

THE GOOD NEWSLETTER

of New Jerusalem Lutheran Church

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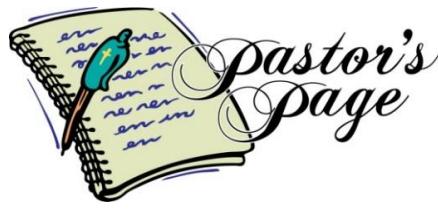
Church Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday 9:00a.m.–12:00 noon



*The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the world. - John 1:9*

**THE MISSION OF
NEW JERUSALEM LUTHERAN CHURCH:**

*We are a group of people who
gather together in friendship and love
to worship God, to spread God's Word,
and to care for God's people.*



Hello darkness, my old friend, I've come to talk with you again
Because a vision softly creeping Left its seeds while I was sleeping
And the vision that was planted in my brain Still remains
Within the sound of silence.

Simon and Garfunkel "The Sound of Silence"

Friends,

The days are growing shorter. There is more darkness for our eyes and, for many of us, there is more darkness in our spirits. We wait. We wait for the days to grow longer. We wait for something to lift our spirits. We wait.

Is it possible for us to simply wait, to wait in darkness and in silence? Is it possible for us to not try to fill the darkness with bright flashy lights, our ears with noise, or our time with busyness? Is it possible to simply sit and wait in the dark and the silence, to wait in expectation? Is it possible for us to wait in expectation that the One long promised will come and sit with us, sit with us in the darkness and the silence, sit with us in peace, while the seeds of His vision that have been planted in our hearts and brains have time to rest and then, in time, grow into a clearer vision.

Seeds need darkness before they sprout. Some of us plant bulbs at this time of year, trusting that given rest, time and darkness, the plants and blossoms will eventually emerge. We plant and wait with patience.

During worship in the weeks of Advent we will include more times of dimmed lights and deliberate silence, time to allow ourselves to wait, if only for a moment; time to allow ourselves to simply be and to breathe; time to allow our senses to relax during a season when so many of us are overstimulated.

Since our worship takes place during daytime, we will not be able to sit together in total darkness, but there will be silence and we may close our eyes, if only for a moment. We will also light candles on our Advent wreath, starting with one, then adding one more each week, as our waiting gives way to anticipation of the One Who came, is here, and is still to come.

You may wonder where the Advent wreath came from? *Sundays and Seasons 2018* tells us that the wreath started out as a wheel. At this time of year Ancient Romans had a rite of waiting in darkness for the return of the sun and for the Feast of the Sun on December 25.

The Ancients. . .took a wheel off their wagons and fashioned torches to lead 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 the Feast of the *Sun* has become for us the Feast of the *Son*. – *Gertrud Mueller Nelson as quoted in Sundays and Seasons.*

I pray that in this season you will each take time to sit, to sit in darkness, or to sit in a dim light, even the light of your own Advent wreath. I invite you to take time to sit and wait in silence each day, even if it is only for a moment, and allow the One who came, who is here, and is yet to come in fullness, to sit with you in silence and in peace, while the seeds, the bulbs, of His hope and His vision are planted in your heart and brain and have time to rest there before growing into His vision.

Pastor Ruth

Make a year-end contribution to your church

In the Advent and Christmas seasons, we celebrate the new beginning that God gives us in the birth of Jesus – the son of God who came to give us salvation, reveal the heart of God, and set us free from the powers of the world that turn us from God and teach us how to live.

But in the excitement and busyness of celebrating the new beginning, we may forget to plan for an important ending – the close of the year. There are **two things** to remember about the end of the year:

- December 31 is when most congregations close their financial books for the fiscal year.
- December 31 is the IRS deadline for important tax filings.

First, the congregational books: It's not just your church treasurer and financial secretary who love it when the congregation ends the year "in the black." When income matches expenses, everybody breathes easier and celebrates not only God's abundance but also the generosity of God's people. We all begin the next year dreaming of the ministry before us.

By contrast, anxiety and tension rise when a congregation ends the year "in the red" and must use savings to make up the difference. People focus on scarcity – what they (and the congregation) lack, rather than what God provides in abundance. Rather than dreaming of what God may do among them, folks entertain nightmare scenarios of budget cuts and curtailed ministry.

