

# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

VOLUME 52

NUMBER 12



A Christ-focused  
Word-centered  
Family

305 West 3rd Street - PO Box 367 - Laurel, NE 68745  
Church Office 402-256-3622 - Email - [contact@laurelulc.org](mailto:contact@laurelulc.org)

*Christmas Eve Service*  
*December 24th - 5:00 p.m.*





**Please find a substitute & notify the church office if you are unable to be present.**

**ALTAR GUILD for December**  
*Mina Young, Linda Klausen,  
Mandi Swanson & Teresa Granquist*

**December 1 (Purple) Communion**  
**First Sunday in Advent**

LECTOR - Lisa Karnes  
GREETERS - Jon and Sara Pehrson & Family  
USHERS - Steve & Cody Luedtke, Nick Kort, Drew & Koby Detlefsen, Ron Lundahl, Jon Pehrson  
MUSICIAN - Sherie Lundahl  
ACOLYTE - Mason Kort  
NURSERY - Laura Showen  
COFFEE - Doug & Keila Olson, Verneal & Anita Gade, Jacob & Mandi Swanson

**December 8 (Purple) Second Sunday in Advent**

LECTOR - Mike Jacobsen  
GREETERS - Nick and Amy Kort & Family  
USHERS - Mike & Cathie Jacobsen, Kody & Bradyn Urwiler, Greg & Deb Urwiler, Don & Erica Diediker  
MUSICIAN - Sherie Lundahl  
ACOLYTE - Bryson Urwiler  
NURSERY - Katie Bose  
COFFEE - Jon & Sara Pehrson, Tom & Pam Biernbaum, Sharyl Luedtke

**December 15 (Purple) Third Sunday in Advent**  
**Sunday School Christmas Program**

GREETERS - Greg & Deb Urwiler  
USHERS - Lathan Detlefsen, Robert Patefield, Scott & Evan Urwiler, Tom Biernbaum  
MUSICIAN - Sherie Lundahl  
ACOLYTE - Aliyah Detlefsen  
COFFEE - Jerry & Shelley Groene, Scott & Diane Urwiler, Lisa Karnes, Mike & Cathie Jacobsen

**December 22 (Purple) Fourth Sunday in Advent**

LECTOR - Amy Kort  
GREETERS - Lee & Kayleen Dahl  
USHERS - Verneal Gade, Craig Karnes, Gabe Abts, Jon Mullen, Marlin Bose, Nick Kort  
MUSICIAN - Glenda Johnson  
ACOLYTE - Treyten Lawyer  
NURSERY - Kayla Detlefsen  
COFFEE - Nick & Amy Kort, Heath & Mckenzie Roeber, Dustin & Laura howen

**December 24 (White) Communion**

**5:00 Christmas Eve**  
**Fifth Sunday In Advent**

GREETERS - Jim & Karen Thompson  
COMMUNION STEWARD - Dustin Showen  
USHERS - Steve & Cody Luedtke, Nick Kort, Drew & Koby Detlefsen, Ron Lundahl, Jon Pehrson  
MUSICIAN - Glenda Johnson  
ACOLYTE - Jacob Kolar

**December 29 (White) First Sunday after Christmas**

LECTOR - Kody Urwiler  
GREETERS - Matt and Mindy Christensen & Family  
USHERS - Mike & Cathie Jacobsen, Kody & Bradyn Urwiler, Greg & Deb Urwiler, Don & Erica Diediker  
MUSICIAN - Sherie Lundahl  
ACOLYTE - Mason Kort  
NURSERY - Teresa Granquist  
COFFEE - Jon & Megan Mullen, Tim & Teresa Granquist, Don & Erica Diediker

