

# THE MESSENGER

**December, 2022**

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus. Matthew 1:24-25

What a wonderful gift, Our Lord Jesus Christ. To know that God loves us so much, as to give us His only Son who came to redeem us.

This is the season to celebrate the love that God has showered upon our Church and our families. We have many new members added to our church families: Marty and Tanya Griffin, Gary and Kathy Owens, Dennis and Judy Oakes, we are so blessed to have added these wonderful people to our family. Joe and Betty Mulhall have come back and are a wonderful part of our church family. It is so exciting to see our family grow.

As I write this, I am reflecting on how Joseph felt the excitement when the angel went to him and told him that God needed Mary, and Joseph as well to raise His son for Him. The angel even told Joseph what HE was to name the child. I feel that God had much need of Joseph as well. He certainly was not picking out a person of great sin to raise His Son.

Joseph lived a life that would allow Jesus to be brought up in a loving family dynamic. So, too, we are a church filled with love and we care about each other and we are there for each other as well.

We are now in a church which has no mortgage that is perfect from which to grow and follow the teachings and doctrines of our faith. We know that we may only go to heaven by faith in Christ and knowing the redemption through Christ who was born and who died to take away our sins.

This year we have had our share of sorrow with the passing of Larry Phillips in Feb, and my own sister in June and Bill Wilkening in Sept. God was in need of each of these people and we don't always know why they are taken when they go, but the one thing that we can be sure of is that they are happy and safe with their Lord. We could not ask for more that.

We also had a wedding this year on July 4<sup>th</sup>, Dennis and Judy Oakes. Of course just a couple of weeks later Dennis decided to go and have a heart problem. As I told him, I do not give refunds so he had to get well and get back to his new bride.

We had two GREAT picnics this year and a wonderful soup supper. You know how it is, Lutherans love to eat.

Yes, God has been so good to our church. We still look forward to having members step up and find areas in the church where they can help. Choir, evangelism, hospitality, crafters quilters, Mary Martha Circle. There are many ways that we can help to grow our church, but it takes everyone. God has blessed us so much. Let us find ways to help others and show our love for God our Father. God's Peace and Grace this Christmas season, and

God's Blessings to All, Pastor John

## Christ Lutheran Church

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*Pastor - John Johnson*

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President - Pat Ganster

Vice President - Sue Spinelli Corp.

Secretary -

Sandy Halcomb

### **Council Assignments**

#### ***Administration***

Pat Ganster

Linda Dyer

#### ***Congregation Ministry/***

#### ***Outreach***

Sue Spinelli

#### ***Evangelism,***

Pr. John Johnson

#### ***Property***

Bill Streett

#### ***Music and Worship***

Jean Hill

#### ***Finance***

Phyllis Lytle

#### ***Recording Secretary***

Linda Dyer

#### ***Hospitality***

Sandy Halcomb

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## Dates to Remember

December 3, 2022

Soup Supper at 4pm

December 11, 2022

Choir Cantata

December 13, 2022

Council Meeting -9am

December 13, 2022

Mary Martha Circle

Christmas Luncheon

Carabbas at 12 Noon

December 15, 2022

Secret Sisters Luncheon

Noon - 2pm

Olive Garden

## **Long Term Prayer Concerns**

**In Our Prayers: Marjorie Matthews, Arlie and Helen Johnson, Rosemarie Robinson. Martha and Charlie Taylor, Clarice Gildred, George Bertish and Dennis Owens.**

## **Flowers In Honor Of or In Memory Of**

If members wish to place flowers In Memory Of, or In Honor Of a loved one, the member may purchase and place a rose in a vase on the altar. Please let the office know, via e-mail if possible, at least one week in advance that you are doing this so it can be entered in the bulletin. If you do not have e-mail you may call the church office (437-4113).

### **December Birthdays**

- \_ 2 Marjorie Flanagan**
- 9 Herta Roeloffs**
- 10 Ruth Rehme**
- 13 Grace Lorenz**
- 16 Clarice Gildred**
- 20 Frank Wolf**
- 24 Erika Roach**
- 25 Richard Irwin**
- 26 Lyn Strawser**

**During December we will take to pray for all who grieve and feel alone during the holiday season**



# VOLUNTEERS for December, 2022

2022	4th	11th	18	24/25
Altar Care	Pat Ganster		Pat Ganster	
Lay Minister	Joan Irwin		Jody Hitz	
Lector				Tracy H./Phyllis L.
Ushers	Pete Ganster Bill Streett	Pete & Carmen Seidel	Mike & Harriet Hinson	Don & Erika Roach
Computer	Linda Dyer	Pat Ganster	Phyllis Lytle	Sue Spinelli

