

Bulletin Board

December 24, 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.

BRINGING HOLY COMMUNION TO YOU If you would prefer to have Holy Communion brought to you in the pew on the weeks it is served – **please** let the elder/ushers know prior to the service. We would not want to miss you!

SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP TIME Join us in the Hillmer Center this week at 10:15 a.m. This week and next week we will be having a video during the Sunday School time. We hope to see you back here then. The Adult class will pick up on January 7th.

CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES There will be a Christmas Eve Service tonight at 6:30 pm with the Chancel Choir and Mike Carper adding their special music to the service. Tomorrow at 9 am we will continue to celebrate with a Christmas Day service, with Holy Communion.

ONLINE GIVING We now have the option of online giving available on our website: 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 “This time of the year always fills us with cheer | But the reason we celebrate is not always clear | The cookies, the lights, the presents, the tree | The carols, the decorations, the family parties | But all of the delight and all of the fun | Does not mean a thing if we don’t know God’s Son | The tiny baby that was born to die | Can sometimes cause us to stop and ask why | Do we really deserve the sacrifice He made? | Are we worth the offering and the price that was paid? | In His eyes, we are, because He made us His own | And on the cross, the ultimate love was shown | So take joy in the season and spread His true love | But always remember the gift from above!” Jerrod Nelson – *A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • lutheransforlife.org
Word of Hope can help. word-of-hope.org; 888.217.8679.



BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES: Did You Know How has the fact that Jesus was born over 2000 years ago changed your life today? How would your life be different today if Jesus hadn’t come? As a family, take time to read aloud the Christmas story (Luke 2) and engage them all in a discussion around these two questions. From the silly answer of a preschooler, to the shoulder shrug of a teenager, to the wise words shared by an older person, it will be interesting to see how each individual family member answers. Remember, even those who don’t answer are still listening, and may remember this conversation for years to come! *Extra points for anyone who has a Bible verse to support their answer! (...think John 12:46; John 18:37; 1 Timothy 1:15...)* A Blessed Celebration of Jesus’ Birth from your friends at **Lutheran Family Service!** www.LutheranFamilyService.org (515.573.3138 and LFSiowa.org)

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE - This week the verse is:

Galatians 4:4–5

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

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 8;

Year 2 is page 67;

Year 3 is page 126;

THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY Christmas Eve reminds us that God works in our world in two distinct ways. He saves the world through Christ and preserves the world through the government. We worship God and we honor the government. Hear Dr. Seltz and his wife share more about this topic at <https://studio.youtube.com/video/NHDkIPogDuI/edit>

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.

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.

Philippians 4:6 – “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” Paul puts two things in opposition to each other: anxiety and prayer. So, trade your worries for prayers! You have a Father who loves you and desires to hear your prayers and bless you.

The Schedule this Week:

The following events have been planned for this week.

TODAY:
9:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Comm.
 Sanctuary
10:15 a.m. Fellowship
 Hillmer Center
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
 Library
6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship
 Sanctuary

MONDAY: **Merry Christmas-Office closed**
9:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Comm.
 Sanctuary

TUESDAY: **OFFICE CLOSED**

WEDNESDAY:
9:00 a.m. Greeting Stuffers
 Kitchen

THURSDAY:
6:00 p.m. Exercise
 Library

NEXT SUNDAY:
9:00 a.m. Worship w/Holy Comm.
 Sanctuary
10:15 a.m. Fellowship
 Hillmer Center
10:30 a.m. Sunday School
 Library

VALLEY LUTHERAN UPDATE

Valley Lutheran School, where we are MORE THAN A SCHOOL, is Hiring a Development Director Full-Time: Interested candidates may apply by sending their credentials and a letter of interest to Mr. Henry G. Pahlkotter, II, Executive Director, Valley Lutheran School, 4520 Rownd Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa. 50613 or email to henry.pahlkotter@vlscrusaders.org.

You may request a full job description by calling the school office at 319-266-4565 or emailing sharron.clement@vlscrusaders.org. Candidates with related education and experience, as well as an understanding of the ministry of Lutheran Christian Schools, are preferred.

Youth News

Check the next Grace Greetings for more activities

What are your plans for Christmas Break?

