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| Mid Week UpdateDecember 12, 2018 |

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| ***Staff Christmas Gifts***God has blessed Morning Star with wonderful people with whom we share God’s ministry and who provide terrific support to our church family.  One of the ways we show our appreciation to our staff is with a Christmas bonus.  If you would like to contribute to this end-of-year gift for our staff please return your gift by December 20.  Thank you all for your continued generosity.  |

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| A quick reminder that the Angel Tree Gifts and Angel Gift Cards are due back to Morning Star this **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14!** A huge THANK YOU to everyone who is helping to “Bring the Light of Christ” to the children and families served this year!  **\*\*\*We still have 2 little Angels left on the tree, Chyanne, age 12 and Macey, age 10\*\*\*** Won’t you consider helping one of these little girls?  We are also hoping to receive a few more gift cards for the families of Restored Hope. |

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| **Youth & Kids Christmas Program** ***All are invited to join us Sunday, December 16 at 10:30 for the program!*** |

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| **Christmas Eve Parking**Be prepared for needing to park on the street or away from the doors of the Church as we are expecting many visitors this Christmas Eve.  Thank you for being a welcoming light to those who will be here that evening!  |

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| Please feel free to join some strolling carolers at either of the Christmas Eve Services.  No official rehearsal ~ just come and join us!  |

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| ***The Church Office & Preschool are closed December 24 & 25andDecember 31 & January 1. Thank you!*** |

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| More lanterns are needed for our Christmas Eve services.  If you have one (or several) we can borrow, please let the Angie Hawkins or the Church Office know.  Thanks!   |

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| We will have an Open House on Sunday, January 13, 2019 from Noon to 1:30 PM in Fellowship Hall to give a Morning Star welcome to our family, the Khawajazadas, who have recently arrived from Afghanistan.  |

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| The Sarah Circle will have their annual Christmas Party on Thursday, December 13 at Jericho's Restaurant at 12:30 PM.  Hope you can join us!The Lydia Circle will meet on Tuesday, December 18 at 4 PM in the Library.  |

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| Council was thankful and excited to approve six new families as Members of Morning Star to be installed during the 8:30 AM service on Sunday, December 16.  Please introduce yourself to our new Members! The Council approved a budget for 2019 subject to the Congregation’s approval at the January 27, 2019 Annual Meeting.  Council is most grateful to the hard and skilled work of our Treasurer, Lori Mueller, in assembling this budget and addressing Council and Committee questions and input.  And, Council is thankful for the generous pledges that Members have made that will help address our budgetary needs.  If you have not submitted your pledge, we remain in need of those pledges and ask that you give prayerful thought to submitting your pledge.  Council reviewed a wonderful effort on the part of our Evangelism Committee and Pastor Chris to assist Members in inviting friends, neighbors, co-workers and/or family to attend our Christmas Eve services.  Bill Ervin has designed a beautiful invitation to our Christmas Eve services that we each can hand to a friend, neighbor, co-worker or family member.  The invitation cards are available in the Welcome Center.  Council encourages each Member to deliver at least one card to a friend, neighbor, co-worker or family member.  Thank you!  |

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| The Morning Star Office and Preschool is having issues emailing those with a cox.net email accounts.  We are working to rectify this issue but until this has been fixed, please call the Church Office for urgent matters.  Thank you!  |

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| Staff, Committees and Ministry leaders please turn in your annual report by January 3.  Thank you  |

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| ***Bible Studies at Morning Star***· Wednesdays, Lectionary study at 9 AM (Lg Conf Rm)· Thursdays, Joint Ministry study at 1 PM (Table Grace)· Fridays, Lay-Led study at 7 PM (Welcome Center) |

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| If you are hospitalized, please call the Church Office for prayer and pastoral care.  |

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| Worship Assistants during the 10:30 AM service are desperately needed.  If you would like to help greet, usher, read scripture or serve communion, please contact the Church Office.  Thank you!  |

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| **AA Meeting at Morning StarAlcoholics Anonymous will host a meeting in the Chapel at 5:30 PM on Tuesdays for those needing recovery.**  |

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| Please make sure to notify the Church Office of any meetings to make sure your space is reserved.  |

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| **SERVING THIS WEEK*****Acolytes***                 8:30 Sophie & Molly Wolfe10:30 Luke Beck & Jack Neussendorfer***Communion***              8:30 Francy Van Meter, Don Lieberknecht & Virgene Kobold10:30 Andy & Teggy Maxwell***Greeters***                    8:30 Larry & Joyce Kochen***PowerPoint***          10:30 Bill Ervin***Readers***                    8:30 Rod Anderson10:30 Stacie Neussendorfer***Ushers***                       8:30 Bob Sweetwood, Alan Berk, Don Daubman & Kyle Wolfe                                         10:30 Ric Miller & Dan Mooney***Coffee Hosts***          Worship & Music Committee |

