



Covenant *Tidings*

COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH
DECEMBER 2023 – VOLUME 59

It had been a hard winter in the Appalachian area. The snow had piled up deeper and deeper, the temperature dropped, rivers froze, people suffered. The Red Cross used helicopters to fly in supplies. One crew had been working day after day--long hours. They were on their way home late in the afternoon when they saw a little cabin submerged in the snow. There was a thin whisper of smoke coming from the chimney. The rescue team figured the occupants were probably about out of food, fuel, perhaps medicine. Because of the trees they had to put the helicopter down a mile away. They put on heavy packs with emergency supplies, trudged through heavy snow, waist deep, reached the cabin exhausted, panting, perspiring. They pounded on the door. A thin, elderly mountain woman opened the door and the lead man gasped, "We're from the Red Cross." She was silent for a moment and then she said, "It's been a hard winter, Sonny, I just don't think we can give anything this year."

There are several lessons we can learn from this story including the importance of making the effort to help people in need even when it's difficult and tiring. But the thing that strikes me the most is how that mountain woman was prepared for winter. She had no doubt stocked up on the essentials – food and water and firewood and medicine. She was ready when old man winter came calling.

This time of the church year reminds us to be watching and ready for the coming of the Lord. The last few Sundays of the church year, the last Sundays of November, remind us that Christ will come again on the Last Day to judge the living and the dead. The Scriptures implore us to watch and wait in faith. It is faith in Jesus Christ that makes us prepared for His Second Coming (and prepared for our own last day on this earth). We put our lives in Jesus' hands and trust in Him for our eternal salvation. Through His death and resurrection, He has prepared a home for us and for all believers in heaven.

The season of Advent first points us ahead to the Savior and King who will come again on the Last Day. Then Advent looks back to His first coming as a babe born in Bethlehem. God became man so that He could pay for our sins at the cross. In this season of watching and waiting – for the Amazon packages to arrive, for the family to gather, for the snow to fall – I pray that you also prepare your heart to celebrate the gift of Jesus. In the gift of a Savior, you have all you really need for now and for eternity!

Yours in Christ, *Pastor Steve Voigt*

Official Acts

Funeral

Elsbeth Picchiottino

(September 12, 1930 - October 19, 2023)

Service was held October 24
at Covenant and a private committal for
Bill and Elsbeth at Wisconsin Memorial Park.

Ushers

9:30 a.m.

Phil Murphy	Jerry Anson
Traci Murphy	Len Ernst
Henry Weiss	Joel Johnson
Brian Maletzke	Jim Richter

Altar Guild

Kaye Maletzke	Diana Streil
Diana Lafford	Marcia Rosynek

Greeters

December 3

9:30am—Phil & Traci Murphy

December 10

9:30am—Ruth Baer & Eunice Bachmeier

December 17

9:30am—Darlene Peters & June Peters

December 24

9:30am—Lynda Kopp & Lisa Frederick
4:00pm—Sandy Randazzo & Audrey Wilde
7:00pm—Peter & Pamela Buck

December 25

10:00am—Jerry & Judy Anson

December 31

9:30am—Jim Williams & Bob Schultz

SPECIAL GIFTS

DCF Grant.....	\$2,359
Helping Hands Food Pantry.....	\$40
Operation Christmas Child.....	\$200
Roof Collection.....	\$961.85
Thanksgiving Offering for Journeys...	\$75

MEMORIALS

Elsbeth Picchiottino Memorial—\$25

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17 AT 9:30AM

NORTHWEST CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 AT 1:30PM

CHRISTMAS EVE PRAISE SERVICE

WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 4:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 7:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY

WITH HOLY COMMUNION AT 10:00AM

Church Info & Staff

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE:

414-464-2410

WEB SITE: covenantlutheranmke.com

E-MAIL: covenantlutheran@sbcglobal.net

FACEBOOK: Covenant Lutheran Church

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon. - Thurs.; 8:30am - 2:30pm

PASTOR: Steven Voigt

pastorvoigt@sbcglobal.net

DIRECTOR OF OUTREACH:

Karen Winefeld

CHURCH SECRETARY:

Alyssa Gottsacker

FACILITY MANAGERS:

Steve Dasher & Jim Richter

CHOIR DIRECTOR/ORGANIST: Bill Laesch

CECC Info

EARLY CHILDHOOD PHONE: 414-438-9712

E-MAIL: covenantkids1@sbcglobal.net

EARLY CHILDHOOD HOURS:

