

December 2011  
and January  
2012

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*The Diocese of Northwest-  
ern Pennsylvania is one  
church of miraculous expect-  
ation under the lordship of  
Christ equipping transfor-  
mational leaders for trans-  
formational ministry*

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St. Agnes  
Episcopal Church  
*Faith in Action*

# The St. Agnes Story



## Nearly Christmas! Still Advent!

The rest of the world is moving along, and here we are repeating the same old calendar that the church uses, cycling through the same seasons each year, and now we're well into the new church year of Advent, which began on Sunday, November 27. And there were special calendars for the kids and adults and books of readings for each day and blessings...what's the big deal? We know Jesus has been born...why do we keep re-living it?

Have you asked these questions at one time or another? It wouldn't be unusual to ask. But it *would* be unusual to just suddenly have Christmas Day without anything leading up to it. How could we appreciate what God has done for us without living through a time of consideration and contemplation on what the world was like without him? Anticipating something, preparing for it, makes it more special. The birth of Jesus Christ was the birth of our salvation, of our close relationship with our triune God, and of a time when the entire world would be turned upside down and a new day would dawn. A new day created just for us.

Advent is slowly slipping away. Have you given time to prayer or thought about how the birth of Jesus was really the birth of our salvation and the final claim that God put upon us through his son as his people? Please open your hearts to the action of the Holy Spirit at this time...prepare the way in your hearts as John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus in the wilderness and on the riverbanks. Don't let Christmas day come as a day dressed in ribbon and paper only. Let it come as a day dressed the glory of the Lord!

**Luke 1:30-37** *But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end." "How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. .... For nothing is impossible with God."*



**We welcome**  
Zachary  
Kenneth Doran  
into the world.  
He was born to  
Matt and  
Janelle on July  
24, 2011.

**New Position**—Congratulations to Billie Jo Coudriet in her new position as business manager at the Ridgway Record! God bless you in your work!

**Servant Evangelism**—St. Agnes is involved in servant evangelism through which we serve members of the community in some way and open the door to sharing about God, or providing information or encouraging them to attend church if they do not already do so. In November, we made and distributed Thanksgiving cards...many thanks to all who participated! In December, we are offering free gift-wrapping at the Fox Township Senior Center from 1-5 on Saturday, December 17. If you can help, we'd appreciate your assistance; we don't



know if we'll have 70 people or 7, but we just have to try it and see. Please call Rev. Mary at 335-7789 or email mnorton7@windstream.net to let her know if you can make it. And/or, you can donate wrapping paper or stick-on ribbons by dropping them off at the church.

**KIVA** is a program through which individuals and organizations make micro loans to small businesses or projects in many parts of the world. St. Agnes is supporting a farmer in Kenya, a food market in Benin, a pig farmer in the Philippines, and a home renovation in Mongolia. Of the four loans, three have begun to pay them back. Though we would gladly have donated the money, having the loans paid back means that we can reinvest that money into new KIVA projects.



**Lettered**—  
Congratulations to Deric Luvaas for lettering in soccer this year! Way to go!

**Alms Fund**—St. Agnes and Grace Churches support a clergy alms fund through which Rev. Mary distributes money to people in need. Throughout the year, we have helped, among others, people who needed food for their families, gasoline to get to work, assistance with utility bills, help with a first rent/security deposit check, help with a phone bills, assistance with temporary shelter, help with transportation to visit spouse in prison and even a little help for a homeless animal family.

### Birthdays

#### December

- 5 J.J. Fedder
- 9 Alex Coudriet
- 10 Missy Badeau

#### January

- 1 Alisha Doran
- 4 Sis Klaiber
- 8 Christian Keller
- 9 Justin Huey
- 12 Jim Girty
- 16 Billie Jo Coudriet
- 24 Jo Anne Keller
- 25 John Doran

**Are you caught up with your annual pledge or annual giving?**

## Worship and Program Schedule

**Thursday, December 1 – 6:15 p.m.**  
**Faith Today, held at the church**

**Sunday, December 4 – 9:00 a.m. 2 Advent**  
 Acolyte: Alex Coudriet  
 Reader: Jim Dickinson  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman  
 Coffee Hour: Jody and Doug Tyger  
 Flowers in honor of Nathan & Zachary Eckert's Birthdays

Vestry 10:30 a.m.

