

YOUTH GROUP NEWS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

14- Wild Jacobs
18-Jaxon Volinek
31-Reid McClellan

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY**

FAMILY OF THE WEEK

participants are:

DEC 3: TBA

DEC 10: YG

DEC 17: Knipp/Chaney

HAVE YOU PICKED YOUR DATE YET? Give me a call soon!



Thanks to Donna Stahl for welcoming our 5th Grade YG Students and Teacher Kristin Semmerling into her home for the second *Angie Visit* this year. The students' enthusiasm when they returned to church from their visit was 'over the top!' Check out their photo on the YG picture page. Since Donna was a fifth grade teacher, she was ready for their chatter, laughter and friendship. **THANK YOU DONNA!** We will resume our YG Angie visits in January. If you are interested in hosting a visit, let me know. (And continued thanks to our driver, Sue DeVan, who also spoils us with treats!)

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER...

10- YG Christmas Program & Noisy Cans collection

13- YG Christmas Party

16 - Christmas Caroling (see info below)

22- NO YG classes

24 - Sunday Christmas Eve worship service at 5pm only (no morning service)

25 - MERRY CHRISTMAS

31 - New Year's Eve



Thank you for your contributions to the *Noisy Can Food Pantry*. The *Noisy Can* is available in the narthex for your donations at any time.

Cards for Troops collection totaled 453.



Thank you for your help with this caring and meaningful project for our military service members. You can deposit your cards in the box in the narthex at any time throughout the year, and they will be sent next November!



Ready for some ole' familiar Christmas Caroling? Join us... families.. couples.. singles.. on Saturday, Dec 16, at 9:30am in the church parking lot, and we'll carpool to an assisted living residence in Woodruff and then travel to another facility in Lake Tomahawk. You can even wear your silly hats, ugly sweaters, and jingle bells! We should return to church by 12:30pm. No prior experience necessary, just a big heart!



"It is Christmas every time you let God love others through you... yes, it is Christmas every time you smile at your brother and offer him your hand."

-Mother Teresa

May you feel the warmth of God's peace in your hearts this beautiful and blessed Christmas season, and a joyous and healthy New Year!

Prepared by Adele Duranso, YG Director

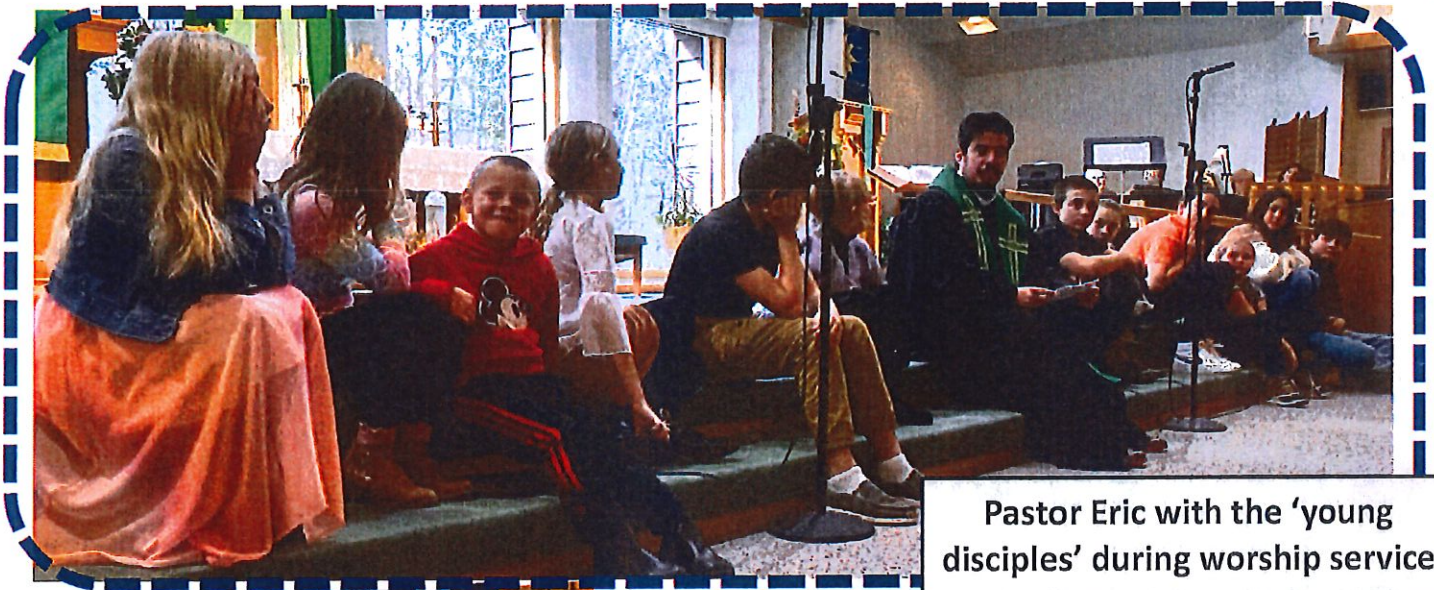
November YG Pics...