Mon. - Fri.; 6am - 6pm

Director: Joely Douyette

Birthdays

December 1

Jess Hardel

December 3

Eunice Bachmeier

December 5

Brynnlee Winn

December 9

Sherry Voigt

December 12

Nancy Keck

Brian Rasch

December 13

Bob Schultz

December 15

Charleigh Dills

December 16

Carrie Fuchsberger

Kathleen Witt

December 19

Diana Streil

December 21

Michael Weiss

December 22

Dan McDonell

December 23

Janice Wulz

December 24

Diane Rasch

December 25

Angela Nummerdor

Margie Sinn

December 26

Alayah Flagg

December 28

Myrtis Jones

December 29

Da'Miere Timmons

December 30

Jacquie Zeman

Financial Update

Thank you to the members of Covenant for your faithful giving throughout the year. Your contributions make our ministry together possible. The Treasurer's Report as of October 31 shows a positive cash balance. Total income to date is \$454,366 which includes offering income, child care income, and Northwest Lutheran School lease income. The total expenses are \$439,510. The expenses include nearly \$49,000 in roof repair which was offset by \$4,752 given by members in the "Roof Collection." Keep in mind that we have three payroll periods in November which will increase our monthly expense.

As we approach the end of the year, please be mindful of your pledge for 2023 and make every effort to fulfill your pledge (whether you put it down on paper or simply made a pledge between you and God). Red "Catch Up" envelopes will again be available if you wish to make a gift to Covenant above and beyond your pledge. Thank you for your continued faithful support of Covenant!

Anniversaries

December 2

Bob & Sue Patten

Sunday, November 19 was Commitment Sunday. With many people staying home these days, we want to offer our members staying at home the opportunity to send in their pledge for 2024.

My Commitment to the Lord & For the Work of His Church

My pledge to God
and this congregation in 2024...

- I (we) intend and promise to worship regularly.
- I (we) intend and promise to study God's Word on a regular basis here at church and at home.
- I (we) intend and promise to pray for the mission and ministry of the Church.
- I (we) faithfully and cheerfully pledge to give the following amount for the Lord's work at Covenant Lutheran Church.
- I (we) intend to use the time and talents God has given in service to Him and others.

My (our) first fruit offering will be as follows:

_____ %

_____ per week

_____ per month

These are my (our) sincere
intentions and promises.

Name(s):

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettias for Christmas

Covenant is offering a wonderful opportunity for you to help decorate our church this Christmas season. We are now accepting orders for beautiful poinsettias, which will add a vibrant touch to our sanctuary and contribute to the festive atmosphere.

Poinsettias Plants - \$13
(colors: red, white, pink, & jingle bell)

Orders are due on
Sunday, December 3.

Mission of Christ Helping those in Need

Please prayerfully consider showing God's love this Christmas by helping provide food for needy families. We will be collecting donations through Sunday, December 10. To insure deliver before Christmas.

CHRISTMAS CARD OUTREACH

DECEMBER 6 AT 9:30 AM

Help is needed to address Christmas cards to our Northwest Lutheran and Covenant Child Care families.

If you have any questions, please contact
Karen Winefeld, 414-739-4782.

WINTER COAT & CLOTHING COLLECTION

Share the love of Jesus with those in need. There is a great need right now for winter clothing, jackets, coats, hats, mittens, scarves and warm blankets for Milwaukee's homeless population.

Please bring your donations to Covenant and place them in the bin in the narthex. They will be delivered to Bethany Lutheran Church to keep families warm this winter.

A Lake Country CHRISTMAS

HOLIDAY FAIR

Saturday, December 2nd
9 AM - 4 PM

local artists • unique gifts • specialty vendors
handmade finds • coffee bar
concessions • raffles
and more!

Lake Country Lutheran High School
401 Campus Drive • Hartland
{on the corner of Hwy 83 & Hwy 16}

Christmas
Begins
with
Christ

December 2023

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1 2
8:00pm
AA Meeting

3
8:30 Bible Study
9:30am Worship
10:30am
Sunday School
10:45am
Voters' Meeting

4

5
3:30pm
8th grade
Confirmation

6
8:30am
NW Chapel
1:30pm Comm.
Service
5:30pm
Advent Supper
6:30pm
Advent Worship
7:30pm Dartball

7
10:00am
Bible Study

8
8:00pm
AA Meeting

9
9:00am
Christmas
Decorating

**First Sunday
In Advent**

10
8:30 Bible Study
9:30am Worship
10:30am
Bible Study
10:30am Choir
10:30am
Sunday School
**Second Sunday
In Advent**

11

12
3:30pm
8th grade
Confirmation

13
8:30am
NW Chapel
5:30pm
Advent Supper
6:30pm
Advent Worship
7:30pm Dartball

14
10:00am
Bible Study

15
8:00pm
AA Meeting

16
10:30am
Children's
Prog. Practice

17
8:30 Bible Study
9:30am Worship
& Children's
Program
10:30am
Bible Study
10:30am Choir
**Third Sunday
In Advent**

18

19
3:30pm
8th grade
Confirmation

20
8:30am
NW Chapel
5:30pm
Advent Supper
6:30pm
Advent Worship
7:30pm Dartball

21
1:30pm Northwest
Christmas
Program

22
8:00pm
AA Meeting

23

Northwest Christmas Break

24
9:30am Worship
4:00pm
Christmas Eve
Worship (Praise)
7:00pm Christmas
Eve Worship
(Traditional)
**Fourth Sunday
In Advent**

25
10:00am
Christmas Day
Worship

26

27

28

29
8:00pm
AA Meeting

30

Northwest Christmas Break—December 22 to January 7

31
9:30am
Worship
10:30am
Brunch

**First Sunday
After Christmas**

THE LIGHT OF *grace*



"You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus..."
2 Timothy 2:1

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the hymn "Amazing Grace," we celebrate that Jesus is the Light of the World who shines on us with his amazing grace. We are reminded that Jesus makes his grace known through the undeserved gifts of hope, peace, joy, and love.

