

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

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Date
December 2019

Upcoming Events

Dec. 6th – 5:15 p.m. - Miracle on Main St.

Dec. 7th – 12:00 Noon - Woman's Advent Tea – Catholic Church

Dec. 11th – 5:00 p.m. – NET Dinner - Catholic Church

Dec 14th – 9:00 a.m. – Men's Breakfast

Dec. 16th – 6:00 p.m. - Council Meeting

Dec. 22nd – 7:00 p.m. – Christmas Contata – Pilgrim Holiness Church

Dec. 24th – 6:00 p.m. – Christmas Eve Service at St. Mark's

NO NET Dinner at St. Mark's for December – will resume again in January

Council Members:

President – Diane France
Vice President – Georgia VanDyke
Secretary - Lori Roney
Treasurer - Debbie Palmatier
Members - Jim Brigadier, Dennis Foland and Lisa Bartholomew.

Prayers Concerns

Please lift the following people up in prayer:

Family of BJ Blackmon
Deb Brigadier
Lori Roney
Dr. Shannon O'Malley
Russ Ryan



See Reverse Advent Calendar Article

**God formed us.
Sin deformed us.
The Bible informs us.
But Jesus transforms us!
Romans 12:2**

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Happy Days !!!!!

Birthdays: December

Terry Minton	Dec. 1
Bessy Korth	Dec. 2
Jim Nattress	Dec. 3
Edna Lower	Dec. 5
Debbie Palmatier	Dec. 11
Niles McCoy	Dec. 13
Gregory Davidson	Dec. 15
Holly Pierce	Dec. 16
Ellen Langenbahn	Dec. 18
Cody Whittaker	Dec. 20
Melissa Cater-Mickel	Dec. 21
Todd Bartholomew	Dec. 31

Anniversaries: December

Mary / Jerry Bowman	Dec. 1
Melissa / Greg Mickel	Dec. 8
Pat / Skip Becker	Dec. 17
Bonnie / Bill Morton	Dec. 28
Sharon / Harry Amendola	Dec. 31

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THE FAMILY CIRCUS



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Did you know St. Mark's offers the following opportunities for you and your family to participate?

Phoebes - every Monday from 9-2 PM

Youth Sunday School - Held during the worship service message

Bible Study - Sundays from 9:15 - 10 AM

Council Mtgs. - Third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsals - Every Wednesday from 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Ministry - every Thursday night beginning at 5:30 PM

Men's Prayer Breakfast - second Saturday of each month

Council has adopted a policy for anyone that wishes to use the fellowship hall for an event. All requests are to be sent to Lisa Bartholomew. She can be reached at 231-9494. She will handle all the arrangements, scheduling, paperwork and payments. This will allow for a one point person contact rather than having too many people involved.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO YOUR BOX.
BRING YOUR ITEMS TO CHURCH EVERY
SUNDAY DURING ADVENT**

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Servers for Dec.

December 1st:

Candle Lighter – Mason
Ushers – Tom / Sharon
Reader – Ginny
Greeter – Deb Palmatier
Prayer – Ginny
Counter – Carrie

December 8th:

Candle Lighter – Dylan
Ushers – Chris / Beth
Reader – Marie
Greeter – Harry
Prayer – Beth
Counter – Deb Palmatier

December 15th:

Candle Lighter – Mason
Ushers – Dean / Lori
Reader – Lori
Greeter – Barb Elder
Prayer – Carolyn
Counter – Diane

December 22nd:

Candle Lighter – Dylan
Ushers – Dennis / Diane
Reader – Sharon
Greeter – Maurice
Prayer – Chris
Counter – Carrie

December 24th: (Christmas Eve)

- 6:00 p.m. Service -

Candle Lighter – TBD
Ushers – TBD
Reader – TBD
Greeter – TBD
Prayer – TBD
Counter – Deb Palmatier

December 29th:

Candle Lighter – Mason
Ushers – Bill / Bonnie
Reader – Bonnie
Greeter – Pat
Prayer – Georgia
Counter – Diane

**From your church family
at St. Mark's....**





2019 Women's Advent Tea

Date: Saturday December 7, 2019
Place: Our Lady of the Valley - Middleburgh
Time: 12:00pm - 2:30-3:00pm
Theme: Trees

Please bring the following:

- 1. A Favorite tea cup*
- 2. A wrapped Christmas ornament!*
- 3. There will be a voluntary donation basket*

*Please fill out Registration Form &
take Invitation with you.*

Thank you - Advent Tea Team

Middleburgh Area Business Association Invites You To
the 21st Annual

Miracle on

MAIN ST

Co-sponsored by the Village of Middleburgh

Friday, December 6
5:15-8:30 pm

Kick off the Night!

