

A NOTE from PASTOR JOHN

WHO ARE WE WAITING FOR? Mostly I love the season of Advent. The anticipation and hope that comes as we prepare and celebrate are a wonder each year, but at the same time I cringe a little as the marketing madness takes over, and days are filled with so much that has nothing to do with the coming Messiah. Here's an excerpt of Jim McPherson's poem "December Humbug" which captured for me a little of this unease of the season:

DECEMBER HUMBUG – by Jim McPherson

December's wild collective madness strikes!
We all submit like slaves to Santa's lash
and with our hearts and minds and credit cards
crown Santa as de facto Season King.

Remote from human suffering at the Pole,
he speaks to those who dream of better things
beyond injustice misery and toil
to offer tinsel hope and brittle joy:
"Just come to me, and I will bring relief -
my cargo cult will save you from your grief."

Give me the God whose feet have touched the ground
and walked with us as human as ourselves
to celebrate our joys and share our pain;
who's borne injustice hunger and fatigue
and who, foreswearing all escape, endured
our human death; and Death's defeat secured.

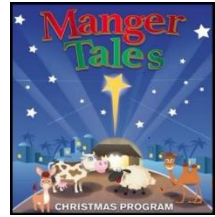
I have no real need for a distant elf who has no real answers to the reality of human longing. I need the one who walks alongside us in the midst of real human life, bringing healing, hope, and forgiveness. I don't need more tinsel and hype; I need the light shining in the darkness: "And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." John 1:14

God's Peace.



YOUTH NEWS

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM Everyone is welcome to join our Sunday School children as they present “Manger Tales” on December 22nd at the 10:30am service.



NO SUNDAY SCHOOL Reminder that there will be no Sunday School on December 29th. We will resume at 9:30am on Jan. 5th, 2020.

MOM'S COFFEE TIME Adult needed - We plan to offer our Mom's Coffee Time beginning soon. A few people are needed to rotate supervising this group. Tasks include making coffee, setting a few toys out, and to visit with the moms. This coffee time is usually on Mondays, 8-10 am, through March. Contact: Brenda

'TROLL WAY' PIZZA RETURNS Our youth will begin taking pizza orders on Dec 22. The sale will continue until Jan 12, 2020. Pick up date will be January 26th at ELC after worship services. Funds raised will support our Youthworks Mission Trip - Leech Lake Reservation, MN in the summer of 2020.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT Thank you to everyone who supported our youth with our Bucky Book sales, we sold 53 books this year. Thanks to Christ Lutheran and Primrose for helping sell them too. Thank you to Nick Meister for donating the proceeds from his wonderful craft sale to our youth.

CONFIRMATION CHRISTMAS PARTY - December 18th, 7 - 8:30 pm for our 7th/8th grade students. Please bring a treat share.



FUSE Nights 9th - 12th graders will meet on **Dec 3, 10 & 17**. FUSE resumes on Jan. 7, 2020.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and many blessings for the New Year!

Blessings,

Brenda Martin, Youth Ministries Director
brenda.martin@elcmthoreb.org

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS from AGAPE

Welcome December! The preschool is abuzz with anticipation and excitement for the upcoming fun we will have this month at preschool. Our 3-year-old classes will learn about Advent and the birth of Jesus. They will welcome in the Christmas season with a program on Thursday, December 5 at 9:00 am. Pastor John will join us by reading the story of Jesus birth and include a reenactment of the story by a special holy family.

Our 4K school district students will discover and explore many cultures and holiday traditions. Their winter-themed programs will be on Friday, December 6th at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm. All of the programs will include fun filled, entertaining holiday music with crafts and activities.

As the cold winter days quickly approach, we will again collect new children's hats and mittens for the Mt. Horeb Community Clothes Closet. Please look for the collection bin outside my office door from now until December 13.

Most of all, thank you for your continued support of the Agape Christian Preschool. I look forward to 2020 and all the wonderful and exciting adventures we will continue to have each day.