Your year-end contribution helps your congregation begin the year with optimism, joy, and a stronger belief in God's mission for your community.

Now the IRS deadlines: There's a bottom-line benefit to you for making a sizeable contribution before the end of the year. Charitable giving is tax-deductible, but you must give before the year's end in order to claim the deduction for 2017.

A cash gift is always the easiest and most welcome way to contribute to your congregation, but it's not the only way. Talk to your financial advisor about giving in appreciated stocks or securities, which can help you avoid capital gains taxes. Or, if you are more than 70 ½ years old, your financial advisor can help you make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA.

Last but not least! The year-end contribution you make to your church is also a spiritual gift to yourself. How? Giving generously is the spiritual discipline that helps us to develop generous hearts. It's true! Just ask anyone who tithes. By giving we fully understand the joy and delight that comes from generosity.

In this season, when we celebrate the generosity and love that God has for us, it's a great lesson to learn.

—Rob Blezard

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NEWS & EVENTS

in New Jerusalem and the Synod

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following items were discussed and decisions made at our November 13th meeting:

- The offering envelopes for January-June 2018 have been ordered.
- Christmas Decorating has been scheduled for Sunday, December 3rd after worship and Undecorating, Sunday, January 7th after worship.
- 800 shoo-fly pies were baked for the sale the end of October with a \$3,200 Estimated Profit.
- Pastor Ruth, Korinne Hotzman, and Linda Moyer will be attending a safety seminar for houses of worship on November 16th.

DECEMBER SIGN-UP SHEETS

We are in need of a Bulletin sponsor for December 31st. We need an Altar Guild volunteer, Communion Bread sponsors for December 17th (Healing Service), and December 24th – 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. services, and Communion Set-up volunteers for December 17th (Healing Service), and December 24th – 10 a.m., 5 p.m., and 9 p.m. services. Thank you to everyone who signed up.

CHRISTMAS DECORATING AND UN-DECORATING

We need your help to decorate the church for Christmas on **Sunday, December 3rd** after the worship service. We will also need help to take down the decorations on **Sunday, January 7th** after worship. Thank you!

SHOO-FLY PIE BAKE SALE

The last bake until the spring will be held **Tuesday, December 5th to Wednesday, December 6th**.

Please contact the church office if you would like to order any pies. Pies are \$5.00 each.

POINSETTIA FLOWER ORDERS

Help us decorate the sanctuary for Christmas with red poinsettias. Order forms are due to the church office by **Sunday, December 10th**. The price is \$9.50 each for a 6-inch pot. An order form is included in this newsletter and extra forms are on the greeter's table in the narthex.

SERVICE OF HEALING AND HOLY COMMUNION – December 17th at 2:30 p.m.

This month our service will also be appropriate for those who, for many reasons, find the seasons of Advent and Christmas to be especially difficult. Please be sure to invite not only those who are facing trying times, but also those who are lonely and mourn the loss of loved ones.

JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Please have all articles and announcements to the church office by **Sunday, December 17th**.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE

New Jerusalem will have its normal 10:00 a.m. worship service on Sunday, December 24th. Join us again that evening, Christmas Eve, as we celebrate the birth of Jesus. Our Family Candlelight Service will begin at 5:00 p.m. The theme this year is "A Birthday Party for Jesus. Pre-service music for our traditional Candlelight Service begins at 8:45 p.m. with the service starting at 9 p.m. Holy Communion will be celebrated at the 5 p.m. and 9 p.m. services and each evening service will be followed with a time of fellowship.

LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

Join us for this special service of Scripture and Christmas hymns on **Sunday, December 31st at 10 a.m.**

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on **Monday, December 25th**, in observance of Christmas Day.

"LIGHT ONE CANDLE AND WAIT FOR MESSIAH" – Seasonal Rites for Advent

Each family will be receiving an Advent Calendar, with pictures to open up each day. See the next page for some simple ideas for household prayer during Advent and Christmas.