Come let us  
*Adore*  
Him



# December

# 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00 Worship with Communion 10:15 Sunday School and Confirmation Potluck	2	3 5:30 Young Adult Bible Study	4 9:30 Women's Bible Study	5 9:00 Sarah Circle 5:00 Ruth Circle	6	7 9:00 WMF Cookie Tray
8 9:00 Worship 10:15 Sunday School and Confirmation Blood Pressure Checks	9 2:30 Bingo at Hillcrest	10 5:30 Young Adult Bible Study	11 9:30 Women's Bible Study	12 7:00 Church Council Meeting	13	14 9:00 Pack Christmas Sacks for Sunday
15 9:00 Worship Sunday School Christmas Program No Confirmation 5:00 pm Congregational Meeting	16	17 5:30 Young Adult Bible Study	18 9:30 Women's Bible Study	19	20	21
22 9:00 Worship No Sunday School No Confirmation	23 Poinsettia Deadline	24 Annual Report and Newsletter Deadline 5:00 Christmas Eve Service with Communion	25	26	27	28
29 9:00 Worship No Sunday School No Confirmation 2:30 Service at Hillcrest	30	31				

**United Lutheran Church  
Council Meeting  
November 14, 2024**

Members Present: Dustin Showen, Doug Olson, Nathan Abts, Joe Ankeny, McKenzie Roeber, Sara Pehrson, Matt Maxon, Steve Luedtke, Jon Mullen, Tom Biernbaum and Tiffany Ebberson.

Members Absent: Lisa Karnes

Dustin called the meeting to order. The group recited the Mission Statement and Joe opened with a reading of a bible passage and prayer.

Tiffany read the October meeting minutes. Tom made a motion to approve the minutes. Sara seconded. Motion passed.

**Treasurer's Report:** The P&L and balance sheets were reviewed. There were no questions on the report. Doug looked into CD options at the bank. At the time the 8- or 13-month CD options had around a 4% interest rate. After discussion Sara made a motion to move \$250,000 from the general checkbook to an 8-month CD. Nate seconded. Motion passed. McKenzie made a motion to approve the treasurer's report. Joe seconded. Motion passed.

**Trustee's Report:** Jon has spoken with Pat Harrington and he and some of his students would be able to make a shed for the church. The trustees will come up with a plan and meet with Pat to get an estimate. The remaining carpet at the parsonage will be removed from the basement. Will replace at a later time or once a new pastor moves in. Doug mentioned that an area concrete in the south parking lot is settling more. Jon will contact the city to see if they can look into a possible water leak. The three crosses in the south grass area are rotting. They will be removed.

**Parish Ed Report:** The balance in the Luther League account is unchanged at \$3,439.18. The balance in the Parish Education account is \$10,761.11. Our Sunday school kids will begin their Christmas program practice this Sunday and will practice on Sundays during Sunday school time. New Christmas costumes have been ordered. There have been some concerns about the new Sunday school curriculum purchased for the younger kids. New options will be explored. The youth group kids are looking for service projects. If you know of anyone looking for help or have ideas, please talk to someone on Parish Ed. The duplicate church Facebook page has been removed. Thank you, Jill, for taking care of this. College care packages will be sent out around Thanksgiving. A sign-up sheet for items/donations has been placed in the church entry.

**Deacon's Report:** There will be a Thanksgiving service on Wednesday, November 27 at 7:00PM. There will be a pie and ice cream social following the service. Dustin Showen will be the communion steward for December.

Council meeting went to a "closed session" at this time.

**President's Report:** A president's report was not given. Time for the council meeting ran out.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.  
Minutes submitted by Tiffany Ebberson.

Thank you to all who supported our Fall Dinner. We praise the Lord for your help in raising funds for those in need.

*Thank You*

*United Lutheran Church WMF*



**Ladies:**

Please check the kitchen for any dishware that you brought to the Fall Dinner. Also, we are in need of containers to use for leftovers. Cool Whip size or ice cream buckets work best.

Please put a note with containers that they are for "Kitchen Leftovers." Thank you!



**ANYONE WISHING TO SHARE A POINSETTIA**

with the church may do so by purchasing one or contacting Sharyl Luedtke to order one. Please contact the church office by December 23rd for any announcement you want to have included in the bulletin in regard to your plant.



**Sunday School Christmas Program**

**Sunday, December 15, 2024**  
**During the Regular Worship Hour**



**THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE** is in the prayerful search to fill positions for the Council and other areas for 2025 and beyond.

