

# Chain of Lakes

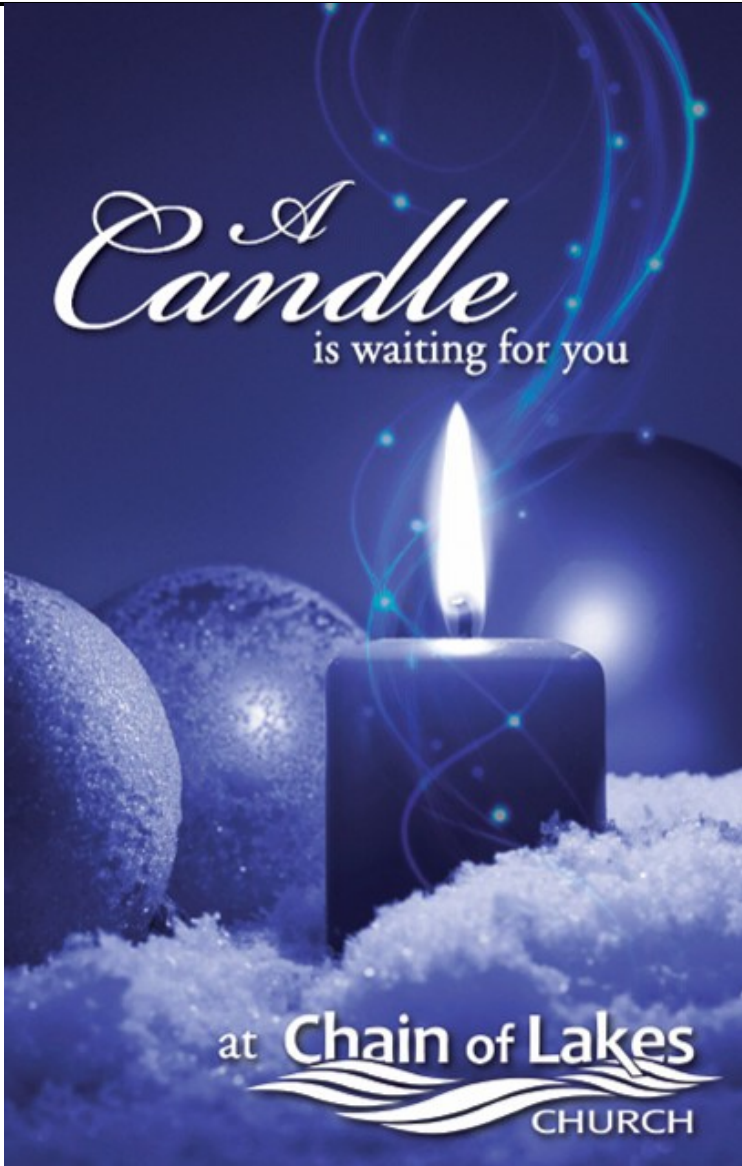
## CHURCH

A New Presbyterian Church forming in the North Metro

Worship Location:

1189 Main Street, Lino Lakes  
(East of Lake Drive and Main Street)

763-208-8049  
www.colpres.org



**Volume 2, Issue 12**  
**December 2011**

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**Celebrate Christmas Eve December 24th**

**Candlelight Service with Communion at 4:00 p.m.**

Join us as we go on a journey to experience the power of the Christmas Story.  
Enjoy inspiring music, drama, and preaching. We will close with a special candle lighting.

*A Candle is waiting for you.*

## Notes from Pastor Paul



I want to talk about two events in the life of our congregation—one that already happened and one that is upcoming.

First I want to congratulate our Outreach Team for the “Tangled in the Tinsel” comedy night that took place this past Saturday evening.

This team did an outstanding job of working together to pull off the event. We had a full house in our sanctuary, many new people came to the event, most people stayed afterwards for fellowship, and we raised \$250 to help replenish the milk fund for low-income kids at Lino Lakes Elementary STEM School. I am particularly excited about the partnership we’re forming with the school. The school sent home a flyer about the event to every family in the school. I had many people remark to me that they had received the flyer. Not only were we helping the school, the school was helping us. That is the basis for an excellent partnership.



Second I want to encourage everyone to invite a friend or family member to Christmas Eve worship. Christmas is a time when almost everyone—whether the person attends a church or not—thinks about God and church. I’ve known many people whose connection to a congregation first happened at a Christmas Eve service.

We have spent a lot of time planning out a meaningful worship experience. Ken Mc Cullen has written a drama, I am working almost every day on my sermon, and Kellie Burriss will share special music. We will end worship with Communion and candle lighting while singing “Silent Night.” Once again we are helping out Lino Lakes Elementary STEM School. The first \$300 of the offering will help provide backpacks of needed supplies for low-income families in the school.