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Looking for a unique gift or a way to honor someone? Hopefully, you have received this catalog in your mailbox along with an Advent Calendar and Advent Study. Check out the catalog for ideas, then make a donation and hang an ornament on our tree.

WAYS TO OBSERVE ADVENT AT HOME

Lighting the Candles

A Simple Form for Household Prayer in the Seasons of Advent and Christmas

Make the seasons of Advent and Christmas a meaningful time in your home, using some of the ideas that follow.

- Purchase or make an Advent wreath. Use blue candles for the Sundays and weeks of Advent. Replace the blue candles with new white candles on Christmas Eve. Add white votive candles in the center or around the outside of the wreath during the twelve days of Christmas. Or remove the Advent wreath on Christmas Eve and create a circle of white votive candles, adding one candle each day until Epiphany (January 6). Prayers to accompany the candle lighting are provided on this page.
- Make plans to gather daily, beginning on the first Sunday of Advent, for a time to reflect upon the gift of love God shared with all people. Continue this gathering throughout the twelve days of Christmas.
- Decide what kinds of things your daily gathering will include. Decide on a time, such as morning, evening, or mealtime, to meet. Suggested table prayers are provided here for gatherings that take place at mealtime. Decide who will light and snuff out the candles.
- Daily scripture readings drawn from year B of the Revised Common Lectionary and the Daily Lectionary prepared by the Consultation on Common Texts are listed on the next page. After the reading each day, take time to think about or discuss the passage, as well as any feelings or experiences that relate to the scripture reading. Reflections may also take the form of an art response (drawing, clay, painting) or journaling.
- Sing or read the words to an Advent or Christmas hymn and reflect upon the significance those words have for your life.



Prayers to accompany the candle lighting

Week 1

Lord Jesus, we do not lack any spiritual gift as we wait for your coming. Keep us awake and help us use our gifts to serve those who look for the dawn of your justice and mercy. Amen.

Week 2

God our shepherd, gather us as lambs in your arms. Forgive our sins so that we may rejoice in your coming. Amen.

Week 3

Lord Jesus, you continue to do great things for us. Give us your gift of peace as we await your coming. Amen.

Week 4

God our Savior, nothing is impossible for you. Prepare our hearts to rejoice in your glorious advent. Amen.

Week 5

Lord God, may your Word become flesh through our lives so that we may see him in the fullness of his glory. Amen.

Table Prayers

Week 1

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blest. Keep us ever in your sight; be our joy, our hearts' delight. Amen.

Week 2

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blest. May there be a goodly share on every table everywhere. Amen.

Week 3

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blest. Guide us on the servant's way; lead us to your dawning day. Amen.

Week 4

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blest. Deep within us come to dwell that we might all your goodness tell. Amen.

Week 5

Come, Lord Jesus, be our guest; let these gifts to us be blest. Every day your praise we sing; help us shine the light you bring. Amen.

Bible Quiz

After Mary learned she was pregnant with God's Son, what relative — also miraculously pregnant — did she go visit?

- A. Esther
- B. Elizabeth
- C. Anne
- D. Anna



Answer: B (See Luke 1:39-40.)

A HYMN FOR HANS — AND FOR US ALL

Martin Luther wrote the hymn “From Heaven Above” for his 5-year old son, Hans, to be sung each year at their family Christmas celebration. A man dressed as an angel would enter, singing the first (at least seven!) verses.

A lesser known and tender verse is this one:

These are the tokens ye shall mark,
The swaddling clothes and manger dark;
There shall ye find the young Child laid,
By Whom the heavens and earth were made.

The children would then sing: “Welcome to earth, Thou noble Guest! ...” and after still more stanzas, one imagines everyone joining in final praise:

Glory to God in highest heaven,
Who unto [us] His Son hath given;
While angels sing with tender mirth,
A glad new year all the earth.

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

INCLEMENT WEATHER CANCELLATIONS

It is that time of year again! In the event that church needs to be cancelled, you can listen to WFMZ, WAEB 790AM, or watch Channel 69 news. You may also call the church office at 610.682.6064 and there will be a recorded message on the answering machine on Sunday morning if the service or any events are cancelled. We also encourage you to call a member that may not have heard about the cancellation.



