



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

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December 2018

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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

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Colossians 3:17



Martin and Katharina Luther



The Luther family at home with friend Philip Melanchthon

Katharina von Bora was a Cistercian nun until she left the convent and married Martin Luther in 1525. Together with their children, they created a home life that was not only a source of joy and fulfillment for them but for their entire community. Martin often invited guests to their home for meals and lively discussions about theology and the Bible. *The Table Talk of Martin Luther* is a collection of notes taken by his students during these gatherings. The Luther homestead included a farm, a fish pond, gardens and even a brewery—all of which Katharina managed. Katy, as she was called, was well known for her delicious beer and hearty meals—she was always focused on hospitality and the wellbeing of all who walked through the doors of her home.

In addition to raising six children, Katy's income helped the family care for those in need beyond their immediate kin. The Luther's were well known for their generosity and support of others. Music, singing, sharing Bible stories and praying together were cherished activities in the Luther household. Luther once said "None can believe how powerful prayer is, and what it is able to effect, but those who have learned it by experience."

The life that Katharina and Martin shared was a sign of God's love made manifest in the lifelong covenant between two people. At this time of year, when family, friends and communities gather in fellowship and to break bread together, let us remember the witness of Martin and Katharina Luther, who loved God and wanted all people to know the grace of their Savior Jesus Christ.

During the Advent and Christmas seasons, I encourage you to follow the words in Colossians: *“As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness and patience....Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called to one body.”* Colossians 3:12, 14-15

Take time to reflect on God's grace in your life and nurture your relationships with loved ones, family and friends. I wish each of you joy and peace in this season of hope and I remember each one of you in my prayers and give thanks to God for you.

See you in church!
Peace and joy in Christ,
Pastor Bill

Special Worship Opportunities

Christmas Cantata:

Mary, Did You Know?

A Christmas Musical

By David Guthrie & Bruce Greer

**During the 10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Sunday, December 23rd**

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service
Monday, December 24th
Special Music Begins at 7:10 p.m.
Worship with Holy Communion Begins at 7:30 p.m.

New Year's Worship Service
Sunday, December 30th
“Lessons & Carols” Worship Service Begins at 10:15 a.m.

News from the Church Council

Election of New Members— Congratulations to Kathy Bowen, Margie Dale (returning for a second term), Bonney Coldsmith (returning for a second term), Jay Hunter (returning for a second term), and Sam Mull for being elected as new church council members, effective January 2019. And, a big ***thank you*** to Becky Mull and Lisa Mentzer, both of whom are completing their time of service on the council.

News from Christian Education

Advent Materials—Be sure to check your church mailbox for the specially-themed Advent devotionals for both young and old. This year's item for the youth is a set of cards produced by Augsburg Fortress which features prayers, reflections, and activities for each day leading up to Christmas and on through to Epiphany.

Youth Christmas Dinner & Movie Night--Our youth are invited to join us on **Saturday, December 8th**, in the Fellowship Center. We will be enjoying a meal together followed by a screening of the 2017 animated movie ***The Star***. Bring your favorite blanket or sleeping bag and a pillow to get cozy as we view it in the conference room!

News from Social Ministry

Lunch, Learn & Play—On Wednesday, **Dec. 5th**, come and enjoy a Christmas lunch, fellowship and lots of festive fun! Lunch, Learn and Play will also ring in the New Year on Wednesday, **Jan. 2nd**. Once again having lunch at 12 noon as we welcome the year 2019! Kindly sign-up ahead of time so we know how much food to prepare. Need a ride? Contact Edna Harris.

A Thank You--Thank you to everyone who helped us ring the Salvation Army Bell at the Butcher Shoppe on November 24th as well as everyone who donated paper products to our November paper products drive.

Opportunities for Fun & Fellowship

Secret Pal Christmas Luncheon

Sunday, December 2nd
Solomon's Fellowship Center
12:00 PM



Whether you were a "giver" or a "receiver" you won't want to miss the *Big Reveal!*
Sign-up in the old Sunday School Room or RSVP to Kristy Nienstedt directly.

