

oh come
let us
adore
him

Christmas Eve Worship

Family Candlelight Worship 7:00 pm

Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight

Worship at 10:30 pm

(Prelude music to begin at 6:30 & 10:00 pm)



Love and Memory Tree

For over 10 years we have donated to our Love and Memory Tree in lieu of buying poinsettias. It is out of your grace that we are able to donate more than \$1,500 each season to our local Lutheran Social Services. LSS uses this donation to offer counseling to Hancock County residents and to fill the gaps in their local food pantry. What a great gift from our congregation to others in need.

Given by: (PRINT) _____

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

You may attach this form to your check and drop it in the offering plate
or mail it to the church office.

Consider Tithing

"Tithing has been tested thousands of times in the laboratory of human experience. What is the verdict? With very few exceptions, people who have tried tithing heartily recommend it to others, and they, themselves, have no desire to give it up...I have never met an unhappy tither."

- L. David Brown

"Tithing is not God's way of raising money; tithing is God's way of raising children"

- Jonathan Kopke

A
Life
OF
Stewardship

2020 VISION for Stewardship

"Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."
- 2 Corinthians 9: 7



HOW MUCH SHALL I GIVE?

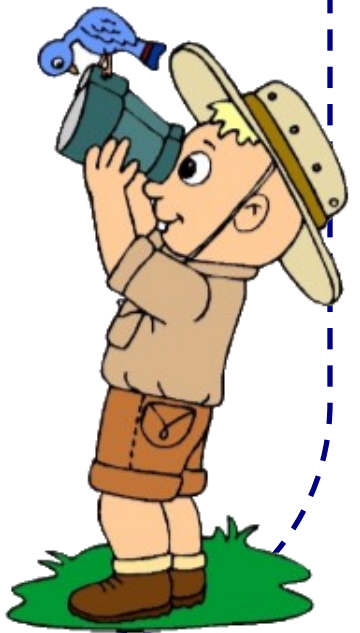
Looking closer at Tithing and Proportionate Giving

What is biblical tithing? In general, biblical tithing refers to the practice of giving one tenth of one's income for the work of God. In the Hebrew Bible, tithing was understood as a response of gratitude and an obligation. In the light of the New Testament, some Christians believe tithing is still an obligation, whereas other Christians understand tithing to be a loving, freely chosen response to God's gracious provisions for life - God's grace! Tithing is understood by many Christians to be an important discipline of one's faith life.

How does the New Testament deal with the opportunity to tithe? We understand that Jesus and the apostles assumed that the tithe was a healthy guide for one's personal stewardship. St. Paul follows the same logic in emphasizing that believers should give proportionately, as God has blessed them.

In 2 Corinthians 8 & 9, Paul describes the example the Macedonians set for other believers. In 2 Corinthians 8: 2-3, "Although they were going through hard times and were very poor, they were glad to give generously. They gave as much as they could afford and even more, simply because they wanted to." But the enthusiasm for giving in Macedonia didn't stop there!

Looking at verse 12, Paul instructs the Corinthians that they had something very important to learn from the Macedonians. It could be paraphrased like this: "It doesn't matter how much you have. What matters is how much you are willing to give from what you have." This is point of being faithful and generous!



Hark
the herald
angels sing

December 29
One Worship Service
9:30

CHRISTMAS CAROL Quiz

Do You Know these Christmas Carols??

- 1) Quadruped with Christmas Proboscis
- 2) Eight PM to Six AM Without Noise
- 3) Miniscule Hamlet in the Near East
- 4) Ancient Benevolent Despot
- 5) Exuberance Directed to the Planet
- 6) Listen Ariel Spirits Announcing
- 7) Trio of Monarchs
- 8) Yonder in the Hayrack
- 9) Assemble, Everyone Who Believe
- 10) Hallowed Post Meridian
- 11) Fantasia of Colorless December
- 12) A Dozen Twenty-four Hour Yule Period
- 13) Befell During the Transparent Bewitching Hour
- 14) Homo Sapien of Crystalized Vapor
- 15) Desire a Pair of Incisors on December 25
- 16) I Spied My Maternal Parent Osculating
- 17) Perambulating Through A December Solstice Fantasy
- 18) Adorn the Vestibule
- 19) Tim Tintinnabulums
- 20) Noisy Orbs

Answers on Page 5

Send A Card
To Our
Homebound!

