

**It's Christmas!**  
**Children's Program**  
**December 22 during worship.**



**Through poems and songs,  
we will tell the story of Jesus.**

**Children's Christmas Program Rehearsals**

December 8, & 15 for the

**December 22nd performance**

All children welcome to join in the fun.

Siblings, grandkids, friends, neighbors; invite them all to join in the fellowship of preparation for Jesus' birth.

**Advent means "Coming."**

During Advent we mark the beginning of a new Christian year. Advent comes from the Latin which means "coming." The Advent season, which begins on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day and ends on sunset on Christmas Eve, proclaims and prepares us for the comings of Christ: in final victory at the end of time, in our daily experiences through Word and Holy Spirit, and in his humble birth in Bethlehem. The colors for Advent are purple, which emphasizes royalty and penitence, or blue, which emphasizes joyful anticipation and is associated with the Virgin Mary. A holy Advent prepares us for the joyful celebration of Christmas.

**Commitment Sunday**

On **Sunday, November 24**, we celebrated our annual **Commitment Sunday** with the presentation of commitments cards at the close of the service. This act of devotion and worship demonstrates our gratitude to God and expresses our hope for our church's flourishing and provides helpful information to the Finance Committee to do budget planning for 2020. Thank you to all who have completed their commitment card and have turned it in. If you have not turned in your 2020 Commitment Card, you will receive a new one in the mail soon or you may pick one up on Sundays or at the church office. Please make every effort to complete your card and bring it to worship by **December 15**.

**The Walk to Emmaus** experience begins with the prayerful invitation from a sponsor— or someone who has walked the journey before you. You are also expected to be a member of a local church, have a desire to strengthen your spiritual lives; are willing to dedicate their lives to God in an ongoing manner.

Men's Walk is Thursday, January 16, 2020 to Sunday, January 19, 2020 Women's Walk is Thursday, January 23, 2020 to Sunday, January 26, 2020. Both Walks will be at the Good Counsel Retreat Center; in near by Mankato, MN. Interested persons may contact Pastor Greg, 218-310-8813; Sharon Nelson, 507-923-0587; or Carole Evans, 507-210-6971 to know more.

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