

# Beacon of Faith

Worship God. Grow in faith. Offer hope.

Faith Lutheran Church and Preschool

December 2024



## Welcome Statement

In response to God's unconditional love and grace, the people of Faith Lutheran Church seek to follow Jesus' commandment to love God, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We express that love in our commitment to racial equity, and in our welcome of people of all ages, races, economic status, intellectual and physical abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, along with their families and friends, to join with us as we worship God, grow in faith, and offer hope.



**Deadline for 2024  
Financial  
contributions  
is Noon  
Tuesday, Dec. 31**

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## MARK YOUR DECEMBER CALENDARS

### December 1

#### First Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Holy Communion at both services  
Ohio Mission Trip Recognition at both services  
and celebrate in the Kinship Café

### December 8

#### Second Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Holy Communion at both services

#### 4 p.m. at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Arts@Holy Trinity Procession of Advent Lessons and Carols  
Featuring choirs/musicians from Faith and Holy Trinity

### December 15

#### Third Sunday in Advent

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Holy Communion  
at both services.

### December 22

#### Fourth Sunday in Advent

ONE service, 10 a.m. in the sanctuary

Christmas Music Sunday

**"MESSIAH"** featuring an expanded choir,  
soloists and guest musicians

Lighting of the Advent Wreath and Holy Communion  
Followed by Christmas goodies in the Kinship Café

### December 24, Christmas Eve

2 p.m. Family Service

8 p.m. Candlelight Service

Holy Communion and candle lighting at both services

Celebrate the birth of Jesus!





**Pastor's Pondering**  
**Pastor Jean M. Hansen**

OK...who chose an Advent devotion booklet from a Catholic publishing house to distribute at a Lutheran church for use by its members? I confess; it was me.

The booklet, titled "Emerge into Great Joy" by S. James Meyer contains daily reflections, practices and prayers. When the company called to see if we really wanted it, since it notes observances that are not a part of our tradition - like "The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary" on December 9 or "Our Lady of Guadalupe" on December 12 – I stuck with my first impulse and said "yes".

For one thing, it's good to broaden our knowledge of the faith practice of other Christians. But the real reason I chose this resource is its theme of "emerging". When someone or something emerges, there is movement, revelation, the sense of becoming. The old is left behind, and the new arrives.

So, the booklet's author encourages the reader to emerge into awe, peace, truth, faith, joy, wisdom ... to come out of apathy, turmoil, falsehood, doubt, depression and cynicism ... into a new way of being.

During Advent we are preparing for the birth of Jesus, so that as he emerges into our world our hearts will be ready to receive him. My hope is that by using this devotion booklet each day in Advent, we all will emerge into amazement as we celebrate Jesus' birth. May we join in the author's Christmas Day prayer with transformed hearts:

*Brother Jesus, let my heart beat happily, my lungs breathe joyfully, my mind open cheerfully, and my spirit leap exuberantly as I am overwhelmed with amazement at your presence in my life here and now. Amen"*



## Key Dates

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### The Christmas Season Continues!

#### **December 29**

First Sunday of Christmas  
Worship Schedule, as usual  
9 a.m. in the Sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

The Informal Service will be “Table Worship” with interactive activities, children’s message and a conversation sermon.

#### **January 5**

The Epiphany of Our Lord  
Worship Schedule, as usual  
9 a.m. in the sanctuary  
10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

We remember the arrival of the Magi, who were led by a star to Jesus!

#### **Please note these Sunday updates for Children and Youth**

There will be no Christian Education for children and youth in-between the services on December 22 and 29. Classes will begin again on January 5.



# Key Dates

## Ohio Mission Trip Celebration

Serving Caldwell, Ohio area since 2008

Sunday, December 1, during both services and the Kinship Café  
We say thank you!



## Key Dates



### Help Decorate the Church Sunday, December 1 In between the services

Jobs for all ages. Many hands make light work.  
Meet in the narthex.

