



Kinsmen

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rooted in Faith. Relevant to Life.

December 2025

CONNECTION

12100 Champion Forest Drive
Houston, TX 77066
281.444.3126

HOPE

PEACE

JOY

LOVE

Voices of Advent

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Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Tenses and Voices....Although you might not find a reflection on tenses and voices very interesting—especially right before Christmas—I really do. Especially during the season of Advent, it's significant for us to notice the tenses.

For instance, what are the tenses we use to refer to the birth of Jesus? Do we say, Jesus was born, Jesus is born, or Jesus will be born? In other words, is Jesus born in the past, is Jesus born in the present, or is Jesus coming in the future? The answer to all these questions is "Yes" and "all of the above." Advent is a time when we reflect on Jesus being born over 2000 years ago, Jesus is being born in us and among us today, and we look to the coming of Jesus in his fullness in the future. Advent is about our past, present and future. And strangely, our readings begin by looking at our future.

"Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming."—Matthew 24:42

Then we move to the past as we listen to the voices of Prophets, John the Baptist, the Angels and Mary. Finally, on Christmas Eve, we'll ponder what it means for Jesus to be born among us, and in us, today in the present.

In addition to tense, voice is also important. By that, I mean the two meanings for voice. First there's the *kind* of voice. In the Bible passages we'll read this year during worship, we'll hear the voice of **hope** from Jesus, we'll hear the voice of **peace** from the prophet Isaiah, we'll hear the voice of **joy** from Mary and John the Baptist, and we'll hear the voice of **love** from the angels.

But I also think it's important to reflect on the active and passive voice. (I remember, while in school, my teachers would always write in big letters on my paper: PASSIVE voice. Use ACTIVE voice.)

Active voice is when the subject performs the action like "The angel appeared to Joseph." Passive voice is when the subject receives the action like "Jesus was born among us."

Advent is a time when we feel the pressure to very much be the ones performing all kinds of action. I am preparing. I am getting ready...But we are also encouraged to be passive and reflect on the main one, the main subject who is active: God is with us. Jesus is born among us. We are the passive recipients in this overwhelming gift of love, but we are also actively waiting and participating in this good news that involves each and every one of us!

God is actively with and among you and me in the birth of Jesus! And he was born, is born and will come again. These are the many tenses and voices of good news this season!

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Beth, Senior Pastor



The Season of *Advent*

begins the weekend of November 29/30

2025 Advent Devotion Booklets are available in the Narthex or Online

Sermon Series: Voices of Advent

Advent is a time when we feel the pressure to be the ones performing all kinds of action. I am preparing. I am getting ready. I am so busy...But we're also encouraged to be passive and reflect on the main one, the main subject who is active: God is with us. We'll hear this good news in the voice of hope from Jesus, in the voice of peace from the prophets, in voice of joy from Mary, and in the voice of love from the angels. Join us for this 4-week sermon series from November 30 to December 21.



Dates	Sermon Title	First Reading	Gospel
November 29/30	Promises of Hope	Isaiah 2:1-5	Matthew 24:36-44
December 6/7	Proclaimed Peace	Isaiah 11:1-10	Matthew 3:1-12
December 13/14	Deep Everlasting Joy	Isaiah 35:1-10	Matthew 11:2-11
December 20/21	God's Presence of Love	Isaiah 7:10-16	Matthew 1:18-25





Wednesdays in Advent

THREE UNIQUE SERVICES ALL AT 7PM

DECEMBER 3	HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER <i>(A MEDITATIVE WORSHIP SERVICE - SPEAKER: CARSTEN ALSGUTH)</i>
DECEMBER 10	LAS POSADAS <i>(A FESTIVE JOURNEY WITH SINGING - A TRADITION FROM MEXICO)</i>
DECEMBER 17	LONGEST NIGHT <i>(A WORSHIP SERVICE FOR THOSE GRIEVING THIS SEASON)</i>

The Longest Night

Wednesday, December 17 at 7:00PM

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved family member who has recently died; it may be a time that has always been difficult.

