



Monthly Newsletter

December 2021

Community Lutheran Church



PASTOR TIM EIGHMY

Jesus said, "Whoever believes in me, streams of living water will flow from within them." John 7:38



Pastor Tim Eighmy

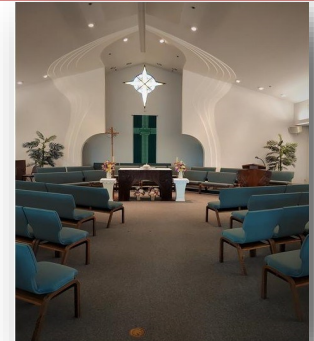
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Office Hours

Tues. – Fri., 9 am to 1 pm;

Weekend Worship

Sunday, 9:00 am & 11:00 am



FOR
unto us a
Child is born,
unto us a **Son** is given
and the government shall be upon **His**
shoulder. And **His** name shall be
called
WONDERFUL
Mighty Counselor
God
Everlasting Father
Prince of Peace

ISAIAH

9:6

Mission Statement of Community Lutheran Church:

Living Christ's love in all we do.

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR TIM



“Glad News of Great Joy”

There are actually two different festivals that we celebrate in the month of December. The first one is Advent and, of course, the second one is Christmas.

When I was a kid, my family always got together with aunts, uncles, and cousins on Christmas Eve to have Christmas dinner together, exchange presents, and then go to the midnight candlelight service at church. In my teens, all of my brothers and sisters (all of them older than me) brought their kids and we gathered as the uncles, aunts, and cousins on Christmas Eve. And what I remember most about those gatherings was not the presents that we were so excited about, but it was the waiting. We were not allowed to open presents until everyone got there. Then we weren't allowed to open presents until after dinner. Then we had to wait for everyone to finish eating. Then we had to wait for the dishes to be cleaned and tables cleaned. And during that waiting period, the kids would play games with each other. We had someone on lookout to let us know when we would start opening presents. But the time always came when we least expected it.

The season of Advent is a time of waiting before the Christmas season begins. It is a time for us to reflect on why we are celebrating Christmas and on the many ways that we need Christ to come into our lives yet again. It is a time to reflect on the promises and hope of Christ's coming with much anticipation.

As agonizing as waiting is, it can still be filled with much joy. And for us at Community Lutheran Church, that joy is found in our Christmas Cantatas. Our cantatas will be on Sunday, December 12th at 3:00 pm and on Sunday, December 19th at 7:00 pm.

Then on December 25th, it is Christmas Day. But much like my family in my childhood, our congregation celebrates Christmas on Christmas Eve. This year, we are only having one Christmas Eve service on December 24th at 7:00 pm.

Christmas is not just the celebration of Jesus' birth about two thousand years ago, but it is a celebration of the presence of Jesus who is a part of our mortal lives; born into our hearts through baptism. With Christ's presence, we have "peace and goodwill for all". The peace comes from Christ's salvation through his death and resurrection. Goodwill is the grace that God gives us abundantly through the Holy Spirit. And this is already here in our lives helping us to be a more faithful and loving people.

So my prayer for each of you is that you may have a very blessed Advent in your waiting and have a joyful Christmas with Christ's presence in yours and your family's life.



Merry Christmas!

Pastor Tim



2021...A NEW YEAR TO REMEMBER



“A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.” Isaiah 40:3

Remember when we thought 2020 was “the” year to remember. How our lives were changed and nothing was like we thought it would be. Well, as I think back on 2021, I started thinking, “Was this year really a whole lot different?” For that matter, will 2022 be different.

How will you remember this year? I’m sure that answer will vary widely, depending on what you have experienced during the year. But, I’m pretty sure there are some things we can all agree on.

Our lives were still pretty much turned upside down...our worship and community lives were still upside down. But, we learned how to do pretty good Zoom church services...and, we are making progress!

At least this year we were able to have Easter services at church—but without the traditional Palm Sunday/Good Friday cantata. We did get to proclaim, “Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed.”

We have progressed to the point that our services now are more “normal” than they have been for more than a year-and-a-half. We interact with each other, we have social time in the Narthex. We actually have the choir singing at our services and THERE WILL BE AN ADVENT CANTATA. We are preparing the way of the Lord and approaching this season with Joy and Praise for the One who changed everything.

Yes, He changed everything! What the coming of the Lord changed for us will *never change* no matter what else happens in the world...He came to SAVE US. God is faithful and Christ is with us always.

Let’s prepare the way of the Lord together as we approach this Christmas Season...always keep Him in our hearts and remember the “Reason for the Season.”

God’s Blessings and a Merry Christmas to all of you.

Linda

★
JOY.
★
LOVE
★
PEACE.
★
BELIEVE





‘It’s the thought that counts’

Jesus said, “Give, and it will be given to you.” -Luke 6:38

Why is it so hard to find that all-too-elusive “perfect gift” for the loved ones in your life? For many of us, it’s because they already have everything they need and most of what they want.

It sometimes feels impossible to find a gift that won’t be banished to that closet for unwanted, unneeded, and unused presents -- alongside the loud ties, the strong perfumes, the unread books, and the garish sweaters.

When it comes to gift-giving, it’s often said, “It’s the thought that counts.” If that’s true, why do we still put so much emphasis on the gift?

