



The Heavenly Herald

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

“O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel.” What is quoted is the 4th verse of the familiar carol ‘O Little Town of Bethlehem.’

The verse is a wonderful prayer of the people of God who long for change and who seek salvation. It is one that does not deny, but admits to a change that is needed in each and every person throughout the world as it petitions for the casting out of sin. Often it seems that the fact that sin has anything to do with our current state of living is overlooked, or more probably denied. Yet, the root of our problems in our families, and communities and world is found in that nature that has been with each human being since birth.

We are presently in the season of Advent. Advent is understood, according to the liturgical calendar, to be a penitential season. It is penitential with the hope that something good will fill the place of the sin that enslaves us as humans. Asking God to cast out our sin is actually an act of penitence, a request to be forgiven due to the nature of evil that St. Paul states, “lies close at hand” (Romans 7:21) even when we want to do good.

Advent also reminds us of the fact that Christ comes. Christmas is the holiday that reinforces the truth that Christ came. It confirms the reality that Christ was born of Mary which was good news for this fallen world. Yes, as promised by the prophets mentioned in the Old Testament, God would manifest himself before the world so that the world would be saved and humanity’s relationship to God restored. Christmas was God’s way of saying to us, ‘I am here for you, always here for you.’ The manger is simply a way for the scriptures to invite us to “come see where he lay.” But the glad tidings of Jesus’

birth are not without cost. The glad tidings are under the shadow of the cross. The glad tidings point to a future resting place of the holy child of Bethlehem, a tomb in which no one had been placed. This resting place was where the shadow of the cross ended as all that God had promised was accomplished and even greater glad tidings were spoken that shattered the silence of that tomb...”He is not here. Come see the place where he lay.” Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

It is because Christ is risen that our final petition is this, “O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel.” The final petition is truly an Advent petition asking, with never ending hope and great expectation, for Christ to come again. We want Jesus to be a part of our lives each day as ‘God with us’ so that

we can encounter our world with his life guiding ours. Indeed, God sends his Spirit to us that Christ would reign in our hearts. Yet more than that, we want Christ to come again and to appear once more so that we might ever be with the Lord and as another familiar Christmas carol would affirm for us, “to take us to heaven to live with thee there.”

This is what the season we have just entered is all about. It is Christmas time and the season of Advent. So do not let the shopping and all the glitz of the commercial world distract you. Do not let the shallow feelings of temporal holiday joy confuse you even though they may uplift you. Remember the reason for the season; the restoration of our relationship to God in and through Christ Jesus. And come and worship throughout this holiday time. Remember to invite family and friends to join you. The remaining Advent services are December 11th at 8 and 10:30AM; December 18th at 8 and 10:30 am

(Continued on page 2)



COME WORSHIP WITH US

Sunday Worship Services:
8:00 am & 10:30 am
(Nursery Care Available - 10:30 am)

Sunday School & Adult Bible Classes:
9:10 am

Summer Worship Service:
9:00 am
(Fathers Day to Labor Day)



NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT AND THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Greetings All,
I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving! Can't believe Christmas is just right around the corner and 2016 will soon be in the rearview mirror – my how time flies!!

Our Thanksgiving service was very nice, with wonderful music, but could have used a few more voices in the pews. Our Christmas & New Years services are always beautiful and uplifting and hopefully the singing will resonate throughout the neighborhood. Unfortunately, Kyong and I will be away spending Christmas with our daughter's family in Washington state. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas!! First of all, on behalf of the entire congregation – Welcome Back Pastor Gustafson! Secondly, also on behalf of the entire congregation – Thank You Pastor Nuechterlein for taking care of our spiritual needs while Pastor Gustafson was recovering. Much appreciated and comforting to know that you are always so willing to help.

I would like to thank all of the Council and Voters Assembly members for all their hard work in finalizing and approving the 2017 Mission Plan, and especially the members of the finance committee for all the time and effort they gave in preparing this difficult and important document! This year we had some especially difficult decisions to make, yet we stayed the course, prayed for discerning minds and acted in the long term best interest of the church.

Thanks to Karen Weiland for guiding us through another successful apple pie workshop! I never cease to be amazed at how quickly and efficiently our fellowship hall transforms into and pie factory, then returns to its original state in less than 4 hours – and over 80 pies later – pretty impressive. This is a true example of that well-known saying, “many hands make light work”.

The apple pie workshop, just like the upcoming Crèche assembly, Christmas tree cutting & trimming and decorating of the church, offer terrific opportunities to get to know your fellow congregants in a very fun and relaxed environment. There are many dedicated members that are consistently seen at many, if not all of these events, but there is always room for more. Please consider jumping in and helping out wherever you have a skill or interest. Sometimes all we need is a little extra muscle to lighten that load.

This year's final Council meeting will be Tuesday, December 6th at 7:00pm.

Yours in Christ,

Jeff Mann
CLC President

Please consider jumping in and helping out wherever you have a skill or interest. Sometimes all we need is a little extra muscle to lighten that load.

The Heavenly Herald is published for members and friends of Cheshire Lutheran Church.

*Church Staff
Rev. Charles Gustafson-Pastor*

Carol Santoro-Office Manager

Martha Medford-Organist & Choir Director

Andrew Schaefer - Director of Christian Education

Jeff Mann-Parish President

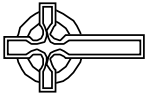
Beth Soulier-Editor

(Continued from page 1)

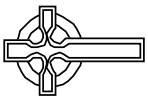
(this is the Sunday School Christmas Pageant). Our services for Christmas Eve, December 24th are at 7:00PM and 10:30PM, and on Christmas Day, Sunday December 25th at 9:30AM.

I look forward to seeing you as we come to worship and adore our Lord Jesus Christ. Kathy and I wish for all of you and for your friends and families, a very Merry and Blessed Christmas!!!

Pastor Gustafson



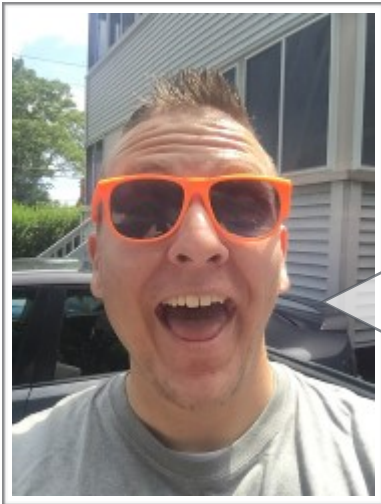
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December

December Servants

Cheshire Lutheran Youth and Family Ministry!



