

**Published monthly Volume C Issue No. – 1 January A.D. 2025, A.L. 6025**

**Email:** info@JFSwartsel251.org    **Website:** www.jfswartsel251.org    **Phone:** 813-949-4814

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Meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursdays

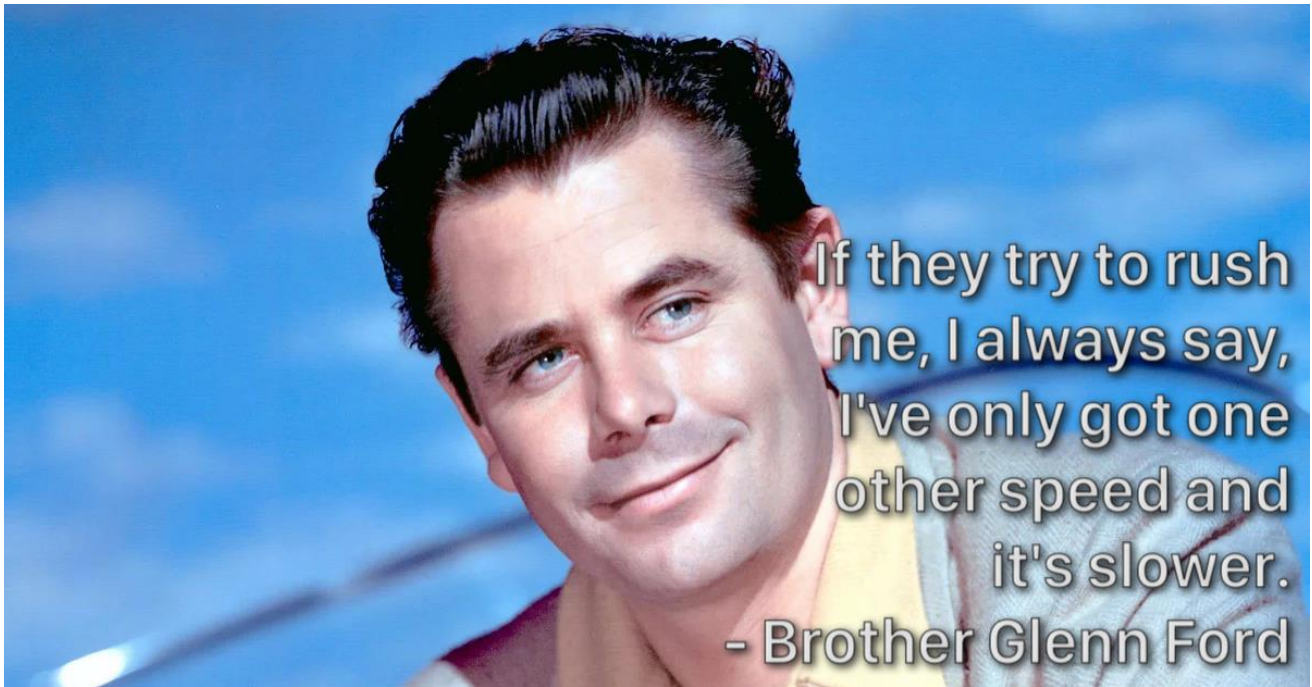
Your Catechism Instructors for the three symbolic degrees in Freemasonry are:

R.: H.: Adam Feldman - W.: Jerry M. Snell Jr. – W.: Marty Greif – Br. Allan Jenkins  
 W.: Wade Angel – Br. Jack Jones – Br. Denis Monefeldt

