

THE PARISH NEWS



December, 2023

*First Lutheran Church
PO Box 218, 709 5th Ave
Washburn, ND 58577-0218*

Interim Pastor: Rev. Paul Krueger

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E-mail address:

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www.flcwashburn.com

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM and 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM
Wednesday 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM

OFFICE & NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL STAFF:

Jeannette Rost, Administrative Secretary

CUSTODIAN:

Jeff Schmidt

COORDINATOR OF STUDENT MINISTRIES:

Melissa Rothe

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Interim Pastor, Paul Krueger
Mac Beaudry, President
Joe Sheldon, Vice President
Janet Hanson, Secretary
Aaron Solomonson, Treasurer
Chris Albers, Property Trustee
Jeff Schmidt, Worship Deacon
Sarah Kadmas, Education Chair
Kacy Hardt, Evangelism Deacon
Julie Bentz, Stewardship Trustee

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION/
ARTICLES DEADLINE is 20th of each month.**

Our Mission. . . "Working hand in hand to know Christ and make Christ known through Worship, Christian Education, Evangelism, Fellowship, Caring Ministries, and Service."

"The Parish News" a monthly publication of First Lutheran, linking Church and members' homes, is mailed from Washburn, ND 58577, Bulk Postal permit #39.



Hope, Peace, Joy, Love ...

In a faraway land more than 2,000 years ago, a young mother gives birth, adding her infant Son to the number of mankind. The heavens are moved as God meets our deepest needs in the most simplest of ways as He sends His Son to be our Savior.

Fast-forward to 2023 where our Christmas celebration begins with the season of Advent—the time when Christians prepare to celebrate the first coming of Christ while looking forward to His second coming. During the season of Advent, we emphasize four things that God joyfully and graciously gives to us with the birth of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **HOPE.** We have an inheritance reserved in heaven, a living hope through the resurrection of Christ from the dead. Hope is a gift our Savior brings.
- **PEACE.** We have peace for the Lord watches over the righteous and hears their prayers. No circumstance in our life is beyond God's care. Peace is a gift our Savior brings.
- **JOY.** We have inexpressible joy even though we have trials because our faith is being tested and proven genuine. As the Apostle Peter writes, the end of this faith is the joyful salvation of our souls. Joy is a gift our Savior brings.
- **LOVE.** We can love one another with a pure heart because we have been born again through the Word of God which lives and abides forever. Love is a gift the Savior brings.

Because the Savior Jesus Christ came long ago, we can be different people. We can live with the gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love till He comes again.

Merry Christmas
Pastor Krueger



The Greatest Time for an Invitation!

Statistics show that Christmas and Easter are two of the times when people who don't ordinarily attend church are most open to an invitation to a Christian worship service. There are wonderful opportunities for you to invite a friend, family member, or neighbor to worship with you this Christmas. First Lutheran will provide two wonderful Christmas Eve opportunities for you to consider extending an invitation. One Christmas Eve worship service will be at 4:30 PM and the other will be at 6:30 PM. Both will be special Candlelight Christmas Eve services. Who can you bring to join in the Christmas Celebrations?



NOVEMBER 7, 2023 COUNCIL MEETING

(Please note that minutes are not approved until voted on by the council at the next meeting.)



The Church Council met on November 7, 2023, at 7:00 PM. Present were Mac Beaudry, Aaron Solomonson, Julie Bentz, Kacy Hardt, Joe Sheldon, Chris Albers, Jeff Schmidt, Pastor Krueger, and Janet Hanson. Absent was Sarah Kadrmas. Also present was Jeannette Rost.

The meeting was called to order by President Mac Beaudry. Bentz/Hardt to approve the agenda. Carried.

Pastor Krueger led in devotions using Joshua 24:15.

Albers/Sheldon to approve the minutes from October 22, 2023. Carried.

Solomonson gave the treasurer's report. The following balances are on hand: CD's: \$150,000.00; Checking: \$123,723.64; Building: \$197,226.68; Cemetery: \$717.40; FLY: \$12,767.78; Interest: \$12,467.65; Music: \$1,724.54; Parking Lot: \$1,555.00; Super Sunday Supper: \$3,800.33; Worship: \$2,528.44; Ameriprise Financial: \$39,995.60; Morgan Stanley: \$11,992.40. Total Assets: \$558,499.46. Schmidt/Hardt to approve the report for future audit and to pay all non-budgeted bills. Carried.

Pastor's report: Pastor Krueger reported that "all is well". He said we have moved ahead with the call committee and endowment committee. We had Confirmation for 3 Confirmands this past Sunday, and the other confirmation classes are going well. He presided over three baptisms and one funeral.

Committee reports:

Stewardship-No report.

Worship-Schmidt has been visiting with members and people are happy with the music and services.

Education-Kadrmas was absent, but Hardt reported on the plans for the Sunday School Christmas programs.

Evangelism-Hardt reported the Evangelism committee and FLY served a Halloween meal and served approximately 120 people. There was a lot left over with some going to the less fortunate, Lions, and Super Sunday meal.

Property-Albers reported there are some leaks

around the office and hallway. He has looked at it and will try to find the reason for it. He will continue to check on the carpet in the sanctuary. People who have looked at it think the glue has made it loose, so will look at repairs. He has picked up the dividers for the downstairs. They were going to replace the flooring in the parsonage but there needs to be more cleaning before the flooring can be put down. Albers suggested to look at a system of three people being on the property committee with rotating chairmen.

Executive-No report.

Mutual Ministry-No report.

Old Business:

We have \$755.92 in Thrivent Choice Dollars.

The Endowment committee has met. Their recommendation is to work with Hahn Financial for the endowment. They have worked on a document and how the endowment would work. This will be finalized and asked for Council approval in December so the Council can bring it to the Congregation in January.

Beaudry is still looking into the plan for the cemetery fence project.

Randy Hanson will give a call committee report to the congregation on Sunday.

