



Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 3

9:30 am Worship w/Communion
9:30 am Sunday School
10:30 am Congregation
Annual meeting



Monday, December 4

6:00 pm Sit Happens
6:30 pm Fellowship Committee

Tuesday, December 5

6:00 pm Council Christmas Dinner

Wednesday, December 6

Thursday, December 7

10:00 am Knitters for Neighbors
1:00 pm Mountie Back Pack packing
6:30 pm Bell Choir Rehearsal
7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal
7:30 pm NA

Friday, December 8

6:00 pm Blessed Beginnings
Preschool Christmas Program

Saturday, December 9

10:00 am Christmas Dinner Set-Up



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MESSIAH MESSENGER

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November 29, 2023

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Messiah's Congregation Annual Meeting

Sunday, December 3, 2023

Immediately following worship



CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING

On the Agenda will be the

- ❖ 2024 budget
- ❖ election of 2024 Council
- ❖ election of 2024 Nominating Committee

The 2024 nominee for church council is: **Mary Schultz**. Four members of council will be starting their second term on council in January: **Jody Fullmer, Craig Kropp, Gary Hutchinson and Sylvia McCarty**.

Nominees for nomination committee are: **Sue Christ, Sherri Holtzman and Larry Solomon**.

You should have received your Annual Report Packet, included in the packet was a 2024 Budget Proposal, time and talent survey and your pledge card. Please return the time and talent Survey and pledge cards by December 3. Place them in the offering plate on Sunday morning or in the church office.

All are invited and are encouraged to attend this important meeting



December 3, 2023

Service Assistants

Ushers: Charles Luppert, Larry & Donna Britton, Gail O'Brien, Sylvia McCarty, Larry Solomon; **Lay Assistant:** Susan Bryan; **Communion Assistant:** Georgette Copp

Acolyte: Raymond Demarest; **Altar Guild:** Jody Fullmer, Jean Bower

Greeters/Communion Presenters: Don and Mary Ellen Rosenbaum

Cantor: Carol Waltz; **Flower Delivery:** Jody Fullmer

Sunday, November 26; Attendance: **77**; Offering: **\$3,203.05** Cap. Campaign: **\$35.00.**

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Sam Hessert, by his wife Carol and children.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Nita and Eugene Hamm by their daughter and son-in-law, Debra and James Walton.

The Basket of Flowers is given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Andrea's father, William H. Dennis and David's mother, Geraldine C. Turner by David and Andrea Turner and children.

Bible Reading

Sunday, December 3 – Isaiah 64:1-9; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

Monday, December 4 – Psalm 79; Micah 4:1-5; Revelation 15:1-8

Tuesday, December 5 – Psalm 79; Micah 4:6-13; Revelation 18:1-10

Wednesday, December 6 – Psalm 79; Micah 5:1-5a; Luke 21:34-38

Thursday, December 7 – Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Hosea 6:1-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:2-10

Friday, December 8 – Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Jeremiah 1:4-10; Acts 11:19-26

Saturday, December 9 – Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13; Ezekiel 36:24-28; Mark 11:27-33



Pastoral Care Number: Please call (570) 326-9171. (Available 24 hours a day) During work hours the office staff will assist you. After hours, please press "3" for a Pastoral Emergency to be connected directly to the Pastor.



Food Pantry is in need of mac and cheese, boxed potatoes, canned fruit, dry milk, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti, jelly, canned chicken, tuna fish, syrup, pancake mix and soup and cream of mushroom soup.

The Bible Study and Fellowship is done for the fall session. We will return on January 17, 2024 for our Winter Bible Study. *Happy Holiday's!*

Estimate of Giving Cards and Time and Talent Surveys are now being received. Place them in the offering plate on Sunday morning or by returning them to the office by December 3rd.



The Library Corner – Highlighted Books



Children - **The Birth of Jesus** - This is a colorful book and an easy read sharing the story with preschoolers to early elementary students. Easy reading for those early readers. Begins with Mary and the angel and ends with the Wiseman coming to worship the Christ Child. Book is in the Christmas section of our library.

Adult - **Martin Luther's Christmas Book** - This inspiring collection contains thirty excerpts from Martin Luther's Christmas Sermons. In his unique and powerful voice, Luther portrays the human reality of God's birth on earth--Mary's distress at giving birth with no midwife or water, Joseph's misgivings, the Wise Men's perplexity, Herod's cunning. And throughout these sermon-meditations, Martin Luther reminds us that keeping Christmas is a year-round mission of caring for those in need.



