



## IT'S SO HARD TO WAIT!

Written by Anne Rykken

Christmas has always been a big deal in my family, quite likely because my dad was a Lutheran pastor. I recall feeling Christmas Eve was the longest day of the year. All day I waited. About 5 p.m., there was a church service to go to. (We had to go to all the Christmas worship services.) Afterwards, we'd go home and have a special dinner that took extra work, thus extra time was spent eating it. Then, if you can believe it, we not only had to clear the table, but we had to do the dishes! The dishes on Christmas Eve! Finally, after exhibiting the patience of a saint, it was time to open gifts! All those beautiful gifts! Of course, I already knew which ones were mine, my brother's, my sister's and, had already made sure we each had the same amount.

We three kids waited impatiently, wiggling around the tree, ready to pick the first gift, when my dad would make his way to the couch and announce it was time to read the Christmas story. Can you believe it?! Another ten minutes of the same story we had heard year after year? And, at church not two hours ago!

It was so hard to wait!

Today I have a different perspective. Being the one putting most of the presents under the tree, and one of two making most the dinner, more time would be welcome. While I have never *made my kids listen to the Christmas Story* before gifts, I now appreciate that we did as kids.

Advent teaches us to wait is worth it.

Advent, I think, actually teaches us the art of waiting and the joy of preparation and anticipation. Advent invites us to be spiritually filled with all the hopes for which we long.

In Advent, we learn that everything important needs time to come reach its fullness. We learn to take time. We are experienced and good at *spending* time, *losing* time, *wasting* time. In taking time, we anticipate the reward and appreciate with joy the fruits of our waiting.

This Advent, I hope you can take the time to appreciate the waiting. During our dark winter evenings, light those four Advent candles.

On Christmas Eve the waiting really does lead us into promise. Go to all the church services! Sing the carols, eat the food. Bring on the gatherings and visits, with gift exchanges and feasting, with outings and carol singing, with the full-on cheer that Christ is indeed among us.

And read that Christmas story to your family! (Luke 2:1-20)

"In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered."

Luke 2:1-20



## AROUND OUR CHURCH

### Young at Heart

With Christmas this month we will only meet once, on Tuesday, December 17, at noon. We invite all adults to socialize, eat, and play games with us. A potluck luncheon takes place at noon; all who attend contribute to the meal. We are a small group who would love to have you join our social group. The more, the merrier! Questions? Call Karen at 651.488.9074. In December we bring a \$5 generic gift (wrapped) to the meeting and have a gift exchange at the end of our time together. If you bring a gift, you also go home with a gift.



### New Member Sunday!

New Member Sunday is December 1, and Adult Confirmation offered soon. Talk to the pastor today about participating.

### Youth Midnight Madness

Six youth from Galilee (and some friends) joined youth from St. Anthony Park Lutheran for Moonlight Madness. The event began Friday night, November 8 about 7p.m. and activities were planned all night long. They returned home early Saturday morning (and probably not ready for daily chores).



Pictured here are Anthony, Samuel, Mason, Andrell, Mikiel, and Tom.

#### Janice Knutson

6/26/1938 to 10/28/2019



We celebrated the life of Janice Jean Knutson on Thursday, November 7, 2019.

Interment was at Forest Lawn Cemetery on the same day.

#### David Lee Meyer

12/5/1965 to 10/8/2019



We celebrated the life of David Lee Meyer on Saturday, October 26, 2019.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE GAME NIGHT

Come to Galilee on New Year's Eve and have fun, fellowship and a good time.

Bring your favorite game and a snack to share.

This is a family event for all ages. Bring your family and friends!

7 p.m. December 31.



# Arms Open in Welcome

by Linqing Chu,  
Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church



As the first-generation immigrants educated in a no-God doctrine since childhood, 99% of congregation members at Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church had never heard about Jesus, and God had never been part of their thoughts. It is marvelous that so many people have accepted the Lord Jesus as their Savior and the Lord of their life at the church.

Being the only Chinese Lutheran church in Minnesota, we aim to keep our arms open for all Chinese who either visit or move to Minnesota. Last Sunday we again welcomed two young newcomers with our arms open. They came to Minnesota to first learn English, sample different cultures and foods, and adjust to the weather, and our hospitality with love opens their heart. The church becomes their spiritual home.

Over 12,000 people heard the good news of Jesus the first time at the church worship services, Bible study groups, fellowships, retreats, gospel conferences, small group talks, one-on-one personal communication, daily Bible study email groups, funerals and weddings. No matter how short or long of a stay, many of them often tell us how much they love the church and our prayers. Some even started Bible study groups in other states or in China, with our support.

