

# Bulletin Board

December 17, 2023

**WELCOME!** We praise God for giving us the ability to worship in fellowship today! Please remember that if you wish to social distance there is room, if you want or need to wear a mask we will support you. Please sign the registration books that are in the pews, please pass them to the next person. If you are worshipping from home and watching on Facebook please leave a comment (even if it is just Hi), it would be appreciated.

**AED DEFIBRILLATOR** In case you are wondering what the white box on the wall in the office corridor, it is our AED Defibrillator. This is located right outside the sanctuary by the bookcase.

**SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME** Join us in the Hillmer Center this week at 10:15 a.m. With the Children's Service that we had this morning there will not be any Sunday School today. Next week and the following week we will be having a video during class time. We hope to see you back here then.

**MIDWEEK ADVENT WORSHIP & SUPPERS** Midweek services continue this Wednesday December 20<sup>th</sup> with services at 11 am and 6:30 pm. Supper is at 5:30 pm and the Hannah's is serving this week, the menu is Chili, Vegetable Soup, peanut butter sandwiches, relishes, desserts and drinks. Please join us for fellowship and good food, along with service.

**HANNAH SOCIETY MEETING** will be at Bev Schmidt's house (3223 Santa Maria, Waterloo) tomorrow Monday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. This will be our Christmas get together, snacks to share are welcome if you would like to bring one. Since Christmas is the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month they moved the meeting up a week.

**ONLINE GIVING** We now have the option of online giving available on our website: [www.gracewaterloo.org](http://www.gracewaterloo.org) You will enter a secure site and can setup weekly or one time gifts to your regular giving or to special funds like the building repair fund. Giving can be setup with either a credit card or your bank account. You can create an account that will remember your information for future use. This is a very secure site so you can setup giving with confidence that your information will be safe. You can also setup giving using an app on a cell phone. Just search for Vanco in your App Store. Using this you will need to create an account with your information to allow the app to communicate with Vanco.

**A LIFE QUOTE** "I don't know what exactly you expect this Christmas. But I can tell you to set your expectations high as you listen to God's Advent call. Listen to His promises. Look in the manger. And you'll find hope and unity now and into eternity." Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org) Word of Hope can help. [word-of-hope.org](http://word-of-hope.org); 888.217.8679.



**BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: Did You Know** Over the coming holidays we will spend more time together than usual with our families. As you gather, keep a watchful eye out for excessive negative talk including complaining, fault-finding, and passing on gossip. Sharing gossip and negative messages of gloom and doom is not only sinful and dishonoring to our Father, but it also fosters a depressing atmosphere in the home (...and in the workplace...and in the church). Instead, look for the positives and talk about them often! "Whatever is pure, whatever is lovely...think on these things." Philippians 4:8 **Lutheran Family Service** [www.LutheranFamilyService.org](http://www.LutheranFamilyService.org) (515.573.3138 and LFSiowa.org)

**MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE** - This week the verse is:

**Isaiah 40:1**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

**CATECHESIS** – This week for those using the Catechism Study Guide you should be on the following page number according to what year you are doing.

Year 1 is page 6;

Year 2 is page 65;

Year 3 is page 124;

**THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY** Saint Nicholas of Myra died in December in the year 334. He was an important church leader who is best remembered for his zeal at the Council of Nicaea and for his generosity. The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty depends on the generosity of donors for its existence. If you would like to give a gift, see [www.LCRLFreedom.org](http://www.LCRLFreedom.org)

Christmas is coming, as the Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz reminds us, and "No matter what is happening in our world, there is no Herod, no Caesar, no Pharaoh, no tyrant, no dictator, nor even a duly elected president or elected official that can stop the persevering power and blessing of the message of Christmas which comes by grace for you, for me, for all."

GRACE FOOD PANTRY



Anyone wishing to donate to the Grace Food Pantry, these are the top items needed:

**Cold Cereal, soups, hamburger / tuna helper, 32 oz juices, spaghetti sauce, crackers, soda crackers, rice, pastas, canned meat, Peanut Butter, canned fruit, tooth paste Shampoo/ Conditioner, Body wash, dish soap, cleaning liquids, laundry soap, razors, deodorant and lotions.**

We can always use money too. The committee would like to thank all those who have given generously to the Grace Food Pantry!

Anyone needing assistance with the Grace Food Pantry please contact the church office. Anyone interested in helping with the food pantry please contact the office or people listed.

STATISTICS

Attendance Last Sunday – 66/Holy Comm. - 63  
Advent Attendance A.M. – 15/ P.M. – 25  
General Offerings Received - \$3,375.00  
Simply Giving Offerings – \$330.00  
Total Offerings Received - \$3,705.00

Needed Weekly for 2023 Budget - \$5,522.38

**A REMINDER:** Members wishing to contribute to the recent loan for roofing and air conditioning may do so by marking the memo line on your check for the Properties Repair Loan and leaving your donation in the offering plate or office. All donations to the cause will be directly applied to the loan. Thank you for your generous heart.

**1 Corinthians 4:2 – “Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful.”** A steward manages the property of the owner for the owner’s purposes. We are stewards of all that God has given us. So, we are called to use all that we are and all that we have for God’s purposes. How do we know what His purposes are? Consider your vocations, your callings from God, in the home, in the church and in society: What are the roles God has called you to play? And how should you be using the gifts He has given you to fulfill those roles?

VALLEY LUTHERAN UPDATE

Thank you to everyone that came to the Christmas Concert last Tuesday. There was a nice turnout, and the kids did a great job whether they were singing or playing an instrument. We appreciate you letting us help get you ready for the Christmas Season.

Christmas Break starts Wednesday at noon after Chapel.

The Schedule this Week:

The following events have been planned for this week.

<b>TODAY:</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Children’s Christmas Service Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Fellowship Hillmer Center
<b>MONDAY:</b>	
6:00 p.m.	Exercise Library
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	
8:30 a.m.	Sewing Group Rm 17
11:00 a.m.	Worship Sanctuary
5:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir Choir Rm
5:30 p.m.	Supper Hillmer Center
6:30 p.m.	Worship Sanctuary
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	
9:30 a.m.	Ladies Bible Study Hillmer Center
6:00 p.m.	Exercise Library
<b>NEXT SUNDAY:</b>	
9:00 a.m.	Worship w/Holy Comm. Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Fellowship Hillmer Center
10:30 a.m.	Bible Class/Sunday School Hillmer Center/Library
6:30 p.m.	Christmas Eve Worship Sanctuary

Youth News

Check the next Grace Greetings for more activities

What are your plans for Christmas Break?



