

HAPPENINGS @ THE MOUNT



Mt. Horeb Lutheran Church, Chapin, SC

December 2022

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR PAT

Dear Mt. Horeb Family,

A blessed Advent and Christmastide to you all!

This time of year, as conversations swirl about me, the topic often times arises, “Hey Pastor, what’s your take on the popular expressions that frame this season, Happy Holidays, Seasons Greetings, or Merry Christmas....”

Being a Pastor, I smile and respond, “Where might you think my heart is?”

We take time during Advent and Christmas to prepare and be prepared to celebrate the birth of Jesus...

For the incarnation of Jesus the Christ inexorably alters our world...

Let me share some Christmas facts to keep near your heart during this Holy Time...

You may not remember the name Telesphorus, but his work is with us this Holy Season. He reigned from 125-136 AD as the second Bishop of Rome. He declared that public church services should be held to celebrate "The Nativity of our Lord and Savior."

It was in 320 that Julius I and other religious leaders specified December 25 as the official date for that celebration.

Patrick W. Riddle, Interim Pastor

Bob Hawkins, Interim Supply

Organist/Choir Director

Camille Joseph, Admin

Lisa Smith, Treasurer

Peggy Miller, Preschool Director

**WORSHIP, LEARN, WITNESS SERVE,
SUPPORT**

Newsletter Deadlines

*The Monthly Happenings @ the Mount
deadline is the **18th of
each month.***

Moving to our nation...

- ◇ Alabama was the first state to recognize Christmas as an official holiday in 1836.
- ◇ Oklahoma was the last state to declare Christmas a legal holiday in 1907.
- ◇ The first electric lights appeared on a Christmas tree in 1882.
- ◇ Calvin Coolidge, our 30th President, established the tradition of the Chief Executive ceremoniously lighting the White House Christmas tree.

Christmas is a season of light ...

- ◇ It was said by Thomas Fuller that "Light is God's eldest daughter."
- ◇ By whatever road we travel, if we walk always by the light that is given us, like the Wise men, to Christ in the end we shall come, for all the noblest aspirations of the human heart find their satisfaction in Him and nowhere else," said R.J.H. Steuart in 1929.
- ◇ "It must not be forgotten that the first Christmas song was sung in the night." That is a comforting fact when the world is dark, the light shines, "not from among humankind but from heaven," wrote Cleland B. McAfee in 1954.
- ◇ Finally, Robert Atkin said, "There is not enough darkness in all the world to put out the light of even one small candle."

Let our prayer this season be...

As we prepare for your coming, lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; Make us instruments of your peace: "Where there is hatred, let us sow love; Where there is injury, pardon; Where there is doubt, faith; Where there is despair, hope; Where there is darkness, light."

May this season of light bring you joy, peace, and hope.

Grace be with you,

Pastor Pat



CONFIRMATION CLASS is for all in 6th-8th grades. Pastor Pat leads the group each Sunday morning in Room 203 during the Sunday School hour at 9:15am. We are studying the New Testament during the 2022-2023 school year.



LEARN MINISTRY TEAM Teachers are **STILL** needed for Sunday School grades K - 5th! Contact Lisa McDonald at Lisamcdonald1979@hotmail.com if you would like to significantly impact children's lives in the name of Christ!



THE VERY FIRST CHRISTMAS Join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus! On Sunday, December 18, during the 10am service will all go to Bethlehem to witness this amazing gift of God coming to us as baby Jesus. We will all be participants! Everyone will receive 'props' as you enter the sanctuary - animals, angels, shepherds, wise ones. During the narration of the story, by the Innkeeper, characters will join the Holy Family at the manger. Also, we will sing many favorite Christmas carols. The spirit of Christmas will definitely be at Mt. Horeb on the 18th! Following the program, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a Christmas drop-in hosted by the Fellowship Team.



CARD MINISTRY – HANDMADE CARDS Are you in need of a greeting card to send to a family member or a friend? Don't forget about the card rack in the Fellowship Hall for an assortment of handmade cards; Birthday, Thank You, Get Well, Sympathy, Thinking of You and a few miscellaneous cards are available. A donation of \$3.00 per card or \$5.00 for two cards is greatly appreciated. All donations will go toward local, regional and global missions.



GRATEFUL FOR YOUR SUPPORT St. Paul writes (that we) *“are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus” Romans 3:24*

We have been given the gift of salvation from our Lord, Jesus Christ. Our calling is to share that gift with others. Our Stewardship theme this season is GIFT. Giving In Faith Together. Your generosity in offerings (through PayPal, Tithely, or the offering plate at the entrance) makes an enormous difference. Thank you for your joyful and generous monetary support. Thanks be to God!