Beulah Bishop
Dick Schweitzer
Pauline Streicher
Ruthie Meyer
Paul & Donna Brockman
Barb Von Stein-Smith

Mary Fleming
Elsie Helfrick
Beth Hardesty
Jim Staschiak
Debby Baker
Bill Chubb
Marilyn Wilson
Mike Meyer

Addresses are available
in the church office or on
the hall bulletin board.

EPiC Youth

Dec. 1
Christmas Caroling 1:00
Dec. 8

Christmas Party
Bring a donation of soap, deodorant,
paper towels etc.

Dec. 15
Group Time, Games, 6:00

Dec. 22, 29
No EPiC—Merry Christmas, Happy New Year

January
5—Group Time
Games
6:00

12—Game Night
Congregation invited
4:00—6:00

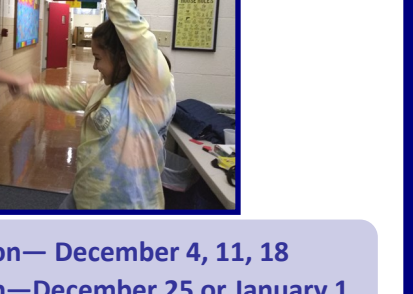
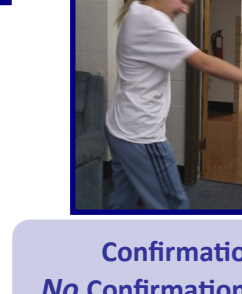
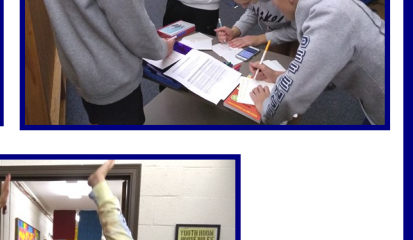
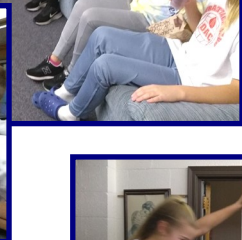
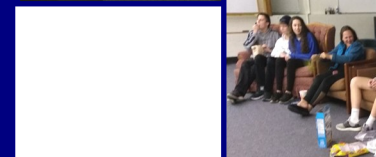
19—Lock-in
Pizza Provided
8:00 pm—8:00am

26—Service project
Cooking & baking for
Community Dinner

February
2— Ice Skating
1:00-3:00
@ The Cube

9 & 16
Group Time
Games
6:00

23—Movie Night
@ Church



Confirmation— December 4, 11, 18
No Confirmation—December 25 or January 1



WELCA Discipleship

What does discipleship mean to you? Women of the ELCA participants are active disciples in many ways.

dis·ci·ple·ship *noun* [di-'sī-pəl-'ship]

discipleship is a lifelong journey of living out and spreading the good news of Jesus Christ.

disciples are followers of Jesus who are intent on carrying out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19–20) and the Great Command (Acts 1:8).

At WELCA, participants practice seven marks of discipleship: praying, studying, worshiping, inviting, encouraging, serving, and giving. Whether it be making quilts and health and school kits for Lutheran World Relief or studying the Bible together, or assisting in worship, we grow in faith and share what we've learned with friends and neighbors.

Page 3 Answers

- 1) Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
- 2) Silent Night
- 3) Oh Little Town of Bethlehem
- 4) Good King Wenceslas
- 5) Joy to the World
- 6) Hark! The herald Angels Sing
- 7) We Three Kings
- 8) Away in A Manger
- 9) Oh Come All Ye Faithful
- 10) Oh, Holy Night
- 11) I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas
- 12) The Twelve Days of Christmas
- 13) It Cam Upon A Midnight Clear
- 14) Frosty the Snowman
- 15) All I want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth
- 16) I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus
- 17) Walking in a Winter Wonderland
- 18) Deck the Halls
- 19) Silver Bells
- 20) Jingle Bells

Calendar of Events December

Dec. 10
Martha Circle
Rachel Circle
Christmas Brunch
9:30 in
Fellowship Hall

Dec. 16
Hannah Circle,
Christmas Party
7:00 pm
Home of Maria Schell

Dec. 29
Cookie Sunday
Martha Circle



Sad OWLs

It has been decided to disband "OWLs, formally known as "Luther Club", due to low attendance. The remaining money in their account of \$141.66 has been given to the church to help purchase an Automated Electronic Defibrillator.



