

THE CENTRALITE

Central Lutheran Church, 1857 Potter Street, Eugene OR 97403

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00am-Noon; 1:00-5:00pm

Telephone: 541.345.0395 Fax: 541.345.2499

www.welcometocentral.org email: info@welcometocentral.org

DECEMBER 2015



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: Charles Berg, Henry Bretthauer, Gloria Hodges, Eric Olsen, D'reen Stewart-Cook. We extend our sympathy to the family of Vernon Schultz upon his death November 12. May faith and trust in our Risen Lord help sustain them in their sorrow.

ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE ON THE CALL COMMITTEE? The Church Council and the Transition Team are beginning the process of establishing a six-member Call Committee, a group that will work prayerfully to conduct the process of calling a new and permanent pastor for Central Lutheran Church. For more information on what the Call Committee does, and what member responsibilities will be, please pick up a two-page packet of information from the Welcome Table in the narthex, the church office, or by email from Office Manager Kristi Hoiland (kristi@welcometocentral.org). The packet includes a form you can fill out to indicate your interest. It also allows members to nominate others. All "Willingness to Serve" forms are due back to the church office by 5PM December 14, 2015.

MESSAGE FROM INTERIM PASTOR STAN

December is an important time in the life of Central Lutheran Church. By the 14th, anyone interested in being on the 6-member pastoral call committee should have turned in their request for consideration. The papers to fill out for this request will be available after services, and they will be available in the church office.

A team picked from the congregation council and the transition team will select the call committee. The call committee will be selected by January and then they will be trained. The Bishop and the Assistant to the bishop will meet us when we have successfully filled out the Congregational Profile. When these things have happened, the Bishop and the Assistant to the Bishop will give to the call committee the names of possible candidates. Then the call committee can go to work.

In the meantime, what are some of the milestones that can/should that we can tend to? In November we began work on "All Things Money". There is a need for all members and friends of Central to know about their churches' finances. There is a need for members and friends of Central to know how the various pots of money or funds interact. This is an area that needs good work before a new pastor arrives.

Another area that could be considered a milestone is that definition of the mission of Campus Ministry, including Christus House. Central needs a short term and a long-term plan for Campus Ministry, and it should be staffed appropriately. This is work for us to do in the New Year.

Another area that needs our work is in the "Use of the Means of Grace", especially in the area of Holy Communion. So we will study this together and review our practice of doing Holy Communion.

We are in the midst of taking a census of our congregation to determine "Who is in?". Who wants to work together to carry forth the mission of this church? We will work together in the New Year to flesh out more of what that means.

We have much work to do in December and in the New Year. In the meantime, have a blessed Christmas and New Year. Enjoy family and friends and give thanks to the Lord. Grow in love for one another in this congregation. It is our calling and our joy. It is Jesus' commandment to us and it is our work....to love one another. This will also be our work in the New Year. The most important work.



HELPFUL REMINDERS FROM THE CHURCH OFFICE: If you would like announcements in the Sunday bulletin they are due in the church office Thursdays at 10am. Articles for the newsletter are due in the church office noon on Friday, December 18. Please coordinate the use of the church for meetings, etc., with Kristi in the office so all groups may be

accommodated. Thank you



THE CLC BOOK CLUB will meet on **Monday, December 14, 2015, at 7:00 P.M.** in the CLCW Room to discuss *Jaber Crow* by Wendell Berry. Jayber Crow, born in Goforth, Kentucky, orphaned at age ten, began his search as a "pre-ministerial student" at Pigeonville College.

There, freedom met with new burdens and a young man needed more than a mirror to find himself. But the beginning of that finding was a short conversation with "Old Grit," his profound professor of New Testament Greek. "You have been given questions to which you cannot be *given* answers. You will have to live them out—perhaps a little at a time." "And how long is that going to take?" "I don't know. As long as you live, perhaps." "That could be a long time." "I will tell you a further mystery," he said. "It may take longer." ... Eventually, after the flood of 1937, Jayber becomes the barber of the small community of Port William, Kentucky. From behind that barber chair he lives out the questions that drove him from seminary and begins to accept the gifts of community that enclose his answers. The chair gives him a perfect perch from which to listen, to talk, and to see, as life spends itself all around. In this novel full of remarkable characters, he tells his story that becomes the story of his town and its transcendent membership. The discussion will be led by Linda Dye. Come join us!

