

LUTHERAN CHURCH *of the lakes*

Winter Newsletter 2024



Advent Services

During the season of Advent, services will be held on the following Wednesdays:

- December 6th
- December 13th
- December 20th

A light supper will be served between services. The times for the services and supper are:

- 4:30 Worship
- 5:00 Supper
- 6:00 Worship

Please plan to join us as we celebrate the season and the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ together.

Lutheran Church of the Lakes

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Addison, MI 49220
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Pastor

Rev. Kurt Lambart
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Music Ministry

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Membership

What does membership mean to you? Are you a member of a team, club, or civic organization, sports league, school organization, etc.? Many of these can be joined and also can be dropped out as life changes. Now let's think about church membership. When Jesus called His disciples, He called them to himself and into a community with each other. So, when you become a disciple of Jesus, you join His community and commit to fellowship with them building long lasting relationships. Mark 1:16-20. How do members support each other? Within our congregation (community) we work together and encourage each other in our growth. We support efforts in our community to help others in need. Are we doing enough to help the growth? Church membership is not restricted to Lutheran Church of the Lakes, but it also includes membership in the worldwide church. We support, the Erber's and Mahlberg's, our missionaries in the worldwide church. Mites, Christmas Shoe Boxes, and Compassion International for children around the world to learn about Jesus are ways we pass His love to them. Are we doing enough to reach the world? Give thanks to God for all the blessings he has given you and pray about how you can share the blessings at LCOL and in the worldwide church.

Richard Moran, Outreach



The Traditions and Meanings Behind the Advent Candles

The traditional use of Advent candles (sometimes held in a wreath) originated in eastern Germany even prior to the Reformation. As this tradition came down to us by the beginning of this century, it involved three purple candles and one pink candle. The purple candles matched the purple paraments on the altar (purple for the royalty of the coming King). The pink candle was the third candle to be lit (not the fourth) on Gaudete Sunday, the Third Sunday of Advent. "Gaudete" means "Rejoice!" in Latin, which is taken from Phil. 4:4. ("Rejoice! ... the Lord is near"). Hence a "pink" candle was used to signify "rejoicing." Some also included a white "Christ candle" in the middle to be lit during the 12 days of Christmas (Dec. 25 to Jan. 5). The concept of giving each candle a name, i.e., Prophecy, Bethlehem, Shepherd and Angel, etc., is a relatively novel phenomenon and probably originates with certain entrepreneurial publishers seeking to sell Advent candles and devotional booklets.

From LCMS.org



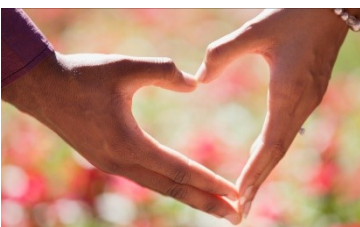
The Manifold Mercy of Membership

“See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.” (1 John 3:1a) The Apostle, John, was the only one of Jesus’ Apostles that was not martyred for his faith. Church tradition has John dying at a ripe old age. The Holy Spirit inspired John to write five books of Holy Scripture. In the first generations of Christians that followed the Ascension of our Lord, John is nearly unparalleled in importance. Even today, his account of Jesus’ words in the third chapter of his gospel are the most well known of the Christian scriptures.

For me however, none of John’s writings or service to God’s church have more meaning than the simple declaration quoted above. In our sinful natures we are enemies of God, hostile towards him in our thoughts, words, and deeds. If God were to respond to our sin-filled hostility with the justice it deserves, we would be condemned.

Yet God responds to us not with justice, but with mercy. On the cross, Jesus endured the justice that was meant for us. Out of sheer love and mercy, God takes us – the slaves of sin and the devil – and adopts us into His family, declaring us to be His children. In one instant on that first Easter morning as Jesus rises from the dead we go from a people who are lost and condemned to becoming members of God’s family.

Now Satan will rage and accuse. He will point to our sin and our failures and attempt to deceive us into believing that we are somehow disqualified from membership in God’s family. But we, along with every redeemed sinner, can boldly and joyfully respond to Satan’s ugly lies with these beautiful words of truth: “What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn?” (Romans 8:31-34a) Out of the manifold mercy of God, He has declared us to be His children – “and so we are.” Now and for all eternity.



Gifts of Love – Giving From the Heart

Helping others in need in our community is what the Gifts of Love program is all about. People who call typically need financial assistance with rent or utilities, but other requests come in too. A couple of weeks ago a woman called whose daughter had just given birth to premature twins. The babies were ready to go home, but not until they both had car seats. The daughter just couldn’t afford them. The request for the car

seats was forwarded to Julie Bauer, Chairperson of the Board of Christian Care and head of the committee, the request was quickly approved, the seats were ordered, and two newborns got to go home to their family.

