



December 2019/January 2020

Immanuel Lutheran Church

Caring For Our Community Through Christ

## **PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

I must admit that the season of Advent is probably my favorite season of the church year. Why you ask? Because it leads me to anticipate the coming of our Lord in the flesh, born of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, in the City of David, for me and for all of us. How cool is that? The thought that the God who spoke all things into existence loved me so much that He'd put on human flesh to come and to live among us. Then, as if that alone wasn't enough, He came and took all our sins (and they are many) upon Himself and carried them to the cross. There on the cross, our Lord, God incarnate, both 100 percent man and 100 percent God, died, His blood covering the sins of the entire world. And because He died in my place, my sins are forgiven and I am now His precious child washed in the waters of Holy Baptism.



Understanding the fact that we are sinners in need of a loving and gracious Savior puts Advent and Christmas into perspective. It's more than chestnuts roasting on open fires, black Friday, Christmas trees and pretty lights. It's not just about the eggnog and Lifetime movies. Advent is about repentance of our sins and anticipating the coming of the One long promised who burst open the heavens with songs of the angels on that first Christmas morning.

And what about Santa Claus, gifts, and carols? Those are wonderful things to celebrate as well because we know that as Christians our faith does not depend on some jolly elf in a red suit. Rather our faith is found in Jesus who was born for us whose good and gracious gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, far surpass any that St. Nicholas could ever bring down our chimneys. That is indeed a carol worth singing.

I say all of that to you to say simply this: our Advent theme this year is "Behold the Child." Behold the babe born in Bethlehem, long promised, who came to die for you. Behold the son of Mary who angels, shepherds, and wise men came to worship. Behold the promise of the child, born in the City of David, the Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Behold Jesus, God in the flesh, whose cries from the manger became cries from the cross for you. Behold the child, sinless and perfect, who took upon Himself the sins of the whole world, so that we could be made perfect through the very blood that was poured out for us on the cross. And behold the baby, whose hand once gripped the fingers of his mother and father, stretched out and pierced for you. Behold the child, Christ the Lord.

Brothers and sisters in Christ, enjoy this season of Advent and Christmas, gather together around the Word of the



# IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod

***Caring For Our Community Through Christ***

**REV. DAVID CASEY-MOTLEY, PASTOR**

## **PASTOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION**

Cell Phone.....253-241-1435  
Email ..... pastordavid.immanuel@gmail.com

## **PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS**

Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
and 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and by appointment

## **BUSINESS OFFICE HOURS**

The office is normally open from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
Please remember that the administrative assistant may be  
away from the office running errands during this time.

Office Phone .....410-673-7107  
Office Fax Number .....410-673-1426  
Office Email .....immanuellutheranpreston@verizon.net

## **CHURCH OFFICERS — 2019**

President..... Ruth Thomas  
Secretary..... Gail Crampton  
Financial Secretary ..... Dee Lambert  
Treasurer..... Carol Frase  
Evangelism Chair ..... Marsha Kenton & Shelly Kapitan  
Trustee Chair ..... Rex Rosebrock  
Stewardship Chair ..... Dicky Wheatley  
Board of Education Chair ..... Rene Langwost  
Elders Chair ..... Mark Frase

child born for you and receive His free gift of body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, and sing of His wondrous works and great love for you. O come, let us adore the advent child, born for us who is Christ the Lord. Amen.

I also want to remind you also that there are many wonderful ways you can behold the child this advent and Christmas season. There is a midweek advent service on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup>, that begins with a potluck at 6:00 pm and with service at 7:00 pm. Of course our Sunday services with Holy Communion on December 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Come and hear more about Jesus born for you as our Sunday school children present their Christmas program on December 8<sup>th</sup> at our 10:30 service. Even our wonderful nursery school will celebrate the advent of our Lord with their Christmas program on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. Then on Christmas Eve, come and join us at 1:00 pm for our divine service with Holy Communion and our candle-light Lessons and Carols service at 7:00 pm. Finally, I invite you to come at 10:00 am on Christmas morning to celebrate the birth of our Lord in the divine service with the Lord's Supper.

What a way to behold the advent child, Jesus, born for us all. Happy Advent, merry Christmas, and a blessed New Year to you all.

With a shepherd's heart,

Pastor David

### **A MESSAGE FROM THE DUFF FAMILY**

"We are forever grateful to the Immanuel family for the love of Christ shown to our family.