Adia, Ira, and Oren Slemmons
Family of the Week Nov 5, 2023



Cards for Troops Challenge – A new record – 453 cards!



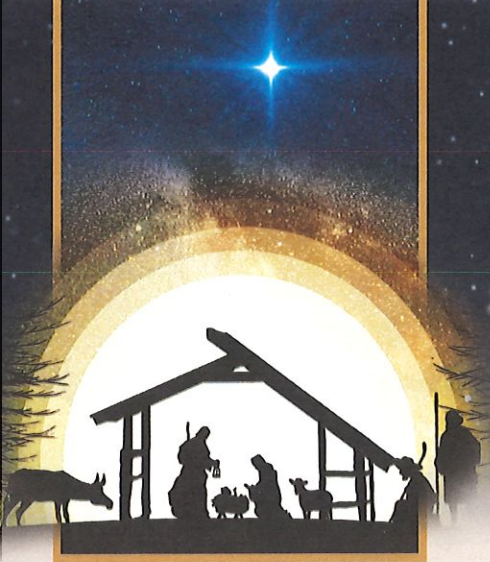
Pastor Eric with the 'young
disciples' during worship service.



Ms Donna Stahl hosts our 5th Gr students – Katelyn
Patterson, Rylyn Friedley, Molly Bruckner and Wild Jacobs



YOUTH GROUP SUNDAY! SINGING THEIR SONG TITLED
"EVERY CREATURE PRAISE THE LORD" ON NOVEMBER 12, 2023



Jesus, Immanuel... God with us.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.

JOHN 1:14 (NIV)

Advent: Timely Anticipation

As the days shorten and the nights grow colder, Christians embrace God's promise of light in the form of Jesus Christ, God with us. Heralding the beginning of the church calendar year, Advent begins on December 3rd and goes until December 24th this year. It's not every year that the fourth Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve!

Deriving from the Latin word *adventus*, the word means "coming," "approach," or "arrival." "Advent" is also a translation of the Greek *παρουσία* (*parousia*), a word historically used in the church to signify Christ's second coming. The church collectively waits with hope-filled anticipation for the arrival, "Advent," of Christ in our world, the one born in the flesh and whose presence is with us both now and eternally.

I have always found it interesting that the new church year begins roughly a month before the new calendar year. Much rides on turning the page from December 31 to January 1 — new resolutions, new starts, new beginnings. I suspect there is less consideration given to the move from Pentecost to Advent. But perhaps this is the year to make a change. If we take these liturgical seasons seriously, the seasons of the church that mark our time as believers, should — on many levels — shape how we view time, how we choose to live our time, and how we make sense of time.

Of course, there's all kinds of advice on how to adequately observe the reason for the season. But such sage-isms miss the point entirely — Advent asks us not to treat *this time* differently but to live *in time* differently altogether.

Time is strange, isn't it? It goes by extraordinarily fast when you want it to take its time or painfully slow when you need it, so very desperately, to move forward as fast as possible. Then there are moments that seem to suspend time, as if the world, itself, is circling your own orbit.

We can recall plenty of quotes about time, in which we want to believe but are rarely born out in reality: "time heals all wounds;" "all in good time;" "time will tell;" "stand the test of time;" "time is of the essence." All such idioms appear to be attempts to make our mark on time or to regulate time to our benefit.

Speaking of “standing the test of time,” we have some time-honored traditions right here, such as the **Christmas Joy Offering** of the wider Presbyterian church and our own **Christmas Offering** for MWCPC. You will find these two special envelopes with this newsletter.

Since the 1930s, fifty percent of donations to the Christmas Joy Offering have been distributed to the Board of Pensions for assistance programs that provide critical financial support to retired and active church workers and their families. The other fifty percent supports education at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color and leadership development opportunities for people of color through the Racial Equity and Women’s Intercultural Ministries of the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

The other envelope is for the Christmas Offering for MWCPC. This offering acts much like a Christmas bonus for our community of faith. It serves to help us cover our costs and extends our efforts further in the local community, country, and world.

