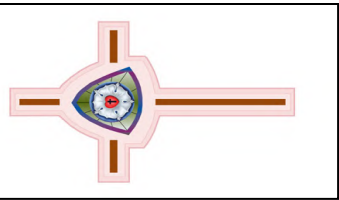
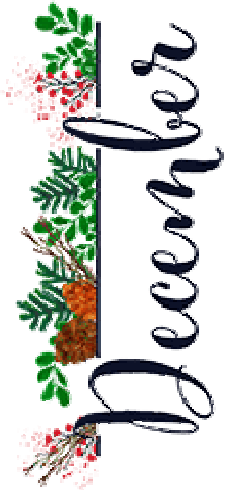


Christ's United Lutheran Church  
437 Airport Road  
Ashland, PA 17921  
[www.christsunited.org](http://www.christsunited.org)

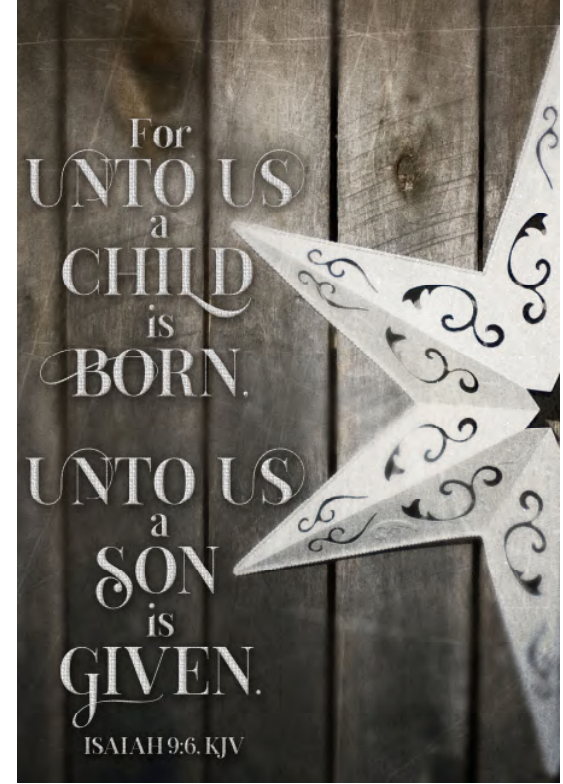
Mailed 11/23/21



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*The CULC Messenger*  
*God's Work,*  
*Our Actions*



*Join us*

*for Wor-*

*ship*

*Sunday at 9:30 a.m.*

*Sunday School - 10:45 a.m.*



*The CULC Messenger*  
*God's Work, Our Actions*





# Christ's United Lutheran Church

One God. One People. One Purpose.

437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA 17921

www.christsunited.org

(570) 875-1591

December 2021

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The December CULC Messenger is sponsored in Memory of Parents, Jim & Catherine



"I decided to give everyone on my list a 3-D printer and let them make their own gifts."

## Status of Accounts as of October 31

Balance in Checking Account \$46,035.30 .

Amount needed in offerings per month to meet our 2021 Annual Budget of \$202,094.00 is \$16,841.17

October income was \$13,970.41

Expenses for October were \$9,153.24, resulting in a gain of \$4,817.17.

Benevolence Gifts through October is \$10,724.29

(71% of our Benevolence goal of \$15,000.00 for 2021)

## CHURCH COUNCIL 2021

	Phone	Term Expires
John Denchak President	570-875-4970	Feb. 2023
Vivian Brown Vice-President	717-275-5277	Feb. 2023
Beth Andrews Secretary	570-874-2381	Feb. 2022
Ted Ambrose	570-449-2193	Feb. 2022
Angie Berger	570-875-3598	Feb. 2023
Debra Price	570-875-4272	Feb. 2024
Barbara Stepanchick	570-875-1114	Feb. 2022
Jacob Tice	570-875-2681	Feb. 2024
Dennis Wolfe	570-875-9085	Feb. 2024
Joseph McAndrew Youth Representative		