Hanson shared a letter from Ardythe Kurle saying she will continue to decorate the church until the end of the year, but then would like to pass those duties to someone else. Solomonson/Hardt to authorize the First Lutheran Church Women to oversee the decorating and the Council will reevaluate it in a year. Carried.

New Business:

We are looking at connecting with YHR Architectures to have them look at the future of First Lutheran and our building. The cost will be between \$10,000.00-\$12,000.00.

The 2024 budget will be finalized by the finance committee before our next meeting to be approved by Council before bringing it to the Congregation meeting.

(Continued on next page)

The Annual meeting is set for January 14, 2024, with a meal starting at 11:45 and the meeting after.

Next month we will decide where the 4th quarter benevolences will go.

Sheldon/Solomonson to approve the transfer in of Debra Gourneau from St. John's Lutheran in Underwood, ND. Carried

The next budget meeting will be on December 3 after Church. The next council meeting will be on December 5 at 6:30 pm.

Schmidt/Solomonson to adjourn the meeting. Carried.

The meeting was closed with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by:
Janet Hanson
Church Council Secretary

Upcoming DEADLINES

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 14, 2024 11:45 AM

Soup and Bread meal served by the church council. Meeting follows immediately after the meal.

COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR ANNUAL REPORT

All committee reports are due in the church office no later than noon on January 1, 2024.



PLEASE HELP FIRST LUTHERAN DECORATE OUR SANCTUARY AND PURCHASE THE OUTDOOR GREENERY

This year First Lutheran is filling the Poinsettia Tree with Poinsettias purchased from Frontier Floral. We are asking that you fill out this form, bring it to the church office and pay \$18.00 each to purchase a Poinsettia on the tree. There are a total of 30 Poinsettias to purchase. This way we will have enough of the correct size to fill the tree and will save you a trip to the store to buy one. After Christmas, if you purchased a Poinsettia, you are welcome to take one off the tree to take home with you. You are welcome to purchase one from some other place and fill out this form. That Poinsettia will then be setting someplace else throughout the church.

In order to have your gift recognized in the bulletin, we need to have the form and money or your own poinsettia or floral gift to the church **by NOON on Tuesday, December 19th.**

_____ Plant(s) or Floral Gift
(number of)

_____ Outdoor Greenery Donation - \$ Amount

Donor/Giver(s):

In Memory of:

In Thanksgiving for:

() **To the Glory of God**

**First Lutheran Church Choir
Presents**

**THE
SONG HEARD
'ROUND THE WORLD**

By Joseph M. Martin



December 10 - 9:30 AM

EVANGELISM REPORT

Kacy Hardt - Evangelism Deacon



As 2023 comes to a close, I've looked over the last year and realized how much our Evangelism committee has done! Wow! In October, we helped the FLY group serve a Halloween meal for the community. We were able to serve around 115 people and sent meals to a few other families in the community! It was so nice to see everyone and have a warm meal! Thank you for supporting our church!

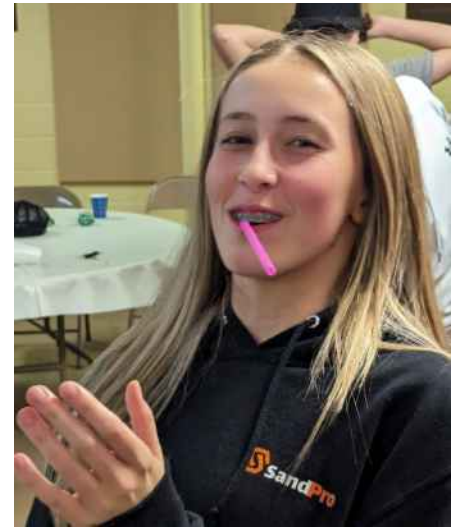
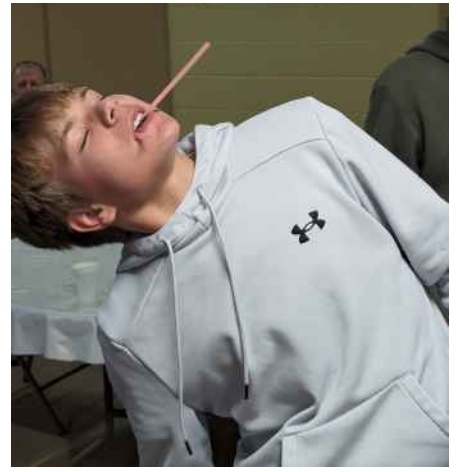
December is one of my favorite times of year to be a First Lutheran Church member! I love to see all of the full pews at church, kids in their programs and of course, the true meaning of Christmas! Our Evangelism committee is looking to fill

the Busy Bags for kids with fun yet quiet items for the holiday season, so if you have any extra exciting items lying around your house or see something that you think would bring joy during the holiday season, please feel free to drop it off at the church with Jeannette or you can place it in the nursery and we would be more the happy to add it to our bags!

I can't wait to see what next year brings for our First Lutheran Church family!

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.
Ephesians 2:10





YOUTH GROUP HAPPENINGS AND CONFIRMATION UPDATE

Melissa Rothe - Coordinator of Student Ministries fly@westriv.com



Halloween Meal: Thank you for all that helped with the Halloween meal! It was delicious and we served at least 115 people.

Lock in: Thank you to all of those who helped make the lock in a success. Eighteen students, myself, and Evan Cripe stayed up all night. Also thank you to Mac, Judy, Margaret, Dwight, Randy, and Janet for volunteering to chaperone. We played several games, ate delicious food and had a blast!

Confirmation: The confirmation year is going by quickly. The students are learning many different things and are having good discussions. Thank you to the volunteers who help make it possible!

Christmas Party: The youth are going to have a Christmas party on December 13th. They decided that they would be having a secret Santa small gift exchange. I will be sending out a form soon on Remind for those who want to participate.

