

EMMANUEL NEWS

Sunday School: 9:00 am (Sept-May)

Divine Service: Sundays at 10:00 am



From the Pastor's Study

The prophet Hosea was God's chosen messenger to warn Israel (the northern kingdom) and Judah (the southern kingdom) that without repentance and a change of heart they would be destroyed. To illustrate this message Hosea was instructed to marry a prostitute. Hosea's unfaithful wife represented Israel and Judah who were unfaithful to God. When Gomer (that really was her name) gave birth she wasn't given the joy of choosing her babies' names, that responsibility was God's.

The first son's name was Jezreel and he was named after the valley where Israel would be defeated once and for all. The second child, a girl, was named Lo-ruhama, which means "no mercy." God would no longer have mercy on Israel; they would be left to the merciless invaders. The third child, another son, was named "Not my people." God's people had abandoned Him so He would no longer claim them as is own. There's much more to Hosea's book that we'll save for another day. What I wanted you to see is that names have a purpose and meaning in the Scriptures, and this brings us to this year's advent services.

When Mary was told she was going to bear a son, Gabriel instructed her to name her son Jesus. When an angel appeared to Joseph he gave Joseph the same command. The name Jesus was significant because it means "the Lord saves" and that's exactly why He was born - to save His people from Sin and Death.

In addition to His birth name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by a variety of names/titles. The Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life, Lord, Messiah, Son of God are just a few of them. In this year's Advent series, we are going to examine four names given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6. You may be familiar with these: "Wonderful Counselor," "Mighty God," "Everlasting Father," and "Prince of Peace." Each of these titles is significant and during our Midweek services (7pm on Dec 4, 11, 18) we'll mediate on one of these names and what they say about Jesus, His saving work, and His relationship with us.

I pray you join us for these special midweek services as we prepare to celebrate our Lord's birth. The Wednesday services are the perfect opportunity to take a break in the middle of the week to be uplifted with God's Word.

In Christ, Pastor

WHAT ARE WE?

At this time of year, our minds are drawn to thoughts of our Savior, as they should be. The ages-old story is always fresh and exciting to us as Christians as we rejoice in our Father's great love for us shown in His sending His own Son for us. That Son came in the form of a Baby Who was nurtured inside His mother's body, a *"treasure in a jar of clay."*

The angels announced His birth; the shepherds left their sheep and came to worship Him; the Wise Men traveled many miles to adore Him and bring Him their gifts. *"But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart"* (Luke 2:19). She still had *"this treasure in a jar of clay."*

We, too, have this *"treasure...this all-surpassing power...from God and not from us."* We have the Word dwelling in us! His great power enables and equips us to be stewards who can fulfill any task our Savior lays before us. He gives us courage to witness of His birth and life and death and resurrection. He gives us gifts to serve His people and to reach out to those still outside His kingdom. He gives us financial resources to support the mission and ministry of our churches.

During this time of Advent and Christmas, let us *"treasure...these things and ponder them in [our hearts]."* And let us ask God to use us according to His plan to spread the news of that treasure.

Mary and Martha Meeting Minutes

Mary & Martha met Nov 14th with 7 in attendance. Joyce was hostess. Gert Drost led the devotion. Judy called the meeting to order, minutes and financials were read and approved.

- 6 quilters tied quilts Nov 11th.
- Elections were held: Judy will remain President and Pam will continue as Secretary
- Advent by Candlelight is Dec 2
- M&M will supply cookies for Lake View Candyland.
- Dec 12th is a Christmas luncheon at Judy's and help sheet was passed around.
- We will be hosting a "giving tree" for needy families.

Closed with Lords Prayer and table prayer.

Pam Wollesen, Secretary

Daughters of Emmanuel Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024

DOES met at in the Fellowship Hall with 8 members in attendance. Jennifer was our hostess. Pastor led a bible study. Minutes and financial reports were read and approved.

Birthdays: Dec 10th Brigit and Dec 28 Melissa

Old business: Helga will be next secretary. Still need a VP. Poinsettias will be \$15. Helga and Mollie to be point for sale. Cookie walk proceeds going to hurricane relief.