Another opportunity to get to know your fellow Faith members. Questions? Contact Lorelee Daily 330-644-0928 or [duaneloralee@netscape.net](mailto:duaneloralee@netscape.net)



**to Decorate the Sanctuary**  
Please fill out a red poinsettia order form and place in the offering plate or turn into the church office.

**The deadline to place your order is December 1.**



### Tinsel & Tea Sat., Dec., 7 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

For those that signed up (deadline was Nov. 24), the luncheon begins at 11 a.m. with a punch bowl social. Entertainment will be provided by the St. Cecelia Chorus.

For information, please contact Fedearia Sweval, [fedearianicholson@gmail.com](mailto:fedearianicholson@gmail.com).

### Cookies Needed for Two Events



- **Sunday, December 8**, for the 4 p.m. **Arts @ Holy Trinity Procession of Advent Lessons & Carols**. This event features **choirs & musicians from Faith Lutheran and Holy Trinity**. Cookies are needed for the reception that follows. Please bring your cookies, wrapped and labeled, to Faith, on Dec. 6 or 7, and place them on the counter in the Kinship Café. Contact Penny Thompson with questions, 330-285-4207.
- **Sunday, December 22**, for the reception following Faith's Music Sunday service. On this day there will be one 10 a.m. service with an expanded choir, soloists and guest musicians followed by a cookie reception. Please bring in your cookies, wrapped and labeled, on Dec. 20 or 21, and place them on the counter in the Kinship Café kitchen. Contact Flo Mackall with questions, 330-472-5556.



# Key Dates

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## Please Note:

The Congregation Council will meet on December 16 in the Youth Room for an Advent Social Gathering. There will be no business meeting.

In January, the Council will meet for a day-long retreat on January 25, and therefore will not meet on January 20.



Attention Team Leaders  
Annual Reports Due  
January 12, 2025

Please e-mail them to the church office, [nancy@faithlutheranchurch.org](mailto:nancy@faithlutheranchurch.org).

# Thank you!

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## Giving Thanks for Council Members



We are blessed by Faith members who give of their time and talents of serve on the Congregation Council and thank **Em Antal** and **Kim Kennedy** who are leaving the Council following three years of service. We are grateful for their insights and faithfulness as leaders of the congregation.

We also have been blessed by **Loralee Daily's** seven years of service on the Council, two as Council and Congregation President, as she leaves the Council. Her diligence, thoughtfulness and commitment have furthered the ministry of Jesus at Faith Lutheran Church. AND...she brought refreshments to every Council meeting the past two years!!

The church is only as strong as its members are willing to serve; so we are indeed grateful for all who take on leadership roles.

# Thank you!

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**Dear Faith Lutheran Church,**

*With great thanksgiving, we rejoice over your gift of \$600 to OPEN M in support of our programs and services.*

*Thank you for your amazing gift of support. We appreciate you and the church family. My team and I would like to wish you a blessed Thanksgiving.*

Julie Carneal, CEO

*Thank you so much for this generous support. We are grateful for your partnership in our Matthew 25 Mission to feed the hungry, care for the sick and strengthen the community.*

Elizabeth Kargbo, Director of Development

**Dear Faith Lutheran Church,**

Thank you for your generous donation! Veterans experiencing homelessness living in the Summit County area and across Ohio turn to Valor Home for help and we are here to give them the critical programs and support that they so desperately need.

The thoughtful donation of soup you recently made couldn't have come at a better time. As you may know, Valor Home is the only male shelter in Summit County that provides emergency shelter and supportive programming to homeless Veterans. The demand for shelter continues to rise, and you have made it possible for us to continue to provide safety and comfort to Veterans.

Your support gives Veterans opportunities to achieve their goal of having a safe place to call home. Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,  
Cheryl Arnold  
Program Manager

**Dear Faith Lutheran Church Members,**

Thank you for your donation of books to the Berry Good Reading Program at Akron Children's Hospital. Through the Berry Good Reading Program, pediatricians, and pediatric nurse practitioners from the 40 Akron Children's Pediatric offices, provide new, age-appropriate books to children ages 6 months to 5 years old during well-child visits and make suggestions on how to help children develop a love of books and reading. In 2023, we provided over 97,000 books.