Hazen Christmas Program: My mom is directing the Christmas program at her church in Hazen. When she was short two people for the program,

she asked me if I had any youth to help her out. The youth group will be going to support two of our own in the program. We will meet at the church and leave at 6 pm. All are welcome to attend. 7 pm at English Lutheran.

Youth Gathering: The youth will be going to the LCMC Youth Gathering at Grand View University in Des Moines, IA on July 9-12, 2024. We will leave on the 8th and come back on the 13th. Stay tuned for further details!

Dates to Note: *All other dates will be posted on Remind.*

December 6th: Pizza Day

December 13th: Last confirmation of the year, Youth Group Christmas party

December 20th: Travel to Hazen, leave at 6 pm

Every Wednesday night: 5:30-6:15 Meal, 6:15-7:45 Confirmation, 7:45-9:00 Youth Group

Question to ask the youth and kids in your life: What is your favorite Christmas memory or gift?

Pray for the Youth: Dear Lord, love came down on Christmas Day and love brings friends and family today during this time. Grant us peace and fill our hearts with cheer. Help us to remember the true reason for the season. Amen.



FLCW NEWS

November, 2023

Executive Board:

Leilani Olafson
Donna Gunderson

Secretary:

Marlys Knell

Treasurer:

LeAnn Richard

Action (Quilts, LWR Kits):

Marlys Knell
LeAnn Richard
Gwen DeMontigny

Altar Guild:

Theresa Petersen

Audit:

Mary Ann Beeks

Camp of the Cross:

Peggy Moran

Community:

Kathy Keller
Meals on Wheels
Lions Bake Sale
Alli Sheldon
Goodies From the Heart

Good Cheer:

Mary Ann Beeks

Growth (Confirmation & Graduation Tea and 3rd Grade Bibles):

Janet Hanson

Kitchen:

Arlene Schwarz
Kathy Keller
Linda Zeller

Lefse, Cards, etc.:

Donna Kroll
Marlys Knell

Library:

Sharon Chrest
Sande Wagner
Norma Petersen
Arlene Schwarz

Prayer Chain Chairmen:

First Lutheran Church
Jeannette Rost

Receptions/Bulletin Board**Decorating:**

Donna Gunderson

Service Secretary:

Sharon Chrest
Donna Gunderson

Special Wishes for a



Harvest Festival Sunday was a success! Thanks to all who took part! LeAnn planned the special music, and Jared Schumaier gave a great performance! Also, thanks to Marlys and Janet for ushering, and a special thanks to Sheila Link for leading the service. And thanks to Group 2 for serving.

Thanks to Janet for chairing the Confirmation Tea. Congratulations to the confirmands: Beckett Kadmas, Parker Jacobson and Oscar Wood.

The FLCW board met and planned next year's events. 2024 books will be in the mailbox sometime around the end of December. Please check your mailboxes to get your book! We hope you plan on attending our planned events!

The Advent Breakfast will be December 2 at 9:30 am. The theme is "Gathering of Angels." Please plan to attend and bring a guest! It's a great way to start the Christmas Season. Work Group 3 serves.

The choir Cantata is December 10th. Group 4 serves. The 6:30 pm Sunday School Program will be a signup sheet for desserts afterwards. Sarah Kadmas has more in her article about this.

Upcoming Events**DECEMBER EVENTS:**

- 2 Advent Breakfast - 9:30 AM
- 10 Choir Cantata during worship - Work Group 4 serves coffee hour

JANUARY EVENTS:


- Meals on wheels - Call Kathy Keller if you are able to help.
- 25 Quilting

Donna Gunderson and Leilani Olafson, Co-Chairs



QUILTING GROUP

No quilting in December



Women's Bible Study

Deborah Bible Study
December 21
9:30 AM
at the church
Potluck

Please let your hostess know whether or not you will be attending each month.

Study is a movie on the nativity



GATHERING OF ANGELS

FLCW ADVENT
BREAKFAST

December 2
9:30 AM

Please bring a friend!



**CONFIRMATION TEA - NOVEMBER 4 AND
CONFIRMATION SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 5**



Beckett Kadrmars, Parker Jacobson, Oscar Wood, Pastor Paul Krueger







Education Report

Sarah Kadrmaz



Colossians 3:15 “And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.”

December is such a special and busy time, both in our personal lives and in our church! I pray you can take several moments this month to reflect on your blessings. Practicing gratitude is important. From the dictionary - Gratitude: the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. Now is the perfect time to “practice”. You may ask, what is the difference between gratitude and thankfulness? You may feel thankful to someone in that moment, but gratitude is an ongoing showing of appreciation in your relationships. Practicing gratitude in your relationships will bring you closer and feel more connected. Yes, even your relationship with God! Find ways to show your gratitude within your own home, at work, and at church.

Join us this month for 2 special Christmas programs. The preschool, kindergarten and 1st grad-

ers will have a program on 12/17/23 during worship service at 9:30 am. The 2nd through 6th grade will have a program on 12/17/23 at 6:30 pm with dessert/fellowship to follow. We are looking for volunteers to bring a dessert and a couple people to serve/clean up after our program. Please look for the sign up in the narthex. We are so grateful for your help!

There is no Sunday school over Christmas break, 12/24 and 12/31.

The tree in the basement will be decorated some by the students. Thank you, Donna, for providing this opportunity! If your child has an ornament they would like to display on the tree, please feel free to bring it in. We will be making ornaments as well.

May your holiday stress be low, your blessings many, and your gratitude at an all-time high! ☺

Merry Christmas!