Come to Cheshire Lutheran this fall for many opportunities to gather in fellowship, dive into God's Word, and serve our community. Cheshire Lutheran's youth and family ministry is ready to take on the upcoming year, are you? Below you'll find the important dates and remember to sign up!

Family Ministry Events

Peanut Butter and Jelly Service Projects

(PBJ will always happen after the late service concludes)

December 11th

Advent Jubilee after the second service on *Sunday December 4th*

CLC Annual Christmas Pageant during the 10:30 Service *Sunday December 18, 2016*

CrossRoads (Senior High)

High Impact (Junior High)

Dec. **11th** - Bible Study following PBJ
18th - Ugly Sweater and White Elephant Gift Christmas Party @ 12pm

Dec. **7th** - Youth Group @ 7:10pm
18th - Ugly Sweater and White Elephant Gift Christmas Party @ 12pm

Dates and times are subject to change. Additional dates may also be added. Sign ups will be located in the hallway on the small bulletin board.

CHRISTMAS CARDS FOR CLC MEMBERS...

If you would like to send a Christmas card to all of us here at CLC (instead of to each of us) you can do so by posting it on our bulletin board over the green felt Christmas tree.



CLC ALL CHOIRS REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE...

Date	Time	Event	Choir
December 4—Sunday <i>2nd Sunday in Advent</i>	9:10 AM	Rehearsal	Christmas Pageant—Sunday School
	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir w/ Flute
	10:30 AM	Performance	Parish Choir w/ Flute
December 7 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
December 11 - Sunday <i>3rd Sunday in Advent</i>	9:10 AM	Rehearsal	Christmas Pageant—Sunday School
	10:00 AM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	10:30 PM	Performance	Parish Choir
December 14 - Wednesday	6:30 PM	Rehearsal	Youth Choir
	7:15 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
December 17—Saturday	10:00 AM	Dress Rehearsal	Sunday School
December 18- Sunday <i>Christmas Pageant 4th Sunday in Advent</i>	9:15 AM	Gather, dress up	Sunday School
	10:30 AM	Performance	Christmas Pageant—Sunday School
December 21- Wednesday	7:00 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	8:00 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
December 24 - Saturday <i>Christmas Eve</i>	6:15 PM	Rehearsal	Parish Choir
	7:00 PM	Performance	Parish Choir
	9:40 PM	Rehearsal	Bell Choir
	10:30 PM	Performance	Bell & Parish Choirs
December 25- Sunday <i>Christmas Day!</i>	9:00 AM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	9:30 AM	Performance	Soloist
December 28 - Wednesday	NO CHOIR REHEARSALS		
January 1 - Sunday	9:00 AM	Rehearsal	Soloist
	9:30 AM	Performance	Soloist



NEWS FROM OUR EVANGELISM DEACON...

We are just about to enter the Christmas season. It is easy to get caught up in the frenzy of Christmas and the endless and all night shopping. We have much to be thankful for at Cheshire Lutheran. We are celebrating the 60th anniversary of our church. This would be a good opportunity to invite people to our dinner on December 4th. Our Sunday school will be providing a Christmas pageant on December 18th. We will be having our Christmas Eve service and Christmas day worship. These events can allow people to slow down and enjoy the simple aspects of the season. We can celebrate the birth of a little baby in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago.

John Balash Evangelism Deacon

THIS MONTH IN OUR HISTORY!...

A monthly glimpse of the history of your Cheshire Lutheran Church:
December

December 9, 1956	Inaugural service at Cheshire Grange Hall; Rev. Darrell Geitz giving the 1 st sermon
December 24, 1967	Bell first rung
December 9, 2006	New garden crosses imbedded
December 3, 2011	Lawn Crèche first displayed



FINANCIAL SECRETARY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU...

The Financial Secretary is always in need of volunteers to aid in counting church offerings after the 10:30 AM Sunday services. If you are available 4 - 6 times per year for approximately one hour, please contact Bill Soulier!



SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANCE FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED ...

A hearing assistance system (Williams Sound Corporation) and four receivers have been donated to CLC. A receiver (hearing aid) may be obtained from any usher. Please feel free to ask for one and make sure you return to an usher at the end of the service so it can be returned to its proper storage place for use at another time.



NEW ON OUR WEBSITE... WWW.CHESHIRELUTHERAN.ORG

The following has been recently added to our Website:

- ✚ Pictures and Video recordings of the Thimble Islands Saxophone Quartet concert at CLC in October
- ✚ Audio recordings of Anthems sung by our Choirs last month
- ✚ Apple Pie Workshop pictures
- ✚ 1st Communion Pictures
- ✚ Current and Past Heavenly Heralds
- ✚ Sunday School pictures
- ✚ Little Cherubs news and pictures



NEED TO GET INFORMATION TO CERTAIN MEMBERS OF OUR CONGREGATION?

