### The 2014 Peace Light from Bethlehem, Israel





will be shared at

## Bethlehem Presbyterian Church in Pittstown, NJ On Saturday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 10am

For almost three decades, at the beginning of the Advent season each year, a child from Upper Austria has visited the Grotto of the Nativity in Bethlehem and lit a lamp from the eternal flame burning there. Many believe this to be the actual birthplace of Jesus and historical data records that the flames in the grotto have been maintained for more than 1,000 years. The flame is then carried from Israel to Austria where a service of dedication is held and then this "Peace Light" is shared and spread throughout the world.

The Peace Light was first brought to NYC by Canadian Scouts in 2001 where it was shared at Ground Zero. Each year since, the Girl and Boy Scouts have taken on the responsibility and privilege of sharing the light with as many people as possible. Since 2004, Austrian Airlines has flown the light from Vienna to New York City. Regardless of religious affiliation, the Peace Light embodies the spirit and intention of peace and goodwill.

We invite you to receive the Peace Light and to share it with others. Please join us for a short service of dedication at 10am on December 13<sup>th</sup>. After the service we will share the light with all who wish to receive it. Please bring an oil lamp or enclosed candle lantern. All lanterns need to be labeled with the owner's name and <u>left outside</u> of the church. Scouts will assist with the lighting of all lanterns after the service.

We ask that you endeavor to maintain the Peace Light throughout the holiday season, and that you pass it on within your house of worship, organization, family and friends. For more information please visit <u>peacelight.org</u> or call Kielynn-Marie or Luis Andrés at (908) 537-4649.

Sponsored by: Daisy Girl Scout Troop 81155, Cub Scout Pack 149, Boy Scout Troop 119, and Bethlehem Presbyterian Church.







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#### How to Share the Peace Light

The following are suggestions based on the experience of local Scouts:

- Candle Lanterns--UCO brand of candle lanterns are highly recommended because they are safe and compact. Check out Amazon and REI.
- Oil Lanterns—Come in all shapes and sizes from affordable camping styles to highend brass models; visit vermontlanterns.com, woodstove-outlet.com, or lehmans.com.
- Lamp Oil—Be sure to use a high quality smokeless liquid paraffin wax such as those sold at webstaurantstore.com and Lowes.com.
- Safety-- If using a new lantern to transport your Peace Light or one that has not been used in a while, please test the lantern for leaks.
- If transporting the Peace Light over long distances, place the lantern in a 5-gallon bucket with a few inches of sand.
- Further details and creative ideas available at: <u>peacelight.org</u>.

Keep the Peace Light Burning

Scouts have managed to keep the flame burning at their homes throughout the holiday season by:

- Use the flame from the Peace Light to light a slow burning 7-day candle. Be sure to have a few on hand to last through the season.
- Using the flame from the Peace Light to light a wood burning fireplace and keep feeding the fire.
- Re-light the pilot light of a gas appliance such as a water heater or gas fireplace with the flame from the Peace Light.

For additional information please contact:

Luis Andrés at <a href="mailto:StoneyBrookScout@playboldly.com">StoneyBrookScout@playboldly.com</a>

or

Kielynn-Marie Andrés at <a href="mailto:GenuineGirlScout@playboldly.com">GenuineGirlScout@playboldly.com</a> or (908)537-4649

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