



## ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH December, 2018

**Luke 1:26-38-***"In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her."*

It seems like it was just a few weeks ago that I made the announcement (in July), "Christmas will be here in about 3 weeks." Well, guess what, we are now just 4 weeks away. It is hard to believe that 2018 has gone by so fast, but once again another Advent season is upon us. Outside the walls of churches, Advent is almost forgotten. Christmas songs and carols are everywhere. Christmas specials are all over the TV, and Christmas merchandise has already been in the stores for weeks. We may sometimes wonder why the church even bothers with Advent. Why don't we just celebrate four, or six, or even twelve weeks of Christmas instead of twelve days? What would we lose if we gave up Advent?

If we simply give into the commercialism of Christmas, we then lose the opportunity to prepare spiritually, to celebrate Jesus' birth, to reflect on what His birth would mean for the world. To hear again, not only the very familiar story of the journey to Bethlehem in Luke 2, but also the stories like the one above, the story of Mary's encounters with the angel and with Elizabeth. We need to hear again the stories of John the Baptist, reflecting on what Jesus' birth and life mean to a broken world. Many churches, including All Saints, mark the Sundays of Advent with an Advent wreath, and anticipation builds each week as we think of how close we are to Jesus' birth.

So, this year, enjoy the Christmas specials and the Christmas shopping, but don't forget Advent and the gift that this time in the church year is for you. Take time to reflect on the meaning of Jesus' birth and His life. Perhaps, if more of our community or world would take the time to prepare in this time of Advent – maybe we would all be a little more joyful and a little less stressed out by the holidays. May you have a peaceful time of reflection during this time of Advent; and may this time of preparation lead you to a blessed Christmas as we remember God's greatest gift for all humankind.

Servants together,  
Pr. Paul <><

**p.s. Did you know???** . . . Legend has it that Martin Luther began the tradition of decorating trees to celebrate Christmas. One crisp Christmas Eve, about the year 1500, he was walking through snow-covered woods and was struck by the beauty of a group of small evergreens. Their branches, dusted with snow, shimmered in the moonlight. When he got home, he set up a little fir tree indoors so he could share this story with his children. He decorated it with candles, which he lighted in honor of Christ's birth.

**p.s.s. - "He went from commanding angels to sleeping in the straw. From holding stars to clutching Mary's finger. The palm that held the universe took the nail of a soldier. Why? Because that's what love does."** *Unknown*

## Council Meeting Highlights November 13, 2018

Present: Sharon Johnson, Marilyn Liebetrau, Joel Magnuson, Pastor Paul, Niles Riese, and Don Ranta

Opened with individual and silent prayers. Pastor's devotion was from Psalm 119.

The Agenda was approved.

Minutes of the October meeting were approved. The minutes from the June, 2018, were also approved.

- Two auditors are needed to audit the books of 2018 after taxes in April or May.
- The synod assembly is in Albuquerque, NM in May. The council discussed the finances necessary for this meeting.

Worship Committee submitted a written report.

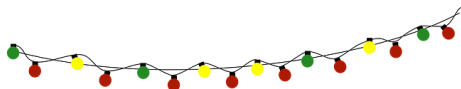
Verbal reports followed:

- Outreach: The Parade of Lights for Cedaredge is December 1. Jesse and Wyatt and possible others will carry the All Saints banner. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate.
- Nominating had one seat to fill. The membership will vote at the Annual Meeting, December 2.
- The fifth Sunday offering in December will be donated to Alice Marie's Haiti mission.

The Treasurer's report was given and approved. The 2019 budget was presented. The budget will be presented for approval at the Annual Meeting, December 2.

The next meeting is January 8 at 6 p.m.

Don McMillan, President



### Craft Fair Update

Thanks to the 26 different volunteers who assisted with the craft fair/bake sale by donating crafted items, baking goodies, setting and cleaning up, preparing lunch, organizing the bake sale and assisting customers. To date, we have a little over \$4,000 in sales. The monies will be donated to Delta County non-profits at the January meeting of Miriam Circle. Thank you for all of your help.

## Looking For a Way to Deepen Your Worship Experience?

For many people, looking at the Bible readings before Sunday helps put the message in the context of their lives. As you read the lessons, ask yourself: Is there anything in the readings that relate to your life right now? Is there anything that surprises you in the readings? Disturbs you? Try doing this and see if following this on a weekly basis strengthens your personal faith life, and deepens your worship experience.

### The Lessons for Worship in December

These are the Bible readings that we will hear during our worship services this month. They are provided that you might use them for personal devotion and meditation.