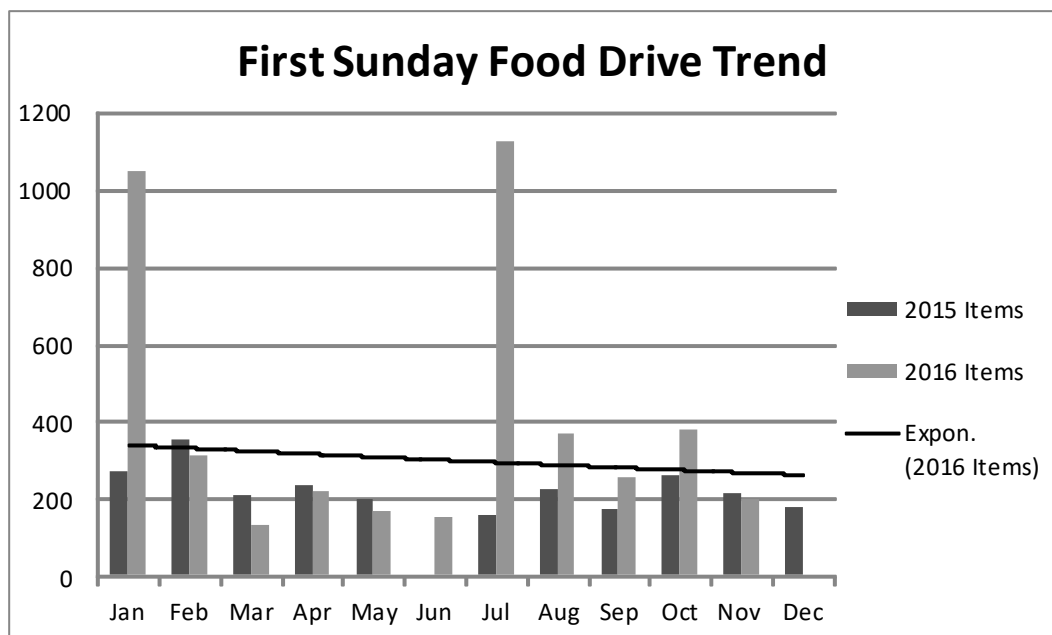
Just slip your information or a note into one of the folders on the hallway table outside the church office. Folders have been created for each of the council members, Beth Soulier (the editor of this newsletter) and a few others and placed outside the office. We have found that this is a great way to distribute information within the congregation.





DONATE YOUR FREEBIES!

If you happen to spot an item at the grocery store selling at a special price “buy one-get one free”, purchase it and donate the free item to First Sunday Food Drive



“Jesus said to him, ‘Feed my lambs.’” John 21:15b

LET'S NOT FORGET THOSE LESS FORTUNATE...

Don't let our First Sunday Food Bank donations fall behind last year's totals. Please note that the Cheshire Community Food Pantry is open Mon., Wed., Fri. from 9:00 am until noon and Tues. & Thurs. from 3:00 pm until 6:00 pm. The sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the hallway.

Please check expiration dates. We want to insure the food we are sending is not out of date. Any and all contributions are gratefully accepted, including non-food items such as soap, tooth paste, shampoo, detergent, paper products etc.

NEWS FROM OUR STEWARDSHIP DEACON...

I hope everyone had a very Happy Thanksgiving. I would like to wish everyone a joyous and merry Christmas.

If you have not taken and/or returned your pledge packets, I urge you to do so as soon as possible. If you have not pledged in the past but would like to do so now, you can ask our Church Secretary, Carol Santoro, for a packet. I again thank all of you for your past generosity and look forward to a very successful 2017.

Remember, this is CLC's 60th Anniversary year. Thank you for your participation as we prepare for another 60 years of fellowship and stewardship.

As a continued plug for both membership and fellowship, as a member of the Church please always think about inviting friends to join us here at CLC, especially for Christmas services. It is always fun and exciting to see new faces and to see the Church grow. Many people are looking for a spiritual home. Why not invite them to make CLC that home?

Merry Christmas! Sincerely,

David Veleber
Stewardship Deacon



LET'S SEE HOW YOU DO!

DECEMBER 2016

Submitted by and Special Thanks to Debbie Sherman

A. Vocabulary:

- The parts of the service that remain from week to week are called the _____.
a) Ordinary b) Matins c) Doxology
- The parts of the service, such as the Scripture readings, that change according to the Sunday or festival of the Church Year is called the _____.
a) Ordinary b) Rubrics c) Propers
- Evening service of psalms, readings and prayers are called . . .
a) Verse b) Vespers c) Venite
- A structured form of prayer for all conditions of humanity, consisting of a series of petitions and responses is called the _____.
a) Litany b) Liturgy c) Sabaoth
- A list of appointed Scripture readings for the Sundays, festivals, and occasions of the Church Year is called the _____.
a) Lectionary b) Litany c) Propers

B. Fill ins (from the Psalms):

- "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me b_____ still waters."
- "As a d_____ pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God."
- "The Lord is my L _____ and my salvation; whom shall I fear?"

C. Descramble:

- EEDRDMEE R _____
- SESCRIPTER S _____
- YMREC _____
- KDONGMI _____

D. Name that hymn...

- "Stille Nacht, _____ Nacht"
- "Angels from the _____ of Glory"
- "Once in _____ David's City"
- "Come, Thou Precious _____, Come"

E. Matching for "Merry Christmas" . . .

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. _____ Buon Natale | a. Danish |
| 2. _____ Feliz Navidad | b. French |
| 3. _____ Frohe Weihnachten | c. Finnish |
| 4. _____ God jul | d. German |
| 5. _____ Iloista joulua | e. Hungarian |
| 6. _____ Glædelig jul | f. Italian |
| 7. _____ Wesolych Świąt Bożego Narodzenia | g. Korean |
| 8. _____ Boldog karácsonyt | h. Norwegian and Swedish |
| 9. _____ Joyeux Noël | i. Polish |
| 10. _____ 메리 크리스마스 | j. Spanish |

Final Question: Who created the first Nativity scene in 1223? Where? Why? See Answers on Page 13

Junior Version!

DECEMBER 2016

Submitted by and Special Thanks to Debbie Sherman

The story of the Christmas Carol "Silent Night".

The year is 1818 and the place is Obendorf, Austria.

A young priest, Father Mohr, of St. Nicholas Church, wrote a poem. He was inspired by the story of Jesus' birth and of the beautiful scenery around him at Christmas time in Austria. This poem later became the words for the hymn "Silent Night".

Preparing for the Christmas Eve service, Father Mohr found the organ not to be working and it couldn't be repaired. The priest asks the organist and the choir director at St. Nicholas, Franz Gruber, to set his poem to music. Franz Gruber produced a melody with guitar arrangement for the poem. The two men sang *Stille Nacht* (Silent Night) for the first time at Christmas Mass in St Nicholas Church.

Soon, other nearby villages were singing "Silent Night" followed by choirs in city churches and then churches in countries throughout the world. Its message of hope and peace speaks to everyone.