NOVEMBER 19, 2023 CHOIR AND CHILDREN’S SERMON

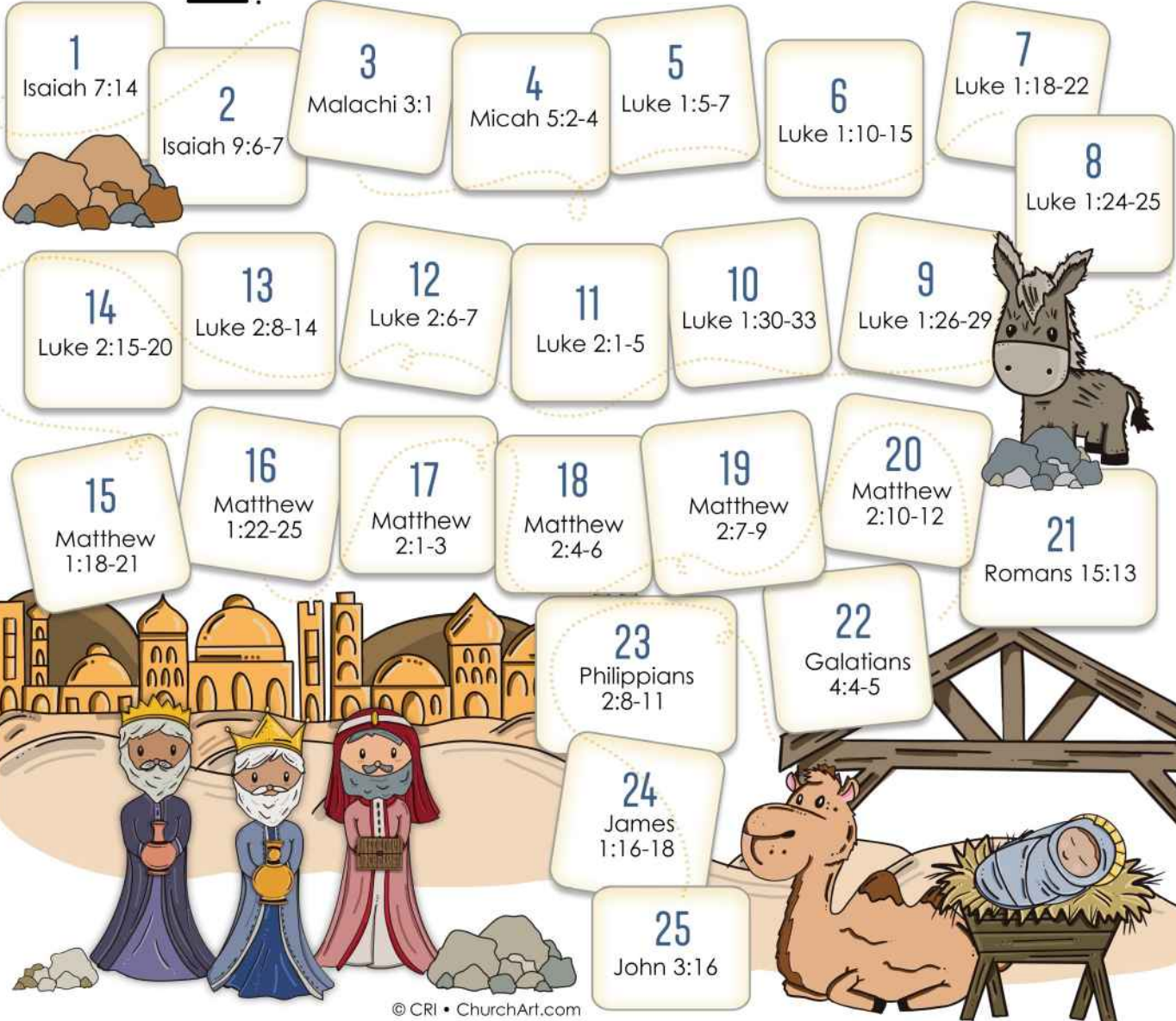


Every Sunday Pastor Paul has a children’s sermon, one of the children will be picked to put some random item in the lunch box provided. Pastor Paul has no idea what is in the lunch box until he opens it during the children’s sermon. He will then come up with a sermon on how the item in the lunch box pertains to our everyday life. On the 19th there was a jar of mayo in the lunch box. What a wonderful idea to come up with a children’s sermon!



A CHRIST-CENTERED CHRISTMAS ADVENT READING PLAN

Explore the true meaning of Christmas as you travel through God's Word. Discover God's promises he fulfilled through the birth of His only Son, the **KING OF KINGS.**



1 Isaiah 7:14	2 Isaiah 9:6-7	3 Malachi 3:1	4 Micah 5:2-4	5 Luke 1:5-7	6 Luke 1:10-15	7 Luke 1:18-22
8 Luke 1:24-25	9 Luke 1:26-29	10 Luke 1:30-33	11 Luke 2:1-5	12 Luke 2:6-7	13 Luke 2:8-14	14 Luke 2:15-20
15 Matthew 1:18-21	16 Matthew 1:22-25	17 Matthew 2:1-3	18 Matthew 2:4-6	19 Matthew 2:7-9	20 Matthew 2:10-12	21 Romans 15:13
22 Galatians 4:4-5	23 Philippians 2:8-11	24 James 1:16-18	25 John 3:16			

PIZZA DAY - NOVEMBER 1, 2023 - 76 YOUTH SERVED
Thank you to our volunteers!





DECEMBER WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

SUNDAY USHERS/GREETERS - 9:30 AM

- 3 - Newell & Linda Zeller
- 10 - Brad & Cathy Sheldon
- 17 - Julie Bentz family
- 24 - Christmas Eve
 - 9:30 AM - Dick & Carla Bickert
 - 4:30 PM -
Aaron & Alexis Solomonson family
 - 6:30 PM - Dick & Carla Bickert
- 31 - Kim & Brenda Ankenbauer

ACOLYTES

- 3 - Justin Dahl & Bodie Winter
- 10 - Carter Engesser & Chloe Erber
- 17 - Noah Jaeger & Donavin Vetter

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READERS

- 3 - Peggy Wollmuth
- 10 - Cantata
- 17 - Jeff Schmidt
- 24 - Christmas Eve
 - 9:30 AM - Dewey Oster
 - 4:30 PM - Brad Sheldon
 - 6:30 PM - Jeff Schmidt
- 31 - Sue Winter

