## **THE LAMP**

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

## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2022 JANUARY

SUNDAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	01
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
Second Sunday in		10 am- 12pm Prayer	7pm Confirmation	9:30am Women's Bible		
Christmas 8:30am		Shawl		Study		
Worship and Sunday				1:30-3 pm Pastor's		
School Program				Office Hours @ ALC		
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	9am LWR Quilting	10 am- 12pm Prayer	7pm Confirmation	1:30-3 pm Pastor's		
· ·	6:30pm Council Meeting	Shawl		Office Hours @ ALC		
Communion						
ALC Budget Hearing to						
follow service						
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Baptisim of Our Lord		10 am- 12pm Prayer	7pm Confirmation	1:30-3 pm Pastor's		
8:30am Worship and		Shawl		Office Hours @ ALC		
Communion						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Third Sunday after	9am LWR Quilting	10 am- 12pm Prayer	7pm Confirmation	1:30-3 pm Pastor's		
Epiphany 8:30am		Shawl		Office Hours @ ALC		
Worship and						
Communion Annual						
Congrgational Meeting						
to Follow Service						
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
Fourth Sunday after		Council President: Maureen Even 319 827-3270				
Epiphany 8:30am	Pastor, Kristen Corr Rod 563-212-1366					
Worship and	Church Phone: 827-6626 Web Address: www.americanlutheranjesup.org					
Communion	Church e-mail: secretary@americanlutheranjesup.org					
Community Service of	Pastor's e-mail: pastor@americanlutheranjesup.org					
Prayer for Christian						
Unity, hosted by ALC at 4:30pm						

# Readers

January 2<sup>nd</sup>: Sunday School

January 9th: Sue Hoey

January 16th: January 23rd: January 30th:

## **Ushers**

**Wayne Schneider** 

# LAMP NEWSLETTER



# LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

**2021 EDITION ISSUE 505** 

Dear friends in Christ,

Sometimes the time after Christmas feels like a letdown— as we put away our decorations and our Christmas break ends and we have to go back to our normal lives, we are no longer in that season that the famous song describes as "the most wonderful time of the year."

During these post-Christmas days, I like to reflect on this poem by Howard Thurman:

The Work of Christmas By Howard Thurman

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken, to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among the people, to make music in the heart.

This poem reminds me that Christmas isn't about a day, it's about God coming into this world in the person of Jesus Christ. And Jesus Christ spent his entire life and ministry showing us how God wants us to live—in ways that bring peace and caring for others, especially those most vulnerable. So now, we continue on this work of following Jesus, of living how he showed us to live.

This year, as the Covid-19 pandemic continues, we have recently heard the depressing news of a new variant of Covid- Omicron. This new Omicron variant is more contagious than previous variants. Because it spreads so easily, public health experts are saying that the best things we can do to protect ourselves and those around us is to get vaccinated and boosted, to wear a mask in crowded spaces, and to stay home if we are sick. Early data is indicating that the booster (3rd dose of vaccine) is especially important in the fight against the Omicron variant, to give the immune system extra strength to fight this variant that is extra contagious.

When we do these things, we are living out Jesus' call to love and care for each other. Even if we expect that we ourselves might not get very sick with Covid, vaccines, boosters, masks, and staying home when we feel sick help us to prevent spreading Covid to others who might be more vulnerable to severe disease. This also helps our health care workers, who are currently exhausted and overwhelmed by the burden that Covid is placing on our health care system.

I'm really, really tired of the pandemic, and of pandemic precautions. I'm willing to bet that you are, too. But it helps me to remember that when I follow pandemic precautions, I am living out my faith in a very concrete way, taking care of those around me, and especially those most vulnerable.