**Friday, December 9: 3 – 8 p.m.**  
 Rev. Mary's Holiday Open House

**Saturday, December 10 – 5:30 p.m. 3 Advent**  
 Acolyte: Ciera Keller  
 Reader: Tim Pavlikowski  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Glenn Lucas  
 Coffee Hour: Sue Wendel

**Saturday, December 17— 1:00—5:00 p.m.**  
 Servant-Evangelism Gift Wrapping Day  
 Kersey Senior Center

**Sunday, December 18 – 9:00 a.m. 4 Advent**  
 Acolyte: Marlee Klaiber  
 Reader: Jensine Coudriet  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman  
 Coffee Hour: Ester and Marcus Young

**Saturday, December 24 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**Christmas Eve**  
 Acolyte: Christian Keller  
 Torch Bearers: Ciera Keller, Marlee Klaiber  
 Gospel Bearer: Alex Coudriet  
 Reader: Bill Conrad  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman

**Sunday, January 1 - 9:30 a.m.**  
**Holy Name of Our Lord Jesus Christ**  
 Acolyte: Alex Coudriet  
 Reader: Sue Huey  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman  
 Coffee Hour: Veronica and Bill Conrad  
 Flowers in Honor of Alisha Doran's Birthday

**Thursday, January 5—6:15 p.m.**  
**Faith Today, held at the church**

**Saturday, January 7—5:30 p.m.**  
**Celebration of the Epiphany**  
 Acolyte: Ciera Keller  
 Reader: Christian Keller  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman  
 Coffee Hour: Billie Jo Coudriet  
 Flowers in Honor of Christian Keller's Birthday

St. Agnes Annual Party follows the service!

**Sunday, January 15—10:30 a.m.**  
**Second Sunday After Epiphany**  
**Service with the Lutherans**  
 Flowers in Honor of Justin Huey's Birthday

**Thursday, January 19 – 6:15 p.m.**  
**Faith Today, held at the church**

**Saturday, January 21 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**Third Sunday After Epiphany**  
 Acolyte: Marlee Klaiber  
 Reader: Ciera Keller  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman  
 Coffee Hour: Mallory and Jim Dickinson  
 Flowers in Honor of Jo Anne Keller's Birthday

**Sunday, January 29—9:00 a.m.**  
**Fourth Sunday After Epiphany**  
 Acolyte: Christian Keller  
 Reader: Marlee Klaiber  
 Eucharistic Minister: Sue Wendel  
 Music Minister: Nancy Couchman  
 Coffee Hour: Grace and Jim Doran  
 Flowers in Memory of Frank Powell and Lida Elizabeth Young

**Annual Meeting and Potluck Dinner—5:30 p.m.**

\*\* Girl Scouts meet every Tuesday and Friday evening  
 \*\*Scrap bookers meet every other Thursday evening  
 \*\*CAPSEA meets twice a year in the fall and the spring  
 \*\* If you or your child cannot attend church on a scheduled ministry day, *please* either find a replacement or inform Sue Wendel or Rev. Mary as early as possible.

***For your prayerful consideration—***

- For all who are suffering from illness.
- For the Diocesan Health Team as it continues to work toward helping us become a healthier diocese.
- For Alison and Matt Autrey, Alisha and Ryan Heindl, Janelle and Matt Doran and Mallory Bush and Jim Dickinson in their marriages.
- For Ben Huey, David Doran and Heidi Pavlikowski when they are away at school. For Nick Keller soon to be away.
- For Garrett Fedder in his service in the navy.
- For Tim Pavlikowski on his graduation.
- For our Relay for Life team and organizers as they hold mini fundraisers throughout the year and tirelessly support Relay in its quest to find cures for cancer through the American Cancer Society.
- For those who do not yet know Jesus Christ.

**Facebook**—If you are a facebook user, please visit our page: St. Agnes Episcopal Church—St. Marys. If you “like” us, you’ll see our news, some events and information on the home page.

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**Lord, we pray your blessing upon:**