Pastor David, Thank you for once again doing a great job with my dad's funeral- It is a blessing to us to have recordings of both mom and dad's funerals."

Tim & Marlene Duff



## *From the President's Pen*



Remember to turn in your stewardship pledge before year-end so the Council can properly review our financial status going into 2020. You can always mail your pledge card to the office if you forgot to bring it with you.

Also, some good news, you can now give online through the church website at:

<https://www.ilcpreston.org/>

You will see a "Donate" button that allows giving through PayPal or a credit card. You can also give through online billing from your Bank, and a check will be mailed to the Church.

As you can see from this screen shot, you can make your gift **monthly** to save time writing checks each month.

More good news – Lynn Faulstick has agreed to serve the remaining year of Dickie Wheatley's role as Stewardship Chair. Thank Lynn when you see her. All Council members will be installed on January 5<sup>th</sup> during the worship service.

Finally, I look forward to seeing all of you in Church during December. It is a special time of year as we celebrate Jesus' birth!

## Care and Compassion

### Care and Compassion – 2019 Angel Tree

For the last twelve years Care and Compassion has sponsored a needy family for Christmas. Our 2019 Angel Tree is in the narthex. There are "angel tags" that have the items our family would like for Christmas. If you would like to help this family, please select a tag, purchase and wrap the gift. Then attach the angel tag to the gift and return it to church by December 15<sup>th</sup>. The toys are available in stores and online. Since some of the gifts the children have requested are rather expensive, we suggest that several people combine resources to purchase the more costly gifts. The family we are helping this year has a single father and three children – two girls ages 9 and 11, and a 3 year old boy. If you are unable to shop but would like to participate by giving a monetary donation, please see or call Irene Wheatley – 410 – 310 – 2571. Thank you for helping Immanuel care for our community through Christ.

### Lutheran Mission Society in Cambridge –

The Christmas Shop at The Compassion Place – Lutheran Mission Society in Cambridge is open for business. Please stop by and check it out. Also, if you find that you have Christmas items (lights, artificial trees, ornaments, linens, nativity sets, etc.) that you no longer need, please consider donating them to LMS. These items can be dropped off at the designated spot in the hallway of Geiger Hall.

Gently used coats for children and adults are needed.

LMS's food pantry is still in need of many of its staples. One pound jars of peanut butter, boxed cereals - both hot and cold, and canned meats are needed as well as boxes of macaroni and cheese and spaghetti sauce and noodles. These items can be left in the basket in the narthex of the church.

The mission is looking for people – or groups of people – to sponsor food baskets for our Miracle of Christmas give away. The cost of a basket is \$40.00. Contact Linda at the mission if you would like to sponsor a basket – 410 – 228 – 8437. Thank you!

If you have any questions, need help getting your donations to church, or would like to give a cash donation, please contact Irene Wheatley – 410-310-2571.

***"Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God." Hebrews 13:16 ESV.***



## Congratulations



Ryan Andrew and Erin Winters who were married on Saturday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup> in Mardela Springs, MD, at the Barren Creek Springs Church.

Ryan and Erin are now residing at 504 Glen Circle, Hurlock, MD 21643

Ryan is the son of Ron and Barbara Andrew, and the grandson of the late Richard and Sarah Frase.



On Nov. 3, 2019 we celebrated the baptism of Colton Titus. Colton's parents are Nathaniel and Ginger Titus of Hurlock. Colton's brother is Nash Rocco, age 3. Colton's paternal grandparents are Albert and Donna Titus of PA and maternal grandmother, Roxanne Galade. Welcome to God's Family Colton!

## From the Beautifucation Committee

God is so good!

On September 20, Dale Kenton and Rex Rosebrock removed the overgrown bushes from the front of Geiger Hall. Janice and Iris went to Eastern Shore Nurseries the next day, bought 8 Hallin Holly bushes and planted them. These bushes are not to exceed 3' high or 3' wide. A perfect fit!

