

THE VOICE OF GALILEE



DECEMBER 2023

GLORY BE TO GOD! JESUS IS BORN



Dear People of Galilee:

"Jesus is coming! He's coming to save us. We must be ready so He can take us up to His heaven where we can meet God and be ONE!" This is a song I learned as a teenager at Luther Dell Bible Camp in Remer, Minnesota. We are in the midst of Waiting for the Lord! We wait in December during Advent for the coming of the newborn King, the Christ Child. We prepare like crazy! The stores are decked out with Christmas decorations. Christmas carols are on the radio. But how often do we really think about the second coming of Jesus? Are we preparing like crazy for that? We know what to do for the Advent of the baby Jesus. We get a Christmas tree, and go shopping for presents, or are busily making crafts for our loved ones to wrap and put under the tree. Yes, we are pretty "familiar with", "practiced at" and "committed to" the coming of the baby Jesus. But are we familiar, practiced and committed to BEING READY for His second coming? There are some uncomfortable descriptions of Jesus returning, namely that He will come to judge us. There are plenty of poetic descriptions in scripture about what this judging Jesus will do when He returns. For example, He will separate the sheep from the goats, and we will hope to God we are counted among the sheep. He will separate the wheat from the chaff, and we will hope to God we are the wheat. Yikes! In our Lutheran Churches we don't preach very much about these parts of the Bible because the emphasis of the Lutheran faith is on GRACE, which means "Unconditional Love and Divine Forgiveness and Mercy as a FREE GIFT which we receive through faith, not based on our good works so that no one should boast." But what the heck, our trust in God's grace should not make us ignorant about our own sacred scripture, especially when it comes to the stories that Jesus Himself used to teach us the WAY of life. And so, yes of course, lean on the promises of God, the promises of grace and forgiveness and everlasting life to

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"While we wait for the blessed hope - the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ."

Titus 2:13



AROUND OUR CHURCH

YOUNG AT HEART

YAH will meet just once this month, Tuesday, Dec. 12. We will also meet a half-hour earlier than usual. Please be ready to have lunch at 12:30, followed with a gift exchange, card games, and celebration of December birthdays. We will each bring a gender-neutral wrapped gift in the amount of \$7.50 for the gift exchange.



Sandy Altendorfer has a fracture in her foot, so is sporting a "healing boot" for a month. We wish her a speedy recovery so she can be out and about for the upcoming holidays. Barb Bartok says "it's great to be back at YAH". Road construction and detours sometimes made it a long drive for her.

Shari Sailer is in our thoughts and prayers at the recent loss of her dear husband Dell. All who knew Dell will miss him. Dell is pictured with his friend Fred in the church library when Dell shared his talent on a special day.



We enjoy socializing/getting to know each other better, so if you are available, we would love to have you join us. If you have any questions, call Karen at 651-488-9074 or Sharell at 651-746-9074.

ALTAR GUILD

The Altar Guild is busy this month. We are making favors for the Union Gospel Mission, as well as donating new socks for men who reside there.

Members of the Altar Guild set up the altar for communion every week, as well as change the paraments, candles, and banners on an ongoing basis, and keep the eternity candle burning.

The Christmas trees and nativity scene are set up for the season, as well as poinsettias which beautify the area.

Special candles are set up for both Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services.

ENJOYABLE EVENINGS



November's fun crew, the Kitchen Kut Ups performed kazoos & enthusiasm.

Now mark your calendars for Monday, Dec. 11th when the Roseville Community Band will share beautiful holiday music for us. Feel free to dress in anything "Christmas-y" ...from your best attire to your ugliest sweater!



Mount Olive & Baby Diapers

You are invited to donate diapers, which Pastor Dana will be collecting and storing in her office over the next two months.

Mount Olive Lutheran Church in Minneapolis gave Galilee \$3000 for the Rice Street Gardens this year. In gratitude and mutual-help, Galilee is collecting baby diapers for Mount Olive's "Diaper Depot" neighborhood ministry, which will culminate in a special Diaper Sunday at Galilee on February 4. The diaper sizes most needed are 4, 5 and 6.

More details about the Ministry will be provided in January's VOICE.



Galilee appreciates all the volunteer hours the Altar Guild donates to keep things functioning. Special thanks to Terry, Abe, Steve, Wayne & Ron for setting up the Christmas trees!