WE CARE COLLECTION BOXES can be found both upstairs and downstairs. Here is a list of **constant** needs for our community outreach

agency: Non-food items like paper products (toilet paper and paper towels), cleaning supplies (laundry detergent and dish soap), personal care items (shampoo, conditioner, bar soap, toothbrushes and toothpaste, razors, deodorant, etc). We also accept pet food. Look for December needs in the bulletins in December.

ONE WORSHIP SERVICE We continue with one worship service at 10:00am through December. The council has received input from the congregation regarding preferences for starting time of worship and Sunday School. A decision will be made at December Council meeting.



LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE is accompanying our companions in Ukraine, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia. We continue to support our brothers and sisters in time of crisis through the ELCA and Lutheran Disaster Response. Your gifts designated for “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” will be used to support people impacted by conflict. Make your check out to Lutheran Disaster Response and send to: Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center, P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 and write “Eastern Europe Crisis Response” or “Where needed most” on your check’s memo line.



UPDATE your 2022 Directory with JoAnne Ritchie’s address.
3230 Homestead Club Drive Apt 3207
Winston-Salem NC 27103.



LUTHERAN MEN will host Ladies’ Night December 11th at 5pm. Look forward to dinner and entertainment! Sign up at the Welcome Center.

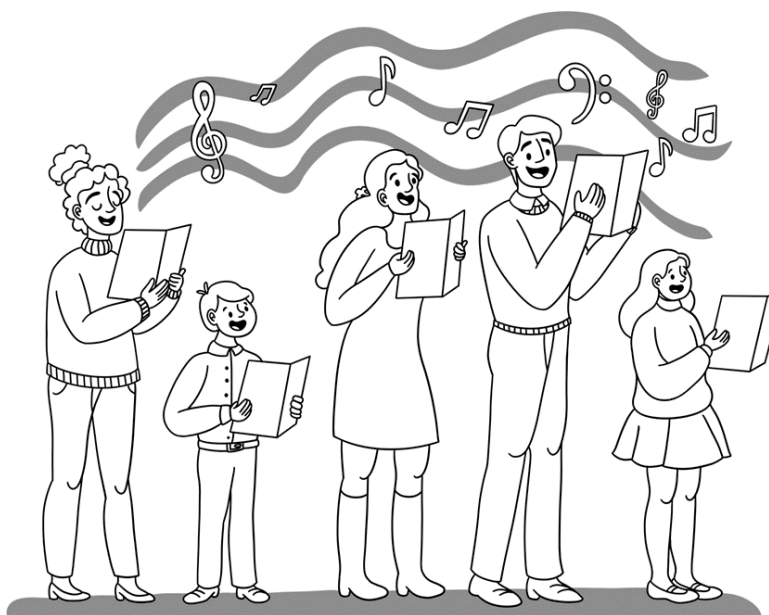


Mary Epting’s eagle eye recently spotted this delightful bit of writing by Garrison Keillor, author and popular radio host of Minnesota Public Radio’s *A Prairie Home Companion* from 1974-2016. Keillor, although a prickly, sometimes controversial individual, nevertheless was a gifted commentator about small-town life, using his fictitious Lake Wobegon as the center for his humor, much as Andy Griffith spun tails from Mayberry. A gifted humorist and musician, he was raised in the midst of Scandinavian Lutheranism, Minnesota style. This excerpt from his writings speaks of the Lutheran love of singing. Besides ruling the early Saturday evening spot on many Public Radio stations through the years, Keillor’s show also traveled around the country, including a sold-out performance in Spartanburg.

THOUGHTS ON LUTHERANS - Garrison Keillor

I have made fun of Lutherans for years - who wouldn’t if you live in MN. But I have also sung with Lutherans, and that is one of the main joys in life, along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn. We make fun of Lutherans for their blandness, their excessive calm, their fear of giving offense, their constant guilt that burns like a pilot light, their lack of speed, and also for their secret fondness for macaroni and cheese.

But nobody sings like them. If you ask an audience in NYC, a relatively Lutheran-less place, to sing along on a chorus of 'Michael, Row the Boat Ashore', they will look daggers at you as if you had asked them to strip to their underwear. But if you do this among Lutherans, they'll smile and row that boat ashore, up too the beach, and down the road. Lutherans are bred from childhood to sing in four-part harmony; it is a talent that comes from sitting on the lap of someone singing alto or tenor or bass, and hearing the harmonic intervals by putting your little head against that person's ribcage. It is natural for Lutherans to sing in harmony, we're too modest to be soloists, too wordly to sing in unison, and when you're singing in the key of C and you slide into A-7th and D-7th chords, all 200 of you, it's an emotionally fulfilling moment. I once sang the bass line of 'Children of the Heavenly Father' in a room with about 3,000 Lutherans in it, and when we were finished, we all had tears in our eyes, partly from the promise that God will not forsake us, partly from the proximity of all those lovely voices. By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other. I do believe this: people who love to sing in four-part harmony are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll comfort you. If you're lonely, they'll talk to you. If you're hungry, they'll give you tuna salad.