Please be in prayer as to where God is calling you to serve and answer with a hearty "YES" when the Nominating Committee contacts you. It take everyone together to continue the work of the Lord. Many positions are available to volunteer for.

The Altar Guild is also searching for volunteers. If you would like to help with this ministry of the church please contact Teresa Granquist at 402-375-9143.

**WMF Cookie Trays**



The WMF Ladies Group will be filling the cookie trays on Saturday, December 7th at 9:00 am to deliver to community members.

**United Lutheran  
Congregational Meeting**

**There will be a special Congregational Meeting on December 15th at 5:00 pm. Please make plans to attend.**

**Annual Report Deadline**

The deadline for committee members to have their annual reports into the office is December 24, 2024. Financial reports are due by January 10, 2025. If you have any questions please contact Lisa in the office.



Scott Urwiler and his family will be packing the Christmas Goodie Bags on Saturday, December 14th at 9:00 am. Please contact Scott if you would like to help.

## Cards and Napkins



The WMF has a wide variety of cards and napkins for sale. All proceeds from the sales go to help fund WMF outreach projects.

Many cards and napkins to choose from. All occasions, including Christmas, Graduation, Thanksgiving, Birthday, Baptism, Confirmation and many more.

Check out the west cupboard in the Fellowship Hall. **Look for the sign.**



ULC has been asked to contribute items for a Food Drive to assist families in the community over this Christmas season.

There will be a shopping cart in the entryway to donate any items. Many canned items have already been collected by another church. We have been asked to collect items that are “kid-friendly” and easy to prepare. Please bring items by December 18th so boxes may be prepared before school is dismissed for Christmas vacation.

If you have any questions contact Lisa at 402-841-1598.

Thank You!

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- |     |                           |     |                  |
|-----|---------------------------|-----|------------------|
| 2.  | STEPHANIE CARSON          | 22. | ADRIAN SCHOLZ    |
| 5.  | DONNA HANGMAN             | 23. | MAUREEN SCHUSTER |
|     | SARAH KARNES              |     | DALTON KOLAR     |
| 6.  | STEVE LUEDTKE             | 24. | DEX SPAHR        |
|     | JON PEHRSON               | 27. | SHELLENE FUNK    |
|     | PAM BIERNBAUM             | 28. | JAYDA SHOWEN     |
|     | TANNER HANSEN             | 29. | SADIE EBBERSON   |
| 8.  | DENNIS & LISA CHRISTENSEN |     | BRENDA WHALEN &  |
|     | BILL & ELANIE LUEDERS     |     | JAMES ROBERTS    |
| 12. | KATELYN PEHRSON           | 30. | MITZI URWILER    |
| 13. | ROBERT PATEFIELD          |     |                  |
| 14. | CHARLEEN DETLEFSEN        |     |                  |
| 16. | JULIA JOHNSON             |     |                  |
|     | HENRY BOSE                |     |                  |
| 20. | SCOTT PIGG                |     |                  |
|     | NICHOLAS LAWYER           |     |                  |



# Wash Your Hands

During an emergency, keeping hands clean can help keep you and others healthy.



Washing hands with soap and clean water is the best way to remove germs that can make you and others sick. If you don't have soap and clean water, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.



## Stay healthy by washing your hands many times each day:

### BEFORE

- preparing food
- eating
- caring for someone who is sick
- treating a cut or a wound

### AFTER

- Using the bathroom
- Changing diapers or cleaning a child who has used the toilet
- Blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
- Touching an animal, animal feed, or animal waste
- Handling pet food or pet treats
- Touching garbage



## What is the right way to wash your hands?

1. Wet your hands with clean running water (warm or cold) and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with the soap.
3. Scrub all surfaces of your hands, including the palms, backs, fingers, between your fingers, and under your nails.
4. Keep scrubbing for at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the "Happy Birthday" song twice.
5. Rinse your hands well under running water.
6. Dry your hands using a clean towel or air-dry them.