New Business: Ordering 4 dozen rolls for Dec 8 fellowship. Craft project for the nursing homes discussed and determined. Christmas party at Kim's on Dec 8 at 4:30. Cookie walk sign up sent around.

19 Thanksgiving bags were assembled.

Mites/Offering collected. Closed with Lords Prayer Submitted by Helga Gross, President

LYF – November 2024

6th: Met in the fireside room with four members present

Socktober

Collected 137 pairs of socks

Decided to donate all to IOWAY

Will do this every October because the need is great

LYF bank account

Pastor Peterson and Rachel Zehnder were appointed signatories

Mission project ideas

Meal packaging

Mercy Meals or local option?

Provide service around town in the spring

Write Christmas cards for nursing home residents

Make tie blankets

20th: Met at Peace at 7:00 to play games

Six members in attendance

Invited Peace to our Christmas party on December 18

Upcoming events

December

4th – Angel Tree shopping

Will get tags from New Opportunities and meet at Dollar General at 7:00

18th – Christmas party in the fellowship hall with Peace at 7:00

Appetizer potluck – everyone bring a snack to share

Christmas movie – Polar Express

Games – scavenger hunt, build a snowman

Gift exchange game – need die and rule sheet

Wear Christmas gear

Photo: Peace LYF joined Emmanuel LYF on October 30th to carve pumpkins!

back row: Xander Hemer, Thaddeus Gerdes, Jordan Ulmer, Kyler Snider, Diana Knaub, Briley Dornath, Emmalinn Carico



Education Corner!

What interesting & helpful tips do we have for December, one of the craziest, busiest times of the year? Read on and find out!

As we mentioned in the November newsletter, we are encouraging everyone to use a "Reverse Advent Calendar". For anyone who is not familiar with this idea, what it is ~ is a calendar that goes through the month of December (or you may have started early in mid-November) and on each day, instead of "getting" something, you GIVE something, such as a food product, a hygiene product or other item that many around us in need could use, especially this time of year. Each day will have a Scripture passage with a focus on giving or, alternatively, you can read a chapter of the Gospel of Luke, which will take you through Jesus' life during the Advent season, so you can focus on the true gift and reason for the season ~ and maybe inspire you a little to spread that Gospel with others. These are available on the table in the Fellowship Hall. And it's never too late to get started! If you have any questions, please contact me!

Sunday School Christmas Program!

Don't forget our program is set for Sunday, December 15th, as part of our regular Sunday service. We will NOT be having Saturday practices this year, so it's critical that kids are working at home on their parts. Please work with your children as much as possible ~ in the car, after dinner, before bed. While the older kids will have their parts available on the podiums, they should still be familiar with their lines & any tricky words. Also, please encourage your kids to read **slowly, clearly and loudly!** We want to hear everyone share this wonderful message!



Christmas Music

Who loves Christmas music? I think all of us appreciate Christmas music (some more than others...it's me, I'm the "Crazy Christmas Music Lady"). But even I can get tired of jumping in the car and hearing Bruce Springsteen belt out "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" for the 100th time that day. Don't get me wrong ~ I grew up hearing mostly secular Christmas songs on the radio, but we didn't have this constant inundation that we do today. Radio stations didn't play non-stop Christmas music and most of us didn't have as many Christmas albums/cassettes/CDs that we do today. So, it's easy to get bogged down or even downright annoyed by the seemingly endless, inane Christmas songs that ultimately have nothing to do with the season. So how can we combat that and keep some joy in our songs? I suggest seeking out Christian options for playing music. These can be actual radio stations, music subscription services (such as Sirius XM) or streaming platforms (like Spotify or Pandora). And of course, if you have those albums/cassettes/CDs (and a device to play them on), by all means, fire them up & sing away! Below are some suggestions for finding some uplifting Christmas music this season!