As you plan your seasonal giving, I think the approaching first Sunday of Advent can serve as a reminder that our time is not our own. We like to pretend that it is; that we can manage it efficiently, plan accordingly... that by our sheer determination we can will it to bend to our needs and desires. We strive to turn it back for many reasons. To re-experience time with someone we love. To relive time with someone we’ve lost. To recreate a moment in time we want to remember again or that we wish we had handled differently. We wonder if we can alter time in some way, changing its course.

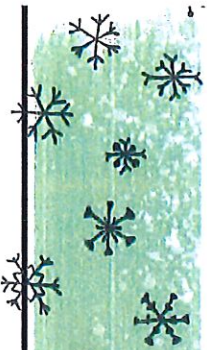
The charge to keep awake during this Advent season is not just about waiting and anticipation. It is not just about getting ready or being ready. Can you ever be ready for Christ’s coming? Can we ever be ready for God entering into humanity, into our sinfulness and brokenness, into our pain and loss, into our joy, into our love, into our longing?

The answer is no, and Advent will never be long enough. That’s the point. God arrives, regardless of our readiness. God shows up, despite our determination toward manifesting our own destiny. God will come, no matter what kind of stipulations or conditions or provisions we make to persuade God of our timeliness.

Our time is oriented by God’s time — always has been and always will be. God entered into our time, forever changing it. God lived time with us, forever altering what time really means.

Ultimately, God entering into time disrupts time, displaces time, disorients time. Not always comfortably. Not always helpfully. Not always desirably. And never how or when expected. Why? Because divinity took on mortality, eternity entered temporality, and love eliminated death. This is the meaning of Advent time.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Eric Peterson



advent CALENDAR

Perform a random act of kindness



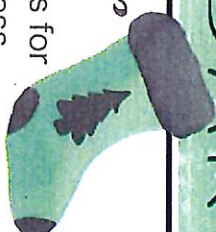
two
Donate food to a local food bank



Have a coloring contest

four

Buy socks for a homeless shelter



5
Watch a favorite holiday movie

Make or buy a new Christmas ornament



Let someone go in front of you in line

seven

8

Clean out and donate outgrown toys

Build a snowman out of cotton balls



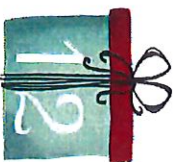
10
Take cupcakes to your local fire department



Decorate a gingerbread house

eleven

Help wrap a Christmas present



thirteen

Leave a happy note for someone to find



Have a game night in your PJs

14

Make paper snowflakes

15

Drink hot cocoa



17

Make Christmas cards

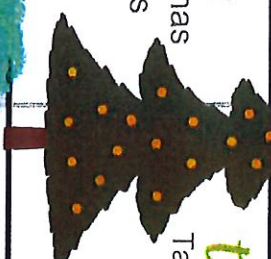


18

Bake Christmas cookies



19
Sing Christmas carols



twenty

Take a family photo in front of the Christmas tree

Read your favorite Christmas story

21

Take a car tour of your local light displays

22

Deliver Christmas cards to your neighbors



23

Watch or attend a Christmas Eve service

twenty-four



Read the Nativity story

25

December 2023

Jewish, Islamic and Orthodox observances
 7-15 Hanukkah
 24 Nativity Fast ends



FRIDAY 1 SATURDAY 2

World AIDS Day;
 Presbyterian HIV
 Awareness



THURSDAY

WEDNESDAY

SUNDAY

1st Sunday of Advent
 9:30am worship Service
 Holy Communion



5

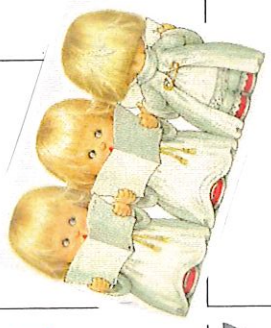
1pm Bells
 3:45pm
 Youth Group

9:30am
 Women's
 Fellowship
 12pm Holiday
 Luncheon @
 The Outdoorsman!

7

9

2nd Sunday of Advent
 9:30am Worship Service
 *4th Christmas Pageant!
 Deacons' Meeting



11

12

1pm Bells
 3:45pm
 y/g
 Christmas Party!

14

15

16

9:30am
 Caroling @ Cocoa!



Human Rights Day

3rd Sunday of Advent
 9:30am Worship Service
 11:00am Session Meeting



22

*News letter
 article deadline



4th Sunday of Advent
 *5:00pm Christmas Eve
 Lessons + Carols Service



Christmas Joy Offering

1st Sunday of Christmas
 9:30am Worship Service



Nativity of the
 Lord/Christmas Day

Merry
 Christmas!