On October 12, twelve people arrived at Immanuel to weed, trim the bushes and mulch the beds at Geiger Hall and the side of the church. John Hochmuth did a lot of weeding the week prior. Four loads of mulch was placed on the beds and when it was all done, everything that was on the grass and/or parking lot was blown away. We are so thankful for the following people that came and did an outstanding job in less than two hours;

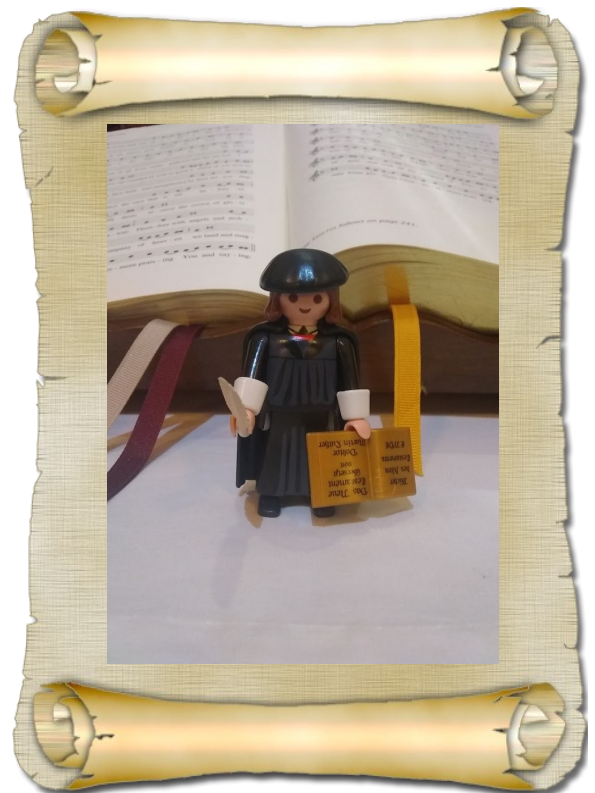
Tim Brown, Tyler Cannon, Donna and Jack Collins, John Hochmuth, Shelly Kapitan, Marsha and Dale Lenton, Paul Nichols and Frederico Vazquez ( we thank Mary Lou and Glen Plutschak for him being there) This project could not have been accomplished without each and everyone of you! When you see them, please thank them for their hard work.

Janice Isenberg & Iris Rieck

## Where's Marty?

Where in the church is Martin Luther? You may have noticed last month a picture of Martin Luther with a very odd looking background. That is because Pastor David would like for you to play a game with him. The first person to tell Pastor David where his picture for that month was taken will receive a sweet treat! Why should you play? First, it's for fun! Second, you'll be rewarded. And finally, because it helps us familiarize ourselves with places throughout the church that we may just overlook at times.

So come along sleuths. Help Pastor David figure out where Martin Luther is at every month and he promises you'll be sweetly rewarded.



p.s. You have to tell Pastor David where the picture was taken (in the church is not the answer, be specific). After his picture is taken, he always finds his way to pastor's desk (and no, the answer is not not pastor's desk).

# NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS!



December is well on it's way. We are getting ready for a beautiful Christmas program. This year we have chosen to do "From Heaven Above." It is a beautiful story about God coming to us in love, in the form of a child. Children are often so amazed that Jesus himself was a child!

Thank you to Brandi Heckard and her husband for making a beautiful Christmas ornament for all of our students to paint and decorate to send home with our students for gifts for their parents. I know all of our parents will treasure this gift for years to come!

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our wreath fundraiser. We always appreciate everyone's efforts in helping our school succeed!

We are always looking for visitors within our classroom. If you have a special talent or skill you would like to share with our students please reach out to myself (Sarah) to schedule a time to come in and share that with our students!

We will return from break January 2, 2020! We cannot wait for all the new amazing things 2020 will hold for us. When we return we will be learning about letters H, I, and J for the month of January. We will also start back up on the Caroline County library visiting us!



The students and their families enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving Feast.



Happy Holidays from the  
Immanuel Lutheran Nursery  
School Students and Staff!



## ORDER YOUR Poinsettias

Christmas Poinsettias for the Chancel will be available this year at a cost of \$7.95. To order please fill out an order form, include your cash or check (made payable to Immanuel Lutheran Church) and give to Gail Whealton, Helen Schmidt, or you may drop off the form to Brittany in the church office by December 10th.