THE GIVER

Many Christian families struggle with what role – if any – Santa Claus should play in their Christmas celebrations. No matter what you decide, it's fascinating to know the history of the real-life St. Nicholas.



Born about 270 A.D., Nicholas was a bishop in Myra, or modern-day Turkey. In the year 325, he was part of the Council of Nicaea, which produced the Nicene Creed.

Nicholas, known for his generosity, often gave away his money anonymously. According to tradition, he secretly provided dowries for the three daughters of a bankrupt merchant. Nicholas threw two bags of gold through open windows and placed the third in a stocking hanging by the fireplace to dry. Thus began the Christmas tradition of placing gifts in stockings.

St. Nicholas is quoted as saying, “The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic God's giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves.”

Reprinted from *The Newsletter Newsletter*

Did You Know?

BRANCH (TREE) OF JESSE

Isaiah used the image of a new tree growing from what appears dead to foretell God's redemption of Israel: “A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit” (Isaiah 11:1, NIV). During Advent, this prophecy assures us of the coming of the Messiah, descended from King David, and thus his father, Jesse.



OFFERING ENVELOPES

Offering envelopes for the first half of 2018 have been ordered and should be arriving in your mailbox between December 4th and December 22nd. If for some reason you have not received yours by this date, please contact the church office and Korinne will get you an extra booklet.



NEWS & EVENTS

in the Community

HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLIDAY HOUSE TOUR

The Friends of the Kutztown Community Library want to invite you to our upcoming Holiday House Tour: Pathways through History on **Sunday, December 3rd from 12:30-4:30pm**. Light refreshments will be served at the Zion's Union Church Maxatawny. Advance tickets: \$20 available at Kutztown Community Library, 70 Bieber Alley, Kutztown. Day-of: \$25 available at Zion's Union Church Maxatawny, 329 Church Rd., Kutztown. For more information call 610.683.5820.

GERMAN LANGUAGE ADVENT WORSHIP SERVICE – Sunday, December 3rd at 7 p.m.

Huff's Union Church, 540 Conrad Road, Alburdis, hosts a German language Advent candlelight communion worship service. Led by Pastors Russell Mitman and Pastor Jane Kropa, the worship service features a series of scripture lessons and Christmas carols read and sung in German. Bulletins are in German, with the English translation on the facing page. A free will offering will be given to the United Church of Christ UEK (United Evangelical Church of Germany)/UCC (United Church of Christ) Forum, which oversees a relationship of Kirchengemeinschaft (church partnership) between the two denominations.

4TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY CAROLING

The Topton Borough and the Brandywine Heights Community Task Force invite you to join them for Christmas caroling at the Topton Borough Park on **Sunday, December 10th beginning at 4 p.m.** Tree lighting and music by the Brandywine Heights High School Band, and even a visit from Santa. Refreshments after caroling at Trinity Lutheran Church, 121 S. Home Avenue, Topton. Please bring a food item to donate during this time of giving.



THEOLOGY WITH A TWIST

Held at the Kutztown Tavern, 272 W. Main Street, Kutztown on **Tuesday, December 12th, at 7 p.m.** Byron Borger will present *Reading as Subversive*

Practice, Books as Tools for Transformation: 10 Things Books Can Do For You. Theology with a Twist is free. Food and drink are available for purchase.

HATS AND SCARVES

Please bring the hats and scarves to be sent to Seafarers International to church by **Sunday, December 17th.**

LOAVES AND FISHES

Join us on **Tuesday, December 19th, from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** for a **FREE** fellowship and community meal at Trinity Lutheran Church, 121 S. Home Avenue, Topton. Everyone is welcome!

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

A Blue Christmas Worship Service will be held on **Wednesday, December 20th at 6:30 p.m.** at the Lutheran Home in Topton in Deibert Hall, First Floor of D Wing. This service is held as part of a support program for those who struggle to find joy this Christmas and particularly for those who have lost a loved one. The service will be led by Chaplain Colleen Kristula. All are welcome.

SERVICE OF HEALING

A Healing Service will be held on **Wednesday, December 27th at 2:30 p.m.** at the Lutheran Home in Topton.



