



*December*  
*2021*

a publication of Fellowship Lutheran Church, Rev. Robin Wargowsky, Pastor  
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*"Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art,  
dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart."*

*Born thy people to deliver, born a child, and yet a king;  
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all-sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne."  
(words to "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" by Charles Wesley)*

Dear Fellowship Members and Friends,

During the four weeks of Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth. We contemplate the first coming of Jesus as Savior, and anticipate his promised second coming. And amid the flurry of Christmas preparations, we look for practical ways to observe the holiness of the season in our everyday lives.

In her Advent devotional, Kate Bowler writes,

Advent is preparation for the great inversion: God coming to Earth in the form of a baby; the ruler of the cosmos trapped in a squalling package of helpless flesh. He was born to save us—and he will—but first he must melt our hearts, appearing not as a sage or a philosopher or an emperor but as a cold little child with no home. He disarms us with his tender vulnerability and summons us to enter his world as little children, too...

Now that 2021 has shaken our world all over again, our inner desires and deepest needs are revealed. We see the world as it has always been. And we are here, waiting with bated breath for the kingdom of God to break in. This is the season of almost. We learn to sit in the faint glow of a long Advent, the shorter days and endless nights. This is the season for all of us who need that extra hour of darkness, preferably under a blanket near the Christmas tree, to feel the immensity of what we've gained and what we've lost...And as we anticipate Christ's birth together, may we experience the stubborn hope of Christmas, joy in the midst of sorrow, a love that knows no bounds, and a transcendent peace amid a world on fire.

Jesus can't be born soon enough.

See you in church!

*Pastor Robin*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**In-person Worship** With the number of COVID cases still high, we are asking that you wear a mask for in-person worship, even if you are fully vaccinated.

**Holy Communion** Consecrated communion kits can be picked up in the church office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon for those unable to attend in-person.

### Donation Opportunities

#### Smoky Row Food Pantry Needs for December

- Baby items, such as diapers 2-3-4, wipes
- Household supplies, such as laundry detergent, dish soap, cleaning and disinfecting products
- Winter coats, hats, and gloves for children and adults

Please place your donations in the tubs located in the Narthex during church service hours, or during published office hours - Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm. Thank you!

#### Meals on Wheels

Friday, December 17	Farel	Friday, January 21	Engen
Saturday, December 18	Goleb	Saturday, January 15	Cardimen

#### Upcoming Advent and Christmas Services

- Wednesday, December 1 - Midweek Advent Service (virtual)
- December 12, 5:00 p.m. - Sermon and Song Service
- December 19, 10:00 a.m. - Sermon and Song Service
- December 19, 5:00 p.m. - Quiet Christmas Service
- December 24, 5:30 p.m. - Early Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 24, 7:30 p.m. - Late Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 26, 10:00 a.m. - Christmas Lessons & Carols Service (no 5:00 p.m. service that day)

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Services** If you plan on attending our in-person Christmas Eve services, please sign-up on the table in the narthex and indicate which service you will attend or call the office with that information. We will also stream our 5:30 p.m. service on our YouTube channel and copy to Facebook after the service.

**Quiet Christmas Service** on Sunday, December 19th at 5:00 p.m. A peaceful worship service for those who struggle with finding the joy of the Christmas season because of a recent change or loss due to death, divorce, sickness or unfortunate or tragic circumstances. All are welcome!

**Poinsettias** may be purchased to decorate the altar for Christmas Eve service. You may purchase them in honor of a special person or occasion, in memory of a loved one or to the Glory of God. These dedications will be inserted in the bulletin Christmas Eve. There is a sign-up sheet on the board in the Narthex. Please make payment by placing your check in the envelope marked Christmas Poinsettias. The deadline for ordering and paying for poinsettias is December 19th and each plant is \$9.00.

**EFT'S** If you would like to make changes to your current EFT, please notify Tracy Farel, our financial secretary. She's in the office Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 9:00 a.m. - 12 noon (614) 889-0113. If we do not hear from you, your EFT will remain the same for 2021. If you are interested in beginning an EFT, please let Tracy know and she will help you get started.

**Worship Servers Needed!** If you are able to help out at our 10:00 a.m. Worship service or for our Christmas Eve service, please let either Tracy Farel or Pastor Robin know. Lectors, counters, and greeters are needed.