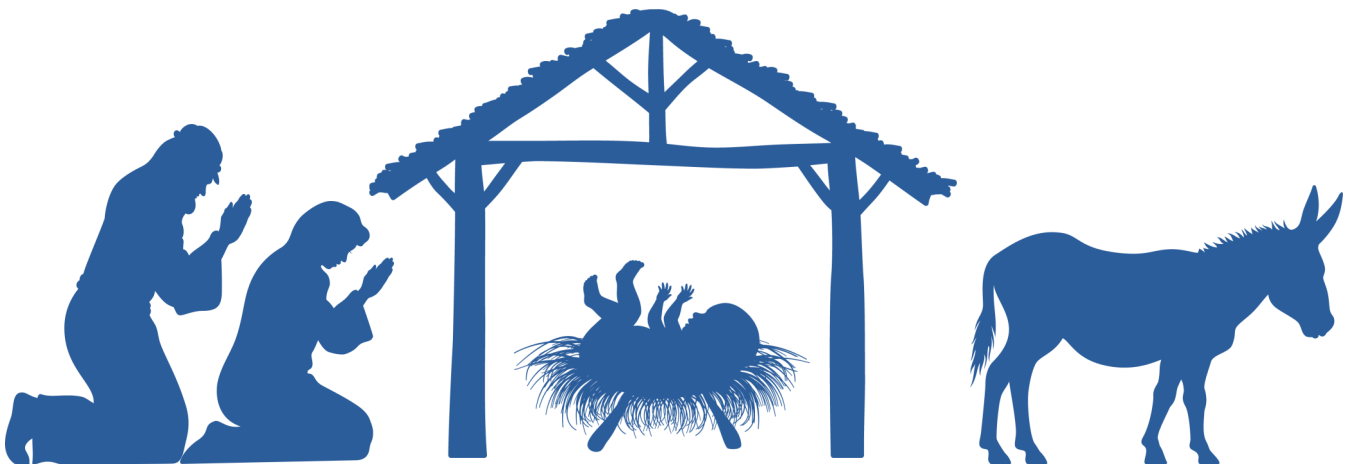
(Extra forms will be placed on the table in the Narthex).

Donor's Name \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

| No.   | Color | Amount   |
|-------|-------|----------|
| _____ | Red   | \$ _____ |
| _____ | White | \$ _____ |

Total Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## THOSE SERVING IMMANUEL DECEMBER 2019

| Date          | Usher                           | Lay Reader        | Greeter                     | Assisting Elder | Kids Worship | Acolytes | Head Tellers  |
|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---|
| Dec. 1, 2019  | Glen Plutschak<br>Rex Rosebrock | Arlene<br>Stevens | Myrna<br>Roth               | Mark Frase      | TBD          | Hayden   | Janice Isenberg,<br>Shelly Kapitan &<br>John Crampton |
| Dec. 8, 2019  | Glen Plutschak<br>Rex Rosebrock | Carol Frase       | Earleen<br>Lozen            | Glen Plutschak  | TBD          |          | Doris Maser,<br>Karen Lyons &<br>Olga MacDonald       |
| Dec. 15, 2019 | Glen Plutschak<br>Rex Rosebrock | Iris Nichols      | Windsor<br>& Peggy<br>Meyer | Rex Rosebrock   | TBD          | Kalei    | Dee Lambert,<br>Glen & Marylou<br>Plutschak           |
| Dec. 22, 2019 | Glen Plutschak<br>Rex Rosebrock | Glen Plutschak    | Rex<br>Rosebrock            | Mark Frase      | TBD          | Veronica | David Schmidt<br>& Kathy<br>Schmidt                   |
| Dec. 29, 2019 | Glen Plutschak<br>Rex Rosebrock | Kathy Schmidt     | Shelly<br>Kapitan           | Glen Plutschak  | TBD          | Veronica | Carol Frase<br>Paul Nichols                           |



|                  |       |                 |       |
|------------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
|                  |       | David Welsh     | 12/20 |
| Kurt Fairbanks   | 12/1  | Anthony Durando | 12/22 |
| Sarah Stovall    | 12/2  | Edwin Schanken  | 12/23 |
| Mindy Delano     | 12/3  | Janelle Gulick  | 12/24 |
| Stephanie Fuchs  | 12/6  | Arlene Stevens  | 12/27 |
| Michael Knorr    | 12/6  | Chris Devoe     | 12/29 |
| Craig Langwost   | 12/6  | Mallory Frase   | 12/29 |
| Andrew Nabb      | 12/6  | Amanda Knorr    | 12/30 |
| Noah Ferkler     | 12/9  | Shelly Kapitan  | 12/31 |
| Jacklyn Langwost | 12/9  |                 |       |
| Rex Rosebrock    | 12/13 |                 |       |
| Jeanette Schmick | 12/14 |                 |       |
| Kalei Durando    | 12/20 |                 |       |



|                             |       |
|-----------------------------|-------|
| John & Sandra Monroe        | 12/6  |
| Michael & Melissa Mulligan  | 12/6  |
| R. Daniel & Denise Mitchell | 12/18 |
| Anthony & Joanna Durando    | 12/27 |

