

# Light *of* Life

DECEMBER 2018

## 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

Burke Lutheran Church

## Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24

4:00pm - Family Service

9:00pm - Candlelight Service

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

Our Sunday School children have been hard at work preparing their Christmas program. They'll perform as part of our Sunday Worship Service on Sunday, December 16.

Come and experience *The 12 Symbols of Christmas*. Directed by Kim Hanson.



## POINSETTIAS

DECEMBER 18 DEADLINE

Add color to the sanctuary for the holidays! Sign up in the Narthex by December 18 to purchase or sponsor a poinsettia (or two!) Red or white are \$8 each and burgundy or jingle bells are \$15 each.



## 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 for over a month, thus accepting the gift fest that is to come. Yet before that can happen, we must take a journey through Advent, also known as the Holiday Shopping Season here in the US. Yet 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 the in-between time where we wait and prepare. Advent reminds us that it is just as important to be present in those in-between times rather than just looking forward toward what is on the horizon. 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 these conversations which develop over these kinds of tasks that can help deepen relationships and allow people to get deeper 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, nevertheless 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.

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. Or as the great Pink Floyd puts it...

*"Come on, my friends, Let's make for the hills. They say there's gold but I'm looking for thrills. You can get your hands on whatever we find, Because I'm only coming along for the ride. Well, you go your way, I'll go mine. I don't care if we get there on time. Everybody's searching for something, they say. I'll get my kicks on the way. Over the mountains, across the seas Who knows what will be waiting for me? I could sail forever to strange sounding names. Faces of people and places don't change. All I have to do is just close my eyes To see the seagulls wheeling on those far distant skies. All I want to tell you, all I want to say Is count me in on the journey. Don't expect me to stay."*

Song: *The Gold It's In The?* Album: *Obscured by Clouds*

Peace and Blessings,  
Pastor Robert

## PRAYER CONCERNS

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

David Vincent	Bill Schmidt	Tina Bauman
Chris McFarlin	Lisa Thompson	Pearl Kvalheim
Owen Storlie	Jean Lothe	Ingrid Clark
Lynn Doyle	Ralph Millard	Ross Crosby
Janeen Otis	Jamie Falk	Mary Skinvik
Dave Wisner	Bev Lowe	

Our condolences to the family and friends of Bob Schramer and Chick Lowe.



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

## BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 7:00PM AT CHRISTIAN FAITH MORAVIAN CHURCH, 805 E HOLUM ST, DEFOREST

This service is particularly designed for those for whom the holiday season is not a merry time – painful memories, loved ones who have passed away, broken relationship, or seasonal depression (or more). We pray that this service will be a way to light a candle in the darkness and to remember that Christ entered into our brokenness. The Blue Christmas Service this year will be an ecumenical effort, with pastors from local DeForest churches participating, including our own Pastor Rob; their congregations have been invited to attend also.



## CRAFT & BAKE SALE SUCCESS!

We took in \$4,455.95! This is the breakdown:

Lefse \$1,467.00  
Cookbooks \$96.00  
Quilters \$20.00  
Luncheon \$214.00  
Crafters \$1,852.00 (20% of craft sales was \$372.80)  
Baked goods \$630.00

A grand total of \$1,352.30 was given to the BLCW for the new kitchen.

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



## 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.



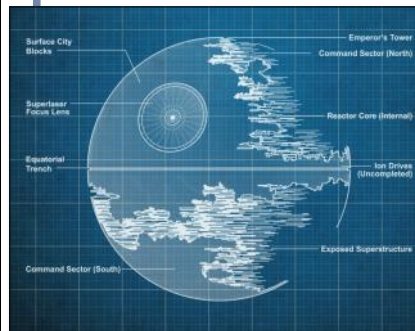
## BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

High noon on Wednesday, December 12 at Olive Garden, 4320 East Towne Blvd, Madison. Please join us for the monthly celebration!