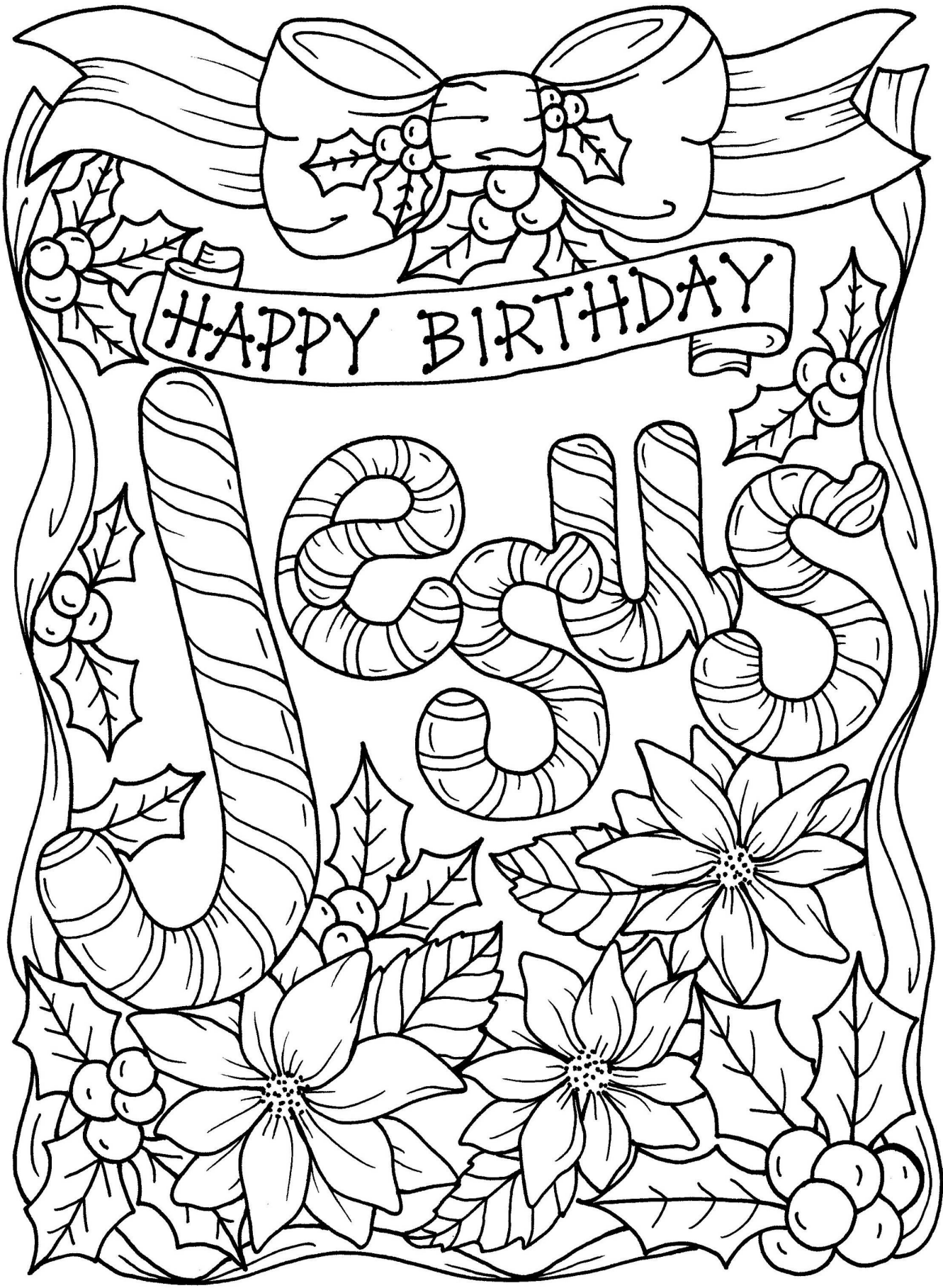
U.S. Department of  
Health and Human Services  
Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention

[www.cdc.gov/handwashing](http://www.cdc.gov/handwashing)

11/2023-A



Blood Pressure Checks Sunday,  
December 8, 2024  
During fellowship coffee.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

30