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

- 3 - Peggy Wollmuth, Randy & Gwen Hall
- 17 - Jeff Schmidt, Brent Petersen
Drew Petersen
- 24 - Christmas Eve
 - 4:30 PM
Brad & Cathy Sheldon, Joe Sheldon
 - 6:30 PM - Jeff & Amanda Schmidt

ALTAR CARE

- Theresa Petersen
- 17 - Maybell Job & Linda Wohlk

VIRTUAL SERVICE TECHS

- 3 - Don & DJ Winter
- 10 - Kyle Albers
- 17 - Dwight Rasmussen
- 24 - Christmas Eve
 - 9:30 AM -
 - 4:30 PM - Don & DJ Winter
 - 6:30 PM -
- 31 - Melissa Rothe

COFFEE HOUR SERVERS

- 3 - Julene Klosterman & Jean Braun
- 10 - FLCW Work Group 4
- 17 - Ruth Borlaug
- 24 - No Coffee Hour
- 31 - Kim & Brenda Ankenbauer

SERVICE GROUP COORDINATORS

- Dick & Carla Bickert
- Evangelism Committee

WORSHIP REPORT

Jeff Schmidt - 701-202-1211

When a scheduled swap is made and it is one or more months out, contact Jeff or Jeannette to insure the newsletter and bulletin are accurate. **DO NOT** call about swap until the month prior to service date. I am always willing to fill in when in a difficult position, as are a host of others.

If you alone are positioned on a first or third Sunday, both duties are assigned to you.

R = Reader; C = Communion Assistant

January

- 7 Joe Sheldon (R & C)
Randy & Gwen Hall (C)
- 14 Alli Sheldon (R)
- 21 Randy Hanson (R)
- 28 Kollins Albers (R)

February

- 4 Alexis Solomonson (R)
- 11 Donna Sommer (R & C)
Melanie Beckman & Jeff Schmidt (C)
- 14 Ash Wednesday
Peggy Wollmuth (R & C)
Val Swanson & Emily Retterath (C)
- 18 Drew Peterson (R)
- 21 Jeff Schmidt (R)
- 25 Sunday School (R)
- 28 Rick Richard (R)

CONFIRMATION CAFÉ SERVERS

DECEMBER

- 6 - Dick & Carla Bickert
- 13 - George & Val Swanson
- 20 - No Confirmation
- 27 - No Confirmation

JANUARY

- 3 - Kim & Brenda Ankenbauer
- 10 - Diane Blumhagen, Brenda Suckow
Claudette Ness
- 17 - Brent & Theresa Petersen
- 24 - Mac & Judy Beaudry
- 31 - Jim & Kathy Kaiser

FEBRUARY

- 7 - Steve & Peggy Wollmuth

EVANGELISM



Evangelism
OPPORTUNITIES

The lists for ushers has been updated. There were nine groups and now there are six, so each group will be responsible for two months out of the year with the months rotating each year. The reason for the change was to provide more choices for the coordinators when looking for ushers. There are also two coordinators for each group. My goal was to have all our local members in a group. If you have been missed, I sincerely apologize. Please let the office know, and you will be assigned to

a group. Also, if you have an updated phone number, please let the office know so our records can be updated. Thank you all for your willingness to say yes when called by the coordinators to assist with the church service. ***Also, please call the coordinator ahead of time and volunteer for a Sunday that works for you.***

GROUPS	Year 2023	Year 2024	Year 2025	Year 2026
1	Jan./July	Feb./Aug.	March/Sept.	April/Oct.
2	Feb./Aug.	March/Sept.	April/Oct.	May/Nov.
3	March/Sept.	April/Oct.	May/Nov.	June/Dec.
4	April/Oct.	May/Nov.	June/Dec.	Jan./July
5	May/Nov.	June/Dec.	Jan./July	Feb./Aug.
6	June/Dec.	Jan./July	Feb./Aug.	March/Sept.

GROUP 6 - January

Coordinators:

Dick & Carla Bickert
Evangelism Committee

Kim & Brenda Ankenbauer
Julie Bentz
Dick & Carla Bickert
David & Ruth Borlaug
Jean Braun
Don & Terri Brewster
Elaine Carr
Gwen DeMontigny
Marlene Frank
Neil & Sarah Kadrmas
Wyatt Klabunde
Dale & Julene Klosterman
Duane & Marlys Knell
Cody Meadows
Kelli Murrey
Emil & Pam Oberg
Eric & Leilani Olafson
Clark & Jayne Pochant
Clay & Ranie Price
Steve & Sue Richards
Dale & Geniel Schell
Brad & Cathy Sheldon
Jon & Leslie Sheldon
Aaron & Alexis Solomonson
Lynn & Donna Sommer
Doug & Robin Thomas
Steve & Peggy Wollmuth
Bill & Kathy Wuolu
Newell & Linda Zeller
Dale & Marla Zimmerman
Matthew Zimmerman

GROUP 1 - February

Coordinators:

Terry & Donna Gunderson
Dwight & Margaret Rasmussen

Mary Ann Beeks
David Beckman
Nadine Berger
Delwin & Diane Blumhagen
Kevin & Brenda Borner
Dick Brewster
Dan Chrest
Sharon Chrest
Don Ellwein
Kathy Farstad
Stephanie Gieser
Terry & Donna Gunderson
Joan Holznagel
Steven & Sylvia Kalliokoski
Cindy Kuntz
Clint & Heidi Marshall
Bonnie Placek
Dwight & Margaret Rasmussen
Wes Sauer/Audrey Pauling
Kris Schmidt
Elmer & Arlene Schwarz
Tammy Sheldon
George & Val Swanson
Tim & Sue Thiel
Mike Thyberg
Candace Wieger
Bill & Besi Wilson
Don & Sue Winter
Virgil & Deb Wisdom
Willie & Janell Ziemann

THANK YOU

- ☺ Thank you Willie & Janell Ziemann for helping tape the November newsletter for mailing.
 - ☺ Thank you Don & DJ Winter, Wade & Stacy Boeshans, Dwight Rasmussen and Kyle Albers for taking on the responsibility of making sure we had YouTube Live this past month.
 - ☺ Thank you to the following for so graciously serving a meal to our confirmation youth and helpers: Nadine Berger, Candace Wieger, Randy & Janet Hanson and Lynn & Donna Sommer.
- ☺ Thank you Rick Richard and FLCW (Fall Harvest Festival service) for filling in for Pastor Paul Krueger on Sunday's when he could not be here.
 - ☺ Thank you everyone that packed a shoebox for Operation Christmas Child or donated money to help with postage. We had a total of 56 shoeboxes. Thank you also to Melanie Beckman for taking them to Bismarck for their next journey.