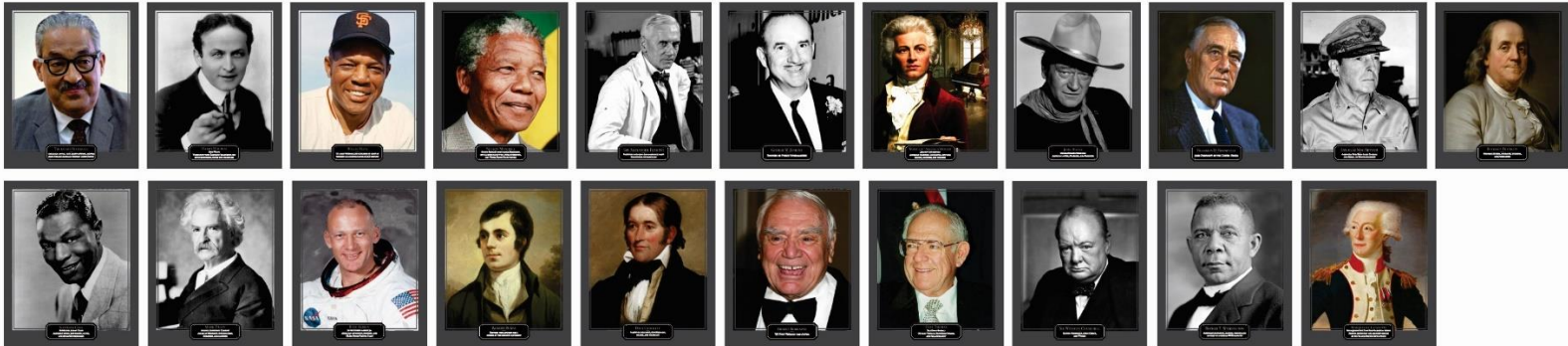


**Who does J. F. Swartsel Lodge support in the community?**

- The Lutz Fire Department, TOPS (take off pounds sensibly) Lutz chapter 56
- BSA (Boy Scouts of America) pack and troop 12 Lutz
- Lutz Little League Baseball
- Awards college scholarships in N.W. Hillsborough County
- McKitrick Elementary School
- “Helping Paws Program”
- Rainbow Assembly (Hillsborough County)
- De Molay (Hillsborough County)
- Shriners’ Hospital
- Lifepath Hospice
- Jobs’ Daughters
- Land O Lakes High School
- Steinbrenner High School
- Monthly Bingo jackpots at the Florida Masonic Home in St. Petersburg
- Metropolitan Ministries
- The Joshua House



If they could do the things they did then,

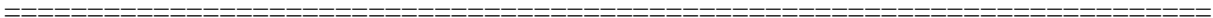


imagine the things that we can do now.

Thank you to **all** of our Past Masters - Who laid the foundation for us to build upon

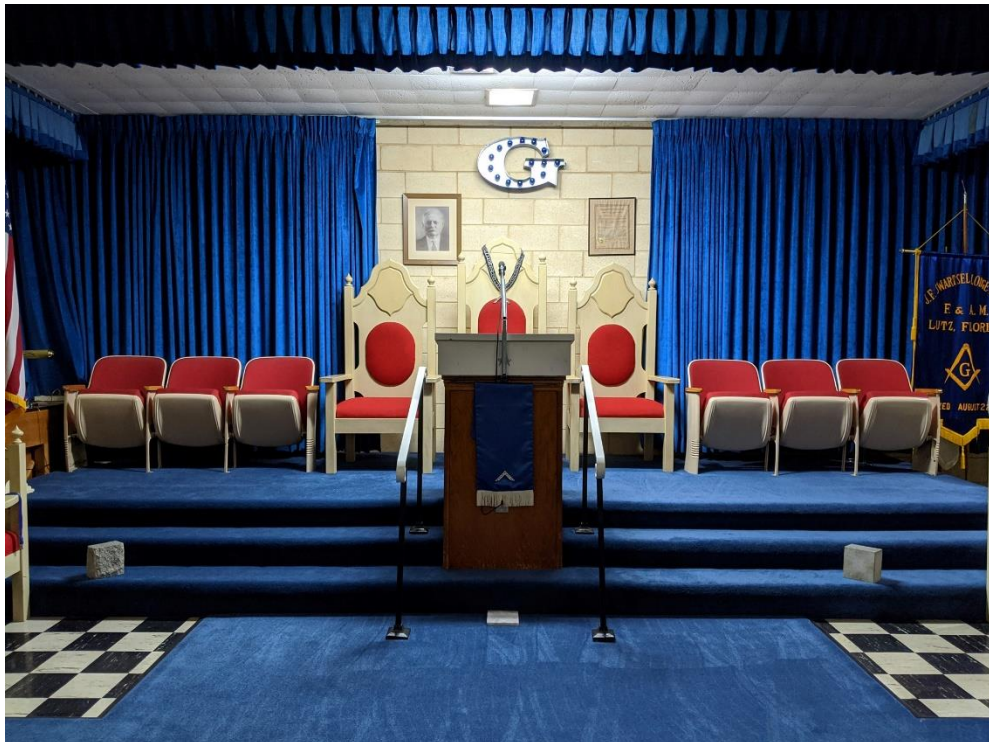
**[The Past Masters of J.F. Swartzel and Community Lodge](#)**

Please follow the link to our website for a complete list of past masters.