Merry Christmas,
Amy Kellesvig
608-437-7100

Upcoming dates:

December 5	3K Winter Program at 9:00 am
December 6	4K Christmas Program 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
Dec 23 – Jan 1	Preschool closed for Winter Break
January 2	4K classes resume
January 6	3K classes resume
January 10	Toddler Time resumes

COUNCIL NEWS

TREASURER'S REPORT – October 2019

CASH BALANCES FOR ELC MOUNT HOREB FUNDS (\$)				
	General	Bldg Maint	Mortgage	Designated
10/31/19	4,863	63,329	28,794	48,675
12/31/18	19,066	73,161	40,593	56,425
10/31/18	12,151	71,764	38,205	59,561

GENERAL FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	Oct '19	Oct 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD Budget
Income	20,546	25,953	262,377	245,098	274,545
Expense	27,793	27,077	276,456	279,020	276,668
Net	(7,247)	(1,124)	(14,079)	(33,922)	857

Year-to-date General Fund income (43 weekends) is 7% more than prior year (43 weekends) and 4% less than budget. YTD expenses (excluding intern compensation, covered by a transfer from the Designated Fund) are 1% less than prior year, primarily due to lower mission outreach, pastoral expenses, & maintenance, partially offset by higher spiritual growth & technology expenses; YTD expenses are 1% more than budget, primarily due to spiritual growth, snow removal, and maintenance, partially offset by savings in mission outreach, pastoral expenses & support staff.

BUILDING MAINTENANCE (CAPITAL) FUND ACTIVITY (\$)					
	Oct '19	Oct 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD Budget
Income	811	716	6,650	10,516	10,000
Expense	0	0	16,482	14,150	10,000
Net	811	716	(9,832)	(3,634)	0

Year-to-date Building Maintenance Fund income is less than prior year and budget. YTD expenses (boiler repair, entry carpet runners, fellowship hall replacement A/C unit, new sidewalk, and stone repairs) are more than last year (front door replacement) and budget.

MORTGAGE REPAYMENT FUND ACTIVITY (\$); (LOAN BALANCE IS \$176,889)					
	Oct 2019	Oct 2018	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	YTD Budget
Income	3,386	4,321	34,567	67,860	36,300
Expense	3,630	3,630	46,366	51,300	36,300
Net	(244)	691	(11,799)	16,560	0

Year-to-date Mortgage Repayment Fund income is less than prior year (which included a \$15,000 estate gift from Maxine Dimick) and less than budget. YTD payments are \$5,000 less than prior year (which included an additional \$15,000 principal payment) and \$10,000 more than budget, due to an extra \$10,000 principal payment. Final payment is scheduled for September 2024.

Respectfully submitted by Stephen J. Hall, CPA, ELCMH Treasurer

ELECTION RESULTS FROM ANNUAL MEETING:

COUNCIL: Ben Brothers, Andy Mullendore, Ethan Wittmann

AUDIT: Matt Anderson

ENDOWMENT: Cindy Holzkopf, Steve Mueller, Nancy Shaker-Marty, Amy Sinner

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Sandy Fischer, Gary Hastings, Kris Kiel, Lindsey Schulenberg, Diane Twiton

PERSONNEL: Sandy Glaeve, Jody Morey, Ellen Walton

SYNOD VOTING MEMBERS: Diane Bartz, Jim Cook, Helen Kahl

THANK YOU to Ellie Berg, Suzi Grundahl, Jeff Hook, Julie Schmitz, Steve Steinl, Irv Steinhauer, Jenelle Ollendick, Emilie Van Galen, Ellen Cook, Dave Edwards, Shannon Hadac, Amy Mertz, Barb Underwood, Jean Bower, Samantha Bower & Shawn Cannon for their dedication and service.