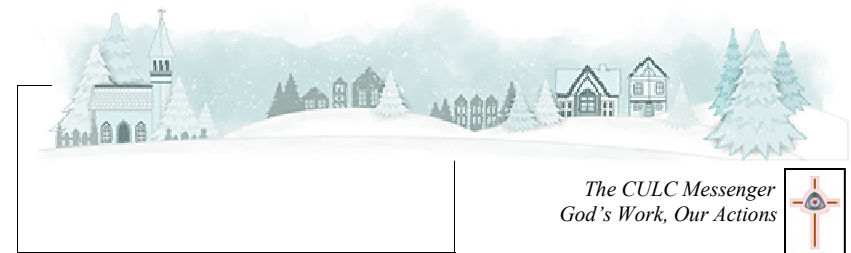
## DESIGNATED PASTOR

Reverend Dana Heckman-Beil

570-875-0792

## STAFF

Parish Administrator	Debbie Hall	570-875-1591
	office@christsunited.org	570-789-9722
	Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-3:00	
Director of Music	Jamie Johnson	570-590-1678
Treasurer	Ann Marie Dillman	570-449-2021



The CULC Messenger  
God's Work, Our Actions



## Christ's United Ministry Teams

Christian Education  
Evangelism/Outreach  
Lutheran Church Men (LCM)  
Social Ministry  
Stewardship  
WELCA  
Worship & Music  
Multimedia Ministry  
Safety and Security Team

## Christ's United Committees

Auditing & Finance Committees  
Endowment Fund  
Mutual Ministry  
Nominating  
Personnel

## **Christ's United Lutheran Church**

### Mission Statement

*We the members of Christ's United Lutheran Church, Ashland, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in our world, do hereby commit ourselves to a mission which includes a creative re-examination of our worship life; a quality educational program for all ages; intentional witnessing; a serving spirit; and an integrated support system which will undergird our program and the maintenance of our facilities as it encourages improved stewardship.*

## Christian symbol

EVERGREEN—These trees, which keep their green leaves year-round, are symbolic of Christmas, eternal life and God's everlasting love. In the Bible, evergreen trees are called the "cedars of Lebanon," suggesting growth (Psalm 92:12), height (Amos 2:9), fragrance (Hosea 14:6) and steadfast faith.

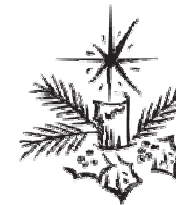


## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Wait, you say I'm too early?  
No. Happy CHURCH New Year.  
We have just finished the longest season of the church year - Pentecost, and celebrated Christ as our King. Now we enter the season of Advent. The new church year!

New Year's are a time of change - much like what we at Christ's United are going through at the moment. Advent is a time of change also as we await the coming birth of our Savior. As some other people, I don't like change, I like the familiar same things. We joke that Lutherans never like change, or maybe it's just part of our ancestral heritage that's at the root of it.

Change comes in many ways. Changes in our relationships with one another, changes in where we live, our jobs, our families, our tastes. Change is unfamiliar, I guess that's why most people are afraid of it. But, change can bring great things - Great things like a baby. A baby born in Bethlehem was a great change. During this season of Advent, we wait patiently in hope and expectation for a baby. A baby that will bring change to not just a few, but to the whole world. When the angel came to announce His birth to Mary and Joseph no one could imagine the great change that was coming into the world. It was a time of fear, anxiety and worry for them and their families. What will happen to us? What will others think? How will we deal with this? Many of the same questions we ask ourselves when change occurs in our personal lives and here at Christ's United.



— continued on page 4

The CULC Messenger  
God's Work, Our Actions





# PUZZLE



**F M K N L A D E G S C E J A T S**  
**H** → → → **U**  
**M** ↑ **What's in a name?** ↓ **E**  
**V** ↑ An angel told Joseph what to name Mary's baby. **L**  
 Solve the puzzle to discover the name's meaning. **W**  
**S** ↓ **B**  
**R** ↓ **A**  
**B** ↓ **R**  
**O** ↓ **V**  
**L** ↓ **H**  
**Y** ↑ "S\_e w\_ll \_\_ve b ir\_\_ **P**  
 to \_ s\_n, and \_\_u a\_e to **Q**  
 gi\_e \_i\_ the \_\_me J\_\_us, **E**  
 b\_c\_u\_\_ he \_ill s\_\_e his **F**  
 \_\_op\_e f\_o\_ t\_\_ir s\_n\_." **L**  
**A** ↑ **S**  
**V** ↓ **R**  
**H** ↑ **Z**  
**R** ↑ **M**  
**T** ↓ **A**  
**A** ← ← ← **I N G F I P (H) S C I B E J H A**

**Directions:** Begin at the circled H below and follow the arrows. Circle every other letter, and then place them in order to complete Matthew 1:21.