Library News

Well, here we are full circle. Another liturgical year begins. We ready the trees, gifts, the cookies. We look forward to the Christmas Eve services. By now you might even have picked up in the library your copy of this year's "Prepare the Way."

I love the Christmas Carols playing in all the stores, the decorations, the hustle, the bustle, Phil's countdown to Christmas, setting up the nativity scene and hiding the Baby Jesus in a safe place (my one sister never did find Baby Jesus!), pictures with Santa...yes, I even get my picture taken.

On December 3, we will choose (or have chosen) the reading selections of our book club for next year. If you haven't yet stopped in to visit in the church lounge, 7:00 the first Tuesday of the month, you should do so. We eat whatever everyone carries in and we talk about the books until we derail. Check the book list on the church bulletin board. Sometimes the January meeting is at someone's home and we watch a movie!!!!!! We also include all the selections on the Kindle readers available to you, members of First Lutheran. This year we also have a reader equipped with audible capability (listen to the book when those eyes don't work as well as they used to) thanks to a member's generosity.

Now, let's talk about making time for reading in the new year. Here's why you should start reading again: Reading for pleasure is so important for emotional health. It strengthens creativity by challenging us to do interior work. The reader is forced to add missing descriptions of persons, landscape, etc. Whenever you connect with a book, you develop a relationship between you and the author and the community of his/her readers. And that is "kinda" cool...although sometimes I read to figure out HOW this book ever made it to the best-seller list.

Now, how do you start reading more?

Don't leave home without it – a book or reading device. Read while you commute, wait at soccer practice, or in line at the post office...whenever you find yourself with a bit of free time. I try to keep a reader or book with me always. A purse size Bible is also always in my car...a Psalm while the car has the oil changed...stuck in traffic not moving on the interstate... or, as happened a couple weeks ago, while I waited for AAA to come tow my car.

Pencil it in. Block out time in your day, even if it is just 20 minutes. Think of it as your daily reading assignment. I take a break about 2:00 pm if I am home, or a few minutes before bedtime.

Make a swap. Trade an hour of TV, for some quality book time.

Keep a book on your nightstand. I suffer many nights from insomnia. My doctor and I talked about pills to sleep...then he said, "You're a reader. If you are still awake after 20 minutes, get up and read your book. Okay, not Stephen King, but you get the idea." He is right. Why toss and turn? Read, relax, and fall asleep.

In light of the above, Make it a habit to read a chapter before bed.

Don't worry about reading in short snippets. It does add up.

Now, my friends, to aid in your attempt to reading more, Paul and I are sharing with you our collection of Reader's Digest Condensed Books, both fiction and non-fiction. Another Church member has been a recent contributor to our collection and we thank her. We have placed some of our collection on the book cart. Select what you choose to read, borrow the book, return it to the book cart when you are finished, whether you read it all or not. (Part of becoming an astute reader is not reading what doesn't appeal to you.)

God bless and keep reading. kathleenbrooks15@gmail.com



**LUNCH
WITH THE
PASTOR**

Tuesday, December 3rd

11:30 at Scramblers

All are invited to join the fun!

Snow Emergencies

Level 1—Worship & meetings will be held as scheduled.

Level 2—Worship will be held—use your discretion; check with your chairperson to see if your meeting has been canceled. Please be safe.

Level 3— All worship & events are canceled.



The 2020 Flower Chart is up in the hallway, across from the church office. Please consider signing up for flowers that honor or remember special people or events in your life. Not only are you sharing God's beauty of nature on Sunday, but also brighten your home or the home of a shut-in the following week. Please consider this ministry as a way to share God's love for His people. For more information, please contact Marilyn Dunn at dunnm@Findlay.edu.