**Your 2025 J. F. Swartzel Officers are as follows:**

**Worshipful Master** Brother Allan Arthur Jenkins  
**Senior Warden** Brother Joe Circhirillo  
**Junior Warden** Brother Thomas Holland Overman  
**Treasurer** W : Jeffrey Thomas Sklet  
**Secretary** W : David Bruce Lambert Sr.  
**Chaplain** Br. Jason W Schein  
**Marshall** W : Brian A Reach  
**Senior Deacon** Brother Jack Wilbur Jones  
**Junior Deacon** Brother Denis Graham Monefeldt  
**Senior Steward** Brother  
**Junior Steward** Brother Jose Lau Labasbas  
**Tyler** Brother Jose Louis Valdez  
**Musician** Brother John S Nagy  
**Historian** W : Samuel McPherson





**Please remember your Lodge boosters and thank them!**

**R.:W.: Ronald E. Stanley - R.:W.: Donald R. Bell - Mark L. Lager - Daniel Allen - Brad Sollberger - Ernest P. Sidlow**



## Chair Chatter

### From the Secretary: Worshipful David Lambert, Sr.

Brethren,

**Please check your Dues Card to see if you have paid your 2024 Dues,** and If you have changed your address, please give me a call @ (813) 838-7705 or email me at [dlambert7907@gmail.com](mailto:dlambert7907@gmail.com) so I can update your records.

### **Calendar of Important Lodge Dates: January 2025.**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30PM.**
- 4<sup>th</sup> 10:AM, J. F. Swartsel 2025 Installation of Officers.**
- 7<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 8<sup>th</sup> (6:PM – 7:PM, MLT), (7:PM – 8:PM), District School of Instruction @ John Darling No. 154).
- 10<sup>th</sup> 7:PM - Masonic Park Board Meeting @ EGYPT Temple.
- 14<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 16<sup>th</sup> Stated Communication of J. F. Swartsel Lodge, Dinner @ 6:30 PM, Lodge Opens at 7:30PM**
- 17<sup>th</sup> Third Friday FULL Menu Fish Fry at J.F. Swartsel.**
- 18<sup>th</sup> Trestleboard Articles to W.: Allan Jenkins.**
- 20<sup>th</sup> 7:30 PM, Friendship Chapter No. 209. Stated Meeting.
- 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.
- 27<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 8:30 Master Mason Association of Hillsborough County @ EGYPT Shrine.**
- 28<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM, Degree Practice.

## From the Worshipful Master: Worshipful Allan Jenkins

🎉 **Happy New Year, Brothers!** 🎉

I hope everyone had a safe and joyous holiday season! As we step into this exciting new year, I want to express my deepest gratitude for the honor of being elected to the East. I take this responsibility to heart and thank each of you for your trust and confidence in me. A huge congratulations to our newly elected and appointed officers! This year promises to be filled with energy, growth, and celebration as we prepare to commemorate our **100-year anniversary!** The journey ahead will be incredible, and each of you will play a vital role in shaping our Fraternity's future. Our Lodge has endured the test of time, and we continue to flourish—this is a true testament to the dedication and spirit of every brother here at J.F. Swartsel #251. Together, we're unstoppable!

A special thank you to our newest Past Master, **Brian A. Reach**, for a job exceptionally well done! Your leadership, service, and sacrifice have made a lasting impact on our Lodge. Your efforts in bringing a new DeMolay Chapter and introducing the York Rite to J.F. Swartsel have paved the way for our continued growth and success. You truly set the bar high for us all!

And now, let's look ahead to 2025—the year of **celebration and growth!** I'm thrilled to announce some exciting events lined up for the upcoming months. We'll be posting a calendar of events on the fellowship hall TV during each meeting, with three months of activities displayed at a time. Here's a sneak peek at the first quarter:

- **Family Night** – January 30th at the Lodge (Don't miss it!)
- **Lodge Visit** – On February 3rd, we'll be traveling to **Dade City Lodge #48**.
- **Lodge Event** – March (Details to come soon!)

Each month, the calendar will be updated to keep you all in the loop.