“S\_e w\_ll \_\_ve b ir\_\_  
 to \_ s\_n, and \_\_u a\_e to  
 gi\_e \_i\_ the \_\_me J\_\_us,  
 b\_c\_u\_\_ he \_ill s\_\_e his  
 \_\_op\_e f\_o\_ t\_\_ir s\_n\_.”

**MATTHEW 1:21, NIV**

START HERE



## Church Council Highlights from November

- Income for October was \$13,970.41 and Expenses were \$9,153.24. We had a gain for October of \$4,817.17.
- Trunk-or-Treat was held on 10/31 from 4-6 p.m. It went very well and about 100 children participated. Vivian Brown added that the time worked out really well because the Church of the Nazarene and the Lavelle Fire Company had their Trunk-or-Treat at 6 p.m.
- The Safety Team sees no problem with the Christmas Dinner being held and council agreed. The dinner will be held on December 12th at 11:00 a.m.
- Because some members of the congregation prefer the traditional Confession and Forgiveness from the *Lutheran Book of Worship* and others favor the version suggested in *Sundays and Seasons*, it was decided to compromise. The traditional confession from the *Lutheran Book of Worship* will be used on Communion Sundays and the confession in *Sundays and Seasons* will be used on Sundays without Holy Communion.
- A Call Committee has been assembled - Chairperson Forrest Shadle, Suzanne Peel, Becky Spencer, Donna Wallace, Dennis Wolfe and Larry Wolfgang. Dennis reported that they are meet-

## December Council Contact of the month is Barb Stepanchick

The Council Contact of the Month is the “on call” member of council, the person to contact if you have any concerns (other than pastoral concerns), or need access to the building. If you need to contact Barb,



The CULC Messenger  
God's Work, Our Actions



Answer: “She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21, NIV

## We Offer our Prayers to...



**November 21** - Barry Quick Sr. (B. Spencer)  
Jim Houser Sr.(T. Houser)  
Ken Welker (C. Brennan)  
Tommy Green (C. Brennan)

*Families of* Carlee Spieles Burns  
Doreen & John Wehry  
Paul Wetzel

**November 14** – Dot Zeigenfuse (C. Koch)  
Rick Lorady (G. Lorady)  
Joe Brennan (J. Chappell)  
Tammy Johnson (D. Price)  
Linwood Purnell (T. Shilling)  
Mark Varndell (C. Varndell)

*Families of* Carol Stehr  
Russ Scheuren (D. Wallace)  
Carl Ernest (N. Lindenmuth/ P. Lute)  
Grandmother of Pastor Brian Beissel

**November 7** – Eva Price  
Mike & Sabra Douthit (S. Tice)

**October 31** – Robert Carl (C. Carl)  
Richard Berger (J. Gruber)  
Lisa Metzinger (D. Zaharick)  
Gerry Freiler (K. Hansbury)

*Family of* David Gricoski (Cunninghams)

**Please continue to pray for:** Corrine & Josh Coward, Jim Gruber, Jim Hepler (P. Hepler), Tara Houser, Jennifer Koch, Bobby Liem (B. Liem), Gail Lorady, Carl (Mickey) Lute, Dianna Monaghan (P. Lute), Irene Morgan (D. Calhoun), Keith Morgan (G. Marquardt), Richard Shoup, Cheryl Varndell, Leo Young, Linda Zerby

Michelle Ambrose, Robert Beecher, Elizabeth Brown & family, Donald Bulla, Arlene Chillis (J. Pennypacker), Edward Emerich (L. Martin), Joe Ferraro Jr., Harry Fishburn (G. Marquardt), Bob Griffiths (I. Morgan), Dan Grow, Minah Horan, Pastor Bob & Donna Hughes (Grubers), Ron James (V. Brown), Jaden Leiby, Robbie Link-starting chemotherapy (D. Calhoun), Debbie Moyer (C. Carl), Lou Ann Olson (T. Shilling), Danny Quick (A. Berger), Albert Stehr, Judy Trautman (G. Marquardt), Karyssa Wenrich

## Praying Through the Directory

Each month we will be listing three of our church faith families. We ask that you take the time and uplift them in prayer for their needs and spiritual journey.

