



THE JOURNEY

LUTHER CENTER FOR LEARNING

Elim Lutheran Church, 5911 E Hillcrest Dr., Port Orchard ♦ Mailing: P.O. Box 1018, Olalla, WA 98359 ♦ (360) 895-1782 ♦ December 2005
♦ www.LutherCenterForLearning.org ♦

Christmas 2005

“*Catch the Christmas Spirit*” will be performed by Luther Center students on Thursday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Elim Lutheran Church sanctuary. The Christmas story is told through a combination of delightful songs and drama, and includes a musical performance by our student hand bell choir. Complimentary refreshments will be served following the program. Everyone is welcome.

Food drive—Luther Center for Learning students and friends are collecting nonperishable food and personal items for Life Care Community Services food bank. The food drive will last until December 16 (last day of school before Christmas break.) You may drop off your donations at Elim Lutheran Church until Friday, December 16. The following are the most needed items:

| | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------------|
| canned fruit | canned chili | baked beans |
| tomato sauce | pasta sauce | canned tuna |
| peanut butter | jelly | pasta |
| boxed rice | cereal | shampoo |
| toothpaste | boxed macaroni and cheese | |

Hand ‘n Hand Breakfast



“Hand in hand” we build Luther Center. That was the message delivered at our annual Building Learners breakfast held November 12. **Pastor George Larson** reminded us to “think of the lifetime it takes to train and

discipline our hands. Hands are servants that reflect a self-serving or a self-giving heart. The children’s hands that come daily to Luther Center’s classrooms will some day be hands that will accomplish great good because they have been

trained, educated, valued, and loved into a joy of service and good deeds.”

Other program highlights included Luther Center students’ first performance on hand bells playing “Jesus Loves Me.” Then they all sang “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands.” Parents, **April Whittaker, Bridget Gronberg, and Betsy Pryor** each spoke about how important Luther Center for Learning is to their families.

In the Classroom

Oh, my goodness! It’s a *rafter* of turkeys! Imagine a class of kindergarten kids demonstrating how a turkey gobbles. How fun! How cute!

Luther Center for Learning is an active learning place. Students in **Mrs. Lyman’s** class are studying music theory while having fun ringing bells. “The students are very attentive and learn so quickly,” says bell choir director, **Barb Hauelsen**. “They are becoming very good musicians.”

Now that the older students have mastered all the states and their capitals, they’ve moved on to the world map and will be learning about the oceans, continents and countries. Meanwhile **Ms.**

Meadows’ kindergarten students learn about Tyrannosaurus Rex and tintinnabulation for the letter T and uvula and ungulates for the letter U. And yes, more common words like tooth and umbrella are included as well.



Field trips continue to be an important part of the Luther Center experience. Recent trips include Ted Brown Music Store, where students learned

about various kinds of instruments and were able to try out many of them. Peninsula Gardens pumpkin patch was great fun for kindergarten students, and the older students really enjoyed Hunter Farms pumpkin patch. Mrs. Lyman's students toured the *Bremerton Sun* which reinforced what they have been learning about the writing process. All students will be attending Peninsula Dance Theatre's *Nutcracker Matinee* thanks to a grant from the Kobe Foundation.

Citizenship, acceptance, awareness—these are some of the values nurtured in Luther Center students as parent, **Sylvia Bitz**, shares her Native American heritage and Al Ausby, explains celebrating Kwanzaa.

Love and Logic at Luther Center

Imagine teaching and parenting without getting angry or raising your voice. Imagine having energy at the end of a day working with children. *Love and Logic* techniques for parenting and teaching help adults place the responsibility of problem solving where it belongs—with the owner of the problem—while at the same time being attentive and caring. **Carol Foley**, Vice President of Luther Center's Board of Directors, did an outstanding job training Luther Center parents and teachers and Little Doves staff in Jim Fay's techniques for building children into successful, competent adults. Watch for a repeat of this training in 2006!

Free Lunch

Regularly scheduled Building Learner lunches provide an opportunity to visit Luther Center during the school day and observe the outstanding educational programs offered to our students. Check our website www.LutherCenterForLearning.org for dates and times. Call and let us know if you would like to come. (360) 895-1782

Spring Auction Coming in April

Preparations are underway for Luther Center's second annual spring Dinner and Auction. Building on last year's incredibly successful event, this year promises to be even more fun. Auction items are currently being accepted. If you'd like to offer an auction item, please consider an attractive theme basket (cheeses, layette, games, coffee, pastas, wines, etc.) or skillfully made arts and crafts or a

weekend getaway or fishing/crabbing trip. You might also consider donating theater, sporting, or event tickets or a gift certificate for a dinner or a massage. In any case, you won't want to miss this fun-filled evening and help us celebrate and promote the wonderful things happening at Luther Center.

Christmas Shopping for Luther Center

1. **Shopping online**—Join Box Tops Booster Club at www.boxtops4education.com. Click on Sign Up for the Box Tops Booster Club. When you shop online at over 200 participating merchants such as K-B Toys, eToys, JCPenney, Lands' End, 1-800-flowers.com, a portion of your purchase goes to our school. Use the Box Tops Marketplace for all your online shopping needs!
2. Purchase **gift cards** from Luther Center for Learning. Select from a list of over 600 retailers across the United States. (View the complete list at www.glscrip.com.) Order forms are available at Luther Center for Learning or Spirit of Life Lutheran Church. Allow approximately 10 days for delivery.
3. **Albertsons** – If you have a Preferred Savings Card you can have a portion of your purchases donated to Luther Center. Go to www.albertsons.com. Click on “In The Community” then click on the Community Partners logo link. Once you log in, click on “Sign me up.” Luther Center's school code is **49001004016**.
4. **Target**—Using your Target Visa or Target Guest Card can earn money for Luther Center. Simply designate Luther Center as your school choice. Our School Code is **7990** and our School ID is **120295**. Contact Target at 1-800-316-6142 or visit www.target.com to enroll.

Teacher Requests

Considering a Christmas gift to Luther Center? Here are a few items our teachers have requested.

- microscope for science
- pot holder frames and loops
- Hanna-Barbera Bible story videos *Joshua* and *David & Goliath*
- big teeth model

If you can provide any of these items, please contact the school at (360) 895-1782. Thank you