Peace,
Pastor Kristen

# Treasurer's Report

3 Kepon				
		11/30/2021	10/31/2021	9/30/2021
CHECKING ACCOUNT				
Beginning balance 11/01/2021		\$11,155.59	\$13,258.77	\$10,604.22
Receipts				
Deposits		\$13,525.69	\$14,318.30	\$12,336.83
Transfer from Improvement		\$9,106.05	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer from Memorial		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer from Community Meal Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer from Youth Ministry		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Trnasfer from Benevolence		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer from Line of Credit-Current Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer from Line of Credit-Improvement Fu	nd	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Sub Total	\$33,787.33	\$27,577.07	\$22,941.05
Expenditures		,	,	
Checks		\$11,258.92	\$11,743.06	\$4,936.81
EFT payments		\$4,189.82	\$4,188.42	\$4,195.47
Transfer out for Simply Giving		\$990.00	\$440.00	\$550.00
Transfer to Memorial Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer to Improvement Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Transfer to Benevolence		\$50.00	\$50.00	\$0.00
Sabbatical Set Aside		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pay to Line of Credit-Current Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Pay to Line of Credit-Improvement Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	Sub Total	\$16,488.74	\$16,421.48	\$9,682.28
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Ending Balance 11/30/2021		\$17,298.59	\$11,155.59	\$13,258.77
ACCOUNT BALANCES				
Improvement Fund		\$20,840.21	\$28,501.26	\$28,111.26
Improvement rund		720,040.21	720,301.20	720,111.20
Memorial Fund		\$9,060.24	\$8,860.24	\$8,860.24
Designated to Other Programs	¢g ∩2∩ Ε7	75,000.24	70,000.24	70,000.24
Undesignated to Other Programs  Undesignated Funds				
	\$1,029.07	Ć427.C2	Ć427.C2	Ć427.C2
Community Meal Fund		\$427.63	\$427.63	\$427.63
Youth Ministry		\$6,316.84	\$6,316.84	\$6,316.84
Sabbatical Set Aside		\$3,608.38	\$3,608.38	\$3,608.38
Checking Acount		\$17,298.59	\$11,155.59	\$13,258.77
Total		\$57,551.89	\$58,869.94	\$60,583.12
Banklowa Line of Credit - Current Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Banklowa Line of Credit - Improvement Fund		\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total		\$57,551.89	\$58,869.94	\$60,583.12

## American Lutheran Church November Council Meeting November 8, 2021

President Maureen Even called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Present were Pastor Kristen Corr Rod, Maureen Even, Mike Waring, Shirley Bergman, Sue Hoey, Christa Leach, Beth Stanek, Loren Corkery, and Sheila Collins.

Maureen led devotions from Ruth 1: 1-22, a reading from *Christ in Our Home*, and concluded with prayer.

<u>Secretary's Report</u> – Christa Leach made a motion to accept the Secretary's Report as written. Second by Sue Hoey. Motion carried.

<u>Treasurer's Report</u> – The checking account balance at the end of October was \$11,160.59. Christa Leach made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second by Beth Stanek. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports** – Note: Full committee reports are available in a binder outside the church secretary's office.

<u>Abundant Life</u> – No report.

<u>Hospitality</u> – Scratch cupcakes were provided for the confirmands and treats after the service.

Memorial - The committee will meet in November for policy review/updating.

<u>Parish Ed</u> – Rehearsals are underway for the December 12 Christmas Program

<u>President's Report</u> – There are no concerns for either congregation. An equitable plan for rotation of church service times has been determined.

There will be a joint council meeting on December 5 at 4:30 p.m. at ALC to discuss Pastor Kristen's pay package for 2022, followed by an ALC council budget workshop. ALC's next regular council meeting will be December 12 at 6:30 p.m.

<u>Property</u> – The church basement windows have been installed. We are waiting for more quotes for snow removal. A few items needing attention were noted during the parsonage walk through on October 17. The most urgent is the replacement of the parsonage refrigerator. Sheila Collins made a motion to approve spending up to \$1,000.00 from the Improvement Fund to replace the parsonage refrigerator. Second by Christa Leach. Motion carried.

<u>Scholarship</u> – No report.

<u>Technology</u> – The committee is working on getting bids for a new soundboard and accessory equipment.

<u>Worship and Music</u> – Hymns have been chosen through January 2022. There were 5 confirmands and 95 people in total attendance at Confirmation on October 31. Candles were lit in remembrance of 21 saints on All

Saints Sunday, November 7. Chimes are planned for the Community Thanksgiving Service at UMC on November 21. The First Sunday of Advent Service will include a Blessing of the Greens.