26

1pm Bells
 N/y
 y/g

28

*Office closed

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship met on November 2 for the third lesson in this year's Bible Study, "Sacred Encounters." This lesson focused on a woman who had been hemorrhaging for twelve years without relief – a woman for whom life must have been incredibly difficult. Her energy level and ability to cope with life's physical demands would have been greatly diminished, and she had spent everything she had on physicians. As Jesus was on his way to heal the young daughter of Jairus (a ruler of the synagogue), the woman was able to touch just the fringe of his clothes, and she was healed immediately.

In the first century, gods were viewed as responsible for both health and illness of humans. Furthermore, it was culturally unacceptable for a woman to approach a man in public. Desperate, the woman managed to touch just the very fringe of Jesus' outer garment, and Jesus felt power leaving him at the moment she was healed. It was clear to Jesus that a miracle had taken place, and He called to her – claiming her as his own and saying "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace." The woman in our lesson displayed not only faith but also agency, expressing her individual power through her thoughts and actions. Faith and agency combined to enable her to defy cultural gender boundaries, and Jesus' use of the term "daughter" illustrates his inclusivity and signifies a protected place in the family.

Work continues on our various mission projects. Many requested items – donated by our congregation – were sent (along with a monetary gift) to the Winnebago Mental Health Institute for the Christmas season. Many congregation members are helping us sew our Little Dresses and Little Britches for Africa. We have assembled kits for these projects with all the needed items, and they are in big baskets near the SERRV table in the Fellowship Hall. If you like to sew and are interested in helping with this mission, please feel free to take one or more of these plastic bags and return the finished dresses and/or britches to us. We will be eternally grateful! We also continue to assemble school bags (70-page spiral notebooks needed) and hygiene kits (hand towels and wide-toothed combs most needed) for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Church World Service. The items for these kits are usually available at the dollar store, Target, and Walmart. We appreciate you thinking of these projects when you're out shopping!

Our annual Christmas Luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, December 7, 12pm (noon), at The Outdoorsman in Boulder Junction, and we hope all the ladies of our congregation will join us for fun, fellowship, and food to celebrate this joyous season and another productive year! Please let me know if you can attend so I can give the restaurant an accurate count. We also hope you'll consider joining us for our regular meetings on the first (Bible Study) and third (mission work) Thursday of every month. We meet at 9:30am in the Fireside Room and would love to have you with us!

Kay Suffron, Moderator

Teamwork Makes the Dream Work

Much like a duck on the water, it takes a lot of work under the surface to keep things running as smoothly as they (sometimes) do! "They" famously say that 'it takes a village,' and the Worship Committee is a perfect example of teamwork, with an impressive number of people playing their own specific part behind the scenes. If you're ever interested in getting involved or finding ways to volunteer, please speak with Hope Dougherty or Kay Suffron about opportunities with this group!

Worship Committee

Co-Chairs: Hope Dougherty & Kay Suffron

Acolytes: Hope Dougherty & Kay Suffron

Announcement Coordinator: Mary Watkins

Attendance Record Keeper: Joyce Hoehn

Greeter/Usher Coordinator: Sharon Bridges

Hearing devices: *Available

Budget: Vince Hoehn

Candles/oil: Hope Dougherty

Communion bread: Hope Dougherty & Kay Suffron

Communion juice: Hope Dougherty & Kay Suffron

Communion hosts: Lois Bauers

Flowers/plants: Joyce Hoehn & Mid Sharpe

Special flowers (Christmas poinsettias/Easter Lillies):

Kathy Kieper

Hymn selection: Sharon Bridges

Liturgist Coordinator: Heather Suffron

Music Liaison: Adele Duranso

Music Ministry: Sharon Bridges, Adele Duranso,
Joan Galloway, Cynthia Goosby, Tom
Schroeter

Piano heater/humidifier: Tom Erickson & Tom
Schroeter

Pulpit paraments: Nan Bloch, Hope Dougherty,
Adele Duranso, & Mid Sharpe

Video recording: Karl Kleinschmidt & Phil St. Clair

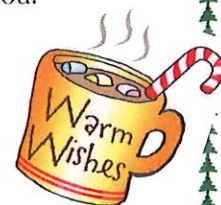
Wedding/Funeral Representatives: Nan

Bloch, Adele Duranso, Joyce Hoehn, Mid

Sharpe, Kay

Suffron

If you see your name listed and you're no longer able to participate in the committee's work in this way, please let Hope or Kay know. Thank you!