Thank you again for your generous support. We plan to utilize these books in our pediatric offices. Your donation supports Akron Children's mission of helping children develop a love of reading at an early age and giving books to children who need them the most. We are so grateful and appreciative.

Warmest regards,  
Lindsay Riley

**Dear Faith Lutheran Church,**

As the Executive Director for Barberton Area Community Ministries, please accept my sincere appreciation of your congregation's generosity in continuing to donate to our food pantry in 2024. Without the support of our partnering churches and organizations, we wouldn't be able to continue our ministry to feed low-income families in our area. In 2024, BACM provided food to over 3,500 people every month. Therefore, your continued support is crucial to our mission.

Blessings,  
Dorothy Somerville

# Outreach



**David Simpson**  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
[Outreach@faithlutheranchurch.org](mailto:Outreach@faithlutheranchurch.org)  
330-836-8811

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## DLM – CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

It will be Breakfast with Santa!

This special program will start at 10 a.m. on Saturday, December 14. It will feature:

- Breakfast buffet
- Visit with Santa
- “Shopping” for Clothing
- Activities for the children
- Christmas gifts for DLM and Project Rise guests

Please contact Deb Gottas or David Simpson to volunteer. Their email addresses are [d6gottas@outlook.com](mailto:d6gottas@outlook.com) and [outreach@faithlutheranchurch.org](mailto:outreach@faithlutheranchurch.org) respectively.

Volunteers are invited to dress as elves again, as shown in these 2023 pictures:





# Outreach



## SALVATION ARMY ANGEL TREE

If you are participating in the Angel Tree this year, please note the deadline for returning gifts is **Sunday, December 8**. Thanks to Patti Nagy, Carla Ringer, Nancy and Jim Tobar for preparing the tree and for coordinating this giving event, and for Jerry Allen who will deliver the gifts to the Salvation Army. Look for this tree in the Welcome Center and one in the Narthex.

Choose a tag(s) from the trees, fill out your name and contact information next to the corresponding tag number on the sheet. Shop! Bring your unwrapped gifts to the church in a garbage bag, with the Angel Tree Number securely taped to the outside and inside of each bag, and place under the Angel Trees.

Contact Patti, Carla or Nancy with any questions.

## OASIS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Donations are being sought for the OASIS After School Program. OASIS has specifically chosen to support children attending Our Lady of the Elms school this year. Many of the students there are from economically challenged families. Their participation in the After School Program provides a safe and educational place for young children with working parents. The emphasis is on character building, tutoring, homework help, games, art, and relationship building with each other and God. Items requested are:

### Snacks: (must be nut free)

- Individual bags of chips
- Nutrigrain bars
- Fruit snacks
- Fruit cups
- Plastic spoons
- Applesauce - cups or squeeze packs
- Individual bags of Pretzels
- Individual bags of Goldfish
- Individual bags of Cookies

### Activity Items:

- Coloring books
- Glue sticks
- Scotch tape
- Colored pencils

Items may be placed in the bin labeled for OASIS donations, that is located in the Welcome Center.

## FAMILY PROMISE

Once again a call for condiments. We have committed ourselves to the following:

**Mayonnaise**

**Italian & Ranch Dressing**

**Ketchup**

**Mustard**

**Hot Sauce**

Place items in the brown basket on the shelf in the Fellowship Hall Hallway, marked for Family Promise, or in the bin in Fellowship Hall. **WE ARE BEHIND IN WHAT IS NEEDED FOR THIS MONTH!**



# Outreach

## GARDEN CLEAN UP

Thank you to all who assisted in our Community Garden clean-up on November 17.