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

DECEMBER 2

Immediately following our worship service on December 2, there will be a brief congregational meeting. Changes have been made to the original building design to allow it to fit within our budget. The building committee believes these plans will meet our needs and position us for the future of Burke. Please plan on attending.



## MEN'S BREAKFAST

The next Men's Breakfast is Wednesday, December 12 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.



## SAVE THE DATE

JANUARY 6, 2019

Join us at Burke Lutheran Church for our first annual Epiphany Gathering!

Potluck, a short worship service with a community choir, and booths for churches to share information.

More information coming in the January Light of Life.



## 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 IMPORTANT DATES

December 2	Rehearsals
December 9	Rehearsals
December 15	Saturday morning rehearsal
December 16	Christmas pageant followed by winter break
January 6	Classes resume

## BUTTER BRAIDS DELIVERY

Starts December 12. Thanks for helping us raise funds for Youth Retreats and Confirmation Camp!



## SUNDAY SCHOOL SCOOP

Serving on your Teach Board:

*Chairperson:* Open position

*Council Representative:* David Hanson

*Superintendent:* Jean Schnick

*Treasurer:* Rudy Nielsen

*Secretary:* Sonja Nielsen

## SHOW OUR CHILDREN THE WAY

We had 17 teachers for our first semester to help our kids get to know our God! We provide the lesson and a lot of help, so you are not on your own. If you are interested in helping out for our next semester, we have a place for you to serve. Even one Sunday is an option. Please contact Sunday School Superintendent Jean Schnick at 608-242-4629 or via email at floquijean@gmail.com.

## SLEDDING PARTY

JANUARY 5, 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.

## KALAHARI FAMILY NIGHT

FEBRUARY 8—9, 2019

Sign up sheets are located in the Narthex. More details to come.

## FIRST COMMUNION

DECEMBER 9TH

Please join us December 9 as we celebrate Anthony Flaig, Copeland Lietz and Nolan Proebstle with their first communion during our regular worship service.



## MISSION TRIP

Mark your calendars for June 16 -22, 2019. We will be heading to Tijuana Mexico to help build homes with Esperanza International.

## OUR MISSION

Esperanza International seeks to cultivate global citizenship through services experiences in working towards a better world.

We partner with Fundación Esperanza de México, a Mexican NGO, who believe that all people deserve safe and dignified housing.

Together, we offer service-learning immersion trips where volunteers help build homes in communities across Tijuana and have the opportunity to authentically engage in the unique border culture of Tijuana, Mexico, through the eyes of its own residents.

## OUR VISION

Our vision is that every individual who participates in our program will be transformed into a person of love, compassion and respect for all other peoples and cultures, and will intentionally act upon that transformation. We envision a world in which communities across borders work in solidarity toward a common dream of sustainable, dignified housing for all people. If you are interested in learning more about this trip, please sign up in the Narthex.



Esperanza International



# 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> Handbells, 9am Decorate, 10am
<b>2</b>  Worship, 9am Pageant Practice Choir Practice	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>6</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>  Worship, 9am Pageant Practice Choir Practice	<b>10</b> Fireside Fellows, 6:30-8pm	<b>11</b> Council Meeting 6:30pm	<b>12</b> Men's Breakfast, 9am Quilting, 9:00am BLCW Meeting, 10:00am Birthday Luncheon, noon Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>13</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>14</b> Dorcas, 6pm	<b>15</b> Pageant Practice Ruth Circle, 10am
<b>16</b>  Worship, 9am Christmas Pageant Choir Practice	<b>17</b> Preach Board, 9:00am	<b>18</b> Foundation Mtg 7:00pm	<b>19</b> Quilting, 9:00am Confirmation Class, 6:30pm	<b>20</b> Bible Study, 12:30pm	<b>21</b> River Food Pantry, 5-8pm	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b>  Worship, 9am Choir Practice	<b>24</b> Family Service, 4pm Candlelight Service, 9pm	<b>25</b>  <b>Christmas Day</b>	<b>26</b>  No Quilting No Confirmation Class	<b>27</b>  No Bible Study	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b>  Worship, 9am	<b>31</b>					