We'll also be holding a **Rededication Ceremony** on April 23rd to honor our **100-year anniversary**—this will take the place of our regular April 17th meeting. I'm excited to announce that the Grand Lodge will be leading this special ceremony, and it's sure to be a memorable occasion!

I'm full of excitement and anticipation for what lies ahead. Let's work together to make this year one for the history books!

**Wishing each Brother a prosperous, healthy, and unforgettable 2025!** 🎉

W•M• Allan Arthur Jenkins

## From the Senior Warden: Brother Joe Circhirillo

Brothers,

I wished all my Brothers and their families had a very happy Christmas and New Year. We're ready to start our hundredth-year anniversary it's going to be a great year! Brothers, remember that this January on the third Friday, we start our fish fry and I'm going to need all the help that I can get. Remember, this is the way we raise money for all our charities. I appreciate all the help that we get and it makes our Lodge look very strong. Don't forget that we have a Fellow Craft Degree coming up in February so remember we have practice every Tuesday night at the Lodge and that's why we're so good at it. Brothers remember, a Brother in need is a Brother indeed.

from your Senior Warden Joe Chic

## From the Junior Warden: Brother Thomas Overman

My Brothers,

I want to thank you for bestowing upon me for the Junior Warden office for 2025. I will do my utmost to the various requirements of this office. I will always keep an open mind on any of your concerns. I promise to provide more nutritious meals than sardines and crackers.

Regards,  
Tom Overman

## **From Community Chapter DeMolay:**

On Thursday 19 December 2024, Executive Officer R. J. "Jody" Meguiar and a group of representatives from four DeMolay Chapters in the surrounding area attended the Stated Communication to make the presentation of a "Letters Temporary" (eg: dispensation) to form a new DeMolay Chapter - **Community Chapter, Order of DeMolay!**

The Jurisdiction of Florida is thrilled to welcome J. F. Swartsel Lodge as the sponsoring Lodge for the newest DeMolay Chapter in Florida!

DeMolay International is the largest fraternal organization for young men in the world, and provides Masonic tenets and values to a younger audience for young men throughout the world. DeMolay not only exists in all fifty states, but is also far-reaching into more than twenty countries across the world. DeMolay sponsors programs for young men 12-20 in their Chapters, but also hosts a "little brother's club" known as the "Order of Squires" for young men aged 9 to 11. Both of these programs are currently developing throughout the Jurisdiction of Florida, and the level of success will depend on you and your level of support.

More information will be forthcoming in future issues of the J. F. Swartsel trestle board. Inquiries should be directed to [info@fldemolay.com](mailto:info@fldemolay.com), and membership referrals may be sent to [www.BeADeMolay.org](http://www.BeADeMolay.org) for the process to file an online petition.

## What have we been up to?

Masonic Leadership Training followed by District School of Instruction. Good discussion on Membership during MLT. Informative instruction at District School about installation of officers. Congratulations to PTF United for winning the column under construction for having the most Brothers at District School. Still playing I spy the DI.



Post District School meeting. More lively discussions 🤔



Great night of fellowship at Swartsel tonight! The Brothers of Tampa Bay Lodge came to town for a visit! What a great bunch of Brothers.

PS: Swartsel still has the Traveling Gavel

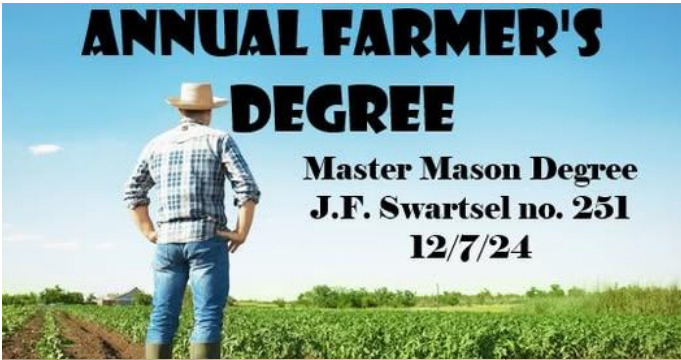




Last evening, Brothers from Swartsel traveled to DeSoto lodge to watch the young men from Walter Fishback DeMoley in action. Much was learned, fellowship enjoyed. Swartsel will soon be making a DeMoley announcement, stay tuned!