*This month we pray for:*



The Martin Family - Barry  
The Tice Family - Erik, Sally & Jacob



*The following Memorials were given to Christ's United since the November Newsletter:*

*In Memory of Nellie Schlorff by:*  
JoAnn & Leo Young

*In Memory of Greg Zaharick by:*  
Don & Laray Klinger

*In Memory of Nellie Schlorff, Loretta Cook  
and Carl R. Ernest by:*  
Nancy, Greg, Penny, and Lisa Lindenmuth

### **To Christ's United's Capital Campaign**

*In Memory of Greg Zaharick by:*  
Ron & Beth Andrews

*In Memory of Greg Zaharick, Helen Pennypacker  
and Loretta Cook by:*  
Ron & Donna Wallace



## **Give Electronically**

**Checking/Savings      Credit/Debit Card**  
**Christ's United accepts electronic donations**

Electronic Giving is a convenient way to provide consistent financial support to our church. Go to [www.christsunited.org](http://www.christsunited.org) or scan the QR code to learn how you can participate.





The next Women of ELCA Meeting  
will be December 1st at 6:00 pm  
All women of Christ's United are welcome to attend.



## CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTMAS MEAL

DECEMBER 12th  
following morning worship



The menu that will be provided  
by WELCA and LCM includes :  
BAKED CHICKEN,  
BAKED HAM, GRAVY,  
COFFEE, TEA, COLD DRINKS

Please sign up to attend and include what you will bring as a side dish  
to share. Indicate what specifically you will contribute:

HOT VEGETABLE (*yams, corn, green beans, etc.*); FILLING;  
SALADS (*cole slaw, cranberry, broccoli, potato, veggies, etc.*);  
ROLLS; DESSERT (*cake, pie, pudding, etc*)



## PRAYER CHAIN



Each day members of Christ's United bow  
their heads and lift their hearts in prayer for  
the ministries of this congregation and people  
in need.

A copy of the Prayer List is available at worship services each  
weekend. You may also have an email sent to you on Fridays with a  
list of those in need of your prayers. A phone chain notifies you of

## 2022 Sponsorships

The new sponsorship sign up sheets are now posted  
on the bulletin board. Sign up for:



Monthly Newsletters \$40.00.

Altar Flowers \$35.00\*  
Palms for Palm Sunday \$12.00  
Worship Bulletins \$15.00  
Special service bulletins \$10.00  
Sanctuary Candle \$10.00  
Children's Bulletins \$10.00

\*Due to rising costs, the florist found it necessary to increase the  
cost of Altar Flowers. Payments for Altar flowers should be given to  
Cathy Troutman. All other payments should be made out to the  
church and given to Debbie Hall in the church office.

Anyone still owing Cathy Troutman for Altar Flowers for  
previous months, please drop off payment to the office **ASAP**  
so she can update her records.

Effective December 31, Cathy will be  
stepping down. We will need someone to take over ordering the

The CULC Messenger  
God's Work, Our Actions



# DECEMBER



- 2 Nancy Lindenmuth
- 3 Hiram "Tommy" Green  
Asea Krah
- 4 Cheryl Weikel
- 5 Janna Gregis  
Kristen Toldt
- 6 Daniel Cascarino
- 7 Beryl Stitzer
- 8 Anita Fegley
- 9 Robert Pennypacker
- 11 Cory Krise  
Christopher Olson
- 12 Daniel Witner
- 13 Karleigh Economy  
Shea Moyer  
Bruce Pirie
- 14 Joey Anczarski  
Tammy I. Harris
- 15 Ralph R. Johnson  
Arlene Krise  
Jessica Nagle  
Leslie Shadle

- 16 Tammy L. Harris  
Terri Whyne
- 17 Linda Brennan Panikkar  
Cheryl Klinger
- 18 April Brennan  
Lynn Dillman  
Raven Marlow  
Samuel Troup, Sr.  
Tim Hubler
- 20 Richard Edmondson  
Rachel Pancher  
Regan Kratovich
- 22 Jeff Brennan  
Siena Smith
- 23 Robert Carl
- 25 David Hall  
Daniel Cunningham
- 27 Brody Baker  
Zackary Coward
- 28 Bonnie Dillman  
Donald Klinger  
Sawyer Smith
- 29 Beth Andrews  
William Cook  
Jessica Gregis  
Mike Stepanchick



## The example of Mary



"We must look to Mary's example to know how to deal with the glorious impossibilities of God," writes Calvin Miller in *The Christ of Christmas*. "Look how she turned the world upside down by making one simple statement."

Jesus surely could have come to earth without Mary's aid. But God seems to prefer partnering with people to accomplish miracles such as salvation and healing. So God chooses Mary to carry the Savior. Later, Jesus often declares people's own faith crucial to their healing. And today, God works justice through us, not apart from us.