<u>Youth</u> – October's gathering was cancelled due to the weather. The next gathering is tentatively scheduled for November 21<sup>st</sup> to decorate the church for the Christmas season followed by a pizza party. Plans for a shoe drive are being put together for fundraising. <a href="https://funds2orgs.com/faq/">https://funds2orgs.com/faq/</a>

#### Pastor's Report -

In the last month--

- 2 communion visits (Jubilee)
- 1 baptism-- Zelda Jean McAlister (the baby of Charlie's sister Emily)
- 2 students for 5th grade Communion class-- Kohl Nuehring and Caroline Rod

Kohl received his first communion on October 31 (Reformation Day)

5 students were confirmed on October 31--

Kaylie Bergman, Hannah Borland, Jaymn Loyd, Karsten Nuehring, and Katelyn Zelle

It has been a busier than usual month. I have spent lots of time preparing for special services on Reformation Day and All Saints Day. Our family was also busier than normal, with many check-ups and doctor appointments for my kids. Charlie has been busy serving on the Search Committee to find a new Director for Camp EWALU. (They found one!)

The Ministerial pastors are busy planning for the Thanksgiving service which will be held on November 21 at UMC at 4:30pm. We are also planning on having a Blue Christmas service at FPC on December 21. (This is a service for those who are having a hard time at Christmastime.)

Thank you to Mary Adams for organizing the Mitten & Glove tree- those will be donated to Jay's Closet for this winter. Also thank you to Mary for organizing the donations for Bremwood Lutheran Home.

This will be a busy week for me regarding ministries beyond our congregations-- Food Pantry Board meeting on Tuesday, Ministerial Meeting on Wednesday, and Pastor's Conference Meeting in Cedar Falls on Thursday morning, followed by a Zoom presentation for the Moses Project.

My next Synod Council meeting will be on Saturday, November 20.

Pastor Kristen will be on vacation the week beginning Sunday, December 26. A lay led service will be held that day. Times for Christmas Eve services for both congregations are being determined.

#### **New Business**

Shirley Bergman is working on finalizing committee policies and making them available for council approval. This month council reviewed Hospitality and Outreach, Audit, and Nominating committee policies. Shirley will post a notice in the December LAMP of who is currently serving on specific committees, their term of service, and vacancies open to volunteers.

A special offering for ELCA World Hunger will be collected on Sunday, December 5 when Bishop Kevin Jones is preaching here. The regular Christmas offering designation will be finalized at the next council meeting.

The biennial report for the Secretary of State has been resubmitted.

#### **Old Business**

We are still getting bids for parking lot snow removal.

The annual review with Pastor Kristen was October 31. Suggested areas of congregational growth include education for younger communion, more member participation as liturgy readers, more lay help with shut-in care/visitation.

Since Covid numbers are down, we will return to masks being optional instead of highly recommended and regular communion with prepackaged cups also available.

**Correspondence** – None.

#### **Deacon Assignments for December:**

5 – Sue Hoey

12 – Mike Waring

19 -

26 – Maureen Even

Mike Waring made a motion to adjourn. Second by Christa Leach. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sheila Collins, Secretary

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sunday Worship time is 8:30 AM December 5-February 27.

**Donations:** If you would like to donate to ALC member **Stephanie Winkelpleck** (to help with her medical expenses for Acute Myeloid Leukemia) you can designate your donation on your check.

## Caring Bridge link:

https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/stephaniewittwinkelpleck.

**ALC Committees**: Council will be looking to fill committee openings for 2022. Please consider sharing your time and talents as we try to establish a three-year rotation. We currently have openings on **Property**, **Technology**, **Hospitality**, **Worship and Music**.

**Prayer Shawl** meets Tuesdays, 10 AM - noon. Enjoy fellowship while knitting and crocheting. New members welcome. The shawls and blankets are shared with those who are ill, grieving, and in need of comfort.

**Quilting for Lutheran World Relief:** Our next work day is January 10, 2022 at 1:00 PM. We gather every second and fourth Monday to cut, pin, sew, iron, and tie quilts. Come join us!

**Sheets for Quilting needed:** Sheets for quilt backs can be put in the back pew. Thanks for your help.

**Thank you from the NE IA Synodical Women's Organization: E**ach year you bless thousands of families with quilts and kits. Totals for the Northeast IA Synod: Quilts-4536, Baby-893, School-4399, Personal-1976, Fabric-105, blankets-65. Thanks to you and all your awesome gals, Jesus loves you! Lea Norlinger, Mason City, IA (NE IA SWO board & LWR Contact).

