

THE VIEW

December 2019

vol. 63 NO. 12

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

Veni, Veni, Emmanuel

The beauty of Christ's Church is that she is timeless. The faith and hope we have in Christ our Savior is the same faith and hope of those who journeyed to this land and founded our synod. It is the same faith and hope that was in the hearts and consciences of the Reformers in the sixteenth century. It is the same faith and hope that inspired the church fathers to pondered the theology of God's Word in misnamed "dark ages." It is the same faith as those who fed, nourished, and strengthened the church in its early centuries. It is the same faith and hope that was shouted in the streets on the Day of Pentecost, taught by the apostles, and clung to by the martyrs.

Time and distance and culture fade away as we are united as one in Christ, our Emmanuel, our God with us. This blessed unity also exists in our worship, which is an expression of our faith in reaction to what God has done for us, as we join our brothers and sisters of all places and languages throughout history in singing, chanting, and speaking our joyous and expectant greeting of our Savior with one voice: "veni, veni, Emmanuel" or as we more commonly sing it "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

The hymn that embodies our Advent and Christmas seasons as we reflect on the first coming of the Christ and watch for his imminent second is the product of the Church's faithful proclamation of the Gospel throughout its existence. We may be most familiar with hymn fashioned by John Mason Neale in 1861, but its message has encouraged the Church for much longer than that. Developing separately by both time and space, the tune originated in fifteenth century France, but the word can be traced back much, much farther. They were chanted in the twelfth century as the Great "O" Antiphons, but their roots can be traced even into the seventh or eighth century. We, the Church, have rejoiced in our Savior, who has come and will come again.

In Medieval monastic communities, worshipers would join together every evening for Vespers, where they, like us, would sing the Magnificat, rejoicing with Mary that she would soon give birth to the Messiah. During the season of Advent, in the days leading up to Christmas, they would enrich their liturgy by adding a short verse (antiphon) before singing the Magnificat. The excited outcry was "pregnant" with anticipation, thus their urgent antiphon began with the attention grabbing exclamation of "O," encouraging all to wake up and pay attention.

December 17

O Wisdom, proceeding from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, mightily ordering all things:

Come and teach us the way of prudence.

December 18

O Adonai and ruler of the house of Israel, who appeared to Moses in the burning bush and gave him the Law on Sinai:

Come with an outstretched arm and redeem us.

December 19

O Root of Jesse, standing as an ensign before the peoples, before whom all kings are mute, to whom the nations will do homage:

Come quickly to deliver us.

December 20

O Key of David and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can close, you closed and no one can open:

Come and rescue the prisoners who are in darkness and the shadow of death.

December 21

O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting:

Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

December 22

O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people:

Come and save us all, whom You formed out of clay.

December 23

O Emmanuel, Our king and our Lord, the anointed for the nations and their Savior:

Come and save us, O Lord our God.

How beautiful it is that though the millennium, the centuries, the generations the Church remains steadfast and endures in the proclamation of Christ our Lord. With all the Church, militant and triumphant, we pray "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel," and rejoice that God has answered gloriously.

*Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel
Nascetur pro te, Israel!*

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to thee, O Israel!

Please Join Us for Advent Service Dec 4, 11, and 18 at 1PM or 7 PM

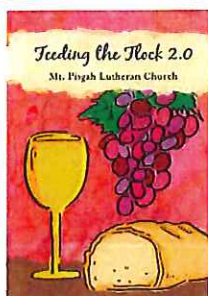
Candlelight on Dec 24 at 7PM and Christmas Morning at 10 Am

SERVING IN DECEMBER

USHERS			LECTORS	
8:00 AM		10:45 AM	8:00 AM	10:45 AM
12/01	Lydia Cassidy Bill Kruse	Leah Ryel, Harold Zell John Frost, Marion Miller	Rick Sanborn	Maxine Tatreau
12/08	Rudy Eidam Bob Morin	Jim Wing—Shirley Wing Bill Jaeger—Jerri Creech	Jerry Kaufman	Kathy Kirchoefer
12/15	Bob Morin Rick Sanborn	David Hawthorne—Leah Ryel Harold Zell—Steve Leyrer	Vickie	Debby Zagone
12/22	Jen Stickney Mike Ebanks	Kirchoefer Family	Paul Mincer	
12/25	10:00 AM Only			
12/29	Bill Kruse Paul Mincer	Adell Keeney—Vivian Armstrong-David White-David Hawthorne		

Birthday Blessings

12/05 Larry McKinley	12/11 Troy McKinney	12/19 Joan Ginter
12/06 Elise Cavicchio	12/13 Mary Reid	12/20 Robert Hamilton, Jr.
12/06 Wendy Maloney	12/14 George Fuchs	12/21 Jonathan Christensen
12/08 Jananne Nelson	12/15 David White	12/21 Lee Marquardt
12/08 Helen Schakel	12/16 Laura Reinhold	12/22 Hardy Feige
12/09 Marion Miller		



