

NEWS PEACE

Connecting the staff community

December 2, 2011



HOLIDAYS AT INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

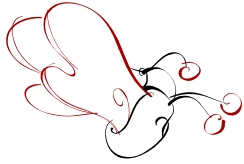
Thank you to all of the IHQ staff who support the many, many holiday events in both the Temple and Auditorium. Yesterday, December 1, six hundred fourth graders throughout Independence rehearsed (see photos above) at the Auditorium for the Community Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 4 at 2:00 p.m. Always a fun event and open to everyone. And then stay at 3:00 p.m. for the Temple organ recital with Jan Van Otterloo.

A great big thank you to everyone who helped pull decoration boxes and trees, hang garland and bows, set poinsettias, and place lights and ornaments on the various trees throughout IHQ. Both buildings have that holiday glow. Thank you to the Facilities and Housekeeping teams, Presiding Bishopric and Estate & Financial Planning teams, Integrated Formation Ministries team, Customer Service team, Technology Support team, Centralized Office and Inventory teams. Thank you also to our volunteers Geoff Henshaw and Twyla Ferguson.



HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Oh what fun! Decorations are going up in offices throughout IHQ and goodies are planned. Next Thursday, December 8, don't miss the IHQ Open House. Activities occur from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Drawings for prizes, music, food and more await all who participate. We know there will be veggies, cookies, wassail, fruit, more cookies, and we've heard rumors of a luau theme from one office. Watch for your tip sheet coming first of next week.



COMMUNITY SERVICE LEAGUE DONATIONS

Thank you for your generosity in sharing with the Community Services League this season. So far more than \$250 in food donations and \$250 in donated gifts have been delivered to Community Services League. As you continue your holiday shopping, we're continuing to collect for those who need help this Christmas. You can still either take a mitten from the mitten tree or bring a gift to share or drop food and/or non-perishable items in the collection barrels. Instructions are posted with each tree. We will collect donations of necessities, gifts, and food until December 16th. The Community Services League greatly appreciates our generosity this holiday season.

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY

There's still time to make your reservation for the Staff Recognition Luncheon on Thursday, December 15 beginning at 11:30 a.m. Community of Christ International Headquarters is blessed with many talented employees and volunteers. Everyone is invited to a celebratory luncheon in the Auditorium Lower Assembly Room. During this gathering we will recognize all those celebrating milestone anniversaries (5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40).

The luncheon is our gift to all. Please RSVP today to [Gabe Horne](#), ext. 2266, so we are prepared to celebrate with everyone. If you have questions, please contact Steve Graffeo, ext. 3031; Heather Frey, ext. 3061; or Susan Naylor, ext. 3045. In order to be prepared to serve everyone we need to have your reservation by Friday, December 9.

Please share this invitation with volunteers and staff that may not have Community of Christ e-mail account.



SHALOM ENCOUNTERS FOR ADVENT

12 noon to 12:50 p.m. in Shalom Place

We invite you to participate with us in the Temple Sanctuary following the Shalom Encounter for the 1 p.m. Daily Prayer for Peace.

Wednesday, December 7 ***We Sing of Advent*** - New Hymnal Team
Come and experience Advent through song. Selections from the

next hymnal will focus on the Advent themes of PEACE, HOPE, JOY and LOVE, as well as songs from the Christmas and Epiphany seasons. David Bolton and Jane Gardner will lead the singing.

Wednesday, December 14 ***Christ Be Our Light*** - Spiritual Formation Team

In this Advent experience we will pilgrimage to three locations in the Temple Complex as we are drawn toward the Light of Christ. Scripture, music, silence, and elements of the Hispanic Posada will be incorporated in our reflective movement as a community. At our final destination we will place symbols representing the whole world and all creation coming to the see the Christ child. Please bring a small symbol of a person or groups of people, culture, or parts of creation with you. These can be toy figures, vehicles, animals, or other symbols of creatures and creation gathering from all directions to join us in our Advent journey. *Wheel chair assistance will be available.*



ADVENT WORSHIP – DECEMBER 11

Join in the Advent Worship December 11 at the Temple or through the live webcast at 7:00 p.m. central time. The First Presidency will share in scripture readings and the Spire Symphonic Chorus and the Emporia State University Faculty Brass and Percussion Ensemble, with conductor Ben Spalding, will be featured.

HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help receive the offering during the Advent worship, Sunday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. If you are able to assist, contact [Kenese Cartwright](#), ext. 1308.



TEMPLE BOOK STORE SALE

Find the perfect gifts to share the Spirit of the Season at our annual Christmas Sale on Wednesday, December 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.! Show your name badge and receive a 25% discount off one eligible item.* Stop by, browse and buy today!
*See a store associate for details.



DELAYED START OR OFFICES CLOSED

It's time again to be reminded of our severe winter weather procedures. Following is the process to be followed if it's necessary to close or have a delayed start at IHQ offices:

A decision to close the offices or delay the start of a work schedule will be made by 6:30 a.m.

If you are at home and in doubt whether the winter weather conditions will necessitate a closing, you can verify the change in schedule by calling International Headquarters (816-833-

1000). The main message will inform you of the closing or delayed start. A current message will be available by 6:45 a.m. If you experience a busy signal, please be patient and call again. **REMEMBER: Listen to the entire message to see if the offices are closed or we will delay the start of the work schedule.**

Payroll Designation:

1. When the decision is made to close offices or delay the work schedule that period of time will be WITH PAY.
2. When an employee decides to take time off from work due to the weather, when there has been no official closing or a delay has been declared, this will be counted as vacation time.

IMPORTANT: There may be times when offices are open and the roads will have some snow and ice on them. Cautious and safe driving to and from work will help prevent accidents. Also, please use caution leaving the buildings and going to your vehicle in the various parking lots. Remember to use the main exits and parking areas during extreme weather.

If you have payroll questions, contact [Human Resource Ministries](#).



E-BULLETIN BOARD

Historic Sites Bus Tour: April 16-25, 2012

Looking for an exciting release after a long winter? Join Barb Walden and Bob Kyser next spring as they travel through the prairies of the Midwest and into the rolling hills of upstate New York. Highlights of the ten-day tour include evening worship in the Kirtland Temple, a walk through the sacred grove in Palmyra, New York, tours of Joseph and Emma Smith's Mansion House in Nauvoo, Illinois, and Joseph Smith III's Liberty Hall in Lamoni, Iowa. The tour will also include a number of landmarks in U.S. history including the National Baseball Hall of Fame, Niagara Falls, Hancock Shaker Village and Museum, and the historic Oneida Community Mansion House.

We are accepting reservations for the remaining tour seats. If you or anyone you know is interested in joining the Foundation on the April 2012 tour, please complete a tour reservation form and send it with a \$100 deposit to: Community of Christ Historic Sites Foundation, Attn: April 2012 Spring Tour, P.O. Box 338, Nauvoo, IL 62354. [CLICK HERE for more information about the bus tour and a downloadable reservation form](#). We anticipate the remaining seats for the tour will fill quickly. Tour price is \$1,300 per/person for a double-occupancy room and \$1,800 per/person for a single-occupancy room. Tour price includes luxury bus transportation (from the Independence, MO area), hotel room each night, tour fees, insurance, and most meals. If you have any questions related to the tour, please contact Barbara Walden by e-mail at:

bwalden@HistoricSitesFoundation.org, or by phone at (440) 477-9562. [CLICK HERE to view photos of the 2010 bus tour](#) posted on the Foundation's Facebook page.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with the flocks,
then the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal those broken in spirit,
to feed the hungry,
to release the oppressed,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among all peoples,
to make a little music with the heart...
And to radiate the Light of Christ,
every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say.
Then the work of Christmas begins.
~Howard Thurman

The next edition of NewsPEACE publishes December 16, 2011.

[Submit](#) news and announcements for consideration in NewsPEACE.
NewsPEACE is also available online at www.CofChrist.org/newspeace