Coats for Christmas yielded 50 coats (21 of which were children's coats) as well as 21 accessories. These coats will be distributed to those who may not have a coat for the winter season. Thank you to all who gave this gift of warmth.

Newsletter



**Monday
Dec. 16**

Food Cart Requests



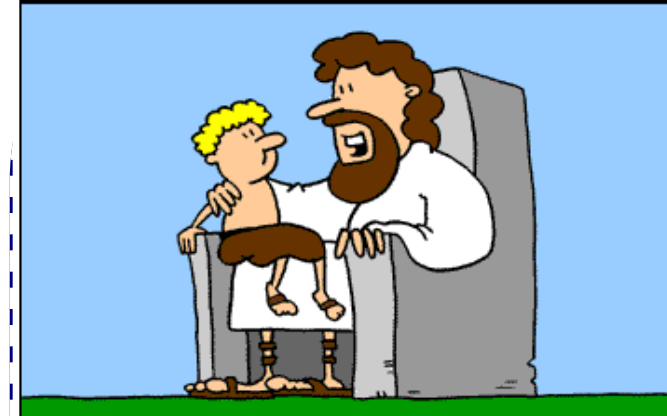
All donations benefit
Lutheran Social Services.

The cart is in the coat room.

December's
Noisy Offering benefits



REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Christopher Huffman

12-24-1991

HOW ABOUT IF INSTEAD OF GIVING YOU EVERYTHING THAT YOU THINK YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS I GIVE YOU WHAT YOU NEED?

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Nadine Fafard (See Luke 2:1-16)

12-24-2001

THAT'S THE BEST ONE-STAR HOTEL THAT I'VE EVER SEEN

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



Thanks to Andrew S

12-21-2007

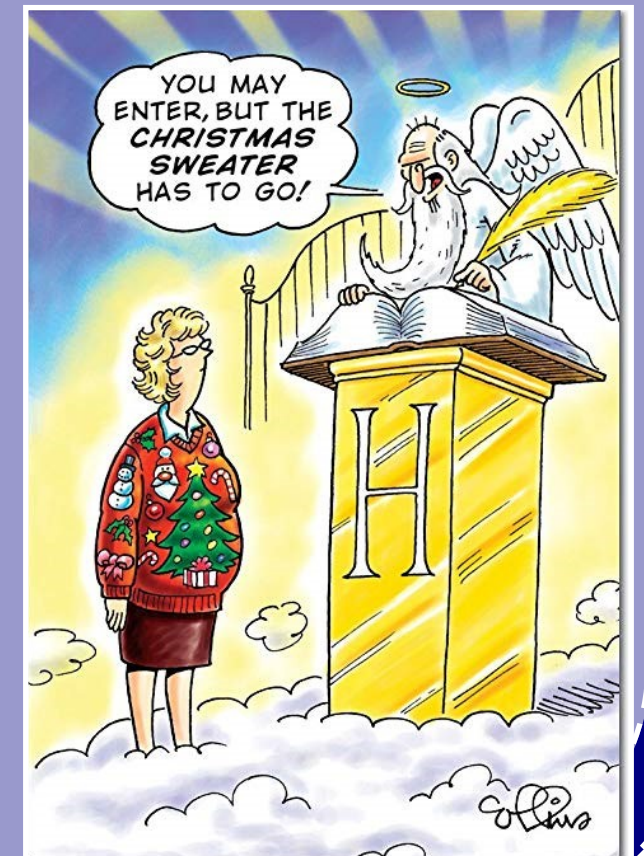
ETERNAL LIFE, MY FAVORITE ... THANKS JESUS!




"Christmas Gift Suggestions"

1. To your enemy, forgiveness.
2. To an opponent, tolerance.
3. To a friend, your heart.
4. To a customer, service.
5. To all, charity.
6. To every child, a good example.
7. To yourself, respect."