FEEDING THE FLOCK

MT. PISGAH COOKBOOKS ARE JUST \$10.00 EACH
THEY HAVE ARRIVED

Prayers and Concerns

Surgeries and Illness

Nancy Bargar
Buddy Harrison (Fry)
Mary Hill
Joann Kapugi
Maureen Duemig
Betty Ude

Brian Keeney
Vicki Rutland (Berryman)
Neil Motyka (Fry)
Grant Germain (McLellan)
Mike & Delilah (Perkins)
Meredith Licht

Ed Jenkins (Biddle)
David Pellman
Marshall Hunt (Fry)
April Thomas & baby Juda
Wiley Ilowit (Fry)
Ann, Ace & William (Ryel)

Homebound

Joan Ginter
Lee Marquardt
Ann Cheadle
Geri Ellerson
Kathleen Fox
Gerald Ormsby
Louise Bauer

Jan Nelson
Suzi Karnatz
Dorothy Lehman
Mike Lohr
Dianne Luecke
Kathleen Fox
Helen Schakel

Dave Marquardt
Glenn Karnatz
Millie Freese
Ivalee Rymer
Eleney Selius
Judy Fuchs

Other Prayers and Concerns

Our Preschool Staff, Children & Families
Evangelical Lutheran Church & School Laotchikit, Haiti



Christmas Luncheon—Christmas Caroling

December 15th, After Late Service

Join us for a Christmas Luncheon, followed by caroling to our homebound members. The cost will be \$5 for adults, maximum of \$15 per family—no charge for children. Sign-up starts November 24th. The menu will be: Roast Turkey, Pork Tenderloin, Homemade Macaroni and Cheese, Potatoes, Vegetables, Salads, Fruit and Desserts.

COMMUNITY CONCERN OF THE MONTH



**Babies Need
Bottoms**

We believe that clean diapers are basic needs for every infant and toddler. To reduce the financial burden that parents and caregivers experience, Babies Need Bottoms, a nonprofit diaper bank provides supplemental and emergency diapers to families in Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, and Transylvania Counties.

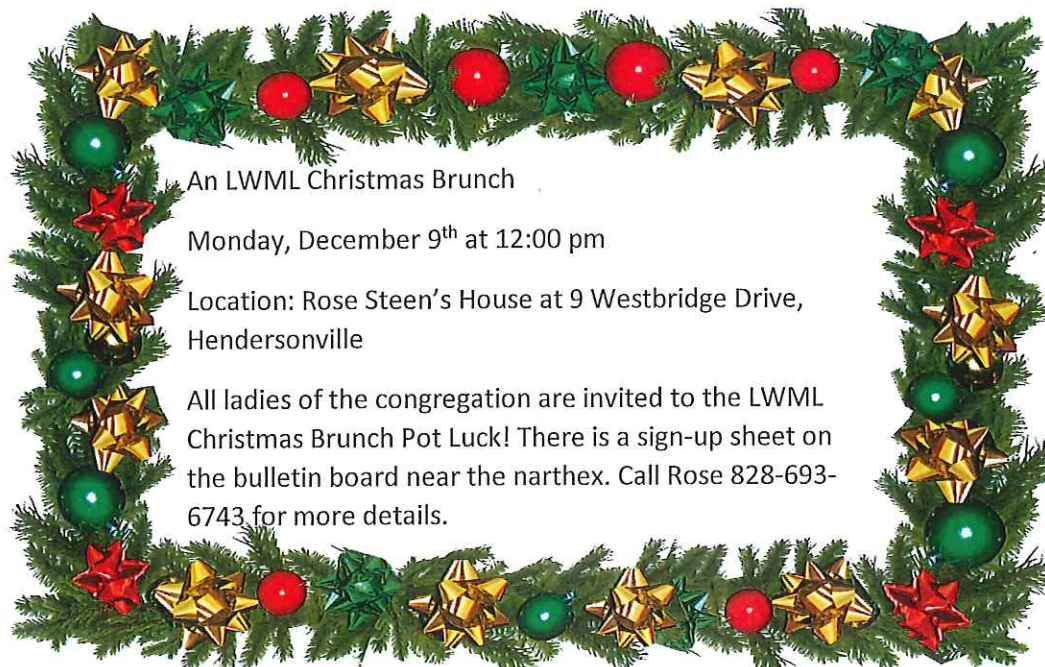
DIAPER NEED FACTS

- Diapers & diaper supplies are not covered by government assistance
- Diapers cost an average of \$70-\$80 per month, per child
- Infants use up to 12 diapers/day and toddlers up to 8 diapers/day
- 1 in 3 American families reports experiencing diaper need
- Without transportation, buying diapers at a convenience store rather than a large "big box" store can significantly increase the monthly cost of diapers.

WNC AREA DIAPER NEED

- **46% of children** in Buncombe County live in poor or low-income homes
- **51% of households with children** in Haywood County receive food stamps
- **44% of households with children** in Henderson County receive food stamps
- **46% of households with children** in Madison County receive food stamps
- **58% of households with children** in Transylvania County receive food stamps

Please place your donation of diapers and wipes in the box found in the hallway across from the pictures throughout the month of December. "Babies Need Bottoms" also accepts monetary donations so they can purchase the diaper sizes they most need.



