

December, 2020 Newsletter

Merry Christmas!





Triangle

Pastor Bergelin's Message

"Christ the Savior is Born." Before the month of December is over we will once again have opportunity to celebrate the birth of the Christ-child at the manger in Bethlehem. Who could ever tire of hearing and celebrating God's great love for each of us. How much the Lord loves me and how deep it goes that He would come to earth to save me is not something I think about nearly enough.

Christ coming to earth reminds each of us just how special we all are to Him. It is with joy then that we look forward to all the special opportunities we have this month to worship Him. Who would let a single one go by and miss honoring and worshiping the Savior. May every gift you receive this season and the joy it brings remind you of God's gift of Jesus and the joy of eternal life it will bring when earthly life is over. May the happiness of being with family remind you of the eternal happiness that is coming when all of God's family is together in heaven. It is true, December is a very busy time, but never let the busy get in the way of what this time of the year is really all about. Jesus came to earth for me. He loves me so much that He died for me. This is true for each of us. To God be all the glory.

Serving the Savior,

Pastor Darrel Bergelin

VICAR BERG'S MESSAGE

My family loves Christmas lights. Some of our favorite times together have been spent driving around looking at Christmas lights in neighborhoods. We do this every year, and because we move so often, we have so many new lights to look at each year. We have been excited to see the Christmas lights start to turn on around Howards Grove.

A tradition we have with our family Christmas tree is to decorate it with strings of all blue lights and strings of colored lights. Throughout the season of Advent, we only light the blue lights. Blue is the color that we use in the church to remind of us of heaven and symbolizes the expectation of our coming Lord. On

Christmas morning, we light the colored lights as we celebrate with joy the gift of Christ coming here to earth as a little baby and the assurance he left us with that He will come again. This tradition gives me opportunities to talk with our kids and has also opened opportunities to talk to family members, neighbors, and friends as they question our tradition.

After Jesus was born, the Bible records that angels appeared to a group of shepherds and said "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2: 10-11). It is now our job to bring this

message to others in our lives. I hope that this Christmas season, you find opportunities to share the great news of Christ's coming to earth which is the real reason we celebrate Christmas.



God's Plan for Us and the World

God wants nothing but the best for us. After all we are his creation. Transforming people one at a time is at the heart of God's plan for the world. It is also essential to developing dynamic marriages, loving families, vibrant Christian communities, thriving businesses and economies, and extraordinary schools and nations. If you get the Man or the Women right you get the world right. Every time you become a better version of yourself, the consequences of your transformation echo throughout your family, friends, business, school, neighborhood, church, marriage, nation, and beyond to people and places in the future. It is God who does the transforming, but only to the extent that we cooperate. God's grace is constant, never lacking. So our cooperation with

God's desire to transform us is essential. Are you willing to let God transform you?

If you get the man or woman right, you get the world right. Such a simple message, yet we seem constantly obsessed with things we have no influence over, rather than focusing on where we can have the most impact, which is with our own thoughts, words, and actions. Focus on affecting what you can affect and you will have the most effect. It all starts with you.

God also wants all of us to be with him in Heaven. So he sent his Son to suffer and die on the cross, so that whoever believes in him will have everlasting life with him in heaven. John 3:16 For God so Loved the world that he gave his one and only son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. As

we approach the holiday season and the celebration of the birth of our Saviour. Let us focus on the things that will make us a better version of ourselves. Get the man or women right, get the world right. Let's worship regularly, read God's word, partake in the Holy sacraments, encourage one another and build each other up. By doing these things, we will with God's help, make a better version of ourselves and thus get the world right.

Lord we pray that you will help and guide us, as we focus on the important things in life. Watch over us this holiday season as we come together to celebrate the birth of your son Jesus. We pray this through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen!

CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

CWF met on Monday November 9. We discussed reorganizing and combining committee and officer duties in anticipation of editing our constitution to reflect these needed changes due to our dwindling membership. We also decided to transition to a supporting society in LWML from our current acting status. Our group is currently too small to handle hosting events. We hope we can transition back to acting in the future and are praying that our membership increases. We elected our new president and secretary for two year terms.