Radio Stations:

91.3 KDFR, Life 107.1, Inspiration 97.9, Hope 940

Sirius XM:

"The Message" - Channel 65

Streaming Platforms:

I'll be honest: You might want to get a teenager to help with this one. Platforms such as Spotify, Pandora or YouTube radio are beyond me. I don't think they have genre channels per se, they seem to be more artist oriented. But I can give you some names of some really good Christian artists: Michael W. Smith, Amy Grant, Casting Crowns, Crowder, Chris August, Hannah Kerr, The Ball Brothers, Ann Wilson, Katy Nichole, Sidewalk Prophets, Downhere and Francesca Battistelli.

I hope you these options help you enjoy the music of the season a little more!

Advent by Candlelight

5:30 PM December 2nd

\$6.00 get your tickets from a table hostess

Joyce Bettin, Carletta Brown, Deanna Cole

Julie&Gert Drost, Kim Drost, Judy Kramer

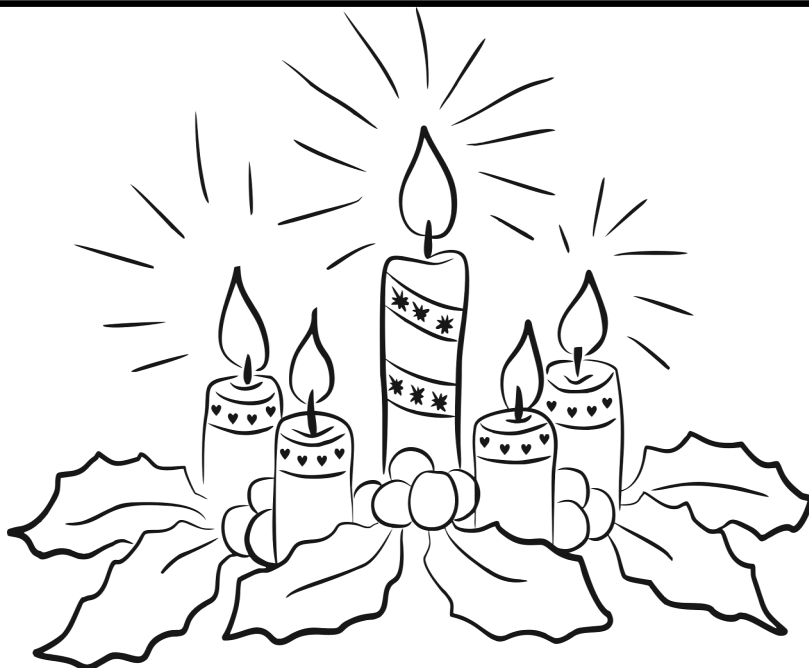
Donita Mork, LuAnn Norris, Mollie Scott

Vanessa Swenson, Lunda Wiebers, Karen

Wetzstein, Sheryl Huisenga, Rachel

Zehnder

Proceeds will go toward mission projects.



DOEs Annual Cookie Walk

December 8th following Service

Come grab your favorites.

Containers will be provided or bring your own.