It's time to start practicing the music for the Christmas Eve services. If you are not in the choir but would like to sing please join us on Sunday, December 3rd, (immediately following the Annual Meeting) and Sundays, December 10, December 17 and December 24th immediately following worship.



Soloists, instrumentalists or groups of people interested in playing an instrument or singing on Christmas Eve please contact Jared Gist at 570-398-1674. Thank you!

Last day to take an angel is Sunday, December 3rd. Please be sure to sign the sheet on the table by the trees with your name, number and the ID information of the child. **Please return ALL gifts and Christmas donations by Sunday, December 10th. White Gifts and food baskets will be picked up on Saturday, December 17 from 9 am- noon.** If you have any questions, please contact Candy Watkins (570)998-4037. *Thank you for your support.*



Advent Devotionals published by the Lutheran Hour Ministries are on a table in the Narthex.





Traditionally we decorate the Nave after the service on the 4th Sunday in Advent; this year we will decorate on **Sunday, December 17** immediately following worship. **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!** Please sign-up on the sheet in the Narthex.

Decorating needs are:

- ❖ Lights on the tree in the Chancel.
- ❖ Lights and Crismons on the tree in the East Portico
- ❖ Wreaths, garland & other lights hung in the church

Poinsettias will be set out on Friday, December 21 at 11:00am.

Many hands make quick work. Please share your time and talents.

Messiah's Annual Christmas Dinner

Sunday, December 10th, 2023

Christmas is coming and we are planning the Christmas dinner for December 10th at 4:00 pm. Ham and scalloped potatoes are on the menu, please bring a covered dish to share. We hope you will come to share the meal and the fellowship. Entertainment for the evening will be a Christmas Bingo Game and singing Carols. Please sign-up by Sunday, December 3rd. Sign-up sheets are in the Narthex or contact church office. Please give number of attendees.



Christmas Dinner

From Camp Mount Luther ~ Advent Holy Hike: We know that Advent can be a busy time. We know you need to take a breath and remember what the season is all about. What better way than to join friends and spend time with God in creation? We invite you to join us on an **Advent Holy Hike** from **2:00- 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 17, 2023**. Bring your family and friends as we walk the camp trails and share scripture, song, and reflection during this season of preparation for Christ's coming. We start and end at the Evergreen Center and we'll have hot chocolate, coffee, tea, and Christmas cookies to warm you up!



Clothing for Daniel's Closet is accepted year-round at Messiah.

Daniel's Closet is in need of winter coats, hats, and gloves, especially men's. As the cold weather approaches, your gifts can warm a heart as well as a body. If you have any gently used winter outerwear that you can donate, please place it in the blue bin in the elevator alcove. **Thank you!**

The next Closet will be held on Saturday, December 16, 8:30-11:00 a.m.





Advent Calendar

Scriptures and Carols

December 1: **Isaiah 7:14** Angels We Have Heard on High

December 2: **Isaiah 9:6** Away in a Manger

December 3: **Micah 5:2** O Little Town of Bethlehem

December 4: **Jeremiah 23:5** O Come All Ye Faithful

December 5: **Isaiah 40:1-4** Joy to the World

December 6: **Jeremiah 33:14-15** The First Noel

December 7: **Isaiah 40:11** It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

December 8: **Psalms 24** Hark the Herald Angels Sing

December 9: **Jeremiah 23:6** While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

December 10: **Jacob 7:11-12** Far, Far Away on Judaea's Plain

December 11: **1 Nephi 10:4** God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

December 12: **1 Nephi 11:13,18** What Child is This

December 13: **1 Nephi 11:20-24** O Holy Night

December 14: **1 Nephi 11:27** Who is the Child

December 15: **Helaman 12:3** Samuel Tells of the Baby Jesus

December 16: **Helaman 14:5-6** I Heard the Bells

December 17: **Luke 1:30-31** I Believe in Christ

December 18: **3 Nephi 1:13** When Christ was Born in Bethlehem

December 19: **2 Nephi 1:19** Star Bright

December 20: **Luke 2:4-7** O Hush Thee My Baby

December 21: **Luke 2:8-11** How Great Thou Art

December 22: **Luke 2:12-14** We Three Kings

December 23: **Matthew 2:1-2** With Wondering Awe

December 24: **Mosiah 3:5-8** Silent Night

December 25: **Luke 2:15-21** Good Christian Friends Rejoice