AROUND OUR CHURCH

GALILADIES

The GaliLadies wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Our group has been busy signing & making Christmas cards for Harmony Gardens Health Care Center and for the Veterans hospital. We have 90 cards that will be delivered to Harmony Gardens in Maplewood. And have 166 cards signed for the hospital. Plus we have eight Christmas cards signed & will be sent to Galilee shut ins. We also are giving Harmony Gardens new cards for them to give the residents for birthdays, get well, & thinking of you occasions. Thank you to whoever has been putting new cards in my mail slot for us to use.

Judy: Took the used Christmas cards from last year and made beautiful cards at her home. Spent many, many hours making them for Harmony Gardens. She also added a Christmas ornament in each card.

Sandy: Is now painting Christmas rocks. What a cute idea! If you are interested in any, contact her.

Marlene: Her daughter, son-in-law, & grandkids come to visit her before the weather turns too cold.

Ardis: It was an honor to provide the grape juice from our cabin grapes for the service on November 19th.

Joyce: Did touch healing on Judy for her eye sight and on Sandy for her ankle & knee healing.

We meet Dec. 21st at 12:00 for our Christmas party. We are open for new members or just visitors.



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all the Baptised, all those who believe and trust in Him. But also, my fellow believers, Jesus asks us and admonishes us and even warns us to BE READY for His second coming. I have some good news. The scripture tells us exactly how to be ready. And the instructions from Jesus are heartwarming, uplifting, caring, generous and abounding in steadfast love. They are specifically: "When I am hungry, give me something to eat. When I am thirsty, give me water. When I am naked give me clothing to wear, when I am sick, take care of me. When I am in prison, visit me." What a mighty God we serve! Jesus is asking us to be the Church! And so, as we prepare for the Advent of our Lord in a manger, I challenge you to prepare for the "other" Advent just as heartily, for it is extremely important to God.

Blessed Advent. Merry Christmas.

Pastor Dana Nelson

NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

We had a good November meeting. Here are some items we discussed:

- Staff Reviews
- 2024 Budget
- New Snowplow Provider
- New Property Insurance Provider
- Combined worship service with the Chinese Lutheran Church
- Sunday, 12/24:
 - 4th Sunday of Advent service = 9:30am
 - Christmas Eve service = 4pm
- Outreach: My Very Own Bed
- 2024 Ideas for the Globe Offering
- 2024 Bay Lake Camp
- 2024 Youth Gathering in New Orleans (July)
- Diaper Drive for Mt. Olive Church
- Red Cross Blood Drive - December 13th

That wraps it up for November's meeting. Everyone have a **GREAT December, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

CarolAnn Hart

AROUND OUR CHURCH



Lessons & Carols

December 17, 9:30 a.m.

Bells of Galilee | Special Music Christmas Pageant

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 4pm, Dec 24



OFFERING ENVELOPES

If you have not yet received your offering envelopes, please check in the nathex. There are still a few of these on the table. Thank you!

DECEMBER ADULT FORUMS

- Dec 3 Altar Guild invites everyone to make favors for Union Gospel Mission
- Dec 10 "The Fingerprints of God: History of the Universe" - Ron Peterson
- Dec 17 Lessons and Carols with pageant (no forum)
- Dec 24 4th week Advent/Christmas Eve (no forum)
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve (no forum)

BIBLE STUDY

"People Who Care" by Donald O. Jacobson

This month our Bible study explores a caring God who is revealed to us through our intense human emotions.

Join us Wednesdays at 2:00pm for Bible Study in the church library. (No bible study experience necessary.)



IT'S CHRISTMAS COOKIE TIME!

Sunday School kids & families are welcome to make Christmas Cookies on Saturday December 16 from 10am-12 noon. the day before our Lessons and Carols service! The cookies will be the treats for that special Sunday. Pastor will have ingredients, but you are welcome to bring dough, ingredients, ready to decorate baked cookies or whatever your confectioner's imagination leads you to do! P.S. Sunday School Teachers welcome!

AROUND OUR CHURCH

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

It is never too late to turn in a pledge for 2024. Thanks to all who have already done so - - we are now up to 27 pledges for \$120,000. (FYI: last year we had 35 for \$125,000.)

GLOBE UPDATE

Globe money for animals has now reached over \$1,100. We are making a difference!



What a blessing.