Fill in the words below using word bank: **Silent Night**

Silent night, h _____ night!
 All is **c** _____, all is bright.
 Round yon Virgin, **m** _____ and Child.
 Holy **i** _____ so tender and mild,
S _____ in heavenly peace,
S _____ in heavenly peace

Silent night, h _____ night!
 Shepherds **qu** _____ at the sight.
 Glories stream from **h** _____ afar
 Heavenly hosts sing **A** _____,
 Christ the **S** _____ is born!
 Christ the **S** _____ is born!

Silent night, h _____ night!
 Son of God love's pure **I** _____.
 Radiant beams from Thy holy **f** _____
 With dawn of redeeming **g** _____,
 Jesus Lord, at Thy **b** _____
 Jesus Lord, at Thy **b** _____

Some words are used more than once:

- Alleluia
- Birth (2)
- Calm
- Face
- Grace
- Heaven
- Holy (3)
- Infant
- Light
- Mother
- Quake
- Savior (2)
- Sleep (2)



See Answers on Page 21

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!!!



“Twas the Night Before”



- ✦ Speaking Parts available for Sunday School Students
- ✦ Singing Carols for all Sunday School Students
- ✦ Practices will take place on Sunday Mornings



MARK YOUR CALENDARS:



Pageant - December 18 - 10:30 AM

- ✦ Practice for Songs and speaking parts – Sunday December 4 - 9:10 AM
- ✦ Speaking Parts are for 2nd Grade ON
- ✦ Practices will take place on Sunday Mornings
- ✦ Run Through - Sunday December 11, – 9:10 AM
- ✦ Dress Rehearsal – December 17, Saturday – 10:00 AM



Sign Up Now!!!!

Sign up using form that will be in the Sunday Bulletins and on the Sunday School Bulletin Board.



- ✦ Parents of SS are asked to bring desserts and/or snack for the refreshment table for after the Service



the Best Christmas Pageant Ever



CHESHIRE LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN’S 15TH ANNUAL OPTIONAL CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE, APPETIZER/WINE AND GIFT SWAP EXTRAVAGANZA...

THE COOKIES OPTIONAL ***CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE AND GIFT SWAP

ARE YOU FRAZZLED JUST BY THE THOUGHT OF MAKING CHRISTMAS COOKIES FOR YOUR FAMILY? DON'T FEEL LIKE COOKING DINNER? THE SOLUTION IS HERE. COME TO THE CLCW CHRISTMAS COOKIE EXCHANGE and enjoy drinks and pot-luck appetizers.

WHEN: Monday, December 12th at 6:15 p.m. WHERE: Karen Weiland’s home; 55 Abbey Court, Cheshire, CT.

***NOT PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN MAKING (AND BRINGING HOME) COOKIES? NO WORRY. SKIP BRINGING THE COOKIES AND JUST BRING AN APPETIZER AND ENJOY A FUN EVENING. BRING A FAVORITE WINE IF YOU WOULD LIKE.

*** WANT TO SWAP COOKIES? Just bring three dozen of your favorite cookies (along with copies of the recipe to share). You will have a chance to exchange your cookies for a variety of cookies brought by other people. Don't forget to bring an empty container to bring your new cookies home in.

For additional fun, there will be a GIFT SWAP. Bring in a wrapped gift (value up to \$20.00) to swap.

Any questions? Contact Karen Weiland 203-250-1574



GREETING CARD FUNDRAISER!

(A project of the Thursday Ladies Group)

A variety of greeting cards with Christian messages are for sale at \$1 each. These high quality cards are displayed in a rack on the counter outside the office. We will continuously update the selection which includes Birthday, Anniversary, Get Well, Sympathy, Thank You, seasonal and miscellaneous choices.

After making your selection, please leave your money or check in the box attached to the display.

The ladies thank the congregation for their generous support and hope to continue their record of giving to various church ministries.

We thank all for their support and especially thank those who leave large bills in the box.

Contact Persons; Rita Stark (272-3488) and Carolyn Bammann (272-7083).



CANS AND BOTTLES—BOTTLES AND CANS...

Save your returnable Bottle and Cans. Money raised will benefit Little Cherubs. A collection box is located in the storage closet towards the back of the Fellowship Hall.

ON THE BULLETIN BOARD:

Remember to check the Bulletin Boards and/or hallway table for sign-up sheets and information about various events!

This month on the Bulletin Board:

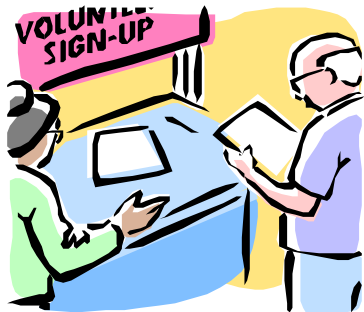
- † CLC Little Blessings Nursery Needs Volunteers
- † Give Your Old Car A Good Home **Good News Garage** information
- † Cheshire Food Drive Volunteer info. and sign-ups
- † Hope Center 2016 volunteer sign-ups
- † 2016 Usher Schedule
- † Little Cherubs enrollment information

Others looking for help!

- † **Fellowship Deacon needs volunteers** to help make the events happen. Contact Karen Weiland if you can help in any capacity. 203-250-1574 or email kweiland3@sbcglobal.net
- † **Helping Hands** - Contact the Church Office if you would like to be a member of the helping hands committee.
- † **All Choirs** rehearse on Wednesday evenings are as follows:
 - 6:30 PM – Youth Choir
 - 7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
 - 8:00 PM – Parish Choir

Now is the time to sign up to join the Parish Choir for Adults or the Youth Choir for Children. Previous singing in Choirs is not required, only a love of music and a desire to contribute to our worship on Sundays. Speak to Martha Medford or any current member of the choirs for Questions.

- † **Sunday School Teachers Needed**—Prayerfully consider serving our congregations children by volunteering to Teach them a few Sunday mornings during the year. See Carlene Myers or Andy.



MEET OUR MISSIONARIES...

Please pray for us and our LCMS staff who implement our projects. We have run into some bureaucratic difficulties signing new projects. Delays like this are a frustrating part of working in Vietnam, but this is worse than usual. Pray for Thanh, Huong, and Loan's patience and shrewdness as they get to the bottom of this, that we might be able to implement these needed projects to bless libraries and other facilities in rural Vietnamese schools.



