

## **THE LAMP**

A Monthly Publication of American Lutheran Church  
552 Purdy Street PO Box 286  
Jesup, IA 50648-0286

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



# 2023 DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
		9am Quilting	6:15-7pm Worship Wednesday			4pm Youth Bake Sale at Jesup's Winterfest in the Park
03	04	05	06	07	08	09
1st Sunday of Advent 8:30am Worship and Communion		9 am Quilting	Confirmation Zion 6:30PM	9:30am Women's Bible Study		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
2nd Sunday of Advent 8:30am Worship and Communion	6:30pm Council Meeting	Prayer Shawl 10-12	6:15-7pm Worship Wednesday Confirmation ALC 6:30			5:30pm-8:30pm Youth Babysitting Service - Watch bulletin for contact information
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
3rd Sunday of Advent 8:30am Children's Christmas Program Worship and Communion 2pm Jessica's Recital		9am Quilting	Confirmation Zion 6:30PM			
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
4th Sunday of Advent 8:30am Children's Christmas Program Worship and Communion 4:30pm Christmas Eve Worship and Communion			6:15-7pm Worship Wednesday  NO Confirmation Class	<b>Notice: The Budget Hearing will be held January 7, 2024 after worship.</b>		
31	01	02	03	04	05	06
		Council President: Christy Phillips- 320-822-4267 Church Phone: 827-6626 Web Address: <a href="http://www.americanlutheranjesup.org">www.americanlutheranjesup.org</a> Church e-mail: <a href="mailto:secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org">secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org</a>				

<p><b>Deacons/Readers</b>  <b>3 Sheila Collins</b>  <b>10 Barb Hayek</b>  <b>17 Christy Phillips</b>  <b>(Children's Christmas Program)</b>  <b>24 8:30 Maureen Even</b>  <b>4:30 Christy Phillips</b>  <b>31 Cindy Gosse</b></p>	<p><b>Ushers Captains</b>  <b>Randy &amp; Iva Ruehs</b>  <b>Borland Family</b></p>
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# LAMP NEWSLETTER



## LSI ARTICLE AND STORY

2023 EDITION ISSUE 527

### Merry Christmas from LSI!

At LSI, we recognize that the holiday season can be a challenging time for many, especially for the populations we serve throughout the year.

We know parents who feel hopeless, with few resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know immigrants and refugees working to become U.S. citizens, with little community support or help along the way. We know teens who are aging out of foster care, fearing they will never have a forever home.

In the spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, let us stand with them and lift them up this Christmas season.

As we reflect on the past year, we thank you — our generous supporters and community partners — for stepping up to give and help the people LSI is privileged to serve. We are grateful for your contribution in bringing the light of Christ to your neighbors who rely on these essential services.

LSI wishes you and your loved ones a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year! LSI's annual matching gift campaign is currently active, and those making a new or increased financial gift can double their impact through the end of the year. If you would like to learn more about how you can support Iowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org) or 563-676-2065.

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [LSIowa.org](http://LSIowa.org) and [Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa](https://Facebook.com/LSI.Iowa).*

American Lutheran Church

October Council Meeting  
October 9, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by President Christy Phillips. Present were Christy Phillips, Barb Hayek, Shirley Bergman, Cindy Gosse, Beth Stanek, and Sheila Collins. Mitchell Hayek joined by phone. Sue Hoey was absent.

Devotions were led by Christy Phillips.

Cindy Gosse made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Shirley Bergman. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report - Barb Hayek made a motion to approve the August 14, 2023 Treasurer's Report. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried. The checking account balance at the end of September was \$9387.14. Cindy Gosse has updated several designated accounts. Christy Phillips will check with the Financial Secretary about quarterly Giving Statements and a Benevolence Report. Sheila Collins made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023 Treasurer's Report. Second by Beth Stanek. Motion carried.

Secretary's Report – Cindy Gosse made a motion to approve the September 11, 2023 Secretary's Report. Second by Shirley Bergman. Motion carried.