## LoF Laundry Ministry

Pastor Jean and Dana Singer completed the next step in our Akron Community Foundation proposal review on October 23. This consisted of an in-person presentation to the Foundation's review committee. Their presentation was about 30 minutes long and included dialogue questions with the committee members. Both Pastor Jean and Dana felt that they made a strong case for supporting the laundry program. We will learn of the decision in mid-December.

An updated list of the free community laundry services, including ours, is posted on the Outreach Bulletin Board.

## SOUP MINISTRY

A few members of our Soup Team gathered on Friday, November 22, to prepare another nutritious batch for residents at Valor Home. They orchestrated purchasing, cleaning and cutting several pounds of vegetables and simmering them with stock to create delicious soup to be frozen and then distributed over the next several months. The chefs and sous-chefs meet throughout the year and include:

Sally Ann Anderson  
Lin Bryant  
Andrew Courtney  
Sandy Dolan  
Tana Fligor  
Tim Lewis

Sara Shook  
Penny Thompson  
Nancy Tobar  
Nina White  
Marilyn Wilson

Many thanks to our delivery team of Jerry Allen, David Johnson, Tom Peyton and Carla Ringer.

Valor Home's mission is to support homeless veterans in our community in their efforts to achieve greater self-sufficiency, in-



Harry Donovan Jr. Valor Home of Summit County

# Outreach

## RECONCILIATION IN CHRIST (RIC)

The RIC Team met on October 9, and conducted a thorough review of our participation in the past August Akron Pride Festival and Parade. The discussion identified organizing recommendations for the 2025 event.

Planning is underway for **RIC Sunday** which will be **January 26, 2025**. Thanks to Marilyn Wilson for coordinating this group whose other members are Em Antal, Joseph Antal, Joe Gardner, Corie Miller, Tom Peyton and Dana Singer.

### SOUP SUPER FUNDRAISER, submitted by Debbie Gottas

After hours of prepping, cooking, baking, stressing and a few breakdowns, the Soup Supper Fundraiser was a wonderful success! The numbers tell it all:

89 attendees	50 Auction baskets
22 soups	30 Instant sale items
15 desserts	90 minutes of fellowship
5 loaves of artisan bread	Hundreds of smiles and conversations
6 boxes of crackers	



### And \$2,028 raised to support 10 local food pantries:

St. Paul's Lutheran Food Pantry - Sharon Center  
Forest Hills Community Food Pantry - Akron  
South Street Ministries Front Porch Café - Akron  
Trinity Lutheran Church Lord's Lunch - Kent  
Peter Maurin Center of Akron Food Pantry – Akron  
Our Savior Lutheran Church Food Pantry - Hinckley  
Good Neighbors Food Pantry -- Cuyahoga Falls  
Good Samaritan Hunger Center -Akron  
Copley Outreach Center Food Pantry – Copley  
Gennesaret Family Nutrition Center - Cuyahoga Falls

### Congratulations to:

Duane Daily	3rd place	Sausage Potato
Ron Wilkinson	2nd place	7 Cheese Tomato
Sarah Kaufman	2nd place	Broccoli Cheese
Nicole Vincent	1st place	Zuppa Toscana



A hearty "THANK YOU!" to everyone who cooked, baked, helped prep, helped during the event and helped clean! AND wholehearted " THANKS" to everyone who attended the Soup Supper Fundraiser! It was a fantastic night!

## OUTREACH ADVISORY TEAM

The Advisory Team's tentative meeting dates for 2025 are:

January 21  
April 8  
July 8  
October 14

A discussion area identified by the team at its October meeting for future exploration is a project that might replace the now discontinued Ohio Mission program.

Advisory Team Members are Lorelee Daily, Colleen Hruska, Pastor Jean, Thomas Peyton, Dana Singer, Mark Watkins and Nina White.

# Outreach

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## INTERFAITH JUSTICE ALLIANCE - 2025 Interfaith Justice Series

Each program will be scheduled from 6 - 8:45 p.m. and will include a meal. Also, either a prayer or worship service will be offered. The theme is Restoring Civility, Healing Division.