SQUARE TWO
THE CIMA FAMILY NEWSLETTER
VOL. 10, No. 10, OCTOBER 2016



John.Cima@lcmsintl.org
Aimee.Cima@lcmsintl.org



Help us impact Vietnam by sending a tax-deductible gift to: P.O. Box 68861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861. Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, memo: support of Cima family. Or give on-line at: www.lcms.org/cima.

Martha Seibel is an LCMS music educator at LCMS' Concordia International School. She also joins our Wednesday evening study of the Word, where this past week she gladly helped Celeste with her recorder outside of school time. Martha shows Christian love to her students, seeing her job as a vocation from God. What an enormous blessing! The work of LCMS educators overseas is crucially important! Please pray for Martha and all educators at Concordia, that they would be salt and light for all their students and for Hanoi!



Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. (Philippians 4:6)

I've said at every presentation we've ever given to any individual, group, or congregation, that the single most important thing you can do to support our family is pray for us. So many times we have hit a rough stretch of time, and we receive a note from a supporter, simply saying, "We prayed for you today," or "How can we pray for you?" We *feel* these prayers, and they are an enormous encouragement. The past two months have given us some challenges and some praises, and we do need your prayers now more than ever! **THANK YOU** for answering God's call to lift us, and especially the people of Vietnam, up in prayer to our gracious Father.



J.P. and Aimee Cima and their children Serving the Lord in Vietnam



Please pray for our health. In October, both girls got chickenpox. While not serious, it did interrupt school and work activities for the whole family. With all the time at home, J.P. and the girls built a massive 2,418 piece, Chinese knock-off lego set. Chickenpox is gone, but now the girls have gotten lice! It has been an uncomfortable month for them!



Please pray for our third child, a son, due to arrive mid-February. Pray, too, for Aimee, who is 25 weeks pregnant. We recently learned that Aimee's placenta is quite low. While not cause for alarm right now, if the placenta does not rise by 32 weeks, then Aimee might have to be on bed-rest to prevent a premature birth. We are thankful for an excellent Vietnamese doctor who is very reassuring. We will keep you updated.

- Pray daily for J.P. and Aimee — and how you can support and tell others about their ministry. Visit lcms.org/cima
- Learn about LCMS international work at lcms.org/international
- Support and adopt an international worker. Call 888-930-4438.

LEARN • PRAY • GIVE • TELL • SEND • GO • CELEBRATE



Council Meeting Reminder: Tuesday December 6th at 7:00 PM

Answers:

- A. 1. A 2. C 3. B 4. B 5. A
 B. 1. Beside 2. Deer 3. Light
 C. 1. Redeemed 2. Scriptures 3. Mercy 4. Kingdom
 D. 1. heilge 2. Realms 3. Royal 4. Ransom
 E. 1. F 2. J 3. D 4. H 5. C 6. A 7. I 8. E 9. B 10. G

F. Final Question: St. Francis of Assisi in Greccio, Italy, because he wanted pilgrims to experience going to the Holy Land but it was too dangerous in 1223... so he thought of a concrete way to replicate Christ's birth.

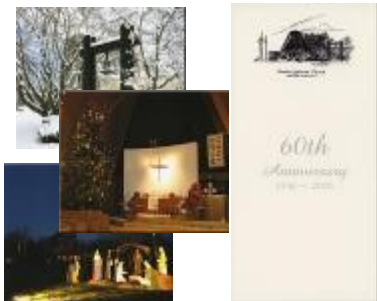
FIRST COMMUNION CLASS 2016...

Sunday November 20, 2016 we celebrated with the members of the First Communion Class:



**Claudia Rebecca Chong
Blake Alexander Ferro
Sean Parker Horton
Hannah Lynn Mayer
Thea Elizabeth Mayer
William Edward Pinto
Michael Stephen Plantier
Elise Held Sheeche
Julianna Michele Tyler**

We welcome you to the Lords Table. We thank God for you and rejoice in your being among us!



60TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS CARD AND NOTEPAD SALE...

Christmas Cards with photos of Cheshire Lutheran Church and notepads with the church logo are now on sale. Christmas cards cost \$10.00 per pack of 15 cards (with envelopes) and notepads are \$1.00 each. Please contact Karen Bailey or Karen Weiland to purchase. See the order forms on the hallway table nearest the Library.

CLC CHRISTMAS DECORATING...



CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING – Many Hands Make Light Work! We will gather at CLC around 3:00pm on Friday 12/16/16 and caravan over to the lot on Rt 10 to cut/retrieve the tree. Ed Schweizer and Larry Fiedler will provide the expertise and truck/trailer.

We can use all the help available, as the tree is quite large and heavy. If you are not able to make it to the lot, the tree should arrive at the church around 4:00 – 4:30pm and that’s when the heavy lifting will really begin.

CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATING – Once again, Many Hands Make Light Work as we will gather at CLC at 9:00am on Saturday 12/18/16 to decorate the tree and adorn the nave. This process is normally accomplished within 1-2 hours, depending on the number of helpers.

THANK YOU AND MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL!

Bill Sherman
CLC Vice President



Apple Pie Workshop Memories



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE ADVENT LUNCH...

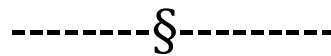


Tis the season to celebrate
And be thankful for the past year
You are invited to our

JUBILEE ADVENT LUNCH

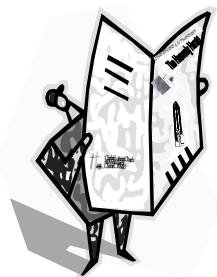
DECEMBER 4TH AFTER THE SECOND SERVICE

**MY SPIRIT REJOICES IN GOD MY SAVIOR
(LUKE 1:47)**



**PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE ADVENT
AND THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CHESHIRE
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board



**PLEASE CONTRIBUTE TO MAKING THIS NEWSLETTER A
SUCCESS!! (January 2017 Articles are Due!)**

Please electronically submit ALL articles and information to Beth Soulier (soulierbeth@sbcglobal.net) by Friday **December 23rd (the Friday before Christmas)** or earlier! Place all non-electronic articles and information you would like printed into the HH in Beth's lateral file folder on the hallway
Thank You



CLC CHOIR NEWS...