This year focus on the thoughts behind your Christmas gifts. Thoughts in keeping with the season. Thoughts of meeting real needs and giving where it will be much appreciated. With so many disadvantaged people in the world, at least some of our Christmas budget would be well spent helping our needy neighbors.

If you are buying for a loved one who has everything, consider instead giving a monetary donation in their honor to a worthy charity that helps the poor. Some charities, such as Heifer International and ELCA Good Gifts, let you buy a specific item – such as a goat or pig for a family, or a water well for a village – to help people in the developing world.

Make the gift in your loved one’s name or honor, and then describe it in a card attached to a low-cost “token” gift, such as a small box of chocolates or a bottle of wine. The better part of your gift will go to someone who truly needs it, and your loved one will share the joy of loving and helping your neighbors in need.

Just remember, ‘It’s the thought that counts!’”

Copyright © 2021, Rev. Robert Blezard. Pastor Blezard serves as pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, MD, and works as content editor for www.stewardshipoflife.org. He blogs at www.thestewardshipguy.com.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO THE GUARDIAN FOUNDATION!

The Guardian Foundation is bringing Christmas to underprivileged families in the Bullhead City area this year, by blessing these families with a hot Christmas dinner and toys for the children.





CHOIR NOTES

Sunday, August 8: It seems like only yesterday that Dean Leuthauser who, now retired, faithfully led our choir for more than a decade and a half, introduced to us our new director of music, Shawn Bristle. Incredibly, within a month, the church choir was again singing for Sunday worship; only a few weeks later the Cantata Choir came into being. Now, in the blink of an eye, we find ourselves with only two rehearsals left before bringing this traditional holiday event, the “Christmas Cantata & Festival of Music,” to you and the community. Unbelievable, but exciting!

This year, in addition to the cantata, “*One Silent Night: A Ballad of Love and Joy*,” Shawn has put together an astonishing program of special music: Piano and vocal duets, beautiful choir anthems and, of course, Christmas caroling. What a wonderful way to celebrate the coming of our Savior!

There’s an afternoon performance on Sunday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m., with a reception to follow, and another performance Sunday evening, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. Come, bring your family, bring a friend – bring *several* friends! – and feel the miracle of Christ’s birth, in song and narrative, fill your hearts with the exquisite delight and wonder of the season! It’s the perfect Christmas gift of love for everyone.

By Peggy Boone



It's Christmas Season! A big 'Thank You' to Carol Gallagher and all the volunteers who have filled our church with the Spirit and the Joy of Christmas.





Here is what's happening this month...

DECEMBER 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 6 pm Choir Rehearsal	2 9:30 am WCM 2:00 pm Bible Study	3	4
5 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship Service	6 Office Closed	7	8 6 pm Choir Rehearsal	9 2:00 pm Bible Study 6 pm Council Meeting	10	11 9:00 am Choir practice
12 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship Service Christmas Cantata 3 pm	13 Office Closed	14	15 6 pm Choir Rehearsal	16 2:00 pm Bible Study	17	18
19 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship Service Christmas Cantata 7 pm	20 Office Closed	21	22 6 pm Choir Rehearsal TBA	23 No Bible Study	24  CHRISTMAS EVE 1 Service, 7pm	25 CHRISTMAS DAY 
26 10 AM Worship Service (one service only)	27 Office Closed	28	29 Pastor starts Vacation No Choir Practice	30 No Bible Study	31	



Here is to all our volunteers, those dedicated people who have given selflessly of their time, talent, and treasures.

THANK YOU

for making our church and our community a better place, for bringing light and joy, especially where there is despair, for serving with a beautiful heart and soul.

God Bless You.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2—Merald Buchholz
- 3—Norm Lykken
- 4—Don Dueker
- 6—Rene Dunkle
- 10—Jackson Werchau
- 11—Elizabeth Orth
- 16—Linda Flatt
- 21—Don Weyer
- 23—Brad Hoffmeyer
- 25—Ray Christopherson
- 26—Chris Dueker
- 28—Don Butts
- 28—Jared White
- 30—Kathy Cochran



We don't have any anniversaries in December!



A note from Phyllis Adair.

Phyllis would like to thank everyone who has helped her keep in touch with the church, especially Dee Schneider who has provided her with the bulletins. She appreciates all that we have done.

PRAYER REQUESTS

We are here to pray for you!



Please continue to pray for all the persons whose names have been offered up by members and friends of the congregation.

We pray for healing, comfort, guidance, strength, recovery, safe travel, and unrevealed needs, as well as for those with thankful hearts and for those who grieve.

Let us remember the ones God called home out of our midst, and keep their families and friends in our prayers:



If you know someone who would like to be included in the ongoing monthly prayer list, be it for prayer or thanksgiving, please let the office know!



- Al Swanson, Jan 8, 2021*
- Joann Shober, Jan 14, 2021*
- Lew Beasimer, April 3, 2021*
- Ed Ecker, May 15, 2021*
- Ethel Harrison, May 31, 2021*
- Vada Mercer, July 13, 2021*
- Kenneth Rye, July 15, 2021*
- Nick Sessions (BHC Police Lieutenant), Aug 6, 2021*
- Don Andrews, Aug 12, 2021*
- Dar Vanderpool, Sept 13, 2021*
- Virginia Faust, Oct 19, 2021*
- Billie Locke, Oct 20, 2021*
- Tim Smith III, Oct 24, 2021*
- Penny Taylor, Nov 28, 2021*



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Next Newsletter Edition: January 2022