Lunch, Learn, & Play!

**Wednesday, December 5th
12:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Solomon's Fellowship Center**

It's a Special **Christmas Party!**

*Sign up in the old Sunday School room.
Need transportation? Contact Edna Harris*

Children's **Christmas Dinner & Movie Night**

***Saturday, December 8th
6:00-8:00 PM
Solomon's Fellowship Center***



Dinner at 6:00 p.m. - BBQ, Veggie Tray, Chips, Cookies/Brownies and Ice-Cream Sundaes.

Popcorn & a Movie will follow. **The Star** is a 2017 animated movie which retells the nativity story from the point of view of a donkey who traveled with Mary & Joseph. Please bring your favorite blanket/sleeping bag and a pillow. The movie will be screened in the Conference Room.

Caroling to Solomon's Homebound Members

***Sunday, December 9th
1:30 PM***

***Be a part of the annual holiday tradition and help bring some cheer and smiles to our homebound members!
We will depart from the church parking lot and do a "carpool caravan" to the assorted residences.***

***Since our shut-ins reside throughout Franklin County, we will try something different this year:
We will split into two groups with one group visiting the South end homes and the other group visiting the Central and North residences.***



**CRUSADERS FOR CHRIST
CONGREGATION CHRISTMAS PARTY
HOSS'S RESTAURANT
Thursday, December 27th
6:30 PM**

**Come and join the fun, fellowship, and games!
Please bring canned food items for our local food pantry.**

**Sign-up sheet in Sunday School room
Hope to see you there!!**

Sharing Christmas Greetings

Christmas Card Tree—Again this year there will be a Christmas tree in the old Sunday School room to display Christmas cards. Instead of giving out individual cards to each member, just send one card to “All Solomon’s Members.” Starting Sunday, December 2nd, a box will be placed near the tree for you to place your cards. “Tree Coordinators” Lilly and Bill Chiado will then place the cards on the tree. The idea is that the money saved by not having to purchase so many cards can be donated to a worthy cause such as our church or your favorite charity. We hope that everyone will participate.

Remembering Our Homebound Members--Since not all of our Solomon’s “family” can join us at church, please consider still 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
Connie & Ferd Bikle
Jack Bowen
Ray Fell

Bonnie Hudson
Helen Hess
Frances Kramer
Marjorie McMullin

Linda Russ
Clayton Schwartz
Bob Shreiner
Gerald & Esther Schultz

End of Year Giving Reminders

2018 Offerings: If you desire to have your contributions allocated to the 2018 tax year, they need to be received in the office by **December 30**. Contributions received after this date may be allocated to 2018.

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 Sally in the office to discuss options.

An Invitation to the Antietam Memorial Illumination

On **Saturday, December 1, 2018**, Antietam National Battle Field will host the **30th Annual Antietam National Battlefield Memorial Illumination** in honor of those soldiers who fell during the Battle of Antietam. Solomon's will join over 1,400 volunteers to place luminaries and light candles dedicated to those brave soldiers.

Please join us this year as Solomon's celebrates 24 years of volunteering at Antietam. **Solomon's is in charge of setting out 720 luminaries beginning at 10 AM.** We will also light the candles around 2:30 PM, then gather for a Memorial Service at 4:00 PM. Sign-up sheets are on the Sunday School room bulletin board. If you have any questions, please talk to Sally Gayman or Bonney Coldsmith.

Happening In Our Larger Community...

A **Stephen Minister** is a lay Christian care-giver who has undergone extensive training in order to be able to provide comfort and support to someone going through a difficult time in their life. Whether it is a time of grief, loneliness, an extended illness or some other difficulty or life transition, a Stephen Minister is someone who stands ready to provide confidential, one-to-one, Christ-centered care.