Join us for Caroling & Cocoa on Dec 16! We'll meet in the church parking lot at 9:30am, sing songs at a couple places, and return to church for hot cocoa, thanks to Sue DeVan! Fa-la-la-la...



Volunteers

Announcements:

Dec 3 – Carol Brewer
Dec 10 – Hope Dougherty
Dec 17 – Kay Suffron
Dec 31 – Hope Dougherty

Liturgists:

Dec 3 – Bob Burton
Dec 10 – Carol Brewer
Dec 17 – Kay Suffron
Dec 31 – John Hanson

Counters:

Dec 3 – Vince Hoehn & Julie Brownwell
Dec 10 – Carol Stone & Jeff Krans
Dec 17 – Mid Sharpe & Kathy Kieper
Dec 24 – Christmas Elf (& Lois)
Dec 31 – Lois Bauers & Hope Dougherty

Greeters/Ushers:

Dec 3 – Galen & Julie Brownwell
Dec 10 – Bob & Judy Dannenberg
Dec 17 – Eric & Mary Koster
Dec 24 – Dan & Nan Bloch
Dec 31 – Mark & Linda Billhymer

Holy Communion

Dec 3: Hope Dougherty & Kay Suffron

Dec 24: James Patterson



LOOSE COIN OFFERING
October – December:
Lakeland Food Pantry

Advent Candle Lighters/Readers

Dec 3 (Love): Stephen & Nancy Russell

Dec 10 (Hope): Adele Duranso, Debby
Patterson, & YG students

Dec 17 (Joy): Slemmons Family

Dec 24 (Peace & Christ Candle):
Sharon Bridges, Hope
Dougherty, & Rose King

Christmas Eve Liturgists

The Epistle Reading: Sharpe Family

The Gospel Reading: Hoehn Family

Word from the Prophet: Suffron Family

Birth of Jesus: Kost Family

Lakeland Pantry Hours

Tuesdays 8:30-11:30am

Thursdays 3:30-6:00pm



Boulder Junction
Food Pantry
December Dates

7th 3:30-5:00pm
14th 10:00-11:30am
21st 3:30-5:00pm
28th 10:00-11:30am

REMINDER – 3 Ways to deliver your weekly offering:

* In person on Sundays

* Snail mail:
MWPC
PO Box 69
Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

* Online: www.mwpc.org

THANK YOU!



DECEMBER

Happy Birthday!

3rd Tom Henning
4th Jean Eales
5th Natalia Schellinger, John Suffron
7th Morgan Frandy
8th Peggy Eble, Ann Wilson
13th Dan Bloch, Dave Kebrdle
14th Richard Indermuehle, Wild Jacobs,
Carolyn Pfeiffer, 15th Mark Halliburton
18th Barbara Johnson, Sue Straus
19th Pati Moberg
22nd Charles Rayala, 23rd Robert Paneitz
27th Kathleen Wilson
29th Michael Hayes
30th Blaze Jacobs, 31st Charles Peterson

2024 Offering Envelopes are here!

Check out the table in the narthex for your 2024 envelopes. If you don't see your name there, please see Heather.

2024 Pledge Sheets!

Vic reminds us to please make sure you've completed and turned in your pledge cards for the new year. This helps us plan our budget each year and know what income we can tentatively expect. Thank you!

Per Capita for 2024 has just been announced:

\$34/member

Thank you!

Thank you so much for your support of the Christmas for Kids program! There are 51 children from 20 families participating this year! Our shoppers are busy checking their lists and gathering goodies to help bring smiles to the faces of our local youth and families.

A reminder to please drop off your gifts/purchases to the church by Dec 10. If you have any questions, please contact Emily: emilybokern@gmail.com. Thank you!



Happy Anniversary!!

4th Zachary & Melody Wilson
26th John & Carmen Farwell
27th Parker & Mid Sharpe
28th Tony & Mary Schilling



It was another successful and fun hanging of the Greens event! Thank you for helping to make our church look festive for the Christmas Season! Many hands make light work, and I, for one, really appreciated all the gummy nibbles afterwards. Thank you to the Membership Committee for hosting the chili lunch!

Don't forget to mark your calendar for Jan 7, 2024(!), when we'll take down the decorations and store them for another 11 months. How can it already be time to start talking about "De-hanging?" A sloppy Joe lunch will follow. Please bring a plate of your favorite left-over Christmas cookies to share!