Current projects include Love Packets for college students, the annual food drive, the prayer boxes project for our narthex and Neat Repeats and decorating for the holidays. Our program was on the hymn "A Mighty Fortress is our God" led by Pastor. It was interesting and seemed that everyone learned something.

Next meeting will be on Monday December 14 at 6:30 pm. We will not have our potluck due to covid precautions but will do Christmas bingo —each attending should bring a white elephant Christmas item to be a bingo prize—and 2020 Secret Sister gift exchange

revealing our secret sisters identity. We will then draw a name for a new secret sister 2021. We will have a special Christmas donation opportunity which we will use funds collected to purchase gift cards to be given to Concordia Seminary —St. Louis to be distributed to Seminary students as they see fit. All women of the congregation are welcome to attend and encouraged to consider joining our group.



The Prayer Calendar is submitted by the members of Christian Women's Fellowship

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| 1. Praise God for the blessing of a new month. | 14. Pray that many will be touched by the meaning of Christmas. | 23. Pray for our Trinity Church shut-ins. |
| 2. Pray for Pastor Bergelin and his family. | 15. Pray for all teachers everywhere, may they show Christ-like behavior. | 24. Pray the Lord's Prayer with your family today. |
| 3. Pray for Vicar Berg and his family. | 16. Pray for all those in leadership. May they lead in a Christ-like manner. | 25. Praise God! Today we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. |
| 4. Pray for peace in families. | 17. Praise God in a loud voice! Alleluia! | 26. Pray for "Lutherans for Life". Ask God to bless their efforts to stop abortion. |
| 5. Pray for peace in our nation. | 18. Pray for the youth of our congregation. | 27. Pray for those who are ill or hospitalized. |
| 6. Pray for our Elders. | 19. Thank God for the blessing of Christian families. Pray for your family. | 28. May God watch over the your of our congregation. |
| 7. Read Matthew 24: 42-44 and Psalm 103: 3-5. | 20. Pray for those who travel to visit family. May they be safe. | 29. Thank God for blessings innumerable |
| 8. Pray for all those serving in the Military. | 21. Pray for those in nursing homes. May they have a blessed Christmas. | 30. Thank God for the year that will soon pass away. |
| 9. Share God's word with someone today. | 22. Read the Hymn "Joy to the World" Christ the Lord has come. | 31. Thank God for the new year coming up. |
| 10. Pray for all members of our congregation. | | |
| 11. Pray for all missionaries serving around the world. | | |
| 12. Keep the preschool children and teacher in your prayers. | | |
| 13. Read the Christmas story in Luke 2: 1-20 and attend worship. | | |

Preschool News



The Trinity Pre-school wish tree is in the narthex. If you would like to purchase a gift for the pre-school, please take a star off of the tree and purchase the gift that is on the star. **Please wrap your gift and put it under the tree with the star attached. Thank you!**



Noah's Ark Party



Our Little Pilgrims



Christmas Worship Schedule

Advent Worship Schedule

December 2, 9, 16
10:30am & 6:30pm

December 24

3:00pm, 5:00pm & 7:00pm

December 25 with Holy Communion

9:30am



December 2—Elders Budget Meeting
(*Follows the Advent Evening Worship Service*)

December 9—Council Budget Meeting
(*Follows the Advent Evening Worship Service*)

December 15—Education Meeting:
6:00pm

Elders meeting: 6:30pm

Committees Meeting: 7:30pm

December 16—Voters Meeting to
approve the budget (*Follows the Advent
Evening Worship Service*)



Children's Program



The Sunday School Christmas program will be held on
Sunday, December 20th at 1:30 PM. The children will
practice their parts and songs during Sunday School on
December 6th, 13th, and 20th along with a special practice
session on Saturday, December 19th from
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM.

We will have a Family Worship Service with Holy
Communion at 6:30pm on December 31st. What a
great way to begin the New Year by
worshiping our Lord and Savior.