## Save the Dates:

January 4	Annual Reports due
January 5	Sledding Party
January 6	Epiphany Gathering
January 27	Annual Meeting
February 3	New Member Affirmation Service
February 8—9	Kalahari Family Night
February	Talent Show and Chili Cookoff



## 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!

## QUILT RAFFLE CONGRATULATIONS!

Congrats to Shari Patzer! She was the winner of the queen size quilt along with two pillow shams. Funds raised went for thread and material so the quilters can continue to bring warmth and cheer to others during Wisconsin's bitterly cold winters!





## DECEMBER WORSHIP LEADERS...

	<b>December 2 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 9 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 16 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 23 9:00am Service</b>	<b>December 30 9:00am Service</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Gloria Lundquist	Susie Kittel Moore	Jamie Falk	Susie Kittel Moore	Jamie Falk
<b>Music Leader</b>	Kathy Sandridge	Beni Hupf	Beni Hupf	Beni Hupf	Beni Hupf
<b>Music Leader</b>	Bob Rittmann	Darrell Foss	Dave Wisner	Bob Rittmann	Darrell Foss
<b>Communion</b>	Beni Hupf	Jeannette Gehrke	Kids in Service	Jean Schnick	Kim Hanson
<b>Communion</b>	Sue Rittmann	Nancy McClurg	Kids in Service	Sharon Hughes	Dave Hanson
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Jean Schnick	Mary TeWinkel	Gloria Lundquist	Jeannette Gehrke	Peri Beal
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Bob Boettcher	Julie Clark	Kids in Service	Paul Beckman	Joann Foss
<b>Prayer Readers</b>	Jean Schnick Julie Clark	Linda Schramer Beni Hupf	Kids in Service	Beni Hupf Sue Rittmann	Bob Boettcher Diane Moore
<b>Acolyte</b>		Abbey Harris	MaKenna Moreno	Olivia Otis	Emma Dobbs
<b>Ushers</b>	Al Klinger Bob Lenzendorf	Roger Kittleson Rick Brandon	Karl & Shari Patzer and students	Tim Wachs Chris Otis	Roger Kittleson
<b>Greeters</b>	Virginia Steward June Chadwick	John & Linda Schramer	Jan & Galen Peterson	Mary Brantmeyer Kathy Sandridge	Jo & Ted Cooper
<b>Coffee Hour</b>	Coffee & Donuts	Preach Board	Dorcas Circle	Coffee & Cookies	No Coffee Hour
<b>Counters</b>	Gloria Lundquist Patrice Neubert	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Jan Peterson Mary TeWinkel	Sharon Hughes Kathy Sandridge	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel
<b>Sunday School</b>	Pageant Practice	Pageant Practice	Christmas Pageant	Winter Break	Winter Break

<b>Christmas Eve</b>	<b>December 24 4:00pm Service</b>	<b>December 24 9:00pm Service</b>
<b>Organist/Pianist</b>	Jamie Falk	Gloria Lundquist
<b>Music Leader</b>		Kathy Sandridge
<b>Music Leader</b>		Jamie Falk
<b>Communion</b>	Clara Neubert	
<b>Communion</b>		
<b>Communion Prep</b>		
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Nancy McClurg	
<b>Prayer Readers</b>		
<b>Acolyte</b>		
<b>Ushers</b>	Roger Kittleson Galen & Jan Peterson	David Hanson
<b>Greeters</b>		
<b>Counters</b>	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel	Linda Hughes Mary TeWinkel

Sign up sheet is located  
in the Narthex.

Thank you!

### ANNUAL REPORTS

DUE JANUARY 4, 2019

Please complete your annual report and turn in to Peri no later than Friday, January 4.

**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

### ANNUAL MEETING SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, JANUARY 27, 2019

The Congregational Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 27th 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.