



THE SHEPHERD'S CALL

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

December 2017

Vol. 11

No. 12

Getting Ready for Christmas

Only the Word of God can really get any of us ready for Christmas. It will never be days of shopping that can get us ready; it can never be the preparation of meals in and of themselves that can get us prepared; it can never be flesh and blood family that can give us the necessary focus.

However, with the family of Christ and through the Word of God, we can begin the real and proper preparation that must be made in this holy season. Again we will be gathering as the family of Christ here at SOTL to make preparation together. Oh, yes we will have food and fixins of a good Lutheran potluck, but not the food alone. Oh yes, we will gather with our faith family within our church home, but not necessarily just flesh and blood family.

We will be building on the Reformation 500 theme of "Christ Alone." Each Wednesday in December (leading up to Christmas) we will consider the hallmarks of the Lutheran Reformation in helping us prepare for the coming of Christ into our lives.

By looking at the first hallmark of "Scripture Alone," we will be preparing for the coming of Christmas. It will be the prophecies of the prophets who predicted what God would do and how he would do it in order to bring His Son into the world theatre, and for Him to conquer sin and death. We are reminded that "man does not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes out of the mouth of God."

Then consideration of the second hallmark of "Grace Alone," will allow us to realize what really happened in the birth of Jesus - that through the person and work of Jesus God is giving us the gift of His own Son, and through Him the gift of grace and salvation. The gifts that we might purchase to share with family and friends can never compare to the unmerited favor of God - the gift of his Grace

And finally, the third hallmark of "Faith Alone," will lead us to the response of the Shepherds, of Mary and Joseph, the Wise Men as well as our response to the

message and the coming of the Savior. Faith in Christ not only ponders the things of God within the heart, but also shares the message with those who have not heard, as did the shepherds and the Magi. This faith is what we celebrate in the church today...until Christ comes again to take us to be with him.

So, let's get ready together with the family at SOTL as we celebrate "Christ Alone" in this holy season and in this anniversary year!

Peace in the Lord,
Pastor Tom and Jo



NOTE FROM THE PASTOR... If you have any time sensitive information such as prayer requests, hospitalizations or any emergency situations please use Pastor Petersen's mobile phone number and voice mail at 608-334-5718, or email him at sotlpastortom@gmail.com. Either of these will allow timely response.



PRAYER REQUESTS: If you have someone or something that you would like Pastor Petersen to include in either his personal prayers or in our public Prayer of the Church on Sunday morning, please fill out a prayer request card, located on the guest book stand, and place it in his box or contact him at the Church Office. It is important that all of our members receive pastoral care when it is needed, especially during times of sickness or other difficulty. If you know of an individual, even if it is a non-member, who would appreciate and benefit from a pastoral visit, please contact the church office or Pastor Petersen.

Merry
Christmas

ELDER OF THE MONTH

Ken Stokes
320-692-5535

USHERS FOR THE MONTH

Barb Scherfenberg
Bruce Sundberg

FELLOWSHIP SERVERS

- 03rd Lee & Linda Lennander
- 10th Arlen & Cindy Kuehl
- 17th Jo Petersen
- 24th No Fellowship
- 31st No Fellowship

Many thanks to all our volunteers! If you are able to help, please see the bulletin board for opportunities. Thank you!



BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

- 03rd Cathy Buhlmann
- 04th Shirley Kuschel
- 08th Kim Spicer
- 13th Faye Feltmann
- 15th Bill Alleman
Janet Uhlig
- 18th Linda Lennander
- 23rd Bonnie Ryg
- 24th Sheila Anderson
- 29th Marcy Schultz



ANNIVERSARIES IN DECEMBER

- 08th Bob & Joan Wandersee
- 14th David & Candy Larson
- 16th Steve & Beth Lawrence
- 22nd Gaylord & Bonnie Ryg
- 28th Dale & Verdean Franklin



YOUTH BIRTHDAYS IN DECEMBER

- 03rd Evie Rusnak
- 07th Taya Spicer
- 09th Destiny Raddatz
- 17th Paul Ruesch



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sundays

Adult Bible Study: 8:30a.m.
Sunday School: 8:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

Bible Study: 9:30 a.m.
Jr. Confirmation Class: 6:30 p.m.



THANK YOU: Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make this year's Trunk or Treat a success. We had around 100 children go through this year.



SHEPHERD OF THE LAKE'S WEBSITE:

We invite you to check out our website at shepherdofthelake.org. We are now offering live streaming for Sunday's message through Shepherd of the Lake face-book, linked to our website. Lee Lennander is serving as our web master. Please ask Lee if you have questions.



2018 OFFERING ENVELOPES: You will find the new church envelopes set out in the Fellowship Hall. Please pick up your envelopes. If you don't find envelopes and would like to receive them, please let the church secretary know and she will get you set up or if you don't want envelopes next year please let her know.



THANKSGIVING DINNER: We want to say *THANK YOU* to the Kinzel family for putting together and serving another Thanksgiving Dinner to the community. We also want to thank all who helped in any way with donations and help of any kind that you may have done.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: Thank you to everyone who participated in this year's Operation Christmas Children evangelism project here at Shepherd of the Lake. Your donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you so much.