### Special dates

- First Sunday of Advent, *December 1, 2019*
- Second Sunday of Advent, *December 8, 2019*
- Third Sunday of Advent, *December 15, 2019*
- First day of winter, *December 21, 2019*
- Fourth Sunday of Advent, *December 22, 2019*
- Christmas Eve, *December 24, 2019*
- Christmas Day, *December 25, 2019*
- New Year's Eve/Watch Night, *December 31, 2019*



# December 2019

| Sun   | Mon   | Tue   | Wed  | Thu   | Fri  | Sat                 |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|---------------------|
| 1<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship  | 2<br>8:45am Nursery School                          | 3<br>8:45am Nursery School                            | 4<br>8:45am Nursery School<br><b>Potluck 6:00 p.m.</b><br><b>Mid Week Advent 7:00 p.m.</b> | 5<br>8:45am Nursery School<br>8:55am Thursday<br>Connections  | 6  | 7<br>7:00 pm. A.A.  |
| 8<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship<br><b>Children's Christmas Program</b> | 9<br>8:45am Nursery School<br>8:45am Nursery School | 10<br>8:45am Nursery School                           | 11<br>8:45am Nursery School<br>6:45 Handbells<br>7:00 Al-Anon<br>7:45 Choir                | 12<br>8:45am Nursery School<br>8:55am Thursday<br>Connections | 13<br><b>Nursery School</b><br><b>Christmas Program</b><br>7:00 p.m. | 14<br>7:00 pm. A.A. |
| 15<br>9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship                                       | 16  | 17  | 18<br>6:45 Handbells<br>7:00 Al-Anon<br>7:45 Choir   | 19<br>8:55am Thursday<br>Connections                          | 20   | 21<br>7:00 pm. A.A. |
| 22<br>9:15 Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship   | 23  | 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b><br>1 p.m. & 7 p.m.<br>Service | 25<br><b>Merry Christmas!</b><br>10 a.m. service   | 26<br>8:55am Thursday<br>Connections                          | 27   | 28<br>7:00 pm. A.A. |
| 29<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship   | 30<br>7:00pm Board of Ed Meeting                    | 31  |  |   |  |                     |



## THOSE SERVING IMMANUEL JANUARY 2019

| Date             | Usher                       | Lay Reader       | Greeter | Assisting Elder  | Kids Worship | Acolytes | Head Tellers  |
|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|---------|------------------|--------------|----------|---|
| January 5, 2020  | Jim Harris<br>John Hochmuth | Carol Frase      | TBD     | Mark Frase       | TBD          | Veronica | Janice Isenberg,<br>Shelly Kapitan &<br>John Crampton |
| January 12, 2020 | Jim Harris<br>John Hochmuth | John Crampton    | TBD     | Dale Kenton      | TBD          | Catie    | Doris Maser,<br>Karen Lyons &<br>Olga MacDonald       |
| January 19, 2020 | Jim Harris<br>John Hochmuth | Earleen Lozen    | TBD     | Richard Wheatley | TBD          | Kalei    | Dee Lambert,<br>Glen & Marylou Plutschak              |
| January 26, 2020 | Jim Harris<br>John Hochmuth | Richard Wheatley | TBD     | Rex Rosebrock    | TBD          | Hayden   | David Schmidt<br>& Kathy Schmidt                      |



Maureen & Phillip Garcia 1/16

|                   |      |                 |      |
|-------------------|------|-----------------|------|
| Louise Nichols    | 1/3  | Mark Frase      | 1/24 |
| John Fuchs        | 1/4  | Jeffrey Coppage | 1/25 |
| Luke Gadow        | 1/4  | Warren Frase    | 1/27 |
| Landon Garcia     | 1/4  | Michelle Frase  | 1/28 |
| Phillip Fuchs     | 1/16 | Bailey Knorr    | 1/28 |
| Doris Maser       | 1/16 |                 |      |
| Betty Schevel     | 1/20 |                 |      |
| Melissa Mulligan  | 1/21 |                 |      |
| Jordan Fuchs      | 1/23 |                 |      |
| Michael Jantz Sr. | 1/23 |                 |      |



“ Of all persons, the Christian should be best prepared for whatever the New Year brings.