and looking ahead... **The CLC Book Club** will meet on **Monday, January 11, 2016, at 7:00 P.M.** in the CLCW Room to discuss Anthony Doerr's *All the Light We Cannot See*. The Pulitzer Prize for fiction was awarded to this engaging novel which follows the interlocking stories of a blind French girl and a young German conscript as World War II unfolds. Themes of loss and isolation play out upon characters' fixations with radio waves, locksmithing, gemology, and shell collecting. The discussion will be led by Alisa Naleway. Come join us!

ADDRESS CHANGE:

Chuck Swenson, Sr: 2730 Bailey Ln. Bldg C #6 Eugene OR 97401

Carole B. Johnson: 8655 Waterlynn Circle NW #211, Concord, NC 28027



DINNER GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY The Central Lutheran Dinner Group Christmas party this year will be Friday, December 18, 5:30 PM at the home of Gale and Rosie Hatleberg, 88000 Heather Drive, Springfield. Please bring an appetizer, main dish salad or dessert. Coffee and punch will be provided. You may bring a bottle of wine or other beverage to share. Each individual is invited to bring a white elephant gift for our gift exchange. RSVP Please call Rosie Hatleberg 541-726-5694 no later than December 4th.

GEMS is making its annual Christmas Tour of the beautiful lights around Eugene on Sunday, December 20th. We will meet at church in the back parking lot at 6:30pm. All seniors are invited to join us. After the tour we are invited to Pastor Stan and Sharon's home for Christmas goodies. We will need several extra vans, with drivers, to accommodate everyone. If you are able to help us out it would be appreciated. Call Wendy Rase 541-686-2733 for more information.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 2015

Christmas Eve, December 24. Two services Family Eucharist Service Children's message with Youth choirs, with Brass at Sunset, 4:39 pm

Festival Eucharist Service
with sermon,

Music by Chorale, Handbell Ensemble, Central Brass Ensemble Carols
start at 9:30pm **(Please note the new time)**

No service on Christmas Day



THE CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN send many thanks to all the women who spent many hours creating and sewing the beautiful quilts for Lutheran World Relief and the Eugene Mission. What an amazing sight as we entered the sanctuary on Quilt Sunday to see

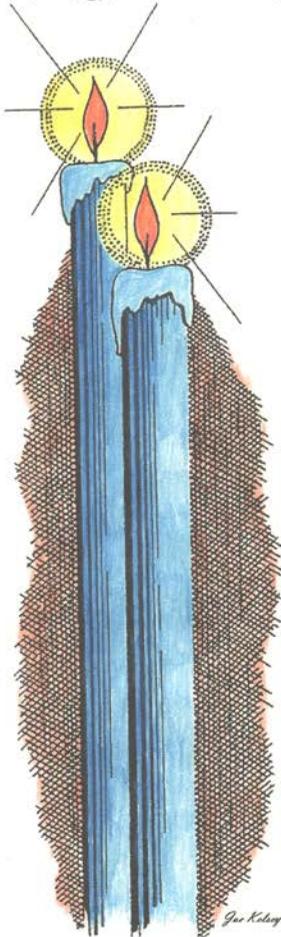
all the pews wrapped in Quilts! We also thank the Congregation for your offerings of \$1,000 which covered all the costs of shipping the quilts with a surplus of more than \$300 which was also sent to LWR.

FISH THANK YOU---Thank you to everyone who has brought food for the FISH Food Cupboard and also for your generous cash donations. If you have not had a chance to make a donation yet it is not too late. The FISH Box will be in the Narthex the rest of the month so feel free to add your donation. If you would like to make a cash donation you can send a check to the church office. Remember that FISH is an ALL VOLUNTEER group of Christians from area churches helping people in a crisis situation. Thank you for supporting this ministry. Steven & Norma Edman

