## IOWA RELIGIOUS MEDIA SERVICES TO HOST THE PEACE LIGHT

For over a thousand years lamps have been continuously lit in the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem. The flame from the actual light in Bethlehem can shine in your sanctuary this year, too. Beginning in 1989, Boy Scouts from Austria initiated distribution of the Christmas "Peace Light" from the Grotto of the Nativity in the small town of Bethlehem, where Jesus was born. Lighting their lamps from that flame, the Scouts then distribute it across Europe and North America.



As part of the IRMS' 25<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration this year, the Mid-Iowa Council of the Boy Scouts of America has invited Iowa Religious Media Services to be a 2011 Peace Light host site. The Light will be available for you December 7–21, Monday through Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM at IRMS, 3116 -104<sup>th</sup> Street in Urbandale. Church representatives can bring a lantern or oil lamp to IRMS to collect the light from the Peace Light flame. As people carry it back to their churches, they will help spread the Peace Light to their families and neighbors. Participating congregations are encouraged to post their activity on the IRMS Facebook page

http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Iowa-Religious-Media-Services/368202468821.



This is a wonderful opportunity to spread the continuous flame of the Peace Light from Bethlehem to IRMS congregations. Churches may even want to organize a small delegation to make the pilgrimage to IRMS offices to collect the light of the nativity. IRMS looks forward to sharing the Peace Light during this Advent season. Questions about the Peace Light, a safe appropriate vessel, or other details, should be directed to the 2011 Peace Light Coordinator for the Mid-Iowa Council Boy Scouts of America Alan Strohmaier at <a href="mailto:alan.strohmaier@gmail.com">alan.strohmaier@gmail.com</a>. More information on the Light is also available at <a href="http://www.peacelight.org/default.html">http://www.peacelight.org/default.html</a>.