A ***new Stephen Ministry training class is currently being planned for the spring of 2019.*** If you are interested in becoming a part of this powerful ministry or would like more information, please contact Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737 or lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org.

Dinner at the Ridge will be held at **12:00 p.m.** at the Fleck Center on **Wednesday, December 12, 2018.** The cost is \$7.50. The menu for December is creamed lettuce, baked ham with pineapple glaze, baked sweet potatoes, baby carrots, dinner roll with butter, assorted desserts, and a beverage. Please call **264-3212** to make your reservation. Deadline for reservations is noon on Friday, December 7th.



The Franklin County Library System Bookmobile Bus/Van is no longer making a stop in our parking lot. Instead, it now stops at Providence Place on the first Thursday of the month from 11:00-11:30 a.m. To read the complete list of Bookmobile stops, check out their Facebook page!

News from the SpiriTrust Lutheran Auxiliary

Angels of Love-- This Christmas marks the 26th anniversary of the annual Angels of Love holiday tribute! For a donation of \$10 or more (per person) you can dedicate an angel to be hung on the Christmas tree in the lobby of The Inn at The Village at Luther Ridge. This is a great way to honor and remember special family, friends, and co-workers. Moreover, your contribution lasts long after the holiday by helping the Auxiliary reach its goals to provide quality care to members of the Luther Ridge community.

Discount Cards Fundraiser-- Need a stocking stuffer? The Auxiliary is still selling discount cards which feature discounts from local merchants. Cards are \$5 each. To receive the discount, simply present the card when making your purchase. To buy one, contact Margie Dale or Gladys Mull during coffee hour on Sundays. You can also purchase tickets from Linda Beaver at 717-264-0737 or lbeaver@spiritrustlutheran.org.

Serving in December

	12/2/18	12/9/18	12/16/18	12/23/18	12/30/18
Assisting Minister	Leah Wolfinger				
Lector	Patricia Yetter	Alan Johnson	Gladys Mull	Cantata	Sam Mull
Acolyte	Audrey Shenberger	Rebekah Aldrich	Katy Nienstedt	Aaron Shreiner	Katy Nienstedt
Head Usher	Lisa Mentzer (except for 12/16: Becky Mull)				
Ushers	Bernie & Edna Harris, Jere & Phyllis Brehm				
Greeters	Linda Berberich	Bernie & Edna Harris	Clif & Carole Rau	Rebekah & Barbara Aldrich	Becky & Sam Mull
Children's Church		Lilly Chiado Becky Pecha		Kristy Nienstedt TBD	
Nursery	On Call As Needed: Kristy Nienstedt, Barbara Aldrich, and/or Marilys Johnson				
After Service Coffee	Secret Pal Luncheon	Karen Wolfinger	Gladys Mull	Kristy Nienstedt	Phyllis Brehm
Communion Assistants	Bernie Harris (challis), Ron Coldsmith (cups), Gladys Mull (trays) **No HC on 12/23 (Cantata)				
Communion Bread	Margie Dale (none on the 23 rd ; 2 loaves for the 24 th)				
Communion Set-Up	Gladys Mull				
Communion Clean-Up	Sam & Becky Mull				
Flower Delivery	Kristy Nienstedt				
Securing Offering	Edna Harris, Sam Mull				
Paraments & Altar Linens	Annamarie Schwartz				

***Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**--*Lector*: Bonney Coldsmith, *Acolytes*: Aaron, Karen, Katy, & Rebekah, *Greeters*: Ron & Bonnie Coldsmith, *Communion Assistants*: Bernie Harris (Challis), Ron Coldsmith (Cups), Gladys Mull (Trays), Kristy Nienstedt (Bread), *Head Usher*: Lisa Mentzer

Reminders

Pastor Bill's Mid-Week Bible Study will meet twice during the month of December: **Dec. 5th** and **Dec. 12th** at 10 a.m. in the conference room. The group will then go on hiatus for the holidays with the **class resuming on January 9th**.