“The Brandywine Heights Area School District has started a program to send home backpacks of food over the weekend for children in the free and reduced meal program. They are asking every church to help provide needed items. New Jerusalem has been asked to donate 7.5 oz. individual microwavable servings of bean and ham, chicken and rice microwavable cups, and any variety of individual microwavable soups. Brand doesn't matter; generic foods are fine. A large quantity of supplies will be needed to fill the backpacks weekly. Donations can be placed in the crate in our fellowship area. Thank you for your support!



SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE: LEARNING MINISTRIES DAY, January 27, 2018 (snow date February 3) 9-3. Christ, Hamilton Square

Join with other Lutherans for 8 great workshops, a keynote speaker and fellowship as we explore *“Church as Wonder-land: Transforming Faith Communities from Places to Go for Answers’ to ‘Places to be with the Big Questions’.”*

See the bulletin board for details and to sign up. The congregation can help cover the cost. We can also work out carpooling since Christ Hamilton is near Stroudsburg.

ADULT RETREAT PLANNED – April 6-8, 2018 – Bear Creek Camp

We’re never too old to learn. We told you confirmation was just the beginning! The same folks who put together our confirmation retreats for the past two years have expanded the experience to include an adult track. The theme this year is: *“The Ten Commandments.”* There will be Bible study, workshops, music, singing, campfires, outdoor activities and just plain old fun! Housing is in the heated retreat center. Meals from Saturday breakfast to Sunday lunch are included.

For more information see the bulletin board or talk with Pastor Ruth. An upfront \$20 deposit holds the space. \$70 will complete the registration and is due by March 1st. Help is available to cover the expense.

DATE SAVER – PROJECT HELP – July 27-August 4, 2018

Project Help is a mission trip to help repair houses and assist in community improvements in the very rural area of Starks, Maine, an hour north of Augusta. Youth who have finished ninth grade and any adults who want to help are welcome. No special skills needed. Lots to learn and a good time for all. Watch for more information. Pastor Ruth was involved for many years through the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, which sponsors the program.

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

PRAYERS FOR AWARENESS OF GOD’S PRESENCE for Those Homebound or in Care Facilities: Anna Angstadt, Samuel Behm, Bertha Bennecoff, Edna Conrad, Helen Fair, Dennis Guinther, Verna Guinther, Shirley Hertzog, and Irene Noll.

PRAYERS FOR HEALING:

Members: Beth Angstadt, Myles Angstadt, Sarah Bailey, Erma Guinther, Lori Eck, Amanda Herman, Sheila Long, Linda Moyer, Betty Musser, Joanne Pauley, Joyce Rothemel, and Dale Schwoyer.

Friends of the congregation: Regina B., Thelma Bright, Cheryl Carter, Dick Curtin, Verna Davis, Mark Derr, Ben and Michelle Eckert, Katie F., Barbara Feeman, Olivia Fenstermacher, Eric Fox, Sonja Hernandez, Tara K., Janis Kershner, Lauren Kinney, Joe Klick, Family and friends of Catherine Kriebel, Ethan Kunkel, Cassidy McKeever, Kyle Olinger, Tim and Carol Romig, Randy S., Sue S., Charles Sanders, Chuck Sharadin, Jerry Schwambach, Ruby Grace Shoff, Jacki Wagner, Sallie Weil, Kenneth Yenser, and Ben Young.

OTHER PRAYER CONCERNS: For our nation, especially those hit by disasters and those affected by domestic terrorism, for our president, for peace between citizens and those who serve them, for all our military personnel serving around the world, for areas of the world enduring drought, storms, flooding and other disasters, for refugees and the countries to which they flee, and for peace in the world.

LONG-TERM PRAYER LIST: Sandy Burkhart, George DeLong, Alice Epler, Erma Gajewski, Corinne Hersh, Leon Moyer, Andrew S., Joshua S., Donna Schwoyer, Jack Stoudt, and Marilyn Timm.

“Christmas is not a time nor a season, but a state of mind. To cherish peace and goodwill, to be plenteous in mercy, is to have the real spirit of Christmas.”

