



POPLAR CREEK
CHURCH

◆ 300 Schick Rd. ◆ Bartlett, IL 60103 ◆

Journeying with others into a viable
and thriving relationship with Jesus Christ

11/27/2011



The
Obedience
of
Christmas

630.483.1000 • www.poplarcreek.com

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CONTACT INFO:

Shepherds

shepherds@poplarcreek.com

Church Office

Kathleen Malick

office@poplarcreek.com

9-2pm M-F

Program & Email Newsletter Deadline

Want to get something
in either of the two
communication outlets?

Email your submissions
to Kathleen in the church
office (office@poplarcreek.
com) by **Tuesday @ 10am.**

READ ME FIRST

Children's Worship – Children's worship takes place on the lower level at the same time as our worship gatherings and is for children ages 3 years through grade 6. We are committed to teaching our children about the Good News of Jesus Christ in a safe, environment offering age-appropriate, biblically-based curriculum.

Nursery – For our youngest attenders we have a fully staffed nursery during our worship gatherings located in the back of the auditorium. For children from birth to age 3.

Communication – Each week, Poplar Creek Church sends out an e-mail newsletter to our congregation with last minute reminders, changes and updates to events for the upcoming weeks. You too can be added if you just write your email address on the Attendance Pad, send Kathleen an email office@poplarcreek.com or call her at 630.483.1000. You will be added to the list and receive the most up-to-date information we have. We also welcome feedback from you. Comment/Suggestion Cards can be found in the Attendance Pads along with the Prayer Request Cards.

Communion – Communion is offered weekly as part of our worship gatherings.

Offerings – We do not pass a plate during our worship gatherings at Poplar Creek. Instead, we have our “**Joy Box**” at the back of the auditorium where we leave our gifts.

Prayer – In need of prayer? We have prayer warriors and shepherds available to pray with and for you at the end of each service in front by the stage. You are also welcome to fill out a request card and place it in the Joy Box at the back of the church. All requests will be sent to the church prayer chain alerting them of the need.

If you would like to be part of the prayer chain and will commit to praying faithfully for any request submitted, please contact the office at 630.483.1000 and we will be happy to assist you.

Our prayer team meets every Friday in the Sanctuary at 7pm to pray, and everyone is welcome to join us.

We hope that your time with us is Christ-focused and inspirational - and we invite you to share with us again.

GREETINGS!

This is the first Sunday of Advent. The retail stores began showing their Christmas merchandise in September. We have just lived through “Black Friday,” the day the stores expect to sell enough items to move their annual sales to the positive side of the ledger. But is your heart ready for Christmas?

As we approach Christmas again we read the familiar stories – so familiar that much of it flows like rote memory with little practical meaning. This week we look at those stories again from the point of view of the obedience of the people involved.

What does their example teach us for today?

How can we be more obedient and useful in the service of Jesus?

Please listen with an open mind as we again walk beside Mary and Joseph several months before the actual birth of Jesus.

– Pastor Darrel



Our Weekly E-mail Newsletter:

Do you know that Poplar Creek has a weekly E-mail Newsletter? It is sent out every Friday and it is a condensed version of the Program. It contains upcoming events, announcements and is also occasionally used to send out emergency notifications. You don't have to wait until Sunday to hear about what is going on!

Get in on the club and get it earlier! Just drop Kathleen in the church office an E-mail or phone call and she will sign you up! 630.483.1000 or office@poplarcreek.com.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

3 Yrs. – Kindergarten

Children ages 3 through kindergarten will learn about God's word through songs, Bible stories, art projects and age-appropriate games and activities. Available during Sunday worship services.

1st – 6th Grade

Students in 1st-6th grades enjoy an age appropriate worship experience including fun songs, prayer, interactive Bible stories, games, art projects and more. Available during Sunday worship services.

Looking for a summary of this weekend's lesson in Children's Church?

There is a new email newsletter available for families at Poplar Creek sharing summaries, upcoming events and more. Look for the email beginning the week of November 28th. If for some reason you don't receive an email, or would prefer not to continue receiving them, please contact Kim Cody kim@poplarcreek.com.

Sunday, December 18th the Children's Ministry of Poplar Creek will be presenting:

The Evening News Hour

The channel three evening news hour reports on the birth of the new Savior. With several field reporters interviewing all the characters to set up the creche scene and humorous commercial breaks throughout. This full-length production will be a fun and meaningful way to share the Christmas story with family and friends.

HOLIDAY HELP for the HOMELESS!

This year we will be collecting Non-Perishable Food Items AND Grocery Store Gift Cards for the DuPage County PADS Holiday Drive.

Please consider picking up a few extra items as you shop this holiday season and leave your donations in the bins marked PADS HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE in the foyer by DECEMBER 7. (Gift cards can be placed in the JOY BOX)

Gift cards can be purchased at stores like Aldi or Jewel, etc and will help the PADS clients purchase items like Milk, Eggs and Meat.

All Food Items will be delivered to PADS By December 8. If you have questions or would like to participate in the processing and delivery of the items, Please contact Jon Ransdell at outreach@poplarcreek.com.

Heart to Heart Christmas Breakfast

December 10th, 10:00am

Ladies - Come join us for breakfast at Brunch Cafe on Saturday, December 10th at 10:00am! We'll eat some delicious food and share some time together during this joyous Christmas season. To add to the fun, wear an ugly Christmas sweater! Brunch Cafe is located at 1500 W. Lake Street in Roselle (near the intersection of Lake Street and Gary Avenue).

Please RSVP by December 5th to Amy Courter at amylc@yahoo.com or 312.339.4955. Feel free to contact Amy with questions as well.