2020 ELC CHURCH COUNCIL

COUNCIL MEMBER	PHONE	EMAIL
Diane Bartz VICE-PRESIDENT , Property	444-1240	barbarabartz@gmail.com
Ben Brothers, PRESIDENT	217-1202	ben.brothers@gmail.com
Sandy Glaeve, Stewardship	698-3998	sglaeve@msn.com
Steve Hall TREASURER Budget & Finance	712-5154	hall@urology.wisc.edu
Bruce Meister- Technology	437-6443	spgbam@mhtc.net
Andy Mullendore Personnel, Agape	437-4678	mullendore@live.com
Becky Strube SECRETARY , Worship & Music	469-1748	rebeccastrube@gmail.com
Katie Zelle, Social Action	235-1149	kathrynzelle@gmail.com
Ethan Wittmann, Spiritual Growth	509-2463	Ejmad2350gmail.com



Please pick up your 2020 contribution envelopes. They can be found in the narthex and are arranged alphabetically. Many thanks to Bob & Sharon Schiefelbein and Betsy Baguhn for their help!

BENEVOLENCE

The Statewide Impact of Lutheran Social Services

Lutheran Social Services is ingrained in so many aspects of care for people in need of assistance that it's hard to imagine what Wisconsin would be like without it. One of the largest nonprofits in the state, LSS works with partner organizations to develop innovative solutions to many of society's most complex and vexing problems, with a fundamental belief in the infinite worth of people they serve and a goal of helping them realize their potential.

LSS is perhaps most well-known for its work promoting and facilitating adoption and foster care, and for ensuring that disabled people and seniors receive the care they deserve. The organization also has initiated new mental health solutions, has strengthened its focus on tackling addiction — it will soon open a \$1.7 million recovery center in Waukesha — and is navigating new challenges, such as the lack of affordable housing in many urban areas. Notably, that housing shortage prompted LSS to stop resettling refugees in Madison earlier this year, which is a sad turn of events given the area's incredibly supportive and welcoming nature. Hopefully, they can return to that mission soon in conjunction with their affordable housing emphasis.

The Social Action Ministry Team believes in directing our congregation's Benevolence resources toward Lutheran organizations when possible — not simply as a matter of allegiance, but because of the infrastructure and expertise they have in place. LSS is a shining example of this commitment. Please consider a gift to the Benevolence Program in December to ensure that LSS continues to fight for people who might otherwise be left behind.

On behalf of Benevolence,

Adam Mertz, adammerz2@gmail.com

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

LEADERSHIP NEEDED! The 'Women of ELC' is an organization within this congregation We provide service to the congregation by preparing a meal after a funeral and doing other projects from time to time. We support each other's prayer concerns and provide a listening ear to others, often in a one-to-one situation. Every year, we plan inter-generational fellowship events such as the Advent Brunch and Spring Fling. These events are not well attended so it's time for new leadership. If you are willing to lead this organization forward, please contact the church office.

WE NEED YOUR HELP AT THE CLOTHES CLOSET! The Clothes Closet, here in Mt. Horeb, provides clothing and bedding for people in need. Members of our congregation will be staffing the Community Clothes Closet the last week in December through the month of January. We need help on open days and closed days of the facility. It's a fun way to meet people and we welcome new volunteers. Please review the available slots below. Kate Hook is ELC's representative on the Community Clothes Closet Steering Committee. Contact info: katehook63@gmail.com; phone: 608-437-4601. Most shifts are two hours but feel free to work as much time as you can. We have sign up dates for many different times and days. If you don't see something that works for you, call me and we can arrange something. **Could you help at the CCC one time in December or January?**

You can sign up by:

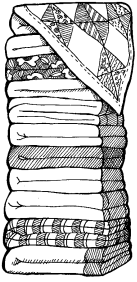
- 1) Calling or emailing Kate Hook (608-437-4601; katehook63@gmail.com). or
- 2) Via electronic sign up. Here is the internet address that you will have to type into your computer browser bar: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090B44ACA82BA3F49-community>

Here are some dates we need help:

Open Days: Jan. 11, Jan. 16, Jan. 25

Closed Days: Dec. 23, Dec. 28, Jan. 4, Jan. 6, Jan. 18, Jan. 28, Jan. 29

HELP SOMEONE STAY WARM AND COZY THIS SEASON!