“It is such a joy to be able to help our neighbors who are experiencing tough times, and the gratitude they show is heartwarming,” said Bauer. The program is funded through fundraisers and generous contributions from members of the congregation. If you bought a pie, cookies or any of the many unique items up for sale at the recent “Sweet Tooth Auction” you helped the Gifts of Love program.

Other members of the committee include Susie Bauer, Carol Moran, Alberta Pendley, Sue Brennan, Kay Helf, Suzana Siimes, Karen Matteson, Jan Bollin, Pam Guthrie & Bev Dickerson. Together they make the determination if a request will be approved based on criteria such as what community the person making the request lives in, urgency of the request, amount of request (there is a set limit). So far this year the Gifts of Love program raised \$1,686.00, with additional donations monthly from members, and was able to help 16 people in need. Gifts of Love also provides gas cards worth \$25.00, gift cards for \$25.00 to the Dollar General, and supports the Thanksgiving Baskets, Angel Tree gifts and Blessings Cupboard.

If you would like to make a contribution to Gifts of Love, make the check out to **Lutheran Church of the Lakes** and specify **Gifts of Love** on the memo line on the check, and on the donation envelope.



Serving the Lord in Sri Lanka News from the Mahlburg family

This past summer, the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod in convention unanimously voted to recognize the Ceylon Evangelical Lutheran Church as a partner church, recognizing altar and pulpit fellowship between these two church bodies. All Praise be to God.

This was a momentous occasion for these two church bodies. Bishop Arulchelvan was not able to attend. This left me the honor of representing the CELC at convention. It was an even greater honor to make this announcement before many of the lay people of the CELC when they had three regional Reformation Services. I was able to present the plaque which the LCMS gave in order to commemorate this wonderful event.



After being out of the country for a Tamil studies and Home Service, this was a wonderful way to gather with the members of the CELC around our Savior Jesus Christ and to show the honor the LCMS has for the CELC.

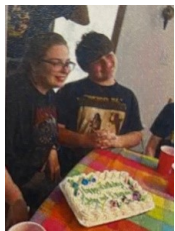


Motorcycles for Ministry



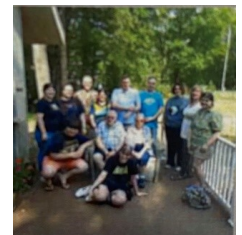
Getting around the tea plantations in the mountains is a challenge. Buses and walking are time consuming and impractical. Yet, the pastors and evangelists of the CELC have been doing their best to carry out the ministries. The roads on the tea plantations are narrow, dirt roads or roads that appear to have been paved many years ago, but not maintained. As you can imagine, this makes for difficult terrain that not any vehicle can get down. Motorcycles are best suited for the church workers to get around these challenging areas. Thanks be to God, the through the generous funding of the members of the LCMS, the CELC was able to purchase 5 motorcycles and 1 car in order to facilitate the ministry, especially in the rugged terrain of the tea plantations.

Mahlburg Moments



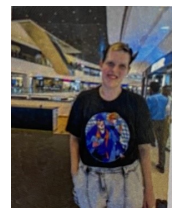
July is always a special month for us. Usually we come back for home service after the first week in July. This year we got to celebrate the 4th in the US. We also got to celebrate two birthdays. Liberty turned 22 and Duncan turned 16. Hard to believe they are that old.

Another special treat we experienced on home service this year was being able to get Martha's whole family together at once at her parent's home. The youngest brother and his family came all the way from Arizona. It was a great time.



Another regular item on our home service events is drop another kid off at college. This year was Rose's turn. She started at Michigan State University. We are very proud to be Spartan parents. We know she will do well there.

This year we were not only able to celebrate Autumn's birthday with her in America, but we also were able to bring her back to live with us in Sri Lanka. She has recently been diagnosed with Graves Disease. It is an autoimmune disease that attacks the thyroid. She is currently under the care of an Endocrinologist here in Sri Lanka.



