

DECEMBER 2021

# Light *of* Life

Burke Lutheran Church

## Christmas Eve Services

Friday, December 24

4:00pm – Family Service      9:00pm – Candlelight Service

5720 Portage Rd | Madison, WI 53718 | 608.244.8486 | [www.burkelutheran.org](http://www.burkelutheran.org)

### OUR STAFF

#### Pastor

Robert Neubert,  
240-215-5176  
[gumby523@yahoo.com](mailto:gumby523@yahoo.com)

#### Administrative Secretary

Peri Beal, 608-244-8486  
[burkelutheran@att.net](mailto:burkelutheran@att.net)

#### Maintenance Engineer

Dave Wisner

#### BURKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

5720 Portage Rd / Madison, WI 53718  
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### SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

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 19.

Come and experience *Snowflakes*. Directed by our very own indispensable Kim Hanson..

### POINSETTIAS

DECEMBER 22 DEADLINE

Add color to the sanctuary for the holidays! Sign up in the Narthex by December 22 to purchase or sponsor a poinsettia (or two!) Red or white are \$12 each.



### Advent *by* Candlelight

Sunday, December 5

4:00pm Social Hour

5:00pm Potluck

Christmas Caroling

### ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 4:00PM

Save the date and join us for this family-friendly event. Please bring a dish to share. Sign up on the sheet in the Narthex if you'd like to decorate a table for this event.

## A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR ROBERT.....

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great sorrow that I must say goodbye, This past month after many conversations, and a lot of prayer, my family and I have decided to move to Portland, OR. This decision was made after Patrice was offered a position directing the Oregon Newborn Screening Laboratory. As many of you know Patrice is currently the Co-director of the Wisconsin Newborn Screening Laboratory so this position offers her a step up from her current position. This is an amazing opportunity for her and the girls and I couldn't be more proud of her many accomplishments leading to this opportunity to finally be able to have a lab of her own. Patrice starts her position on February 1st so we will be moving west not long after the beginning of the year. As a result my final Sunday leading worship with the people of Burke will be December 26th.

As many of you know I was born and raised in the Portland area so this represents a return home for me. My brother and his family still live in the Portland area and I still have many close friends who live in the area. Portland is also where Patrice and I first met and began our life together. Thus for both of us this is like a return home, yet still a chance to move forward. In the meantime I am currently in the call process with the Oregon Synod and have yet to receive another call.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you. All of you have a very special place in my heart. These last 7+ years have not always been easy. When I first arrived at Burke, there was a lot of turmoil for a variety of different reasons and together we were all able to move through that turmoil and come out closer and stronger. After the turmoil we were able to enjoy a period of growth and peace where many people were able to encounter God both within these walls and through the people who came here. This led to our ability to finally see our dream of creating a more functional worship space come to life. Unfortunately the Corona virus also decided it was its time to "shine" as well causing us to get extra creative regarding our transition to the new space, and placing a cloud over our reopening. Yet even though everything is not back to "normal" as we struggle to figure out what "normal" is now, there is a deep well of faith, hope and love in this building. Today when I look at Burke I see a family, a deep loving family that is very dedicated to their church and their community, and it makes me proud to have been able to share this call with you all.

As I move forward in my career, wherever it may lead. I will always look back at my time here at Burke with fondness and love. Each of you have taught and sup-

ported me in many different ways. In particular I would just like to give thanks for those who have really put in the extra effort to support all of you and myself through many ups and downs.

Linda and Mary: There have been weeks where the two of you have been working around this building more than I. Your deep dedication to this congregation is an inspiration to me and many others. Your leadership, support and friendship has meant more to me than you could ever know. Thank you for everything you do, and I apologize for creating even more work for you.

Dave: In my darkest days around here it was you that kept a smile on my face. Our friendship has meant a lot to me and never doubt that this church needs and loves you deeply. Thank you for all that you do around here, there is no one else who could do it better.

Peri: Though you have been stuck at home for a variety of reasons, and dealing with things beyond your control. Thank you for continuing to support the church and helping the best you can with the resources at your disposal. I truly miss having you around.

Thank you to all the many volunteers out there that keep this congregation moving forward. Throughout the years Burke has put out calls for many different kinds of tasks and you have always shown up with whatever gifts you possess. I wish I had the words to thank everyone individually but I know I would miss someone and feel terrible about it. Know that you are all special in my heart and that each of you have taught me things that I will carry forward to wherever God is calling me.

Peace and Blessings, Pastor Robert



## FAREWELL BRUNCH

DECEMBER 26, 10:00AM

It's never easy to say good-bye. Come join us following the service to wish Pastor Robert and his family farewell. This will be his final service as Pastor here at Burke. Please bring your favorite dish to pass.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST



The Men's Breakfast group will meet Wednesday, December 8th, 9:00am, at Gus' Diner in Sun Prairie. Please contact Dave Weinberger at 608-225-0588 or

Roger Kittleson at 608-843-9895 if you'd like to attend.

## DO WE HAVE YOUR CURRENT CONTACT INFORMATION?

If you've changed your contact information in the past few years — if you've moved, dropped your land line, changed your

email to get rid of all that annoying spam you were getting, got a new job, etc. — please let the church office

know. at 608-244-8486 or burkelutheran@att.net. Thank you for helping us stay in touch!



