

Announcements

St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church



The Worship & Music Committee is looking for volunteers for the following:

Ushers - to serve Sunday morning worship and special worship services.

Altar Guild - to prepare/clean-up after communion for Sunday services.

Acolytes & Crucifers - to serve for worship services - all ages encouraged!

Training/Instruction is available. If interested please see Sherry Fahnestock or call the church office.



DEADLINE TODAY - **Christmas poinsettias** may be purchased to adorn the new nave for \$9.00 per plant. You are also welcome to make a donation to the Meal Ministry. The money goes to providing holiday meals for local needy families. Please place your payment with your offering and designate "Poinsettias" and/or "Meal Ministry" on your envelope. Slips to select flowers and/or meal ministry, and specify your dedication "in honor of" or "in memory of" may be filled out and placed in the basket by the easel.

Orders are due today! Remember to put your payment in your offering envelope and mark it "Poinsettia" and/or "Meal Ministry." Thank you!

DEADLINE TODAY - **Begin The Blessed Season:** The Fellowship Committee is planning the *Begin The Blessed Season Dinner* to be held on **Sunday, December 3rd** at the **Scotland Community Center at 5:00 PM**. The menu will be Italian with a free-will offering. The sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. The added blessing for the evening will be the wonderful **St. Luke Choir** presenting the cantata, "Journey To The Light, A Celebration of Advent" by Don Besig & Nancy Price. Please plan on joining us for this very special evening of food and wonderful music as we begin this blessed season. please don't let transportation keep you from this wonderful evening, contact Linda Miller or the church office at 717-261-1213 -to make arrangements. The last Sunday to sign up is November 26th. Looking forward to enjoying this evening together!

Nov 30, 6PM - LARC ADVENT DINNER: Please plan on sharing in and celebrating the covenant relationship between Lutheran, Anglican & Roman Catholic Congregations that was established by our Bishops on November 23, 1992. Mark your calendar for the annual LARC Advent Lasagna Dinner. It will take place on Thursday, November 30th in the Corpus Christi Parish Center, 279 N. Second St. The dinner will begin at 6pm. Reservations are not required. There is no charge but a free-will offering will be taken that evening. The theme for the evening is WAITING. This evening is not an exclusive event and is open to all, so please bring a friend.

Again this year as our Christmas project, we will participate in the Franklin County Jail Ministry, Holiday Family Connection. During the days just prior to the Holiday season, when an inmate's child visits, the inmate will be able to tell their child there is a gift waiting for them that the child can choose. In this way the parent will have the joy of providing a gift for their child. You can help this happen. You can bring either a sports ball or stuffed animal to the dinner. Gifts should be less than \$15.00 and not be wrapped. Please no used toys.

The LARC dinner will be canceled if the Chambersburg school district cancels classes for that day or determines in the morning to dismiss students early because of weather. If there is a morning delay, we will still have the dinner. If you have any questions please call Pastor Frye or the CASD Information Line, 717-261-5680.

Dec 10 - Deadline - Sam's Program Christmas T-shirt Donations: We are once again collecting money to help the YMCA purchase Sam's long sleeve t-shirts. We are hoping to be able to support the YMCA with the purchase of 100 shirts. Please be sure to make checks payable to the "Chambersburg YMCA" with "Sam's T-shirts" in the memo line. Please see Cathy Goodhart or Kennie Sanders if you have any questions or would like to make a donation.



Dec 17 - Christmas Caroling - If you would like to go Christmas Caroling with us on Dec. 17th., we will be meeting at St Luke at 2:00PM. If you have questions, please contact Anita Walter.

The Social Ministry Committee November emphasis - Food Pantry - the United Lutheran Seminary - In 2017, the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia joined their two historic institutions as United Lutheran Seminary (ULS). Students of the Seminary have a food pantry on campus that is available to provide all types of food and cleaning products to students as needed. The students purchase items in bulk from the Central Pennsylvania Food Bank. If you would like to make a donation to the Seminary Food Pantry please make your check out to St. Luke and include it in your offering noting your donation on your envelope and in the memo area to the food pantry. Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry which assists church leadership in training.

Calendar Events — This Week.....

- Sun Nov 26** - 8:45AM Faith Formation
10:00AM Worship-Fellowship Hall
---- **NEWSLETTER DEADLINE** ----
Tue Nov 28 - 6:00PM Building/Construction
6:00PM Mission Outreach
Wed Nov 29 - 7:00PM Worship - Fellowship Hall
Thu Nov 30 - 7:00PM Choir Rehearsal



Next Week.....

- Sun Dec 3** - 8:45AM Faith Formation
10:00AM Worship-Fellowship Hall
5:00PM Begin the Blessed Season
Mon Dec 4 - 6:15PM Worship & Music
Tue Dec 5 - 6:30PM Property Committee
Wed Dec 6 - 5:00PM Finance Committee
7:00PM Worship-Fellowship Hall
Thu Dec 7 - 10:00AM - 2:00PM Cookie Drop Off
5:00PM - 7:00PM Cookie Drop Off
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal
Fri Dec 8 - 12:00PM - 2:00PM Cookie Drop Off
5:00PM - 7:00PM Cookie Drop Off
Sat Dec 9 - 10:00AM Cookie Walk



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Attention Thrivent Members:

Join other Thrivent members by supporting disaster relief efforts for Hurricanes Maria, Harvey and Irma and flooding in surrounding areas. You can make a personal donation on Thrivent.com to provide assistance to Puerto Rico, Texas and Florida hurricane victims. When you do, Thrivent will double the impact - up to \$3 million. This opportunity will run until the \$3 million match is met or until December 31, 2017, whichever comes first.

A New Year, a new Season:

Advent is both a wonderful and a challenging liturgical season. While society urges us to hurry and spend, scripture and tradition beckon us to slow down and wait.

Use of an Advent wreath can be traced to the Romans' ancient rite of waiting in the darkness for the return of the sun, and for the Feast of the Sun on December 25. They took a wheel off their wagons and fastened torches to it to see them through the darkness. The only thing alive in the winter, evergreen, was brought inside and fastened to the wheel. To those huddled in darkness, it was a sign of vegetation and springtime. More than three hundred years ago, German Christians fashioned the same elements into the Advent wreath—the greens a sign of hope and eternity. What was once a Feast of the *Sun* has become for us the Feast of the *Son*.

Though all of us are tempted to act otherwise, now is the time for slowing down and leaning together. As with the ancients, we gather in the darkness to wait for the light. If our ancestors removed a wagon wheel for torchlight, consider what it would be like for us to take a wheel off our car, truck, or minivan. Instead of rushing to the mall, we'd stay home but also gather with friends to sing ancient hymns and hear readings of prophecy and promise.

In the dead of winter, we need one another and we need signs that the sun (and the Son) will come again—life returning to dark and dormant land and lives. Like the ancients who gathered together for courage and hope that the sun would return, we gather each week to hear the word that does not pass away.

Pastor, Christopher Frye

Readings for Advent



1st week, Dec 3:

Isaiah 64:1-9, Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19,
1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:24-37

2nd week, Dec 10:

Isaiah 40:1-11, Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13, 2
Peter 3:8-15a, Mark 1:1-8

3rd week, Dec 17:

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11, Psalm 126,
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24, John 1:6-8, 19-28

4th week, Dec 24:

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16, Luke 1:46b-55,
Romans 16:25-27, Luke 1:26-38