If you would like to read the complete newsletter from Steven and Martha Mahlburg, it is posted on the Missionary Board in the Narthex



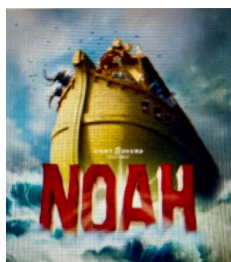
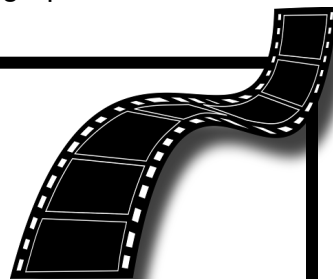
Meet Barry Archer

Barry grew up in the Jackson area until moving to this area 31 years ago. He retired from the state after 28 years doing Commercial Vehicle Enforcement. "I'm very glad to be back at LCOL as I was a member back in the 90s", Archer said, "I'm very proud that I was on the building committee that helped design our current beautiful sanctuary." Barry is currently serving as our Trustee, a member of the Finance Committee and the lawn care team. "I would encourage everyone to reach out in some area of our church and volunteer. Our church doesn't take care of itself on its own. Our church is only what we choose to make it. Again, please volunteer. Pray and ask God to show you what skills you have to help our church. It can be as simple as buying some bottled water or other kitchen pantry needs or maybe you're good at making crafts to be donated." As Trustee, Barry is responsible for

maintenance. He has several members that help out. An example is the lawn care team. They have 13 members that make up 6 teams. "If you have talents that can help such as plumbing, electrical or whatever, please let Barry know. Also, if you notice maintenance needs, please contact Barry, or Leslie. Barry added in closing, "praise God and be thankful for His blessings."

MOVIE NIGHTS AT LCOL

Brought to you by the LCOL Outreach Committee



Supper and Movie Night Wednesday, January 17th at 6:15

With a catastrophic storm on its way, one man is given a monumental task: build a boat big enough to save mankind from a flood that will cover the entire earth. But they won't be alone. Filmed in front of a live audience, **NOAH** is an original stage production from Sight & Sound Theatres that takes you on board one of the world's best-known voyages as live animals fill the stage and aisles. Set sail inside the enormous ark in this extraordinary Bible story that has captivated audiences for generations! **Donations for the Blessing Cupboard.**

Supper and Movie Night - Wednesday, February 7th at 6:15

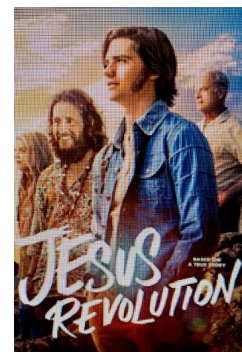
Jesus Revolution (IMBd). It tells the story of the real-life "Jesus freak" movement through the eyes of youth minister Greg Laurie. The Jesus movement of the late 1960s and 1970s was primarily based in California. It essentially tried to blend some of the beliefs and practices of the hippie counterculture with Evangelicalism. This blend led to some unsurprising conflicts. But it also resulted in a rapidly expanding movement of young rebellious people who found an alternative lifestyle in the form of born again Christianity.

Donations for Fishes and Loaves Food Pantry

Canned goods: soups, vegetables, sauces, fruits, meats. Dairy milk, cheese, butter, yogurt

Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressing, spices. Baby food, formula, diapers

Dry goods: mixes, flour, sugar, cereal, pasta, rice, bread. Fresh produce Personal hygiene products: toothpaste, shampoo, deodorants, toilet tissue.



Almighty God, Heavenly Father, You have blessed us with the joy and care of children. Give us calm strength and patient wisdom that, as they grow in years, we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

Sunday School @9:45 - HS Youth in in the youth loft upstairs, Children 10 yrs. and under in the children's classroom

Christmas Celebrations in and Around the Community

Nite Lites is a five-mile long drive thru a holiday light display at MIS. It is open November 17th through January 7th and costs \$35 per car.

Christmas in the Village - Manitou Beach - Friday, December 1st

6:45 Christmas Lights Parade featuring local participants including Addison Marching Band, businesses & civic organizations. The celebration also includes the Santa Lucia Choir from Addison Schools, Christmas Tree Lighting, Ugly Sweater Contest (for adults), and a live band at Two Lakes Tavern. Other businesses in the village will be holding special events also. Check websites and social media for all businesses around the lake for their specific hours and information.

Village of Addison Christmas Tree Lighting, Friday, December 1st beginning at 5:00 pm. **Christmas Parades** on Saturday December 2nd and Saturday, December 9th beginning at 4:30 pm. Check out their Facebook page for more details.



Somerset Beach Campground and Retreat Center's Drive-Through Live Nativity

December 1st and December 2nd, 7pm to 9pm each night. Watch the story of Christmas come alive with a living re-enactment of the story of the birth of Christ with a drive through live nativity. Somerset Beach Campground will provide a snack, narration and a map, and you can visit each scene as you drive through.



