



**SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GRINDSTONE HILL**

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**December 2021**

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# Solomon's Says

*A Newsletter from the Faith Community of Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church*

*"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."*

## Pastoral Letter – Pastor Bill Nienstedt

[Jesus said] *"Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."*  
Luke 21:27-28

We are not very good at waiting, are we? Especially this year, as the pandemic drags on, we impatiently wait for things to "get back to normal." Yet, our lives will never go back to the way they were in the past. The future will bring changes and a "new normal."

We yearn for God to act in our time, not God's time. The good news is that God is patient with us. In the fullness of time, the coming of Jesus is promised. Jesus is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning, and the end. 1 Peter 1:20 states, "Christ was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake."

The season of Advent is a time of anticipation and hope for the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. For our family, it is also a time of new beginnings, as we prepare for the season of my retirement. For the disciples at Solomon's Lutheran Church, it is also a time of anticipation, as you await an interim pastor and the exciting process of calling a new pastor.

I know that the Holy Spirit is already preparing a new pastor to shepherd the disciples of Solomon's into a new future, filled with Jesus' promise that he will always be with you and will never let you go.

Advent is an excellent time for you to slow down and invite the Holy Spirit into your life and the discernment process for the next chapter of Solomon's Lutheran Church. I encourage you to spend each day in prayer and

reflection. *An Advent devotional calendar prepared by Rev. Thomas Mousin (my cousin) and Merry Watters is included in this newsletter.* I encourage you read it and use it in your daily devotions this Advent.

In closing, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the nearly eleven years of having the privilege of being your pastor and co-laborer in Christ. Paul writes in 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3: “We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

Kristy, Katy, Sam, and I have been touched by your kindness, support, and love. One of the most difficult parts of retiring is that we must say goodbye to Solomon’s and find another church community. This is to make space for your new pastor and create space for new beginnings. We will remain in Chambersburg and I am sure we will see many of you out in our community.

*Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!* ELW 262

Advent blessings to you all!

Peace and joy in Christ!

Pastor Bill



### **Gospel Readings for DECEMBER:**

Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> - Luke 3:1-6

Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup> - Luke 3:7-18

Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> - Luke 1:39-45

Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> - Luke 2:41-52

### **Church Directory Update**

Every January a new church directory listing the names, phone numbers, and addresses of all Solomon’s members is published by the church office. **If your contact information has changed since publication of the 2021 directory, please let Kimberly know by December 13<sup>th</sup>.**

## End of Year Giving Reminders

**2021 Offerings:** If you desire to have your contributions allocated to the 2021 tax year, they need to be received in the office by **December 31**. Contributions received after this date may be allocated to 2022.

**Automatic Bank Account Transfers:** Families are encouraged to set-up direct deposit via automatic transfer to Solomon's bank account for regular contributions. This process is efficient, negates the need to write a check and ensures a steady stream of income annually for the congregation. Please contact Kimberly in the office to discuss options.

## Serving in December

	12/5/21	12/12/21	12/19/21	12/24/21	12/26/21
Head Usher	Leah Wolfinger	Leah Wolfinger	Leah Wolfinger	Leah Wolfinger	Leah Wolfinger
Lector	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Acolyte	Sarah Aldrich	Katy Nienstedt	Sam Nienstedt	Sam, Rebekah, Aaron, Sarah	Katy Nienstedt
Communion Set-Up	Margie & Wayne Dale	Margie & Wayne Dale	Janice McEntire	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull
Communion Clean-Up	Margie & Wayne Dale	Margie & Wayne Dale	Janice McEntire	Becky & Sam Mull	Becky & Sam Mull
Communion Assist	Becky Mull	Becky Mull	Janice McEntire	Becky Mull	Becky Mull
Bread Cubes	Frances Reichard				
Securing Offering	Janice McEntire & Zoe Mummert				

## 2022 Altar Flowers



The 2022 chart for Altar flowers will be available starting December 5, 2021. It will be in the office to the left when entering the front door of the sanctuary.

The cost of the two vases will be \$50.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Include the cost of \$50.00 with the bulletin information.

Knowing the cost increased, if you would like to share the cost, by asking someone else to share the cost, you are welcome to do so. When you sign-up for a Sunday, you will be responsible to obtain the bulletin information for you and your friend and forward it to Kimberly.

Should there be a Sunday that flowers are not donated, the flower vases will be removed.

## Youth Christmas Party

Saturday December 11, 2021

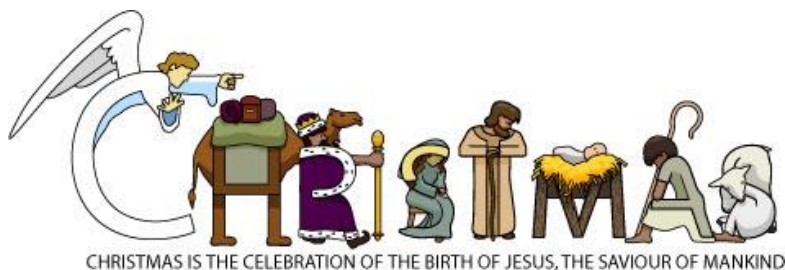
6:00 – 8:00 pm

Solomon's Fellowship Center

### **Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm:**

Chicken Fingers, Tater-Tots, Carrots, Celery, Dip,  
Christmas Cookies, Ice- Cream Sundaes & Drink.