\$6.00/ dozen

Poinsettia Sales

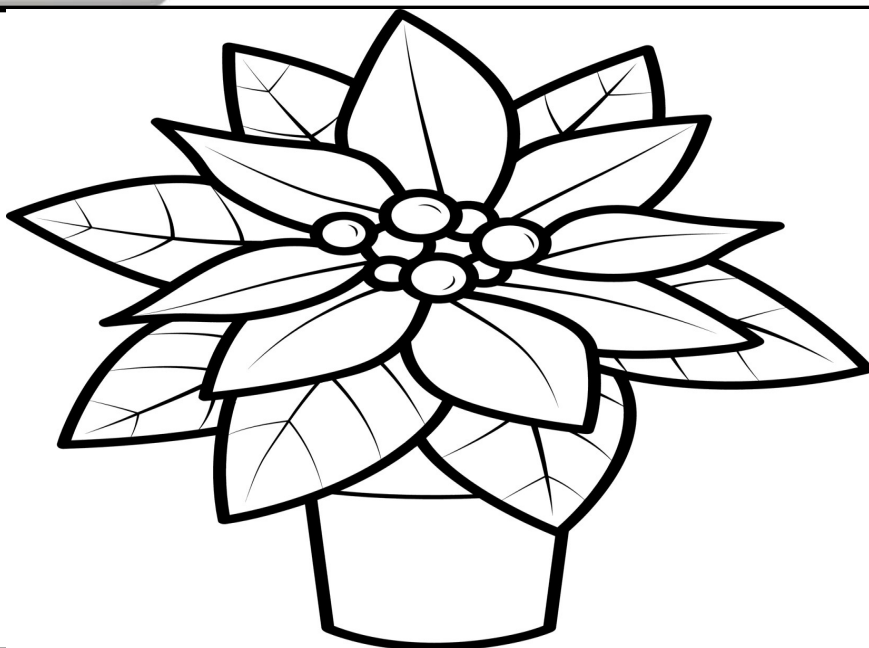
DOEs are selling

Christmas Poinsettias

\$15.00

Please see Helga Gross or Mollie

Scott to order



December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Sunday School	2 5:30 pm Advent by Candlelight	3 7:00 pm Evangelism Comm Meeting	4 3:30 Confirmation 7:00 pm Advent Service LYF Mitton Tree	5	6 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	7
8 9:00 Sunday Sch 10:00 Worship DOEs cookie Walk 4:30 DOEs Xmas	9 7:00 Women's Bible Study	10	11 3:30 Confirmation 7:00 pm Advent Service Council Meeting follow- ing service	12 Mary/Martha Christmas luncheon	13 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	14
15 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship Kids Christmas Program	16 7:00 Women's Bible Study	17	18 3:30 Confirmation 5:00 pm JIF 7:00 Advent Service 7:45 LYF Christmas party	19	20 7:00 am Men's Bible Study	21
22 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	23	24 .7:00 and 10:00 Christmas Eve Services	25 10:00 am Christmas Service	26	27	28
29 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Worship	30	31				

Birthdays

Name	Date
Jon Stehr	03
Lucas Johnson	05
Jodi Pieken	06
Renee Huisenga	07
Faye Kruse	09
Eugene Gerdes	10
Craig Wallace	10
Brigit Frank	10
Tara Reaman	10
Joann Clausen	12
Cindy Shelp	12
Chris Nelson	12
Bill Caton	15
Jeff Huisenga	17
Tommy Gross	17
Wayne Pluckhahn	18
Tami Moeller	20
Denise Woltman	20
Ruth Green	26
Corey Bundt	26
Griffin Johnson	27
Melissa Frye	28

Anniversaries

If your birthday or anniversary is not on our list, please contact the church office so we can add you to our list.

Serving in God's House

Elders:

Dec 1: Craig Wallace (606) 584-3221
Dec 8: Dave Woltman (712) 660-3532
Dec 15: Lyle Tegels (712) 830-7151
Dec 22: Marlin Johnson (712) 210-0879
Dec 29: Craig Wallace (606) 584-3221

Acolytes:

Dec 1: Katie Ryan, Kaylee Jenkins
Dec 8: Kylie Rudd
Dec 15: Brynn Boeckman, Kayla Kotz
Dec 22: Talon Graff, Ryder Siebrecht
Dec 29: Carter Huegerich, Konnor Snider

Counters:

Dec 1: Christina Caton, Amber Hadden, Julie Reaman
Dec 8: Judy Miller and Dale & Lynda Wiebers
Dec 15: Brigit Frank, Karen Van Meveren, Lucas & Kalyn Johnson
Dec 22: Christina Caton, Amber Hadden, Julie Reaman
Dec 29: Judy Miller and Dale & Lynda Wiebers

Greeters:

Dec 1: Charles & Pam Wolleson
Dec 4: Jennifer Peterson
Dec 8: Wuanita Tegels
Dec 11: Brigit Frank
Dec 15: Donna Smidt & Sheryl Huisenga
Dec 18: Lannie & Judy Miller
Dec 22: Lyle & Lori Tegels
Dec 24: Tom & Julie Reaman
Dec 25: Roger & Rita Peters
Dec 29: Judy Kramer

Contact Us

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