### **Committee Reports**

Hospitality – No report.

Memorial – The committee submitted an updated Memorial and Special Gifts Policy and Gift Receipt. After discussion, it was decided to table approval until revisions have been made.

Parish Ed – Wednesday Worship is well attended and enjoyed by all.

Property – Parsonage: Even Family Tree Service trimmed the trees. Pat Winblade and Barb Hayek worked on the front yard landscaping. One bedroom window does not open properly. The vacuum needs to be replaced. Barb Hayek made a motion to allow Mike Mostek to

store his car in the parsonage detached garage in exchange for snow removal. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried.

Church: Prayer Garden trees and shrubs were trimmed by Wayne Schneider, Ray Zummak, and Randy Frush. The insurance temperature and water sensors are in place. Alerts are set up to be sent to Cindy Gosse, Maureen Even, and Mike Waring. Electrician Dave Becker will be contacted to check the flickering pendant light on the west side of the sanctuary. Contact Heartland Technology if the internet goes down and the modem needs rebooted.

Scholarship – No report.

Technology – No report.

Worship and Music – An Ecumenical Thanksgiving service is set for November 22, 2023 at 4:00 pm at Barclay Presbyterian Church.

Youth – Plans to attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans next spring are underway. The participants will schedule a presentation to the congregation about their upcoming trip.

Call Committee – Inquiry will be made of the Synod to see if there has been any interest in our site profile.

## **New Business**

Children's Corner – For now we will update the busy bags and continue to consider the need and possibility of a children's corner.

Active/Inactive Directory List – A correction needs to be made to the By-Laws to match the language in the Constitution about what qualifies as an active member. A report needs to be obtained from the Financial Secretary. Updating the Directory List will be put on hold.

A joint council meeting with Zion will be scheduled in November. Topics for discussion include Sunday worship times and whether to have December 24th Sunday morning services in addition to the evening services.

Barb Hayek made a motion to give the Thanksgiving offering to the Independence Area Food Pantry. Second by Cindy Gosse. Motion

carried. A noisy offering will be collected in November and December for the National Youth Gathering.

### **Old Business**

Applicants for the Secretary/Resource Coordinator Job position will be scheduled for interviews.

Pulpit Supply is filled through November.

### **Correspondence**

Pastor Mandy McCleary from United Methodist Church sent an invitation to a Prayer Bead Workshop on October 16 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at UMC.

### **Deacon Assignments for November**

5 – All Saints Sunday Christy Phillips  
12 – Barb Hayek  
19 –  
26 – Sheila Collins

Cindy Gosse made a motion to adjourn. Second by Barb Hayek. The meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila Collins,  
Secretary

American Lutheran Church

## Special Council Meeting October 23, 2023

A special council meeting was called to address filling the Secretary/Resource Coordinator position. President Christy Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Present were Christy Phillips, Barb Hayek, Beth Stanek, Sue Hoey, Shirley Bergman, and Sheila Collins. Mitchell Hayek joined by phone. Cindy Gosse was absent.

Three applicants for the position were interviewed recently by Council President Christy Phillips, Vice President Beth Stanek, and Treasurer Cindy Gosse. The interview committee determined that it would be best if future communication between the Council and the new hire go through the Council President until we have a Pastor. Christy asked that everyone respect the new Secretary's organization of her office space.

The candidate's strengths and weaknesses were discussed. Barb Hayek made a motion to hire Chris Waring to fill the Secretary/Resource Coordinator position based on the recommendation of the interview committee. Second by Sheila Collins. Motion carried. A starting salary was agreed on with a review in six months. The current secretary, Jessica Saunders, has offered to be available for training.

President Christy Phillips will notify Chris Waring, the other two candidates, and Jessica Saunders of our decision.

Beth Stanek made a motion to adjourn. Second by Barb Hayek. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila Collins,  
Secretary

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Join us to decorate for the Advent/Christmas season!** The Youth Group and friends will be decorating for the Christmas season after worship on Sunday, Nov. 26, at approximately 11 am. All are welcome to join us! We will again take them down after the New Year.