Traveling Bulletins

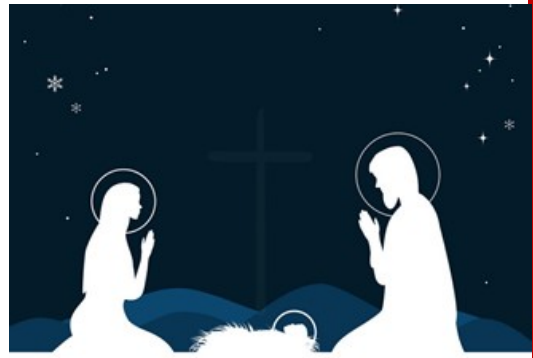


Susie Sixel

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Sheboygan Falls, WI.

John and Jill Pelnar

Mountain View Lutheran Church, Arizona



How Greatly God Must Love Thee

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR SALE

Our Sunday school is selling beautiful Christmas cards at a **GREAT** price. Cards are on the card table in the Narthex. Please put your payment in the money box that is provided.

SCRIP

Although we are not selling scrip during services , you are still able to order whatever you need. Some of the cards in stock are Amazon, Bath and Body, BP gas, Chili's, Culver's, Festival Foods, Fleet Farm, Kohl's, Kwik Trip, Log Cabin, Marcus Theater, Meijer's, Menards, Miesfeld, Pick and Save, Piggly Wiggly, Subway, Target, Texas Roadhouse, Walmart, Panera Bread, and there are many others that can be special ordered. You can simply call Susie Sixel 565-3634 to order the cards and make arrangements to pay and pick them up. **The last Sunday to order for Christmas will be December 13th.**

OUR CONGREGATION IS AGAIN COLLECTING ITEMS FOR SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

As we have done in past years, we will be collecting hygiene products -for example- soaps, toothpaste and brushes, hair products, deodorant, hand cream, etc. Don't forget the guys. We also will collect cleaning items - for ex. laundry soap, toilet bowl and bathroom cleaners, and paper products - paper towels, Saran Wrap, toilet paper, etc. We always added a week to collect baby items - diapers, wipes, formula, blankets, sleepers, etc. This year you can simply bring all your donations at one time. The boxes will again be in the narthex, or we will have a large tote next to the salt box outside of the church office or it can be brought to the church office. In addition - they always accept gift cards - if you would prefer that, please contact Susie Sixel 920 565-3634 to order scrip cards. The need is greater than ever this year so please consider donating. You may start to bring your items anytime. The last day to bring your donated items in Sunday, December 13th.

DECEMBER SPECIAL OFFERING

Deaf Ministry—SWD serves the deaf community in Delevan and other locations throughout the South Wisconsin District.

USHERS NEEDED

If you would like to usher at our worship services please contact Jack Kober or the church office.





December

ANNIVERSARIES

Brian and Theresa Baumann—12/1/2014

Debbie and Randy Henschel—12/22/2001

Harvey and Mary Ann Grunewald—12/6/1952

Mike and Rita Winter—12/22/1973

John and Sue Born—12/10/1988

Todd and Teri Bender—12/28/2007

Steve and Sara Schobert—12/12/1998

Joshua and Amanda Schlegel—12/29/2007

Joe and Viki Grunewald—12/15/2001

Mark and Angie Schorer—12/31/1999

Tanya and Jared Zander—12/20/2004



December

BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Jerry Brandt	2 Tanya Zander	3	4 Dennis Grunewald Rene Landwehr	5
6 Gary Reinemann	7 Bob Peter Alex Webster	8 Mikena Grunewald	9 Steve Schobert	10	11 Viki Grunewald	12 Janelle Liermann
13 Mariah Horn Richard Horness Todd Lindekugal	14 Josalin McEvoy Jim Post	15 Margaret Born	16 Linda Plocar	17 Victoria Stelter	18 Todd Berglund Arwin Herzog Roger Lieftring Elissa Passehl Eric Stelter Michael Wiltzius	19 Eli Erdmann Ron Marks Parker Born
20 Linda Hopf Leah Parnitzke Lucy Roediger	21 John Born Harrison Reiss	22	23 Kimberly Allen	24	25	26
27 Valeta Burkhardt	28 Jamie Hansen Gordon Heffernan Claire McCraw	29 Kevin Neese	30 Sandy Marthenze Greyson Reiss Owen Timm	31 Bradley Born Debbie Grunewald		

FLOWERS

December 6

The tall pedestal flowers are for Mikena Grunewald's 15th birthday and also for Viki Grunewald's birthday. God's blessings to you both. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKENA AND VIKI!**

December 13

The altar flowers are in honor of Margaret Born's 87th birthday. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARGARET!** God's blessings to you.

