



Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 28

Lesson and Carols

9:30 am Worship/Communion
Installation of Council

Monday, December 29

Tuesday, December 30

Wednesday, December 31

Thursday, January 1
7:30 pm NA Welcome **2026!**

Friday, January 2

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, January 3

O Lord, let my
New Year's resolution
be to 
follow you
more closely
and to
trust in your
loving guidance.

Sunday, January 4

9:30 am Worship/Communion
11:30 am Un-Decorating the Church

Monday, January 5

6:30 pm Fellowship Committee
7:30 pm Worship and Music

Tuesday, January 6

7:00 pm Council Meeting

Wednesday, January 7

6:30 pm Bible Study and Fellowship

Thursday, January 8

1:00 pm Backpacks Packing
2:00 pm Choir
7:30 pm NA

Friday, January 9

OFFICE CLOSED

Saturday, January 10

MESSIAH MESSENGER USPS 342-060

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As we welcome this brand-new year, may your home be filled with love, laughter, and understanding in the months ahead. May you find strength to face any challenges together, holding onto faith and hope as your guide. May this year bring your family good health, happiness, and a sense of warmth and connection that fills your days with joy. Happy New Year to you and your loved ones!

Sunday, December 28, 2025

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Charles Luppert, Larry and Donna Britton, Rhonda Koch, Sylvia McCarty, Larry Solomon; **Lay Assistant:** Carola Storrs; **Comm. Assist.:** Mary Schultz
Altar Guild: Sue Shoemaker, Yvonne Kaiser; **Greeters/Presenters:** Yvonne Kaiser, Rhonda Koch; **Flower Delivery:** Marilyn Winter

Sunday, December 21: Attendance: **100**; Online: **6**; Offering: **\$3,343.38**

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones that died this past year.

Sunday, January 4, 2026

SERVICE ASSISTANTS

Ushers: Mike Larson, Brian Bair, Al Cole, Sally Congdon, Kim Brofee
Lay Assistant: Dave Bausinger; **Comm. Asst.:** Mandy Feinberg; **Acolyte:** Weston Sherman
Altar Guild: Vicki Bair, Doris Butt; **Greeters/Presenters:** Doris Butt, Kim Brofee
Cantor: Dave Bausinger; **Flower Delivery:** Chuck Luppert

IN BLESSED MEMORY

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of loved ones.

BIBLE READINGS

Sunday, December 28: *Isaiah 63:7-9; Hebrews 2:10-18; Matthew 2:13-23*

Monday, December 29: *Psalm 20; Jeremiah 31:15-22; Luke 19:41-44*

Tuesday, December 30: *Psalm 20; Isaiah 26:1-9; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18*

Wednesday, December 31: *Psalm 20; 1 Kings 3:5-14; John 8:12-19*

Thursday, January 1: *Psalm 8; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:15-21*

Friday, January 2: *Psalm 72; Genesis 12:1-7; Hebrews 11:1-12*

Saturday, January 3: *Psalm 72; Genesis 28:10-22; Hebrews 11:13-22*

Sunday, January 4: *Jeremiah 31:7-14; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-18*

Monday, January 5: *Psalm 72; Joshua 1:1-9; Hebrews 11:32-12:2*

Tuesday, January 6: *Isaiah 60:1-6; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12*

Wednesday, January 7: *Psalm 72; 1 Kings 10:1-13; Ephesians 3:14-21*

Thursday, January 8: *Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 3:1-9:1a; Acts 9:1-9*

Friday, January 9: *Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 3:10-4:1a; Acts 9:10-19a*

Saturday, January 10: *Psalm 29; 1 Samuel 7:3-17; Acts 19b-31*

Happy New Year ♡ *Happy New Year* ♡ *Happy New Year*



Away in a Manger - Using the lyrics of what may be the most loved children's carol, this beautiful book invites you to come to the manger to see the Christ Child and to rejoice in the peace, joy, and promise of salvation he brings. This book will captivate readers of all ages with the drama and the excitement of that amazing night when Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Beautiful illustrations.

Silent Night - "Long ago, inside a dusty hole, hidden in the Church of Saint Nicholas that stood in the village of Oberndorf, beside a river that rushed helter-skelter through Austria, a land of music and mountains and snow, there lived a large family of mice." This is the legend that inspired the writing and singing of the Christmas carol "Silent Night".

The Library Corner - Week of January 4th



Children - **The Light of Christmas** - Into a world dark with sin came the Light from heaven--Jesus Christ--as the fulfillment of God's great plan of salvation for His children. This picture book tells the story of that Light. Through a delightful poem and charming artwork, children ages 4 and up will learn about that first Christmas night when God sent the Light...and what it means for all of us today.

Adult - - **Light from Heaven by Jan Karon** - You'll find characters and themes both old and new, and answers to questions asked by millions of readers since the series began. You'll also find a heartfelt surprise. After a debilitating blow to the head, Edith Mallory is speaking again--and what she says is shocking. This book is in the Adult Fiction section.



