



OUR STAFF

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BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
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DECEMBER 2024



**COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS
AT BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHRISTMAS PARTY**

You and your family are invited to this special event on Sunday, December 1, 2024. Worship will be at 9:00am with appetizers and 2025 Pledge presentation to follow at 10:15am. There will be a catered lunch at 11:45am. Please **RSVP** to Pastor Bryan at church, 608-244-8486, cell, 309-236-7334, or email, bryan.lagerstam@gmail.com. We hope you can join us for this special day!

NEW ARTWORK

Thank you to C.L. Sommer for the beautiful photo of Burke Lutheran Church. It was taken with a drone back in 2023 and was framed and donated to the Church. The artwork is located on the wall between the church office and the copy room.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR BRYAN

Dear friends,

Here in December, we enter the church season of Advent, our four-week time of waiting and preparation for Christmas. There are a lot of activities going on around here, and you'll find details about them all within these pages. Please add these to your calendars and join us as you are able.

And all these Advent activities lead us up to Christmas Eve, easily one of my favorite worship services of the year. We're planning on our two services, at 3:00pm and 9:00 pm, to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the birth of salvation that we receive through him. Please make plans to join us for Christmas Eve worship!

Advent also brings the work of preparing for the next year, and part of that is preparing the congregation's spending plan. On Sunday, December 1, we are combining several traditions

along with our needs for this year into one great Christmas party. We'll have a catered lunch prepared for us, and time to talk through what we expect for our next year's budget.

I always look forward to this time, even with all of the busyness that comes with it, because all of this work helps us to see God at work in our world for us. I pray that you will be able to see through all the gifts you give and receive, through all the work that you do and the work that is done for you, that grace of our Lord Jesus for you this season of Advent as we prepare to welcome him again into our hearts and homes on Christmas!

God bless,
Pr. Bryan



A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED MAKE THIS YEAR'S CRAFT & BAKE SALE A HUGE SUCCESS!

Thank you to those who made this Craft and Bake Sale such a success. Without those who donated their crafts, baked goods, food for lunches, and time to set up and clean up, this wouldn't have been such a great event. Much gratitude goes to all those that helped with the Lefse making! There is still a few packages of Lefse left, so come and get it!

Many thanks to all the bakers, helpers, and to all those who came and supported this event. There were so many that it's hard to name them all! Thanks to all the vendors who shared their talents!

A special thanks to Gary Brown and Ron Hennings for making sure everything was ready for the event and helping to clean up.

DEB BROWN was the lucky winner of the Raffle Quilt!



WOMEN’S BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

There will be no BLCW meeting or lunch in December. Have a great Holiday and we’ll see you in the new year.

QUILTING

Every Wednesday at 9:00am. Everyone is welcome, no experience needed.

BIRTHDAY BAGS FOR RIVER FOOD PANTRY.

List of contents and bags are located in the entryway.



MEN’S BREAKFAST

The next Men’s Breakfast is Wednesday, December 11 at Gus’ Diner, Hwy 19, Sun Prairie, at 9:00am.



Stop in for a cup of joe, a hearty breakfast and connect with brothers in Christ.

FOOD PANTRY

December Food Pantry Focus: December focus is “Protein,” such as canned tuna, chicken, beans, peas, nut butters, rice, etc. Cans with pop tops are especially welcomed. Please place your non-perishable goods in the ‘Donations’ basket in the entryway and it will be delivered to the pantry.

ANNUAL MEETING

ANNUAL REPORTS - DUE JANUARY 8, 2025

Please complete your annual report and turn in to Laura no later than Wednesday, January 8.

ANNUAL MEETING - SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025.

The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 26th following the 9:00am service. Agenda items include election of officer (Treasurer) and board members, Board and Committee reports, the 2025 budget, election of Audit and Nominating committee members and representatives to Lutherdale, Oakwood and the Synod Assembly.

Please consider serving on one of the boards. Here is a brief summary of what each board works on:

Preach - Anything related to our worship service, selecting hymns, decorating the sanctuary, etc.

Teach - Anything related to teaching for adults or children.

Reach - Anything related to reaching out . . . this could be within our congregation or outside of it.

Property - All things related to caring for our popery/buildings. There are many willing to help with the work, but we need a board to help manage what needs to be done.

PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of December we remember the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Lisa Thompson

Mark Gehrke

Chris McFarlin

Marie McCoy

June Chadwick

Tina Lee



We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional.

It's hard to believe that the Christmas season is just around the corner. We also know that for people who have lost loved ones or people without healthy families with whom to gather, the Christmas season can be one of the loneliest times of the year. Join us for a special Blue Christmas 'Dinner Church' Service on Wednesday, December 18 at 6:00 p.m. at United in Christ Lutheran Church in Morrisonville. This will be a service of music, prayer, and stillness aimed at offering permission and time for healing and grieving in the spirit of the season.