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Visit us at www.poplarcreek.com



STUDENT MINISTRIES

—Ian Simkins
630.379.9222 • ian@poplarcreek.com

Ignition - Wednesday 7-9:30PM

Ignition starts with game time and is followed by a teaching time for the entire group before they break into their small group discussion time. This allows us to engage the students on matters specific to their age group and context on a weekly basis. We conclude our evening with fellowship and snacks. Ignition is for any student 7-12th grade.

The Matchbox will not be meeting on December 21st or the 28th.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!!

You don't want to miss out on your favorite Matchbox activities for the rest of the year- so mark your calendars. Save these dates. They may change but we will make sure you know about the changes.

December -

- 7 Student Led
- 10 Christmas Party (4-9pm)
- 14 TBA
- 18 Christmas Production
- 21 No Matchbox
- 22-24 Living Nativity (7-9pm, basement/barn)
- 24 Christmas Eve Services (5, 6pm)
- 28 No Matchbox



FACEBOOK If you're not a part of our Facebook group yet, I'd highly recommend that you do so!

facebook.com/matchboxministries

Visit us at www.poplarcreek.com

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The Obedience of Christmas

The Obedience of Mary
(Luke 1:26-38)

The Obedience of Joseph

(Matthew 1:18-25)

The Difficulties of Obedience
(Luke 10:10-15; Luke 13:34-35)

The Process of Obedience

Discernment

Deliberation

Decision

Jesus, the Example of Obedience
(Hebrews 5:8; John 15:9-12)

UP- & COMING-EVENTS

The following shows the ministries, events and Community Groups (👤). This (🔥) designates a Matchbox event.

Sunday, November 27

- 9:00am Worship Gathering
- 11:00am Worship Gathering
- 4:00pm Children's Ministry: Puppets - Lower Level
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Zirkel/Laker

Monday, November 28

- 10:00am 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cozza
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cullen
- 7:00pm Make Believers - Sanctuary

Tuesday, November 29

- 6:30pm Children's Ministry - Lower Level
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Anders
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cornelius
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Lum
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Ripples
- 7:30pm Silent Messengers - Sanctuary
- 7:30pm Children's Ministry: UpWords - Lower Level

Wednesday, November 30

- 9:30am 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Lawrence/Cullen
- 7:00pm 🔥 Matchbox: Ignition - Lower Level
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Reynolds
- 7:15pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Padron
- 8:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Lazarra

Thursday, December 1

- 7:00pm Praise Team - Sanctuary
- 7:30pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Velen

Friday, December 2

- 6:00pm Celebrate Recovery - Lower Level
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: 20-30
Something: Drew
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Kraft
- 7:00pm Friday Prayer Meeting - Sanctuary

Saturday, December 3

- 10:00am Birthday Party for Jesus - Lower Level
- 10:00am 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Gates

Sunday, December 4

- 9:00am Worship Gathering
- 11:00am Worship Gathering
- 4:00pm Children's Ministry: Puppets - Lower Level
- 6:30pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Cody/Buss
- 7:00pm 👤 COMMUNITY GROUP: Zirkel/Laker

It's That Time of Year...

Yes, before you know it, the Christmas season will be upon us. For Poplar Creek Church, that includes the Living Nativity—an outreach that provides people the opportunity to feel a part of the Christmas story and the manger scene—on December 22, 23, and 24. However, Living Nativity doesn't happen without the efforts of many volunteers. Please plan now to be a part of this amazing event by choosing to serve in one of the following areas:

...**Setting up** (December 21) and taking down (December 27) the nativities and the Chrismon tree (1:00 p.m. both days): We will be transforming the church basement into a reminder of the true reason for the season, so the more, the merrier! Contact Mindy Hoover or Sandy Laker for additional information.

...**Fixing up** the barn and caring for the animals: If you love animals, please help out with their care! Contact Steve Laker, Kurt Burkhardt, or Jim Lackowski for information.

...**Setting up** and serving refreshments: We provide food and beverages to our many visitors. This effort is headed by Deb Lawrence, so contact her if you want to help out.

...**Additional opportunities:** During this three-day event, we need costumers, servers (for refreshments), and people to fill the roles of the characters in the Nativity scene. Look for specific sign-up sheets as we get closer to the actual dates.

The Living Nativity provides an amazing reminder for our community of the true celebration of the season—the birth of our Lord and Savior! Please consider being a part of the joy this event brings!

Visit us at www.poplarcreek.com

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POPLAR CREEK CHURCH

Vital Signs

Our offerings are received through the gifts box at the entrance to the worship auditorium. We do not collect offerings in the service, and if you are a guest today, please understand we do not consider it your responsibility to support this ministry unless you wish to do so.

Vital Signs for the week of November 20TH

- Total Attendance: 252
- Worship Attendance: 199
- Children: 42
- Sprouts: 11

Needed Weekly: \$ 8,541.00

Total Received this Week

\$6,392.75

Are You In Need of Prayer? Would you like to pray with someone?

Prayer intercessors, along with our Shepherds, will be available to pray with you immediately following each service. Intercessors will be standing in front of the stage area at the end of each service. All prayer requests are kept confidential.

"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." James 5:16



The Best Place to be On a Wed Night! Is Celebrate Recovery for You?

Are you struggling with an issue in your life? Do you have a hurt that is consuming you? Are you struggling with forgiving another person in your life, yourself, even God? Is anxiety or depression making life difficult?

If you have answered yes to any of these questions, then Celebrate Recovery is for you!

December 2nd

Yes

6PM-7PM	Dinner
7PM-8PM	Large group meeting
8PM-9PM	Small Group meetings

Childcare Available

NOW MEETING EVERY FRIDAY

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