Join us for: Crafts, Food & Fun  
Sign-up Sheet will be in the Sunday School Room



CHRISTMAS IS THE CELEBRATION OF THE BIRTH OF JESUS, THE SAVIOUR OF MANKIND

**Adult Sunday School Teacher/Leader:** Anyone who would be interested in helping teach/lead the Adult Sunday School Class starting January 2022 please contact Janice McEntire.

FYI – Christian Education Committee will be meeting every second Tuesday of every month beginning at 7:00 p.m.

*Thank you!* **from Social Ministry**

Social Ministry would like to send out a BIG THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered to work the Salvation Army red kettle and donated paper goods to the Maranatha Food Pantry.

## News from the Church Council

**Election of New Council Members** — Congratulations to Kathy Bowen, Ronald Coldsmith, Wayne Dale, Phil Johnson, Wayne Norman, and Larry Socks for all being elected to the church council, effective January 2022. A big ***thank you*** to Bonney Coldsmith and Marjorie Dale, both of whom have completed 6 years of service, and Sam Mull who completed 3 years of service.

## Sharing Christmas Greetings

**Remembering Our Homebound Members**--With the pandemic, a great many of us have become homebound. However, many of our members have still not been able to return to church. Please consider sending out holiday greeting cards to our homebound members. Receiving a colorful note from you is sure to brighten their day! Their addresses may be found in our church directory.

Harold "Bud" Armstrong  
Bill & Jane Brindle  
Genny Grant  
Jean Jackson  
Carol Locke  
Linda Russ  
Ina Shreiner

Connie Bikle  
Ginny Detwiler  
Frances Kramer  
Nancy Marshall  
Becky McCleary  
Paul Skelly  
Clayton Schwartz

Jere Brehm  
Esther Gift  
Alan Johnson  
Marjorie McMullin  
Joe Mock  
Gertie Reichard



## Secret Pal Program Update

From Kristy Nienstedt, Secret Pal Program Coordinator...

Due to the ongoing pandemic, we must unfortunately cancel this year's Secret Pal Christmas Luncheon. Secret Pal "Givers" are asked to "reveal" themselves to their pals by Christmas 2021.

This program has brought much joy to our senior members for many decades. However, after much reflection, it has been decided that it is time for something new. More details will be shared in 2022. Margie Dale will be returning to the coordinator position and has some fun ideas in mind!!

Many thanks to all of our participants this year as well as years past. On a personal note, I would like to say I've enjoyed coordinating the "match-ups" these past several years. It has allowed me to get to know some of you better and I have many happy memories of the holiday luncheons over the years! I also want to thank Margie Dale, Phyllis Brehm, Tana Vance, and Frances Reichard for their help every year preparing the Christmas luncheon and creating the lovely centerpieces/door prizes. Also, a shout-out to the fellas, Wayne Dale and Ed Reichard, for their help as well. Preparing the event with all of you was as fun as the meal itself!

## Special Worship Opportunities

### **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service**

*Friday, December 24<sup>th</sup>*








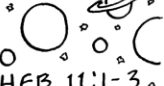

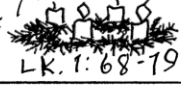
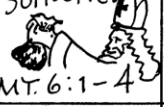
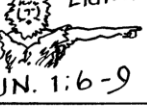

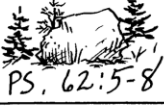
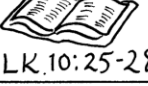

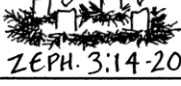
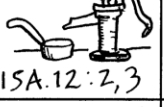
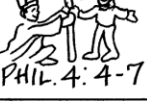
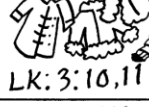
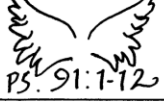
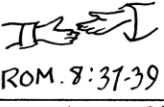

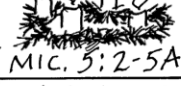
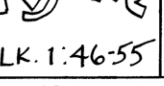
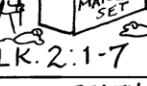
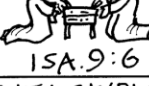
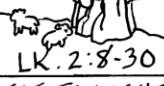
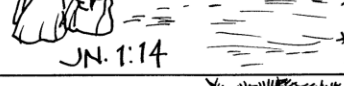
**Worship with Holy Communion at 7:30 p.m.**



## Friendly Reminders

Have an item for the January newsletter?! Deadline is **December 17th**. Email Kimberly at [office@solomonslutheran.org](mailto:office@solomonslutheran.org).