... In Christ he has disposed of a thousand enemies that other men must face alone and unprepared. He can face his tomorrow cheerful and unafraid because yesterday he turned his feet into the ways of peace and today he lives in God. The man who has made God his dwelling place will always have a safe habitation.”

—A.W. Tozer

# January 2020

| Sun  | Mon  | Tue                      | Wed  | Thu   | Fri | Sat              |
|--|--|--------------------------|--|---|-----|------------------|
|  |  |                          | 1<br>Happy New Year!   | 2 8:45am Nursery School                                     | 3   | 4 7:00 pm. A.A.  |
| 5 9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship  | 6 8:45am Nursery School<br>6:30 p.m. Elder's Meeting   | 7 8:45am Nursery School  | 8 8:45am Nursery School<br>6:45 Handbells<br>7:00 At-Anon<br>7:45 Choir  | 9 8:45am Nursery School<br>7:00 p.m. WinGs                  | 10  | 11 7:00 pm. A.A. |
| 12 9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship | 13 8:45am Nursery School<br>7:00 p.m. Council Meeting  | 14 8:45am Nursery School | 15 8:45am Nursery School<br>6:45 Handbells<br>7:00 At-Anon<br>7:45 Choir | 16 8:45am Nursery School                                    | 17  | 18 7:00 pm. A.A. |
| 19 9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship | 20 8:45am Nursery School                               | 21 8:45am Nursery School | 22 8:45am Nursery School<br>6:45 Handbells<br>7:00 At-Anon<br>7:45 Choir | 23 8:45am Nursery School<br>6:30 pm Nursery School<br>Board | 24  | 25 7:00 pm. A.A. |
| 26 9:15am Sunday School<br>10:00a.m Breakfast<br>10:30am Worship | 27 8:45am Nursery School<br>7:00pm Board of Ed Meeting | 28 8:45am Nursery School | 29 8:45am Nursery School<br>6:45 Handbells<br>7:00 At-Anon<br>7:45 Choir | 30 8:45am Nursery School                                    | 31  |                  |

## **ALTAR FLOWERS**

Thank you for your flower donations last year! The 2020 flower chart is posted on the elevator door in the Narthex. Please consider donating. Here's how:

Check the flower chart for available Sundays.

Sign your name and telephone number on the Sunday(s) you choose.

You are responsible for ordering and paying for the flowers for your selected Sunday(s). The following florists provide flowers for Immanuel and have the ability to deliver to the church prior to the Sunday service: Lucy's (Federalsburg) 410-754-5011; The Garden Basket (Preston) 410-822-0575; John's Four Seasons (Federalsburg/Reliance) 410-754-5835.

Gail Whealton (410-673-7118) will call you at the beginning of the week prior to your selected Sunday(s) to remind you and to ask what wording you desire in the bulletin. (Gail then calls Brittany, so he knows what to print in the bulletin.)

After church, on your selected Sunday(s), you should pick up your flowers in the area off the Chancel where Gail, Helen, Kathy, or Julie will place your flowers in containers to take home. (The containers do not need to be returned.)

As we begin the season of Advent, you may want to take a bit of time to incorporate a visual and hands-on component to your personal Advent preparations.

Use the star sheet to count the days until our Savior's birth. Make the process your own - there is no wrong way to do it. Here are some ideas:

Each day write the name of someone you are praying for...

Write a word or phrase from the day's *Portals of Prayer*...

Write a word or phrase from Sunday's Gospel or any of the readings...

December 1: Matthew 21:1-11

December 8: Matthew 3:1-12

December 15 - Matthew 11:2-15

December 22 - Matthew 1:18-25, Luke 2:1-14

Write a word or phrase from the scripture readings from our Advent Series,

"Behold the Child"

