

THE MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2015

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Annual Meeting will be held on December 6, 2015, immediately following our worship service. Please see inside this issue for more details.

COMMUNION AND COFFEE HOUR

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated during our worship service on December 6, followed by a coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a delicious delectable to share and have a relaxing morning with us.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Come and sing the songs of the season while delighting our homebound and nursing home members. We will begin our rounds by serenading our members and then go to local nursing homes. Please see Cindy for more information.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our Sunday School Christmas Party will be held on Saturday, December 12, from 10 am to noon. This will also be the last day to drop off "care packages" for the McKinney Clinic. Please see inside this issue for more details.

DRESS REHEARSAL

Dress rehearsal for our Christmas Program will be at **12:30** after our pizza lunch. This will be a very important rehearsal and **all cast, crew and choir members are asked to attend it.**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13

SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Sunday School will present their Christmas Program during the worship service on December 13. Please mark it on your calendars and show our children and youth how much you appreciate and support their efforts to tell the story of our Savior's birth.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

On Christmas Eve, we will begin our celebration of Christ's birth with special music at 7 pm. Our Candlelight Service will begin at 7:30 pm and will include the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We hope that everyone will come to worship our new-born King. Come, let us adore Him.

OPERATION SNOWFLAKE

If our Worship Services need to be cancelled due to bad weather, please tune in to radio stations WARM, Magic 93, 97BHT, 97.9X, or JR93.7.

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From the Pastor

Dear Church Family,

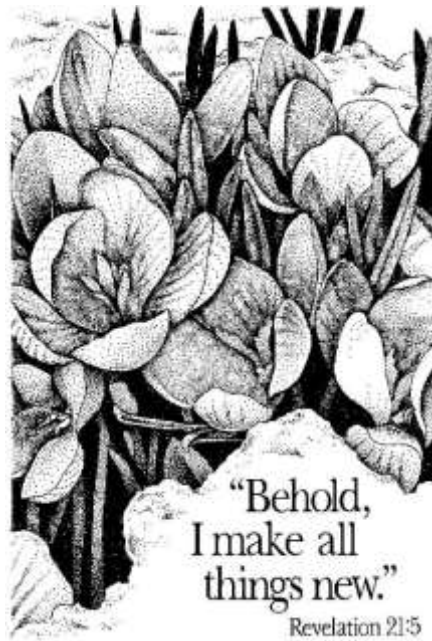
How grateful I am to each of you for your warm welcome and words of encouragement.

God is faithful and I believe He is doing a new work in all of our hearts. How we need His grace.

We can trust Him. As we make time to wait on Him, listen and joyfully submit and obey, we will become a vibrant part of the healing process and see restoration, healing and new vision as we prepare to move into a new year.

In the Love of Jesus,

Pastor Ken.



We have Gift Card Fundraiser through Great Lakes Scrip Center and includes tons of cards – from Advance Auto Parts to Wet Seal (young women's clothing). By purchasing the gift card through Great Lake Scrip, our church earns a percentage of the sale price. With this newsletter is a copy of the list and more copies are on the bulletin tables. Just write in the quantity of the cards you want and give the list and the amount due to Jim Rinehimer. He will order them and distribute them as they arrive. If you have any question, please see Jim. If more lists are needed, please tell Denise.

CONGREGATIONAL CORNER

Mile-marker Birthday

ESTHER HELLER will celebrate her 91th birthday on **December 2, 2014**. Let's all wish her a happy birthday by giving her a card shower! Look! It's raining birthday cards!

Our Condolences

We offer our sympathy to Liz and John Walck on the passing of her mother, Elizabeth Krupilus, on November 7. May God's strength sustain you and bring you peace.



ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation will be held on Sunday, December 6, after our Worship Service. The proposed 2016 Budget was approved by the Consistory for distribution in the weekly bulletins and extra copies are available on the table in the Narthex.

NOTICE TO ALL COMMITTEES, TEAMS AND ASSOCIATIONS: In accordance with our Constitution Article 10, All committees should have a report prepared for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

“Article 10. ORGANIZATIONS, SOCIETIES. All organizations and societies of the Congregation are subordinate to the Consistory and shall make an annual report (Activities and Financial) to the Congregation.”



CHRISTMAS CAROLING

We will meet after Worship on December 6 for caroling. We'll raise our voices and spirits as we sing songs of the season to residents of our local nursing homes and to our homebound. Come with us and sing glory to the newborn king!

Pork Dinner Update

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO
SUPPORTED OUR DINNER!!**

INCOME		
Dinner Income	Surplus Sold	340.00
	121 Adult @ \$10	1,210.00
	2 Child @\$5	10.00
	Advance 226 Adult @ \$10	<u>2,260.00</u>
TOTAL INCOME		3,820.00
EXPENSES		
Steve Moyer	Milk and Bread	-51.07
Allen Dennis	Pork, broth, potatoes, celery, flour	-492.96
Donation	Cabbage & Apples were donated	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES		-544.03
DINNER PROFIT		3,275.97

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Our program will be presented on Sunday, December 13, during our worship service. In *The Candles of Christmas*, we hear about Christmas traditions from the Advent Candles. Each has their own view of the most important part of Christmas as they state their reason why their candle expresses the meaning of Christmas better than the others. The Prophecy Candle states that it was most important so that people would be prepared by the prophets' teachings. The Bethlehem Candle boasts of being the birthplace of our Savior and home to the first people who learned of his birth, the shepherds. Of course, the Mary Candle claims the greatest importance as the Mother of the King of Kings while the Angle Candle asserts that without the angels no one would know of the Savior's birth. So, who is the most important Advent Candle? Come and enjoy this version of the Christmas story to find out the answer.

If you would like to be a part of our program, please see me. We also welcome anyone who would like to be part of the Christmas Choir.

Practices for the Christmas Program are scheduled for the following dates:

Wed., 12/2	6:30 to 7:15 pm	Christmas Choir
Fri., 12/4	6:30 to 7:30 pm	Speaking Parts
Wed., 12/9	6:30 to 7:15 pm	Christmas Choir
Fri., 12/11	6:30 to 7:30 pm	Speaking Parts
Sat, 12/12	12:30 to 1:30 pm	ALL CAST & CHOIRS
	Dress Rehearsal	
Sun, 12/13	9:00 am (during Sunday School)	ALL CAST & CHOIRS

Everyone involved in the program is urged to come to practices. We need just an hour here and there and this will be a great program.

Thanks to all who volunteer to make our program possible. You are a great bunch of kids and adults and I am always so proud of the way you make our programs come to life.

Denise

Christmas Cards For Vets

There is a box in the bell tower for Christmas Cards for our local veterans who are residents at the VA Hospital. The last day to put cards in the box is December 22. Thank you for remembering those men and women who served our country.



Anyone wishing to present music prior to the Christmas Eve Service is asked to see Denise Dean. We will begin at 7:00 pm and conclude at 7:30 pm. If you are more inclined to read a poem or selection, that would be very welcome also.

Sunday School News

THANKSGIVING DINNERS – Thank you for being so generous. We again were able to provide meals for ten families thanks to you.

CHRISTMAS PARTY - DECEMBER 12

Our Christmas Party will be held on December 12 from 10 am to 12 pm. We are asking all the kids to bring a piece of fruit for the baskets for our shut-ins and a new or “gently used” stuffed animal or toy to be wrapped for the children of the McKinney Clinic.

We are also collecting **care packages** for distribution to the people served by the McKinney Clinic. Bernie, the director of the clinic, continues to need more men’s packages. She says that they minister to more men than women and so there is a greater need for men’s gifts. The packages should include: **new white socks, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, comb, razor, hand lotion and a candy cane**. If you would like to add anything else, please feel free (only nothing with alcohol in it). Also appreciated are gift cards from Walmart and K-Mart. A freezer bag holds the items very well. **Attach a card signed by your family and send it with your child(ren) to the Christmas party or drop it off in the narthex under the Christmas tree before Saturday, December 12.** Thank you for all your generosity. When making your care package, please talk with your child(ren) about how wonderful it feels to know you will make someone’s Christmas brighter by giving!

Thank you for all your support, Lisa Rinehimer

The Giving Tree

The Giving Tree has been set up in the Narthex. Just take an ornament, purchase the item listed on it, wrap it, tape the ornament to the package and place it under the tree. You may also include a card from you and your family.



FLOWERS SIGN-UPS

POINSETTIA SIGN-UP SHEETS

There are sign-up sheets on the tables in the Narthex and next to the fellowship hall doorway for you to purchase poinsettias to decorate our sanctuary. The last day to sign up is December 15.