Presiding over our worship this Sunday, December 28, will be Janet Stroble, ALWL.

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

*Articles for the **Messenger and Bulletin** are due in the office by Monday at noon.*

All donations to be recorded in the 2025 Calendar Year must be received in the office by **December 28th**. Any donations received after **December 28th** will be recorded in the new year, 2026. Thank you.

If you give to the church through **Simply Giving/Vanco/Automatic deduction**, after your December donation, you will need to update your pledge. Thank you.

PLEASE NOTE This is for those members who are changing their amount of tithes or who would like to give to the church in this way. If you are keeping your pledge as is there is no need to contact us.

Happy New Year ♡ Happy New Year ♡ Happy New Year

***PLEASE NOTE:** No Messenger will be printed/sent on Wednesday, December 31st.*

OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

CLOSED – Christmas Day, December 25 and Friday December 26th

CLOSED – New Year's Day, January 1 and Friday, January 2nd

Normal office hours will resume – Monday, January 5th



Thank you to everyone who opened your hearts to offer support to the White Gifts Ministry and Christmas food baskets in any way. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to supply 18 families with gifts and 25 households with food baskets.

In addition to the gifts that were purchased and brought in, we received an ample amount in cash donations to fulfill the requests on every single tag that remained on the tree - plus offers of more money if it was needed. A heartfelt thank you also to the volunteers who came to help. Many hands made short work of the wrapping, and the distribution went smoothly on Saturday thanks to those who showed up to carry gifts and boxes of food to the cars as well as making some deliveries to families who did not have transportation to pick up their gifts. The mothers of the two infants for whom we had the “baby sprinkle” were especially thankful to receive the extra diapers and supplies. *We are truly blessed as a congregation to be able to be a blessing to others. Feliz Navidad!*



2nd Tuesday Church Ladies

Ladies of Messiah!!!

Drop in at Perkins the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 9:00 am for breakfast, Christian support and fellowship. If interested, please sign up in the Narthex so we know how many to plan for. It's a great start to a new year. Hope to see you there!!



Donna Britton's prints are once again available in the church office. Many members inquired about her prints at the preschool Bingo event. Prints are \$25 each, and half of the proceeds from the purchase will be donated to the preschool. Come and see them.



Installation of council

The congregation council members will be installed this Sunday, December 28, during worship. The members of council for 2026 are newly elected Lauren Russell and re-elected Jimmy Gardner and Rhonda Koch. Current members are Anita Bair, Alfred “Al” Cole, Jody Fullmer, Craig Kropp, Joanie Jackson, Sylvia McCarty, Ronald “Ron” Yeagle and Mary Schultz.

Removing the Greens



Sunday, January 5 immediately following worship we will be un-decorating the church. **Many hands make quick work. Please share your time and talents.**



Bible Study and Fellowship will begin on Wednesday, January 7th at 7:00 pm. *All are welcome!*

Daniel's Closet



at Redeemer is in need of ...

- Coats for everyone ... *all sizes!*
- We are in **desperate need of men's coats.**
- Men's clothing in all sizes but *especially small and medium*
- People are always looking for shoes.

We also need **hats and gloves for the blessing hedges**, *especially hats for men and boys as well as gloves for everyone.*

Donations may be dropped off at Messiah and placed in the blue bin in the Chapel alcove whenever the church is open, or brought to the Messiah office and a volunteer will take them to Redeemer for you. Please use kitchen size bags (or smaller) and don't pack them too heavily with clothes so that they are easier for our volunteers to handle.

All are welcome to "shop" the Closet, regardless of need or circumstances. The next Closet will be held on Saturday, January 24, 8:30-11:00 a.m.

Thank you for your support!

Puzzle!

Unscramble the Christmas-themed words below, writing each extra letter on the blank to the right. Then place those extra letters in the correct spots below to discover what we receive at Christmas.



- TGLBEHHEME _____
- NEAGLO _____
- NRMEDAG _____
- ODEKSNY _____
- AMGYR _____
- OHESJIP _____
- EFJUUS _____
- ITEENMSW _____
- SPHHSREEO _____
- EMCFAL _____
- TLSRA _____
- CSSNUEO _____
- HEVSPE _____
- ENIN _____

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | | |

Answers: Bethlehem (C), angel (O), manger (D), donkey (S), Mary (C), Joseph (I), Jesus (F), wise men (O), shepherds (O), camel (F), star (L), census (O), sheep (V), inn (E), God's gift of love

PUZZLE

Joy to the WORLD

In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

Directions: Circle all the complete small "joy" words — forward only. Count the total. Bonus: See if you can find "Jesus" amid all the joy!

TOTAL JOY= _____

Answer: 36 (10 in the J, 15 in the O, 11 in the Y); Jesus is at the bottom of the large O