God doesn't force us into collaboration. Yet, notes Miller, "God needs only a little of our agreement in order to work mighty wonders." Like Mary's humble assent: "I am the Lord's servant. ... May your word to me be fulfilled" (Luke 1:38, NIV). And like yours — for whatever partnership God invites you into. God will do the heavy lifting, for certain,

## Communion and Contribution Records

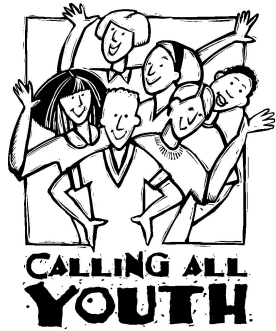


Please assist us in making an accurate report of all active, communing and contributing members of Christ's United.

As we approach the end of our calendar year, it is important that everyone take a moment to complete one communion card and one offering envelope with your name and address. Both can be found in the pew racks at any of our upcoming services. Thank you.







## Christ's United's Youth Group

will be attending the Janet Weis Children's Hospital and Jared Box Project Assembly on Sunday, December 5 2021, between 12:00 noon and 4:00 p.m. at the Thrivent Bloomsburg Office.

The event will include a brief video about the Jared Box Project as you help create the boxes. All attendees are welcome to enjoy seasonal beverages, music, and food.

Please see Sally Tice today to

## SIMPLE SYMBOLS

Create personalized initial ornaments for family and friends.



### What you need:

- Small twigs (various shapes and sizes)
- Hot glue
- Yarn
- Scissors
- Adult help

### What you do:

1. After gathering twigs, arrange them to create uppercase letter shapes. Cross, bend and break twigs, as needed.
2. Glue "letters" together at the intersections.
3. Cut an arm-length of yarn and wind it around twigs to add color to each letter.
4. Create a loop of yarn and tie it to the top of the ornament for hanging.



12/05/08  
12/07/02  
12/11/93  
12/11/99  
12/28/10

Breann & Daniel Barker  
Randy & Angie Lucas  
Stephen & Tami Wagner  
Erik & Sally Tice  
Stephen & Brittany Harhigh

## Christmas Poinsettias!

Poinsettias are available in pink, white, or red.



Sizes available:

- 1 plant per pot for \$11.00
- 2 plants per pot for \$17.00
- 3 plants per pot for \$24.00

**Please sign up on the bulletin board.**  
Make checks payable to Cathy Troutman.



The Trunk or Treat committee would like to thank everyone who donated, supported or was a trunker for this year's Trunk or Treat. This year we had six vehicles decorated and Christ's

United also had a decorated vehicle bringing the total to seven decorated vehicles. We had approximately 100 treaters this year. Each treater received a goodie bag from the church which contained candy, pretzels, a drink and a religious book. Again, thank you to everyone that helped make this year's Trunk or Treat successful.

Sincerely,

Trunk or Treat Committee

*The CULC Messenger*  
*God's Work, Our Actions*

## Christmas Events at CULC:



**Congregational Christmas Meal -**  
December 12, 2021 following worship

**Christmas Eve Worship**  
with Holy Communion  
Friday, Dec 24, 4:00 p.m.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship**  
with Holy Communion -  
Friday, Dec 24  
Special Music - 7:00 p.m.  
Candlelight Service  
Worship begins - 7:30 p.m.

### **The greatest gift-giver**

When we give each other Christmas presents in [God's] name, let us remember that he has given us the sun and the moon and the stars, the earth with its forests and mountains and oceans — and all that lives and moves upon them. He has given us all green things and everything that blossoms and bears fruit and all that we quarrel about and all that we have misused. And to save us from our own foolishness, from all our sins, he came down to earth and gave us himself.



Serving Our Community of Faith in December

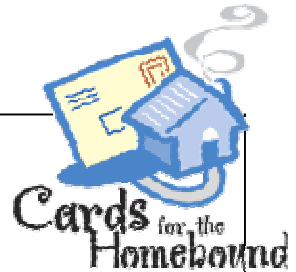
## Christmas Tree of Sharing

We will again begin collecting items for the Tree of Sharing on Sunday, December 5th. This year we will be collecting clothing items and toys for children up to age 18 and also ELCA good gifts.



Tags will be available on the table in the hallway beginning December 5th. After you pick your selection please place the "ornament" on the Christmas tree. All children's gifts are due back to the church by Sunday, December 19th. ELCA good gifts may be purchased up until Christmas Eve. Please place gifts under the tree. Thank you!

