



First Evangelical Lutheran Church

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS



December 6, 2020

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. [Romans 3:23-24 - NIV](#)

ADVENT



ADVENT BIBLE STUDY via Zoom Mondays, November 30, December 7, 14, and 21 at 1:00 p.m. The Zoom id is **853 1369 6275** and password is **191292**. Study booklets available in Memorial Hall. If you are not interested in the zoom format, you may pick up a book for independent study.

ADVENT DEVOTIONS from our LARC Partners (Lutheran, Anglican, Roman Catholic) will be posted weekly on our website as well as on facebook. Join us each week to hear Advent words of hope (Trinity Lutheran), expectation and promise (Trinity Episcopal), preparation (Corpus Christi), and promise fulfilled (First). Leslie Gotwald has also created some weekly advent devotions that you are able to find online at:

www.willowingwell.com/do-not-be-afraid

POINSETTIAS FOR WORSHIP Without in person worship this year, we will be ordering poinsettias earlier so they will be in the worship videos for December 20 as well as Christmas Eve and Day. You would be welcome to take them home with you beginning Friday, December 18. You may like to place the poinsettia next to your device you will using to view worship. Please return your order form with money to the church office prior to December 10. If you have misplaced the form, call the church office for assistance.



POINSETTIA DELIVERY Willing to deliver poinsettias on behalf of our congregation to our homebound members? Please be in touch with Mary or Tim Gotwald if you would be willing to brighten people's spirits with a flower delivery the weekend of December 19, 20, 21. We request that you give the flowers to the people at their door and do not enter into their living space. The church will provide the poinsettias.

CHRISTMAS PROJECT We are supporting the children in our community who are learning remotely. The YMCA has a program to assist those without wifi in their learning endeavors. They are also serving breakfast and lunch to the children. Envelopes were included in the December newsletter. Additional envelopes are on the display in the Fellowship Hall. Please return your gifts to the church office.

CHRISTMAS COATS Without Christmas worship in person this year, we will be sharing the spirit of Christmas through the gift of coats with our neighbors. We are collecting coats for children and adults alike. Please bring winter coats to the church between now and December



23. These items will be placed on the fence on December 24. What a wonderful Christmas gift of warmth for those who are in need of them. Contact Mary Gotwald if you would like to help either on December 24 or sorting them prior to that. Thanks in advance for your contributions.

CHRISTMAS

GETTING READY for Christmas Eve and Day Worship This Christmas we will be worshiping online. We are working to make this a very meaningful experience for those who worship in their homes or with family. In order to do this, we need your help. Being with people is an important part of worship and we are working to find ways for you to be included – even if you do not have online access.

- We would like for you to deliver a photograph of you or/and your family with a nativity scene. Photos may be sent to Theo.felcc@gmail.com or dropped off in the church office by December 14. In memo line of email write “Nativity Photo”
- Would you be willing to record a verse of “Silent Night” with your family while lighting candles? Talk with Freda. felccmusic@gmail.com



- Would you be willing to record “O Come All Ye Faithful” with you or your family? We will join all of the recordings together, so your voices will be blended with others. Talk with Freda for details. felccmusic@gmail.com
- Would you be willing to read scripture or prayers and have that recorded for worship? Let Pastor Nicholson be aware of this. flcpastor@outlook.com

With everyone’s help, this will be an incredibly meaningful worship service. Please remember – worship is our gift of thanksgiving to God on Christmas. Join us in the celebration.



CHRISTMAS EVE ZOOM GATHERING Part of attending worship is greeting everyone prior to the service. So we will be having a Zoom gathering prior to worship to say hello to everyone on Christmas Eve. This zoom gathering will be held from 6:30 to 7:00 p.m. Pop in as you are able. Go to www.zoom.us . Then click on “join a meeting.” Type in this id number: **867 0905 2421** . Type in this password: **Christmas** . (I wonder what I should wear? – pjs or tuxedo and evening gown? - Whatever you choose is fine!) **See you then!**

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP Christmas Worship will be on facebook (First Evangelical Lutheran Church) and www.felcc.org Family service will post at 1:00 p.m. December 24. Traditional Christmas Eve will post at 4:00 p.m. December 24. Christmas Day posts 7:00 a.m.

ANNUAL REPORTS from committees/staff are due to felccoffice@gmail.com by Monday, January 4, 2021.



BACK PACK PROGRAM November suggested items are: Canned fruit or fruit cups in light syrup; dried fruit such as raisins, plums and cranberries; and applesauce. Thank you for your continued support of this much-needed program.

THE GIVE AND TAKE BOX If you are able, please pick up a few items to share. Remember this box supplies personal care items. Needed items include shampoo, deodorant, tissues, toothpaste and brushes, hand soap, body soap, laundry detergent, dish detergent, band aids, toilet paper. Thank you.

COLLECTION OF QUARTERS by The Neighborhood Task Team has resumed for future Laundry Events. If you have donations you may drop them off at the church office during office hours or you may drop your donations at either entry/exit from the sanctuary. There is a basket at back of the sanctuary and a Laundry Soap container at the elevator entrance. Thanks so much for your support of this ministry to our neighbors.

PANDEMIC FATIGUE Are you feeling mentally and emotionally exhausted from all the disruptions to life brought on by the pandemic? Are you facing isolation, loneliness, anxiety, grief, health issues, financial strain or job loss? Please know you don't have to face these things alone. If you or someone you care about is experiencing difficulties like these, our Stephen Ministers are ready to listen, care, encourage, and be there to offer support. A Stephen Minister will meet with you privately—by phone or video chat—to focus on you and your needs. It's free and completely confidential, and it offers real care, comfort, and hope. To learn more, please contact Stephen Ministry Leader, Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737 or lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org

SALVATION ARMY IS PROVIDING MEALS ON CHRISTMAS DAY These are given to clients of Meals on Wheels and Office of the Aging and to other individuals in need. Needed: cans of green beans, corn, sweet potatoes, instant mashed potatoes, mandarin oranges, fruit salad, crushed pineapple, cranberry sauce, and chicken broth; and fresh produce of oranges, bananas, pears, grapefruit, onions, celery, carrots, butter, milk, garlic and dill. Help is needed to organize and to deliver meals on Christmas Day following safety guidelines. Call Lynne Newman at 717-263-2151 or 717-360-2407.



Remember in your prayers...

Christian Bruce (12/30)	Tom Burkey (12/18)	Cheryl Christman (12/31)
Sandy Curfman	Aloma Dawkins	Ernie Fricke
Rick Gates (1/11)	Bob Hammer (12/11)	Dorothy Hammer (12/11)
Nancy Jacobs	Elva Kroeger	Jennifer McCarey (1/01)
John Newcomer	Dalton Paul (12/26)	Julie Paul (12/3)
Elaine Singer (12/30)	Dia Schumacher (12/23)	Evelyn Scott
Carrie Stopyra (1/3)	James Warne	Connie Wilkins (12/18)
Grace Williams (12/30)	Jim Woods (12/26)	Private Parker Brown
Sherry's Family	Theo Camara's family upon the death of his father-in-law	