All Choirs rehearse on Wednesday evenings as follows:

- 6:30 PM – Youth Choir
- 7:15 PM – Adult Bell Choir
- 8:00 PM – Parish Choir

The Parish Choir sings on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays and the Youth Choir performs on the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month. Both Choirs usually sing at the 10:30 but sometimes are asked (mostly Parish) to sing at the 8:00 service as well.

The Bell Choir will perform on special occasions 5-7 times throughout the year.

Each choir is praying for new members. Please consider joining, you will be happy you did! No experience necessary!

Greeting from Little Cherubs,

We have been very busy with Bible Time. We have covered Samuel, David and Goliath and David as King. The kids loved measuring how tall Goliath was and we made a ruler for measuring.

Andrew has been coming to our Classroom to teach Bible once a week while Pastor was recovering.

We made 2 kinds of Turkeys. One for the Beautiful Bulletin Board outside the Office and the other one to take home. We made an Autumn Basket which they decorated with fake flowers. We covered Letter D, (Darren the Duck) E we covered the Elephant with Eggshells F we made Freddy Frog Puppet.

We reviewed numbers 0-5. Veteran's Day was Important because we talked about our Country and our Veterans who served. We colored a Flag. The children were asked to bring in their favorite book. It has been fun sharing their stories with everybody. We also starting thinking about Spring when we planted bulbs with Jim Mertz.

Finally we are preparing for our THANKSGIVING FEAST That we are having on November 21, 2016 at 12:00. All the parents have been invited to join us and whomever else they want to bring. The children have made Indian Head Dress, and Pilgrim Hats.

The Librarian is coming to our school on November 21, 2016 at 11:00 AM. That is great fun.

On November 30th a Police Officer is coming to our school and bringing his Partner which is a Dog. We are so excited to see the children react to that.

We wish all of you a very Safe, and Happy Thanksgiving as you share that time with family and friends.

Love you all,
Martha and Joann



Answers for "Silent Night"

Silent night, holy night!
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia,
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God love's pure light.
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth
Jesus Lord, at Thy birth

WEATHER AND WORSHIP...

Who knows what kind of winter we will have this year! To find out when worship services have been cancelled due to weather conditions, check TV channels, WTNH channel 8 or MyTV 9, WFSB channel 3 and on the radio, WTIC 1080 AM. All these stations have websites that list weather closings too! A mass e-mail will also be sent. If you would like to be included on our mass e-mail please let the church office know.

Stay warm!



PLEDGE PACKETS FOR 2017...

Pledge Sunday for 2017 are here. Please assist CLC in planning and meeting our financial obligations by returning your pledge card to the church as soon as possible. Thank you!



Our Sincere Appreciation



- ✦ Many thanks to the “Thursday Afternoon Ladies” for assembling the November Heavenly Herald! We can’t do it without your support, you are the BEST!
- ✦ Very special thanks again to Joe Stark and the crew for displaying the Christmas Crèche on our front lawn. The Crèche will speak volumes to passerby's that need to be reminded of the TRUE Meaning of the Season!
- ✦ Many thanks to Martha Henderson for the LOVELY Cornucopia that adorned the Altar for our Thanksgiving Service. It is just beautiful!
- ✦ Thank you to the Drusts again for their generous donations of all the fixings for the Apple Pie Workshop. Also thank you to all the volunteer Pie Makers. It was a great day of fun and fellowship.
- ✦ Thank you to the Mertz's for being such loving stewards of our Church grounds. We are so blessed for your service to our Church Family.
- ✦ Thursday Ladies sponsor purchase of new coffee pot

Learning of the demise of the church’s old aluminum coffee pot, the Thursday Ladies donated monies received from their ongoing card sales for the purchase of a beautiful new stainless steel 100 cup coffee pot. Proceeds from card sales continue to provide funds for many church needs and activities. The Ladies wish to thank all church members for their generous and consistent willingness to support this project and they give a special shout out to those who contribute the large bills we find in the “yellow box” from time to time.

Chairperson - Rita Stark

HOPE PREGNANCY CENTER...

Volunteers to deliver baby items to Hope Pregnancy Center, located next to the Library in Cheshire, are needed. If you would like to help once or twice a year, please sign up on the bulletin board.



We have re-directed the donated baby items which are collected in the bassinet outside the church office. For years we have been donating them to “Baskets of Love” where women of the Waterbury Church of Christ used them to make baskets which are distributed to new mothers in Waterbury Hospital, Bristol Hospital and New Beginnings in Waterbury. We would like to now donate these items to the **local** organization “Hope for Life”, d.b.a. Hope Pregnancy Center. They are located at 110 Main Street, Cheshire in a facility provided by Christ Community Church. They will gratefully accept infant clothing and unused nursery equipment. For further information, see the poster hung above the bassinet.

THE DISCRETIONARY FUND...HELPING OTHERS IN AND BEYOND OUR COMMUNITY!



There are many ways to assist in the ministry of Cheshire Lutheran Church. One of the ways comes through the Discretionary Fund which is used to help people in need of assistance for various reasons. Many times those in need are members of the congregation. At other times, those in need simply come off the street seeking help for their family. However, in order to help others who wish to remain anonymous funding is needed. If you would like to help you can find special envelopes for contributions in the wall rack outside the church office. All donations are welcome no matter how small or large.

On the other hand, if you are ever in need of some immediate assistance the fund is there for you. You simply need to contact Pastor so that he can determine how you can be assisted in your time of crisis.

Take time to consider your blessings and then consider the possibility of being a blessing to others through a gift to the discretionary fund.

CLC HELPING HANDS...

The Helping Hands committee is looking for a new Chairperson and others to help coordinate. Kindly consider this wonderful opportunity. Contact the church office if you are interested.

If you are in need of help please call on our Helping Hands committee. Please call the church office and arrangements will be made for meals to be made and delivered to you by our committee.

Whether this need is the result of a hospital stay, a new baby arrival, or a recent loss of a loved one, we want to support you during your critical time.

Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers. -- Galatians 6:10



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS...