It was a great day for Freemasonry in Hillsborough County on Saturday December 7th. There were over 6 Lodges represented at Swartsel to help raise three new Master Masons. It was truly amazing to witness. It was the Annual Donald E. Belcher Farmers Degree. Their journey is just beginning.

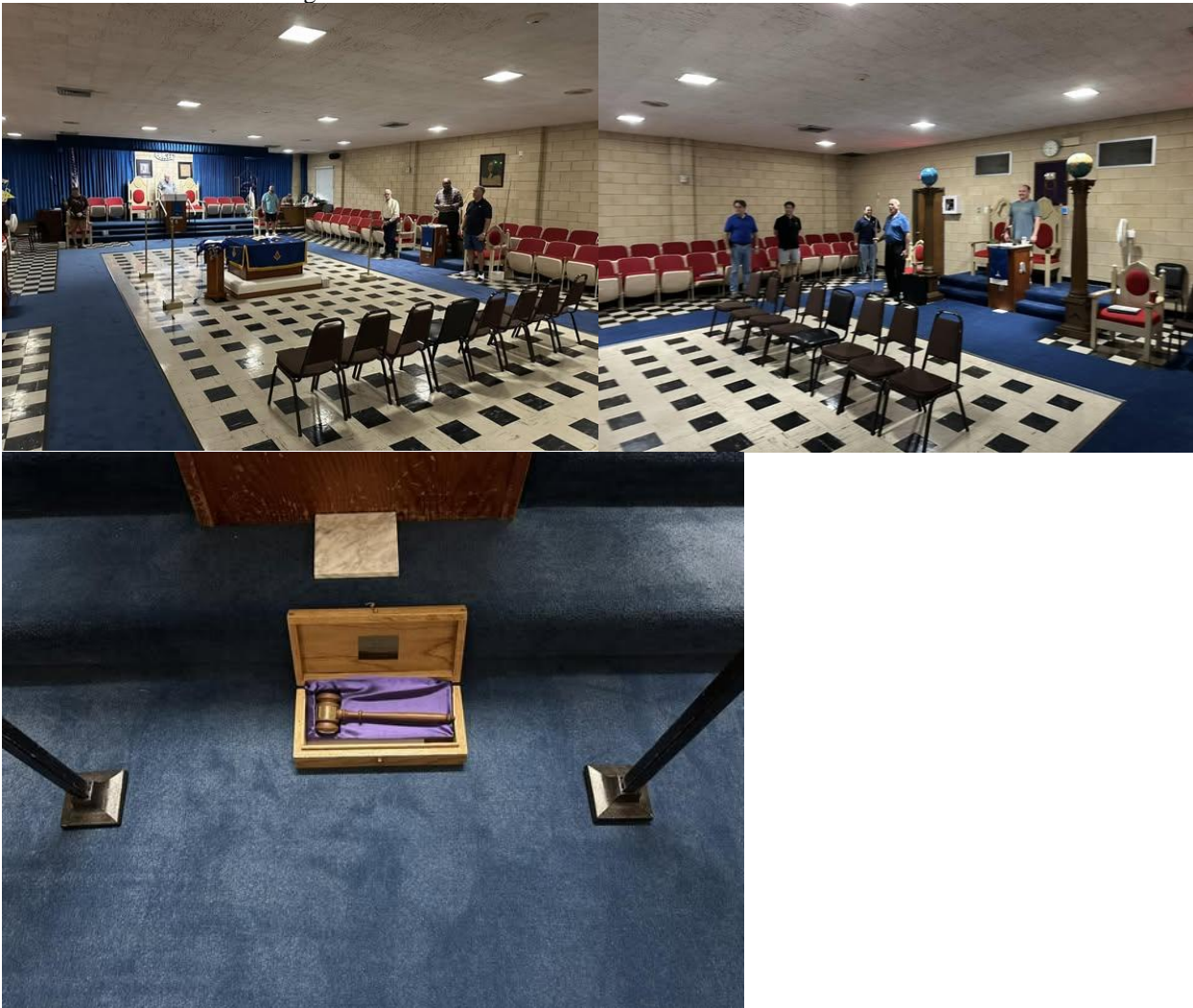




12/10/2024 Catechism instruction and Installation practice at the Lodge tonight.



12/17/2024 More installation practice. We might be having too much fun doing this 😊  
PS: we still have the Traveling Gavel.