OUTREACH NEWS

This year for our Christmas project the Outreach Team is helping the program *My Very Own Bed*. It was created in 2014 in North Minneapolis as a non-profit to provide beds and bedding to children and young people in the metro area who don't have a bed of their own. In November they were able to provide their 7,000th bed. This Christmas season we will provide Dream Kits which are composed of a set of twin sheets with a pillow case, a twin size mattress protector, a pillow and pillow protector, a comforter or blanket, a stuffed animal and a book. The beauty of this project is that we can provide whole sets or just individual items which *My Very Own Bed* will combine with donations from other groups. You might have fun with a theme like Star Wars, unicorns, trucks, Barbie or any other idea. Remember that the beds are also for teens. Everything is for single beds.

We will collect items all of December. There will be a box in the narthex to place your donations. If you prefer to donate money, you may write a check to Galilee Outreach or give cash to Miriam Peterson and Outreach members will do your shopping. We will store all the items in the office until we deliver them in early January.



Our sister in Christ, Edith Londroche, is sporting a beautiful prayer shawl. Edith is wonderful and her family is taking excellent care of her. God bless the Londroches!



WORSHIP & EDUCATION

Scripture Lessons

DECEMBER 3

First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 64:1-9

Prayer that God would come with power and compassion

Psalm 80:1-7,17-19

Let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Gifts of grace sustain those who wait for the end

Mark 13:24-27

The sudden coming of the Son of Man

DECEMBER 10

Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11

Good news of God's coming to a people in exile

Psalm 85:1-2,8-13

Righteousness shall prepare a pathway for God

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Waiting for and hastening the day of God

Mark 1:1-8

John appears from the wilderness

DECEMBER 17

Third Sunday of Advent -

Lessons and Carols pageant

Luke 1: 26-38, Luke 1: 39-45,

Luke 1: 68-71, Matthew 1: 18-23,

Luke 2: 4-7, Luke 2: 8-14

DECEMBER 24

Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 Samuel 7:1-11,16

The Lord's promise to David

Psalm 89:1-4,19-26

Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing

Romans 16:25-27

The mystery of God revealed in Jesus Christ

Luke 1:26-38

The angel appears to Mary

DECEMBER 24 - Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Light shines: a child is born for us

Psalm 96

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared

Luke 2:1-14[15-20]

God with us

DECEMBER 31

First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Clothed in garments of salvation

Psalm 148

The splendor of the Lord is over earth and heaven

Galatians 4:4-7

Children and heirs of God

Luke 2:22-40

The presentation of the Child

Prayer Requests

Frank Frattelone

Jerry & Adrienne Harty (Sue's Parents)

Deanna Kuehn (LouWanna's niece)

Corey and Khalil Sanders

Mark Beireis, Kim AndersonBenson &

Mitch Azarcon (friends-Steve Bartz)

Sandy Altendorfer

Amanda Nelson

George Beeks

Ellen Tran

Darren Eide (SIL Lorrie Hayne)

Madeline Johnson

Brenna O'Keefe

Randall Strand

MN Faith Chinese Lutheran Church

St. Paul Friends Nepali Church

Uhominyi Lutheran Church in

Iringa, Tanzania

Family & friends of Jim Payne (North Emanuel)

Family & friends of

James Zewers (Darla/Kevin)

Family & friends of Richard Lindskog

Family & friends of Dell Sailer

Family & friends of Eh Moo (R. S. G.)

Family & friends of Rev. Tom Schultz

Family & friends of Laquandis Simmons (Pamela Beverly's daughter)

Family & friends of Josh Pelto

Family & friends of Carlos Cleveland (Darla)

December Birthdays

3 Angie Bergman

5 Jim Zrust

5 Lennex O'Keefe

6 Raymond Nottidge

7 Liana Taylor

8 Patricia Craft

10 Parker Robert Osterman

11 Dick Haslach

16 Lou Wanna Osterman

18 Jim Hart

18 Tana Ososki

18 Cameron Anderson

22 Katie Kelly

28 Bob Schmidt

28 Leesa Matthews



December Lectors

Dec 3 Lorrie Hayne

Dec 10 Steve Bartz

Dec 17 Lessons & Carols

Dec 24 Elen Swenson (am & pm)

Dec 31 Teresa Shores

December Ushers

Dec 3 O'Keefes

Dec 10 Groebners

Dec 17 Solbergs

Dec 24 Jim Hart (am)

Petersons (pm)