The constant refrain on the radio and television, in shopping malls and churches, about the happiness of the season, about getting together with family and friends, reminds many people of what they have lost or have never had. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation - all these can make us feel very alone amidst the celebrating and spending. We need the space and time to acknowledge our sadness and concern; we need to know that we are not alone.

For these reasons, Kinsmen's Community of Hope Lay Chaplains will offer a special "Longest Night" service on December 17 at 7 PM. The service will include Holy Communion, prayers, scripture and music that acknowledges that God's presence is for those who mourn, those who struggle, and that God's Word comes to shine light into our darkness.

Everyone, regardless of church background is welcome.

Lessons and Carols Worship

Worship Schedule for December 27/28

December 27 at 5:30PM

December 28 at 10AM

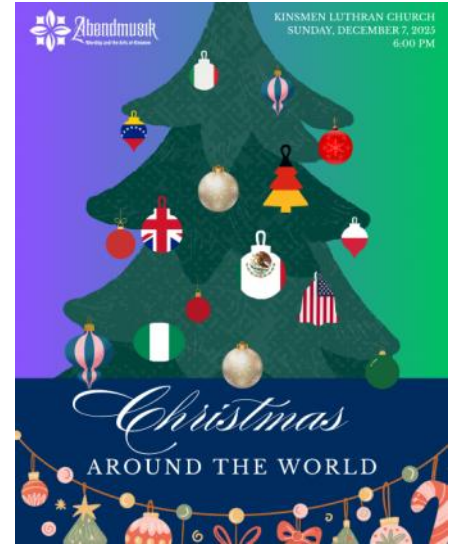
December 28 - at 12:30PM - Spanish speaking.



Abendmusik Presents: Christmas Around the World Sunday, December 7, 6:00PM

Come kick off the holiday season with a celebration of Christmas music and traditions! Kinsmen musicians will present a concert of Christmas carols from places near and far. You'll join in with Kinsmen choirs, handbells, praise teams, and other musicians to sing holiday classics and hear about many Christmas traditions from around the world.

After the concert, there will be a reception with Christmas cookies from around the world. Gather in the narthex to visit and fellowship with others as a way to kick off the merry and bright holiday season!



Adorn the Sanctuary with Poinsettias

Help us adorn the Sanctuary during the Advent/Christmas season by purchasing a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one or given to the Glory of God. The cost is \$12 for each plant. Poinsettias may be taken home after the 8 PM worship service on Christmas Eve or may be designated to be given to a shut-in.

You may order your poinsettia through this link: <https://bit.ly/2025poinsettias>





NAM Holiday Toy Bags

Did you take a toy bag for NAM? The filled toy bag should be back by noon on December 7.
Thank you for your gracious generosity!



Christmas Caroling

December 21 from 2 - 4:30PM

Join in on the fun of spreading some Christmas cheer! We will be carpooling this year and all carolers are welcome!

Please sign up [HERE](#) or go to <https://bit.ly/KinsmenCaroling25>.



An Evening of Reflecting with Pastor Beth



2026 Women's Little Christmas



Join us as Pastor Beth reflects on meaningful questions such as how she first felt called to ministry, the women who have shaped her faith, the unique joys and challenges she has experienced, how women can better support one another in the church and in their callings, and what she wishes more women knew about their identity in Christ.

Kinsmen Lutheran Church
12100 Champion Forest Dr.
Houston, TX 77066

January 5 • 6:30-8:30pm
Cost: \$20 (meal included)

Scan or click QR code to register

A Message from the Discipleship Team

We hope you enjoyed the Fall small group study focused on Sensitive Evangelism. Sixty-seven participated in one of 8 groups as they studied and discussed one of two movies: Finding Grace or The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. We had great interest in this study with recommendations that we continue to offer another movie-based study group sometime in the coming year.

In November we worked to support the Generosity Team and the Living Is Giving campaign. We helped develop the coloring page used in the Children's Sermon on November 9 and created and helped distribute the bookmarks, which included the QR code for the intent card.