— Oren Arnold



1-Dec	2	3	4	5	6	7
8:15am & 10:45 Worship 9:30am Sunday School 11am Book Give-away 11:30am Community Dinner 1pm EPiC Christmas Caroling	10:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm Worship & Music	11:30am Pastors Lunch 4:15pm Riehm Farm 5pm Girl Scouts 7pm Book Club	10am WELCA Board 7pm Confirmation	9:30 Preaching Peer Group 3:30pm Prayer Group 4:30pm Organ 6:30pm Diakonia 7pm Sr. Choir	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Noisy Offering/Kids Choir 8:15am & 10:45 Worship 9:30am Sunday School 6pm EPiC Christmas Party 7:30pm Millstream Ringers	10:30am Ladies Bible Study 7pm Property	9am Martha/ Rachel Christmas Brunch 4:15pm Riehm Farm 5pm Girl Scouts 7:30pm Finance	10am Almost Home Set-Up 6:30pm Recital 7pm Confirmation 7pm Endowment 8pm Theology Pub	3:30pm Prayer Group 4:30pm Organ 6pm BSA 6:30pm Diakonia 7pm Sr. Choir	9:30am Bulletin Assembly 1:30pm McCann Family Event	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8:15am & 10:45 Worship 9:30am Sunday School 6pm EPiC	10:30am Ladies Bible Study 12pm Newsletter Deadline 7pm Council 7pm Hannah	1:30pm Staff Meeting 4:15pm Riehm Farm 5pm Girl Scouts	6:30pm BSA 7pm Confirmation	3:30pm Prayer Group 4:30pm Organ 6:30pm Diakonia 7pm Sr. Choir	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
8:15am & 10:45 Worship 9:30am Sunday School 6pm No EPiC	9:30am Poinsettia Set 10:30am Ladies Bible Study	6:30pm Prelude 7pm Candlelight Service 10pm Prelude 10:30pm Candlelight Service	7pm No Confirmation	3:30pm Prayer Group 4:30pm Organ 7pm Sr. Choir	9:30am Bulletin Assembly	
29	30	31	<div>December 2019</div> <div>Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 7:00 & 10:30pm</div>			
9:30am Worship - One service 9:30am Sunday School 6pm No EPiC	10:30am Ladies Bible Study	4:15pm Riehm Farm 5pm Girl Scouts				



December Volunteers

Newsletter Deadline

December 16

Bulletin Deadline

Wednesdays by noon

<div>LECTORS Dec. 1 8:15- Arlene Schriener 10:45- Julie Buck Dec. 8 8:15- Acolyte 10:45- Acolytes Dec. 15 8:15 - Jeff Kamm 10:45 - Randy Buck Dec. 22 8:15 - Paul Brooks 10:45 -Tricia Cox Dec. 24 7:00 - Elaine Timbrook Dec. 29- 9:30 Marilyn Dunn</div> <div>GREETERS Dec. 1 8:15- S. DeMoss, M L McCann 10:45- Carol Roessing Dec. 8 8:15- Dave & Janet Wobser 10:45- Kids of the Kingdom Dec. 15 8:15- Jeff & Jennifer Kamm 10:45- Pam & tom Basinger Dec. 22 8:15- Paul & Kathy Brooks 10:45- Sally & Alan Hartzell Dec. 24 7:00- Eric & Elaine Timbrook Dec. 29 –9:30 -Tom & Linda Mitchell</div> <div>ACOLYTES Dec. 1 8:15- Margaret Meyer 10:45- Ali Cox, Abby Roberts Dec. 8 8:15- 10:45- Phoebe Treece Dec. 15 8:15- 10:45- Gabby Gomez Dec. 22 8:15- 10:45- Gianna Masterlasco Dec. 24 7:00- 10:30- Dec. 29- 9:30</div> <div><div>Email Pastor Bob</div></div>	
<div>SOUND ROOM Dec. 1 8:15- Tim Roth 10:45-Todd Thompson Dec. 8- 8:15- Dave Gerber 10:45- Alex Treece Dec. 15 8:15- Sam Ried 10:45- Jerry Bryant Dec. 22 8:15- Tim Roth 10:45- Alex Treece Dec. 24 7:00- Tim Roth 10:30- Tim Roth Dec. 29 9:30- Tim Roth</div> <div>ALTAR FLOWERS Dec. 1- Jane & Kurt Ebersole Dec. 8- Fred & Karon Makrancy Dec. 15- Fitzpatricks Dec. 22- Mike & Chris Meyer Dec. 24- Thompsons Dec. 29- Jon & Sandra Burnside Forms for your bulletin announcement are available on the bulletin board and at 1stLutheranChurch.org. Flowers need to be delivered to the church by noon on Friday.</div> <div>WORSHIP ASSISTANTS 8:15/10:45 Dec. 1- Tim Cochran/Traci Roth Dec. 8- Pastor Chris Dittmar Dec. 15- Tim Franks Dec. 22- _____/Traci Roth Dec. 29- Kylee Timbrook</div>	<div>ALTAR GUILD Fitzpatricks, Renee Smith COUNTERS Jerry Luth, Erika Cunningham LSS DELIVERY Sue DeMoss FLOWER DELIVERY Marilynn Dunn COMMUNION BREAD Dec. 1-Julie Dittmar Dec. 8-Cyndy Rotman Dec. 15-Cyndy Rotman Dec. 22-Toni Poling Dec. 24– B. Bonnoront, S.Waltermyer Dec. 29– Karen Rose FOOD FOR THOUGHT Dec. 1/8– Tim & Dawn Franks Dec. 15-Mike & Chris Zawisza Dec. 22– Merry Christmas Dec. 29– Merry Christmas COOKIE SUNDAY Dec. 1– Community Dinner Dec. 8– Property Dec. 15– Social Ministry Dec. 22– Worship & Music Dec. 29– Martha Circle</div>



