



LUTHER MEMORIAL

lutheran church



Messenger

December 2013

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community

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All are welcome at Luther Memorial.
Come join us for worship every Sunday at 10 am!



On Sunday, November 10, Luther Memorial Celebrated Martin Luther's 530th Birthday! Thanks to all who participated in the Chili Cook-Off, and congratulations to Julie Moe on her winning entry "Cha-Cha Chili". All funds donated went to the feeding ministries of LMLC.

THE LUTHER MEMORIAL MESSENGER

published by Luther Memorial Lutheran Church
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December 15 is the deadline for articles in the **January** issue.

Rev. Julie G. Hutson, Pastor
Bill Meade, Congregation Council President
Paul Olsen, Choir Director
Katy Sarff, Office Administrator

PJ's Page

Today I sat in our beautiful worship space at Luther Memorial and listened to the Cora Voce Civic choir's annual pre-Advent concert. This choir does stunning work and I was glad to see many of you there to share such deeply enriching music. It was also a good way to be gently reminded that Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, or what the Church sometimes calls the "Christmas Cycle", will soon be upon us.

As I have mentioned, Bruce and I are taking a long planned and anticipated trip in December. We leave on December 4th for Germany, which is the land of the vast majority of my ancestors. I also lived in

Germany as a young child, although I do not remember it. Bruce lived in Germany from 8th -12th grade. In many ways, it is a homecoming for us both.

As you might imagine, there will be more than a few churches on our itinerary, as well as the Christmas Markets which enchanted me as a child (according to my parents). But know that I will hold you, beloved community, in my heart and prayers, as I always do, and will be eager to return 'home' to Luther Memorial on December 17th.



This trip means that I will miss two Sundays with you, but what a great gift and treat you are in for on those days! On December 8th, The Rev. Paul Hoffman will preach and preside at worship. Paul was the pastor at Phinney Ridge Lutheran until his retirement this past spring. He is now actively writing and leading workshops nationwide and he chairs our synodical Candidacy Committee. On

December 15th, The Rev. Kari Lipke will preach and preside. Kari is a Mission Developer, which means she is starting a brand spanking new congregation, focused primarily in the Belltown area and geared toward young adults. Both Paul and Kari are faithful servants of God, fabulous preachers, and good friends. I know you will welcome them warmly.

This time of year brings so many memories to mind for us all. For many, the holidays are difficult and for most they are a mingling of emotions. One memory from my teenage years is of a woman in our congregation who, every Christmas Eve, sang "O Holy Night" as a solo. This year, as I consider the daily dose of tragedy and difficulty in our news feed, I am drawn to the line from that beautiful song:

PJ's Page

A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices...

The coming of a Messiah offered hope to the weary world into which he was born and it offers hope to us today. In our struggles as society, in our divisiveness and our propensity to power, comes a baby who turns the world upside down. The lion lies down with the lamb and a little child shall lead them (from our OT reading on Advent 2). May we rejoice even in, especially in, our weariness.

Finally, Bruce and our family join me in wishing each of you a time of abundant peace in this season and in all seasons. May your hearts be filled with hope and may you rejoice, for unto us a Child is born!

With deep gratitude,

Pastor Julie Hobart

Advent and Christmas Season Worship

Advent begins on Sunday, December 1, and this year we will rest in the HOPE that is promised as we await the Christ child.

We hope that you will join us on Sunday mornings at 10 am and for mid-week worship on Wednesdays. Our Advent Vespers service will be Wednesday evenings, December 4, 11, and 18 at 7 pm. We will gather in the Fireside Room, where the fire and the fellowship will be warm and the music and prayer will be deeply rich.

While Pastor Julie is away for 2 Sundays, we will have a guest preacher and presider for our Sunday worship service. Please give a warm welcome to Pastor Paul Hoffman on December 8, and Pastor Kari Lipke on December 15.



Advent and Christmas Worship Schedule

Sunday, December 1	Advent Cheer Baskets assembled in Faith Forum - 9 am Worship - 10 am
Wednesday, December 4	Advent Vespers Service - 7 pm
Sunday, December 8	Worship with The Rev. Paul Hoffman - 10 am
Wednesday, December 11	Advent Vespers Service - 7 pm
Sunday, December 15	Worship with The Rev. Kari Lipke - 10 am
Wednesday, December 18	Advent Vespers Service - 7 pm
Sunday, December 22	Worship with the LMLC Children's Pageant - 10 am
Tuesday, December 24	Christmas Eve Worship at 5:30 and 10 pm

LMLC News and Events

First Sunday Faith Forum - Advent Cheer Basket Collection

We are once again collecting small items of cheer to be distributed to our members who can no longer attend worship. The baskets will be assembled during our First Sunday Faith Forum on December 1, and distributed during Advent. Suggested items include small bottles of lotion, small ornaments, devotional type books, sugar free candy, etc.

Luther Memorial Online Advent Devotions

This year during the season of Advent, beginning on December 1, we will have (almost) daily Advent devotions available at all of our online sites: Facebook, the website, luthermemoralseattle.com, and sent by email. We hope you enjoy these devotions written by members and friends of LMLC.

Mid-week Advent Vespers

Join us on Wednesday evenings, Dec. 4, 11, and 18 for mid-week Advent Vespers. 7pm, in the Fireside Room, where the fire and the fellowship will be warm and the music and prayer will be deeply rich.

Christmas Eve Worship

We will gather to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child at two candlelight Christmas Eve services: 5:30 and 10:00 pm. Why not extend an invitation to your neighbors and friends to join in this meaningful and beautiful worship service? *Come and worship, Come and worship, worship Christ the newborn King!*

A Caroling We Go!

Immediately following worship on December 22, we will grab a quick bite of lunch together, then head out to Christmas carol some of our folks who can no longer get to church. Last year when we did this it was a grand experience and has become even more meaningful since some of those we visited have since left this life. Share the spirit of Christmas through song and fellowship!



Annual Meeting Date is set

We will gather on January 26 for our Annual Meeting, which will feature some business, some food, and some real fun and games! Mark your calendars now and watch for details!

LMLC News and Events

Art for the Holidays! - Spiritual Growth Silent Auction

We had a very successful Silent Auction for the Youth. We made over \$1000 to support the Youth Activities at LMLC. Many thanks to all the donors: Joe Mackechnie, Bruce Hutson, Jonathon Stevers, Lynne Greenup, Vicki Cook, Shirley Russo, Leia Smith, Lollie Ellingson, Diane Chapman and Donna Smith. And thank you to Leia Smith and Vicki Cook who did so much for organizing and putting together the Auction.

Children's Christmas Pageant - *The Music of Christmas*

The children of Luther Memorial will have their Annual Christmas Pageant during worship on Sunday, December 22 this year. Please make a special effort to attend that day, to see them share a Christmas message, through music, with us all! A rehearsal for the children will be held on Saturday, December 21, from 1-2 pm in the Sanctuary.

Will you share a Sunday?

We are looking for folks willing to lead our awesome new Middle School Sunday School class for one or two Sundays out of the entire year! Materials will be provided, preparation is minimal....all you need to do is show up and prepare to be blessed by these amazing young disciples! Please prayerfully consider whether the Spirit is calling you to share of yourself in this way.

Mary's Place comes to LMLC December 17-24

"I'll be home for Christmas" are the words of a well known Christmas song. Almost everyone longs to be at home for Christmas, whether it is a family homestead, their childhood home, or a place where their loved ones will be gathered. But imagine what it would be like if you did not have a home to go to.

This year we will have the opportunity to provide a warm, dry, and safe location for the mothers and children from Mary's Place during the week leading up to Christmas Eve, Dec. 17-24. Here they will find a safe place to be together every evening and overnight.

How can you help? You can provide an evening meal and spend some time with these families. You can provide a warm breakfast before they return to Mary's Place for the day. You can stay overnight.

This is a very busy time of year! But we serve and respond recalling another mother, soon to be with child, for whom there was no room at the inn. And we respond out of the depth of our faith.

Please see Karen Olsen if you can help.



Community News and Events



December Confirmation Class Schedule

December 8: 12:30 @ Bethany (leave LMLC @ 12:05 pm)

December Hope @ Home Conversation Starters:

- My favorite part of the Christmas story is:
- What would you do if an angel told you that you or your wife was going to give birth to the Son of God?
- What is your favorite Advent tradition?

REMEMBER! Worship Notes are due once a month. The form is online or in the narthex.

LWR News

Luther Memorial sent 38 Quilts, 10 school kits and 17 baby care kits and 20 lbs. of soap for a total of 238lbs off in the LWR Fall appeal. Thank you to Jean Rizer for the gorgeous quilts, to Phyllis Swenson and her crew for the school kits and to Laurie Meade and Diane Chapman for the baby care kits and to all of you for the soap. Thank you also to Jean, Phyllis, and Karen Senior for helping to pack everything up and to Mark Chapman for helping me to deliver everything to the loading site.



If anyone is interested in quilting for this effort, Jean Rizer would gladly "show you the ropes", and help to start the transition! For more information see Diane Chapman or Jean Rizer.

LMLC Christmas Gift Giving

Since we will be hosting Mary's Place the week before Christmas, our focus for Christmas giving will be gift cards for Mary's place.

Suggestions for Gift Cards: McDonalds, Burger King, Game Works or Movie Theater. Bring the gift cards to church and we will have a collection box. Also we are still collecting warm items for our Lunch Program as gloves, scarves, hats, lip balm and hand warmers. Bring these items to church also for collection.

Feast of Faith - Stewardship 2014

If you have not yet turned in your pledge in support of our ministries and mission for 2014 please do so by mailing the pledge card to the office or putting it in the offering plate. Many thanks to all of you for your faithful responses!



Community News and Events

Online Giving

Tired of writing checks, or remembering to have cash for offering on Sunday? You can now give to LMLC online! Just go to www.luthermemoralseattle.com/onlinegiving, or click on "Online Giving" on our website. The secure payment site is endorsed by Thrivent, and is a part of our Simply Giving program.

Do you have a smartphone? If you use QR codes, you scan this barcode-with your smartphone's QR decoder, it will instantly connect you to the mobile version of Online Giving. Try it out!



Poinsettia Donations

Poinsettias can be given in memory or in honor of someone special to you. The cost is \$10; checks can be made payable to LMLC with *Poinsettia* in the memo line, cash can be put in an envelope similarly marked, or contributions can be made online through our website (www.luthermemoralseattle.com/onlinegiving), noting it as a dedication. Please place checks or cash in the offering plate with the completed form.

The poinsettias will be placed in the Sanctuary on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

I wish to donate _____ poinsettias at \$10 each.

Please circle if you wish to donate in memory or honor

In memory/honor of:

In memory/honor of:

In memory/honor of:

Your Name:

Please circle payment form:

Cash

Check

Online

LMLC News and Events

A New Journey of Discernment - To the Luther Memorial Congregation from Steve Olson

Dear friends,

I recently read a line from a meditation by Richard Rohr. "It is usually over time and with patience that we come to see the wonderful patterns of grace, which is why it takes most of us a long time to be converted." Now "conversion" isn't the problem, I like many was baptized as an infant. Nevertheless as I journey through life I gain reverence for the idea of "God's time." We are baptized once, this is true, but God doesn't just mark us, seal us, and implore us to let our light shine and then leave saying "My work here is done." Well, I suppose to be true to our faith even this is most certainly true, still, every day I am opened by the Spirit to new ways of seeing and new ways of responding to my baptismal call.

I am writing to share that with valued advice from Pastor Julie and quiet encouragement from others that I have begun a period of discernment to determine whether I am being called to ministry in the ELCA. I am in a place of immense awe, healthy fearfulness, and patient expectation. It seems appropriate to me that I am beginning this journey at the place our stewardship emphasis closes and the quiet waiting of Advent begins. I am grateful beyond measure for the stewardship this congregation has shown for me from the time I could barely walk, through confirmation, of journeys away from and then back to this faith filled place. I am grateful for resources made available to me for the important next steps. I am now in that place of quiet waiting with tasks of preparation, not at all unlike the Advent season where we quietly anticipate the arrival of Immanuel even as we are busy with preparation.

In the coming days it is with humbleness I ask for your continued prayers and words of wisdom. I will be more than willing to share my experiences as well; it is important that this be a partnership between us as I move through the process. I am assured by our Pastor that I will have ample opportunity to share and believe this is a piece of my stewardship in this place of abundance. I am not sure where the journey will end, I am certain I am supposed to be on it at this time.

In Christ,

Steve Olson



Community News and Events

Christmas Dinners for the Hungry

If you know someone who would not be able to have a festive dinner on Christmas Day, these restaurants both offer free meals:

Thai Siam - 8305 15th Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117 from 12 pm - 2 pm



If you know someone who would not be able to have a festive dinner on Christmas Day, Thai Siam Restaurant would like to extend our warmest invitation to a free turkey dinner.