In addition to the Sunday services with Holy Communion, we also hold small group Bible studies. I personally lead a weekly young adult group (Joy Fellowship) to study the Bible and pray for one another. Most of the participants are not Christian yet, but their longing for God's words is even stronger than some of us as Christians. It is great to witness how we grow up together in spirit through the

Lord Jesus and the church. We share the meal together every Sunday and at group meetings. It is the most relaxed time for me and others. What an amazing family the church is!

Minnesota Faith Lutheran is a faithful member of Saint Paul Area Synod. Our choir and praising dance group are often invited by other communities to perform and share the gospel. Our mission partnerships with other churches are strong, in particular, with the host Galilee Lutheran church. We share the pastors, joint services, youth and children programs, building clean-up, and community garden. Pastor Shen Lin also helps quite a few American-Chinese marriages at different ELCA churches.

Thank you for your generosity in helping local Chinese ministry. With your support, the good news of Jesus has spread into 25 states in the U.S. and 22 provinces in China, and will continue to spread for many years. Your contributions for the Kingdom of God are highly appreciated!

*About the Author - Linqing Chu is seminary graduate who is currently completing her requirements for ordination. She works alongside Pastor Shen Lin at Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church, which was established in 2001. Its mission is to serve God and one another, administer sacraments, and share the Gospel with all people. The congregation strives to provide a loving, accepting, and encouraging environment for Chinese students, scholars, professionals and families in the Twin Cities area.*





# AROUND OUR CHURCH

## **Lutheran Social Service Metro Homeless Youth - Wish List Christmas Project**

We ask that all items donated be new. Keep in mind, if a teenager you know would not use an item, these youth will not likely use it either.

### **Cleaning Supplies**

- Bags: garbage can, kitchen, bathroom sizes
- Aluminum Foil, Saran Wrap and Baggies
- Paper towels, toilet paper and tissues
- Household cleaners: non-toxic and natural please
- Broom, dustpan, bucket, sponges, and mop
- Laundry detergent: pod and pac style

### **Person Hygiene**

- NO SHAMPOO OR CONDITIONER
- Body, hand and face soap-wash
- Body and face Lotion [ie Cocoa Butter]
- Toothbrushes - toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Razors - shaving cream
- Tampons - pads
- Cold medicine: Ibuprofen, allergy, etc
- 1st Aid kits: Band aids, antibiotic ointment
- Black hair care products, hairspray, hair grease - gel
- Hair brushes, boar bristle, combs, hair binders & clips

### **Baby Items**

- Diapers; sizes newborn to 4 years old
- Infant formula
- Bottles and sippy cups
- Infant hygiene supplies; baby wash, lotion

### **Basic Clothing**

- Wool socks for both young men and women
- Warm winter wear: hats, gloves, scarves, long underwear, & hoodies
- Flip-flops
- Batteries [all sizes]
- Towels [all kinds]
- Alarm clock

If you would rather give money or don't have time to shop, we again this year have a personal shopper who can shop for you. Give cash to one of the Outreach members or make check out to Galilee Outreach.

Collection drive until December 15, 2019



## **Lessons & Carols**

December 22, 9:30 a.m.

**Bells of Galilee | Galilee Choir  
Christmas Pageant**

## **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**



December 24, 4 p.m.

## **Neighboring Christmas Day Worship Services**

Since Galilee does not have a Christmas Day Worship Service, we have provided a short list of nearby worship services. All three of these churches have services at 10 a.m.

### **Roseville Lutheran Church**

1215 Roselawn Ave W, Roseville, MN, 651-487-7752

### **Como Park Lutheran Church**

1376 Hoyt Ave W, St. Paul, MN, 651-646-7127

### **St Timothy Lutheran Church**

1465 N. Victoria St., St. Paul, MN, 651-489-0336

### LET'S MEET: **Joyce Scholen** (as told by Joyce Solberg)

Joyce Scholen, a relatively new member of Galilee, has been married to her husband Jim for 48 years. They met while skiing in Aspen, Colorado. They now have a son and a daughter as well as two grandsons who are twin ten-year-olds. Their new granddaughter is only four months old. Home is nearby in Roseville, but they also have a cabin near Hayward, Wisconsin which coincidentally is less than 25 miles away from the Solberg cabin.

When she was young, Joyce attended Mount Olivet Lutheran Church with her family. Between high school and college at St. Olaf in Northfield, Joyce went on a program called International Fortnite, a travel program around Europe and Great Britain with other young adults from all over the United States. That was the beginning of her great love of travel. At St. Olaf, Joyce studied marine biology. The first thing she bought with her own money was a car. After being in a car accident, she got a settlement. After paying off the bills, she bought a very special Porsche.

Two of Joyce's great loves are being active and traveling. Skiing is a favorite whether it be snow skiing or water skiing. She volunteers at Trollhaugen Ski Resort in Wisconsin during the winter with the National Ski Patrol and even teaches new patrol skiers outdoor emergency care. But pickleball and racketball are also on her list of fun entertainment.