POINSETTIAS FOR THE ALTAR:

Everyone is invited to bring a poinsettia plant to place by the altar in memory of a loved one or for a special occasion. Any color will work. You may take your plant home at the end of the holiday season. Thank you!



CHURCH RECORDS UPDATING: We're asking for everyone's help in getting all of our membership records updated so the new Shepherd Staff program has all current information. We are hoping to set up a communication program so that we would be able to send out information to all members when needed.

We will be making up information sheets and are asking all members to please fill them out and place them in the Church Secretary's mailbox.



EMERGENCY CHURCH CLOSING: It is that time of year again when we start thinking about bad weather, etc. The emergency closing of the church because of bad weather will be decided by Pastor and the Elder of the month. Members can check about closing of the church because of weather by listening to radio station KKIN 94.3FM in Aitkin, checking out our website, or calling the church.



MIDWEEK ADVENT: This Advent season we will be doing our Midweek event a little different. We will begin the evening with a potluck supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by building on the Reformation 500 theme of "Christ Alone."

- 06th "Scripture Alone"
- 13th "Grace Alone"
- 20th "Faith Alone"

Please read Pastors message about this years Midweek theme.

We will be having a Christmas Eve Service at 6:00 p.m. on the 24th and no service on Christmas Day.



We wish to extend our Christian sympathy to the family of Linda Alleman. We pray that the Lord will comfort Bill and his family through this difficult time with the good news of resurrection joy.



THANK YOU: We would like to thank everyone at SOTL for all the cards, prayers and concern shown to me and my family with Linda's illness and death. It helps to have a church family there as we go through this difficult time. We want to thank the LWML ladies for the wonderful luncheon that they provided. We want to thank Pastor Petersen for being there for us during these past few months.

God's blessings to you all!
Bill Alleman and Family



GIDEON COLLECTION UPDATE: The collection taken on Sunday, November 19th for the Gideon's came to \$201.00. Thank you to everyone who donated to this worthwhile cause.



SECRETARY'S HEALTH UPDATE: I will be starting my radiation treatments on Tuesday, November 28th, for 4 weeks, with the last one on December 26th. I will be working at home during this time and will to the church occasionally. If you need need help please call be at 218-764-3244. Most of my appointments are scheduled around 9:30 a.m.



A recipe from...

PRALINE PUMPKIN DESSERT

From the kitchen of: *In memory of Ev. Wallentine*

- 1 can Pumpkin
- 1 can Evaporated Milk
- 1 tsp. Pumpkin Pie Spice
- 3 Eggs
- 1 c. Sugar

Beat together and pour into greased 9X13 inch pan.

Sprinkle with:

- Dry White Cake Mix
- 1 c. Pecans
- 3/4 c. melted Butter or Margarine

Bake at 350° for 50 to 60 minutes.



Midweek Advent Services

Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church

*Our 2017 Advent series will be
"Christ Alone"
Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m.*

Again we will be gathering as the family of Christ here at SOTL to make preparation together. We will have a potluck supper starting at 6:00. We will be building on the Reformation 500 theme "Christ Alone" each Wednesday in December (leading up to Christmas) we will consider the hallmarks of the Lutheran Reformation in helping us prepare for the coming of Christ into our lives.

*Advent 1: Wednesday, December 6th
"Scripture Alone"*

*Advent 2: Wednesday, December 13th
"Grace Alone"*

*Advent 3: Wednesday, December 20th
"Faith Alone"*


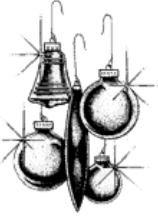






Shepherd of the Lake Lutheran Church Garrison, MN

December 2017



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30 a.m.-Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hr	4 9AM-Circuit Pastor's @Garrison 6PM-Brd. Of Elders Meeting	5	6 9:30 AM-Bible Study 6:00PM-Midweek Advent Potluck & Gathering	7 	8	9
10 8:30 a.m.-Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hr	11	12	13 9:30 AM-Bible Study 6:00PM-Midweek Advent Potluck & Gathering	14	15	16
17 8:30 a.m.-Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS 11AM-Fellowship Hr	18 	19 9AM-Board & Committee Meetings 10AM-Church Council	20 9:30 AM-Bible Study 6:00PM-Midweek Advent Potluck & Gathering	21 1 st Day of Winter	22	23
24 Christmas Eve 8:30 a.m.-Bible Study & Sunday School 10AM-Divine Service w/LS No Fellowship 6PM-Christmas Eve Service	25 Christmas Day No Service Office Closed	26	27 9:30 a.m.-Bible Study	28	29	30 
31 New Years Eve 8:30 AM-Bible Study 10AM-Divine Service w/LS No Fellowship						

Merry Christmas!

Vision Statement: "Share the GOSPEL"



Shepherd of the Lake

LUTHERAN CHURCH

— Missouri Synod —

P.O. Box 155
10583 US Highway 169
Garrison, MN 56450

To Those Loved by Christ:



DECEMBER

2017



Shepherd of the Lake

LUTHERAN CHURCH

— Missouri Synod —

Email Addresses:

Pastor's email: sotlpastortom@gmail.com

Secretary's e-mail: SOTL1982@gmail.com

Phone Numbers:

Church's #: 320-692-4581

Pastor's Cell #: 608-334-5718

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday Education Hour: 8:30 a.m.

Sunday Divine Service: 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Hour: 11:00 a.m.