Pastor Eric's First Month

As November winds down, it looks very promising that Pastor Eric will survive his first month with us in the Northwoods of Wisconsin! His first worship service as our pastor was November 5, and he was also installed as our pastor that afternoon. The Installation Service is a ceremony that officially acknowledges a person in his or her new position. If you read the October newsletter, you'll recall that Terry mentioned this in his last article. The service involved representatives from other churches in our Presbytery. Richard Blood (from Duluth) preached, and our very own Vic Ouimette participated, as well. It was a special event for Eric and for our church!



Pastor Eric poses with Elders from the Presbytery at his Installation Service: Nov 5, 2023!

Office Hours

Pastor Eric's work hours:

Monday-Thursday, 9:30am-5:30pm

Friday: Off

Saturday: As needed

Eric is not always in the office, as he might be attending meetings or visiting parishioners, so if you'd like to schedule a time to meet with him, feel free to call the office: 715 543 2998 or his cell: 281 723 6062. He can also be reached on his cell for emergencies.

Welcome to Our Newest Member!

Welcome new member of MWPC, Kris Nelson! Kris was born and raised in Boulder Junction (attending high school with our own Adele Duransol!). She then spent many years in Ontario, Canada, working in administration at Lakehead University. She eventually returned to the Northwoods, where she worked at Camp Manitowish for almost ten years before retiring.

She currently volunteers with hospice and loves hiking, kayaking, and camping. She's already found a place in the bell choir and will be an active member of our church family!

Please introduce yourself and give her a warm MWPC welcome!

The Safety Committee continues its efforts to provide a safe and secure facility for all. First, we've slightly changed the location of one of the new First Aid Kits. The updated location of each follows:

- * **Directly above the defibrillator in the Fellowship Hall**
- * **Adele's office/copy room (behind main office)**
- * **Downstairs kitchen (cabinet above the counter you face when you walk into the room)**
- * **Fleazaar barn (closest to the parking lot)**

Session has approved two recommendations from the Safety Committee. The first is the installation of a monitored alarm system for fire, water leaks, and emergencies. A SimpliSafe system will be installed that will provide 24-hour monitoring with direct notification to the 911 emergency call center if smoke is detected or an emergency button is engaged. The system will also monitor for water leaks in the basement, kitchen, and bathrooms with notification to designated church personnel.

Session also approved a recommendation to install new lever handle locks on doors without emergency latches. In addition, dead bolts will be removed from emergency exits. Finally, the locksmith will rekey all church entrance doors, and new keys will be provided to authorized personnel.

With a little luck, both projects will be completed in December, and we will keep you posted on our progress.

The Committee will meet again in early January.



The American poet, Sara Teasdale (1884-1933) manages to express the divinity and the humanity of the newborn Christ child in her poem, "Christmas Carol." I find this poem so compelling in its simplicity, as well as its layered meanings and lessons.

The tiny infant brings people from all backgrounds and all directions together, all seeking... something. He comes for each of us – no matter our circumstances – across time and distance. He still gathers us together today whenever we honor the best aspects of our nature. The weight and importance placed on this baby is enormous if you think about it. Can you imagine carrying the salvation of humankind on your back? And paying the ultimate sacrifice so that we can live renewed lives and find rest in God's presence?

For now, though – a glimpse through the lens of this poem – He's allowed a moment of peace before the weight of the world, of our grasping and fighting and clawing and inhumanity to one another, crushes in on Him, before He realizes His identity and comes into His power. For now, He's just an infant, falling asleep in His mother's arms.

The kings they came from out the south,
All dressed in ermine fine;
They bore Him gold and chrysoprase,
And gifts of precious wine.



The shepherds came from out the north,
Their coats were brown and old;
They brought Him little new-born lambs—
They had not any gold.

The wise men came from out the east,
And they were wrapped in white;
The star that led them all the way
Did glorify the night.



The angels came from heaven high,
And they were clad with wings;
And lo, they brought a joyful song
The host of heaven sings.

The kings they knocked upon the door,
The wise men entered in,
The shepherds followed after them
To hear the song begin.

The angels sang through all the night
Until the rising sun,
But little Jesus fell asleep
Before the song was done.



It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas....

Based on the Liturgical calendar, the Gregorian calendar, and movie theaters and TV sets around the world.... Christmas is coming! One of our traditions is to watch our favorite shows/films throughout the season. Doesn't it seem like everyone has a list of favorite holiday movies? Lois' favorite movie is "A Christmas Story." She and her family always watch it during the holidays.

