

THE LAMP

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.”

Romans 15:7

December 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
2 First Sunday of Advent 9am Worship and Communion 10:00 Sunday School 10:15 Fellowship 1:30pm Ring in Christmas Concert at Zion Jubilee Lutheran Church	3	4 10am Prayer Shawl	5 1:30 7th grade confirmation Field Trip 6pm JAM Final Progrm	6 9:30am Women's Bible Study	7 4-6 Christmas Sunday School Program Rehearsal	8 6:30pm Central Standard Time Christmas Series Concert at UMC
9 2nd Sunday of Advent 9am Sunday School Program and Worship 10:15 Fellowship	10 9am LWR Quilting	11 10am Prayer Shawl	12 7pm Praise team rehearsal 7pm Confirmation	13	14	15
16 3rd Sunday of Advent 9am Contemporary Worship and Communion 10:15-12 Christmas Caroling 2:00 Saunders Vocal Studios Christmas Series @ ALC	17	18 10am Prayer Shawl	19 7pm Confirmation	20	21	22
23 4th Sunday of Advent 9am Worship 10:15 Fellowship	24 4:30pm Christmas Eve Service 7:00pm Christmas Eve Service	25	26	27	28	29
30 First Sunday of Christmas 9am Lessons and Carols 10:15 Fellowship	31	NOTES	Council President: Maureen Even 563-827-3270 Pastor, Kristen Corr Rod 563-212-1366 Church Phone: 827-6626 Web Address: www.americanlutheranjesup.org Church e-mail: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org Pastor's e-mail: pastor@americanlutheranjesup.org			

Ushers, Readers, and Communion Assistants

December Readers

Dec. 2 Wayne Schneider
 Dec. 9 Sunday School
 Dec. 16 Maureen Even
 Dec. 23 Christy Phillips
 Dec. 30 Mary Adams

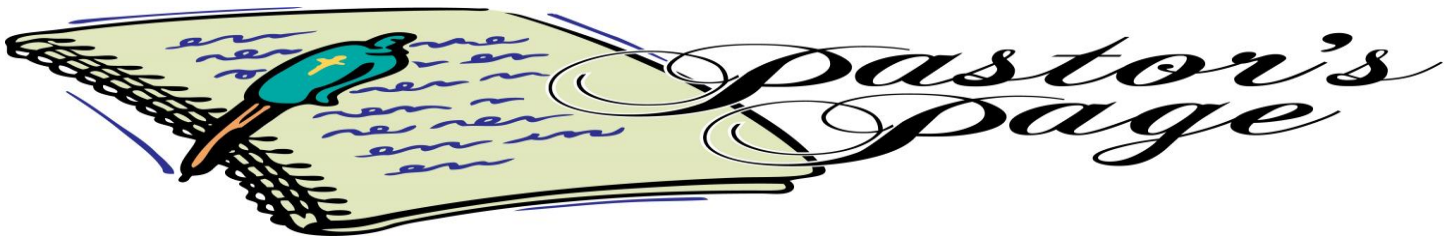
December Communion Assistants

Dec. 2 Wayne Schneider
 Dec. 16 Maureen Even
 Dec. 30 Mary Adams

December Ushers

Kristi Clayton
 Randy Ruehs





Dear friends in Christ,

The air is chilly, and the sky grows dark earlier each night. We are entering the season of Advent and the anticipation of Christmas. We see decorations go up, and maybe we put some up ourselves. And maybe we are filled with the wonder of seeing the beautiful Christmas lights shining in the dark. Maybe we are excited to purchase Christmas presents for our loved ones, and maybe we look forward to times of celebration with family and friends.

But maybe the darkness and the chill feel like they're hitting us rather hard this year. Maybe we don't have the money for the presents we'd like to buy. Maybe the lack of sunlight brings seasonal depression. Maybe we are filled with the pain of missing the ones we have lost. Maybe we have feelings of fear and dread as we watch the news and see the natural disasters and wars and violence and corruption in the world. Maybe you see how deeply we all need a savior.