**Give to Fellowship with Your Smartphone with Vanco Mobile** - If you would like to give to Fellowship with your smartphone, please download Vanco's new smartphone app, **Vanco Mobile**. Vanco Mobile will enable anyone to donate at anytime to Fellowship. It makes it easy to give instantaneously for a regular gift, a recurring gift, or a special occasion gift.

**Kroger Plus Fundraising Information:** If you would like to register your Kroger card for the Community Rewards Program, please contact Pastor Robin or the church office. Thank you so much for participating in this fundraiser!

**Do You Order From Amazon?** If so, then try Amazon Smile to support Fellowship Lutheran Church! First, go to Amazon Smile and choose Fellowship Lutheran Church, Columbus, OH as your charity. Then, shop as usual and Fellowship will receive a percentage of your purchase. It's that easy!

**Thrivent Members** - For those of you with choice dollars. don't forget that Fellowship can be a recipient of those dollars. Thank you to all who have donated this way in the past!

**Staying Connected Program for the Elderly** - Did you know that Ohio has a program for the elderly to "stay connected?" You get to pick the hour to receive the phone call. For more information, here is the link: <https://aging.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/aging/care-and-living/get-help/staying-connected/>

### Attendance Information (In-person & virtual)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
10/3	21/6/23 views	11/7	33/5/19 views
10/10	31/5/21 views	11/14	32/-/13 views
10/17	21/7/26 views	11/21	30/3/16 views
10/24	36/8/32 views	11/28	24/4/19views
10/31	35/6/24 views		



The season of Advent has begun, and we move forward celebrating the birth of Jesus. As the first candle of Advent was lit in the sanctuary on Sunday, Pastor reminded us that it is a sign of expectant hope, a flame of anticipation that points to God’s mighty deeds in a dark world desperate for God’s radiant love.

In John 14:27, Jesus said *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid.”*

**Hope and peace.** Through our faith in God, we extend our hope and peace to others. I am reminded of the words I heard during a recent visit to the Smoky Row Food Pantry. I was asking about specific donations and how soon they might be needed. During our brief discussion, I was reminded that God’s hand was at work when items seem to come to the pantry when they are most needed—so well said! The donations from Fellowship Lutheran Church (FLC) and the Thrivent Action grants seem to be the right items arriving at the right time.

Thank you to the members of FLC for your ongoing help at the pantry (Darcy Dom), and your support (all of you)—pumpkins, food donations, school supplies, and coats/hats/mittens. The items are moving quickly to the hands of those in need.

One of the FLC donations in November...



**Our next venture.** Through Advent, Christmas, and the remainder of the year, Outreach will be coordinating the giving to Goodgifts to support work in 88 countries, sponsored by ELCA. Please select an ornament, or multiple ornaments, from the wreath located in the Narthex. The dollar amount noted on the ornament is the donation for that item. You may write a check payable to Fellowship Lutheran Church, and note Goodgifts in the memo—or you may donate to FLC electronically by selecting Goodgifts on the new smartphone Vanco Mobile app. Thank you!

**Church Staff**

Pastor	Rev. Robin Wargowsky
Treasurer	Todd Engen
Financial Secretary	Tracy Farel
Office Secretary	Tracy Farel
Pianist	Amy Wargowsky
Sub. Pianist/Organist	David Fleisher
Choir/Band Director	George Biemel
Custodian	Kenneth Hunt

**Executive Committee**

President	Kathryn Tucker
Vice-President	George Biemel
Secretary	Sonya Thelin Pastor Robin

**Congregational Life**

Director	Cindy Frey
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**Education & Youth**

Director	Dianna Roll
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**Outreach**

Director	Carol Jaeger
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**Stewardship & Support**

Director	John Votino
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**Worship**

Director	Karen Harris
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***Thank you for your leadership!!!***

## Worship Servers Schedule for December 2021

<b>Date</b>	<b>December 5</b>	<b>December 12</b>	<b>December 19</b>	<b>December 26</b>
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Sonya Thelin	Donna Williamson	George Biemel	
<b>Counter</b>	Jim Jaeger	George Biemel		
<b>Greeter</b>	Katheryn Tucker	Bill Lude		
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Karen Harris	Carol Scantland	Carol Scantland	Kathy & Tracy Farel

<b>Date</b>	<b>December 24, 5:30</b>	<b>December 24, 7:30</b>
<b>Lay Reader</b>		Ruth Albert
<b>Counter</b>	---	
<b>Greeter</b>		
<b>Altar Guild</b>		

### Worship Servers Needed!

We have not yet returned to our full schedule of worship servers due to COVID. If you can fill any of our openings for readers, counters or greeters or help out in future months, please call or email Tracy or Pastor Robin. Thanks!