Kinsmen family, as we enter the Advent season, we wait with hope, peace, joy, and love for the coming of our Savior. Advent reminds us that God is not distant but present and active. He came to us through a child, born in a manger. Christmas proclaims that His light still shines in every act of kindness, every prayer lifted in faith, and every heart turned toward love. May your Advent be filled with holy expectation and your Christmas overflow with the joy and peace of Jesus Christ.

Blessings,


The Discipleship Team

LIVING
IS
Giving

From a heart filled with gratitude, a wellspring of generosity flows.

"You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God."

- 2 Corinthians 9:11 - NIV



KINSMEN LUTHERAN
CHURCH
LIVING IS GIVING 2025

Chair Yoga

Mondays and Fridays at 10:30AM

Chair Yoga meets every Monday and Friday from 10:30—11:30AM in the narthex. Suggested donation is \$5 per class. Have questions or concerns? Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) or Terri Beeler

55+ Ministry

Upcoming Dates

Join us for lunch at 12:30PM on the following dates:

- Monday, December 8 at Olive Garden
(7525 FM 1960 Rd W, Houston, TX)
- Sunday, January 11 in Kinsmen's Community Room
(This will be a potluck luncheon)

RSVP at: <https://bit.ly/olivegarden55>

Abendmusik Presents: Monarch Chamber Players

Friday January 9, 2026 at 7PM

Last spring, Kinsmen partnered with the Texas Commission on the Arts to present a concert by the Monarch Chamber Players. Now we've invited them back to warm the coldest time of year with a concert of music for clarinet, cello, and piano.

Monarch Chamber Players is a Houston collective of performers who specialize in accessible concerts filled with excellent music making. This concert features Brahms's masterful Clarinet Trio, Op. 114 as well as pieces by Louise Farrenc and Daniel Schnyder. Afterward, join the musicians and your fellow audience members for a reception.

This concert is presented with the help of the Texas Commission on the Arts. All Abendmusik events are free to attend and open to the public.

Pickleball

Thursday, December 11 at 6:30PM

Join in on the fun on Thursday, December 11 at 6:30PM. All equipment is provided. Dress comfortably.

Questions? Contact [Lynnae Schatz](#) or Ken Mersiovsky.



Mental Health Matters Initiative

Living with a mental health condition—or simply navigating everyday life— can be challenging, stressful, and at times, lonely. The Mental Health Matters Initiative offers a supportive space twice a month (once in person and once online) where you can share what’s on your mind or simply connect with others who understand. Each gathering is facilitated by a trained mental health peer specialist, creating a welcoming environment where you’re not alone.

Due to the Christmas season and all of the programming this month, we won't be having any support groups during December. If you would like a lay chaplain visit during the month, please reach out to Lynnae (lschatz@klch.org) to connect you. The next Mental Health Matters meetings will be in January:

- January 7 - in-person at the Coffee House
- January 21 - online via Zoom

Thank you for the amazing turnout in 2025 & may the Lord bless you during the Christmas Season!



JOIN US FOR
BOOK CLUB
Tuesday, December 16
at 7PM
in the Coffee House.

All are welcome to read with us! Participants choose what books to read each month, and we read a variety of genres.

We combined November and December. We are reading Fully Alive by Timothy Shriver. We will meet on Tuesday, December 16 at 7PM in the Coffee House for fellowship and to discuss the book.

Looking ahead to January 2026: We will be reading Sailing the Wine-Dark Sea by Thomas Cahill. This book was recommended for those who are going to Greece in April. This is for anyone, and all are welcome.




Travel to Greece

Pastor Beth will be taking a group trip called “Journeys of the Apostle Paul and the Greek Islands” April 15-26, 2026. The cost WITHOUT airfare will be \$3,890. The itinerary will begin in Thessaloniki and Philippi. It will travel south to Athens and Corinth and then it will include a 4-day cruise to a few islands including Patmos with a visit to Ephesus in Turkey. There are already 28 people signed up so, please let Pastor Beth know if you are interested in traveling with this group in April 2026 or register [HERE](#).