This is what the season of Advent is all about-- that mixture of emotions, hope and fear and anticipation and maybe other emotions as well, all at the same time. When we cry, "Come, Lord Jesus!" sometimes that cry is full of excitement and wonder, and sometimes it comes from a place of deep pain. Regardless of the emotions involved, the cry, "Come, Lord Jesus!" is always faithful. We are always in need of our Savior.

A few years ago, I went to a workshop about the seasons of the church year. The professor who taught the class noted that early Christians actually didn't know what time of year Jesus was born. Few people had paid attention to Jesus until he was older, so there were only a few stories about his birth and none of them mentioned the time of year. So when they wanted to celebrate Jesus' birth, they decided to place that celebration during what, in the Northern hemisphere at least, was the darkest and coldest time of the year. What better time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, who is the true light coming into the world?

Even as the weather darkens, may you anticipate the light of Christ this season.

Christ's peace,

Pastor Kristen

**American Lutheran Church
Council Meeting
October 8, 2018**

President Maureen Even called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present at the meeting were Maureen Even, Wayne Schneider, Barb Hayek, Kaye Jones, Mary Adams, Christy Phillips, Pastor Kristen, Sara Borland and Christa Leach.

Devotion was led by Pastor and everyone said a high and low that happened for each one during the last month. The Bible reading was from Psalm 112.

Secretary's Report—Sara Borland made a motion to accept the Minutes. Wayne Schneider seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report—Christa Leach made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report. Kaye Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried. The balance in the checking account at the end of September is (\$1,535.76).

Committee Reports:

Abundant Life—met on Sept 20th. The committee would like the council's approval and backing of their mission/vision statement. Council discussed the mission/vision statement. Kaye Jones made a motion to support the Abundant Life's mission/vision statement as a council and eventually a congregation. Sara Borland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Constitution—all chapters are finished. The ladies are waiting for a response from Synod on electronic communications.

Hospitality—no meeting

Parish Ed—Sunday school has started. The children's Christmas Program will be held on December 9 at 9:00 AM.

Property—Ray Zummak and Wayne Schneider fixed the eaves problem.

Scholarship—no meeting

Technology—no meeting

Worship & Music—hymns have been selected through the end of October. Christmas Eve services will be at 4:30 and 7:00 PM.

Youth—they have discussed about doing some activities with the United Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church.

Pastor' Report:

In the past month Pastor has had 4 home communion visits, 1 worship service at Prairie Hills in Independence, attended the Food Pantry board meeting and hosted the monthly Jubilee Pastors Conference gathering.

Pastor held a communion class on September 29 for 5th graders. There were 2 students who participated in the class. Hayden Johnson and Piper Zelle received their First Communion on September 30. Hayden Johnson also received his Bible from the church during the service.

The Jesup Ministerium has been working with people from the school to see how they can partner with the school and support the community. One suggestion was to have the pastors work at the concession stand at one of the home football games, so they all worked at the Homecoming game. It was a busy and fun evening. The ministerium will also provide financial support to help the school bring a speaker, Joe Beckman, to do a suicide prevention presentation at the middle school, high school and for the general public. He will be here on Monday, November 26.

The Jesup Ministerium is working on planning the upcoming Thanksgiving service, which will be held on the evening of Sunday, November 18 at the First Presbyterian. Father Dole from St. A's will be preaching. There will be a potluck following the service.

JAM is off to a good start. There are approximately 40 students who attend this year, plus numerous volunteers. They are also having a book fair from Beaming Books and Fortress Press, which features faith-based children's books and adult wellness books. The proceeds from the book fair will support the JAM program.

On October 12 & 13, Pastor will be taking 3 of the Confirmation students to the Synod's Middle School Lock-In at UNI.

On October 14-16, Pastor will be attending the Fall Theological Conference in Dubuque. The speaker this year will be Sam Giere, who is the preaching professor at Wartburg Seminary.

On November 11, Gary Hedding will be a guest preacher. He will be here preaching on generosity.

On January 13, 2019, Deb Whitford from LSI will be a guest preacher. She will be talking about LSI.

