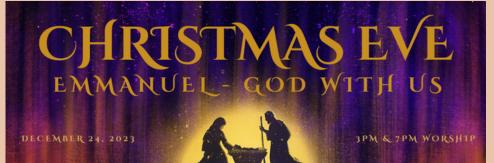
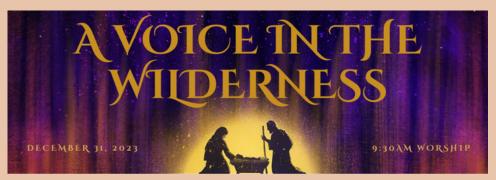


THE CROSS

December 24, 2023



CHRISTMAS DAY THE MAGI DECEMBER 25, 2023 9:30AM WORSHIP



JOIN US FOR ALL OF OUR
CHRISTMAS SERVICES
Christmas Eve - 3pm & 7pm
Christmas Day - 9:30am
December 31 - 9:30am

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday December 24

3pm - Worship 7pm - Worship

Monday December 25 9:30am - Worship

Sunday December 31 9:30am - Worship



THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22 - MONDAY, JANUARY 1

THERE WILL NOT BE ANY CROSS ANNOUNCEMENTS NEXT WEEK

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

Darwin Behlke for continued healing following triple bypass surgery.

Jill Schwartz who continues to face health concerns.

Heather as she faces ongoing health concerns.

Bethany Sheilds for healing and answers going into heart surgery in January.

Our members facing long term health concerns: Bob Modrow, Mary Sporer, Myrna & Jim DeCamp, Shirley Alton, and Mark Wanggaard.

UPCOMING WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

December 24 - 3pm
Worship Asst: Stacey Robe
Ushers: Val Nance,
Grace & Harold Holm
Communion Asst: Lisa Sell,
Sandy & Jim Georgeson
Power Point Tech:
Jakob Mohalley
Sound Tech:
Andy Anderson
Livestream Tech:
Heather Keszler

December 24 - 7pm
Worship Asst: Leah Krueger
Ushers: Pam Tague,
Colin McKenna
Communion Asst: Mary Hauch,
Danielle Smith, Pam Tague
Power Point Tech:
Veronica Petrach
Sound Tech:
Chuck Petrach
Livestream Tech:
Zeke Petrach

<u>December 25 - 9:30am</u>

Worship Asst: Stacey Robe
Ushers: Steve Dues,
Jeff Wunderle
Communion Asst:

December 31 - 9:30am
Worship Asst: Stacey Robe
Ushers: Steve Dues,
Colin McKenna
Communion Asst:
Sandy & Jim Georgeson
Power Point Tech:
Valerie Nance
Sound Tech:
Andy Anderson
Livestream Tech:
Gayle Wint

2023 CONTRIBUTIONS

In order for contributions to be counted for 2023, they either need to be postmarked by December 30 or brought to the church by December 31. If you bring them to church when the office is closed you can put them in the slot at the bottom of the door closest to the doorbell.

2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

2024 offering envelopes are now available in the Gathering Area for those who still receive them.

YOUTH NIGHT

Enjoy these pictures from Monday night's Youth Night in Kenosha! Our youth gathered with the youth from St. Mary's and Mount Pleasant.











The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to the church in Thessalonica. In it he said:

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

(1 Thessalonians 3:9-13)

Friends, we live in the pull between the past and the future. We live in the now and the not yet. The ending of Advent and the beginning of a new church calendar year provides us an opportunity to reflect on how we live with purpose. Like the Thessalonians, we wait for the promise of Jesus' return, and yet we grow weary of waiting. Paul understands this tension and reminds this fledgling church, and us today, that we don't wait alone and that while we wait there is God's work to be done! Paul prays that love will increase among the people, for God is most fully revealed to the world by love. This love that looks forward, moves us forward, transforms our present reality. Building each other up in love, praying night and day, looking for God's work in the world while we wait, pulls us into the hope of God's promises for newness, forgiveness, and mercy through Jesus.

December is a time of waiting and preparing...for more than the presents and the parties. We wait for the proclamation of the Good News that God became human — a stunning thing to contemplate to be sure! And God sent messengers ahead to prepare the people there for his coming. This Advent we looked at those messengers and their messages to prepare our hearts, homes, and lives for a renewed relationship with our Lord. And this weekend we will celebrate the Birth of our Savior and be reminded of God's promises of **Hope**, **Peace**, **Joy**, **and Love offered to us, not just this season-But every day of our lives!** God Bless you ALL and Merry Christmas!

Love and Peace,
Pastor John

Happy Birthday!

12/23	Pat Klein	1/2	Trevor Smith
12/23	Morgan Rosemann	1/3	Jim DeCamp
12/24	Marc Henkel	1/3	Darlene Wayo
12/24	Aaron Kozlik	1/4	Scott Peters
12/27	Madelyn Baumgardt	1/4	Dori Rossmann
12/27	Heather Keszler	1/6	Sue Wertman
12/28	Joan Ashton	1/8	Mike Nelson
12/29	Amanda Cikel	1/9	Del Alton
12/30	Anna Nielsen	1/9	Keri Carlson
12/30	Bob Sharpe	1/10	Rick Sterberl
12/31	Marv Campbell	1/11	Anton Baumgardt
12/31	Ryan Israel	1/12	John Hewitt
12/31	Glenn Napier	1/12	Jayson Smith
1/1	Mary Ann Kangas	1/13	Jared Smith
1/2	Kathy Anderson		

Happy Anniversary!

12/28	Debbie & Mike VanderLeest	49
12/29	Jackie & Tom Nelson	39
12/30	Christy & John Cline	5
12/31	Kari & Mark Blagec	13

SCRIP CARDS ARE AVAILABLE



Christmas will be here before you know it! Gift cards are always a great stocking stuffer or also the best gift. Scrip cards are available for purchase on Sunday mornings. We ask at this time you pay only by check and make it out to LCR Scrip. If you have any questions contact Danielle at 262-989-1999.

LCR STAFF