Dec 31 O'Keefes

December Communion

Dec 3 Joan Jarombek

Dec 10 ass't minister Becky

Dec 17 Barb Strenge

Dec 24 ass't minister Lori

Dec 31 Miriam Peterson

DECEMBER 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					1 12p set-up for Dell Sailer 7p Chinese Bible Study	2 6a Chinese Prayer 1p Dell Sailer Celebration of Life	
3 1st Sunday of Advent 9a Prayers for Healing 9:30a Galilee Worship 10a MFCLC Choir 11a Adult Forum 11a MN Faith Chinese Lutheran 1p Nepali Friends Church	4	5 10a Donut Group 7p Worship & Music Team	6 10a Faith by Hearing 12p Shobi's Table 2p Bible Study 6p Bell Choir Practice	7 6p Property Team	8 7p Chinese Bible Study	9 6a Chinese Prayer 11a Aztec Dancers	
Pastor Dana vacation -- emergency contact: Pastor Tsen 808-313-9925 -----							
10 2nd Sunday of Advent 9:30a Galilee Worship 10a MFCLC Choir 11a Adult Forum 11a MN Faith Chinese Lutheran 1p Nepali Friends Church	11 7p Enjoyable Evening	12 10a Donut Group 12:30p Young at Heart	13 RED CROSS DRIVE 10a Faith by Hearing 12p Shobi's Table 1p Villa Park 2p Bible Study 6p Bell Choir 6:30p SP Clown Club	14 2p LGBTQ+ Support 6p Council Mtg	15 VOICE ARTICLES DUE 7p Chinese Bible Study	16 6a Chinese Prayer 10-12 cookie decorating 11a Aztec Dancers	
Pastor Dana vacation -----							
17 3rd Sunday of Advent 9:30a Lessons & Carols/ Childrens' Pageant 11a MN Faith Chinese Lutheran 1p Nepali Friends Church 5p Wedding	18	19 10a Donut Group	20 10a Faith by Hearing 12p Shobi's Table 2p Bible Study 6p Bell Choir Practice	21 12p Galiladies	22 7p Chinese Bible Study	23 6a Chinese Prayer 1p Darla's party	
9:30a Worship - 4th Sunday of Advent 4pm Christmas Eve Worship	24 Christmas St Anthony Park Lutheran worship 10am 2323 Como Ave, St. Paul 55108 2p Friends Church	25 10a Donut Group 6p Take down Christmas decorations 6:30p Alley 19 Clowns	26 10a Faith by Hearing 2p Bible Study 6p Bell Choir	27	28	29 7p Chinese Bible Study	30 6a Chinese Prayer
31 New Year's Eve 9:30a Galilee Worship 10a MFCLC Choir 11a MN Faith Chinese Lutheran 1p Nepali Friends Church							

GALILEE

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2023

145 McCarrons Blvd N (at Rice Street)
Roseville, MN 55113-6923

www.galileelutheranelca.com

Phone: 651-488-6769

SUNDAY WORSHIP: 9:30 A.M.

OFFICE HOURS: M, TU, TH

8:30AM-12:30PM

Office Closed Christmas Day.

2023 Congregational Council

CarolAnn Hart, President
Steve Bartz, Vice President
Joan Jarombek, Secretary
Cherie Garrod
Elen Swenson
James Hart
Leesa Matthews
Peter Solberg
Barb Strenge, Treasurer
Miriam Peterson, Financial Secretary
Pastor Dana Nelson

Staff

Pastor: Dana Nelson
dnelson.galilee@gmail.com

Music Director: Paul Swenson

Organists: Raymond Nottidge & Tim Rand

Bells of Galilee: Cynthia Erickson
cynthia.erickson@minnmicro.com

Administrative Assistant: Sue Malenick
office.galilee@gmail.com



CHRISTMAS SERVICES

December 17th we will have a special
Lessons and Carols Christmas worship at 9:30 a.m.

Join us for two services on **December 24th:**
9:30am - 4th Sunday in Advent service
4pm - Christmas Eve Worship Service at Galilee.



GALILEE'S MISSION STATEMENT

To gather people together to hear the story of God's love in Jesus Christ, to be nurtured in faith and knowledge, and to share the Good News through word and deed.

To submit information for publication in the monthly VOICE newsletter, to be posted on our website, or to receive the VOICE newsletter by e-mail, send information and/or e-mail address to the church office at: office.galilee@gmail.com.

Articles must be received by the 15th of each month.