☺ Dear Members of First Lutheran Church,

At Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch we've been blessed with wonderful friends who partner with us in healing children. Friends who our of the goodness of their hearts and with a generous spirit, choose to help our young people find God's light through the depths of their darkness. Friends like you. Thank you for your recent gift to help heal the children at the Ranch.

God's blessings to you!
Dennis Aune



The following are from Sarah Kadrmaz:

- ☺ Thank you to Chris Albers for putting together the dividers in the basement.
- ☺ Thank you to Pastor Paul and the ladies of FLC for a wonderful confirmation tea and worship service. It was so beautiful!

ADVENT MEANINGS

During Advent, which begins this year on December 3, many churches and families use wreaths to symbolize watchfulness and increasing joy as Christmas approaches. Colors for the candles vary, with some traditions using blue (for hope or creation) and others preferring purple (for royalty, humility or penitence).

The four candles that each represent a week in Advent also signify hope, peace, joy and love. (The third candle is often pink.) In the center is the white Christ candle, representing Jesus as the light of the world. That candle is lit on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

The round, green Advent wreath has special meaning of its own. It symbolizes eternal life and the unending love of God, who sent his only Son to earth to die in our place.



HOLIDAY HUMOR

Much planning and preparation goes into worship during December. But that doesn't mean Christmas services and pageants are always picture-perfect. For anyone who's experienced holiday chaos (who hasn't?!), take comfort in knowing you're not alone.

Church leaders who shared stories with Outreach magazine describe an alarming number of Christmas candle vs. hair incidents. Here's what else has transpired:

- One pastor was sharing the Nativity story when he bumped the button on his singing Christmas tie, which didn't have a mute but-

ton. So congregants had to listen to the entire verse and chorus of "Jingle Bells."

- A child discovered a live mouse in his chocolate-filled gift bag on Christmas Eve. Although the creature jumped out and scurried out the door, worshipers saw it return for the next service.
- After flames were distributed for the candle-light service, a pastor said, "Now that we're all good and lit ...," causing laughter throughout the pews.
- Children tend to go off-script during Christmas plays, as evidenced by all the bloopers available online. (Check out the YouTube clip titled "Sheep, Mary tussle over baby Jesus in children's pageant gone hilariously awry.")



The following people were prayed for by request at worship from Sunday, October 29 - Sunday, November 19. If we missed you or your loved ones, or your prayer requests, please accept our apologies.

Please let the church office know before you enter the hospital for planned surgeries, during any hospitalization, or about your illnesses and any special needs that we may pray for you.

- ◆ Family of Donna Hardt on her death
- ◆ Family of Arlo Omoth on his death
- ◆ Family of Evie Schwarz on her death
- ◆ Peace in Israel & Gaza
- ◆ Families to join services and Sunday School
- ◆ Ken Koble
- ◆ Mike Morris - Brother to Wes Sauer
- ◆ Ron Greenup, Father to Teri Brewster
- ◆ Strife and unrest in families and our world
- ◆ Tyrell Engesser
- ◆ Harvey Goldade
- ◆ Kit Baumann
- ◆ Joyce Salisbury - Sister to Jean Braun
- ◆ Norma Fried - Sister to Donna Gunderson
- ◆ Uncle Bob - Relative of Steve & Peggy Wollmuth
- ◆ Karen Wollmuth - Relative of Steve & Peggy Wollmuth
- ◆ Alton Krebsbach

- ◆ Melissa Chrest
- ◆ Howard Johnson
- ◆ Karen Goehring

Military Prayer and Card List

We pray for the Men & Women in our Military who protect our country, especially those assigned to serve overseas or away from home.

Members of First Lutheran on Active Duty in The Military and the National Guard:

- ◆ SGT Bryce Rost – Army National Guard
- ◆ SPC Olivia Retterath - National Guard - Deployed
- ◆ SPC Christian Gardner - Army National Guard
- ◆ SPC Cassidy Sommer - National Guard
- ◆ SPC Jonathan Melvard - Army National Guard

Friends and Family on Active Duty in the Military and in the National Guard:

- ◆ SGT Dustin Enockson – National Guard
- ◆ Emily Johnson - Air Force
- ◆ Bryar Anderson - Marines
- ◆ 1SGT Jordan Ternes - Army National Guard
- ◆ TECH SGT Andre Austin
- ◆ Hunter Feigum - National Guard
- ◆ Morris Duffy - Medical Air Guard
- ◆ Brandon Searcy - Navy - Deployed
- ◆ Adam Walsvik - National Guard

CAMP OF THE CROSS NEWS

December 1-3	Dickens Guest House
December 8-10	Dickens Guest House
January 26-28, 2024	Men's Retreat
February 21-25, 2024	Crafting Retreat
March 8-10, 2024	Being & Becoming: Exploring the Enneagram
March 13-17, 2024	Crafting Retreat
April 5-7, 2024	Youth Spring Mega Bash – 4 th -9 th Grades
April 17-21, 2024	Crafting Retreat