—Calvin Coolidge



- 3 Sheila Gehman
- 4 Amber Guinther
- 5 Sarah Bailey
- 5 Donna Guinther
- 6 Pastor Ruth Doty
- 6 Amanda Herman
- 6 Johnathan Kepnach
- 6 Vikie Seyfert
- 9 Helen Fair
- 10 Dawn Wengert
- 11 Jennifer Musser
- 15 Randall Cleaver
- 15 Jared Keiser
- 16 Elwood Cleaver, Jr.
- 18 Harold Guinther
- 20 Sheila Long
- 21 Clinton Allen
- 22 David Moyer
- 26 Marleise Matz
- 31 Lori Eck
- 31 David Wartzenuft



- 2 Rodney and Diane Keller (45 years)
- 16 Richard and Dana Musser (28 years)
- 24 George and Jeannette DeLong (57 years)

If your name or the name of someone you know didn't appear on this list, we apologize and hope you will let us know so we can make the necessary corrections. Thank you.

Merry
Christmas

New Jerusalem Lutheran Church Statement of Accounts October 31, 2017

<u>Asset Accounts</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Memorial	\$ 19,419.26
Thrivent	7,422.79
Checking	4,336.01
Youth	404.47
Fidelity	152,048.12
Cash Reserve	7,924.00
Mission Investment	11,290.70
Local Care	1,158.23

October 2017 – 'Actual' vs. 'Required' Income

	Income		
Income	Required	Actual	
<u>Used For:</u>	<u>Per Month</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Operating Expenses	\$ 8,519.17	\$ 9,999.70 *	\$ 1,480.53

*Income Required per Month — Based on 2017 Budget
Passed by Congregation
Less Budgeted Benevolence Contribution*

** Actual Income Includes: \$3,200.00 ESTIMATED
INCOME from Shoo Fly Pie Sale*

Parking Lot – Funds received to offset expenses for
Driveway/Parking Lot Repaving

\$ 37,140.00	Total Expenses for Project
\$ 15,679.50	Funds Received to offset expenses



Thank you again to those who helped serve french fries at the Oley Fair. New Jerusalem received a check for \$500 from the profits which will go towards the expense of repaving the parking lot.

THREE-MONTH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

December

	3	10:00 AM	First Sunday of Advent – Holy Communion (B)
*	10	10:00 AM	Second Sunday of Advent (B)
	17	10:00 AM	Third Sunday of Advent (B)
		2:30 PM	Healing Service at New Jerusalem – Holy Communion
	24	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday of Advent (B)
			<u>Christmas Eve (W)</u>
*		5:00 PM	Christmas Eve Family Service – Holy Communion
*		9:00 PM	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service – Holy Communion
	31	10:00 AM	First Sunday after Christmas (W)

January

*	7	10:00 AM	Baptism of Our Lord – Holy Communion (W)
	14	10:00 AM	Second Sunday after Epiphany (G)
*	21	10:00 AM	Third Sunday after Epiphany (G)
	28	10:00 AM	Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (G)

February

*	4	10:00 AM	Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – Holy Communion (G)
	11	10:00 AM	Transfiguration of Our Lord – Holy Communion (W)
	14	7:00 PM	Ash Wednesday – Holy Communion (P)
*	18	10:00 AM	First Sunday in Lent (P)
	21	7:00 PM	Midweek Lenten Service
	25	10:00 AM	Second Sunday in Lent (P)
	28	7:00 PM	Midweek Lenten Service

FELLOWSHIP DATES:

(*) Fellowship after worship

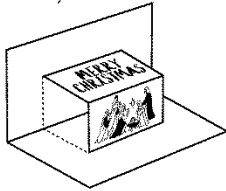


POP-UP CARD

Share the good news of Jesus' birth with this creative Christmas card.

What you need:

- Construction paper (two pieces, including one white)
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Pens
- Glue stick



What you do:

1. Neatly fold the white paper in half, short side to short side.
2. Draw two parallel lines (at least 2 inches apart) from the fold to about halfway to the edge. Cut along the lines.
3. Fold the cut section back and forth so it pops up.
4. Push the section up so it pops up inside the folded paper. Draw a nativity scene on the pop-up box.
5. Fold the colored paper in half, short side to short side. Place the white paper inside it and glue the white paper down, being careful not to glue the pop-up box.
6. Write a Christmas message and give or send the card to someone.