**Thank you:** Thank you so much for the beautiful prayer shawl. The craftsmanship and color are gorgeous and it will definitely be used and enjoyed each and every day. God Bless You All- Joanne Thompson

**Thank you:** How nice to be thought of in such a "Warm manner." Love the Prayer Shawl. Dar Thompson

**Thank you:** Thank you for your donation of 37.3 lbs of food. Bless your giving heart. -Independence Area Food pantry

**Service of Prayer for Christian Unity**: The Jesup Ministerial will be putting on the Community Service of Prayer for Christian Unity on Sunday, January 30. The service will be at 4:30pm, hosted by American Lutheran Church.

#### **EVENTS**

#### Sunday January 2<sup>nd</sup>:

8:30 am worship and Sunday School Christmas Program

#### Sunday January 23rd:

Annual Congregational Meeting following the service

#### Sunday January 30th:

4:30pm Community Service of Prayer for Christian Unity, hosted by American Lutheran Church

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Military members: Jordan and Justin are at the 185th Air Refueling Wing in Sioux City, IA. Please contact the church office to add other names who serve. We'd like to remember them in our prayers. If you know of anyone else serving in the armed forces, please contact the church office

(<u>secretary@americanlutheranjesup.o</u> rg) or (827-6626). We'd like to remember them in our prayers.

\*\*Pastoral Care: Pastor Kristen is available for pastoral care by phone at 563-212-1366.

**Pastoral Office Hours:** Thursdays 1:30-3pm

# Celebrations

# **January Birthdays**

Charles Clayton	1/1	Kimberly Conner	1/13	Ella Frush	1/20
Paula Clayton	1/3	Gavin Putnam	1/13	Greg Lysne	1/20
Kendall Ricklefs	1/4	Clayton Wolf	1/13	Sara Rigdon	1/21
Rayla Tonne	1/6	James Crow	1/14	Olivia Frush	1/22
Kendall Rachuy	1/7	Tami Hill	1/14	Jordyn Bergman	1/23
Alan Renner	1/7	Kenny Olson	1/14	Beverly Hill	1/23
Andrea Anhalt	1/8	Jan Rachuy	1/14	Chris Waring	1/23
Mike Loyd	1/8	Creed Rolison	1/14	Stella Johnson	1/25
Robert Clayton II	1/10	Judy Anderson	1/15	Skylar Masteller	1/26
Connie Gosse	1/10	Collin Clayton	1/16	Jenna Amling	1/27
Chad Hill	1/10	Grayson Pearce	1/17	Ron Gosse	1/27
Cyndi Nuehring	1/10	Amber Wiskus	1/17	Renee McAtee	1/27
Clyde Schmit	1/11	Sara Borland	1/18	Larry Thompson	1/30
Joe Crow	1/12	Jesse Blad	1/19	Ray Zummak	1/30
		Amy Rahe	1/19	Zach Erpelding	1/31
				Lainey Mostek	1/31

# **January Baptisms**

Elston Goodenbour	1/1	Ryan Becker	1/13	Jason Thompson	1/21
Kaye Jones	1/1	Katie Stalheim	1/13	Katie Clark	1/22
Caroline Rod	1/2	Jodi West	1/13	Lori Mattson	1/22
Kathy Rachuy	1/3	Grace Witt	1/13	Amanda Phillips	1/22
Kash Niichel	1/5	Cole McLeod	1/15	Sara Harrington	1/23
Chloe Simmons	1/7	Connie Gosse	1/16	Brandy Furler	1/24
Kohl Nuehring	1/8	Michael Mostek Jr.	1/16	Jacob Clark	1/25
Kyle Nuehring	1/10	Angie Maus	1/17	Rayla Tonne	1/25
Marcy Ruckdaschel	1/10	Harper Fox	1/19	Brian Hayek	1/26
Rachel Menuey	1/11	Erica Soppe	1/19	Christy Phillips	1/26
Lynette Renner	1/11	Clyde Schmit	1/20	Robert Derifield	1/27
Ruby Schutte	1/11	Emily Clark	1/21	Danny Kopplin	1/30
		Andy Dalziel	1/21		

# **January Wedding Anniversaries**

Paul & Andrea Anhalt	1/1/2005	16
James & Jennifer Anderson	1/10/2008	13
Robert & Paula Clayton I	1/13/1962	59
Wayne & Doris Natvig	1/13/1972	49
Andy & Tina Dalziel	1/16/1981	40
Gene & Debra Putnam	1/16/1971	50