The Community Clothes Closet is collecting blankets again this year from now until **Dec. 8**. Please place your donations in the designated clothes basket at church. We are collecting throw blankets which we will distribute to individuals participating in the Giving Tree Program this year. The Giving Tree Program assists individuals and families facing financial difficulties with holiday gift giving. The Clothes Closet is also collecting new and gently used blankets for our Clothes Closet shoppers.

ELC VETERANS MINISTRY MISSION We have started a new ministry this fall to aid our Veterans who have been deployed. We are starting a collection box in fellowship hall and are looking for the following items:

- | | | |
|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Deodorant | Foot powder | Lip balm |
| Playing cards | Socks | Toothpaste |
| Toothbrushes | Baby wipes | Gum |
| Popcorn | Sunscreen | |
- Powder electrolyte replacement (Gatorade, etc.) Must be in dry form.

We will be mailing these items in January 2020. Thank you for helping us provide for those who continue to serve our country and defend our freedom!

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR VETERANS

As part of the ELC Veterans' Ministry, we would like for members of the congregation to send Christmas cards to those serving in the active military away from home which includes anyone with ties to ELC. At this time of year, it is important that all military members know we care and are thinking of them. It is not easy to be away from home and your family at this time of year. A list of these active military members' names and addresses are in the Narthex of the church. Please take a list and send a card to one or more of these active military personnel. Thank You.



BABY CAP MAKERS, we have 1 more date to meet this year, **Tuesday, Dec. 10**. We meet from 9-11am in the Faith Room. It's not too early to start making red caps for February's Heart awareness month. Contact Ruth Heinecke @ 444-4949 if you need the updated patterns.

FOOD PANTRY HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS The Mt Horeb Area Food Pantry distributes holiday baskets to our clients for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. In order to help cover a portion of the cost of these baskets, we ask for help from the local churches and the rest of the community. We are estimating the cost of each basket this year at \$35. Checks can be mailed to the **Mt Horeb Area Food Pantry at PO Box 204; Mt Horeb, WI 53572** or dropped off at the pantry during our open hours (Mondays 5-7pm / Saturdays 10am-noon). Thank you for helping to support the Mt Horeb Area Food Pantry and those less fortunate who live within the Mt Horeb Area. If you have questions or need more details, please contact Mike Pharo (mpharo@food-pantry.org) or Joyce Reynolds (jccfamily@mhtc.net).



OPERATION CHRISTMAS collection continues. Look for the "Gift Boxes" in the Narthex. **Dec. 8** is a hard deadline for donations. Gifts will be taken to Lutheran Social Services for distribution. Anything coming in late will be taken to St Vincent's resale store.

SUGGESTED GIFTS:

- 🔔 Men's, women's and children's hats, gloves, and scarves...and baseball hats
- 🔔 extra-large size flannel & sweat shirts
- 🔔 Small purses & wallets
- 🔔 Hand lotions, aftershave lotions, chap sticks
- 🔔 Puzzles & board games for all ages
- 🔔 Movie passes
- 🔔 Coloring books for adults and children; also crayons, paints, colored pencils and other craft supplies
- 🔔 Gift cards for Walmart, Target, Walgreens & fast food places
- 🔔 Specialty candy & cookie boxes
- 🔔 Fleece blankets

MOUNT HOREB AREA GIVING TREE Our church is sponsoring a Christmas Tree on behalf of the Mount Horeb Area Giving Tree. This is a local organization that helps provide holiday gifts for children, seniors and disabled residents who live in our community.



Since the organization has few expenses and is managed entirely by volunteers, virtually all of your donated money is spent directly on gifts for Mt. Horeb area residents. They make every effort to spend these funds locally. Your charitable donation benefits our community in many ways and brightens the holiday for all of us.