**Christmas at Wartburg:** will be Saturday, December 2 and Sunday, December 3 at Wartburg in Waverly. Tickets are available starting November 1 at [wartburg.edu/christmas/aa](http://wartburg.edu/christmas/aa)

**Wednesday Worship Children's Christmas Program:** will be Sunday, December 17 at 8:30 am.

**Special Music** offerings are always welcome, and especially at the December 24 8:30 and 4:30 services. Please contact Shirley.

**Prayer Shawl:** Prayer shawl will meet **every third Tuesday of the month** from 10-12. Please contact Sharon McAtee at 319-827-6154 if you are in need of a shawl.

**ELCA National Youth Gathering:** We have six high school members (along with 3 adult leaders) who are excited to attend the **ELCA National Youth Gathering in New Orleans next July!**

**December 2:** the youth will have a bake sale at Jesup Winter Festival downtown. We will be asking the congregation to help make some baked goods for the Youth to sell during the Winter Festival. More details to follow.

**December 16-**Parent's Night Out babysitting service from 5:30 pm-8:30 pm, more details coming soon

**Thank you:** Thank you for the beautiful flowers and gift card. It has been an honor serving ALC as secretary for the past 6 years. - Jessica Saunders

**Please keep in your prayers: Emelia Dahl Jacobson** - Send cards to Emelia at Hiawatha Care Center, Room 53, 405 North 15th Avenue,



Hiawatha, IA 52233. **Stephanie Winkelpleck** continues to go to Iowa City weekly for labs and appointments with her transplant team. Thank you all for your continued prayers and support.

**First Communion:** Do you know a child, youth, or adult who is interested in learning about receiving first communion? We will be holding sessions Sunday November 19th and Sunday, November 26th from 6:30 to 8:00 pm to help gain an understanding of the gift of holy communion. All baptized children of God are welcome. Please contact Sue Hoey at [tshoey@jtt.net](mailto:tshoey@jtt.net) or 319-939-4464 if you have any questions or would like to participate.

**Military members:** Christa Leach has returned from deployment and is still with the 434th Air Force Reserve Unit in Grissom, Indiana. Jordan and Justin continue their monthly drills with the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City. Jeryn Loyd is a student at Iowa State and currently home from Arkansas in the Army Reserves as Cassidee and Cole. Please contact the church office to add other names of those who serve. We remember them in our prayers.



### **What is the season of Advent about?**

The commencement of Advent marks the initiation of a new Liturgical (or church) calendar, initiating a four-week span dedicated to preparing for the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. The Advent Season invites us to contemplate how we can ready our hearts and homes for the arrival of Christ in the present world.



**Christmas for Bremwood** ages 13-17: We are gathering gifts for the children at Bremwood. There is a Christmas tree at the back of the church with Christmas Balls and on the back of the tag are the requested gifts. Please tag or two and return your gifts to the church no later than December 10<sup>th</sup> and kindly refrain from wrapping them. Gift cards may be left with the Church Secretary, Chris Waring or slide under the church office door and she will take care of them. If you are unable to shop but would still like to contribute mark your offering with “Bremwood” and Chris will take care of purchasing items. See list for ideas!

### Bremwood Christmas Gifts

- Wal-mart gift cards
- Gift cards – McDonalds, Pizza Ranch, Applebees
- Mosaic/adult color books with colored pencils
- MP3 players
- Cordless headphones
- Bluetooth speakers
- Small speakers for MP3 players
- Small boom boxes/CD player
- Walkman with headphones
- Leather footballs, basketballs, volleyballs, soccer/kick balls
- Air pumps for balls
- Craft kits and art supplies
- Board games and card games
- DVD s rated G PG or PG13
- Hoodie Sweatshirts – Adult large-2X
- College Logo T-Shirts, long sleeved shirts or sweatshirts – Large – 2X