## FIRST COMMUNION CONGRATULATIONS

We celebrated Raelynn Lenzendorf and Kjersten Proebstle with their first communion during our worship service on Sunday, November 14. Congratulations girls!



## CRAFT & BAKE SALE SUCCESS!

The Craft Fair was a big success. Thanks to everyone that helped set up, work the day of the sale and help clean up. Thanks also for all the donations of baked goods, items for the raffle and craft items that were sold. With the funds raised from the vendor booth fee, raffle tickets, donated craft items, bake sale and lunch we made \$2260. All the funds went to the church general fund.



## JOIN THE CHRISTMAS CHOIR

From now until Christmas, the Burke Christmas Choir will be practicing every Sunday after the worship service. Then we'll sing at both the 4pm and 9pm Christmas Eve services. Please join us!

## 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

**BULLETIN DEADLINE: Noon on Wednesdays**

**LIGHT OF LIFE DEADLINE: 15th of the month**

## ANNUAL REPORTS

DUE JANUARY 10, 2022

Please complete your annual report and turn in no later than Monday, January 10.

# ANNUAL MEETING

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 30, 2022

The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 30th following the 9:00am worship service.



## LET'S DECORATE

DECEMBER 4, 9AM

Drop in and help decorate the church for Christmas! We'll be starting at 9am on Saturday, December 4.



## PRAYER CONCERNS

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

Helen Knuteson	Lisa Thompson	Virginia Steward
Lucy Wisner	Nancy Bartlett	Shelby Branzanti
Allison Foss	Val Sandmire	Heather Chadwick
Paul White	Diane Nelson	Jessica Waldo
Beni Hupf	Karen Bork	Errol Ramsfield
Chirs McFarlin		

Friends and family of Al Sundby

Family and friends of Paul Robbins

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

## GIVE BACK THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

In lieu of Christmas presents for the clients of the River Food Pantry, this year Burke Lutheran Church will be collecting monetary donations to be given to Madison Area Care of the Homeless (MACH) OneHealth. MACH OneHealth is assisting the residents of Reindahl Park with their transition to alternative housing, either a tiny shelter on Dairy Drive or to a room at the Madison Plaza Hotel on E. Washington. Our donations will be used to purchase bus passess, household items, and personal care items.



Monetary donations will be collected through December 12th. If you wish to write a check, please make it out to Burke Lutheran Church (but make sure to either note on the check or envelope that this is a donation to help the homeless, so that we can provide one lump sum to MACH OneHealth. If you are unable to make a monetary donation, prayers are also welcome.

## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 5:00 PM



# 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.

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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> Last Day Butterbraids Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1pm Confirmation Class, 7pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> New Member Worship, 9am & online Pageant Practice, 9am Coffee Hour	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Men's Breakfast, 9:00am Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1pm Confirmation Class, 7pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b>  Worship, 9am & online Pageant Practice, 9am Coffee Hour	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Council Meeting, 6:30pm	<b>15</b> Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1pm Confirmation Class, 7pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b>  Pageant Worship, 9am & online Potluck	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Blue Christmas Service, 5pm	<b>22</b> Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1pm Confirmation Class, 7pm	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Family Service, 4pm Candlelight Service, 9pm	<b>25</b>  Merry Christmas!
<b>26</b> Worship, 9am & online Farewell Brunch	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Quilting, 9:00am In Person Bible Study, 1pm Confirmation Class, 7pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Year's Eve	

Save the Dates:

January 7	Sunday School Resumes
January 10	Annual Reports due
January 30	Annual Congregational Meeting



## Happy Birthday!

Have a birthday in December?

Hope your birthday is spectacular,  
totally cool, really fantastic, wonderful, exciting,  
majorly awesome, fun-filled, rocking and **HAPPY!**



## Happy Anniversary!

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





## DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS...

	<b>December 5 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 12 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 19 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 26 9:00am Service</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore
<b>Music Leader</b>	Hope McFarlin Linda Wendt	Dave Wisner Linda Truitt	Clara Neubert Dave Wisner	Dave Wisner Chris Grefe
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Jeannette Gehrke	Gloria Lundquist	Sharon Hughes	David Hanson
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Mary TeWinkel	Gloria Lundquist	Mary TeWinkel
<b>Reader</b>	Barb Hennings	Nancy McClurg	Bob Boettcher	
<b>Ushers</b>	Bob Lenzendorf	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Janeen Otis Chris Otis	David Hanson Karl Patzer
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	New Members		Potluck	Farewell Brunch
<b>Counters</b>	Gloria Lundquist Patrice Neubert	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Gloria Lundquist Patrice Neubert	Sharon Hughes Jan Peterson

	<b>Christmas Eve 4:00pm</b>	<b>Christmas Eve 9:00pm</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Gloria Lundquist Susie Kittel Moore	Gloria Lundquist
<b>Music Leaders</b>	Choir	Choir
<b>Communion Assistant</b>		
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Mary TeWinkel
<b>Reader</b>		
<b>Ushers</b>		
<b>Counters</b>	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel



### LAST CHANCE BUTTER BRAIDS!

Hurry and get your Butterbraid order in. Order your yummy braids made from quality ingredients of flour, sugar and butter by Wednesday, December 1. For online orders, [click here](#). There is also a paper form posted in the Narthex. Checks should be made payable to: Burke Lutheran Church. Delivery will start December 15. Thanks for helping us raise funds for our Youth programs.