Adele's List:

1. Polar Express
2. It's a Wonderful Life
3. National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
4. A Christmas Story
5. Home Alone

Honorable Mention: White Christmas

Heather's List:

1. A Charlie Brown Christmas
2. A Christmas Carol (Disney/2009, Muppets/1992)
3. It's a Wonderful Life
4. Miracle on 34th Street
5. The Star (2017)

Honorable Mention: Can I have two honorable mentions?!? "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

****What are some of your favorites?!?****



Dig out your spatulas and dust off your aprons! Time to do some holiday baking!! This recipe comes from the archives of Mary Hanson (John's wife). I never got to meet her, unfortunately, but I'm told – by many – that she was such a delight and a very good chef. Thank you, John, for approving this recipe's inclusion here!

Cranberry Pecan Bars

1 c flour	2 eggs, beaten
2 T sugar	2 T milk
1/3 c butter	1 T orange zest
1 c chopped pecans	1 t vanilla
1 1/4 c sugar	1 c chopped cranberries
2 T flour	1/2 c coconut

In a bowl, combine the 1 c flour and 2 T sugar. With a pastry mixer, cut butter into the flour mixture until course crumbs are formed. Stir in 1/2 c of pecans. Press this mixture into the bottom of an ungreased 13x9" baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 mins.

Meanwhile, combine the 1 1/4 c sugar and 2 T flour. Stir in eggs, milk, orange zest, and vanilla. Fold in cranberries, coconut, and remaining pecans. Spread over partially baked crust. Bake at 350 degrees for 25-30 mins or until top is golden brown. Cool in pan on wire rack. Cut into bars while warm. Mmmm.... Something tells me this would go well with homemade whipped cream! Enjoy!!

From all of us at MWCPC, we wish you joy with your loved ones, peace in your heart, and light in your life. Merry Christmas and blessed New Year to you and your families!

*The light of the Christmas
star to you
The warmth of home &
hearth to you
The cheer & good will of
friends to you
The hope of a childlike heart
to you
The joy of a thousand
angels to you
The love of the Son and
God's peace to you*

-Gaelic blessing

www.thebettermom.com



A note on the Lord's Prayer...

As many of you have noticed, Eric uses debts & debtors when reciting the Lord's Prayer (p 35 of our hymnal) during worship services. This is a change for us, and he recognizes that. He's aware that there are other translations we might have learned and/or are familiar with using (i.e., sins, trespasses) and is comfortable with people saying what works best for them at that point in the prayer.

Are you busy making your list.... And checking it twice?!? If you're trying to think of a unique gift that is also meaningful and has a positive impact, consider alternative gifting ideas:

*Donating to an important cause in someone's honor.

*Finding a gift at our SERRV Table
Handmade Fair-Trade items

*Adopt an animal with World Wildlife Fund:
worldwildlife.org

*Heifer International: www.heifer.org

*Presbyterian Giving Catalog:
presbyteriangifts.pcusa.org

Bees, trees, seeds... Partial scholarships, water pumps, goats, farming tools... So many options!

There are some printed catalogs on the table in the narthex to whet your appetite!

Children's Worship Bulletin™

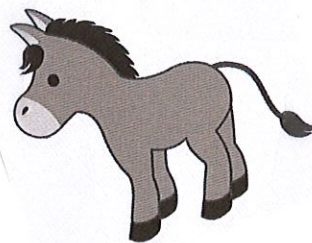
Ages 3+

December 3, 2023 • Luke 2:15-21

Shepherds Visit Baby Jesus

The shepherds said, "Let's go to Bethlehem to see the baby that the Lord has told us about."

Help the shepherds get to baby Jesus.



Mission Trip Follow-Up

The women who traveled to Pine Ridge, SD in September thank you for your support of their journey! If anyone is interested in making this trip next year and experiencing a similar service-learning project, feel free to contact Linda Billhymer, Hope Dougherty, and/or Ruth Stober. Heather also volunteered with Re-Member (in 2005) and can help answer your questions, as well!

In the meantime, Hope Dougherty is sharing a list of informative resources here:

Allen, Paula Gunn. *The Sacred Hoop: Recovering the Feminine in American Indian Traditions*.

Augustine, Sarah. *The Land Is Not Empty: Following Jesus in Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery*.

Brown, Dee. *Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee: An Indian History of the American West*.

Cole-Dai, Phyllis. *Beneath the Same Stars: A Novel of the 1862 US-Dakota War*.

Curtice, Kaitlin B. *Native: Identity, Belonging, and Rediscovering God*.