Week 1: Luke 2:8-20

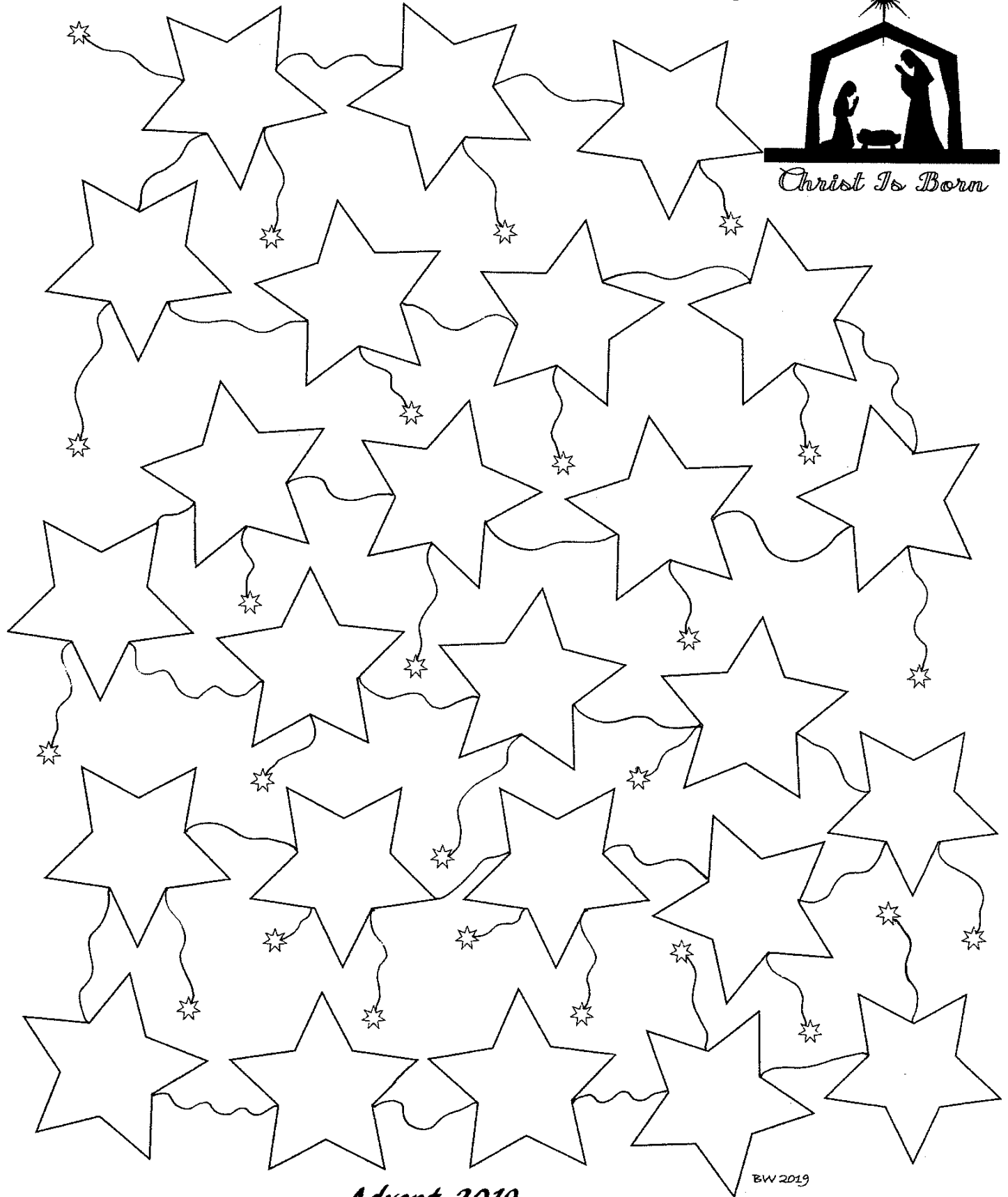
Week 2: Matthew 2:1-12

Week 3: Luke 1:46-55



**A Word About Advent:** Advent is a penitential season, a time where we examine ourselves truthfully, acknowledge that we sin with contrition, and trust our sin is forgiven for the sake of Christ. To help us center our hearts and minds for Advent, the special music this season is titled, "The Quemapas Carol". Within this advent carol we find the following refrain, "God's own Son is born a child...God the Father is reconciled." Each stanza of the carol shows that we are indeed reconciled back to the Father in Christ. As you celebrate this season of Advent, examine yourselves rightly, repent of your sins, and receive our Lord's divine absolution. During this penitential season of Advent, may you find comfort in "God's own Son born a child...God the Father reconciled."

