

Light *of* Life

DECEMBER 2019



Burke Lutheran Church

Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24
4:00pm – Family Service
9:00pm – Candlelight Service

5720 Portage Rd | Madison, WI 53718 | 608.244.8486 | www.burkelutheran.org



POINSETTIAS

DECEMBER 15 DEADLINE

Add color to the sanctuary for the holidays! Sign up in the Narthex by December 15 to purchase or sponsor a poinsettia (or two!) Red or white are \$8 each.

OUR STAFF

Pastor

Robert Neubert,
240-215-5176
gumby523@yahoo.com

Administrative Secretary

Peri Beal, 608-244-8486
burkelutheran@att.net

Maintenance Engineer

Dave Wisner

Nursery Supervisor

A Volunteer

BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718
608-244-8486 / burkelutheran@att.net
www.burkelutheran.org

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Our Sunday School children have been hard at work preparing their Christmas program. They'll perform as part of our Sunday Worship Service on December 15.

Come and experience *The Holy Nativity*. Directed by Clara Neubert and Danni Queiser.



INCLEMENT WEATHER & WINTER PARKING

The winter season is coming fast, and with it, lots of ice and snow. Snow is usually easily identified but unfortunately ice often goes unseen until it is too late. In order to keep our members safe we wish to remind everyone to please keep the loading and unloading areas as clear as possible to allow for drop offs, to reserve our limited handicapped 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 MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROBERT.....

Brothers and sisters in Christ,

...And so, it has officially begun, the Christmas season is upon us. I will now acknowledge the existence of the Christmas items that have littered the shelves of area big box stores for over a month, and thus accept the eventual gift fest that is to come. Yet before that looming gift apocalypse can happen, we must journey through Advent, also known as the Holiday Shopping Season here in the US. Contrary to popular belief Advent is actually meant to be more than that. It's true! Advent is not just supposed to be about shopping and frantically running around making sure everything is taken care of before welcoming guests, and/or travelling to visit family and friends, or to get away from said people.

Advent is meant to be a time of preparation for the great celebration to come, where we honor and celebrate this in-between time as we wait and prepare. Advent reminds us that it is just as important to be present and treasure the in-between times as it is to be present and treasure life's celebration moments. Rather than just always looking forward toward what is on the horizon we need to honor this time of preparation. Decorating our homes, preparing meals, baking cookies, and even cleaning can be a great time for families to spend time together away from electronics even if it may not initially feel that way. It is in the conversations which develop over these kinds of tasks that can help deepen relationships and allow people to get greater insights into what is going on in each other's lives. Too often at big celebrations such as Thanksgiving or Christmas conversations are quick and only surface level as people are being constantly pulled in and out of conversations.

It is also during these times that we can catch up on a book, podcast, music, or just relax with a nice fire. The in-between times can be a great time to indulge one's self in order to renew one's body and spirit. This is particularly important for those of us who are introverts. Unfortunately, this may seem impossible for some as they look over their calendar for the month of December; never-the-less I challenge everyone to find some space within all the various gatherings, concerts, events, etc. to just stop and relax before the post-Christmas collapse.

This is especially important here at Burke at this time as we look out our church windows at the building that is gradually coming together just across the cemetery. We are both figuratively and literally in an in-between time in the life of our faith community. It is an exciting time with lots of wonderful possibilities on the horizon, yet we should also remember to honor and take joy in this in-between time. Once that building is done nothing will ever be the same here at Burke. Sure our events, activities, and worship will continue on just as they have always done but in some ways they will change based on our new space and the new people that will come and go as the years progress. It is important for us to remember that we will never again go through something quite like what is happening now so let us honor and celebrate this exciting in-between time in our community. So as we wait the coming celebration of the birth of our Savior let us appreciate the gifts that God has given us by honoring this sacred in-between time.

Peace and Blessings,
Pastor Robert



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

PRAYER CONCERNS

During the month of November, we have remembered the following individuals in our Sunday prayers:

Tina Bauman	Lisa Thompson	Mary Skinvik
Bev Lowe	Harper DeBauche	Fred Sandridge
Helen Knuteson	Rudy Nielsen	Duane Hammond
Arlene Kuipers	Sharon Hughes	Friends and family of Doug Foster
LaBaron family	Ron Brantmeyer	Friends and family of David Cevaal

FOOD PANTRY

December's focus is on Proteins: canned tuna, chicken, beans, peas, nut butters, rice, etc. Please place items in the designated basket in the Narthex and it will be delivered to the pantry.