### Save the dates:

March 12

March 19

March 26

April 2

April 9

## In other news...

### MITZVAH DAYS 2025

Temple Israel's Mitzvah Day Planning Committee will hold its first meeting for the 2025 program on December 11, at 7 p.m. at the Temple. The tentative dates for next year's events are June 7 and 8.

### FIRST SERVE

We recently received a note from Sue Wimer and Amy Baldwin, Director and Co-Director of First Serve, letting us know that the organization became a Blue Line Charity for the Akron Marathon Series. From this year's marathon the organization raised \$56,078 which was the largest amount for any participating charity.

### NOTE FROM THE AKRON CANTON REGIONAL FOODBANK

"Your Foodbank continues to experience an unprecedented year. We distributed more than 3 million pounds of food each month for the past ten months. The Foodbank and our network of partners have seen a 21% increase in the number of visits from people seeking help with groceries compared to the first half of 2023. Pounds of food distributed are up 19% compared to last year. Thankfully, food donations from most of our food sources are up, too, but our inventory turnover rate is still extremely high, meaning we're distributing food faster than it's coming in. As the demand for groceries remains high, support from our generous community is vital to our ability to feed our neighbors experiencing hardships."

### TEMPLE ISRAEL DECISION

On Tuesday, November 11, the board of directors of Temple Israel passed a resolution voicing opposition to Ohio House Bill 445. This legislation would make it mandatory for all school districts in Ohio to allow students to leave during the school day for religious education. Many people feel that this bill is a violation of the US constitution which separates church and state. The Temple's concerns are expressed in the following questions:

1. If every minute of the school day is important, then what does this say about the quality of public education in Ohio?
2. How should minority students feel if they are left behind when others leave school for this program?
3. Is this program designed to proselytize?

The social action committee at Temple Israel will be working on this issue until it is resolved.

### REMAINING DLM DATES FOR 2024

	<u>In person</u>	<u>Delivery</u>
December	14	20

### REMAINING LoF DATE FOR 2024

December 18

# FaithKids & Junior Youth Group



### JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT

#### GIFTS OF THE MAGI BIRTHDAY BAGS

We can be like the Magi bringing gifts to celebrate the lives of God's children. We will be collecting birthday bags to donate to the local food pantries. They will be handed out to make sure each child can be celebrated on their birthday. Information will be available in the Welcome Center in January!



#### DECEMBER CLASS LESSONS

- 1- Jesus was a BABY!
- 8- Jesus is the LIGHT in Darkness
- 15- BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR JESUS
- 22- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
- 29- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

#### JANUARY CLASS

- 5- EPIPHANY PARTY



### **ADVENT FAMILY NIGHT** **"A NIGHT IN BETHELEHEM"**

Step Back in time and experience the wonder of Jesus' birth at **Advent Family Night!** Join us for **"A Night in Bethlehem,"** an evening filled with festive fun for all ages.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4**

**5:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

#### **What's in store?**

- **Crafts** to create your own keepsakes
- **Games** that bring the nativity story to life
- A delicious **dinner** to share in fellowship
- Uplifting **singing** to celebrate the season
- And **more!**

Bring your family and invite your friends as we prepare our hearts for Christmas in this unforgettable journey to Bethlehem. Let's celebrate the season with joy and togetherness!

**Please RSVP to Pastor Sarah (cell: 860-993-2094) so we can have enough food!**

**We can't wait to see you there!**

#### **FaithKids and Junior Youth Group**

meet each Sunday from 9:50 a.m. –10:30 a.m.

Preschool through 2nd grade children will meet in the classroom upstairs, while Junior Youth Group (3rd– 5th grade) will meet in the library. Each week, we will have fun, creative lessons that help children learn more about God, Jesus, Bible stories and how God is working in our lives.