The tall pedestal flowers are from Susie Sixel in memory of her husband Jeff.

The low pedestal flowers are from the family of Natalie McCraw in celebration of Natalie's graduation from UW Madison.

December 20

The altar flowers are given from Dale and Linda Hopf in honor of Linda's birthday. To God be the glory. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY LINDA!**

The tall pedestal flowers are given in memory of Elisabeth Metz from her Germany Family.

December 27

The altar flowers are given for Claire McCraw from Grandma. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY CLAIRE!** To God be the glory!

BULLETIN & NEWSLETTER

December 6

The bulletin is sponsored by Harvey and Mary Ann Grunewald in honor of their 68th wedding anniversary. God's richest blessings to you Harvey and Mary Ann. **HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**

December 13

The bulletin for today and the December newsletter is sponsored by Richard Horness in honor of his birthday. To God be the glory. **HAPPY BIRTHDAY RICHARD!**

SCHEDULES

December 2	Acolytes	6:30pm: Allison Schobert, Addison Lallensack
December 6	8:00am: Dylan Elias, Gretchen Winter	10:30am: Hannah Cassity, Annika Liermann
December 9 Advent		6:30pm: Kaitlyn Koenig, Matthew Koenig
December 13	8:00am: Evan Erdmann, Addison Lallensack	10:30am: Joseph Senkbeil
December 16 Advent		6:30pm: Trent Grunewald, Jameson Schmidt
December 20	8:00am: Matthew Koenig, Kaitlyn Koenig	10:30am: Sam Parnitzke, Annika Liermann
December 24	3:00pm Addison Lallensack Annika Liermann	5:00pm Evan Erdmann Aaron Schorer
December 25	9:30am: Sam Parnitzke	7:00pm: Acoytes needed for 7:00pm
December 27	8:00am: Jameson Schmidt, Dylan Elias	10:30am: Aaron Schorer, Joseph Senkbeil
December 31		6:30pm: Trent Grunewald
Video Operators	December 6: Craig Lallensack December 13: Lance Liermann December 20: Jim Post December 24: Mark Schorer December 25: Lance Liermann December 27: Scott Timm	Altar Guild December 7-20: Janice Lieffring, Kathy Shircel December 21-January 3: Viki Grunewald, Donna Wolf
Ushers:	8:00am: Team 3 10:30am: Team 6	See Ushers schedule for Advent and Christmas Schedule
Elders:	8:00am Jim Post 10:30am: Mark Plocar	9



Timing is everything, or so the saying goes. We've no doubt all experienced the difference that mere minutes can make. Catching a connecting flight as opposed to an overnight stay in an airport. The satisfaction of a bite into your favorite pastry versus a slump of disappointment as the person ahead of you orders the last Bear Claw on the rack. And what happens when those minutes stretch into a year of seemingly

missed opportunities? For many of us, it may feel as though the year 2020 has had a very pronounced case of bad timing. Yet, the Lord demonstrates to us time and again that His timing is perfect.

Pastor Bergelin reminded us of this fact when he kicked off Lutheran High's capital campaign for the new expansion with this verse: *"And who knows but that you have come to this position for such a time as this,"* Esther 4:14. In spite of the perilous time in which Esther lived and the impossible odds stacked against her, God's purpose was accomplished through her.

It gives me joy to realize the same is true for me and my role in the classroom. My ongoing prayer is that the Lord would use me to accomplish His will – His good and gracious will that all might believe in Christ and have salvation. This is the primary reason that LHS exists: To point people to the cross of Christ, to cultivate students' gifts in service of Him, and to give God glory for all that He has done in our lives.