New Business:

Thanksgiving special offering designation—Mary Adams made a motion to have the Thanksgiving offering designated for Lutheran Services in Iowa, specifically for the Marshalltown tornado thru the Synod. Kaye Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ecumenical December concerts-- ALC will be hosting a concert on December 16. Wayne Schneider made a motion for Jessica Saunders to use the church this night for a concert and the free-will offering half will go to the church and the other half to the Jesup Ministerium. Barb Hayek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Key List—Mary Adams brought a list of who has church keys. The list was updated at the meeting.

Music Stands for the Chime Choir—Barb Hayek made a motion to take the money out of the undesignated memorial fund to pay for music stands. Christa Leach seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Letter from a congregational member—Wayne Schneider read a letter from Tim Anderson regarding his payments.

Old Business:

Endowment fund follow up—Mike Kleinfelter came in September to talk to the council about receiving a gift and having a plan for the gift. Mike was in touch with Maureen to see if a plan has been put into place and if the council would like to have him come back and answer any more questions that may have come up since then. Council has decided to ask Mike to come back early next year to answer any more questions from the council or congregation.

Deacon assignments were given for November.

The next council meeting will be held on November 12, 2018 at 6:30 PM.

Wayne Schneider made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 PM. Barb Hayek seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Christy Phillips
Secretary

Events

Be Our Guest: A Reminder that there is no Be Our Guest Meal in December. Meals will resume in 2019.

Children's Christmas Program: Our Children's Christmas Program will take place during our 9am worship service on Sunday, December 9. Please join us in worship and hear the wonderful message presented by our Sunday School students! Also, any loose offering given that day is designated for Team Reed, which funds research on Vanishing White Matter Disease. Reed is a kindergartner at Jesup Elementary who suffers from this rare disease.

ALC Ladies Holiday Gathering: Saturday, December 15 from 3-5 pm
ALC Basement, Bring an appetizer or sweet treat to share.

Come join other ladies of ALC for an afternoon of fun, fellowship and crafting. Tammy from A 4th Generation will join us to help us create a holiday craft. Cost for the craft is \$25 you may select a JOY sign OR a set of candles. You will be able to modify the craft to your personal colors and style. You do not need to do the craft to join us. All are welcome!

JESUP MINISTERIUM • CHRISTMAS • CONCERT SERIES



RING IN CHRISTMAS

Sunday, Dec 2, 1:30pm

Zion Jubilee Lutheran Church, La Porte City
(Corner of V62 and Jubilee RD)

Featuring Jubilee Choir, Jubilee Ringers,
ALC Chime Choir, Joy Ringers, and ALC Praise Team



CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

Saturday, Dec 8, 6:30pm

First United Methodist Church, Jesup
Charlie Rod, Matt Hibbard,
and Patrick McAlpine



SAUNDERS VOCAL STUDIOS

Sunday, Dec 16, 2:00pm

American Lutheran Church, Jesup
Dr. Jessica Saunders and voice students
performing holiday favorites!

FREEWILL DONATIONS WILL BE TAKEN AT EACH CONCERT.

Donations will be split 50/50 between the musicians and the
Jesup Ministerium Fund, which is used to provide assistance with
rent, utilities, food, and gas to those in the Jesup community.

** A RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW EACH CONCERT

Jesup Ministerium Christmas

Concert Series: The Jesup Ministerium is hosting a series of 3 concerts, filled with beautiful Christmas music, the first three weekends in December. "Ring In Christmas" will be Sunday, Dec 2 at 1:30pm at Zion Jubilee Lutheran Church, La Porte City, and will feature music from hand bell choirs, chime choirs, and vocal music groups. "Central Standard Time" will be Saturday, Dec 8, at 6:30pm at First United Methodist Church, Jesup, and will feature acoustic folk music. "Saunders Vocal Studios" will be Sunday, Dec 16 at 2:00pm at American Lutheran Church, Jesup, and will feature Dr. Jessica Saunders and her voice students. At each of these three concerts, a free will donation will be taken, which will be split 50/50 between the musicians and the Jesup Ministerium Fund, which is used to provide assistance with rent, utilities, food, and gas to those in the Jesup community. Join us for one or all of

these concerts this December!