Faith Formation Retreat

Friday, January 23-25, 2026

(Leave Houston around 5PM Friday, return to Houston around 12PM Sunday).

This year we are combining our Confirmation Retreat (6th, 7th, and 8th graders) and our Communion Retreat (3rd, 4th, and 5th graders) for an awesome Faith Formation Retreat at Lutherhill! Retreats at Lutherhill are an awesome way to get to know Kinsmen people, so we thought we'd make it an even bigger gathering! There will be two "tracks" so the kids will be learning about Confirmation or Communion separately, but we will have time together as a Kinsmen family as well.

For more details, contact Sara Ray or Pastor Jay. If you're ready to register, click or scan the QR code! Deadline to register for the retreat is December 15.



Child-Led Christmas Worship

Sunday, December 14 at 4PM

The kids are in charge of leading worship on December 14 at 4PM. Would your child like a part? We have big parts, little parts, behind the scenes parts, up front parts, whatever fits their passion and ability!

We will also be hosting a baby shower for Mary and Joseph at that worship service. As your offering, please bring diapers and wipes that will be shared with teen parents in Klein ISD just in time for the winter break. Contact Sara Ray (sray@klch.org) for more information.

Summer Camp at Lutherhill

Summer 2026

Summer Camp at Lutherhill is a great Christmas present for kids in 1st through 8th grade! If your house is like mine, your kids don't NEED anything for Christmas. Why not give them the gift of summer camp (or ask grandparents to help!)? Less mess in your house, and an important faith-forming experience for your child – a win-win!

Contact Sara Ray (sray@klch.org) with any questions!



Kinsmen Children's Academy

Now enrolling!

We are currently enrolling for our Early Learning Program ages 0-Pre-K and Before & After School Care at Yeager Elementary, Greenwood Forest Elementary, Klenk Elementary, and Wunderlich Intermediate.

Go to www.kinsmenlutheran.org/kca for more information, or contact [Sara Ray \(sray@klch.org\)](mailto:sray@klch.org).



Playground Playdate

Saturday, December 6 at 10AM

We will meet on the playground in the North Parking Lot (the small lot off of Pinewood Springs). We usually stay and play for about 90 minutes, so join us when you can! This event is aimed at those 5-years-old and younger and their caring adults, but all are welcome!



Voices of Advent Bible Study

Sundays at 9:45AM

(November 30 to December 21)

The pastors will facilitate this new 4-week study by Matthew Skinner that leads participants through biblical texts and explores how they shape our lives and Christmas celebrations. We will listen as Jesus promises to return to us in the future, to John the Baptist as he prepares the way for the Messiah, to the faithful people and poets who anticipate the magnificence of Jesus's birth, and to the angels and visionaries who praise God when Christmas dawns.

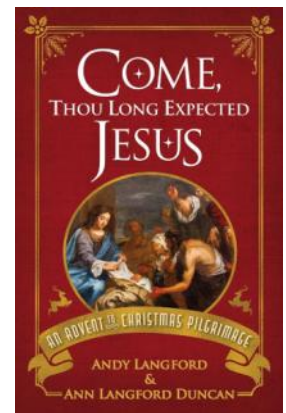
We will meet in the Conference Room.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/VoicesofAdvent>



Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

This is an invitation to an Advent to Christmas pilgrimage by using traditional scripture readings to reveal the treasures of God's grace for all people. Class begins on November 30th at 9:45AM in the Community Life Center Room C128.



Kinsmen Mission Partner: Redeemed Ministries

Updates on Redeemed Ministries

Kinsmen continues to support its Mission Partner, Redeemed Ministries. On October 20, Carol Hyun and Terri Beeler joined me at the Education Center to help with a mailout. We addressed envelopes and helped update records of sponsors and contributors.

Shine Bright, Do Good

Who doesn't like jewelry? Join Redeemed for a Kendra Gives Back Event! Shop at kendrascott.com December 3rd and 4th with code: GIVEBACK-JZDED. 20% of your purchase supports Redeemed Ministries.

