



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

**a Launchpad for God's Kingdom**

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Rev. Chris Asbury – senior pastor Rev. Ray Wilke – associate pastor



This is the Year of Matthew at our church. During the Advent and Christmas seasons on weekends we will look closely at Matthew 1:1–26 with the theme, Who is Jesus? On Wednesdays we will again enjoy the Holden Evening Prayer Service liturgy following the Theme of Messengers of Hope based on the angels messages to God's people. During the Epiphany Season (January and February), we shine the light on our Savior's Beatitudes in Matthew 5:1–12. Before that, however, we will celebrate the light of Epiphany on the weekend of January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Here is the lineup of sermons for the next few months:  
Who Is Jesus? will show us that Jesus is the son of David, the son of Abraham, the son of Solomon, the son of Mary, and the son of sinners. Messengers of Hope will herald out the Good News of Hope for Zechariah, Hope for Joseph, Hope for Mary, Hope for You, and Hope for the World. Later in January and February our themes for the Beatitudes will be as follows:  
It's All Over! (Matt 2:1–23)  
Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit (Matt 5:3)  
Blessed Are Those Who Mourn (Matt 5:4)

Blessed Are the Meek (Matt 5:5)  
Blessed Are Those who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness (Matt 5:6)  
Blessed Are the Merciful (Matt 5:7)  
Blessed Are the Pure in Heart (Matt 5:8)  
Blessed Are the Peacemakers (Matt 5:9)  
Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted Because of Righteousness (Matt 5:10–12)

We look forward to serving you during this Holiday season.

*Pastor Asbury*

## It's Time to Decorate For Christmas



On, Friday, December 2 we will be decorating the church for Christmas during our Family of God Night. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. for a potluck supper and then decorating afterwards. Everyone from the congregation is invited and encouraged to help.



The Board of Education will be hosting a Soup and Pie Supper on Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:30 p.m. They will be serving Chili,

Chicken Noodle, Ham/Potato/Cheese/Broccoli Soup and assorted Pies. A Free Will donation will be taken for these events. All proceeds will go towards the line item budget for Christ Lutheran and Lutheran High Northeast Tuition. Join us for some good food and some wonderful fellowship!

There will be NO newsletter in January. The January calendar is included with this newsletter. Watch upcoming bulletins for news. **Deadline for articles** for the February newsletter is Thursday, January 19.



Make plans to join us for our weekly Advent Services that being Wednesday, November 30, and continue December 7, 14, and 21 at 7:00 p.m. Advent Suppers will be at 6:00 p.m.

Times for Christmas Eve Services will be: Lessons & Carols Service at 3:00 p.m.; the Children's Christmas Service at 5:30 p.m.; and the Candlelight Communion Service with A Touch of Brass at 10:30 p.m. There WILL be Communion Service on Christmas Day at 10:00 a.m.

Services for New Year's are New Year's Eve Communion at 5:30 p.m. and a Communion service on New Year's Day at 10:00 a.m.

## Sunday School News

Advent is upon us which means the Sunday School classes are preparing to lead their Christmas Eve Service. The month of December during the Sunday School hour, the children will be learning and refreshing their memories of some Advent and Christmas Hymns they will sing and lead in the Service. Lines will be given out to memorize and we will spend a bit of time memorizing them. We ask you to help them with this memorization at home. We will send home a list of the Hymns we are singing so you can sing them with your child at home to help them become comfortable with singing them.

December 18th during the Sunday School hour we will have our full run through starting promptly at 8:30. Please try to be there a bit early that morning to allow the children plenty of time to rehearse. Thank you for helping your child to prepare to lead the Christmas Eve Service. Look for more information coming to you in the mail. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Vicki in the Church Office, ask a Sunday School Teacher or Linda Baumann. Blessings to you and your family as we begin Advent and prepare for Christmas.



It's time to order poinsettias to decorate the altar for Christmas. The cost will be \$16.00 each. If you would like to order a poinsettia, contact Vicki at the church office or you can put the money in the offering plate—mark it for a poinsettia. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 11.

## Family Christmas Tree

It's time once again for the Family Christmas Tree. This year we are collecting toys for the Orphan Grain Train Christmas Boxes for next year. Take a tag from the tree in the Narthex and return the item unwrapped either under the tree or to the Church Office anytime before Christmas.

## Lutheran Bible Institute

Grace will be hosting the Lutheran Bible Institute on Sundays, January 8, 15, and 22 (January 29 is a possible snow date). The Institute will take place from 1:30-4:30 p.m.