When we stop to think about it, the Lord has done quite a lot for us this year. As schools all around us move to virtual learning, we're blessed to continue to hold in-person classes. And perhaps most notably this year, we're blessed to open the doors to our brand-new Worship and Fine Arts Center.

I've waited a long time for this addition to our great school and I know many of you have, too. But

the great news is the anticipation is over. The time has arrived to cut the ribbon! The building addition has finally gone from a dream to a reality, thanks be to God!

I would love for you to join us in celebrating the tremendous blessing this building will undoubtedly be to not only our LHS family, but the greater Sheboygan community as well, by attending an upcoming open house and "A Lutheran High Christmas" in the coming weeks.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you for your prayers and continued support of Sheboygan Lutheran High School in 2020. I pray you have a very blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

In His Service,

Matt Thiel, Director of Music at Lutheran High

Lutheran High's Student Leaders of the Month

have been chosen based on their service, behavior, leadership, attitude & academic achievements.

Senior - Yoonho Park

Foreign Exchange Student

Junior - Anna Splittgerber

Bethlehem Lutheran - Sheboygan

Sophomore - Ben Vanic

Bethlehem Lutheran - Sheboygan

Freshman - David Eatherton

Trinity Lutheran - Downtown



The shelves are stocked for the holidays. Check out their supply of greeting cards, linens, dishes, artificial trees, lights, and decorations for indoor and outdoor use.

Store hours:

Tuesday: 9:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Wednesday - Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed Sundays & Mondays

Located at 2627 Eastern Avenue, Plymouth
(920) 892-9100.

www.neatrepeatsthiftshop.com

LHS Worship & Fine Arts Center Grand Opening Event

**SALSA Churches Preview Day
Saturday, Dec. 12
2 - 4 p.m.**

**An open invitation for association congregation members to view
the new facility at LHS.**

Premiere Concert Event “A Lutheran High Christmas”

& Building Dedication Litany

**Saturday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m.
and Sunday, Dec. 20 at 2 & 6:30 p.m.**

**Seating is very limited. To see if seats are available, visit the Fine
Arts Center Box Office tab on the LHS website at
www.lutheranhigh.com.**



Congratulations to Natalie MCraw.



**Natalie is graduating from UW Madison on
Sunday, December 13th in Civil
Engineering.**



December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 7:30am LHS Bible Study 10:30am&6:30pm Advent Family Worship 4:30-6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Advent Family Worship Elders Meet following worship	3	4	5
6 8:00&10:30am Family Worship with Holy Communion 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School	7 1:00pm Quilting	8	9 7:30am LHS Bible Study 10:30am Advent Family Worship 4:30-6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Advent Family Worship Council Meets	10	11	12
13 8:00&10:30am Family Worship 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School	14 1:00pm Quilting 6:30pm CWF	15 6:00pm Education Meeting 6:30pm Elders Meeting 7:30pm Committees Meeting	16 7:30am LHS Bible Study 10:30am Advent Family Worship 4:30-6pm Confirmation 6:30pm Advent Family Worship 4:30-6pm Confirmation Voter's Meeting (Budget) follows evening worship. Cemetery meeting follows voters meeting	17	18	19 10:00-11:30am Children's Christmas Program Rehearsal
20 8:00&10:30am Family Worship with Holy Communion 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School 1:30pm Children's Christmas Program	21 9:15am Pastor's Circuit Meeting 1:00pm Quilting	22	23 7:30am LHS Bible Study 4:30-6pm Confirmation	24 3:00, 5:00, 7:00pm Christmas Eve Family Worship (Online registration is required)	25 9:30am Christmas Day Family Worship with Holy Communion 	26
27 8:00&10:30am Family Worship 9:15am Bible Class & Sunday School	28 1:00pm Quilting	29	30 4:30-6pm Confirmation	31 6:30pm New Year's Family Worship Eve with Holy Communion 		

We received a thank you letter from the Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, St. Mark's Food Pantry and Bethesda Lutheran Communities, thanking our church for our special offerings we sent them. There is also a card from Ilse Muehleis. The letters and card are on the bulletin board in the narthex.