Other Ways to Remember Redeemed in Holiday Giving

Your financial investment is tax deductible and allows Redeemed to connect survivors to healing. [Give](#) to support a quality program employing quality staff who have been trained in trauma-informed care. Or send essential supplies directly to the Redeemed safe house through their [Amazon wishlist](#).

Might you be able to give monthly? Sustainable solutions for sex trafficked women...that is the vision of Redeemed Ministries. They offer classes and lessons to survivors of sex trafficking so these women can make wise choices with their income, and those who support their recovery can live by example. Your committed monthly support will allow Redeemed to build program sustainability, ensuring security for Sparrows as they focus on their healing journey. Thank you for considering joining the new Sparrow Circle! [Your ongoing support](#) empowers the flight to freedom for women rebuilding their lives.

A Closing Message from Redeemed

Gratitude fills our hearts and joy steadies our steps as we look back on this year — remembering how you came alongside Redeemed with your time, your prayers, and your generosity. Your partnership has become part of every story of courage and renewal — a quiet thread of hope woven into each woman's journey toward thriving freedom.

As 2025 draws to a close, we invite you to hold Redeemed in your heart and in your giving. Every gift helps transform survival into strength and strength into freedom. Together, we are truly **Keeping Houston Free**.

Choose grace,

Vicki Bigham, Kinsmen Champion for Redeemed

Christmas Vespers at Texas Lutheran University

December 5-7 and 14

Join us for one of TLU's most cherished traditions, the annual Christmas Vespers! This year's theme, All Is Miracle, promises an unforgettable service filled with the

joyous spirit of the season. Vespers will take place on campus December 5–7, and at St. Martin's Lutheran Church in Austin on December 14. Tickets, which are free but required for the on-campus services, are available at the TLU Bookstore, online, and via telephone. No tickets are required for the Austin service. Service times for Friday and Saturday are 7:30 p.m. Both the Seguin and Austin Sunday services are at 4 p.m.



Give Hope This Holiday Season

Donate Blood in December

Give the gift of life this Holiday Season. The Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center's mobile coach will be at Kinsmen, Sunday, December 14 from 8AM – 12:30PM.

Sign up to schedule your appointment today using this link:

<https://bit.ly/giveblood1214>

BLOOD DRIVE

Kinsmen Lutheran

Sunday, December 14
8:00 am - 12:30 pm
Donor Coach

Successful donors will get to choose a "Stocking Stuffer" from this year's promotions. Items may include T-shirts, towels, and tumblers!

Health Benefit: FREE A1c Prediabetes Testing

sponsor code: 0952
Scan Below for an Appointment:



Appointments preferred. Walk-ins welcome.



Landree, blood recipient



EAT. DRINK. BRING I.D.



Financial Peace University (FPU)

Begins January 27, 2026

FPU is a money-management course taught by one of America's most trusted financial advisors, Dave Ramsey. During the nine weekly video classes, Dave and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, charitable giving, planning for the future, and much more. Each class takes you through "baby steps" to get you (or your family) in control of your money, rather than it controlling you. Kinsmen volunteers (with gifts in personal finance) will be facilitating these video-based classes.

Some of the feedback we have received from students who have taken the course over the years include:

- "Before this class, I never felt "in control" of my finances. Now, I have a plan and confidence that I will make good decisions."
- "FPU has given me the tools I need to plan a budget and build wealth on an hourly salary. I am much more at ease about my finances."
- "We are now credit card debt free and committed to stay that way. We have most benefitted from learning God's principles of money. Thank you for offering this class. You are making a difference in the community and your congregation."

How much? The cost is \$80 per person or couple for the 9-week course with a rebate at the end. (This is less than the online cost, so register with us.) One book is included in the cost. If you attend 7 out of the 9 classes, you will receive a refund of \$20 bringing the course to \$60. (Even then, scholarships are available if needed.) Also, childcare will be provided if communicated ahead of time.

Who? This is not only for Kinsmen members. ANYONE is invited to attend.

When? The class begins Tuesday, January 27 from 7:00-8:30PM. The last class will be March 24 (or March 31 if a Spring Break is needed).