CENTRAL LUTHERAN IS AN EGAN WARMING CENTER! - Some months ago Council voted unanimously to establish Central as an Egan Warming Center (EWC) for the 2015 - 16 winter season (Nov. 15 - March 31). When night-time temperatures are predicted to fall below 29 degrees F, our fellowship hall and kitchen may be activated to shelter and feed 40-50 homeless adults. All bedding and food will be provided by EWC volunteers, who will also clean up the next morning. EWC has several hundred active volunteers, and over a dozen members of Central have already volunteered and taken the training to become volunteers. Late afternoon or evening church activities that have been scheduled to use the fellowship hall will NOT be impacted by this. We have informed EWC of dates that Central Lutheran is NOT available to host the warming center on those nights (for example, we have noted that Central is not available as a shelter on Tuesdays due to the Together Tuesday evening meals). The only portions of the church that will be used by EWC are the fellowship hall, where the guests will sleep on bedding provided by EWC; the kitchen, used by the volunteers to prepare an evening meal and morning breakfast; the terrace room, where guest belongings will be stored; and the tiled area outside the bathrooms near the fellowship hall, where caged pets and their owners will sleep. All other areas of the church will be locked or blocked off. During the 11/15 - 3/31 EWC season, a shipping container holding bedding, blankets, and first aid supplies will be placed in the rear (east) parking lot near the Luther House driveway. The shipping container placement will not impact parking or traffic flow in the rear lot. If anyone has questions about how the Egan Warming Center at Central will function please speak with me directly or email me at bernard.bopp@gmail.com

- Bernie Bopp, Growth and Outreach Team

A PROCESSION OF
Lessons and Carols
FOR ADVENT



FEATURING

THE CENTRAL CHORALE
THE ALLELUIA & CHILDREN'S CHOIRS
THE CENTRAL HANDBELL ENSEMBLE
THE CENTRAL BRASS ENSEMBLE

WITH
MARTHA MAXWELL GRIFFITH, HARP
PILAR BRADSHAW, VIOLIN
DAVID STRAKA, CELLO

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
NOVEMBER 29
AT 4:30 P.M.

VISITORS WELCOME
COMPLIMENTARY SOUP SUPPER FOLLOWING

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.welcometocentral.org
18th Avenue & Potter Street
Eugene, Oregon

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
<p>Sunday Worship can be heard at 11:00a.m. on radio station KORE 1050 on your AM dial</p>		<p>1 7am Meditation Group 2pm Endowment Committee 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Children's/Alleluia Choirs 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation/Middle School Youth Group</p>
<p>6 8:30 First Service-- Holy Communion 9:45 Advent Fair 11:00 Second Service Holy Communion 5:30 Middle School & High School potluck</p>	<p>7 8:30am Stewardship 3:30pm Worship, Music & Arts</p>	<p>8 7:00am Meditation Group 12:15 Finance Committee 1:00 Hannah/Deborah Circle 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Children's/Alleluia Choirs 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation/Middle School Youth Group</p>
<p>13 Cantata 140 in memory of Arlene Dayton 8:30 First Service-- Holy Communion 9:45 Education Opportunities 11:00 Second Service Holy Communion 5:30 Stephen Ministry Christmas Party</p>	<p>14 6pm Christian Education Team 7pm Book Club</p>	<p>15 7am Meditation Group 5:30 Dinner 6:00 Children's/Alleluia Choirs 6:30 Classes 7:00 Confirmation/Middle School Youth Group</p>
<p>20 Musical Shobi 8:30 First Service-- Holy Communion 9:45 Education Opportunities 11:00 Second Service Holy Communion High School Christmas Party</p>	<p>21 1pm Prayer Shawl Knitters</p>	<p>22 7am Meditation Group 7:00pm High School Christmas Caroling</p>

27 8:30 First Service-- Holy Communion 9:45 Blood Pressure Screening-cry room 11:00 Second Service—Holy Communion	28	29
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DECEMBER 2015