2019 Altar Flowers Chart—Sally will be posting the new altar flowers chart later this month. For the price of two flower arrangements, you can give glory to God with the beauty of His creation on the altar; commemorate a loved one; and if you choose, have your flowers given to someone who is homebound or recovering from surgery or illness. The chart can be found off the church entryway (leading out to Wayne Rd.) in the room to your left (as you face the altar).

Have an item for the December newsletter?! Deadline is **December 12th**. Email Kristy Nienstedt at kristynienstedt@gmail.com or place it in her church mailbox.

Editor's Correction--In the November edition of the newsletter where I listed our Solomon's veterans, I neglected to include one of our WWII veterans: Marvin McKenzie. Marvin served in the U.S. Army from 1945-1947 with the 3rd & 88th Divisions in both Germany and Italy. Apologies for the omission and THANK YOU for your service to our great nation!



Celebrating a Birthday in December....

12/1	Doug Mummert	12/11	Abby Schultz
12/1	Bill Chiado	12/12	Joy Gayman
12/2	Jesse Reichard	12/12	Dylan Garcia
12/3	Esther Schultz	12/16	Barbara Aldrich
12/3	Patricia Yetter	12/19	Duane Shenberger
12/5	Clif Rau	12/20	Joyce Wildeson
12/8	Finn Weiss	12/24	Linda Berberich
		12/27	Jane Brindle

Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in December...

12/2	Wayne & Peggi Norman (40 th)
12/16	Bill & Lilly Chiado
12/20	Don & Joyce Wildeson (60 th)
12/26	Bill & Jane Brindle (65 th)
12/27	Alan & Marilys Johnson (60 th)
12/30	Rob & Beth Floyd

Gospel Readings for December:

Sunday, Dec. 2nd--Luke 21:25-36
Sunday, Dec. 9th--Luke 3:1-6
Sunday, Dec. 16th--Luke 3:7-18
Sunday, Dec. 23rd--Luke 1:39-45
Christmas Eve, Dec. 24th—Luke 2:1-14
Sunday, Dec. 30th--Luke 2:41-52

Stewardship Bouquets

(A place to simply say “THANK YOU”)

Thank you to our 2018 Church Council Officers and Members for their hard work and dedication all year: Bill Wepking (President), Margie Dale (Vice President), Bonney Coldsmith (Secretary), Carole Darr, Jay Hunter, Lisa Mentzer, Becky Mull, Clif Rau, Duane Shenberger, and Patricia Yetter. Also **thank you** to Ilona Laney (Treasurer) and Janice McEntire (Financial Secretary). And finally, **thank you** to Pastor Bill and Sally Gayman for their support of this team.

Thank you to the army of volunteers who served in a variety of ways to host the Community Thanksgiving Dinner. We especially thank Frances Reichard and the Kitchen Committee members who mobilized the troops for this wonderful meal. An astonishing 240 meals were served!

Thank you to everyone who faithfully served in the various capacities on the “Server Schedule” in 2018.

Thank you to everyone who chaired and/or served on a committee this past year.

Thank you to everyone who contributed paper products for the Maranatha Food Pantry.

Thank you to everyone who supported the Relay for Life’s holiday shirts fundraiser.

Thank you to those that attended the Relay for Life’s *Paint With Us!* Fundraiser.

Thank you to the Social Ministry Committee for hosting the November Lunch, Learn, & Play event.

Thank you to Heidi Shenberger for being our “guest” pianist for the morning worship services on November 11th and 18th.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Salvation Army Bell-Ringing at the Butcher Shoppe.

Thank you to Marty Wenger for brightening everyone’s birthday throughout the year by serenading them with “Happy Birthday!” via phone call. What a special way to be remembered!!



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4856 WAYNE ROAD
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Join us Sunday mornings!

9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:15 a.m. Worship Service

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Pastor Bill Nienstedt

*“Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son.
By His coming give to all people of the world knowledge of your salvation.”*

Advent Prayer, ELW page 19