We are mailing out 1,000 cards for the service. On the card we write that a candle is waiting for everyone who attends. I believe that a candle is waiting for a friend or family member of yours. Please invite the person to Christmas Eve at Chain of Lakes. Worship will begin at 4:00 p.m.

## Steering Committee

At the November Steering Committee meeting, the Steering Committee:

- ◆ Enjoyed a meal provided by Newell Krogmann
- ◆ Spent much time looking at priority issues for the first six months of 2012. After much discussion the Steering Committee decided to focus on the following:
  - ~ Faith Sharing and getting to know our new neighbors in the developments south of the new property
  - ~ Youth, Children and Young Families
  - ~ Leadership
  - ~ Facilities
- ◆ Called a meeting for the congregation for after worship on December 11th in order to elect people to the Steering Committee
- ◆ Authorized a special offering in December. The goal of the offering is \$4,000
- ◆ Voted to give the first \$300 to the Christmas Eve offering to assist children in poverty at Lino Lakes Elementary STEM School.

## New Steering Committee Members

Congratulations to Gary Long, Dave Nyberg, and Val Owens who were elected to serve on the Steering Committee for the class of 2012.

## Property Purchase Task Force

At its November meeting the Presbytery appointed a Task Force to complete the sale of the new property for Chain of Lakes. This group will work on getting a conditional use permit from the City of Blaine, develop a proposal for access to



the property and removing the berm (sound barrier) on the northern edge of the property. This group was commissioned in worship at Chain of Lakes on Sunday, December 11th.

Members of the group are:

From Chain of Lakes Church: Kevin Amundsen, Mary Ann Archer, John Ivers and Ken Mc Cullen  
 From the wider Presbytery: Newell Krogmann, Walter Rockenstein, Barbara Van Loenen, James Payne.

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## Disciples at Chain of Lakes

On Sunday, December 4th seventeen people became the first "Disciples at Chain of Lakes." They went through a ninety minute orientation and then were received by the Steering Committee. These orientations will be offered quarterly. Until our congregation is chartered as a congregation, there will be no distinction between those who have gone through this orientation and those who have not.

Congratulations to the following people:



Kevin & Nancy Amundsen, Frank & Heather Butterfield, Tiffany Chopra, Erika Dochniak, John & Gloria Ivers, Sally Leitch, Gary & Betty Long, Val Owens, Melanie Vosdingh, Gary Wassam, Angelica Van Iperen, Sarah Womack, & Paulette Zvorak.

## YOUTH MINISTRIES



**December 30th at 5:30-8:00 PM**

Tiffany Chopra is planning a youth New Year's party! Friday, Dec. 30th from 5:30pm to 8pm for grades 5th-8th. We will be serving dinner, playing games and

having fun at the worship center. Sign up today!

## Parent's Corner

Have you ever seen a three -year-old talk on a toy phone? The child nods their head while they talk, may murmur words of agreement, asks questions and holds the phone like an adult. Children love to copy and imitate the behaviors of others around them. Just as adult's model vocabulary, actions and even how to talk on the phone, we are also modeling how to spend time with God each day. Karen-Marie Yust, a well known Children's Minister writes, "If we want children to spend daily time with God, they need to see adults doing it. Even better, they need to spend time with God alongside us so that they experience the support and encouragement of our company."

How do we do that? Share a devotion time with children. Cuddle young children close as you read a Bible story and pray together. With elementary children maybe kneel beside the child's bed while prayers are said. Share with them how you feel about God. Repeat it often enough and children will soon model your actions.



**FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**  
**Joanne Shingledecker**

The Education Team has approved a new format for our Sunday morning Sunday school program. Beginning January 15th, we are going to be using a thematic approach to our curriculum. In this approach, the children will be hearing the same theme or story over a five week period of time, the change is that they will hear the theme or story in a variety of different ways. One week it may be through a game, another week through art, or cooking or drama or a special computer program. This allows for children who are unable to attend each week to hear stories they would otherwise miss. The different teaching elements also allow for children to learn and retain in ways that are more natural for them.

An example of this is the Moses story. Traditional curriculum is set on a three year cycle, Pre-school, grades 1-3 and grades 4-6. In preschool, a child will hear the story of Moses as a baby one Sunday during the three years. In grades 1-3, they would hear about Moses and the plagues once in three years. In grades 4 -6, they hear about the Ten Commandments. So, if a child had missed those Sundays when Moses was the topic (*this happens often*), you can understand the frustration and bewilderment when a youth comes to a Confirmation class and is asked about Moses, and the youth has no idea what the teacher is talking about. In this new format, the children are immersed into learning about Moses in many different ways. Our first theme is titled **Jesus and Discipleship**.





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We're on the Web!

[www.colpres.org](http://www.colpres.org)



## Chain of Lakes Church Purpose:

We are called to be an authentic, Christian community where:  
Strangers become friends  
Friends become disciples  
Disciples impact the world.