Dinner Church is a new initiative that United in Christ has been engaging in since June thanks to a grant from the ELCA. Dinner church is an extended service of Holy Communion that offers a meal AND an interactive worship service in one (not one before/after the other). Open Table Dinner Church seeks to disrupt the 'traditional' worship experience and invites something brand new and different that is open to everyone.



INCLEMENT WEATHER WINTER PARKING

The winter season is here, and with it, lots of ice and snow. Snow is usually easily identified but unfortunately ice often goes unseen until it is too late. Please save our handicap spaces for those most in need, and to let us know immediately if you find ice anywhere where people may be walking. To find out if church services are cancelled due to inclement weather, you may call the church office at 244-8486. Thank you, and God's peace be upon all that you do.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO SHARON HUGHES

Thank you, Sharon for your dedication of making sure Veterans and their families who sacrificed and continue to sacrifice so much for our country are always remembered!



DECEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship, 9:00a Christmas Party, 10:15am	2	3	4 Quilting, 9:00a Bible Study, 1:00p Bible School, 6:30p at NCMLC	5 Teach Board, 6:00p	6	7
8 Worship, 9:00a Coffee Hour, 10:00a	9	10 Council, 6:30p	11 Men's Breakfast, 9:00a Quilting, 9:00a Bible Study, 1:00p Bible School, 6:30p at NCMLC	12	13	14
15 Worship, 9:00a Coffee Hour, 10:00a	16 Preach Board, 10:00a	17	18 Quilting, 9:00a Bible Study, 1:00p Bible School, 6:30p at NCMLC	19	20	21
22 Worship, 9:00a Coffee Hour, 10:00a	23	24 Christmas Eve Service, 3:00p, 9:00p	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27	28
29 Worship, 9:00a Potluck, 10:00a	30	31				

Save the Dates: December 1 - National Christmas Lights Day December 24 - Christmas Eve
 December 5 - Internation Volunteer Day December 25 - Christmas
 December 18 - National Twin Day December 31 - New Year's Eve

Happy Birthday!

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|-------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|
| December 1 | DeAnn Ludwig | December 24 | Kayilee Brown |
| December 5 | Kathy Sandridge | December 26 | Justine Jones |
| December 9 | Donna Frederick | December 26 | Nancy Schmidt |
| December 11 | Christopher Truitt | December 27 | Jared Larson |
| December 13 | Chris Grefe | December 29 | Brandon Hauge |
| December 13 | Pat Graham | December 29 | Galen Peterson |
| December 14 | June Chadwick | December 30 | Angie Lenzendorf |
| December 15 | John Schramer | December 30 | Randy Copenhefer |
| December 15 | Stephanie Larson | December 31 | Mary Brantmeyer |
| December 20 | Nancy Dean | December 31 | Melissa Dobbs |
| December 21 | Linda Wendt | | |

We apologize if we have missed anyone, it was not intentional.

Happy Anniversary!

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|----------------------------|-------------------|
| Michael & Jenny Brown | December 4, 1992 |
| Alex & Amber Kirchstein | December 10, 2022 |
| Christopher & Holly Truitt | December 17, 1993 |



DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS

	December 1 9:00am Service	December 8 9:00am Service	December 15 9:00am Service	December 22 9:00am Service	December 29 9:00am Service
Organist/Pianist	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist
Music Leader	Chris Grefe Dave Wisner	Praise Band	Chris Grefe Dave Wisner	Praise Band	Chris Grefe Dave Wisner
Communion Assistant	Sharon Hughes	Gloria Lundquist	Barb Hennings	David Hanson	Jean Schnick
Communion Prep	Jeannette Gehrke	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke
Lay Reader	Jean Schnick	Mady Moreno	Cheryl Beckman	Barb Hennings	Deb Brown
Ushers	Bob Lenzendorf David Hanson	Steve & Donna Frederic	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Karl & Shari Patzer	Roger Kittleson
Coffee Hour	Christmas Party	Donuts	Donuts	Donuts	Potluck
Counters	Gloria Lundquist Rose Haney	Gloria Lundquist Deb Brown	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson Jean Schnick	Gloria Lundquist Sharon Hughes

Christmas Eve (Tuesday)	December 24 3:00pm Service	December 24 9:00pm Service
Organist/Pianist		
Music Leaders	Chris Grefe Dave Wisner	
Communion Asst.		
Communion Prep	Gloria Lundquist	
Lay Reader		
Usher		
Usher		
Counters (12/29)	Gloria Lundquist	Sharon Hughes

WORSHIP LEADERS NEEDED

Individuals are needed to serve as worship leaders on Christmas Eve.

If you are willing to usher, be a lay reader, help with communion, etc., please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex.