

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF December 9th THROUGH December 16th

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDIES

DAY	STUDY	TOPIC/TITLE	WHEN & WHERE
Today	Adult Study	Stewardship Basics	10:30 AM – Fellowship Hall
Today	Youth Study	Finding the Christ in Christmas Movies	10:30 AM – Martin Room

STEWARDSHIP NOTE: Luke 3:4 – *“As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, ‘The voice of one crying in the wilderness: prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’”* God makes long-range plans: Isaiah lived more than 700 years before St. John the Baptist preached by the Jordan River. Obviously, God sees farther into the future than we do. That’s yet another reason to trust Him when it comes to how He tells us to live our lives. He knows what is coming, and we do not.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by the Memorial Committee.

ELEVATOR FUND: So far, we have raised **\$23,169** for the Elevator Fund. Thanks be to God!

NEW MAIL SLOT NUMBERS AND 2019 ENVELOPES: The mail slot numbers have changed, so please refer to the lists at the back of the nave for your new mail slot number. Offering envelopes for 2019 are now in your mail slot. Thank you to Dennis Eaton and John Adams for widening the slots for us, so that we can place the envelopes in them. (If you do not have a mail slot or envelopes, please let the church office know so that we can correct our error. Thanks!)

CHRISTMAS CAROLING: TODAY, December 9th, the Youth Group invites the congregation to join them to go Christmas caroling to our shut-ins. We will have a light lunch at church around **11:45 AM**. After lunch, we will carpool to our shut-in members’ residences. It is always a fun time to bring some cheer and happiness to our shut-ins during this season of Advent!

HOSPITALIZATIONS: Please notify me if you (or a loved one) is in the hospital so that I can visit and pray for you. Because of federal HIPAA privacy rules, doctors, hospitals, and other health care providers cannot and do not release this information. Therefore, I need you to tell me so that I can visit you. Thank you for your help and understanding! – Pastor Crane

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION: Stop by the Office Equipment Room to update your contact information. You can note any changes directly on the directory located there or you can place a note in the secretary’s mailbox. You can also call or email the church office. We want to keep our records as accurate as possible, especially as we prepare an updated directory.

WHOOPS! The lap robes that we are making for St. Monica’s are 48” x 60”, not 40” x 50” as stated in December’s newsletter. Thanks! – Ruth Anger

VOTERS’ ASSEMBLY: NEXT Sunday, December 16th at 10:30 AM. Agenda: Elections and 2019 Budget

GRACE COOKBOOKS: 100th Anniversary Cookbooks by Morris Press are available for sale before and after the worship service. All proceeds go to the elevator fund. Thank you!

CHRISTMAS CRAFTS FOR SALE: A Grace member has donated homemade Christmas ornaments and crafts for the elevator fund. They are on display in the Office Equipment Room.

PENS FOR SALE: The Grace Youth Group is selling stylus pens with Grace's name and address on them. The pens are \$1.50 each and are on sale in the Office Equipment Room.

NOTE FROM MARION EILERS: It seems unreal that a year has passed since John has gone to be with his Savior. I want to thank you again for all your prayers, love, care, phone calls, listening, cards, hugs, and gifts. I know Jesus has carried me and will continue to do so. In Christ, Marion Eilers.

FURNITURE FOR NEW ELEVATOR FOYER: We are looking for a large **winged-back chair** (non-reclining) and a round or rectangle mahogany or cherry hardwood **end table** to be used in the foyer of the new entrance for our elevator addition. If you have either of these items and you would like to donate them for this purpose, please contact Nancy Lockrem.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH PARENTS: On **Sat., December 15th**, from **9:00 –10:30 AM** we will be having a Christmas service practice at church. It is important that the children are there to practice. Please continue to work on the hymns and recitations at home. Thank you!

YOUTH CHRISTMAS SERVICE: On **Sunday, December 16th**, at **4:00 PM** the Sunday School and Youth will be having a Christmas service. The service is based on the familiar hymn, "What Child Is This?". We encourage you to invite your family and friends to this service as we celebrate the birth of Jesus! Following the service, there will be a light reception that all are invited to. The congregation is encouraged to join us for this Christmas service and to hear the younger members of our congregation share the wonderful news of CHRISTmas with you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY: On **Sunday, December 23rd**, during normal Sunday School time (**10:30 – 11:30 AM**), the Sunday School children will be having a Christmas party. Hope to see your kids there!

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH CHRISTMAS YARD SIGNS are available near the coat room. Please take one and display in your yard for this Advent and Christmas season. If you wish, return them to the same spot after Christmas, and they will be stored until next year.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT: St. John's Lutheran Church, 1501 Erie Street, **TODAY, December 9th**, at **7:00 PM**. Pre-concert music at **6:45 PM** will feature guest organist Frederik M. Bach.

LIVE NATIVITY at Lutheran Chapel of the Cross on **Fri., December 14th** at **7:00 PM** and **Sat., December 15th** at **4:30 PM** and **6:30 PM**. The 4:30 service will be the children's program.