## Choirs

ALL Bell Choirs and the Adult Choir will be having their last practice for December on the 14<sup>th</sup> and will be taking the month of January off. There will be no practices at all during the month of January. They will start up again in February.



## Prepare the Way of the Lord

John the Baptist was the one calling in the desert, *“Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight”* (Matthew 3:3), and so again, during Advent, we focus on the birth of Christ and heed the Baptist's admonition to prepare our hearts for Him.

David, the psalmist, also urges us to prepare for the Lord's coming. *“Lift up your heads, O gates...that the King of glory may come in”* (Psalm 24:7). Think about how a nation prepares for the visit of a foreign dignitary. The red carpet is rolled out; the security forces are on high alert; the media is present to capture the

moment with cameras and recorders; and plans long in the making begin to unfold.

But we're not welcoming an earthly guest. No earthly visitor can compare to this Guest for whom we prepare. *“Who is this King of glory?”* the psalmist asks and then answers, *“The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!”* Again, he urges, *“Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.”* (Psalm 24:8-12).

This King has left the glories of Heaven for the squalors of Earth in order to make us His own. He lived the perfect life in our place. He endured rejection, scorn, and humiliation, culminating in His death and resurrection so that we can be accepted by our holy God, so that we can be lifted up to Heaven, so that we will never have to die but will live forever in Heaven with Him.

This is the Christmas message. Yes, we picture a helpless baby in a manger, but that Baby is the King of glory Whom we worship and strive to make known to the world.

May God help us all share the good news of great joy!

## December Birthdays

Penny Kortje-Leslie.....	12-01
Sawyer McCarter.....	12-01
Myrle Mesteth.....	12-02
Cary Meyer.....	12-02
Rebecca Suehl.....	12-03
Leilani Swain.....	12-03
Phillis Allison.....	12-03
Colbee Dennis.....	12-04
Dominic Lee.....	12-05
Chelsea Spiegel.....	12-05
Brad Charter.....	12-05
Vi Johnson.....	12-06
Scott Owen.....	12-06
Anthony Valencia.....	12-06
Taylor Bonsall.....	12-07
Luke Winkelbauer.....	12-09
Norma Wright.....	12-10
Stan Meyer.....	12-10
Richard Brozek.....	12-11
Lelice Newcomb.....	12-12
Brandon Timmerman.....	12-12
Ethan Lee.....	12-13
Shari Collison.....	12-14
David Hallberg.....	12-15
Jeremy Baumann.....	12-15
Sherri Fish.....	12-15
Erica Robertson.....	12-15
Taelin Baumann.....	12-16
Brenyn Ames.....	12-16
Julius McWilliams.....	12-16
Linda Hoffman.....	12-17
Owen Brummels.....	12-17
Jared Lechner.....	12-17
Shay Conroy.....	12-17

Madysan Blecher.....	12-17
Tommy Ellenberger.....	12-18
Myron Wagner.....	12-18
Samuel Peterson.....	12-18
Jeremy Ellenberger.....	12-19
Heidi Brenneman.....	12-20
Joe Tjaden.....	12-20
Ryan Freudenburg.....	12-21
Barbara Petracek.....	12-21
Michael Janssen.....	12-22
Saylor Ellsworth.....	12-23
Bobbi Bowers.....	12-24
Scott Phillips.....	12-25
Benjamin Aufdembrink.....	12-26
Bryce Dennis.....	12-26
Jim Schaefer.....	12-26
Natasha Spreeman.....	12-27
Logan Allen.....	12-27
Annabell Fuhrman.....	12-29
Tessa Meyer.....	12-29
Brad Dinkel.....	12-29
Lucy Andreasen.....	12-29
Skylar Ellenberger.....	12-29
Kiley Siedschlag.....	12-30
Jeff Frank.....	12-30
Steve Shoemaker.....	12-30
Emery Brummels.....	12-31
Patty Simpson.....	12-31