At Thai Siam Restaurant
8305 15th ave NW
Seattle, WA 98117
On Christmas Day
From 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Please call (206) 783-3668 or visit us on the web at
www.thaisiamrestaurant.com for more details

If you know someone who could use this service please pass on this post card.



*Have A Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year*

Roman 12:15 "Rejoice with them that rejoice and weep with them that weep"

Free Christmas Dinner
for Those in need

WWW.THAISIAMRESTAURANT.COM



Luther's Table - 12 pm - 3 pm
419 S. 2nd St. Suite 1
Renton, WA 98057
www.lutherstable.org

Thank you from Cora Voce!

Artistic Director Randy Spitzer and the members of Cora Voce are very grateful for being able to again use Luther Memorial's facilities for their Fall Concert in Seattle. The wonderful acoustics and the enthusiastic audience made for a wonderful Sunday afternoon for us, and the 530th birthday cake for Martin Luther was a remarkable addition to the event. Thanks for your hospitality!!

We want you to be aware that Cora Voce will be back in Seattle for a concert at LMLC for our 2014-15 season, planned for the Spring Concert. We'll keep you posted!



Synod and ELCA News

Always
being made
New.
25 YEARS TOGETHER IN CHRIST

Volume 30, Number 11

December 2013

The Spirit

Come Lord Jesus

by the Rev. Kirby Unti, Bishop



The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them..."
Exodus 3:7-8 NIV

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling

among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 NIV

I have made it my own personal practice to use the Season of Advent as a time to imagine more fully what it means that God has taken up residency in our world. Preparing for the birth of Christ, for the coming of Christ is for me a deep desire to know Jesus in the flesh.

God coming to us is at the center of what the good news is all about. This action of drawing near reveals the depth of God's love for us. I know having four children how important it is for me to try to be there for them, especially if I think they are hurting. No doubt I have been an overly protective father but it is in my bones. I felt the same way when my parents were dying.

I wanted to be with them even though I was helpless in being able to do anything for them.

It is one thing for God to come, it is quite another that God would come in the flesh. Taking on flesh is - in and of itself - full of grace. I so admire people who know how to get down on the same level as others. Two of my heroes are Craig Rennebohm and Dick Lutz. These two pastors devoted their lives to working with the mentally ill on the streets of Seattle and South King County. I watched them patiently, painfully and with great love learn the language of those whom others only viewed as crazy. They began to find meaning in the images, themes, dramas, and hallucinations of those who make so little sense to most of us. Craig and Dick knew what it means to enter into another's world.

How powerful is the might of one who empties the self and becomes one with us and one of us.

Friends, may this advent season be a time when you experience more fully God's great love for you and God's presence in the world where you are living your life. In turn, may you be drawn into the care of others in ways in which you more fully enter their world.

Come Lord Jesus!

ALL are invited to the Synod Advent Open House Gatherings

December 2, 1pm-5pm at Fir-Conway Lutheran Church, Mount Vernon

December 3, 1pm-5pm at the Synod Office, St. John United, Seattle

Synod and ELCA News

Advent Opportunities Around the Synod

A PLU Christmas Hallelujah!

Pacific Lutheran University's inspirational Christmas concerts feature the Choir of the West, University Chorale and members of the University Symphony Orchestra performing hymns, carols and a choral orchestral masterwork, all in the great tradition of Lutheran choral music.

Visit: www.plu.edu/christmas

Seattle - Benaroya Hall on Wed. Dec 4, 7:30pm Tacoma - PLU's Lagerquist Concert Hall on

Sat. Dec. 7, 8pm; Sun. Dec. 8, 3pm; Fri. Dec. 13, 8pm

Advent Quiet Time

Dec. 7th 1pm - 4pm at Trinity, Lynnwood Whenever things got hectic, Jesus would invite his disciples to come away to a quiet place. You are invited to come away, to spend three hours of quiet preparing for the holy-days. Contact beejaymar@gmail.com.

Las Posadas

Sun Dec. 8, 4pm at Burlington Lutheran

El Camino de Emaús invites you to a celebration that commemorates the journey Joseph and Mary made from Nazareth to Bethlehem. While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. They searched for a safe refuge where Mary could give birth to the baby Jesus. Las Posadas is celebrated nine days before Christmas in cities and towns across Mexico and some other Latin-American countries. The Gospel doesn't narrate this pilgrimage in detail, but with this celebration we re-enact the difficulties that Joseph and Mary may have had faced looking for a place to spend the night.