Where? Kinsmen's Coffeehouse

Register here: <https://bit.ly/2026FPU>





Kinsmen Generosity Team

We appreciate your past generosity. As you consider your giving for 2026, remember that as Christians, we believe everything we have is a gift from God, and we give back in response to His generosity. This enables us to support God's mission at Kinsmen and share His grace. As you prayerfully decide on your level of giving, let your faith guide you – whether that leads you to a first-time intent card submission, tithing for a month, increasing by 7%, or some other growth opportunity. Through this process, God will provide guidance and encouragement.

As the Apostle Paul wrote: “You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity.” (2 Corinthians 9:11)

Our goal for Intent Cards this year is 180. So far, we have received 111 Intent cards (or online responses) from different families! If you have already turned one in, thank you! If not, please fill out the online card here: <https://bit.ly/Annual2026Intent> OR mail it to the church at any time.

Grace and Peace,
The Generosity Team

Note About End of Year Contributions:

Someone will be at the church office to receive your offering on December 30 and December 31 until 5PM. Contributions mailed and post-marked by December 31 will still be counted toward 2025 contributions.

Church Council News

A Note from Kinsmen's Church Council President:

This upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas season is a time for us to celebrate God continually bestowing His many gifts upon the world. The pastors and staff of Kinsmen have blessed us all throughout this past year. They have repeatedly exemplified what it means to be disciples of Christ.

We wish to continue our tradition of making a monetary gift to our pastors and staff who have faithfully and diligently served our church throughout the year. Please join me in marking your donation "Pastors and Staff" and place it in the offering plate, mail it to the church, or make it online.

On behalf of the Council, we hope you and your family have a blessed and peaceful season of celebration, filled with hope, joy and fellowship.

Peace in Christ,

Brad Young

2025 Kinsmen Church Council President

Noisy Offering: Bright Stars of Bethlehem

December Mission Partner

As I sit in my pleasant backyard listening to birdsong and trying to write about Bright Stars of Bethlehem, I am faced with memories of the Kinsmen trip to the Holy Land in 2016. We explored so many places with a jam-packed schedule, but one, a tour of a refugee camp just outside of Bethlehem comes to mind now. There residents live in small, square cinder block homes. There is poverty and little to do. There are no trees.

This is a place that needs hope. This is where Dar al Kalima University of Arts and Culture comes in. The university, as you have heard before, educates the young minds and talent of the region. Education prepares young adults for the future. This is not only developing talents and skills, but also embedding dignity and self-determination so another generation is not lost. Dar al-Kalima offers accredited bachelor's degree education in design, tourism, film, architectural engineering, and more. There are now four master's degree programs, including art therapy and interior design. These degrees are recognized worldwide. One shining example of Dar al-Kalima's integrated education programming is the Hospitality Education Center. This program is housed in a stunning building with a 360-degree view of the Holy Land. Students studying tourism, hospitality, and culinary arts are all engaged in this state-of-the-art experience. You can get a glimpse of this beautiful center [HERE](#).



In 2004 Bright Stars of Bethlehem was established as a 501c3 nonprofit organization to help support the work of Rev. Dr. Mitri Raheb, then at the Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem. Through the work of Bright Stars, more and more people become aware of the strong, dedicated, and successful mission of Dar al-Kalima University- educating the next generation of creative leaders in Palestine in order to meet the vision, "That we might have hope and have it abundantly."

Now, as the dust is settling on a fragile ceasefire in Gaza and tensions are just managed in the West Bank, there is a moment to catch our breath. The time for hope is now. Dar al-Kalima has weathered this storm. The programs are thriving and helping students reach new heights. But the need for external support is greater than ever. Our donations to Bright Stars of Bethlehem help to support student scholarships, to get lives back on track, and build futures.

- Michelle Ivey



REFORMATION DAY



On Reformation Day, we were delighted to see that most members of the Latino community dressed in red. It is exciting to witness how, increasingly, they are becoming familiar with and integrating into Lutheran traditions. As a keepsake, everyone received a bookmark explaining the meaning of the elements of the Lutheran Rose.