Her first love is probably travel since it allows her to see new places and learn all about them. She has been able to visit Europe several times. Of course, she was able to go to Africa with Galilee. This winter she has tickets on a cruise ship sailing from Argentina around Cape Horn to Chile. Her bucket list has included Antarctica, Bora Bora, and Macchu Picchu in Peru. 2020 will get her close to Antarctica to check one item off the list.

In her career Joyce worked at HCMC in medical technology and IT. That is where she met Cynthia Erickson, our bell choir director, and how she learned about Galilee. Cynthia told her about Galilee and also about the trip people were going to take to Tanzania in October of 2017. Joyce, the woman who loved to travel, decided that she wanted to be a part of that trip, and she joined the other six women. Joyce Solberg was able to get to know her well on that trip finding her to be a great travel companion—interesting, intelligent, fun, and just nice to be around.

After the trip, Joyce decided to become a member of Galilee. She likes the small size and the friendliness of the members. Besides, it is led by a woman pastor. Having a bell choir led by her friend, Cynthia, was also a factor as was the proximity to home.

What about favorite foods? The best part of waking up is coffee. Cheeseburgers and pizza are also always good to eat.

So now that you know more about Joyce, please greet her. Maybe you can even learn *more* about her.



# WORSHIP & EDUCATION

## Adult Forum

Sundays at 11 a.m. in the library

**December 1** No Forum today

**December 8** Bible Basics by Pastor Dana

**December 15** Adriatic Cruise by Petersons

**December 22** No Forum today

**December 29** No Forum today

## Sunday School, Confirmation

Sunday School and Confirmation are from 11:15 a.m. – noon, downstairs.

## Bible Study

Thursdays at 11 a.m. in the library

## Scripture Lessons

### December 1

#### First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalms 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44

### December 8

#### Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10

Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19

Romans 15:4-13

Matthew 3:1-12

### December 15

#### Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalms 146:5-10

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

### December 22

Lessons and Carols  
& Christmas Pageant

### December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship

### December 29

#### First Sunday of Christmas

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalms 148

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23

## Prayer Requests

Jeremy Brown

Terry Clasen (Karen Groebner's brother)

Donna (Donis Colvin's sister)

Richard Eagan (Dawn Babin's s/o)

Family & friends of Earl Eberhart

Delaney Gill (granddaughter of t Schmidts)

Fred Hayes and Judy Hogan

George Johnson

Gloria Johnson

Family & friends of Janice Knutson

Family & friends of Bruce Lee

Patti Lindblom (friend of Lyn Gruenwald)

Judith Londroche

Family & friends of David Meyer

Michael

Karen Murphy

Marlene Reding

Jerry Sailer (Dell's brother)

Family & friends of Kathleen Ann Schuster (Mary Lanoux's niece)

Leslie Snow

Family & friends of Valerie Taylor (Veniessia Taylor's sister)

