

Bulletin Board

December 31, 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.

ENVELOPES AND DIRECTORIES The offering envelopes for 2024 and the new phone directories are available in the Narthex this Sunday. By next Sunday they will be in the hallway by the office. Please feel free to ask an usher or someone to go back and pick them up for you if you need assistance.

POINSETTIAS Those that ordered poinsettias may pick them up after service or anytime this week. Saturday we will be putting them in the hall if we have any left. Thank you for helping us decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas, it helped make everything more festive.

TAKING THE DECORATIONS DOWN This Saturday we will be putting away the Christmas decorations and getting ready for Epiphany. If you want to help, we are starting at 8:30 in the morning and we should be finished by 10 am. Thank you for all your help with this.

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 "While it is true that we need to be good stewards of God's earthly gifts, it is sinful to think that we are in full control of preserving this world. It is sinful to fret about the destruction of this world before the Last Day. This world will not run out of natural resources. We will not be wiped out by climate change, a worldwide pandemic, or a meteor shower if and when those things happen. God says that as long as this earth endures—until Judgment Day—seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease. God is in control. God will protect, provide, and preserve this world. Trust in God and see His grace and mercy, especially when sin affects this world. Trust that He gives you what you don't deserve and more than you could imagine." Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – 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 The beginning of a New Year brings feelings of anticipation, excitement, and hope as we start with a clean slate, our resolutions to keep. Still looking for ideas that will bring new life to your New Year? In addition to more physical exercise and better food choices, how about one of these: read from Scripture 15 minutes every day; go to church every Sunday; set aside 20 minutes at the end of the day to pray; join a Bible Study group; memorize a new Bible verse each week. Don't give up! It takes 6 weeks of doing something repeatedly to make it a habit. *A Blessed, Happy, & Healthy New Year to you and your family!* **Lutheran Family Service** www.LutheranFamilyService.org (515.573.3138 and LFSiowa.org)

MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE - This week the verse is:

Isaiah 26:3

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you.

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 9;

Year 2 is page 69;

Year 3 is page 127;

THE LUTHERAN CENTER FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY Have you made a New Year's Resolution yet? Perhaps one way to start 2024 is to be blessed by devotions every Monday from Dr. Seltz. Maybe it is receiving a podcast every Wednesday or an Op Ed piece every Friday. You can receive all three and more by subscribing to the LCRL email list. See www.LCRLFreedom.org to subscribe.

Word from the Center (https://www.lcrlfreedom.org/#block-yui_3_17_2_1_1684407620337_4504)



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 either the church office or one of the following people: Sandy Benedett, Lu Kafer, or Nancy McHone. Anyone interested in helping with the food pantry please contact the

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

We are going to try the Escapology room in Cedar Falls on Saturday January 20th at 7 pm. Please sign up asap so we can get tickets for the room we want.

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.

Luke 2:21 – “And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.” The name of Jesus means “the Lord saves.” There is no better way to end or begin a year than with the sweet comfort of the name of Jesus. He saves us. He loves us. He desires to bless us. That assurance is the basis for all we do in our Christian lives, including our stewardship of His financial blessings.

The Schedule this Week:

The following events have been planned for this week.

TODAY:

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

MONDAY:

OFFICE CLOSED
HAPPY NEW YEAR

WEDNESDAY:

8:30 a.m.	Sewing Circle <i>Rm 17</i>
5:15 p.m.	Chancel Choir <i>Music Room</i>

THURSDAY:

9:30 a.m. Ladies Bible Study
Hillmer Center

6:00 p.m. Exercise
Library

SATURDAY:

8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast/Bible Study <i>Kitchen</i>
8:30 a.m.	Take down the decorations <i>Sanctuary</i>

NEXT SUNDAY:

9:00 a.m.	Worship <i>Sanctuary</i>
10:15 a.m.	Fellowship <i>Hillmer Center</i>
10:30 a.m.	Bible Class/Sunday School <i>Hillmer Center/Library</i>