

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH GRINDSTONE HILL

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December 2025

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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 Julia Brown

Hello members and friends of Solomon's Lutheran Church!

For those whom I have not yet met, I am the Rev. Julia L. Brown, and I will be your pastor for at least the next 5 months. After a long period of prayer and discernment, we are moving forward with a shared pastorate with Solomon's United Church of Christ. This is new for all of us, although some of you still remember the days when the two congregations shared a building.

I know there can be concern and many questions that come with a change like this, and I want to assure you that I respect that. But this is also an exciting time to be asking, "what is God up to? Where might God take us in this new season? How might God use this new partnership? What is the invitation God is extending here?"

Let's keep those questions in mind and on our hearts as we grow into this together. We will move forward according to God's will and counsel, working toward the flourishing of God's kingdom on earth.

A little bit about me:

I have a Bachelor's of Animal Science from Penn State University, and a Master's of Divinity from Fuller Theological Seminary. I live in Chambersburg with my husband, Ben, our two

daughters, Louise and Aubrey, our Olde English Bulldog, Pepe, and our two cats, Hank and Monty. I love to cook and bake, especially in the summer when we get our CSA from Country Creek Produce Farm. I enjoy gardening with native plants and watching the bees and butterflies those plants bring to our yard. I do enjoy cross-stitching and reading when I have time (thank you, God, for audiobooks!). When we travel, we like to explore the national parks and experience the outdoors.

In ministry, I am passionate about church outreach and missions and the tangible, physical ways we can love our neighbors. I love that saying, "Preach the gospel at all times, and when necessary, use words." (That is often attributed to St. Francis, although that may not be correct.) It reminds me that our actions, more than our words, demonstrate the love of God and the Good News of Jesus.

I look forward to getting to know you all! Be in touch as needed. See you in church, Pastor Julia



Gospel Readings for DECEMBER:

Sunday, December 7 - Matthew 3:1-12

Sunday, December 14 - Matthew 11:2-11

Sunday, December 21 - Matthew 1:18-25

Sunday, December 28 - Matthew 2:13-23

Church Directory Update

Every January a new church directory listing the names, phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses of all Solomon's members is published by the church office. If your contact information has changed since publication of the 2025 directory, please let Kimberly know by December 16th.

End of Year Giving Reminders

2025 Offerings: If you desire to have your contributions allocated for the 2025 tax year, they need to be received in the office by **December 30.** Contributions received after this date may be allocated to 2026.

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.

Solomon's Serving Schedule - December

	12/7/25	12/14/25	12/21/25	12/28/25	
Head Usher	Sarge Weaver				
Lector	Judy Johnson	Patricia Yetter	Rich McEntire Martie Veilleux		
Acolyte/Bell Ringer	TBD	TBD	TBD TBD		
Communion Set-Up	TBD	TBD	TBD TBD		
Communion Clean-Up	TBD	TBD	TBD TBD		
Communion Assist	Martie Veilleux	Ron Coldsmith	Martie Veilleux Martie Veilleux		
Communion Bread	Linda Berberich	TBD	Linda Berberich TBD		
Securing Offering	Sarge Weaver				

December 24th - Christmas Eve Acolyte — Lector — Martie Veilleux Communion Assist — Ron Coldsmith

2026 Altar Flower Chart



The 2026 sign-up chart for Altar flowers is available in the Sunday School Room on the table. The cost of the two vases will be \$60.00 per week. You will continue to provide Kimberly with the information for the bulletin prior to the week before the Sunday you choose. Please include the cost of \$60.00 with the bulletin information.

Sharing Christmas Greetings

Remembering Our Homebound Members – We are a family and some of our families are now homebound and unable to join us at church. Please consider sending out holiday greeting cards so our homebound feel more connected. Receiving a colorful note from you is sure to brighten their day! Their addresses may be found in our church directory.

Bill Brindle Becky McCleary
Ginny Detwiler Joe Mock
Genny Grant Ina Shreiner
Carol Locke Martin Wenger
Nancy Marshall



Solomon's Christmas Party



Sunday, December 7, 2025 / After Church in the SFC

Everyone's invited!

Menu: Make your own Pizza, Veggie Tray, Chips, Cookies, Punch, Coffee, Hot Tea & Water (Sign-up sheet in the Sunday School room)

Join us for good food & fellowship!

Special Worship Opportunities at Solomon's



Once again, this year there are two Sundays after Christmas. On Christmas 1, December 28, we will once again worship with the Service of Lessons and Carols...a great opportunity to hear scripture foretelling the birth of Christ, the story of the birth of Christ, the coming of the Three Kings, and the wonderful passage that begins, "In the beginning was the Word." You will have the opportunity to sing many Christmas carols as part of this service.