**During this Christmas Season please remember our homebound members with, cards, greetings, and prayers.**



**Corrine Coward**, 520 Dutchtown Rd., Ashland, PA 17921  
**Tommy & Rachael Green**, 246 Airport Rd., Ashland, PA 17921  
**Diane Heidlebaugh**, 100 N. 2nd St., Apt 2, Girardville, PA 17935  
**Jim Hepler**, 501 Main St., Ashland, PA 17921  
**Nancy Kessler**, Mt. Carmel Nursing Home,  
2616 Locust Gap Highway, Mt. Carmel, PA 17851  
**Bobbie Liem**, 212 Biddle St., PO Box 127, Gordon, PA 17936  
**Gail Marquardt**, 154 Stein Rd., Ashland, PA 17921  
**Irene Morgan**, 1400 Nissley Rd., Landisville, PA 17538  
**Anna Neumeister**, Providence Place, 2200 First Ave,  
Pottsville, PA 17901  
**Richard Shoup**, 204 Peter St., Ashland, PA 17921  
**Beryl Stitzer**, 302 E. Biddle St., PO Box 136, Gordon, PA

# SOCIAL MINISTRY



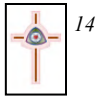
**Fellowship Hour** will be held after worship on only the first Sunday of each month. See schedule below for your committee's turn to serve. Please sign up on the bulletin board to help.

- December** - Social Ministry ~ 2022 ~
- January** - WELCA
- February** - Church Council
- March** - Evangelism/Endowment/Stewardship
- April** - Social Ministry
- May** - WELCA

**June/July/August** - No Social Hour

**September** - Choir/Worship & Music/LCM

**October** - Church Council



We will be collecting the following items for December:

## Stuffing Mix, Sweet Potatoes & Gravy

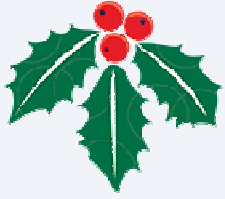
Please place your donations in the shopping cart.

Thank You!

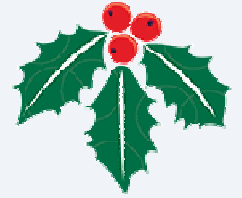
The next food distribution date is Thursday



Date	Supply Pastor/ Worship Leader	Congregational Representative/ Announcements	Lector	Ushers	Communion Assistants	Acolyte(s)	Crucifer
December 5	Kay Berner	Jacob Tice	Barb Stepanchick	Becky Spencer Robert Carl John Towey Ken Dengler Dorothy Kessler-G Allen Johnson-Door	Larry Wolfgang - AM Angie Berger Beth Andrews	Dylan Buhay	Mason Buhay
December 12	John Towey		Erik Tice			Amy Johnson	Cole Johnson
December 19	Erik Tice		Sally Tice			Daniel Cunningham	David Cunningham
December 24 4:00 p.m.	Rev. Dana Heckman-Beil		John Towey	John Towey Donna Wallace Laray Klingler John Denchak	Vivian Brown- AM Barb Anczarski John Denchak	Desiree Dengler	Jesse Cascarino
December 24 7:30 p.m.	Rev. William Zimmerman		Mark Varrdell	Dennis Wolfe Ted Ambrose Ken Dengler Terry Neumeister	Kay Berner- AM Donna Lassen Becky Spencer	Bianca McAndrew	Joey McAndrew
December 26			Jacob Tice			Jacob Tice	



# DECEMBER 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<b>1</b> 10:00 a.m. Seniors  6:00 p.m. WELCA 6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  12:00-5:00 Fellowship Hall Reserved
<b>5</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	<b>6</b>  1:00 – 6:00 Red Cross Blood Drive  7:00 Church Council	<b>7</b>  6:00 P.M. Worship & Music	<b>8</b> 10:00 a.m. Seniors  6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>9</b> 10:00 - 11:30 Christ's Cupboard  	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 11:00 a.m. CULC Christmas Dinner 5:00 p.m. LCM 6:00 p.m. Property Committee	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Newsletter Deadline 10:00 a.m. Seniors  6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Start of Winter (Winter Solstice)	<b>22</b> 10:00 a.m. Seniors  6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  4:00 Christmas Eve Worship 7:30 Christmas Eve Worship	<b>25</b> Christmas Day
<b>26</b> 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:45 a.m. Sunday School	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:00 a.m. Newsletter Assembly 10:00 a.m. Seniors  6:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> New Years Eve  	