How you can help: Take a gift tag and purchase the gift on the tag. Bring your gifts back to church by **December 13th**. You may also donate funds to be used to purchase gifts. Make checks payable to Mount Horeb Area Giving Tree. Questions? Contact email: amyLSinner@gmail.com



The Spiritual Growth & Fellowship Committee has set up a special advent tree in the narthex to support ELCA Good Gifts. As members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), we believe that God is calling us into the world – together. And with generous, loving hands, we can make a difference. ELCA Good Gifts is your opportunity to provide critical support to the ministries and programs that mean the most to you and the people you love. Questions? Email amyLSinner@gmail.com

How it works: Choose your gift, Take a tag, pay the amount designated on the tag and share the tag or hang it on your own Christmas tree.

How to pay: Online: <https://goodgifts.elca.org/>

Phone: 800-638-3522

Mail: Make your check payable to “ELCA Good Gifts.” To designate your gift, write your gift(s) on the memo line of your check.

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

P.O. Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

GENERAL INFORMATION



“Holiday Traditions”

December 4th, 5:30 - 7:30 pm at ELC

Dinner will be served between 5:30 -6:00 pm

Come and join us some caroling in Mt Horeb, beginning at 6 pm.

Please bring some Christmas cookies to share after caroling.
(Hot chocolate and coffee available - to warm up!)



Mark your calendars for the annual Christmas at ELC concert and supper. The concert begins **Sunday, Dec. 15 at 5:00 p.m.**, followed by a chili supper at 6:00. ELC instrumentalists and vocalists will ring in the Advent season with festive music and sing-a-long carols. A free will

offering will be taken for the Mount Horeb Area School District's Weekend Backpack food program.

SEARCHING FOR AN EXPERT: When our new church was built, the architects from Northfield, Minnesota prepared a brochure describing the construction and image of the building. Many visitors to our church are interested in learning more about our beautiful building and the story of the saints on the chancel wall. It should be readily available to anyone that desires to have this information. This brochure is in need of updating, including retaking the front page photograph of the chancel wall (currently black and white) in color. If someone would like to help with this project – and want to see the existing brochure – please contact Diane Bartz at email: barbaradbartz@gmail.com.



W/ELC ADVENT BRUNCH All women of the congregation, and men too, are invited to the annual Advent Brunch, **9:30am on Dec. 7.** Duane and Nancy

Kittleston from the Sons of Norway will wear their full Norwegian regalia and will tell us about it. Carla Surbam will play something on the Hardanger Fiddle. The theme for the day will be Norwegian traditions and all are invited to wear Norwegian sweaters, bunads, or whatever represents their own cultural heritage. We'll see whether there really are more Norwegians here. **Please make reservations with the church office by December 3** so that the meal planners will have an idea of how many to expect. A free will offering will be gathered at the door. Proceeds will be divided between the Women of the ELCA and the ELC Discretionary Fund. Thank you to Social committee #10, Diane Pladziewisc and Wendy Rasmussen co-chairs, for serving the brunch.

BAKING DAY FOR KRUMKAKE/LEFSE IS COMING! Christmas is coming soon, and it is time to make Lefse and Krumkake! Bakers are welcome to join us on **December 14th, (Adults and youth) 9am - 12pm at ELC.** These delicious baked goods will be sold at 'Christmas at ELC' on Sunday, December 15th.

INREACH/OUTREACH met with residents of the Ingeliving community on November 11th for Steeple Friends. We sang hymns, participated in communion and worship. Barb Underwood entertained by playing patriotic songs for Veteran's Day.

WOMEN'S TRIENNIAL GATHERING "Just Love" the Women of the ELCA Triennial Gathering: Registration for the Gathering 2020 in Phoenix, Ariz., July 16-19, is open.. Early-bird registration is \$325 through Jan 6, 2020. After that, registration is \$375. Day registration is \$200. We can't wait to see you!