The Sunday school will have a little change in their Christian studies during the celebration of Advent and CLC's 60th anniversary. The schedule will be as follows:

- ✦ Sunday December 4, 2016, at 9:10am Christmas pageant rehearsal in church sanctuary. No Christian education classes
- ✦ Sunday December 11 2016, Sunday school class resumes
- ✦ Saturday December 17, 2016, Rehearsal for Christmas pageant 10am
- ✦ Sunday December 18, 2016, Christmas pageant during the 10:30am service; with a light lunch after the service. Requesting each Sunday school family to bring one dozen cookies to share.
- ✦ December 25, 2016 and January 1, 2017. There will be no Christian education classes.

Since we have but only one class this month; I urgently request all Sunday school children to participate in the pageant. Our very own choir director Martha Medford has written another look at The Greatest Story Ever Told, Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem. So if you have not signed your child up for the pageant there are pageant forms by the bulletin board outside the church office.

Advent coin boxes: The money the children collect in Advent coin boxes this year; will support:

- ✦ Cheshire food bank
- ✦ Heifer International. Heifer International will use the monies raised by CLC Sunday School to purchase a Bee hive which will be given to a struggling family in a foreign country.

The Advent coin boxes will be collected during the service on December 18, 2016. Please make sure your child's name is on his/her box.

Christmas Blessings;
Carlene Myers, Martha Medford & Andy Schaefer

Feliciana Martin, 26, is a small-scale coffee farmer. Her acre farm barely supports her and her daughter, Sandy Almir Martin, 2. Although she sells her coffee to a reliable local cooperative, it hasn't been enough to help her escape the cycle of poverty and food insecurity that grips so many in this region.

Martin lives in Guatemala's northern department of Huehuetenango in the remote village of Tuiboch, near the municipality of Todos Santos Cuchumatán. She sells about 300 pounds of high grade, pergamino coffee to Asociacion de Cooperacion al Desarrollo Integral de Huehuetenango (ACODIHUE), the local co-op. However, the harvest season is only four months, January to April, so she has no income for the remainder of the year.

The bees Martin received have been hard at work, and she said she expects to get a noticeable increase, about 10 percent, in her coffee harvest next year.

Martin dreams of a better life for her daughter. Thanks to assistance from Green Mountain Coffee and Heifer International, those dreams seem more possible than ever.



Along with her bees, Feliciano received a hat with a mask, a smoker and a brush



All her hard work is paying off. Feliciano was able to harvest 60 pounds of honey so there will be plenty to sell and some leftover for home consumption.

COLUMBARIUM AND MEMORIAL GARDEN NEWS...



The Columbarium Committee remains busy organizing the Inurnment Subscription and Memorial Plaque records. All congregants that have filled out Inurnment Subscription forms should have received a copy of their applications to store for safe keeping. All congregants that have filled out an application to have a Memorial Plaque ordered and placed on the wall will be receiving copies of their forms shortly.

4 Memorial plaques have been placed on the wall. Several more will be ordered just after New Years and will be placed on the wall as weather permits. If you ordered a Memorial Plaque, look for a message from Pat D. to proof your plaque before it is manufactured.

You may have noticed that the berm has been planted and is being cared for by the Mertz's. The Committee has plans for even further beautifying the area come Spring.



If you are interested in reserving a niche, purchasing a memorial plaque, or making a donation to beautify and maintain the Columbarium and Memorial Garden. Now is the time to speak to any member of the Columbarium Committee to confirm your interest in supporting and participating in this ministry. The Committee is now accepting applications for niches and memorial plaques. Monetary donations will be thankfully accepted toward landscaping and "hardscaping" the Memorial Garden.

Please feel free to contact any Committee member below to request more information or to obtain an application. The Committee thanks the members and leaders of Cheshire Lutheran Church for their vision and support of the Columbarium and Memorial Garden.



Don Drust, Chair	Buzz Gancarz	Priscilla Mulvaney
Vicki DePaolo	Linda Gancarz	Randy Raddatz
Judy DiDomizio	Margie Mertz	Beth Soulier
Pat DiDomizio	John Mulvaney	Tim Weiland

Procedures:

You will find a box containing blue folders on a stand in the hallway. One folder contains inurnment procedures and the other contains memorial plaque procedures. Both folders also include fee schedules and the CLC bylaws concerning the columbarium wall. Please take whichever folder interest you and review it carefully.

If you have any questions or when you feel prepared to commit to the project, please contact Pat DiDomizio.



CLC MUSICAL OFFERING...

Music performed during Sunday morning services, is sometimes recorded and then emailed to a number of people. Most computers will recognize the mp3 music file and play it back. It is especially appreciated by those who are not able to be with us on a given Sunday.

If you are interested in receiving an occasional musical offering, please send an email to: juul@cox.net with "CLC Music" in the subject line. Recipient addresses will not appear in the music email.

We would be happy to include you.

Judy & Bill Juul

Bible Studies at CLC

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...

COME TRAVEL WITH US to the town of Truro in southwest England for a live Christmas Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, led by the Truro Cathedral's choir of men and boys. When and where? At 9:10AM (sharp!) on Sundays, Dec 11th (Part One) and Dec 18th (Part Two) here in our church library. Truro Cathedral is where the now popular Service of Nine Lessons and Carols originated back in 1880 – and where you can attend (via DVD) the Service along with us as it was beautifully and reverently filmed on Dec 23, 2014.

Following Part Two of the Nine Lessons and Carols on Dec 18th we'll also hear and see (via DVD) the Advent/Christmas portion of the 250th anniversary performance of Handel's MESSIAH – performed in Dublin, Ireland by the Academy and Chorus of St Martin in the Fields, conducted by Sir Neville Marriner. . . .Worshiping the Christ Child in the company of our fellow Brits will be a deeply moving experience you'll long remember and cherish!



TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY...

Join us for a 31 week study which started on September 13 at 7:00 p.m. The study will take you from Genesis to Revelation. If you are interested in joining this study, please inform Andy so that the appropriate amount of materials may be ordered. Call the office at 203-272-5106 or email dce@cheshirelutheran.org

CALLING ALL MEN...

Have you been searching for an opportunity to deepen your faith in God and strengthen your relationship with fellow Christians? Join us for an hour of Bible study, fellowship and prayer once a month. We meet at 9:00am on the third Saturday of every month. We look forward to seeing you.



THURSDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE STUDY GROUP...