## 2021 Advent Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
LIGHT ONE 28 CANDLE.  JER. 33:14-16	BELIEVE. 29  ISA. 7:14	BE PATIENT. 30  ROM. 18:24-25	VISIT 1 SOTENI.ORG WORLD AIDS DAY  MT. 25:34-36	LISTEN. 2  1 KINGS 19:11	KEEP HOPING. 3  HEB. 11:1-3.	TASTE IT. 4  PS. 34:8-10
LIGHT TWO 5 CANDLES.  LK. 1:68-79	SURPRISE 6 SOMEONE.  MT. 6:1-4	SEE THE 7 LIGHT!  JN. 1:6-9	FOLLOW. 8  ISA. 11:1-6	TRUST. 9  PS. 62:5-8	BE 10 STRONG.  LK. 10:25-28	REMEMBER 11 REFUGEES.  DEUT. 26:10,11
LIGHT THREE 12 CANDLES.  ZEPH. 3:14-20	DRINK 13 DEEPLY.  ISA. 12:2,3	BE GENTLE 14  PHIL. 4:4-7	SHARE IT. 15  LK. 3:10,11	WATCH FOR 16 ANGELS.  PS. 91:1-12	JESUS 17 LOVES ME.  ROM. 8:37-39	VISIT 18 THEM.  2 JN. 12
LIGHT FOUR 19 CANDLES.  MIC. 5:2-5A	Rejoice 20  LK. 1:46-55	MAKE 21 ROOM.  LK. 2:1-7	WELCOME 22 HIM.  ISA. 9:6	PREPARE TO 23 TELL IT.  LK. 2:8-30	24  JN. 1:14	

TAKE WINTER GREENS AND FORM A WREATH, WITH CANDLES SET TO LIGHT.  
 THEN LISTEN TO THE PROPHETS' WORDS, HOWEVER LONG THE NIGHT.  
 COME, SING WITH THEM THEIR SONGS OF HOPE, THE COMING OF GOD'S REIGN.  
 AND WITH THEM DARE TO LISTEN FOR A MOTHER'S BIRTHING PAIN.  
 FOR NOT BY POWER OR BY MIGHT SHALL COME THE PROMISED DAY,  
 BUT RATHER FROM A HELPLESS CHILD UPON A BED OF HAY.  
 SO LISTEN FOR THE SOUND OF LOVE, AS WORD ENFLESHED BECOMES  
 OUR WAY AND TRUTH, OUR SONG TO SING SO THAT GOD'S WILL IS DONE.

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DEVOTIONS BY REV. MERRY WATERS • ADVENT 2021 • [www.thomasmousin.com](http://www.thomasmousin.com) • POEM & DESIGN BY REV. THOMAS MOUSIN



Your congregation touches many lives through both your own ministries and the additional ministries you feel called to support. For over six decades, SpiriTrust Lutheran has been a ministry partner, providing vital care to individuals and families we serve in the name of Jesus Christ.

Whether it's extending Benevolent Care to a senior whose resources have been depleted, delivering health care services to an individual in their home, or walking alongside a patient and their family under hospice care...**you** can be the hand of Christ to people in our communities by means of your charitable gifts to SpiriTrust Lutheran.

Perhaps SpiriTrust Lutheran has already helped members of your very own congregation...or perhaps we will in this coming year. Our team of more than 1,100 employees annually serves more than 17,500 people.

Thank you for enabling our mission of *"witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, providing exceptional health, human and senior living services by supporting persons in achieving the optimal quality of life."*

Our **MISSION** inspires us.

Our **HERITAGE** guides us.

### **A Spirit of Service, A Legacy of Trust**

Additional information about SpiriTrust Lutheran can be found at [www.SpiritrustLutheran.org](http://www.SpiritrustLutheran.org) or by calling 717.854.3971.

For more information on how you can support SpiriTrust Lutheran, contact the Office of Philanthropy at 717.854.4425.



## Opportunity for Fun & Fellowship



# Youth Game Night with Trinity Lutheran

Saturday January 15, 2022

In Solomon's Fellowship Center

6 pm – 8 pm

Board Games, Card Games, Twister, Run & Play Ball

We'll be making Soft Pretzels and Ice-Cream Sundaes.

*Come join the fun!*

Sign-up sheet will be on the Sunday School Bulletin Board





*Celebrating a Birthday in December....*

12/1 Doug Mummert  
12/1 Bill Chiado  
12/2 Jesse Reichard  
12/3 Patricia Yetter  
12/5 Clif Rau  
12/8 Finn Weiss  
12/11 Abby Schultz

12/12 Joy Gayman  
12/12 Dylan Garcia  
12/16 Barbara Aldrich  
12/24 Linda Berberich  
12/27 Jane Brindle



*Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in December...*

12/2	Wayne & Peggi Norman
12/16	Bill & Lilly Chiado
12/26	Bill & Jane Brindle
12/30	Rob & Beth Floyd

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**Join us Sunday mornings!**

10:15 a.m. Worship Service

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

OR check us out on *YouTube!*  
Links are listed on our website.

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*"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.."*

Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)