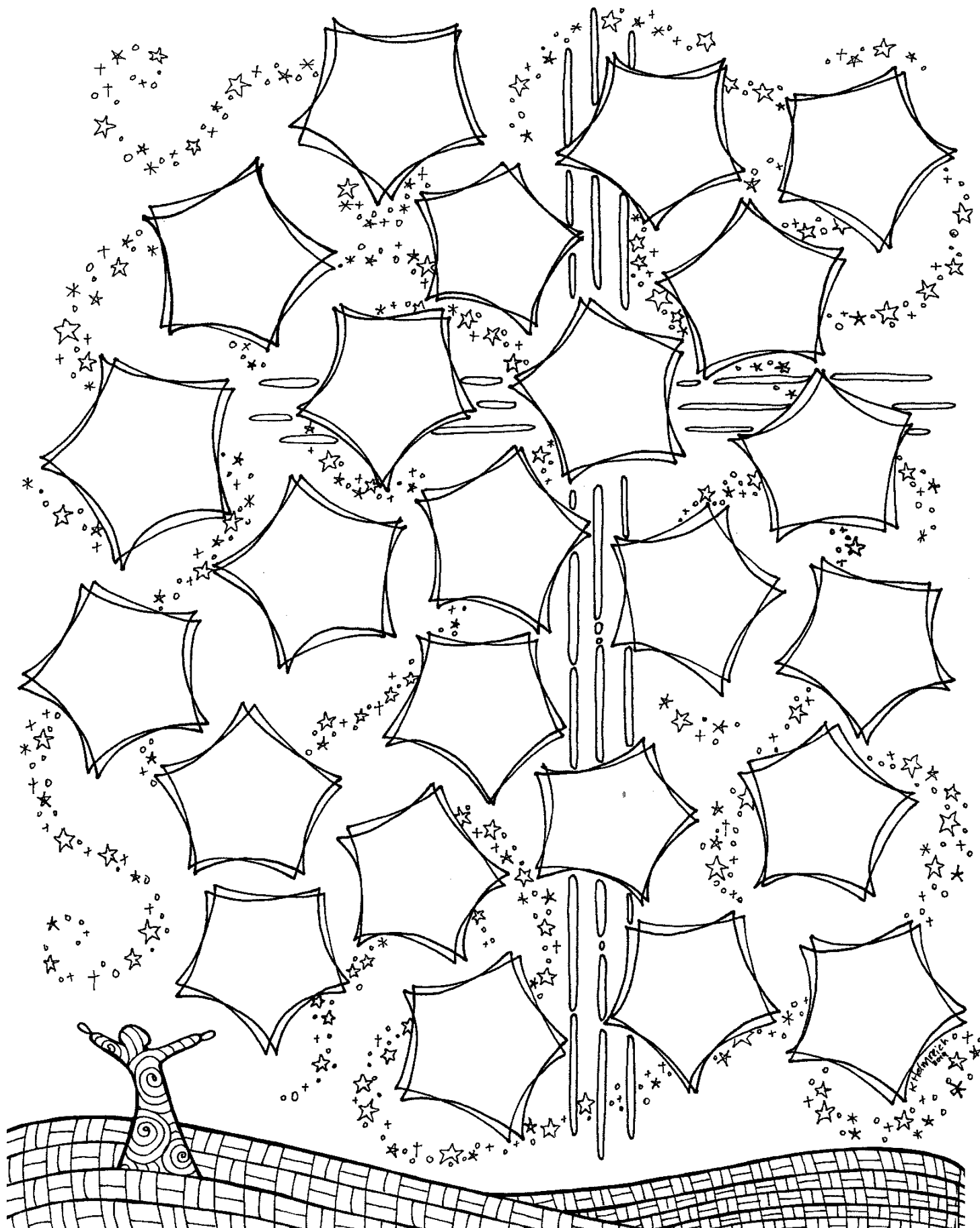
# *Follow the Star to the Manger*



*Advent 2019*

BW 2019

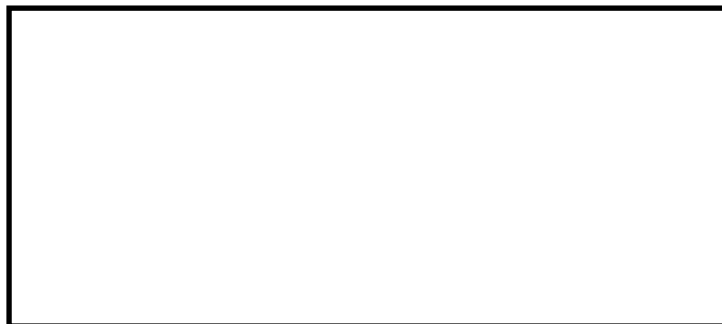




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***Immanuel Lutheran Church***  
***P.O. Box 39***  
***Preston, Maryland 21655***



***Fruits of the Vine***  
***December 2019/January 2020***

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***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!***