Knights of Columbus Omelet Breakfast: December 9 from 8am-Noon at Legion Hall in Gilbertville. All you can eat Omelet, Hash browns, Sausage, Toast, Fruit Cup, and beverage. Proceeds will be donated to Jesup & Don Bosco Scholarship funds and other projects.

Christmas Tea in Independence: All are invited to a Christmas Tea at the Presbyterian Church in Independence, 115 6th Ave NW. It will be an open house, Sunday, December 9, 1-4pm, featuring storytelling by Joyce Wright and music by the Ladies' Musical Society. RSVP to the church office at 319-334-3523.

Christmas Caroling: We will be going Christmas caroling after worship on December 16. Shortly after the 9am worship service is over, we will go sing at Winding Creek in Jesup, and then we will go sing at Prairie Hills in Independence. We will be done and back in Jesup by noon. All are welcome to join in, music books will be provided.



Christmas Worship Schedule

Blue Christmas Service at Jesup United Methodist

Church: All are invited to Jesup UMC on Friday, December 21st for a special Blue Christmas Service at 7pm. This will be a service of peace and light in the midst of darkness. We will spend time remembering our losses over this last year and honoring them in this season. There will be special candle light during this service. We invite anyone who might need a reminder of light this Christmas season.

Christmas Eve Services at American Lutheran

Church: We will have two services this year on Christmas Eve, Monday, December 24: one at 4:30pm and one at 7:00pm. We hope you can join us for this special celebration!

Christmas Day service at Zion Jubilee Lutheran Church: All are invited to Zion Jubilee Lutheran Church for their Christmas Morning service, December 25 at 9am. This is a traditional service with Holy Communion.

Announcements



Winding Creek Christmas Wreath Contest: The tenants and staff at Winding Creek have made homemade Christmas wreaths, and they need help deciding which one is the winner. Please stop in at Winding Creek between December 5 and December 19 to view the wreaths and place your vote.

Christmas Gifts for Bremwood Lutheran

Home: For the past few years, we have purchased Christmas gifts for the youth at Bremwood Lutheran Home in Waverly. Bremwood is a group foster care setting that gives troubled youth a safe place to live while

they receive therapy, education, and spiritual support as they work through trauma and other difficulties they have had in their lives. The gifts will be listed on tags hanging on the Christmas tree in the back of the Sanctuary beginning November 18. Please return all gifts to ALC on or before Sunday, December 16.

From Melissa Trumbauer, Jesup HS At-Risk Coordinator: I have been informed that there will be a family moving into our community from California. The family has lost everything due to the fires in California. They are in need of clothing for the winter and winter gear. Eventually they will also be in need of household items as well.

They will be residing with a relative here in town to start with and then looking for a place to rent of their own. They family is one boy, one girl, mom and dad. If you are able to donate any of these items we would greatly appreciate it. If you would prefer to donate money to the items can be purchased I would be happy to purchase the items and deliver them when they arrive.

Here is a list of sizes:

Girl - size 6/7 clothing and shoe size 13

Boy - size Men's Large, shoe size is men's

Mom - shirt size 2x-3x, pants 24 and shoe size 8

Dad- shirt size 2xl, pants 40x30 and shoe size 12

Church Doors: To keep heating costs low, we will be keeping the sanctuary doors closed (including the doors in the NE staircase).

Noisy Offering: Our Noisy Offering for most of the month of December will go to ELCA World Hunger, which funds hunger-fighting programs in the USA and around the world. However, on December 9, our Noisy Offering will go to Team Reed.

Special Christmas Eve Offering: Our special Christmas offerings this year will be split 50/50 between the Buchanan County Food Pantry and the Jesup Ministerium Fund. You may give to this effort using the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day envelopes in your offering envelopes or using a pew envelope marked "Special Christmas Offering."

Home Town Heroes: needs names and addresses. If you have a loved one who is active duty military and would like them to receive a Christmas box please send their name and address to welcomhome@jtt.net by Monday, December 10th. Any questions call Dale Rueber at 319-827-6189.



Independence Food Pantry is in Need of Donations: The independence food pantry is in need of toilet paper and crock pots (in new or excellent used condition). Your donation would be greatly appreciated and can be left in the back of the sanctuary though the end of December.

