

HAPPENINGS

December 18-25, 2022

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WELCOME GUESTS AND MEMBERS – Welcome to the Lord’s House. God bless you as you hear the Good News today of His unconditional love! Jesus promised wherever two or three are gathered in His name, His presence is there. Jesus is here! We pray and know He will bless you with faith, hope, and love for your daily life through His Word and Spirit! If you have any questions, please feel free to speak to one of our ushers or greeters.



ADVENT WORSHIP
Join us every Wednesday at 7pm for Advent worship, through December 21st.

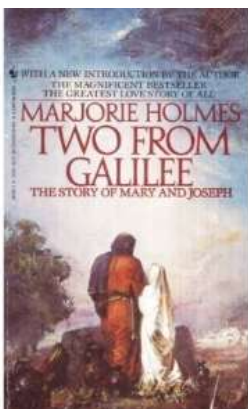
THANK YOU to the children for a great performance in the Christmas Program! And thank you to Bonnie Nowak and Sheri Brunner.



CHRISTMAS BAKE SALE TODAY! There is a bake sale during the fellowship hour today hosted by the Women’s Ministry group. The bake sale offers a chance to load up on Christmas goodies and helps support missions!



ADULT BIBLE STUDY Let your mind and heart be warmed as you learn the wonders of how God works in His creation. Feel free to get a cup of coffee first and snack before we start at 10:15 am.



BIBLE BOOKENDERS Our January book is an old classic, **Two From Galilee** by **Marjorie Holmes**. Join us at church from 7:00-8:30 pm on Tuesday, January 31. Blessings on your reading of first and foremost God's Word, and the fun books we read and share for Bible Bookenders. Questions? Contact Bonnie Nowak, Pat Harvey or Michele Lein.



COFFEE TIME Thank you to those who have faithfully made coffee and provided treats each Sunday morning. Please consider signing up to help out.



HAPPENINGS ARTICLES Don't forget to turn in your Happenings articles each week by Wednesday at noon! Email to megan@holycross-pl.org.

TIME OF GRACE Straight talk about God's Word and real hope for this life. A strong gospel message delivered in an informal Bible study style.



Subscribe to Time of Grace resources to be delivered to your email inbox daily. You will receive daily devotion emails with "Grace Moments" written devotions and "Grace Talks" video devotions. Pastor Mike Novotny, The Core, Appleton, WI, KARE (NBC 11) 10:30 am www.timeofgrace.org



MAIN STREET LIVING airs each Sunday at 9 am on WFTC Channel 29/9-2 with an episode of This Is the Life. For more information or to watch the program, go to www.mainstreetliving.com select the "Twin Cities" tab.

WHAT DOES FREE WILL MONEY BUY?

We thank you for donating during Sunday coffee hour. Your giving provides the LWML with more buying power. Coffee, creamers, cups and napkins too. All these we are able to buy for you! Treats and juice our members supply, but for the coffee and stuff on your generosity we rely.



PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have a prayer request for today, please fill out the form in the pew and put it in the offering plate. Pastor will include them in Prayer of the Church during the service. You can also email

weekly prayer requests, and any prayers that should go out to the whole congregation, to the office at megan@holycross-pl.org.

POBLO - PEOPLE OF THE BOOK LUTHERAN OUTREACH Poblo's mission is to meet the physical, social, and spiritual needs of Muslims and other immigrants and refugees in the United States by sharing the love of Jesus in practical and culturally relevant ways.



One of the ways to accomplish this is through the offering of free classes. POBLO Twin

Cities has new classes starting up, including English as a Second Language (ESL) classes meeting on **Monday & Wednesday evenings at 6:00 pm at Mt. Hope in Bloomington.** Volunteers are needed! For more information, please contact Shari Schulze, POBLO Twin Cities Coordinator, at shari@poblo.org.



Has your address, phone, or email changed? Have your adult children moved away from home? Check with Megan in the church office and see what we have on file for you and your family, or you can pick up a form to fill out in the commons area. There are some members and guests that we do not have an email or cell phone number for. Help us have accurate information in case we or other church members need to contact you.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE

Save the date! Trinity Lutheran Church in Waconia will be hosting a Lutherans for



Life / Lifelines event on **January 21, 2023 at 10:00 am.** The topic, presented by Rev. Dr. Lucas Woodford, is "Wonderfully Made: The Divine Value of Being Human," and will include a biblical conversation about abortion and end of life issues. For more information, please contact Corinne Allen (Lutherans for Life / Lifelines) at narrfarm@aol.com or 612-599-0021.



SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE The Youth Sunday School class, taught by Michele Lein, will be continuing their study on Martyrs of the church. They will begin a new study in January. Our Middle school students will study the prophecies of Jesus, the birth of Jesus and the visit of the Magi. In January students will study the sacrifices and priestly duties in the Old Testament followed by a review of Jesus' life. They have also been studying the order of the books of the Bible and learning the 10 Commandments and making a study guide. Teacher, Bonnie Nowak commented, "I am very thankful for the attendance of students and the support of the parents. I feel this class is a gift to me, and I take seriously the sacred trust that has been given to me to help instruct our young people".

Our youngest group, the "Littles" have learned that God created the world and all the animals, plants, etc. and Adam and Eve. And as we look at our world today, we can still see the wonders of God's creation and thank him for all of his blessings. We learned of God's great love and plan when he directed Noah to build that really big boat, the ark!! This month we will learn of God's promise to send a Savior and of Jesus' birth. We have a great time coloring and working on themed crafts. Teacher, Pam Hunter enjoys her time with her little guys!



DECEMBER 18 "Unlike Christmas ornaments, each baby is a unique life never to be replicated in all of history. Each life brutally snuffed out by abortion will leave the world a lesser place for it." Bradley Mattes, president of Life Issues Institute – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

HIGHER THINGS REGIONAL RETREAT Higher Things offers one- or two-day regional retreats for youth that are filled with all of the great things of a summer conference, but in a smaller setting. Youth who attend a Higher Things retreat are challenged to *Dare to be Lutheran* and inspired to a deeper faith and love for their neighbors. Upcoming events include:



- **"Unboxed"** January 6-7, 2023
St. Paul's Lutheran Church; Fort Wayne, IN
- **"Born that Way"** January 6-7, 2023
Faith Lutheran Church; Pierre, SD
- **"Ten"** January 27-28, 2023
Immanuel Lutheran Church; Broken Arrow, OK
- **"Life by Drowning"** February 17-18, 2023
Mount Calvary Lutheran Church; Lititz, PA
- **"Baptized Rite!"** February 18-19, 2023
Trinity Lutheran Church; Sheboygan, WI
- **"Who Am I?"** March 24-25, 2023
St. Paul's Lutheran Church; Minot, ND

For more information or to register, visit the Higher Things website. higherthings.org/events/retreats



MEN'S TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY - Stories for Witness Every Tuesday from 8:00-9:00 am join us for Men's Bible Study. Discover the witness value of stories. We will review the great sacred story arcing over every disciple's life and find themselves in the stories Jesus tells in the gospels. We will also consider their own stories for witness. The point of witness is just where the Christ story, the story of another, and my own story intersect. To emphasize the visual nature of Jesus' stories, art will be used extensively. Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy helps us discover the witness value of stories this week: Session 3: "The Barn Builder" (*Luke 12:13-21*)

HOLY COMMUNION is celebrated weekly. Our belief and practice is Confessional. Jesus clearly teaches He is truly present in His supper in the bread and wine. We receive miraculously, in the gift of faith, His true body and blood, given and shed for the forgiveness of sins. If



this is your confession and you have been baptized and confirmed in our church body, please commune with us. If you have questions about communing, please wait to commune until receiving instruction in one of our communion classes. Thank you. **Note:** *Communion Kits are available, if needing one please contact Pastor.*



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS Thank you to all who contributed towards the Christmas lights for the exterior of our church. They are a shining beacon on the hill!

VACANCY PASTOR GADE'S church hours are Monday & Tuesday, 7:30 am to 3:30 pm. Other times can be arranged, call 763-333-5896.



CHURCH OFFICE REPORTS - RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Contributions needed each month (General Fund): \$21,844.00 • Contributions received in November \$18,106.00

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022 - 9:00 AM ATTENDANCE

Worship: 76

Communion: 76

Bible Study: 17

Sunday School:

THIS WEEK AT HOLY CROSS

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SUNDAY	4th Sunday in Advent								
18	<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">9:00 am</td> <td>Worship with Holy Communion</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10:15 am</td> <td>Bible Study</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10:15 am</td> <td>Sunday School</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Bake Sale</td> </tr> </table>	9:00 am	Worship with Holy Communion	10:15 am	Bible Study	10:15 am	Sunday School		Bake Sale
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Dinah Gilberts
 Ben Huston
 Mui Cheng
 Earl Drangstveit
 Vivian Jobst
 Karly Oak

December 4
 December 7
 December 9
 December 9
 December 11
 December 19

Jason Kruse	December 20
Lois Helms	December 25
Carol Albrecht	December 26
Bo Brunner	December 28
Nivedita Fulbert	December 30

Upcoming

EVENTS

December 18
December 24
December 24
December 25
December 31
January 21
February 10

Bake Sale
 Christmas Eve Service – Traditional 4:00pm
 Christmas Eve Service – Contemporary 7:00pm
 Christmas Day Service
 New Year’s Eve Game Night
 Bible Bookenders
 Night to Shine