Integration Highlights



The tradition of the Day of the Dead altar, practiced in various parts of Latin America and especially in Mexico, represents a unique, spiritual, and joyful way of honoring the lives of our loved ones who are no longer with us. We are thrilled by the participation of many at Kinsmen in this celebration, and we hope it continues to grow in the years to come.





Devotionals

Thanks to the initiative of our ESL teacher, Denise Cook, two advanced-level students from the English program worked diligently, under her guidance, to contribute writings to the Advent devotional that Kinsmen prepares every year. These steps reflect how our communities are moving closer to full integration.

Upcoming Events



Christmas in the Neighborhood



This December we will once again celebrate Christmas in the Neighborhood event, together with our partners at FLAS. During the event, health services and informational resources of interest to the entire community will be offered. In addition, children attending will receive a Christmas gift donated by this organization. All are welcome.

Friendly Nativity



The nativity scene is one of the most meaningful expressions of Christmas in Spanish-speaking countries. Beyond the three central figures—Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus—creativity is encouraged to include characters, landscapes, and buildings that enrich the Christmas story. Sometimes even playful additions, like dinosaurs, are part of the display. The goal is to create an interactive exhibition that draws children closer, allowing them to touch, participate, and play while learning the true meaning of Christmas.

Bilingual Posadas

On Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00 PM we will celebrate the Bilingual Posadas. Through songs and readings, we will accompany Joseph and Mary as they seek shelter—a joyful, family-friendly tradition that invites everyone to take part. Delicious baked sweets and hot cocoa will be served to make the evening even more special.



December Birthdays

Woody Lyons	12/01	James Barbour	12/09	Diana Daniels	12/16	Stephanie Schroeder	12/26
Jackson Hahn	12/01	Harley Ford	12/10	Henry Orosco	12/16	Tammy Hamric	12/26
Ellyse Hahn	12/01	Wendi Zabadal	12/10	Kelly Ford	12/19	Kent Richter	12/27
Sandra Gutierrez	12/02	Lukas Smith	12/10	Gerald Awbrey	12/19	Evelyn Anz	12/27
Billy Pickett	12/02	Payton Doyle	12/11	Larry Hake	12/20	Nathaniel Schatz	12/28
Summer Rodenhauser	12/02	Celine Morales	12/11	Cynthia Crocker	12/21	James Blackburn	12/29
Dillon Bohmann	12/02	Linda Holmes	12/11	Sandra Awbrey	12/21	Kylie Johnson	12/29
Jennifer Mills	12/03	Gregory McCue	12/12	Sabrina Tabibian	12/21	Raymond Shama	12/29
Mary Jyrkama	12/03	Rick Rueda	12/12	Hannah Macon	12/22	Michael Shama	12/29
Lee Smith	12/03	Paul Wangsmo	12/12	Ron Zabadal	12/22	Diane Dzygun	12/30
Monica Garcia	12/03	Andrew Hanson	12/13	Hannah Campos	12/22	Cheryl Cook	12/30
James Gradoni	12/03	Harland Maisel	12/13	Sarah Hornstein	12/22	Denise Cook	12/30
Elizabeth Marks	12/04	Shafer Gribb	12/13	J.B. Harvey	12/23	Kirby Meyer	12/31
Thomas Rudy	12/05	Julie Vance	12/13	Robert Brown	12/23	Bob Hagan	12/31
Kole Metting	12/05	Skip Brinz	12/14	Susan Hall	12/24	Conner Morgan	12/31
Amy Craig	12/07	Carol Bayer	12/15	Kristopher Cook	12/24	Gina Gradoni	12/31
Maryanne Keeling	12/08	Evan Kulhanek	12/15	Julie Bohland	12/24		
Gloria Lush	12/08	Charles Clark	12/15	Samantha Martinez	12/24		
Lisbeth Gillette	12/09	Terry Holmes	12/15	Edith Morales	12/25		
Bill Landolt	12/09	Barbara Lellis	12/16				