Come and celebrate an evening of singing, candle light and worship as we make our way around Burlington Lutheran Church (inside and out) looking for a place for the baby Jesus to be born.

This simple service is followed by a fiesta with Mexican food and piñatas! Bring the whole family as we celebrate the holy hospitality of Christmas!

¡Entren Santos Peregrinos! "Come in, Holy Pilgrims!"

Christmas Extravaganza at Chancel Arts

Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3pm at Kent Lutheran

Join the Kent Lutheran Church Festival Choir under the direction of Sean Haley and Bell Ringers directed by Jane Wilson, and special guests Chris McCafferty with members of the Illumni Men's Chorale for an afternoon of music, song, and inspired readings

for the holiday season. This year's theme of "That Glorious Song of Olde (and New)" is sure to put people of all ages in the holiday spirit.

For more information: www.chancelarts.com

Bethel4All: Christmas Around the World

Sunday Dec. 22, 6pm at Bethel, Shoreline The United Ministries of Bethel4All invite you to worship and a "potluck of sweets." Join them for this celebration of diversity in Christ! Bethel4All is the combined effort of Bethel Lutheran Church, Bethel Ethiopian Church of Seattle, Church of Good News for all Nations, Ethiopian Evangelical Church of Seattle: Ambassadors, Iglesia Evangelica Lirios de Los Valles, and the Reborn Church.

Advent Devotionals:

From Vibrant Faith Ministries:

Each day of this devotional provides a scripture reading, a short devotion and four-key activities to do with your loved ones. Their office team, coaches, board members, several associates and writers for the Faith Formation Learning Exchange and Vibrant Faith @ Home have contributed to this devotional: www.vibrantfaith.org/brochures/taking-the-advent-story-home.pdf3

From Church of Steadfast Love:

During the Season of Advent we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ. As Christmas approaches the craziness of our lives traditionally increase as gift buying and parties are added to our daily routines, but not everyone has the comforts that many of us enjoy without giving them a second thought. It is for this reason that we call our devotional, **"Silver and Gold Have We None."** Those whom we serve have not the material possessions that our society prizes, but they have the wonderful gifts of hope and promise. And we, those who find ourselves on the streets this holiday seasons, in the shelters, and securely housed, would like to share of ourselves with you this season.

www.lutheransnw.org/files/publications/silver_and_gold_have_we_none_13.pdf

The Spirit, a publication of the Northwest Washington Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), is intended for members, leaders, and clergy of synod congregations and organizations.

Congregations are encouraged to copy ***The Spirit*** and include it in their own newsletters. ***The Spirit*** can be downloaded from the Synod website.

Northwest Washington Synod, ELCA

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Information for the December issue of *The Spirit* is due to the Synod Office by December 10.

ELCA Prayer Ventures

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the church. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

1 First Sunday of Advent

Merciful God, as we light the first candle of Advent, we lift up our payers – at altars, in homes and in waiting rooms – for the health of all your people. We also remember, on this World AIDS Day, all those who have died or currently live with or are affected by HIV and AIDS; though Jesus Christ, our healer and lord. Amen

2 Pray for the continued support and success of the ELCA Malaria Campaign, which has added the countries of Namibia and Burundi, for a total of 13 countries in Africa where strides are being made in containing malaria.

3 Remember in your prayers new ELCA missionary in Hong Kong Abraham Peterson, who teaches English at the Lutheran Theological Seminary to students from all parts of Asia.

4 John of Damascus, theologian and hymn writer
Lift up the efforts of many in this church working to include people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities in our worship services, including Susan Lindberg's All Right Ministry in Wayland, Mass., which strives to create worship experiences where all can participate.

5 Pray that our youth will make their faith relevant in all aspects of their lives, including the many ways they experience and participate in today's online digital society.

6 Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

Pray for the children who attend ELCA schools and early childhood education centers. Ask that the message of God's love in Jesus Christ may come through strongly for them in this season of many distractions.

7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan

Remember in your prayers the staff of the ELCA Wittenberg Center in Wittenberg, Germany, as they

expand their programs to include seminars for women from the Global South and from minority Lutheran churches.

8 Second Sunday of Advent

O Lord, as we light the second candle of Advent we ask for you to open our eyes to see the face of Jesus in the eyes of strangers. Enlighten our way as we journey together toward the celebration of the birth of your son, Jesus. Amen.