Michelle Virginia's Family

Uhominyi Parish, Tanzania

Minnesota Faith Chinese Lutheran Church

St. Paul Friends Nepali Church

## 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

23 Natalya Edson

## Worship Volunteers

### ALTAR GUILD

December 1 Lorrie Hayne

8 Betty Jeans

15 Betty Jeans

22 Jackie Nerud

24 LouWanna Osterman

29 LouWanna Osterman

### COMMUNION ASSISTANT

December 1 Joyce Solberg

8 Lori O'Keefe (A.M)

15 Rebecca Nelson

22 Jo Ann French (A.M)

24 James Hart

29 Darla Nelson

### LECTOR

December 1 Judy McLean

8 Teresa Shores

15 Cynthia Erickson

22 Judy McLean

24 Ron Peterson

29

### REFRESHMENTS

December 1 New Member Sunday

8 Shari & Dell Sailer

15 Sharell Babin

22 Darla Nelson & Riley

24

29

### USHERS

December 1 O'Keefes

8 Taylor/Rivas

15 Solbergs

22 Groebners/Hart

24 Watson

29 Petersons

### VACUUMING (Property Team)

December 1 Wayne Christensen

8 Jim Zrust

15 Steve Groebner

22 Peter Solberg

29 Abe Watson

### SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS

December 1 No Class

8

15

22 Christmas Pageant

29



# DECEMBER 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> Prayers for Healing 9:30a Galilee Worship 10:30a Fellowship-FH 11a Adult Forum-Lib 11:15a Sunday School-DS 11a MFCLC Worship 11a St. Paul Friends Church	<b>2</b> 1p Quilting Group 7p Worship & Music Mtg	<b>3</b> 9a Staff Mtg 9:30a Men's Donuts 11a Evangelism Mtg 7p Worship & Music Mtg	<b>4</b> 7a Book Discussion 11a-4p Pastor's Office hours 12p Practice Your English 2p SNAP-Ed 6p Bell Choir 7:15p Galilee Choir	<b>5</b> 11a Bible Study 6p Property Team	<b>6</b> 10:30a Adult Confirmation & New Member Class	<b>7</b> 6a Chinese Prayer
<b>8</b> 9:30a Galilee Worship 10:30a Fellowship-FH 11a Adult Forum-Lib 11:15a Sunday School-DS 11a MFCLC Worship 11a St. Paul Friends Church	<b>9</b> 6p Healing Touch Exchange	<b>10</b> 9a Staff Mtg 9:30a Men's Donuts	<b>11</b> 11a-4p Pastor's Office hours 1p Villa Park Devotions 6p Bell Choir 7:15p Galilee Choir	<b>12</b> 11a Bible Study 6p Council Mtg at Pastor Dana's home 6:30p St. Paul Clown Club	<b>13</b> 10a Mutual Ministry 10:30a Adult Confirmation & New Member Class	<b>14</b> 6a Chinese Prayer
<b>15</b> VOICE Articles Due 9:30a Galilee Worship 10:30a Fellowship-FH 11a Adult Forum Lib 11:15a Sunday School-DS 11a MFCLC Worship 11a St. Paul Friends Church 12p Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins	<b>16</b> 1p Quilting Group	<b>17</b> 9a Staff Mtg 9:30a Men's Donuts 11a Evangelism Mtg 11:30a Young at Heart	<b>18</b> 11a-4p Pastor's Office hours 2p SNAP-Ed 6p Bell Choir 7:15p Galilee Choir	<b>19</b> 11a Bible Study 11:30a Gali-ladies	<b>20</b> 10:30a Adult Confirmation & New Member Class	<b>21</b> 6a Chinese Prayer
<b>22</b> 9:30a Service of Lessons and Carols 10:30a Fellowship-FH 11a Adult Forum-Lib 11:15a Sunday School-DS 11a MFCLC Worship with 11a St. Paul Friends Church	<b>23</b> 9:30a Garden Mtg	<b>24</b> CHRISTMAS EVE 4p Worship	<b>25</b> CHRISTMAS DAY	<b>26</b> 11a Bible Study	<b>27</b> 10:30a Adult Confirmation & New Member Class	<b>28</b> 6a Chinese Prayer
<b>29</b> 9:30a Galilee Worship 10:30a Fellowship-FH 11a Adult Forum-Lib 11a MFCLC Worship 11a St. Paul Friends Church	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> NEW YEARS EVE 7p Party at Galilee!				

Pastor Dana on Vacation.

Location Key: DS - Downstairs S - Sanctuary FH - Fellowship Hall Lib - Library



# **GALILEE**

## **EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**DECEMBER 2019**

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:**

Tuesdays, Wednesdays 8 a.m. – noon  
Thursdays 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**For the latest pictures and more,  
find us on Facebook!**



**<http://on.fb.me/14BMhUi>**

### **2019 Congregational Council**

Abe Watson, President  
Terry O'Keefe, Vice President  
Barb Strenge, Treasurer  
Miriam Peterson, Financial Secretary  
Jackie Nerud, Secretary  
Pastor Dana Nelson  
James Hart      Lori O'Keefe      Dora Taylor  
Darla Nelson      Ron Peterson  
Rebecca Nelson      Joyce Solberg

### **Staff**

**Pastor:** Dana Nelson  
dnelson.galilee@gmail.com  
**Music Director:** Jo Ann French  
jfrench.galilee@gmail.com  
**Organists:** Raymond Nottidge & Tim Rand  
**Bells of Galilee:** Cynthia Erickson  
cynthia.erickson@minnmicro.com  
**Administrative Assistant:** Anne Rykken  
office.galilee@gmail.com



**We share the air.**

At Galilee, we  
**STRIVE** to be  
fragrance-free!

## **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](mailto:office.galilee@gmail.com).

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



**Poinsettia Order Form**  
**Galilee Lutheran Church**  
**145 N McCarrons Blvd**  
**Roseville, MN 55113-6923**  
**Phone: 651-488-6769**



**POINSETTIA ORDER FORM**

You are invited to purchase a poinsettia plant to share at Galilee for the Christmas season. Please complete the order form below and drop it in the offering plate, return to Barb Streng or Sharell Babin, or mail to Galilee Lutheran Church by Sunday, December 1. The cost is \$10.00 for each plant, and may be paid by cash or check. Make checks payable to "Galilee Altar Guild."

To beautify our sanctuary for the Christmas season, you have the choice of white or red poinsettias (please check the box below to indicate your preference).

Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ Payment attached \_\_\_\_\_ White ☐ Red ☐

The plant(s) may be given in memory of your loved ones, or in honor of someone living.

From: \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

***Proceeds benefit the Altar Guild.***