Tree Lighting at 5:15
on the MCS Lawn with
MCS Music and Band

Then enjoy the evening with
Pony Rides and Petting Zoo
Live Reindeer

"Wise Owls" NY Wildlife Rescue Center
Sound and Light Show by DJ MTECH
Middleburgh Fire Truck with
"Sparky" and "The Grinch"
Elves' Workshop at the Best House
Firewood Raffle by Knights of Columbus
Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Visit our
Festive Shops and
Restaurants for
Specials, Tastings
and Treats!

Still
Dancers

Ice Queen &
Snow Princess

6 PM
Selfies with Santa
at the Barbershop

Hot Soups
Hot Pretzels
Roasted Chestnuts
Hot Chocolate
Cookies
Kettle Corn

IN THE LIBRARY

6:00 Christmas Stories told by Jim Spencer
6:30 Fiddling Friar and Anna's Animal Puppets
7:00 Songs with Hill City Ice Queen and Snow Princess

Additional Parking
Behind MCS

Religion

Each of us is a unique human being. We are different physically and we are different in our feelings, desires and understanding. We all have our own thoughts about things. Since no two of us think exactly alike, we have different opinions also.

We change physically as we grow older over time and so do our beliefs and ideas. Our beliefs can change in time because of the experience of living life.

What does the word “religion” mean to you? Is religion for you a belief, creed or dogma? To me, religion is unfolding our high self...the God nature that is in everyone. The unfolding means that we try to let infinite become intelligence, the God nature goes out through our minds and bodies. We do this when we say kind words and act intelligently with love. Every one of us has that God seed within us. To help it grow into a beautiful life, we need God’s power and love.

Religion is like a big beautiful tree that has many branches and many leaves; however, none of the branches or leaves are alike. The tree’s life grows through these leaves and branches and sends its loving care to all the other parts of the tree.

Just so in religion, God tries to send loving care to all of us, but because we are so different, we don’t always understand that we are really “one”. One because God is in each life...the same loving God is given to everyone alike.

One branch on the tree may be labeled Methodist, another named Presbyterian and another Jewish. Still others are Roman Catholic, Baptist, Buddhism, Celtic, Native America, Hinduism, Shinto, and many more. However, it’s important that the God light or higher power is flowing through each branch regardless of their different names.

It is pleasant to think we are all one family and that, in truth, there is only one religion. However, we need to keep in mind that there are many ways of showing that true religion and there are many names to show that true religion of God’s love.

Let us not forget that all are needed because we are different. It is the person that makes traditions, customs and gives names. These are the things that divide humanity, but true religion unifies.

Can we honestly defend quarrels regarding traditions, customs and names when we are truly one united through a beautiful universal truth and God?

In God's Loving Light,
Rev. Peggi Muenier

The Meaning of the Flag-Draped Coffin

We are privileged today, at this service, to understand what the Flag-Draped Coffin means, and to further understand the flag that is placed upon it.

Over the years, the flag has been surrendered to countless numbers of widows and widowers. Did you know that at military funerals, the 21-gun salute stands for the sum of the numerals in the year 1776.

Have you ever noticed that the Honor Guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the United States of America flag 13 times? You probably thought, as I did, it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but, we learn something new every day!

The 1st fold of the flag is a symbol of life.

The 2nd fold is a symbol of the belief in eternal life.

The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing the ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of the country to attain peace throughout the world.

The 4th fold represents the weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in times of war, for His divine guidance.

The 5th fold is a tribute to the country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, "Our Country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong".

The 6th fold is for where people's hearts lie. It is with their heart that they pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

The 7th fold is a tribute to its Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that they protect their country and their flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of their republic.

The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.

The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.

The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of their country since they were first born.

The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christian's eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit.

The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our Nation's motto, "In God We Trust".

After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were then followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for them the right, privileges and freedoms we continue to enjoy today.

So ends the clarification of the meticulous attention paid to folding correctly the American Flag 13 times.

~ God Bless America ~