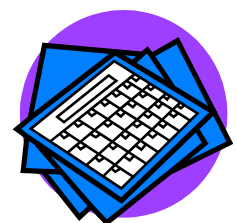
Our Thursday morning Adult Study Group is continuing with its series of weekly lectures on Biblical Literature – from Genesis to Revelation – with Professor Craig R Koester, of Luther Seminary, in St Paul, MN. We meet in the church library; and all of you whose morning schedule permits you to join us are cordially invited to do so.

Sincerely – in Christ, Pastor Nuechterlein



CLC CALENDARS FOR 2017...

2017 Calendars are here. The calendars are a gift to our congregation compliments of the Al-derson/Slater Funeral Home. You are welcome to pick up a copy from our hallway counter or narthex table.



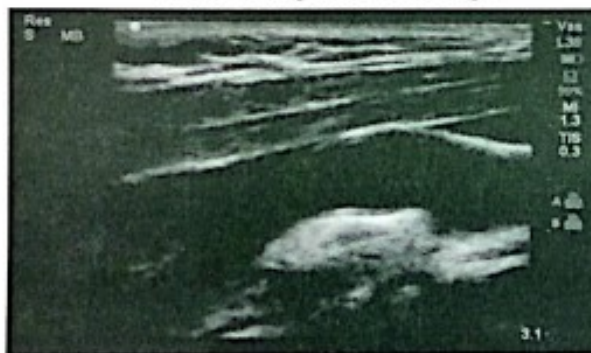


Take a step toward staying

Healthy & Active

Be Smart: Do More For Your Cardiovascular Health

No Plaque Buildup



Plaque Buildup



Advanced ultrasound technology looks inside your arteries for signs of plaque buildup. That's why **9 out of 10 cardiovascular doctors** support preventive screenings for those with key risk factors*

*Key Risk Factors include Age 55+, High Blood Pressure, High Cholesterol, Diabetes, Obesity, tobacco usage, family history of CVD or stroke

We are coming to your neighborhood.

Where: Cheshire - Cheshire Lutheran Church

When: Tuesday, December 20, 2016

Pre-registration is required. Call: 1-888-653-6450

To register for your appointment and to receive a special \$10 discount, please call 1-888-653-6450 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners



www.LifeLineScreening.com



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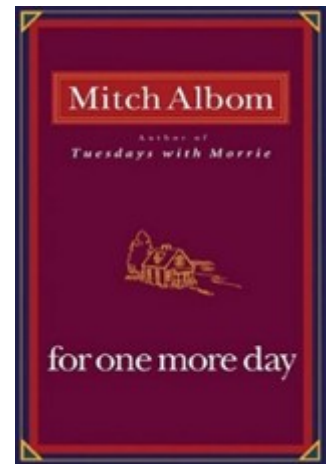
CLC ANNUAL WOMEN’S RETREAT 2017...

Our 10th Annual CLCW Retreat will be held on Saturday May 20th at the Guest House and Conference Center in Chester, CT. The book we will be reading this year is *For One More Day*, by Mitch Albom.

For One More Day is the story of a mother and a son, and a relationship that covers a lifetime and beyond. It explores the question: What would you do if you could spend one more day with a lost loved one?

Please plan on joining us in May for an inspiring day with the women of CLC.

The registration fee including lunch is \$40. Please call me if you have any questions. Vicki DePaolo - 203-697-0810



SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES TO REMEMBER...

Mark your calendars and make note of the following dates affecting you and your Children:

- December 4 9:10 AM—Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
- December 11 9:10 AM—Sunday School Classes resume
- December 17—10:00 AM—Christmas Pageant Dress Rehearsal
- December 18 9:10 AM Bring Cookies to Church during Sunday School Hour, Coin boxes will be collected. Children get ready during Sunday School hour, and the Pageant is DURING THE SERVICE
- December 25 No Sunday School Classes—Christmas Day.



UCONN MEN vs SMU...FAMILY MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY...

CLC Family Ministry is planning a trip to see the UCONN Men vs. SMU (Southern Methodist University).

Join us as we travel to Hartford XL Center on Saturday February 25th for a 12:00 noon game. UCONN Men’s Basketball vs SMU.

Tickets are \$20 each and the money needs to be in by December 15th. See information and sign-up on the Bulletin Board outside the Fellowship Hall. Also, see Andy or call the Church Office for more information.

This will prove to be a fun Family Ministry outing. Sign up now!



OUR BEAUTIFUL THANKSGIVING CORNUPOPIA...

The Beautiful Cornucopia that adorned our Altar for three services around Thanksgiving was made by Martha Henderson. It not only served to celebrate Thanksgiving it also serves to remind us how blessed we are by the abundance our Lord has chosen to give us.

During this time of Thanks and into the Christmas Season, let us all remember those gifts and blessings and give to those who are less fortunate than ourselves. There are many ways to give, we ALL have time, talent and financial gifts to choose from. May Our Lord continue to bless you and your family this Christmas Season.



ANNIVERSARIES

- 2nd Tim Baker
Joshua Neff
- 4th Judith DiDomizio
Emily Napp
Steve Feero
Jeff Hays
- 5th Carolyn Carrington
- 6th Sydney Taylor
- 8th Charles Caron, Jr.
- 10th Paul Fiedler
- 12th Martha Henderson
Ali Tyler
- 14th John Mulvaney
- 16th David McBain
Christian Kjeldsen
- 17th Alwin Manke
- 21st Blair Donewald
Robert Myers
- 22nd Judith Juul
- 25th Curt Smith
- 27th Paul Smith
- 29th Samantha Nowak
- 30th Alan Santoro
David Blair
- 31st Alyssandre Mertz

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

December 2016

12th Jeff and Kyong Mann 36 Years



Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Service Reminder!

- ✠ Saturday December 24 - Christmas Eve Services:
7:00 PM & 10:30 PM
- ✠ Sunday December 25—Christmas Day Service (1 Service)
9:30 AM



GOD BLESS OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS...

Please say a special thank you to your children's Sunday School teachers. They serve in a very important mission of our church, our children! A simple and sincere "we appreciated your help to us and our children" will mean so much to them.

Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy...Luke 2:10



Cheshire Lutheran Church
660 West Main St
Cheshire CT 06410