Visit <https://www.womenoftheelca.org/new-triennial-event-page> to register online, download a registration to mail, and learn more. Synod 5-K is the piece of information you will need for the registration form. The church office can assist you if the Internet is not an option

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

PLEASE WELCOME INTO OUR CHURCH FAMILY THOSE WHO JOINED ELC ON NOVEMBER 3:

- **Steve & Gretchen Malin** and their children, Ilka, Ingrid & John. Their sponsors are Bridgette & Tim Killinger
- **Adam & Kimberly Sailor** and their children Josie & Chelsea. Their sponsor is Diane Berg

CONGRATULATIONS TO

- **JORDAN SADOWSKI** who was awarded his Eagle Scout on November 2
- **JACLYN & LUKE STEEL** on the birth of their son Arthur James on October 20. Arthur is the brother of Violet and grandson of Jay & Debby Schneider.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY to Deloris Witte on November 9!

CELEBRATING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BAPTISM on December is **Jordon Martin Slocum**. Jordon is the son of Steve & Allie Slocum. His sponsors are Alex & Jessica Slocum.



MILITARY RECOGNITION If you know of an individual entering the military on active duty – this includes anyone who is a member of our congregation or who is family and not a member of our congregation (grandchild, son, daughter, etc.), please contact the church office (437-5012 or elc@mhtc.net). We would like to recognize this individual at one of our services before he/she begins their service.



PLEASE PRAY FOR Mary Knuth (Jen Mullendore's mother), Martha Hartman, Dorothy Jelle, Marcia Greve (Dave Baumgartner's sister), Jeannie U'Ren, Mariann Brown (Rita Schraepfer-Derke's sister), Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother), Ruth Ann Nemet, Gladys Gullickson (Mary Krantz's mother), Jeanette Richard, Dolores Church (Becky Strube's grandmother), Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower), Lucia Lozano (Evonne & Vern Martin's granddaughter), Linda Luenser, Irene Bruflat, Pearl Vierima, Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl), Laurie Duden (Brenda's aunt), Michael Curtis (Ellen Cook's great-grandson), Harlan Oimoen, Mary Jane Niles (Rubelle Zwald's daughter), Bill Steinhauer, Al Wilkening (Jan Ekenberg's brother-in-law), Grace Aavang, Peter Toniazzo.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS our partner congregation **IGLESIA EVANGÉLICA LUTERANA DIVINO SALVADOR** (Divine Savior Lutheran Church) in Cataño, P.R



OUR SYMPATHIES & PRAYERS are with

- **Serena Vondra and family.** Serena's grandfather, Rev. Leroy Johnsrud died on November 14.
- **Gwen Olson and family.** Gwen's brother, Gay Denner died on November 16.
- **Neal & Joanne Brunner and family.** Neal's son Tom passed away on November 19.



MEMORIAL GIFTS GIVEN IN LOVING MEMORY of



✠ **Jay Kyle** for the **Unspecified Fund** from Molly & Bob Jahn

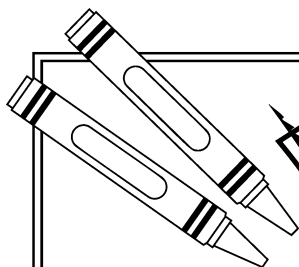


December

BIRTHDAYS

1	Addison Klaetsch	13	Mary Lokken	22	Lucas High
	Todd Nesheim		Nancy McKinney		Charles Thomas
	Lindsey Steinl	14	Hudson Kahl	23	John Anderson
4	Dan Huseeth		Blake Turk		Caroline Boettcher
	Jarod Okeson	15	Ruth Osterholz		Bob Faliveno
	Kris Sveum		Evan Stange		Dawn Haag
5	Steven Doty	16	Michael Eggers		Lindsey LaBorde
	Carol Johnson		Jim Ekenberg		Madlyn LaBorde
	Susan Kaletka		Steven Helwig		Lincoln Pokallus
	Maynard Schmitz		Kate Hook	24	Brooke Anderson
	Pete Walton		Weston Kahl		Brenda Fritz
6	Dawn Kellesvig		Josephine Sailor		Edna Williams
7	Jillian Meister		Xander Strube	25	Siri Amundsen
10	Dan Allen	17	Barb Iverson		Ella Kahl
	Amanda Baum		Jeffrey Kahl		Steve Stensby
	Jerilyn Faltz		Grace Rollins		Holly Thompson
	Sam Farrell		Becky Stube	26	Bonny Kellogg
	Curtis Gullick		Jeannie U'Ren	27	Karen Bunke
	Joseph Scudder		Emilie Van Galen		Marian Jelle
	Aiden Scudder	18	Deb Segebrecht		Jeff Paske
	Jane Topper		Rachel Smith	29	Brian Johnson
11	Staci Baum		Willy Watson		Sharon Hendrickson
	Dennis Dreger	19	Chris Coffin		Nicholas O'Connell
	Connor Heiting		Garrett Klassy		Samantha Olson
	Anita Laabs		Jordan Sadowski		Amy Thompson
	Anna Landen	20	Erik Berg	30	Brett Farnsworth
	Nathan Zelle		Craig Kittleson		Anna Ollendick
12	Amy U'Ren	21	Lucas Kittleson		Olivia Schrank
			Hunter Stamn		Gary Topper
			Cole Stamn	31	Gwen Olson
			Olivia Turk		