## January Birthdays

Shirley Trampe.....	1-01
Cael Wiederin.....	1-02
Kelly Mercer.....	1-04
Connie Meyer.....	1-05
Marvin Gaunt.....	1-05
Yvonie Hale.....	1-06
Tod Voss.....	1-06
Phillip Dolezal.....	1-06
Paul Leckband.....	1-07
Suzy Foley.....	1-07
Margie Cox.....	1-07
Mia Wiederin.....	1-08
Alan Durkop.....	1-08
Cheyenne Mesteth.....	1-09
Mindy Schroeder.....	1-09
Rory Laskowski.....	1-09
Lane Sanne.....	1-09
Jasmine Peterson.....	1-09
Tierney Clyde.....	1-09
Lakyn McCarter.....	1-10
Rodger Sicka.....	1-13
Heather Russert.....	1-14
Jacob Sukup.....	1-14
Sheryl Schmeckpeper.....	1-15
Nick Scott.....	1-16
John Keseman.....	1-17
Mary Brader.....	1-17
Ken Adams.....	1-17
Haydyn Beaudette.....	1-18
Bonnie Timperley.....	1-18
Jennifer Bucklew.....	1-19
Genie Gross.....	1-19
LeRoy Meyer.....	1-20
Lila Russert.....	1-20

Nadine Aufdembrink.....	1-20
Les Swanson.....	1-20
Brittney Lechner.....	1-22
Kinley Cleveland.....	1-22
Emerson Meyer.....	1-22
Terry Baumann.....	1-23
Mike Cleveland.....	1-23
Drew Schaefer.....	1-23
Andrew Roberts.....	1-24
Kennedy Suckstorf.....	1-25
Garrett Boelter.....	1-26
John Obermeyer.....	1-26
Brooks Wiggins.....	1-27
Navy Wiggins.....	1-27
Jim Gross.....	1-27
Robert Mittelstaedt.....	1-28
Geraldine Rossmeier.....	1-28
Clayton Scheffler.....	1-28
Maverick Cleveland.....	1-28
Michael Thomas.....	1-29
Kris Ames.....	1-29
Ruth Freudenburg.....	1-30
Delaney McWilliams.....	1-30
Arlis Meyer.....	1-31
Cayd McCarter.....	1-31

## Lutheran High Northeast News December 2022

### Eagle Fun Day Right Around the Corner

On Friday, January 13th, Lutheran High Northeast will host the annual Eagle Fun Day. All students in grades 6-8 are invited to come to experience a day in the life of an Eagle. Students from all schools are invited, including home school. If your son/daughter wants to come and does not attend one of the Lutheran feeder schools, please contact our office to register before the event!

### Annual Booster Club Trivia Night

Mark your calendars for a night of fellowship, fun and competition at the Booster Club's annual Trivia Night fundraiser. The Booster Club plays an integral role in raising money to support student sports, clubs, & organizations, and this event is a great way to help support the students. Save the date - Friday, January 13th at Our Savior Lutheran Church. The tables will go fast, so watch our social media & website on November 28th for the registration link.

### FBLA Community Outreach

The LHNE FBLA Chapter is working with the Norfolk Elk's Lodge to collect new or slightly used shoes. The shoe drive supports over 4,000 families of micro-enterprise partners, with the majority of them being women-owned. The micro-enterprise industry represents one of the most effective ways to lift many families out of poverty in

devastated economies. Most people do not know that 70% of the global population uses repurposed shoes and clothing; that's over 5 billion people! The shoes collected serve as a philanthropic bridge to give people a hand-up, rather than just a hand-out. Drop off shoes at LHNE now till December 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Concordia Honor Choir & Band

Congratulations to the following students who were selected to perform in the Concordia Honor Choir & Band:  
Honor Choir – Abbie Kollbaum, Ally Moreno, Ruth Zimmerman  
Honor Band - Will Bryant, Max Carlson, & Kolby Nielsen

Grace Lutheran Church  
416 W. Park Ave.  
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



### Grace Lutheran Church Officers for 2022

<b>President</b>	Maynard Thompson
<b>Vice President</b>	Tim Gansebom
<b>Secretary</b>	Paul Leckband
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kristen Rosner
<b>Finance Secretary</b>	Marge Reikofski
<b>Elders</b>	Andrew Keseman
Shawn Beaudette	Kim McDaniel
Brian Boning	Waylon Petsche
Jake Dinkel	Glenn Spreeman
Josh Freudenburg	Bronson Stonacek
Chuck Gubbels	
<b>Trustees</b>	Gerry Mansfield
Chris Daniels	Phil Zastrow
Tim Ferguson	
Rob Jenkins	
<b>Board of Education</b>	Suzie Leffers
Kevin Ames	Janet Mansfield
Ben Brummels	Andrew Sunderman
Melissa Dinkel	
<b>Family Life Board</b>	Lee Obermeyer
Andrea Beaudette	Barb Schaefer
Sherry Dinkel	
Lois Leckband	

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