***We can't wait to GROW IN FAITH with you!***

## Growth & Learning



At Faith Preschool, we learn the important lesson of sharing what we have with others. Faith Preschool will adopt 4 families from Head Start to help them have a happier Christmas. Gifts are donated by our

families, wrapped and delivered before Christmas. These families are identified by a social worker friend of Faith as those who sometimes fall through the cracks of assistance. Preschool families are always so generous with their giving!

We are blessed to be a blessing!



**GIFT WRAPPERS NEEDED!** If you enjoy gift wrapping to Christmas music, then join Dineen, the Preschool Board Members and any available parents to WRAP GIFTS on Monday, December 16, 9-11:30 a.m. in the Youth Room. We sort and organize the donated gifts, then wrap them and bag them for pick up on Tuesday. We know the families will appreciate these signs of God's love!



### **PRESCHOOL NATIVITY**

A Christmas pageant is part of our annual Christmas program for the older Dolphins and Bluebirds PreK classes. On Friday, December 13, at 6 p.m. our students will present the perfectly preschool "ABCs of Christmas". Songs will be interspersed throughout while children in costume set the stage for the Nativity story. We value this important retelling of the reason for the season. Merry Christmas to you!

### **Notes from the Preschool Board**

Faith Preschool Board has created a document for the Scholarship Fund, now called the Faith Preschool Financial Assistance Request Form. Any family who is experiencing financial hardship and their child is enrolled at Faith Preschool may submit a request for assistance, to be reviewed by the Preschool Board. Church members who would like to donate to support students in need, please speak with Dineen.

The Ellen Butorac Memorial Fund guidelines were also fine tuned by the board. This fund was started by the family of our beloved teacher Ellen Butorac, who died in 2019. Funds were dedicated to support teachers.

The Board also intends to raise tuition and extended care rates for the 2025-2026 school year, to help cover increased costs. Members of the board will finalize the new rates at the January meeting, just in time for the Registration for next school year. Church members with preschool age children can register for 2025-2026 on January 19, 2025.

Thank you to all the parents and youth that helped with the garden cleanup service project! We had a great turn out to get the beds ready for winter. Thanks to our gardeners, we also harvested 39 pounds of fresh veggies for Haven of Rest.



Christmas time is here! We ask that all youth help us deck the halls after first service on **December 1st** as we once again help **decorate the church for Christmas**. It goes much more smoothly and quickly with more help! All 6-12th grade youth and parents are welcome and encouraged to stay and help.

Our next **Meal and More** will also be our **Advent lunch on December 15**, following the second service. Join us for food, Christmas snacks and discussion before we head into Christmas break. As always friends are welcome, just include them in the RSVP!

Thank you to all of the youth that attended our 2nd Confirmation Learning Saturday of the year!

With the holidays coming up, please make sure to keep an eye on the **Acolyte and Communion Assistant schedule**. It is always extremely hard to find someone to fill in the same day.

**Winter break is December 22 - January 5**. Enjoy the holiday season with your family and friends before we begin another year of faith together!



**Katie Archbold, a sixth grader from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and part of Faith's Youth Group/Confirmation class**, is working to earn the Silver Award with members of her local Girl Scout troop. To earn this award, Katie and her troopmates are making improvements at the BARC Dog Park in west Akron, including collecting recyclable plastics which will be made into a bench to donate to the park. For the next few months, there will be a collection bin in the Welcome Center for the following recyclable plastics, to benefit Katie's Girl Scout Silver award project.

**Please note:** Your plastic grocery bags are not part of this project. Those grocery bags are still needed for OPEN M and are still to be placed in the brown basket on the coat rack shelf in the Fellowship Hall hallway.

Thank you for your support of this project. If you have any questions or need any additional information, Katie can be reached through her mom Amanda, at

[amanda.s.archbold@gmail.com](mailto:amanda.s.archbold@gmail.com).