Notes from Worship and Music

Sunday School Christmas Program

Dec 9 practice 8:30 AM

Dec 9 play 9 AM ALC Children's Christmas Program **Youth are welcome to provide prelude music. Please contact bergmansa@hotmail.com.

Chime Choir

Dec 2 Chime Concert 1:30 at Zion Jubilee, cookie reception.

Dec 9 Chime choir plays at ALC at 9 AM
No practice in January.

Praise team practice

Dec 12 7pm Rehearsal

Dec 16 Praise team plays at Church

Know anyone who could offer the gift of special music sometime? Contact Shirley Bergman at bergmansa@hotmail.com or call 319- 239-0031 to discuss options!

Brandon Choir Performance: Katie Olson Stalheim and the Brandon Choir will be at ALC December 23 to sing Christmas music. They will start prelude music at 8:45. Please come early to enjoy this group who graciously share themselves with our congregation.

Wartburg vocal men's group coming this winter 2019!!! Invite family and friends for this wonderful opportunity.



Celebrations



Wedding Anniversaries

Shane & Brea Witt	12/12/2009	9
Larry & Dorothy Thompson	12/21/1969	49
Mark & Deb Collett	12/22/1973	45
Daryl & Jan Rachuy	12/22/1962	56
Wendell & Neva Erpelding	12/27/1955	63
Mike & Jen Bistline	12/30/2000	18

Baptisms

Roger Collins	12/3	Robert Clayton I	12/14	Kelly Seehase	12/23
Jaymn Loyd	12/3	Bud Marsh	12/14	Alexis Smith	12/23
Jonathan Rose	12/3	Joey Bistline	12/15	Autumn Rolison	12/24
Sue Hoey	12/4	Marilyn Peterson	12/15	Alexander Swanson	12/24
Braden Simmons	12/5	Heath Wyant	12/15	Barb Hayek	12/25
Connie Jones	12/6	Wayne Venem	12/16	Darren Engbretson	12/26
Peggy Shaffer	12/8	Brad Schmit	12/18	Cody Haack	12/26
Grace Thompson	12/8	Brady Mattson	12/19	Merritt Jones	12/27
Derek Bate	12/9	Amanda Ruehs	12/20	Brett Waring	12/27
Brandon Clayton	12/9	Katrina Bowers	12/21	Justin McLeod	12/29
Charles Clayton II	12/10	Stella Distler	12/23	Ryan Wilson	12/29
Michael Menuey Jr.	12/10	Chad Frahm	12/23	Gene Waring	12/30
Michelle Krivanek	12/11	Quinn Johnson	12/23	Sarah Maeder	12/31
Elwood Sapp	12/12	Marcia Riggs	12/23		



Birthdays

Marcia Anderson	12/1	Ava Anderson	12/21
Caroline Rod	12/1	Sarah Maeder	12/21
Shane Witt	12/4	Marki Smith	12/21
Madeline Bistline	12/5	Tracy Versluis	12/21
Kaye Jones	12/5	Steph Witt	12/21
Rachel Menuey	12/5	Ryan Becker	12/22
Danny Kopplin	12/7	Charlotte Jones	12/22
Braylen Seehase	12/8	Christy Phillips	12/22
Elston Goodenbour	12/9	Scott Riggs	12/22
Carrie May	12/9	Harper Fox	12/24
Michael Mostek Jr.	12/9	Tammy Myers	12/24
Kyle Nuehring	12/9	Jillian Schares	12/24
Christina Conner	12/12	Elwood Sapp	12/25
Lynette Renner	12/12	Madison Ruckdaschel	12/26
Marcia Riggs	12/12	Andy Dalziel	12/28
Gert Franti	12/14	Cindy Kayser	12/28
Stephanie Yonkovic	12/14	Brady Mattson	12/28
Colin Schares	12/15	Amanda Phillips	12/29
Lori Mattson	12/17	Jaima Tonne	12/30
Angie Maus	12/17	Merry Backes	12/31
Mike Schares	12/17	Michael May	12/31
Susan Emme	12/18	Erica Soppe	12/31
Sara Harrington	12/19		
Jodi Clayton	12/20		