GLIMPSES OF GRACE

Noisy offering/Lutherhill Ministries	\$2,250.38
General Mission Support	\$6,164.22
Designated Mission Support	\$691.00
October TOTAL	\$9,105.60
YTD TOTAL	\$108,766.49

KINSMEN BUDGET UPDATE OPERATING HIGHLIGHTS FOR OCTOBER 2025

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Total Income	143,629	112,652	(30,978)
Total Expenses	169,777	166,748	(3,029)
Net	(26,148)	(54,096)	(27,949)
Year-to-Date (2025)			
Total Income	1,592,248	1,540,850	(51,398)
Total Expenses	1,627,132	1,624,957	(2,175)
Net	(34,884)	(84,108)	(49,224)
GIVING UPDATE			
Thankoffering			
October 2025	91,958	76,171	(15,787)
2025	1,040,583	941,404	(99,179)

GLIMPSES OF SHARING GRACE

CARE MINISTRY

November 2025	
Flower Deliveries	60
Prayer Shawls	1

Donating Through a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF)

If you have a donor-advised fund (DAF), consider donating to Kinsmen!

Charitable Giving from your IRA

IRA (individual retirement arrangement) owners age 70½ and older can make up to \$108,000 in tax-free charitable donations during 2025 through qualified charitable distributions. For those age 73 or older, qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) also count toward the year's required minimum distribution (RMD).

Generally, IRA distributions are taxable, but QCDs remain tax-free if sent directly to a qualified charity by the trustee. To make a QCD for 2025, IRA owners should contact their IRA trustee soon to ensure the transaction completes by year-end. Each eligible IRA owner can exclude up to \$108,000 in QCDs from taxable income. *(adapted from an article on irs.gov)*

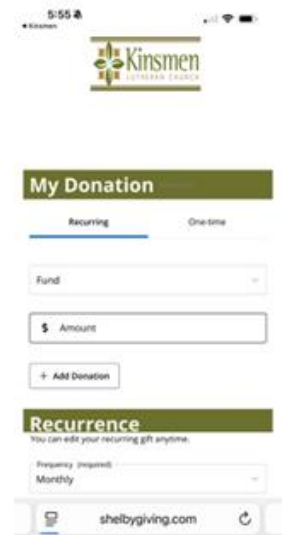
Donate through Shelby Giving

Giving financial gifts through Shelby Giving provides a fast, convenient and secure way for you to give one-time gifts or recurring donations by credit card (American Express, Discover, Mastercard or Visa) or by electronic check through your bank account. To make an electronic check payment, you will need to provide the bank routing number and account number that appears at the bottom of a check.

If this is your first experience with Kinsmen's online giving system, click "Sign In" and then "Register for an Account." This will create your profile with a password and securely store your information so that it is unnecessary to re-enter it with each gift.

4 EASY STEPS:

1. Go to this website: <https://bit.ly/ShelbyGive>
2. Sign In, Register for an Account, and Create your user profile.
3. Choose to pay by credit card or bank account and fill in the appropriate account information.
4. Choose the fund, the amount and click submit to make an online gift.



IN PERSON & ONLINE

WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

INFORMAL WORSHIP

Saturdays
5:30 PM

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP

Sundays
8:30 AM

EDUCATIONAL HOUR

Sundays
9:45 AM

CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

Sundays
11:00 AM

MISA en ESPAÑOL

Domingos
12:30 PM

ESCUELA DOMINICAL

Domingos
12:30 PM

Kinsmen Staff

Reach a staff member directly by dialing
281-444-3127, plus their extension

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CONNECTION

is a monthly publication of
Kinsmen Lutheran Church.
Deadline for submitting news is
the **15th** day of each month or
the previous church business
day if the deadline falls on the
weekend or on a church
holiday.



Office Hours

Monday—Thursday

9 AM—5 PM

Friday

9 AM—12 PM

Contact Information

281-444-3126 Phone

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Membership

Interested in learning more
about Kinsmen?

Contact Pastor Beth or Lynnae Schatz
for more information.