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 6:30am Women's Bible Study 7:00 Men's Bible Study 10:30 Bible Study 6:00 Church Council 7:00 Chorale	3 9:00am Quilting 3pm Endowment Committee 5:15 Handbell Ensemble 10pm Theology on Tap	4	5
9 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible Study 11:00 Ruth Circle 10:30 Bible Study 4:00 Senior Ministry Team 7:00 Chorale	10 5:15 Handbell Ensemble 6pm Wedding rehearsal 6:30pm Stephen Ministry	11	12 2pm Kaitlin Riddle & Isaiah Bai wedding
16 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible study 10:30 Bible Study 6:00pm Church Council 7:00 Chorale	17 9:00am Quilting 5:15 Handbell Ensemble	18 Noon Centralite articles due 5:30 Dinner Group Christmas Party @Hatleberg's	19
23 6:30 Women's Bible Study 7:00am Men's Bible study 7:00pm Chorale	24 Office Closed 4:30pm Vespers-Holy Communion 9:30pm Lessons & Carols Holy Communion	25 Office Closed No Christmas Day worship Merry Christmas	26
30	31		

THE CENTRAL CHORALE
PRESENTS



JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH'S
WACHET AUF
(SLEEPERS AWAKE – CANTATA 140)

ALBINONI'S
ADAGIO FOR ORGAN AND STRINGS

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2015

8:30 & 11 A.M. SERVICES



WITH CENTRAL CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
DR. A. ELRAY STEWART-COOK, CONDUCTOR
presented "in memoriam" Arlene Dayton – long time soloist and member of the Choral



CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.welcometocentral.org
18TH AVENUE & POTTER STREET
EUGENE, OREGON

SHOBI SHARES A MIRACLE

A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

BY

JORDAN AND ZABEL

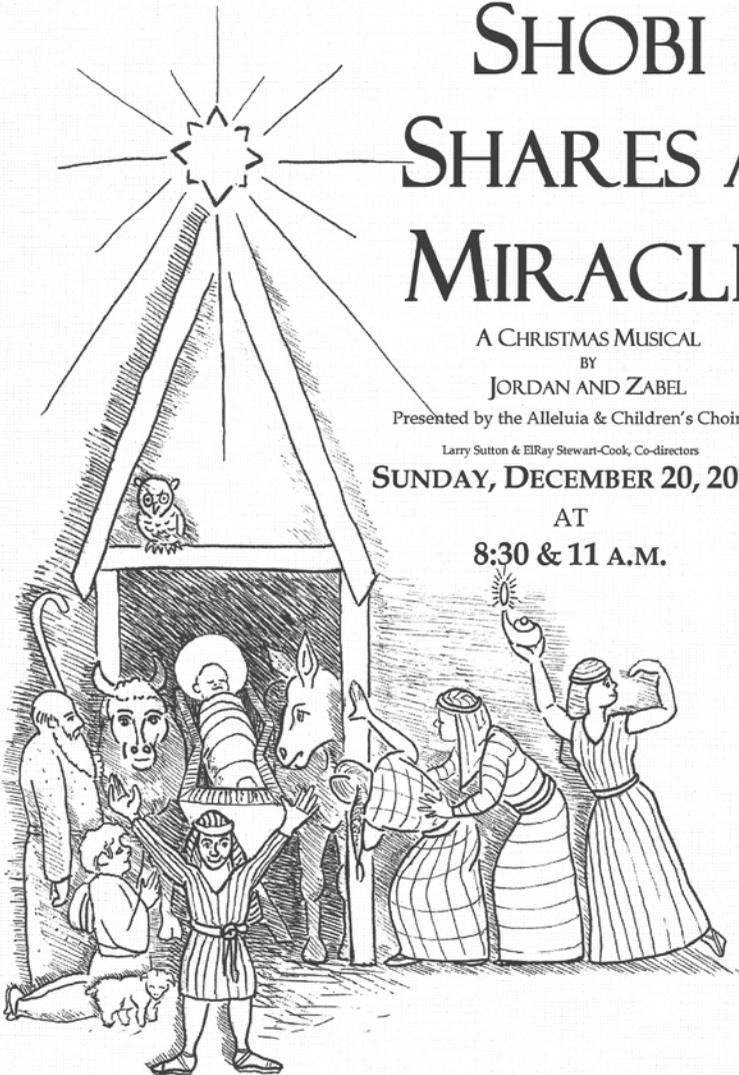
Presented by the Alleluia & Children's Choirs

Larry Sutton & ElRay Stewart-Cook, Co-directors

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2015

AT

8:30 & 11 A.M.



CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

welcometocentral.org
18th Avenue & Potter Street
Eugene, Oregon

LIVING STEWARDSHIP: BEING THE HANDS AND FEET OF JESUS

We are in our Annual Financial Stewardship Campaign. On December 6, we will have the opportunity to place our commitment card on the altar affirming our financial commitment to God's work. Scripture has a great deal to say about money and material possessions. About half of the parables of Jesus concern money. There are about 700 verses on love, 500 verses on prayer, less than 500 verses on faith, but over 2,000 verses on the subject of money. Jesus spoke more about issues involving money than about heaven and hell combined. Why? A church body's or individual believer's attitude toward the use of money is a revealing barometer of spiritual health and maturity. In **Matthew 6:19-21**, Jesus speaks the truth very plainly: "*Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven... For where your treasure is, there will be your heart also.*" A servant cannot serve two masters - God and materialism. We will hate the one and love the other (Matthew 6:24). Consequently, as a church - and as individuals - we must seek to use the financial resources, God provides to invest in heavenly and eternal purposes. Ministries spiritually spin their wheels because of poor stewardship of money that handicaps their potential. There are some principles to keep in mind when thinking about stewardship.

1. Stewards understand, God owns it all.

The earth is the Lords and everything in it. Psalm 24:1

It is imperative that we maintain a proper view of ownership. All "our" wealth ultimately belongs to God. We are but managers or stewards, not owners, charged with the stewardship of resources God has entrusted to us. We joyfully embrace the reality that "God owns it all." We define stewardship as the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one's care - including time, spiritual gifts, talents and money. Stated another way, stewardship is faithfully using God's resources to do God's work. We must stop thinking like an owner; start thinking like a manager.

2. Stewardship required a commitment of ourselves to the Lord. Our stewardship of the talents, spiritual gifts, time and, in particular the material possessions or treasures that God entrusts to us is a critical measurement of our personal and corporate commitment to the Lord. In 2 Corinthians 8:2-4, the Apostle Paul says of the Macedonian churches, "Now we make known to you, brothers and sisters, the

grace of God given to the churches in Macedonia, that during a severe ordeal of suffering, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in the wealth of their generosity. For I testify that they gave according to their means and beyond their means. They did so voluntarily, begging us with great earnestness for the blessing and fellowship of helping the saints." Why were the Macedonian Christians joyfully willing to give so liberally and abundantly to meet the needs of other believers even when they themselves were suffering? In 8:5, Paul makes an important statement that reveals why these believers were such excellent stewards of the financial resources God had entrusted to them, "...but they [the Macedonians] first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God." The Macedonian church was fully committed to the Lord - not in words only but also in their deeds. When our hearts are truly "given to the Lord" we, as stewards of God's resources will voluntarily, joyously, liberally, and earnestly seek to meet the needs of others. If we as a church body and as individuals are not excited about giving generously to others, it may well indicate an overall "coldness" in our relationship and commitment to the Lord. The reality is that we will not be faithful, obedient, and eager stewards of God's resources unless our heart, soul, and mind are fully devoted to the Lord Jesus Christ

3. Stewardship required faithfulness and integrity. *It is required for stewards to be found faithful.* 1 Corinthians 4:2

We desire to emulate the faithful steward by managing well the spiritual riches and material resources God has placed in our care for the benefit of others. Jesus calls the steward faithful and wise that is found to be carefully managing the God's estate upon the His return. Faithful fulfillment of stewardship duties results in blessings and increased responsibilities from Him. God will hold us accountable for how we used the resources He provides. As believers, we must continually strive to be found faithful and wise stewards in using the spiritual gifts, talents, time and money God provides.

4. Give Something Everyone should pledge to give some money. Clearly God expects His people to participate in His work by giving financially in a faithful and obedient manner. Why? So that there are resources available for God's work to be accomplished. Along with the expectation to give, God offers encouragement that as we obediently give He will abundantly take care of us in ways we cannot even imagine.

As you prepare to make your financial commitment to the Lord's work at Central Lutheran Church, please pray about your faith, our ministries and what God does for you. Make a generous commitment to moving forward in being the hands and feet of Jesus.