**Welcome** Chris Waring as the new ALC Secretary. She will be in the office a minimum of 10 hrs. a week.

December hours: M,F 8am to noon, W 12:30pm-4pm

**Budget Hearing will be held January 7, 2024 after worship.**

## EVENTS

**Sunday worship services** will be at **8:30am from Dec. to March**

Sunday December 24<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am  
Christmas Eve Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> 4:30pm  
Christmas Day Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> 8:30am  
Sunday December 31<sup>st</sup> 8:30am

### **Council Meeting:**

Monday December 11<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm

### **Children's Christmas Program**

Sunday, December 18<sup>th</sup> 8:30 am

## **PASTORS COMING TO ALC:**

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> Pastor Phil Borleske  
Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> Pastor Dennis Hinson  
Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> Pastor Dan Mixdorf  
Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> Pastor Phil Borleske  
Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> Pastor Phil Borleske  
Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> Pastor Katie Rodrigues

## **December Deacons**

3 Sheila Collins  
10 Barb Hayek  
17 Christy Phillips  
(Children's Christmas Program)  
24 8:30 Maureen Even  
4:30 Christy Phillips  
31 Cindy Gosse

# Heavenly Humor



- What is green, covered in Christmas lights and Christmas bulbs, and goes ribbit? A mistle-toad.
- How do sheep say Merry Christmas to each other? Fleece Navidad.
- What is every parent's favorite Christmas song? Silent Night!
- Why did Rudolph have to attend summer school? Because he went down in history.
- How did Joseph and Mary weigh baby Jesus at birth? They had a weigh in the manger.

# Celebrations

## December Wedding Anniversaries

Wendell and Neva Erpelding	12/27/1955
Larry and Dorothy Thompson	12/21/1969

## December Birthdays

Marcia Riggs	12-Dec
Susan Emme	18-Dec
Sarah Maeder	21-Dec
Steph Winkelpleck	21-Dec
Christy Phillips	22-Dec
Amanda Phillips	29-Dec

## December Baptism Anniversaries

Gene Waring	12/30/1934
Connie Jones	12/6/1953
Merritt Jones	12/27/1953
Barb Hayek	12/25/1958
Todd Westpfahl	12/20/1964
Sue Hoey	12/4/1966
Sarah Maeder	12/31/1978
Michelle Krivanek	12/11/1983
Marcia Riggs	12/23/1984
Heath Wyant	12/15/2001
Jaymn Loyd	12/3/2006

## Notes from the Independence Food Pantry

Things you may not know:

- The Pantry is a private 501c3, funded only by donations and grants. We are not federally or municipally owned. We are totally community funded.
- All donations are deductible.
- All utilities are paid for by The Pantry
- Salaries are paid by The Pantry to the director and two part-time staff.
- 80% of our purchased food is from, the Northeast Iowa Food Bank.
- 20% of our purchased food is local.
- We receive rescued food from Fareway, Dollar Fresh, Walmart, Kwik Star Jesup and Independence.
- The Pantry is open five days a week, six hours a day.  
Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday 9-3, Wednesday 1-7pm
- Neighbors in need select their own products.
- Free produce is available daily for our neighbors.
- We provide extra food in the summer for kids.
- We have over 25 volunteers.
- Donated hogs are processed by fund donated by the Salvation Army Bell Ringers.
- As of March 2023, the Independence Food Pantry has served Buchanan County for 38 years!

Budgets are being stretched, the school year has begun, and access to budget friendly nutritious food is increasingly burdensome. Families in Buchanan County continue to rely on The Pantry and community resources for food.

Like those families, we too are facing higher costs and see the need for food assistance rising. It is vital that we can continue to provide our neighbors in need with the access to nutritious food and help ease that burden. **We need your donation** so together we can help close the meal gap in Buchanan County.

How can your neighbors in need...

Mail your tax-deductible gift to: Independence Area Food Pantry, 201 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NE, Independence, Ia. 50644

Or online at: **[Paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/12695127](https://www.paypal.com/us/fundraiser/charity/12695127)**

Thank you for your support,

January Rowland

Director, **Independence Area Food Pantry**