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| ***Wednesday, December 12*****1:30** PM Blue Christmas Service & Luncheon (Chapel)4:30 PM Worship Ensemble Rehearsal (Sanctuary)6:00 PM Christmas Program Rehearsal & Dinner6:30 PM Confirmation Class (Lg Conf Rm)6:30 PM Evening Bible Study (Welcome Center) ***Thursday, December 13*****9 AM-4 PM** Preschool Class (Chapel)12:30 PM Sarah Circle (Jericho’s)7:00 PM DBSA (Library, Lg Conf Rm, Chapel) ***Friday, December 14***9 AM-4 PM Preschool Class (Chapel)7:00 PM Lay-Led Bible Study (Welcome Center) ***Saturday, December 15***10:00 AM Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal5:30 PM Evening Worship ***Sunday, December 16***8:00 AM Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)8:30 AM Worship Service & Receiving New Members9:30 AM SS, Choir Rehearsal & Fellowship Coffee10:30 AM Worship Service & Christmas Program5:00 PM Staff & Council Christmas Party***Monday, December 17***9 AM-4 PM Preschool Class (Chapel) ***Tuesday, December 18*****9 AM-4 PM** Preschool Class (Chapel)9:30 AM Staff Meeting (Sm Conf Rm)11:40 AM Preschool Chapel (Sanctuary)4:00 PM Lydia Circle (Library)5:30 PM AA Meeting (Chapel)5:30 PM Personnel Committee Meeting (Library) ***Wednesday, December 19*****9 AM-4 PM** Preschool Class (Chapel)9 AM Bible Study (Lg Conf Rm)4:30 PM Preschool Nativity Play (Sanctuary & Chapel)6:00 PM Faith Formation Committee (Welcome Center)6:30 PM Confirmation Class (Lg Conf Rm) ***Thursday, December 20*****9 AM-4 PM** Preschool Class (Chapel)7:00 PM DBSA (Library, Lg Conf Rm, Chapel) ***Friday, December 21*****9:00** AM Poinsettia Delivery (Chapel)9 AM-4 PM Preschool Class (Chapel) ***Saturday, December 22***5:30 PM Evening Worship ***Sunday, December 23***9:30 AM Combined Worship Service ***Monday, December 24******Church Office & Preschool Closed***4:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service with Holiday Carolers & Live Nativity6:00 PM Candlelight Worship Service with Holiday Carolers & Live Nativity ***Tuesday, December 25Church Office & Preschool Closed***  |

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| ***December 16 ReadingsFirst Reading***[Zephaniah 3:14-20](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2FMorningStarOmaha.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dfe84af2af4d830b9447024ca9%26id%3D8a7640e551%26e%3D5d7c455a1c&data=02%7C01%7C%7C7e33e910413b4592cdf308d661e38f86%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636804027339561086&sdata=%2Bcs0QsIddivXfa7sD4%2FLUcOTiHMw1odvh5U7ie6%2BLig%3D&reserved=0)***Psalm***[Isaiah 12:2-6](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2FMorningStarOmaha.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dfe84af2af4d830b9447024ca9%26id%3D6bd7779447%26e%3D5d7c455a1c&data=02%7C01%7C%7C7e33e910413b4592cdf308d661e38f86%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636804027339561086&sdata=LSEt2wNYJUhCTFUsCLVMLFk%2FrSpvWxzcKER96ZCMAbw%3D&reserved=0)***Second Reading***[Philippians 4:4-7](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2FMorningStarOmaha.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dfe84af2af4d830b9447024ca9%26id%3Dd0d0fa0dd3%26e%3D5d7c455a1c&data=02%7C01%7C%7C7e33e910413b4592cdf308d661e38f86%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636804027339717331&sdata=V4kRY%2BUlZ95qLwfuWJGa84UIqKuT6pIUEWOduNkcz7c%3D&reserved=0)***Gospel***[Luke 3:7-18](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2FMorningStarOmaha.us5.list-manage.com%2Ftrack%2Fclick%3Fu%3Dfe84af2af4d830b9447024ca9%26id%3D3741534ce5%26e%3D5d7c455a1c&data=02%7C01%7C%7C7e33e910413b4592cdf308d661e38f86%7C84df9e7fe9f640afb435aaaaaaaaaaaa%7C1%7C0%7C636804027339717331&sdata=KXfNcO7NJaqViPxumTCv6AlnJymXI%2FzUqlWlFopiL5s%3D&reserved=0)  |

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| ***Morning Star mugs, pens and yard signs available from the Church Office for a small donation!***  |

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