- \* Produce bags
- \* Ice bags
- \* Ziploc and other reclosable bags
- \* Cereal box liners
- \* Case overwrap
- \* Bread bags
- \* Newspaper sleeves
- \* Dry cleaning bags
- \* Bubble wrap
- \* Plastic e-commerce mailers

We are still collecting for the **Acme Community Cashback receipts**. Please place any receipts in the labeled boxes around the church, the Youth mailbox located just outside of Pastor Jean's office door, or Carla Ringer's mailbox. **This is a fundraiser for our youth programming and runs August 1, 2024 - February 15, 2025.**



# Devotions & Bible Study



Grab your morning beverage and start your **Wednesday with Devotions on Facebook**. We will rotate each week with the devotion given by Pastor Jean, and from Holy Trinity Pastor Becki Verbridge and Rachel Nunez. **The video will be posted at 9 a.m.** and will be available for viewing anytime. You don't need a Facebook account, just go to <https://www.facebook.com/faithlutheranfairlawn>.

## Invitation from HTLC for Advent Mid-Week offerings:

### **In-Person on Wednesday - December 4, 11, & 18**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church – 50 N. Prospect St., Akron  
*Holden Evening Prayer @ 12:00 p.m. (Noon) in the Sanctuary*  
followed by Soup Lunch & Fellowship in Room 202

### **Zoom on Wednesday - December 4, 11, & 18**

Devotions & Discussion @ 7 p.m.  
"The Weary World Rejoices"  
from *Everything Happens* with Kate Bowler

To participate in Zoom Devotions and receive the meeting link, please contact Rachel Núñez, Director of Congregational Care & Connection, at [rnunez@holytrinityakron.org](mailto:rnunez@holytrinityakron.org) or at (330) 634-6597. You may also contact Nancy Tobar in the Faith church office, 330-836-8811 or [nancy@faithlutheranchurch.com](mailto:nancy@faithlutheranchurch.com)



## **Men of Faith Bible Study and Discussion Group 9 a.m. in the Youth Room December 21**

**Men of Faith, a Bible study and discussion group** meets the third Saturday of each month in the Youth Room. For more information contact Geoff Whidden, [geoffrey.whidden@gmail.com](mailto:geoffrey.whidden@gmail.com) or Karl Demuth, [karldemuth@gmail.com](mailto:karldemuth@gmail.com).





## **In Our Prayers:**

### **Health Concerns:**

Tommy Gorman  
Faith member Elaine Johnson  
Faith member Pastor Tim Keeler  
Skip Lintner  
Faith member Teddy Lemmo  
Faith member Duane Peterson  
Faith member Bill Robinson  
Faith member Terry Vernon

For Faith members Marian, Liane, Donna, Shirley, JoAnn and Ann who are in assisted living facilities, or receiving nursing care.

### **In Times of Loss:**

For Faith members David and Melissa Johnson, and family, upon the death of Melissa's Aunt Terry, that they may be comforted.

For Faith members, the Boswell and Kennedy families, upon the death of their grandmother, great-grandmother Esther Gruver on November 20, that they may be comforted.

For John and Dana Singer, and family, upon the death of John's sister Christine, that they may be comforted.

### **With Thanksgiving:**

For Em Antal, Lorelee Daily and Kim Kennedy who are leaving the Church Council at the end of the year, with gratitude for their years of servant leadership.

### **QR Code Prayer Requests:**

For HC, for strength, guidance, perseverance and comfort.