WE CARE ANGEL TREE Thank you for partnering with us to serve our community families through Christmas Angel Gift “Adoptions” and Gift Card Sponsorships. We still have Angels ready for adoption on the Angel Tree with their sizes and a few wishes to use as a guide for your families as they purchase gifts. Please purchase at least one complete outfit for each child (shirt & pants) as well as two or three additional gifts. After you choose your angel, please put your name and phone number on the sponsor sheet next to the number of your angel. (This is purely for purposes of keeping track.) You may also donate \$25 Wal-Mart or Target gift cards.

Please return the gifts **unwrapped** in a plastic bag with the Angel tag securely attached, with the label side visible to Mt. Horeb Fellowship Hall. The family number and child letter are used to identify which family should receive these gifts.

If you would like to further bless these families, please consider including socks, underclothing and/or shoes to your gift bags. These items can truly make a difference in a child’s daily life.

If you wish to purchase gift cards instead of adopting an Angel, please purchase \$25.00 Walmart or \$25.00 Target Gift Cards and ask for the store to print a separate gift receipt for each card and include it with the cards. Please return the gift cards to the Church office. Please have all gifts and gift cards to Mt. Horeb by **Friday, December 2nd.**





PRESCHOOL UPDATE

Jesus is the Reason...

Born in a stable so long ago, on that clear, starry night, a savior for all the world...Happy Birthday, Jesus!

The Preschool Christmas Program is Thursday, December 15, at 6:30pm.

We will return to school on Tuesday, January 3rd.

Have a safe and joyous holiday! Peace, Miss Peggy



Council Notes

Highlights of the Congregation Council meeting November 2022

The council met on Sunday, November 13 and took action on or discussed the following items:

- ◇ Report to Chapin Police Department regarding the theft and revitalization of the fire pit landscape stone in the Creative Learning Center.
- ◇ The Serve Team reported the Community Garden is planted with winter vegetables and will be ready for harvest the beginning of 2023. They will be assisting with Lake Murray Presbyterian with Thanksgiving at the HUB with providing gravy. The Angel Tree is up and we have committed to 30 children and 20 gift cards.
- ◇ Trunk or Treat that was sponsored by the Fellowship Team was a big hit even with the rain. Everyone had lots of fun.
- ◇ The Worship Team will be purchasing new choir robes.
- ◇ Pastor and Ministry Team Reports were received and discussed.

ON GOING PRAYERS FOR:

- +Vie Wilmot
- +Miller Lindler
- +Jim Johnston
- +Mary Kern
- +Nancy Hess
- +Nancy Crogen
- +Charlie Shealy
- +Margaret Greene
- +Carolyn Bishop
- +Henri Bishop
- +Jane Ramsey
- +Aubrey Metts
- +Pauline Wodtke
- +Ron Stockman
- +Sharon Shealy
- +Brady Amick
- +Gertice Rister
- +George Wessinger
- +Taylor Ann Fiber
- +Steve Cartin
- +Audrey Fulmer
- +Bob Irwin



ALSO PRAYING FOR:

- +Family of Tarzie Johnston on her death

PRAYING FOR FRIENDS OF OUR CHURCH FAMILY:

- + Cindy Heming, Gavin Wells' godmother
- + Melissa Smith, sister of Dean Smith
- + Ronnie Chapman, nephew of Rosemary Frick
- + Sadie Gillian, friend of Jennifer Wells
- + Marie Fulmer, niece of Loretta Griffin & family
- + Amelia Kinard, sister of Billy Griffin
- + Jeanne Thompson, sister of Susan Addy
- + Donna Miseyko, niece of Mary Kern
- + Nan & James Nicholson, daughter and son-in-law of Mary Kern
- + Sue Carver, friend of Joanne Wessinger Hill
- + Tyler Grubbs, friend of Lillie Free