9 Lift up the ministries of ELCA congregations that bring God's love and care to their members living in assisted-living facilities.

10 Pray for the seven young adults who are serving for a year with the church in Argentina and Uruguay through the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program, working with young people, human rights and the differently abled.

11 Pray that we will remember to involve our young people in the ministries of this church by making, as Wartburg Theological Seminary professor Kristine Stache says, a "shift from providing ministries *to* children, youth and families to that of ministering *with* children, youth and families."

12 Pray that God's love for others will be as evident in our online relationships as it is in our face-to-face ones, and give thanks for the efforts of the people and congregations helping to make us aware of the dangers of online bullying.

13 Give thanks for the unity shown through this church's full communion partnership with six other churches — Presbyterian Church (USA), Reformed Church in America, United Church of Christ, The Episcopal Church, The Moravian Church, The United Methodist Church.

14 Include in your prayers the Rev. David and Mary Kuck, ELCA missionaries in Jamaica, and their theological education ministry.

15 Third Sunday of Advent

Holy God, as we wait in the glow of the third candle of Advent, we hear the words of your messenger,

ELCA Prayer Ventures

John the Baptist. Help us to prepare a way for Jesus in our communities, our congregations and throughout the world. We especially hold up in prayer missionary children, who live, learn and grow in their faith around the world.

16 Pray for congregations seeking creative ways to deal with reduced income and attendance — such as St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Caledonia, Wis., and Emmaus Lutheran Church in Racine, Wis. These congregations chose to alternate weekly worship between their two buildings.

17 Give thanks for the 800 International Leaders who have received ELCA scholarships to complete their studies at colleges, universities and seminaries in the United States and around the world in the last 25 years.

18 Remember in your prayers the Rev. Kevin Jacobson, an ELCA missionary in Suriname, and his service in leadership development and parish ministry.

19 Pray for the many programs supported by the donations of ELCA members that help people escape poverty, such as the Nairobi International Lutheran Congregation's knitting training school in Kenya, which helps its students achieve self-reliance.

20 Lift up in your prayers the nine members of the ELCA Young Adults in Global Mission program who are walking in accompaniment for a year in the United Kingdom.

21 Include in your prayers the multicultural ministries of this church and our need in an increasingly diverse world to welcome all God's people.

22 Fourth Sunday of Advent

O God, our life and our strength, as we light the fourth candle of Advent, we pray for the people of Mexico, Nicaragua and Nigeria. Give strength to congregations in these countries as they witness to your peace and joy.

23 Pray for ELCA missionaries Dr. Leland Albright and Susan Ferson and their work in health care in Kenya.

24 Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve

Listen closely for the voice of the angel as the birth of Jesus is announced this night and join with the multitude of the heavenly host in saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven." Give thanks and praise for all that God has done.

25 Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day

With the shepherds go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, return glorifying and praising God for all that you have heard and seen.

26 Stephen, deacon and martyr

Pray for the young people in our criminal justice system that they will find the help needed to change their lives and that the justice system will be open to reforms as outlined in the ELCA's "The Church and Criminal Justice: Hearing the Cries."

27 Give thanks on this day for the 435 new congregations that the ELCA has started since it was formed 25 years ago.

28 The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Give thanks for the directors for evangelical mission in the ELCA synods as they help new congregations develop and help bring renewal and vigor to the mission of current congregations.

29 First Sunday of Christmas

Almighty God, thank you for your love and the greatest gift ever given — Jesus Christ. We lift in prayer all who are searching for this gift and remember those who are in dark places and ask that you light their way.

30 Include in your prayers ELCA missionary in Cairo, Egypt, Michael Parker and his ministry in theological education.

31 New Year's Eve

On this last day of the ELCA's anniversary year, give thanks for 25 years together in Christ, and pray for God's guidance for the next 25 years as we are "always being made new."

This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact info@elca.org for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 West Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.