ALTAR FLOWER CHART

The chart for the altar flowers is on the table in the Narthex. The price is still \$12.50 per vase. Please pay Mary or Jim Rinehimer for the dates you sponsor.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPE

Please be generous in giving to our church ministries supported by this offering:

Phoebe Devitt Home

Bethany Children’s Home

Lancaster Theological Seminary

These organizations sincerely need and appreciate your support. Every penny counts with today’s expenses, so please give generously. The “Christmas Offering” is a benevolence offering and is not used to build up the General Fund.

Your regular offering is still needed to support the General Fund and the local mission of your church.

BETHANY CHRISTMAS LIST

Copies of the 2015 Christmas Wish List are on the table in the Narthex. Please note that the children at Bethany are teenagers. Specific gift items are included on the Christmas Wish List or if you prefer, the children love to receive gift cards to department stores, craft stores, area malls, etc. Please choose age-appropriate gifts with consideration for parental warnings, modest clothing and safety. The gifts should not be wrapped since Bethany’s staff will do that. Just drop them in the box wrapped in Christmas paper in the Narthex.

If someone could deliver the presents to Bethany, it would be greatly appreciated. I have a schedule of times and dates for deliveries in the office. Denise

NEWSLETTER INFO DEADLINE

The deadline for information for the January Messenger is Monday, December 21. Please get all information to me before this date. Thanks, Denise

UPCOMING DATES

Jan. 6 Epiphany

PICTURE PERFECT

Check the front entrance bulletin board for the following pictures:

Plenty of people enjoyed our Pork Dinner on Saturday, Nov. 15. A "full house" is pictured seated behind John and Audrey Frankenfield as they are featured appreciating the delicious dinner.

Two pictures of Pastor Ken are on the board. The one is with Camille Daniels, our Consistory President. The other is with the children during his Young People's Sermon where he demonstrates the diversity of his skills by playing the accordion.

Spooky stuff was on the walls at Rice Elementary. The original "scary" artwork of the students was on display during the 3rd Annual Haunted Gallery and R'ice Scream Social on October 28. Assisting Art Teacher Ms. Malone with the display were Leah Dietrich, Becca Biddinger, Brooke Aton and Kelsey Rinehimer. BOO!

Cub Scout Pack 433 provided the refreshments during the Choir's Yard Sale fundraiser. Noah Ceklosky of Cub

Scout Pack 433 and his older brother Michael of Boy Scout Troop 434 are pictured at the counter with their goodies. The choir raised money to have their robes cleaned and the Scouts funds went toward their summer camp expenses.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The next Consistory meeting will be on Thursday, December 17, at 6:30 pm.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE DECEMBER

December 6

Greeters: Carol Duffy and Gloria Schreyer
Liturgist: Jill Bernetski

December 13

Greeters: Mary Eroh and Judy Cybulski
Liturgist: Brooke Rinehimer

December 20

Greeters: Nelson Horwath and Donnie Myers
Liturgist: Denise Dean

December 24

Greeters: Diana Decker and Barb DeLuca
Liturgist: Jim Rinehimer

December 27

Greeters: Mary Eroh and Lois Eigenbrod
Liturgist: Sharon Moyer

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave Myers
Jim Rinehimer



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1 Ronald Kania	10 Lorrie Slusser	24 Lonnie Rinehimer, Sr.
2 Esther Heller	11 Susanne Kaminski	25 Anthony DiMaria
2 Bonnie Shafer	15 Kelsey Rinehimer	26 Russell Koons
3 David A. Myers	18 Sabian Bunnell	26 Linda Byrnes
3 Aaron Kleger	20 Darlene Stein	28 Lonnie Rinehimer, Jr.
10 Michael Belanchik	21 Mary Rinehimer	31 Sandy Kleger

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 13, 1968.....Lonnie and Mary Rinehimer

**VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE
DECEMBER**

December 7

Greeters: Gene and Janice Broyan
Liturgist: Sandy Kleger

December 14

Greeters: Camille Daniels and Judy Cybulski
Liturgist: Brooke Rinehimer

December 21

Greeters: Diana Decker and Carol Duffy
Liturgist: Wayne Mast

December 24

Greeters: Barb DeLuca and Connie Davis
Liturgist: Jim Rinehimer

December 28

Greeters:
Liturgist: Jill Bernetski

OUR CLEANING VOLUNTEERS

Dave Myers
Dwain Straight
Josh and Caroline Cronce
Jim Rinehimer