Birthdays

Amy Tabler	12/5
Jack Taylor	12/6
Nick Thomas	12/8
Margaret Meyer	12/8
Samuel Fruchey	12/11
Sally Hartzell	12/13
Carolyn Howe	12/13
John Adler	12/15
Zachary Thompson	12/15
Thomas Fitzpatrick	12/16
Elizabeth Kutschbach	12/16
Pamela Basinger	12/18
Rob Leipheimer	12/18
Stefanie VanAtta	12/18
Ann Fifolt	12/19
Karon Makrancy	12/20
Lesley Betts	12/21
Rebecca Huff	12/21
Brandon Maas	12/21
Zoe Thompson	12/21
Ryan Buck	12/22
Nikki Needles	12/22
Kurt Ebersole	12/23
Carol Peters	12/23
Beth Maurer	12/24
Al Stacy	12/24
Cynthia Habegger	12/25
Michael Meyer	12/25
Jeff Wobser	12/25
Nathan Adler	12/27
Miriam Gibson	12/27
Glen McCann	12/27
David Otte	12/29
Chris Dudics	12/31
Joseph Spoon	12/31

Baptisms

Marilynn Dunn	12/9
Laura Leopold	12/10
Jon Burnside	12/11
Anthony Neiling	12/11
Harper Cleary	12/14
Oliver Cleary	12/14
Samantha Franks	12/14
Karen Rose	12/20
Judy Routson	12/20
Larry Borger	12/21
Martha Schmidt	12/22
Sara Cleary	12/23
Allison May	12/24
Toni Poling	12/24
Wendy Price	12/24
Jim Schoerger	12/24
Alec Bonnoront	12/25
Lindsay Elchert	12/25
John Eakin	12/27
Melissa Sanders	12/27
Cynthia Rotman	12/28
Cindy Thompson	12/28
Carole Wittenberg	12/28
Philip Maurer	12/29

Anniversaries

Michael & Sharon Thompson	12/19/1970	49
Larry & Virginia Borger	12/28/1968	51
Bartley & Beverly Pardee	12/29/1950	69
Aaron & Linda Ried	12/30/1994	25

December Celebrations



first

Lutheran

First Lutheran Church
109 E. Lincoln Street
Findlay, OH 45840

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
FINDLAY, OH
PERMIT NO. 338

Current Resident or:

Prayer

Fx

When you absolutely-
positively need an
answer by 10:00 a.m.
tomorrow!
1-800-PRAYERS

This newsletter was mailed:
November 27th
Give or take a day

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45am; Sunday



Family Service of Candlelight at 7:00 pm
Prelude music to begin at 6:30

Lessons, Carols and Candlelight at 10:30 pm
Prelude music to begin at 10:00