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.



BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Join us Wednesday, December 18 at Johnny's Steakhouse, Sun Prairie, noon. All ladies are welcome.

SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 5, 2019

Join us at Faith Lutheran Church in Columbus for a Town Hall Meeting, January 5, 2:00pm.

Meet with Interim Bishop Peter Rogness and members of the East Dane Synod and the Beaver Dam Synod as we discuss what our future will look like.

Faith Lutheran Church is located at 120 Faith Drive Columbus, WI 53925. This community meeting is open to all who'd like to attend. No registration required.

More information coming in the January Light of Life.

CRAFT & BAKE SALE SUCCESS!

We had our most successful sale ever, with a grand total of almost \$5,000! This is the breakdown:

Lefse	\$2,400
Raffle tickets	\$667
Baked goods	\$572
Baskets	\$100
Craft tables	\$400
Quilts	\$405
Lunch	\$303

Thanks to all those who participated by volunteering, baking, and shopping.

Congrats to Lucille Mandt, the winner of the queen size fall quilt. And congrats to Kathy Sandridge, the winner of the pair of tickets to HAMILTON.

SUNDAY SPOTLIGHT MINISTRY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

Please join us in the Fellowship hall following worship on the second Sunday of each month. This month, learn more about Big Brothers Big Sisters on Sunday, December 15.



When children and teens have the influence of a caring adult, they are more likely to avoid risky behaviors and to focus on academics. Today's youth face a variety of challenges, and being matched with a Big Brother or Big Sister can help them navigate these challenges and reach their potential. Since 1966, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Dane County has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, monitored matches between adult volunteers and children, ages 6 through 18, in our Dane County community. For more info, contact BBBS at (608) 661-5437, or visit their website at <http://www.bbbsmadison.org/>

LIGHT OF LIFE & SUNDAY BULLETIN ARTICLES

If you have news you'd like to see in the Sunday bulletin announcements and/or Light of Life newsletter:

1. Email your submissions to burkelutheran@att.net (please indicate in the subject line whether it is for the bulletin, LOL or both), or
2. Mail to church, 5720 Portage Rd, Madison, WI 53718, or 3. Turn it into the church office with Attn: Peri

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays

LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 15th of the month

Youth & Kids Corner

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

December 1	Pageant practice
December 8	Pageant practice
December 14	Full dress rehearsal
December 15	Pageant
December 22	Winter break
December 29	Winter break
Jan 5, 2020	Classes resume

SLEDDING PARTY

JANUARY 4, 2019, 2-4PM

Save the date! Plans are in the works for a sledding party at Sheehan Park. Watch for more details coming soon and pray for plenty of snow.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Serving on your Teach Board...

Chairperson: Open

Council Rep: David Hanson

Superintendent: Jean Schnick

Treasurer: Open

Secretary: Open

THANK YOU SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

Thank you to all of our wonderful Sunday School teachers for our fall session. Our new curriculum is working well and we will continue with the narrative lectionary in January. Please contact Sunday School Superintendent Jean Schnick at 608-242-4629 or via email at floquijean@gmail.com with any questions.

BUTTERBRAIDS UPDATE!

There's still time to get your Butterbraid order in. The last day is Sunday, December 8.

And now there's an online option to order those yummy braids made from quality ingredients; flour, sugar, and butter. Visit our website and click on

the link <https://store.myfundraisingplace.com/dac07c8e-60a1-46a2-b3ba-39f39cafe4bc> and then select a kid to purchase from and pay online. Delivery will start December 18. Thanks for helping us raise funds for Youth Retreats and Confirmation Camp!



SAY CHEESE!

We're still working on our church directory to go along with our new building. Janeen Otis has graciously agreed to take family photos after church on December 8. Each family photo session should take about 10 minutes. A sign up sheet is in the Narthex for three slots. Have a favorite family photo you'd like to use instead? Please send a digital copy to us at burkelutheranchurch@att.net, Subject: Photo Directory.

And, the Reach Board is still gathering updated mailing addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses from everyone before and after Sunday services.



FIRST COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS

We celebrated Kayilee Brown and Ellory Neubert with their first communion during our regular worship service on Sunday, November 24. Congratulations!