PUZZLE

JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

In the Christmas story in Luke 2, an angel tells some shepherds to go see baby Jesus in Bethlehem.

START *Directions: Follow the maze to arrive in Bethlehem.*

A large maze with a star at the top left labeled "START" and a drawing of a town labeled "BETHLEHEM" at the bottom right. The maze is a complex path of lines leading from the star to the town. The town drawing shows several buildings, trees, and a path leading to a central structure.

BETHLEHEM

DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS & SPONSORS

DATE	GREETER	READER	FLOWERS	BULLETINS
12/3	Phyllis Fenstermacher	Sara Jane Beshore	The Bailey Family	Gladys Kline
12/10	Joshua Keck	Roy Merkel	Betty Stump	The Wengert Family
12/17 10:00 a.m. 2:30 p.m.	Tara Basta Betty Eshbach	Cindy Rissmiller TBA	Dale Schwoyer	Dale Schwoyer
12/24 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m.	TBA TBA TBA	Kenneth Keck TBA TBA	Lloyd & Linda Moyer	Lloyd & Linda Moyer
12/31	TBA	Dale Schwoyer	George & Jeannette DeLong	<i>(sponsor needed)</i>

ALTAR GUILD: *(volunteer needed)*

CHILDREN'S BULLETINS: Gladys Kline

SANCTUARY CANDLE: Lloyd and Linda Moyer

COMMUNION BREAD: 12/3 – Tara Basta; 12/17 (Healing Service) – Ted and Betty Eshbach;
12/24 – (5 p.m.) – *(sponsor needed)*; (9 p.m.) – *(sponsor needed)*

COMMUNION SET-UP: 12/3 – Faye Dey; 12/17 (Healing Service) – *(volunteer needed)*;
12/24 – (5 p.m.) – *(volunteer needed)*; (9 p.m.) – *(volunteer needed)*

COUNCILPERSONS: Kenneth and Joshua Keck

COST: Flowers - \$35.00; Bulletins - \$7.00; Children's Bulletins - \$5.00; Sanctuary Candle - \$15.00

DECEMBER 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 First Sunday of Advent ▪ Holy Communion ▪ Christmas Decorating after Worship	4 Shoo-fly Pie Bake-----	5 6:30pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal	6 -----▶	7 -----▶	1 8	2 9
10 Second Sunday of Advent ▪ Fellowship after worship ▪ Poinsettia Orders Due 4:00pm-Community Caroling, Topton Park	11 7:00pm-Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm-Council Meeting	12 6:30pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal	13 	14 1:30pm-Bible Study, Christ DeLong UCC	15 	16
17 Third Sunday of Advent 2:30pm-Service of Healing and Holy Communion NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 	19 5:30-7:00pm-Loaves and Fishes Meal, Trinity Lutheran Church, Topton 6:30pm-Bell Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm-Senior Choir Rehearsal	20 11:30am-Fellowship Luncheon at Airport Diner 6:30pm-Blue Christmas Service, Topton Lutheran Home	21 	22 	23
24 Fourth Sunday of Advent 10:00am-Worship <u>Christmas Eve Services</u> 5:00pm-Family Candlelight 9:00pm-Traditional Candlelight (Holy Communion and Fellowship celebrated at both)	25 Nativity of Our Lord/ Christmas Day OFFICE CLOSED	26 NO BELL OR SENIOR CHOIR REHEARSAL	27 2:30pm-Service of Healing, Topton Lutheran Home	28 	29 	30
31 First Sunday of Christmas ▪ Lessons and Carols NEW'S YEAR EVE						

Order Your
Poinsettias

To order red poinsettias for Christmas, please return this form with your payment to the church office by Sunday, December 10th. Cost is \$9.50 per 6-inch pot. Thank you!

Qty. Total
_____ X \$9.50 _____



PLEASE PRINT:

NAME: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____

DEDICATION(S): _____