The decorated trees at **Comstock Christmas Riverwalk** - 263 W. Maumee St., Adrian, will be on display from the first week of December through early January. This year's holiday event will be the 10th annual program that turns the grounds of Comstock Park into a scene of Christmas-lighted splendor. Nearly 500 trees were lit last year.



Under the Silver Moon, Hidden Lake Gardens, December 29th, 6pm to 9pm - Celebrate light and shadow in nature by following their trail of luminaries on this self-guided walk. Entry is \$5 per person or \$20 per vehicle, free to members of HLG.

These are but a few of the many holiday events taking place in and around the Lutheran Church of the Lakes community. Check out individual community websites and social media to learn about other fun things to do in the area this holiday season.

History of the LCOL Angel Tree



Linda Krueger began working with stained glass when she helped her husband, David, replace windows in a shed. After they moved to Crown Point, Indiana, Linda borrowed tools from a stained glass shop and then was hired by the owner. The shop created windows for homes and churches and lamps, and Linda was able to hone her skills. Another move brought their family to our area and Linda to LCOL. When the Board of Christian Care talked about setting up the Angel Tree, she suggested the idea of stained glass angels. Linda donated the supplies as well as her time and talent. They were created using one of 4 patterns, like the one pictured, and made with different metals and glass. The glass angels with tags decorated the tree as a thank you for buying a gift for a child. As the need for help in our community increased the number

of angels needed rose to 100+. We thank Linda for beginning and contributing to the Angel Tree project for many years as well as creating the flames of fire which are displayed to the right of the altar. *This year's Angel Tree will go up after Thanksgiving.* Please take an angel tag off the tree, purchase the items listed from a child's wish list, and bring the wrapped packages, with tags attached, back to the church by December 17th. *Thank you!*

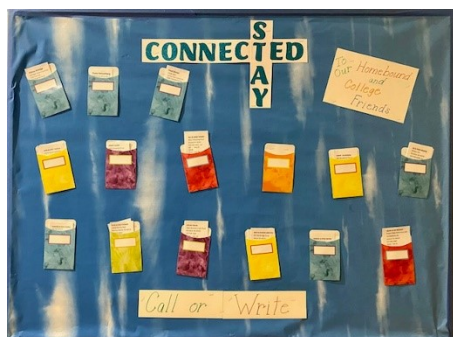


Perhaps you have been in the building midday and sniffed something delicious (and it wasn't even a potluck occasion). Pastor Kurt prepares his nourishing midday meal in our kitchen often. On this day he was preparing a very quick, easy, healthy carb friendly chicken pot pie - Pastor Kurt is comfortable in the kitchen and he has mostly become the family chef - as family work schedules have evolved. He promotes carb and heart healthy meals and he is a coffee drinker - most often seen with a tall to go cup from Tim Hortons.

Men's Bible Breakfast meets on Mondays

January 8th, December 11th, and February 12th at 10:00 at the Brooklyn Big Boy

The Tuesday morning bible study has been happening for something like 20 years. Over these years it has been led by the pastor, the participants and a volunteer leader. Currently Doug Morningstar facilitates the study and we are going through book of Daniel. We meet in the library...it is rather a round table format. (or oblong tables as this meeting room dictates) Verbal participation is entirely voluntary and attendance varies. We open with prayer and close with prayer, and have a written lesson plan distributed (with reliable resources.) The agenda and the pace is rather participant directed and casual. Currently Pastor Kurt is often present, his knowledge of the bible and history offer wonderful insights and resource. Coffee and homemade cookies and fellowship are always available. This bible study will be on break until January.



“STAY CONNECTED” with our homebound friends and college students. Each of the “file pockets” on this Outreach Board in the Fellowship Hall is filled with slips of paper with an individual, or couples, name, address, phone, birthday and anniversary dates. Give them a call or send them a card and stay connected!

Beginning with the Spring newsletter we will be accepting small ads to be included in the quarterly newsletters. This will help the Outreach Committee offset some of the costs involved in printing and mailing the newsletter. These costs include printing - we are charged by the lease company for every copy we make, color copies being quite pricey, the paper it is printed on, mailing labels and postage. Volunteers do the work of designing, printing, collating, folding, applying labels and getting them into the hands of members of the congregation and people in our community. Information on ad sizes and rates will be forthcoming. You can help by placing an ad for your company or a personal ad, and reaching out to friends, neighbors, members of the local business community or whoever you know that might be interested in showing their support for LCOL.





