL 34450

Phone #352-566-7592
(leave a message)

Guest Pastors

Pastor David Raetz

President

Ron Hansen

Vice President

Rich Grable

Treasurer

Sharon Hansen

Secretary

Karen Huscher

Trustees

Rich Grable
Matthew Manchester

Elders

Bob Morris
Ron Fullerton

Christian Education

Kim Carrol
Kim Jackson
Sue Grable

Bible Class

Sunday - 9am
Whispering Pines

www.treeoflifelc.org

*"You have ears; then listen to what the spirit says to the churches.
Be victorious, and I will let you eat from the Tree of Life that
stands in God's Paradise." Rev. 2:7*

Services

Advent



Wednesdays at 6:00 pm

November 30th ~ December 7th ~ December 14th ~ December 21st

Christmas Eve

December 24th ~ 6:00 pm

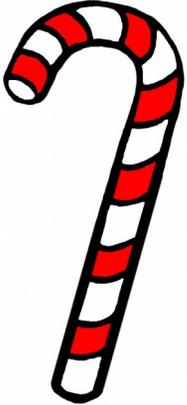
immediately following Christmas Eve Services you are invited to share
fellowship at Rich and Sue's ~ 515 Whispering Pines Blvd, Inverness 34453

Christmas Day

December 25th ~ 10:00 am

*Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year*

The Candy Cane



Scripture: He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his stripes you have been healed. *1 Peter 2:24*

The candy cane is a long-time Christmas tradition. Everywhere we look we see them. They are used as decorations on Christmas trees and, of course, they are one of the most popular of all Christmas treats. I have heard several stories about the history and meaning of the candy cane. I don't know if they are true, but I do think that the candy cane can teach us a few things about the true meaning of Christmas.

First of all, if you look at the candy cane like this  it looks like the letter J. Jesus starts with the letter J, so that should remind us of Jesus and help us to remember that Christmas is Jesus' birthday.

If you look at the candy cane like this  it looks like a shepherd's crook. The shepherd used his crook to keep the sheep from wandering away from the flock and getting lost or eaten by a wild animal. The Bible says, "The Lord is my shepherd." The candy cane should remind us that Jesus is our shepherd and he will keep us from wandering away and getting lost or hurt.

The candy cane is mostly white. White is a symbol of purity. That should remind us that Jesus was the spotless Lamb of God and that because he came to be the sacrifice for our sin, we can become as white as snow.

As you know, the candy cane has three red stripes. The Bible tells us that before he was crucified, Jesus was beaten with a whip which made blood-red stripes across his back. The Bible says that we are healed by those stripes. The stripes on the candy cane should remind us that Jesus suffered and died, so that we can have everlasting life.

Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the earth,
every creature was stirring, awaiting a birth.
The time for Messiah was certainly near,
the prophets foretold it; the Bible was clear.

From the book of beginnings, the very first sin,
God's word made it clear how His grace entered in.
Born of a virgin, He'd come as a man.
The Creator among us, the time was at hand.

The stars were arranged to show marvelous things,
setting Wise Men to journey and find the true King.
Shepherds in Bethlehem gazed on the sky,
longing to see him, their Lord the Most High.

How could they know that the very next night,
 an angel of God would speak words of delight?
 How the Savior was born, it was news of great joy.
 In a cloth and a manger they'd find the dear boy.

And a heavenly host would soon join to sing
 of the glory of God and of wonderful things.
 He entered creation, set position aside
 to show us how deeply his love did abide.

Sin sent us away from our almighty Lord.
 He became one of us that we might be restored.
 He's the Prince of our Peace; He's the one who makes whole.
 He is Wisdom Incarnate, a Shepherd of Souls.

He's the Author of Life; He's the Ruler of all.
 He can offer salvation, on His name we call.
 The shepherds and Wise Men would bow to adore
 Holy God among men, our greatest reward.

All glory an honor is due to this King.
 Let all join in worship; let every tongue sing.
 Jesus is Lord, all creation proclaims.
 He's the first and last, he is always the same.

History turned on the first Christmas day,
 when God became man in a humble display.
 As we think of the manger in which he was lain,
 let our hearts welcome Him to the world He made!

Printed by Angie

December Snack List	Prayer Chain Requests	Elder Visits	Lectors
<p>12/4 Sharlee Green 12/11 Sue Fullerton 12/18 Kim Jackson 1/1 Bev Morris</p>  <p>Alternate: Gladys Baker 203-0576</p> <p>Interested in bringing snacks? Contact Sue Grable 341-0074</p>	<p>A list of those in need of prayer can be found on table at church entryway.</p>  <p><i>First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanks- givings be made for all people</i></p> <p>1 Timothy 2:1</p>	<p>Elders are willing to visit the sick and home bound with prayer. Will also bring the sacrament of Holy Communion to either the hospital or home bound upon request.</p>  <p>Contact: Ron Fullerton: 352-344-0905 Bob Morris: 352-628-6452</p>	<p>Lectors</p> <p>December Sue Grable Psalm/Epistle Bruce Thornton / Ron Fullerton Gospel</p> <p>January Karen Huscher Psalm/Epistle Bob Morris Gospel</p> <p>February Kim Jackson Psalm/Epistle Rich Grable Gospel</p>

Send requests, suggestions for the Newsletter: to enlodge@yahoo.com / Website: webmaster@treeoflifec.org