**FOR OUR MEMBERS:**

- |                                 |                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Fritzi Bear</b>              | <b>Lillian Kachic</b>          |
| <b>Sam &amp; Maxine Brunner</b> | <b>Frank &amp; Leena LeMay</b> |
| <b>Major N Crispin</b>          | <b>Sonja Meighen</b>           |
| <b>Byron Engen</b>              | <b>Joshua Mott</b>             |
| <b>Barb Fisher</b>              | <b>Stacy Niedecker</b>         |
| <b>Margery Gress</b>            | <b>Martha Sampson</b>          |
| <b>Cheryl Hamilton</b>          | <b>Ray &amp; Carol Ward</b>    |
| <b>Karen Henry</b>              | <b>Bill Zahn</b>               |
| <b>Zach Jaeger</b>              |                                |

**FOR OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS:**

- Joan Albert**, Ruth Albert's mother
- Rosemary Craig**, Cindy Frey's mother
- Sharon Gray**, Karen Harris' friend
- Marc Hamilton**, Cheryl Hamilton's son
- Jo Anne Harvey**, Donavon Johnson's friend
- Pat Henceforth**, Rev. Ron Bott's friend
- Thomas Herbert**, visitor to Fellowship
- Chris Johnson**, Bruce Johnson's sister-in-law
- Orin McMonigle**, Karen Harris' friend
- Harry Swearengen**, Bill Lude's friend
- Pastor Libby Toler**, Ruth Albert's friend
- Becky & Matt Trefz & Keegan**, Cindy Frey's friends
- Hayden Valesky**, Votino's great nephew

**DEATHS:**

- June Blake**, Karen Harris's aunt
- Jere Kunkle**, Jim Jaeger's high school classmate's husband
- Joseph Profeta**, John Votino's business partner's father
- George Seckle**, Martha Sampson's brother
- Kyla Thompson**, Pastor Robin & Amy Wargowsky's friend
- Mike Walter**, Jim and Carol Jaeger's friend
- Matt Weinandy**, Andy Smith's cousin

**December Birthdays**

- |                   |       |
|-------------------|-------|
| Allen Farel       | 12/6  |
| Ian King          | 12/7  |
| Lauren Scantland  | 12/8  |
| Major Crispin Jr. | 12/9  |
| John Votino       | 12/10 |
| Kelly Votino      | 12/17 |
| Jase Cleveland    | 12/18 |
| Fritzi Bear       | 12/21 |
| Angela Kidd       | 12/21 |
| Pete Meighen      | 12/23 |
| Darcy Dom         | 12/24 |
| Carol Ward        | 12/24 |
| Barb Fisher       | 12/25 |
| Heather Tonn      | 12/25 |
| Carol Scantland   | 12/28 |



*Happy Birthday to those celebrating birthdays this month! This list reflects the information we have in our computer at this time. We welcome your corrections and additions!*

**December Anniversaries**

- |                      |       |
|----------------------|-------|
| Lori & Jason Hobbins | 12/09 |
|----------------------|-------|





# December 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>28</b> 10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Decorate Church 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 8:00 pm - CJMC	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 10:00 am - Worship 11:00 am - Executive 11:30-2:30 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8:00 pm - CJMC	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:00 pm - Worship Team (zoom)	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 8:00 pm - CJMC	<b>17</b> 7:30 pm - BAPS	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC 5:00 pm - Worship	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:00 pm - Council	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8:00 pm - CJMC	<b>24 Christmas Eve</b> 5:30 pm - Eve Service 7:30 pm - Eve Service <b>Office closed</b>	<b>25 Christmas</b> 11:00-12:30 - CJMC
<b>26</b> 10:00 am - Worship 11:30-3:00 - CJMC	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:00 pm - CJMC	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>	<b>1 New Year's Day</b>

**Fellowship Lutheran Church**  
7350 Sawmill Road  
Columbus, OH 43235

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



*Our Purpose:* To share God's love and grace through our words and actions.

*Our Vision:* To be a diverse, thriving community of faith where all are welcome to celebrate God's love and grace.

***December 2021 Newsletter***