Finally, on January 4 we are going to observe The Feast of the Epiphany with the gospel reading of The Three Kings to close our Christmas season. Mark your calendars and invite family and friends to worship with us during this special season of the year.

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. Your time and generosity are very much appreciated!

News from the Church Council



Election of New Council Member - Congratulations to Aaron Schreiner for being elected to the church council, effective January 2026. A big *thank you* to Frances Reichard who completed her years of service.

Christmas Caroling

Christmas Caroling Sunday, December 21st following the church service.



Pizza will be provided prior to leaving to visit and share Christmas carols with our homebound residents. If you can join the carolers to bring joy to the residents, please contact Bonney Coldsmith. There is a sign-up sheet in the Sunday School Room.

Inclement Weather



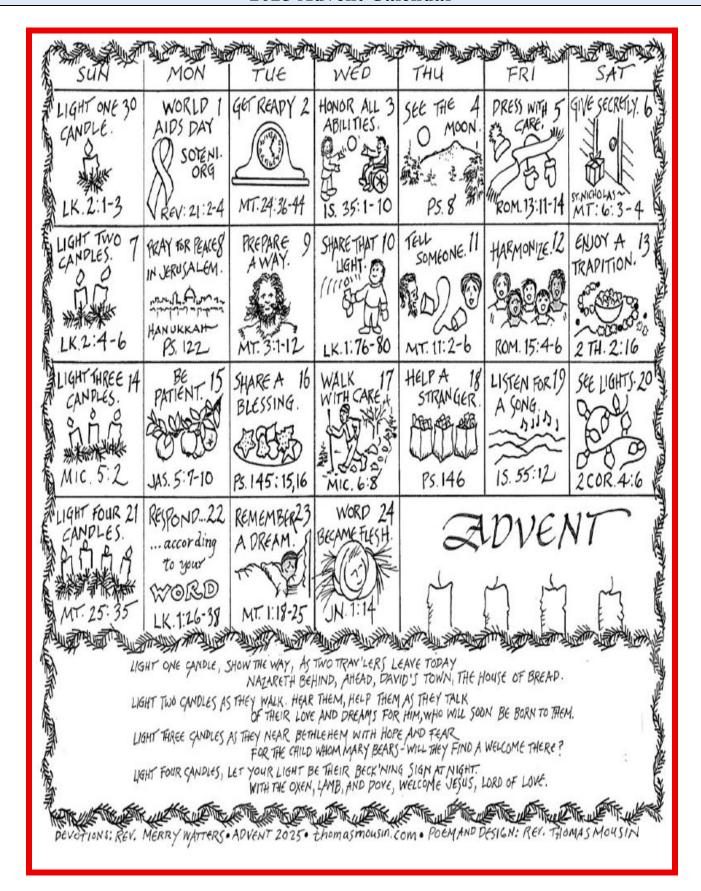
Cancellation Notification. In the event of inclement weather, Solomon's will announce that our worship services are cancelled by sending an email to the entire membership who have email addresses. Also, the phone message on the office phone at the church (717-267-2266), will announce

when services are cancelled. On a weekend, this will be done by 4:00pm Saturday. If you receive an email notifying you of a cancellation and if you know a friend who does not have email, please contact them. If the church office does not have your current email address, please let Kimberly in the church office know this as soon as possible, so it can be updated! Above all, safety is our most important concern, so please do not take any unnecessary chances.

Friendly Reminders

Have an item for the January newsletter?! Deadline is **December 22nd**. Email Kimberly at office@solomonslutheran.org.

2025 Advent Calendar





Celebrating a Birthday in December....

12/1	Bill Chiado	12/12	Joy Gayman
•		•	• •
12/2	Jesse Reichard	•	Dylan Garcia
12/3	Patricia Yetter	12/16	Barbara Aldrich
12/5	Clif Rau	12/24	Linda Berberich
12/8	Finn Weiss	12/25	Vernon Socks
12/11	Abby Schultz		



Celebrating a Wedding Anniversary in December...

12/16 Bill & Lilly Chiado 12/30 Rob & Beth Floyd

Join us Sunday mornings! 10:45 a.m. Worship Service

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

Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church 4856 Wayne Road Chambersburg, PA 17202-9355 Phone: 717-267-2266 www.solomonslutheran.org Pastor Julia Brown

"I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.."
Philippians 4:13 (NRSV)