An LWML Christmas Brunch

Monday, December 9th at 12:00 pm

Location: Rose Steen's House at 9 Westbridge Drive,
Hendersonville

All ladies of the congregation are invited to the LWML Christmas Brunch Pot Luck! There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board near the narthex. Call Rose 828-693-6743 for more details.

We will be preparing treat bags to give the children after church on Christmas Eve. We want to make certain that everyone is included. If you will be bringing any family or friends to church, that have young children, please let the church office or myself know. You can call me at 693-8062. Thank you for your help.

Diane Sanborn

A Prayer for Our Preschool

Would you please for our preschool as this is a significant ministry outreach of Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church?

Heavenly Father,

We Praise You for the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with 75 families in Hendersonville. Open our hearts in the congregation to prayerfully support the ministry of Christian education. Open our eyes to see the needs and hurts of our families and to minister to all of them in their trials.

Bring us godly teachers, staff and volunteers who love the Lord and want to serve You through this ministry. Bring your peace to every troubled parent who comes in these doors. Fill every child with love for You, with all their hearts, souls, and minds so they will witness to their parents at home and when they grow up, will not depart from loving You with their whole heart. Put Your shield of protection around their hearts, minds and bodies. Guard them from the evil one.

Let Your peace and Your favor rest upon this church and school forevermore.

All this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Mark 10:14



Please Plan to help decorate the church on December 21, many hands are needed for this task.

**Poinsettia Sign Up will be posted soon.
They will be delivered for decorating on Saturday,
December 21.**

GOD Changes the Future of Haiti!

If you missed the benefit luncheon on Sunday, November 17th then you missed a miracle in the making. This miracle was born out of desperation. In June we learned the Lutheran School in Laotchikit would graduate 28 sixth grade students, the largest graduating class yet. There were already 40+ students attending middle and high school on scholarships. Each student's sponsor waited several months for report cards from the high school in Hinche with a few arriving in July and August. Some sponsors were unable to continue to support their students because of their own life changes.

Then as the new school year began, nationwide riots broke out virtually paralyzing the nation of Haiti. All travel stopped. There was no safety for anyone. Roads were blocked by rioters so no trucks could pass to deliver food or gasoline. Schools closed for over two months because it was not safe for children to walk to school. People of evil intent damaged or destroyed buildings, throwing stones or setting fires. Some of the buildings damaged were schools and the safety of the students was at risk. We watched the news and prayed as 11,000,000 people starved to death over twelve miserable weeks.

But God put His Holy Hands of protection around the schools in Laotchikit, Rocky Road, and Pas Bon Bon and no children were injured. The school in Laotchikit was only closed a few days when the riots were the worst. Rocky Road Lutheran School is so remote, it never had to close. Praise the Lord!

Now for the miracle of desperation. The Mission Committee knew this summer we did not have nearly enough scholarships to support the older students to attend middle and high school. When I told Pastor Walta in September he said we would pray to God and wait and see what God provided. So, we started praying.

Lead by God one of the members of the Mission Committee applied for a \$250 Thrivent grant to host a luncheon to raise awareness for the need of scholarships. Then someone donated Haitian art to sell at the luncheon. This benefit was so successful we are able to fully fund 72 students to attend middle and high school this school year. For most Haitians, education stops at 6th grade if you are lucky enough to go to school at all. When we called Pastor Walta this week with the good news, he said the best way we can change Haiti is by teaching ethics through Christian Education. Each of you are helping change the future of Haiti by providing Christian education for their students.

What a beautiful miracle born from desperation!

What does \$120 per year cover?

Tuition, books and uniform for one student to attend middle or high school for one school year.

What are the requirements to receive a scholarship?

1. Stay active in church
2. Work hard in school
3. Stay sexually pure

What subjects do the student study?

Creole, French, Spanish, & English, Christian Education, Social Studies, Mathematics, Science, Philosophy

December 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 1 st Sunday of Advent	2	3 Cards 6:30 pm	4 Women's Bible Study 10 am Advent Service 1 pm & 7 pm	5 Men's Bible Study 8am Quilter's Ministry 9am	6	7
8 Worship 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Worship 10:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 2 nd Sunday of Advent	9 Ladies Guild 1 pm	10 Elder's Meeting 7 pm	11 Women's Bible Study 10 am Advent Service 1 pm & 7 pm	12 Men's Bible Study 8am	13	14
15 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 3 rd Sunday of Advent	16	17	18 Women's Bible Study 10 am Advent Service 1 pm & 7 pm	19 Men's Bible Study 8am Quilter's Ministry 9am Council Meeting 7 pm	20	21 Decorate Church
22 Worship 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Worship 10:45 AM Choir Rehearsal 4 th Sunday of Advent	23 Preschool Closed	24 Candlelight Service 7 PM Preschool Closed	25 Worship Service 10 am Preschool closed	26 Preschool closed	27 Preschool closed	28
29 Communion 8 AM Bible Study 9:15 AM Communion 10:45 AM Choir Rehearsal	30	31				