Hospice of Lenawee will be holding its *Lights of Love Tree Lighting Ceremonies* on Sunday, December 3rd, 6:00 pm at the following locations:

• **Adrian:**

Hospice of Lenawee
1903 Wolf Creek Hwy

• **Blissfield:** Kiosk Park,
South Lane Street

• **Clinton:** Smith-Kimball
Community Center, 211
Tecumseh Road

• **Hudson:** Hudson
Community Center
323 W. Main St.

• **Morenci:** Stair
Public Library
228 W. Main St.

• **Onsted:**
OSB Community Bank
112 S. Main Street

• **Tecumseh:** Tecumseh
City Hall
309 E. Chicago Blvd.

For more information on the tree lighting ceremonies call 263-2323 or visit hospiceoflenawee.org.

Candlelight

Remembrance

December 10th at 6:00 pm
Holy Family Parish
St Joseph Campus
415 Ormsby St., Adrian

December Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

12/2	Janet Ferrell	12/27	Mary Lou Wyman
12/5	Kirt Stubbins		Annette Wegman
12/11	Donna Budde		
12/12	Travis Fernamberg		
	Kathy Schmidt		
12/14	Susan Hammerling		
	Thomas Shoup		
12/15	Erica Grimm		
12/16	Ruth McCance		
12/21	Tom Siimes		
12/26	Xander Berry		

Anniversaries

12/07	Richard and Sharon Covell
12/08	Ed & Fran Holden
12/17	David and Brooke Rains
12/22	David & Kathy AuBuchon Ruth
12/22	Mike Blackmar

January Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

1/1	Evelyn Draa	1/15	Nancy LaVoy
1/2	James Preovich	1/19	Jocelyn Kope
1/4	Chet Yarger		Donald Connell
1/6	Barbara Becker	1/23	Ron Ferrell
1/7	Clif Weber	1/25	Nancy Stites
1/8	Susan Bauer	1/26	Jennifer Borton
1/12	Kinda Krueger		Chet Riley
	Lloyd Lash	12/28	Cynthia Regalado
1/13	Sidney Arledge		Barbara Kulinski
1/14	Beverly Dickerson	1/29	Carolyn Herman
			Lynn Pickford

1/31	Brenda Luma
	Jeff Thompson

Anniversaries:

1/7	Harry & Beverly Dickerson
1/11	Clif & Sue Weber
1/18	James and Helen Nichols
1/19	Robert & Paula Daum

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays:

2/8	Erika Kope	2/24	Sue Thompson
2/10	Renee Preovich		Helen Nichols
2/11	Karen Niswander	2/25	Elsie Murray
2/14	Larry Crouch		Audreanna Laharrague
2/16	Liam Murray	2/28	Joan Connell
	Kathy Morrison		Brent McMordie
2/21	Jennifer Berry		Carol Zuchowski
2/22	Sharon Miller		
2/23	Jodie Fenstermacher		
2/23	Robert Daum		
	Dennis DeMuth		

Anniversaries:

2/4	Pam & Gordon Brighton
2/18	Walt & Sharon Miller



Operation Christmas Child

Each month the Christian Care Team collects items to be assembled in plastic boxes and sent to children in need around the world at Christmas.

Suggested Donations

December: pray for OCC children.

January: plastic shoe boxes with lids, socks, gloves, hats, mittens, scarves, etc.

February: plastic shoe boxes, small toys like jump ropes, jacks, dolls, kazoos, small cars



Rev. Kurt Lambart, Pastor

Worship Times: 8:15 AM & 10:30 AM
Studies for all ages & Fellowship: 9:40

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Christmas and New Year's Eve Services

Sunday Morning Service:

Christmas Eve Morning at 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Services:

7:00 pm - Christmas Candlelight Service with Communion

11:00 pm - Lessons and Carols Candlelight Service

New Year's Eve Service: December 31st at 10:00 am



"For unto us a child is
born, unto us a son is
given: and his name
shall be called Wonder-
ful, Counselor, The
mighty God, the ever-
lasting Father, The
Prince of Peace"

Isaiah 9:6

Lutheran Church of the Lakes

8800 U.S. 223

Addison, MI 49220

Weekly events

Monday

5:30 - Prayer Gathering in the Sanctuary

Tuesday

10:00 - Bible Study (off until January)

12:00 - Prayer Shawl Group

Wednesday

10:00 - PHD Group

Thursday

9:30 - Bible Babes

Monthly Events

Sailing Solo - 2nd Sundays after second service

Men's Bible Breakfast - 2nd Mondays at 10:00