If we've missed you or a member of your family, or if we've listed your birthday incorrectly, please contact the church office.



PUZZLE

Symbols of the *season*

Many traditional decorations convey the meaning of Christmas.

Directions: Use the picture clues to the right to complete the words. Then write the boxed letters in order to complete 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV.



shepherd's staff _ _ _ _ _ _

tree that keeps its leaves _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

shines to lead the way _ _ _ _ _

green for eternal life, _ _ _ _ _ &
red for Jesus' blood _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

sounds to announce _ _ _ _ _
good news

has no beginning or end _ _ _ _ _ _

Th ks b to od fo is
indesc ba le gif !

2 CORINTHIANS 9:15, NIV

Answer: candy cane, evergreen, star, holly & berries, bell, wreath.
Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift! 2 Corinthians 9:15, NIV



CIRCLES & BIBLE STUDIES

FAITH CIRCLE will meet at **11:00am** on **Tuesday, December 10**, at the home of Carol Dann for our annual Christmas potluck.

REBECCA CIRCLE will meet in Fellowship Hall at **11:15** on **December 17th** to sign cards and then carpool to Olive Garden for noon reservation. Helen K. will make the reservations.

SARAH CIRCLE meeting will be **Tuesday, December 17, at 6:30**, at Chris Coffin's home for our Christmas gathering. Please bring an appetizer to share.

THE WOMEN OF ELC COORDINATING COMMITTEE will meet at **9:30am** on **Tuesday, December 3, in Fellowship Hall**. . No Nominees have come forward for the position of President or co-Presidents of the Women of ELC. The committee has agreed that if there is no election at the meeting on Saturday, December 7, this unit of the Women of the ELCA will be dissolved. Please speak up if you are willing to lead this organization into the future.

SEWING CIRCLE meets every **Thursday, beginning at 9:00am**. All are welcome to stay the whole day or come and go as you are available. Donations of sheets and blankets are always needed and very welcome. Lutheran World Relief quilts are a project of the entire congregation.

MEN'S BREAKFAST/BIBLE STUDY will meet the first & third Fridays, **December 6 & 20, at 6:30am**. Come join us for coffee and conversation about the week's Bible readings. Everyone is welcome!!

THANK YOU to Social Committee #11 for serving funerals in November. Betsy Baguhn & Julie Vasen are co-chairs,

SERVING FUNERALS IN DECEMBER: Social Committee #12, co-chairs: Betsy Baguhn & Cathy Field

CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

Poinsettia Hunger Fund Gifts

ELC will be receiving memorial and honoring donations through **Sunday, December 15**. After purchasing poinsettias to adorn the altar, the remainder of the donations will go to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal. Memorials will be published in the Christmas bulletins.



Please fill in the form and leave it in the church office, in the offering plate, or mail it to ELC with your monetary donations.

Make checks payable to ELC.

This gift is _____ in memory **OR** _____ in honor of:
(Please check one of the above blanks)

Given by _____

Envelope # _____

Amount \$ _____

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM ON OR BEFORE SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 15.**