- CRAFTING RETREATS – Join scrapbookers, stampers, quilters, cardmakers, etc. for this fun event! Share projects, ideas, devotions, and lots of FUN! The food is homemade and delicious, and great memories are created each day!
- SCANDINAVIAN SUPPER – What a quaint setting to kick off the holiday season with a delicious meal. Hope those who attended enjoyed themselves with the extra entertainment!
- DICKENS GUEST HOUSE – The Dickens Festival transports us to a Victorian English town complete with street vendors, high tea, and English Market and so much more. Camp of the Cross gives you the perfect place to stay during the occasion!
- MEN'S RETREAT – Enjoy a time of fellowship and great conversation with friends new and old. Learn from a guest speaker and enjoy an awesome retreat together!
- BEING & BECOMING: EXPLORING THE ENNEAGRAM – Personality influences our perspectives, decisions & behaviors and how we “show up” in the world. This weekend retreat will introduce you to the Enneagram, a tool which helps us understand personality through

the lens of 9 different types/styles. The Enneagram brings to light the gifts and limitations of each style and illustrates how these styles interact to create our unique personality. Through interactive activities, learning & conversation, we'll explore why we think like we do, act like we do & what motivates each style as we deepen our self-understanding and self-awareness, which in turn leads to greater compassion, authenticity and empowerment.

- TWICED BLESSED CAMPAIGN – It's a blessing when you give a gift to others. We're honored to be working with St. Joseph's Community Health Foundation to double your blessing during the TWICE BLESSED campaign. From November 15 through the end of December, the gifts you make to our organization are eligible for a match. Help us earn our 1-1 match by going to twiceblessednd.com to donate. All gifts are welcome. If you would like to send a check, please consider sending it directly to the St. Joseph Community Health Foundation on our behalf to 308 2nd Ave SW, Minot, ND 58701, noting it is for CCM on the memo line of the check. Thank you for your support.

SUMMER 2024 Registration is OPEN to explore who we are “CREATED TO BE”! Start planning for Summer 2024!

Thank you to EVERYONE for continuing to support OUR camp of the Cross, whether it be through a special appeal or on a regular basis!

Call 701-337-2246, Camp of the Cross office, for questions. Go to www.campofthecross.com to register or for more information.

Thank You
Peggy Moran



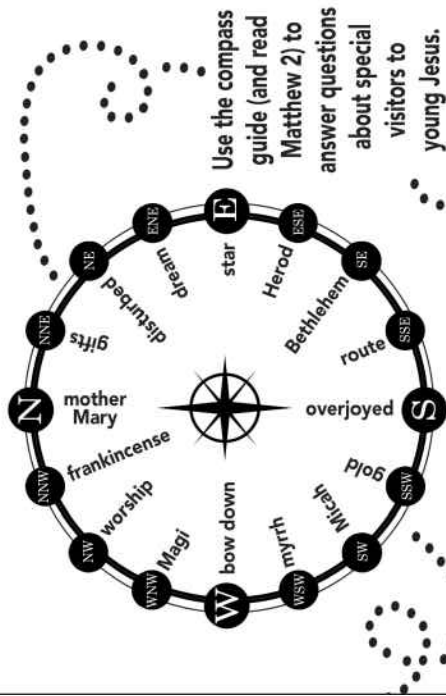
As of November 19, 2023:

Our envelope giving is \$224,232.35 with a yearly budget of \$215,000.00.
\$33,718.53 ahead of budget.

The plate giving is \$12,691.00 with a yearly budget of \$8,500.00.
\$5,159.69 ahead of budget.

Thank you for your giving.

Puzzle!



Use the compass guide (and read Matthew 2) to answer questions about special visitors to young Jesus.

- Who was king at the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
- Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNNW)
- How did King Herod feel about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
- Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
- In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
- King Herod lied to the wise men, telling them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
- What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
- When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
- Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
- Before they worshiped the child, what did the Magi do? _____ (W)
- Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus. _____ (SSW) _____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
- These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as _____ (NNE)
- What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
- The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod; 2. Magi; 3. disturbed; 4. Michah; 5. Bethlehem; 6. worship; 7. star; 8. overjoyed; 9. mother Mary; 10. bow down; 11. gold; frankincense, myrrh; 12. gifts; 13. dream; 14. route

First Lutheran December Birthdays

Happy Birthday to the following First Lutheran members who have birthdays in December. We are sorry if we missed anyone this month. If your name has been missed, kindly report it to the church office so we can get your birth date for our records. Likewise, if we have printed your birthday and you do not wish to have it published in the newsletter, please let Jeannette know in the church office. We will remove it for next year. Thank you!



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1 Jack Carvell Devin Hanson Anthony Schauer Lynsey Schirado Misty Stockert	2 Alexis Berube Sienna Berube Melanie Malsam Seth Teigen
3 Taiton Carlson	4 Darrell Kinnischtzke	5	6	7 Paisley Lorentzen Zachary Schenfisch Colbie Swanson	8 James Nordquist Jaelyn Schauer Sande Wagner Kathy Wuolu	9 Julie Bentz
10 Kathy Keller	11 Nicolette Borlaug	12 Jordan Swanson	13 Steven Kalliokoski Sage Philbrick Liam Solomonson	14 Sharon Chrest Donna Kroll Kirk Vollmuth Corey Winkler	15 David Nodsle	16 Jeff Leidholm
17 Carter Knutson	18 Cody Maier	19	20 Ted Doe	21 Theresa Petersen Hadley Wilson	22 Aubrey Holznagel Grant Wisdom	23
24 Stephanie Maier Laura Tweeten	25	26 Carol Doe Carson Richards	27 Kathy Kaiser Doug Thomas Pat Wolf	28 Garver Malsam	29 James Chrest Emily Westrick	30 Howard Johnson
31 Caden Albers Jonathan Melvard						



**Memorial Gifts Given to Special Funds
(Sunday, October 29 to Sunday, November 19)**



Fund given to & by whom In Memory of

Building Fund \$110.00
 Janet Carvell Arlene Bender
 Janet Carvell Bob Landgren
 Mary Ann Beeks Ruth Lund
 Mary Ann Beeks Evie Schwarz
 Rick & LeAnn Richard Evie Schwarz
 Rick & LeAnn Richard Arlo Omoth