Dorgan, Byron L. *The Girl in the Photograph: The True Story of a Native American Child, Lost and Found in America*.

Glover, Vic. *Keeping Heart on Pine Ridge: Family ties, warrior culture, commodity foods, rez dogs, and the Sacred*.

Good Feather, Doug. *Think Indigenous: Native American Spirituality for a Modern World*.

Huckins, Jon & Jer Swigart. *Mending the Divide: Creative Love in a Conflicted World*.

Murphy, Nora. *White Birch, Red Hawthorn: A Memoir*.

Neihardt, John G. *Black Elk Speaks: Being the Life Story of a Holy Man of the Oglala Sioux*.

Nerburn, Kent. *Neither Wolf nor Dog, The Wolf at Twilight, The Girl who Sang to the Buffalo* (trilogy).

St. Pierre, Mark. *Madonna Swan: A Lakota Woman's Story*.

Starita, Joe. *The Dull Knives of Pine Ridge: A Lakota Odyssey*.

Wakefield, Sarah F. *Six Weeks in the Sioux Teepees: A Narrative of Indian Captivity*.

Wilson, Diane. *The Seed Keeper* (and three others).

Young Bear, Severt & R.D. Theisz. *Standing in the Light: A Lakota Way of Seeing*.

And a classic... *An Indigenous People's History of the United States* (Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz)

Something New Is Around the Corner

Over the past few years, we've had a couple different people in charge of finding volunteers to lead the announcements in church each week. Carol Brewer managed this task for quite a while, and Susan Goulet currently holds this position. In the new year, Mary Watkins will take over as the Announcement Coordinator, and the Worship Committee has slightly revamped the current operating procedures to try to streamline the process of preparing the weekly announcements.

The Announcement Coordinator (Mary) will contact members about leading the announcements during Sunday services – so please consider helping, if this is something you'd be willing and able to do!

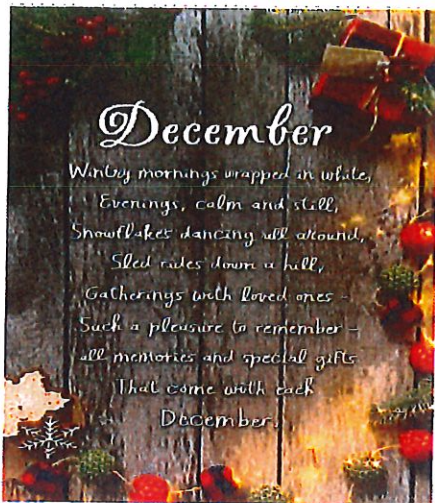
If you have something you'd like announced during the worship service, please inform Mary by Thursday (three days before the worship service). Mary will then get this info to the lay leader (announcer) for that week. Mary can be reached here: 309 678 1528 OR meaw249@gmail.com. This info is also available in the church directory.

If there is something that you'd like to announce yourself, or if you forget to relay your info to Mary ahead of time, you are still welcome to make your announcement from the lectern at the appropriate time, but if you'd like to have your announcement shared on your behalf, please get your info to Mary by Thursday. We'll try this new protocol for a while and see how it goes.

We've put together some guidelines that should help those who agree to do the announcements.

*Please note: This information is also printed on a sheet of paper at the podium/lectern in the Sanctuary if you ever need to refer to it.

- * State your name and welcome everyone
- * Announcements – ask the pastor and others if there are special announcements
- * Loose Coin Offering – share which organization is receiving our loose coins that week (this info can be found in the bulletin each week)
- * Remind people to check their bulletins for additional announcements
- * Encourage attendees to sign the Friendship Pad
- * Visitors, if comfortable, may introduce themselves
- * Greet each other (wave, nod, etc.)



SESSION MEMBERS and Officers

Vince Hoehn (Treas.): 715-904-1025

Lois Bauers (Clerk): 715-904-3105

Bob Dannenberg: 262-758-0301

Hope Dougherty: 715-543-2669, Dick Henske: 715-543-2942

Denny Kieper: 715-476-2196, Kay Krans: 715-499-7538

Vic Ouimette: 715-476-3887, James Patterson: 715-892-3065

Carolyn Pfeiffer: 715-490-3498, Joe Sanks: 715-543-2229

Krista Slemmons: 715-439-5528, Kay Suffron: 715-686-2668



From your Session

If you have any questions or concerns,
please contact one of your session members.

We welcome your call.

Office Hours:

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DEACONS

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December 2023

Living Waters

Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

PO Box 69

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MANITOWISH WATERS COMMUNITY