December Worship Leaders

	12/1	12/8	12/15	12/22	12/29
Assisting Minister	Paul Olsen	Steve Olson	Katy Sarff	Gordon Trombley	Paul Olsen
Lector	Phyllis Swenson	Vicki Cook	Sandy Jamieson	LMLC Students	Karen Olsen
Acolyte	Jackson Terhark	Gordon Trombley	Kyle Gough	Donna Smith	Kyle Gough
Communion & Altar Care	Elaine Hardin and Karen Senior				
Greeters and Ushers	Heidi, Kyle, and Gavin Gough	Bill Meade Laurie Meade	Lollie Ellingson Bjorg Hansen	Leia Smith Ryan Smith	Gordon Trombley Steve Olson
Song Leaders	Vicki Cook	Kathy Nelson	Julie Moe Janice Sherlock	Paul Olsen	Kris Johansson
Musicians	Lennon Aldort		Jerry Zimmerman		
Nursery Care	Kaci Bendickson				
Special Music	Audrey Long				

Thank you to all that volunteer to help lead our worship services.

If anyone is interested, but did not return a Time and Talent form or has not been recently scheduled, please let Pastor Julie know!

Christmas Eve - 12/24		
	5:30 pm	10 pm
Assisting Minister	Paul Olsen	
Lector	Karen Olsen	Elaine Hardin
Acolyte	Gordon Trombley	
Crucifer	Gordon Trombley	
Greeters and Ushers	TBD	
Song Leader	TBD	Vicki Cook
Musician	Lennon Aldort	

December Readings and Celebrations

Lectionary Readings

December 1| Advent 1

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

December 8| Advent 2

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

December 15| Advent 3

Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

December 22| Advent 4

Isaiah 7:10-16
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
Romans 1:1-7
Matthew 1:18-25

December 24| Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7
Psalm 96
Titus 2:11-14
Luke 2:1-14[15-20]

December 25| Christmas Day

Isaiah 62:6-12
Psalm 97
Titus: 3:4-7
Luke 2:[1-7]8-20

December 29| Christmas 1

Isaiah 63:7-9
Psalm 148
Hebrews 2:10-18
Matthew 2:13-23

Happy December Birthdays!

4	Jonathan Stever	16	James Gibbs	21	Karen Hoven	28	Ann Jamieson
							Annamarie Norman
5	Melissa Brassfield		Carl Ebeling	24	Leia Smith		
	Shannon Stief	18	Janice Sherlock		Vanessa Elliott	29	Larry Molzahn
6	Bette Harris		Katherine Vitcovich	26	Vivian Harlin		Lola Whitner
							John Hicks
7	Dale Ebeling		Taylor Martin	27	Calvin North	31	Pam Stever
		20	Megan Meade				Erika Skovron
11	Ben Smith		Michelle Sorrick				

Congratulations to our December Anniversary!

29 Carla & Lowell Burgason

Let us remember these fellow members on their special days by rejoicing and celebrating together.

December 2013

See our live calendar online for any changes or updates: www.luthermemorialseattle.com/calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9 Advent Cheer Baskets, Sunday School, and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 10 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	2 <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i>	3 6 LMLC Council 7 Early Ford V8 Club	4 9:30 Seekers 3:45 Broadview-Thomson Chess Club 5:30 AI-Anon 7 Advent Vespers	5	6 7-1 Foss Christmas Party	7
8 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9 First Sunday Faith Forum, Sunday School, and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 10 Worship with guest Rev. Paul Hoffman 11:30 Fellowship	9 <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i> 10 NE Bible Study	10	11 9:30 Seekers 3:45 Broadview-Thomson Chess Club 5:30 AI-Anon 7 Advent Vespers	12 6:30 Youth Justice	13 6 Cub Scouts - Webelos	14
15 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 10 Worship with guest Rev. Karl Lipke 11:30 Fellowship	16 <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i>	17	18 9:30 Seekers 3:45 Broadview-Thomson Chess Club 5:30 AI-Anon 7 Advent Vespers	19 6:30 Youth Justice	20	21 1 LMLC Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal
Mary's Place at LMLC - December 17-24						
22 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 10 Worship with the Children's Pageant 11:30 Fellowship and Christmas Caroling	23 <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i>	24 Christmas Eve 5:30 Christmas Eve Worship 10 Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas Day	26	27	28
Mary's Place at LMLC - December 17-24						
29 8:30 Choir Rehearsal 9 Sunday School and Fruits of the Spirit Breakfast 10 Worship 11:30 Fellowship	30 <i>Pastor Julie's Sabbath</i>	31 New Year's Eve 6 Cub Scout Pack 321	Office Closed			



LUTHER MEMORIAL
lutheran church

Actively Sharing Christ's Love in Community

Missing a Sunday this month?

We now have Online Giving through our website:
www.luthermemorialseattle.com/onlinegiving