We are thrilled to announce that J.F. Swartsel Masonic Lodge is now the official home of the Plant City York Rite! This marks a new and exciting chapter in the growth and brotherhood of Freemasonry in our community. Our Lodge is honored to support the rich tradition of the York Rite and offer a place for these distinguished bodies to meet and grow.



Another fantastic and fun night at Swartsel! Riley Sheehan stopped by for a visit while she is home for the Holidays. We had several leaders from different DeMolay Chapters along with the Executive Officer in Florida for the International Supreme Council, Order of DeMolay, Dad R. J. Jody Meguiar. He was here to present us with our Letters Temporary to form a new DeMolay Chapter at Swartsel. The Chapter will be named Community Chapter. There are a lot of good things happening at Swartsel. Come on out and join us when you have the time





And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

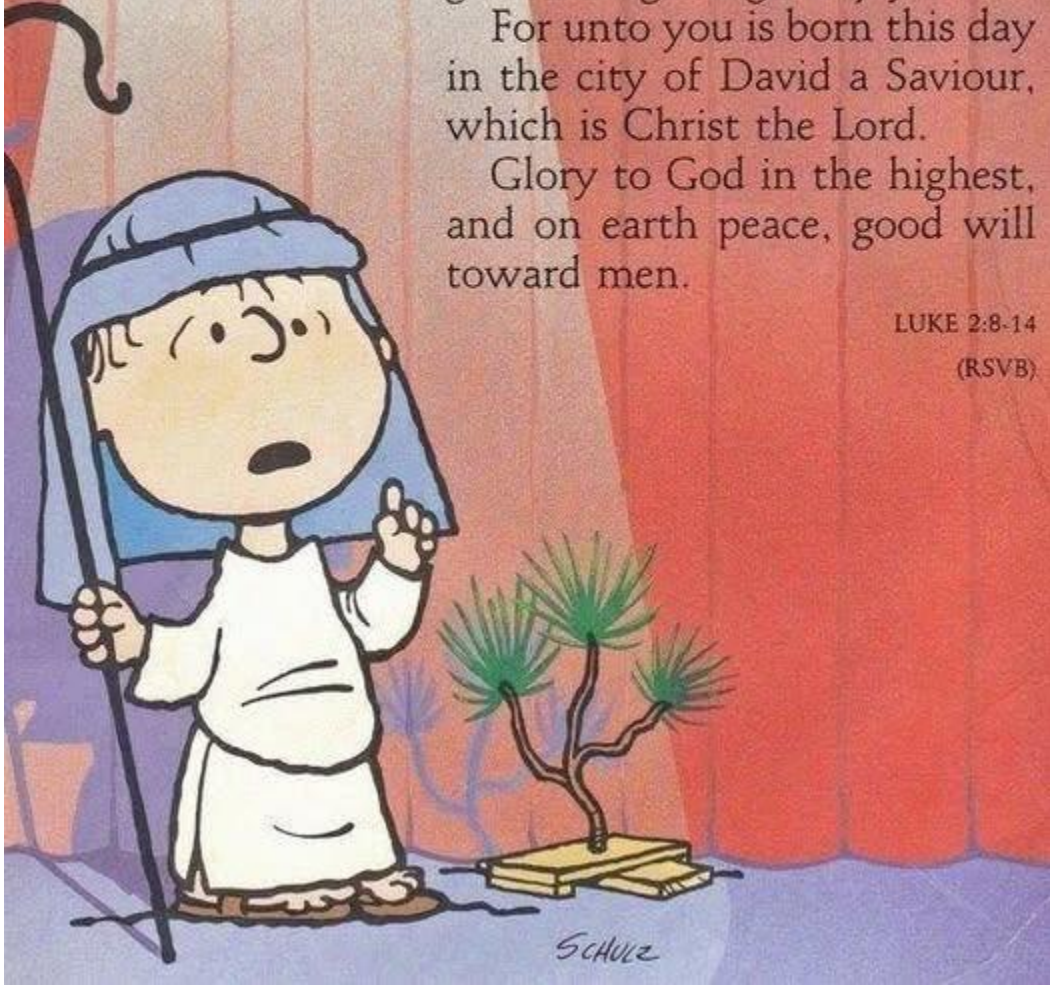
And the angel of the Lord came upon them, and said, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