Camp of the Cross \$0.00

General Fund 785.00
 Steve & Peggy Wollmuth Earl Cottingham
 Mac & Judy Beaudry Eleanore Gappert
 Mac & Judy Beaudry Weldon Wagner
 Mac & Judy Beaudry Bob Frank
 Brad & Cathy Sheldon Robert Landgren
 Jeneen Loe David Loe
 John & Helen Samuelson Evie Schwarz
 Kitty Tweeten Wilmar Fischer
 Kitty Tweeten Mia Petersen
 Kitty Tweeten Bob Landgren
 Kitty Tweeten Bob Frank
 Kitty Tweeten Weldon Wagner
 Kitty Tweeten Eleanore Gappert
 Kitty Tweeten Earl Cottingham
 Kitty Tweeten In Honor of Marlene Slagg's
 Birthday
 Dick & Carla Bickert Donna Hardt

The following are all in memory of Ruth Lund:
 John & Helen Samuelson
 Mac & Judy Beaudry
 Larry & Kathy Keller
 Brad & Cathy Sheldon
 Kitty Tweeten

The following are all in memory of Arlene Bender:
 Mac & Judy Beaudry
 Jim & Kathy Kaiser
 Larry & Kathy Keller
 Terry & Donna Gunderson
 Richard & Cyndie Perkerewicz
 Meri Martin
 Orlin & Ivadell Larson

Fund given to & by whom In Memory of

General Fund (cont.)
 The following are all in memory of Arlo Omoth:
 John & Helen Samuelson
 Claudette Ness
 Dick & Carla Bickert
 Sharon Chrest
 Terry & Norma Petersen

Global Missions \$0.00

LWR \$65.00
 Dewey & Wanda Oster Lavina Vetter
 Dewey & Wanda Oster Robert Stanley
 Mary Ann Beeks Arlo Omoth

Music \$55.00
 Arden & Sande Wagner Arlene Bender
 Elmer & Arlene Schwarz Arlene Bender
 Arden & Sande Wagner Evie Schwarz
 Arden & Sande Wagner Donna Hardt
 Orlin & Ivadell Larson Evie Schwarz

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox
 Steve & Peggy Wollmuth Arlene Bender

Parking Lot Fund \$0.00

Pizza Day \$0.00

Relief Missions \$0.00

Sunday School \$50.00
 Terry & Norma Petersen Donna Hardt

Super Sunday Supper \$0.00

US/Local Missions \$0.00

VBS \$0.00

World Hunger 0.00

Worship \$20.00
 George & Val Swanson Arlene Bender



Our sympathy goes out to:
 ⇒ Elmer & Arlene Schwarz and family on the death of their sister-in-law, Evie Schwarz
 ⇒ Jeneen Loe and family on the death of Jeneen's brother, Arlo Omoth
 ⇒ Brandon & Haley Anderson and Chad & Kacy Hardt and families on the death of Haley and Chad's mother, Donna Hardt.

May God give them comfort in this time of sorrow.



December

2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2 9:30 AM FLCW Advent Breakfast
3 First Sunday of Advent Holy Communion 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School Fireside Bible Reading Budget Meeting 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	4	5 8:00 Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group 6:30 PM Council Meeting	6 9:30 AM Friendship Bible Study Noon Pizza Day 5:30 - 6:15 PM Confirmation Meal 6:15 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:45 PM Choir 7:45 PM FLY	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day	8	9
10 Second Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:30 AM Choir Cantata 10:30 AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School Fireside Bible Reading 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	11 10:00 AM Chat & Sew Quilting	12 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group	13 9:30 AM Friendship Bible Study 5:30 - 6:15 PM Confirmation Meal 6:15 PM Confirmation 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:45 PM Choir 7:45 PM FLY Christmas Party	14	15	16
17 Third Sunday of Advent Holy Communion 8:30 AM Bible Study 9:30 AM Worship PreK - 1st Grade S.S. Christmas Program 10:30 AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour 10:45 AM Sunday School Fireside Bible Reading Noon Call Committee Meeting 6:30 PM Grades 2-6 S.S. Christmas Program 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	18 Noon Newsletter Deadline	19 8:00 AM Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM Mommy's Group Noon Poinsettia Deadline	20 6:00 PM FLY Leaves for Hazen	21 9:30 AM Deborah Bible Study 4:30 PM Private Birthday Party	22	23
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent Christmas Eve 9:30 AM Worship 4:30 & 6:30 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship w/Holy Communion 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting	25 Christmas Day	26 10:00 AM Mommy's Group	27	28	29	30
31 First Sunday after Christmas New Years Eve 9:30 AM Worship 10:30 AM Fellowship/Coffee Hour 7:00 PM AA Meeting Al-Anon Meeting						

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*“Working hand in hand to
know Christ and make
Christ known through
Worship, Christian
Education, Evangelism,
Caring Ministries, and
Service.”*

Merry Christmas to:

December 2023 Newsletter



December 2 - 9:30 AM - Advent Breakfast

December 3 - First Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Worship w/Holy Communion
10:30 AM - Fellowship/Coffee Hour
10:45 AM - Sunday School
Fireside Bible Reading

December 10 - Second Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Choir Cantata
10:30 AM - Fellowship/Coffee Hour
10:45 AM - Sunday School
Fireside Bible Reading

December 17 - Third Sunday of Advent
8:30 AM - Bible Study
9:30 AM - Worship w/Holy Communion
and Pre-K - 1st Grade Sunday School
Christmas Program
10:30 AM - Fellowship/Coffee Hour
10:45 AM - Sunday School
Fireside Bible Reading
6:30 PM - Grades 2-6
Sunday School Christmas Program
Followed by Dessert

**December 24 - Fourth Sunday of Advent
and Christmas Eve**
9:30 AM - Worship
4:30 PM & 6:30 PM
Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship
w/Holy Communion

December 25 - Christmas Day

Merry Christmas