Advent Midweek

(Services at 6:30pm)

Wednesday, December 6

Hope: Zechariah (Psalm 39:7): In his old age, after years of waiting and not giving up hope, Zechariah is blessed with a son, John the Baptist, who prepared the way for the Light of Grace, Jesus.

Wednesday, December 13

Peace: Isaiah (Isaiah 9:6): Isaiah announces to an unsettled people that relief is coming soon through the Prince of Peace, the Son of God, the Light of Grace.

Wednesday, December 20

Joy: Elizabeth (Philippians 4:4): The boy in Elizabeth's womb leaps for joy and so does she when Mary arrives, carrying the little Lord Jesus inside her. The Light of Grace is soon to come.

Christmas Week

Sunday, December 24 at 9:30 a.m.

Love: Mary (Isaiah 54:10): The mother of the Light of Grace sings a love song to the Lord for his undeserved favor toward her and toward all the world.

Christmas Eve, December 24 at 4:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Glory: Shepherds (Luke 2:14): Jesus Christ graces us with his life as a little baby boy. We go with the shepherds to greet God's amazing grace in a manger and glorify him.

Christmas Day, December 25 at 10:00 a.m.

Presence: Angels (Hebrews 1:6): We welcome the Savior and join with the angels in greeting God's amazing grace in a manger. Let us raise our voices in praise to our God for the birth of his Son on this very special day.



Cards for our Members & Former Staff

Christmas can be a lonely time for many people, especially for our senior members who often miss out on many of the holiday festivities. Here is a list of members and former staff members who might appreciate a note. Please send a card to let them know they are in our thoughts over this special holiday.

Rev Richard Bartholomew

4222 Trilithon Court
West Lafayette, IN 47906

Gerald & Jetta Bobholz

N114 W15947 Hilbert Ln.
Germantown, WI 53022

Bud Bolling

3625 N 78th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Marion Braatz

W236 N6350 Hickory Dr.
Sussex, WI 53089

Loretta Centgraf

6503 W Burleigh Street
Milwaukee, WI 53210

Faulkner & Jennifer Charles

1624 Burdick Street
Oshkosh, WI 54901

Henrietta Cloyd

3937 N 29th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Marcie Dawson

4310 N 71st Street
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Dennis Eiff

3609 N 81st Street
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Micki Hauser

W78N675 Wauwatosa Rd #309
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Meta Harrington

1995 Norhardt Drive; #14B
Brookfield, WI 53045

Augie & Marcia Hottinger

1621 Rivers Bend #121
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Myrtis Jones

6841 N 58th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53223

Connie Koch

3330 Blackfoot Ct.
Ft. Wayne, IN 46815

Marty Larsen

12765 W Hampton Ave. #115
Butler, WI 53007

Carol Munz

4545 N 92nd Street; 2824
Wauwatosa, WI 53225

Jim Newton

8538 W Potomac Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53225

Herb Onasch

4474 N 73rd Street
Milwaukee, WI 53218

Shirley Parmelee

398 Yew Trail
Nekoosa, WI 54457

Carol Prange

1305 W Wisconsin Ave #311
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

Betty Rasmussen

5601 W Philip Place
Milwaukee, WI 53216

Rev. Kermit & Bertha Ratcliffe

9119 N 70th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53223

Margie Sinn

4545 N 92nd St. M103
Wauwatosa, WI 53225

Gertrude Suckow

3749 N 88th Street; #212
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Gail Tatro

2633 N 113th Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53226

Dennis & Pat Wallinger

15834 SW 13th Circle
Ocala, FL 54473

Susan Wendt

3609 N Tucker Pl. #307
Milwaukee, WI 53222

Carol Wenzel

W10459 Blackhawk Trail
Fox Lake, WI 53933

Joanne Wiedenhoef

7750 W Grange Ave. #213
Greendale, WI 53129

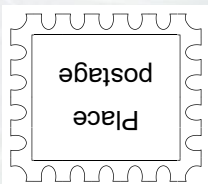
Kathleen Witt

3745 N 97th Place
Milwaukee, WI 53222



Covenant *Tidings*

COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH |
DECEMBER 2023 – VOLUME 59



Milwaukee, WI 53222
8121 West Hope Ave.
LUTHERAN CHURCH
COVENANT