DECEMBER CALENDAR

The staff at Burke Lutheran meets most Thursday mornings at 9:00am. We will return phone calls after our meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

PAGE 5

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Advent Worship, 9am Sunday School 9am Coffee Hour Choir 10:30am	2	3	4 Quilting, 9am Confirmation, 6:30pm	5 Bible Study, 12:30pm	6	7
8 Worship, 9am Sunday School 9am Coffee Hour Choir 10:30am	9 Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	10 Council, 6:30pm	11 Quilting, 9am Confirmation, 6:30pm	12 Bible Study, 12:30pm	13	14 Full Dress Rehearsal for Pageant
15 Christmas Pageant, 9am Coffee Hour Spotlight Ministry Choir 10:30am Blue Christmas, 4pm	16 Preach Board Meeting, 9am	17 Foundation, 7pm	18 Quilting, 9am Birthday Luncheon, noon at Johnny's Confirmation, 6:30pm	19 Bible Study, 12:30pm	20 River Food Pantry, 4:15-8pm	21
22 Worship, 9am Coffee Hour Choir 10:30am	23 Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	24 Family Service, 4pm Candlelight Service, 9pm	25 <i>Merry Christmas</i>	26 No Bible Study	27	28
29 Worship, 9am Potluck Coffee Hour	30	31 <i>New Year's Eve</i>				

Save the Dates:

January 4	Sledding Party
January 5	Sunday School Resumes
January 7	Town Hall Meeting at Faith Lutheran in Columbus
January 26	Annual Reports due to Peri
	Annual Congregational Meeting



Happy Anniversary!
To all who said "I do"
in the month of December!

BLUE CHRISTMAS

Sunday, December 15, 4:00—5:00 pm at Christ Lutheran Church, 205 S Main Street, DeForest.

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	Susie Kittel Moore
Music Leader	Dave Wisner	Dave Wisner		Bob Rittmann	Dave Wisner
Music Leader	Kathy Sandridge	Linda Truitt		Kathy Sandridge	Linda Truitt
Communion	Sharon Hughes	Julie Clark	Olivia Otis	Kim Hanson	Nancy McClurg
Communion	Barb Hennings	Jean Schnick	Kaitlyn Schramer	David Hanson	Jeannette Gehrke
Communion Prep	Mary TeWinkel	Jean Schnick	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke	Peri Beal
Lay Reader	Paul Beckman	Julie Clark		Tim Wachs	Jean Schnick
Prayer Readers	Barb Hennings Ron Hennings	Diane Moore Bob Boettcher		Sue Rittman Bob Rittmann	Dave Wisner Lucy Wisner
Acolyte	Carter Truitt	Aiden Brown	Clara Neubert	Abbey Harris	Danni Queiser
Ushers	Al Klinger Bob Lenzendorf	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Karl & Shari Patzer Kids in Service	Tim Wachs Chris Otis	Roger Kittleson Dave Weinberger
Greeters	Roger & Judy Martin	Mary Brantmeyer Rose Haney		Mary TeWinkel	Bob & Jeannette Gehrke
Coffee Hour	No Coffee Hour	Executive Board	Dorcas Circle	Men's Group	Potluck
Counters	Gloria Lundquist Kim Hanson	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Sharon Hughes Kathy Sandridge	Patrice Neubert Jan Peterson	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel

Christmas Eve	December 24 4:00pm Service	December 24 9:00pm Service
Organist/Pianist	Gloria Lundquist	Gloria Lundquist
Music Leader	Choir	Kathy Sandridge
Music Leader	Choir	Jean Schnick
Communion	Clara Neubert	
Communion		
Communion Prep	Gloria Lundquist	Gloria Lundquist
Lay Reader	Bob Boettcher	Jean Schnick
Prayer Readers		
Acolyte	Clara Neubert	
Ushers	Roger Kittleson Galen & Jan Peterson	David Hanson Dave Weinberger
Greeters		
Counters	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel

ANNUAL REPORTS

DUE JANUARY 7, 2020

Please complete your annual report and turn in to Peri no later than Friday, January 7.

ANNUAL MEETING

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2020

The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 26th following the 9:00am service. Agenda items include Building update, Board and Committee reports, the 2018 budget, election of Audit and Nominating committee members and representatives to Lutherdale, Oakwood and the Synod Assembly.

ANNUAL MEETING