- + David Owens, friend of Tommy Hill
- + Lorraine Revels, daughter of friend of JoAnne Hill
- + Al Zaback, cousin of Jerry & Vicky Shealy
- + Sally Thompson, sister-in-law of Susan Addy
- + Diane Nichol, friend of Susan Addy
- + Evren Ray, great-niece of Susan Addy
- + Chris & Eddie Shealy, sons of Gene & Ann B. Shealy
- + Tommy Ward, friend of Jim Pope
- + William Eckley, cousin of Vicky Shealy
- + Payton Dominick, great-nephew of Glenda Lindler
- + Tyler Richardson, son-in-law of Pastor Dick & Jeannie Webber
- + Todd Buehler, Debbie Hjelseth's brother
- + Landon Derrick, Wes Hill's classmate & friend
- + Jimmy and Liane Talbert, uncle and aunt of Mattie Smith
- + Richard Gregerson, son of Vie Wilmot
- + Jason, great nephew of Vie Wilmot
- + Farris Gregerson, daughter-in-law of Vie Wilmot
- + Heidi Smith, wife of Lew Smith
- + Charles R. Risher, Uncle of Kay Comalander
- + Derald Edwards
- + Bill Plump, friend of Bill Stockdell
- + Tom Naughton, father of Michael Naughton
- + Tyler Shepke, friend of Roger Linder and Michael Naughton
- + Laura Riley, daughter of Bill Stockdell
- + Jackie Perry, friend of Cindy Rego
- + All those serving in the military



BIRTHDAYS

- 1 John Rodgers, III
Ann B. Shealy
- 3 Catherine Nelson
Bill Moser
- 5 Lindsey Campbell
- 8 Dot Blaney
Kelly Gowans
- 9 Keith Summer
- 10 Holly Knight
Kim Shealy
David Williams
- 11 Austin Bundrick
- 12 Brian Hollis
Katie Morgan
- 13 Debbie Humm
- 14 Robbie Frick
- 17 Paul Rego
- 18 Jimmy Lindler
- 19 Bill Stockdell
- 20 John Rister
Bart Teal
Wes Hill
- 22 Holly Comalander
Russell Long
- 23 Mary Grace Leininger



- 24 Nancy Crogen
Tammy R. Shealy
- 27 David Crede
- 29 Jennifer Rister
- 31 Triston Alford
Lillie Free

ANNIVERSARIES

- 8 Jimmy & Melinda Morris - 21
- 12 Dennis & Dianna Frick - 35
- 15 Geo. Jr. & Teresa Wessinger - 59
- 17 Heyward & Dot Kleckley - 73
- 18 Ken & Susan Crabtree - 51
- 31 Tim & Laurie Schmidt - 21

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary (or if our info is incorrect), please contact the church office. Thank you.

DECEMBER 2022 CALENDAR

Thu Dec 1	5:30	Praise Band
Sun Dec 4 (Blue)	9:00	Fellowship
	9:15	LEARN
	10:00	Livestream with Holy Communion
	11:00	Worship Team
Mon Dec 5	12:00	Chapin Chirpers
Tue Dec 6	6:30	DF Choral
Wed Dec 7	10:00	Fiber Friends
	11:00	Dorcas Circle
Thu Dec 8	7:00	Finance

Sun Dec 18 (Blue)	9:00	Fellowship
	9:15	LEARN
	10:00	Livestream with Holy Communion/ Christmas Program
	11:00	Fellowship Christmas Drop-In
Mon Dec 19	12:00	Chapin Chirpers
Tues Dec 20	6:00	LutheReaders
	6:30	DF Choral
Wed Dec 21	10:00	Fiber Friends

Sun Dec 11 (Blue)	9:00	Fellowship
	9:15	LEARN
	10:00	Livestream with Holy Communion
	11:15	Council
	3:00	Youth meet at Gen
	5:00	LMM Ladies Night
Mon Dec 12	12:00	Chapin Chirpers
Tue Dec 13	6:30	Jr. Women's
	6:30	DF Choral
Wed Dec 14	10:00	Fiber Friends
Thu Dec 15	5:30	Praise Band
	6:30	Agape Circle

Sun Dec 25 (White)	9:00	Fellowship
	9:15	LEARN
	10:00	Livestream with Holy Communion
Mon Dec 26		Office Closed
Tues Dec 27		Office Closed
Wed Dec 28	10:00	Fiber Friends



MHLC

101 E. Boundary St.
Chapin, SC 29036

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UPCOMING LCY EVENTS

December's Youth Calendar at a glance:

- Sun., Dec. 11, 3:00-5:30 pm. Meet at Generations (431 E. Boundary St.) for Christmas Caroling, followed by hot chocolate/cookies in the youth room. Bring an extra dose of joy to share!
- Check your e-mail for more details and reminders.
- All youth and families, if you are not on the email list for youth news, please send current contact info to Stephanie Stoudemayer: sjz85@sc.rr.com.

We hope to see you soon!!



Contact Us

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Chapin, SC 29036

(803) 345-2000

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frontdesk@mthoreb.net

Pastor Riddle (803) 630-1748