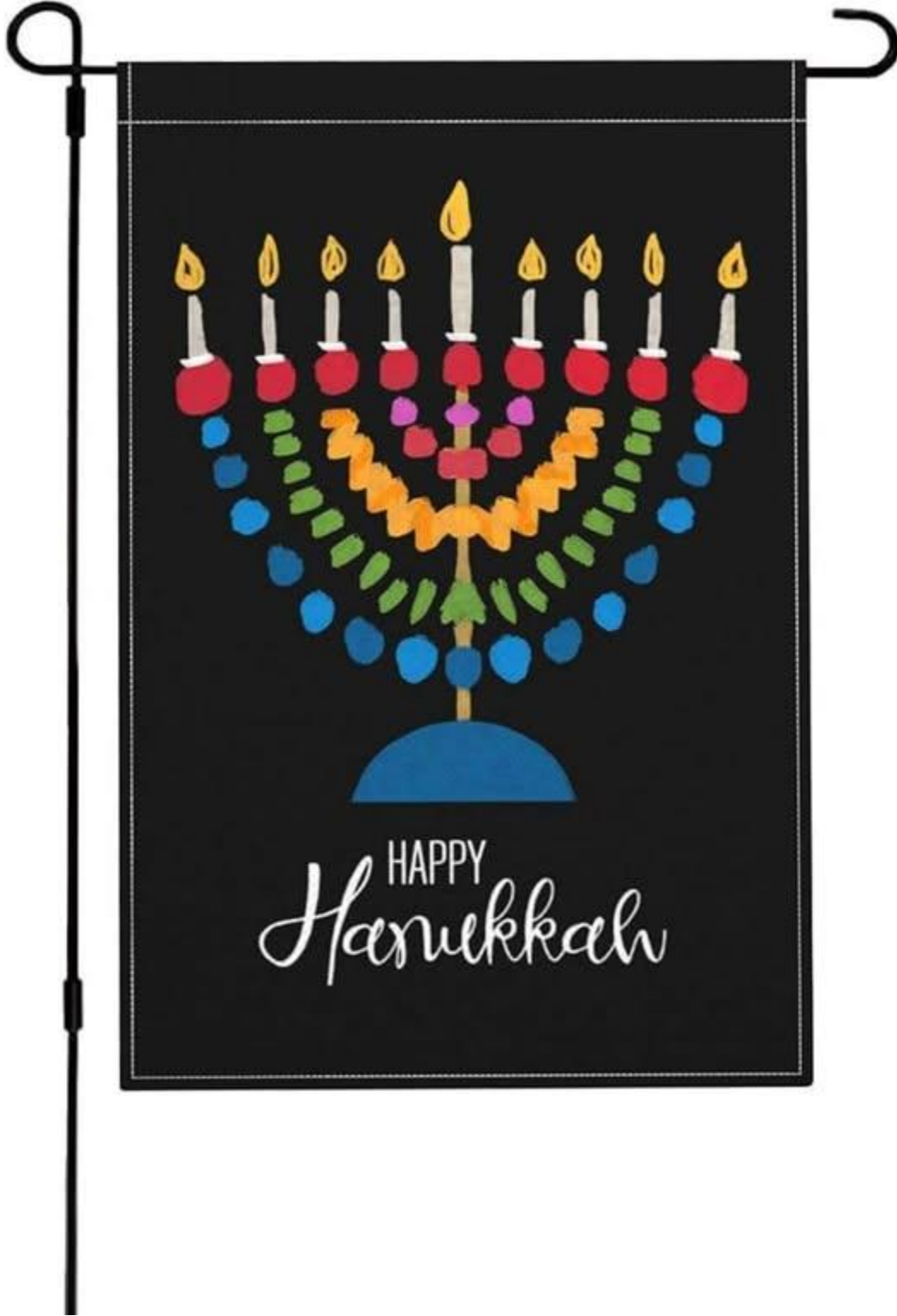
LUKE 2:8-14

(RSVB)





Happy Hanukkah



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"Soft and safe be the earthly bed of our Brother; bright and glorious be his rising from it. Fragrant be the acacia spring which shall flourish there. May the earliest buds of spring unfold their beauties over his resting place, and, in the bright morning of the world's resurrection, may his soul spring into newness of life and expand into immortal beauty in realms beyond the skies. Until then, dear Brother, Farewell!"

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