#### **December 2, 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Jeremiah 33: 14-16  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13  
Luke 21: 25-36

#### **December 8, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Malachi 3: 1-4  
Luke 1: 68-79  
Philippians 1: 3-11  
Luke 3: 1-6

#### **December 16, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Zephaniah 3: 14-20  
Isaiah 12: 2-6  
Philippians 4: 4-7  
Luke 3: 7-18

#### **December 23, 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent**

Micah 5: 2-5a  
Luke 1: 46b-55  
Hebrews 10: 5-10  
Luke 1: 39-55

#### **December 24, Nativity of Our Lord**

Isaiah 9: 2-7  
Psalm 96  
Titus 2: 11-14  
Luke 2: 1-20

#### **December 30, First Sunday of Christmas**

1 Samuel 2: 18-20, 26  
Psalm 148  
Colossians 3: 12-17  
Luke 2: 41-52

### Miriam Circle Notes

- Miriam Circle will host the ladies of All Saints for Christmas Luncheon on December 8. Mark your calendar today! If you would like to hostess and decorate a table, please add your name to the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall.
- Next meeting: January 9, Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. followed by business meeting. Please join us!



# DECEMBER SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	2	9	16	23	30
	Communion		Communion		
<b>Worship Leader</b>	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul
<b>Liturgy Assistant</b>	Joel	Don Ranta	Marj	Donelle	TBD
<b>Communion Assistant</b>	Rick		Olinda		
<b>Communion Bread</b>	Elinor		Elinor		
<b>Organist</b>	Don	Don	Barb	Don	Don
<b>Pianist</b>	Olinda	Olinda	Olinda	Olinda	Olinda
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Alice		Claudia		
<b>Readers</b>	Christine Garner	Del Miessler	LuAnn Harrah	Jesse Rosin	Don Ranta
<b>Ushers</b>	Niles	Jesse	Don Ranta	Lloyd	Open
<b>Greeters</b>	Janell	Janell	Linda	Marilyn	Open
<b>Stewards</b>	Don M/Janell	Claudia/Jack	Don R/Erich	Don M/Rick	Claudia/Don Mc
<b>Fellowship</b>	Olinda	Alice	Jesse/Paul	Marj	Potluck

To provide refreshments for Fellowship, please sign up on the white board by the kitchen window or call Janell, 835-3928 to say you can help! To usher or greet at worship, sign up on the white board on the cupboard in the back of the sanctuary. Help your congregation by offering your time.

This newsletter was made possible by contributions from: Carolyn Goller, Claudia Kellogg, Marilyn Liebetrau, Joel Magnuson, Carol Martinson, Olinda Patzer, Janell Riese, Niles Riese, Cristi Rivero, Pastor Paul, and Marj Seely.

## All Saints Special Occasions for December

**Baptismal Birthdays:** 12/1 Robert Smith    12/11 Marilyn Liebetrau  
12/28 Victor Young

**Anniversaries:**    12/30 Don and Linda Ranta



## ALL SAINTS QUICK INFORMATION

Church—(970) 835-3667

Church Email: [PastorPaul@AllSaintsLutheranCO.org](mailto:PastorPaul@AllSaintsLutheranCO.org)

Pastor Paul Rosin

Cell Phone: 303-564-0265

### **Council Officers & Committee Chairs:**

Don McMillan, President  
Niles Riese, Vice President & Building/Property Chair  
Don Ranta, Secretary & Stewardship, Chair  
Sharon Johnson, Treasurer  
Marilyn Liebetrau, Outreach Chair  
Joel Magnuson, Worship Chair  
Wyatt Smith, Education Chair  
Memorial Fund, Executive Committee  
Finance Committee, Treasurer & Chair & Executive Committee

### **Non-Council Committee Chairs:**

Fellowship , Janell Riese  
Financial Secretary, Marj Seely  
Readers, Olinda Patzer  
Ushers & Greeters, Niles Riese  
Altar Guild, Alice Spika  
Prayer Chain, Claudia Kellogg

### **Weekly Bulletin:**

Carolyn Goller  
Joel Magnuson  
Janell Riese

### **Newsletter:**

Janell Riese, Editor + Carolyn Goller & Claudia Kellogg

### **Marquee:**

Niles Riese  
Joel Magnuson  
Jesse Rosin

**Please notify Pastor Paul if you or someone  
in your family is entering the hospital or needs pastoral care**

#### **CHURCH WEBSITE**

[www.allsaintslutheranco.org](http://www.allsaintslutheranco.org)

#### **CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS**

[Info@allsaintslutheranco.org](mailto:Info@allsaintslutheranco.org)



**Evangelical Lutheran  
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.