# DECEMBER


## Schedule to Serve

Date	Service	Altar	Communion	Flowers	Lay Reader	Ushers	Youth
1	9 a.m.	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz	Debbie Gottas - SE Deb Rose - SE Nicole Vincent - SP Emily Solberg -SP Polly Dobkin - B	Shirley Pope	Dana Singer	Art Kaufman John Knops	Acolyte: Cyrus Jezewski Assistant: Adam Schafer
	10:30 a.m.	Bonnie Janelle	Bonnie Janelle			Geoff Whidden	
8	9 a.m.	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz	Corie Miller - SE Emily Solberg - SE Debbie Gottas - SP Deb Rose -SP Polly Dobkin - B	Sara Shook	Polly Dobkin	Greg Hackett Art Kaufman	Acolyte: Matthew Bauer Assistant: Treader Anderson
	10:30 a.m.	Nancy Hooper	Nancy Hooper			Becky Kuhar Alice Gilmore	
15	9 a.m.	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz	Debbie Gottas - SE Deb Rose - SE Corie Miller - SP Emily Solberg -SP Dave Weida - B	Marilyn Wilson	Jerry Allen	Art Kaufman David Nelson	Acolyte: Cayden Cloninger Assistant: Ciara Holland
	10:30 a.m.	Deb Allen	Deb Allen			Karin Allen	
22 Music Sunday	One 10 a.m. Service	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz	Nicole Vincent - SE Emily Solberg - SE Hannah Kozee - SP Debbie Gottas - SP Dana Singer - B	Judy Harrison, Skip & Carole Lintner	Debbie Gottas	Nancy Hooper Art Kaufman John Knops Ed Pleasant	Acolyte: Cyrus Jezewski Assistant: Adam Schafer
24 Christmas Eve	2 p.m.	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz	Melissa Johnson Dineen Dowling Deb Allen Nancy Hooper			Kim Kennedy Ed Pleasant	Acolyte: Treader Anderson Assistant: Matthew Bauer
	8 p.m.	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz	Kit Scheetz - SE Corie Miller - SE Debbie Gottas - SP Nicole Vincent - SP Polly Dobkin - B		Derek Daily	Kathy Medlen Ed Pleasant	Acolyte: Elyse Vincent Assistant: Cayden Cloninger
29	9 a.m.	Deb Gottas Kit Scheetz		Lucy Kmet	Martha Mazak	Ben Woods Nathan Woods	
	10:30 a.m.	Deb Allen	Deb Allen			Nancy Tobar	

SE - Server  
SP - Supplier  
B - Bread

# D · E · C · E · M · B · E · R

## Calendar of Events

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>1</b> 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café 11 Church Decorating 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA	<b>2</b> 11 am Getting Your Affairs in Order 8 p.m. AA	<b>3</b> 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 6 p.m. Faith Endowment 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	<b>4</b> 5:30 p.m. Advent Family Night	<b>5</b> 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	<b>6</b> Tinsel & Tea Setup	<b>7</b> 11 a.m. Tinsel & Tea
<b>8</b> 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 4 Advent Lessons & Carols @ HTLC 7:30 AA	<b>9</b> 1 p.m. Memorial Courtyard Team 8 p.m. AA	<b>10</b> 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl	<b>13</b> 6 p.m. Preschool Christmas Program	<b>14</b> 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. DLM @ Holy Trinity
<b>15</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b> 9 Traditional Svc. 9:50 Christian Education 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 11:30 Youth Meal & More 7:30 AA	<b>16</b> 6 p.m. Congregation Council 8 p.m. AA	<b>17</b> 9:30 a.m. Busy Fingers Yoga 7 p.m. Scouts Al-Anon	<b>18</b> 5 p.m. Loads of Faith Laundry Ministry	<b>19</b> 10 a.m. Prayer Shawl 3rd Thursday Women's Bible Study	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 9 a.m. Men of Faith 10 a.m. Music Sunday Choir Rehearsal
<b>22</b> 10 One service Music Sunday 11 Kinship Café 7:30 AA	<b>23</b> 7 p.m. Gardeners of Greater Akron 8 p.m. AA	<b>24</b> Christmas Eve Worship Services <b>2 p.m.</b> Family Service <b>8 p.m.</b> Candlelight Service	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9 Traditional Svc. 10 Kinship Café 10:30 Informal Service 11:30 Bound 7:30 AA	<b>30</b> 8 p.m. AA	<b>31</b> 7 p.m. Al-Anon				



Please visit our website.

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**Worship God. Grow in faith. Offer hope.**