Kitchen towels are often dirty icky things! One study used video surveillance and researchers watched over a hundred people fixing meals. They found that **EVEN AFTER GETTING FOOD SAFETY INSTRUCTION**, people tended to touch the kitchen towel after touching raw meats. Then, after they washed their hands, they used the same dirty towel to dry, thus causing cross-contamination. This basically means that they first dirtied the towel and then used the dirty towel to get their just-cleaned hands all dirty again.) Other surfaces, such as the counter, faucets, etc. also had cross-contamination problems but not as much as the towels. (Clean the counters, etc. carefully anyway since they are still dirty. Sponges and cutting boards were not part of the study, but clean them well too! Some folks suggest using the dishwasher to clean sponges. Other sources suggest cooking a damp sponge in the microwave for 3 minutes.) The best advice is to wash the kitchen towels after preparing a meal that involves raw meats. (You can use paper towels, but that is more expensive and harder on the world.) Source: Univ. of California Berkeley Wellness Letter, Sept. 2015, Clarice Bates, RN

HEALTH NEEDS SURVEY RESULTS

Thanks to all who recently completed the Health Ministry Team's needs assessment survey. We received 89 completed surveys. Here are some results that may be of interest.

The survey was completed by 30 males and 59 females ranging in age from 20 to 90. Eighty-seven of the respondents reported that they have health insurance. In three cases only one adult in a two adult household had insurance. Six people reported they were caregivers for someone who lives with them. Two individuals reported that they give care at least twice a week for someone who does not live with them. While 87 out of the 89 completing the survey reported that they are able to drive, 18 of those reported that they avoid driving at night. Two people reported having children with physical disabilities in the home and two have children with learning disabilities living with them.

In the Health Status section the following represent numbers of respondents reporting current issues with:

36 High blood pressure 6 Diabetes 1 Memory Loss
6 Physical disabilities 3 Mental illness 9 Heart disease
3 Cancer 5 Depression 0 Hepatitis
18 Arthritis 8 Anxiety 1 HIV/Aids
11 Lung/Respiratory disease 26 Overweight 7 Sleep Apnea
11 Chronic Pain 12 Other chronic condition (please specify)

The most mentioned topics for possible health education were (in order of number of responses): Disaster preparedness, Living will/advance directives, Healthy cooking, CPR, Stress reduction, Exercise classes, Weight loss, Alzheimer's disease, Hospice and end of life issues, and Bereavement.

The Health Ministry team thanks you for your input and we are planning according to your expressed interests. Look for presentations, classes, articles and bulletin boards to address some of these concerns in the coming months. Suggestions are always welcome. If you did not have an opportunity to complete the survey or have additional input contact Sally Diehm [541-852-0007](tel:541-852-0007) or any of the Health Ministry Team.

EARTHKEEPERS OFFERS THESE GIFT IDEAS FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON:

On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me 1 warm sweater.

On the second day of Christmas my true love gave to me 2 low-flow shower heads.

On the third day my true love lowered the thermostat 3 degrees and saved us 5% on our heating bill.

On the fourth day my true love gave to me 4 reusable shopping bags.

On the fifth day my true love gave to me my own reusable metal water bottle.

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love gave to me 6 LED light bulbs.

On the seventh day of Christmas my true love gave me a 7-foot long extra warm blanket.

On the eighth day of Christmas my true love inflated 8 tires on our two cars.

On the ninth day of Christmas my true love gave to me a 9-day bus pass.

On the tenth day of Christmas my true love planted a 10-foot tree to shade our house in the summer.

On the eleventh day of Christmas my true love stopped 11 junk mailings.

On the twelfth day of Christmas my true love and I walked together to church.

Although this is in fun, we encourage you to consider one or two of these ideas as alternative gifts.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL RECYCLES STYROFOAM (expanded polystyrene) as a service to the community and the environment. To be accepted, Styrofoam (labeled #6) in block form or peanuts must be clean and dry. Please package block and peanuts separately. NO food containers are accepted. People with small amounts can drop them off at any St. Vincent de Paul location with drive through bays for FREE. Amount must be smaller than a shopping cart. Because holiday gifts often are packed in Styrofoam, Central will be accepting blocks or peanuts until January 10, 2016. **Earthkeepers** will deliver your Styrofoam to St. Vincent de Paul for you.