

The Parish Door

A publication of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church

PO Box 27, Ellison Bay, WI. 54210

(920) 854-2988

Shepherdofthebay.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

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Advent Devotional

Join with us in our Advent worship with a daily devotional book. You can pick up a copy at the church. If you'd like one mailed to you or prefer a link to a digital flipbook for your phone or computer, please call (920-854-2988) or email the church office at (sotboffice@yahoo.com). To learn more about "Words for the Beginning," check out the Pastor's post on page 2.

Daily devotions will also be posted on the Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church Facebook page.

Christmas Service Times

Sun. Dec. 8

10:30am Advent Workshop and Great Cereal Box Challenge
Fun activities for all ages in the fellowship hall after the Sunday service.

Sun. Dec. 15

9:30am Worship w/Children's Christmas Program
The Children & Youth participate in the Worship service with "The Good News Radio Flash" intergenerational radio theater.

Tues. Dec. 24

3:45pm Musical Prelude
4:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service
6:30pm Musical Prelude
7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wed. Dec. 25

10:00am Traditional Christmas Day Service

Sun. Dec. 29

9:30am First Sunday of Christmas

Fellowship Pot Luck Brunch

The Fellowship Potluck Brunch scheduled for December 1 has been cancelled. But don't worry! We'll be back to our regular first Sunday of the month gatherings starting on January 5, 2025 after the 9:30 worship service. We can't wait to see you then!



It was almost 17 years ago — hard to believe that it was that long ago — that I spent a few days with our older son walking up and down the Ligurian hills along the Mediterranean Sea in Italy. In my mind's eye, the sky was perfectly blue, the sunlight shimmered in reflection off the calm waters, the narrow paths snaked along steep drop-offs down to the water. It wasn't like wilderness hiking, because the paths connected five villages of Cinque Terre that lie only a few kilometers from each other. The paths wind through small farms of grape arbors, olive groves, and wild lemon trees. Still, the hiking was strenuous, steep up and downs and treacherous footing. I remember the experience vividly as some of the most enjoyable I've ever experienced; yet it's hard to describe. I guess you had to be there.

For centuries, God had been calling people into relationship, present, but not visible, maintaining the strict boundaries between Creator and creature. But at some point, God decided God just had to be here. The twist, however, is that God came, not to discover what it was like to be human, but so that we might know what God is really like.

In this advent season, we look with great anticipation to the coming of God among us. We stand with the prophets who looked for God's deliverance, with John the Baptist who paved the way for Jesus' coming, with Mary who wondered why and how she could be God's chosen vessel, with the generations who looked for and waited for the unveiling of God's reign.

In short, we look for the coming of the baby in Bethlehem, knowing that God has snuggled up right beside us, revealing a God who is not roaring with angry judgment, but appears unexpectedly, with kindness and mercy. God does not come with the raw power of empire, but comes gently, slowly, even hesitatingly. And God comes to the place that no one has ever heard of, in a place that no one would think to look, in the middle of people who have little hope. In the mystery of Advent and Christmas, we discover the inexplicable mystery that God is here, with me, with you, with us, with all of humanity, with all of creation. That's the good news. That's the Gospel.

Again this year, our Advent worship will be themed and will incorporate words for worship and sermons that carry the theme through the season. This year's theme is "Words for the Beginning." Advent is a season of endings and beginnings. As the calendar year comes to a close, a new church year begins. Christ's birth ushers us into new ways of living and loving; and yet, the world as we know it spins madly on. In many ways, pregnant Mary was surrounded by endings—large and small, personal and political. But Mary proclaimed hope in a God who was and is making all things new. Christ's birth offered a beautiful new beginning for shepherds and Magi alike—all the while, King Herod tried to bring Christ's story to an end. When we ourselves navigate seasons filled with endings and beginnings, we need reminders. We need words that can feel like steady ground, like a path for our feet to find as we step forward into the unknown.

Our Advent series this year will be filled with blessings, with the words we need to hear again and again as we begin a new season. We'll reflect on the words Mary would speak to her newborn son. What scriptures and stories would she impart to him? What lessons would she teach him as he grew? The weekly themes may feel like the lessons we teach to children, but in reality, these are lessons we continue to learn and relearn as adults. They may sound like the messages we impart to loved ones during special ceremonies or sacred rituals. The lessons are familiar ones, frequently used in weddings, ordination services, or baptisms. Yet, you are invited to enter this Advent season as if you are entering a sacred new chapter, holding fast to the reminders that will bolster you for the journey ahead. As you journey through this season, may you find words for belovedness and hope. May you find words for beginning again. No matter what you are facing, no matter what this new day brings, love is your beginning.

A blessed Advent and Christmas to all of you.

Pr Jim Honig



LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

We are entering the Season of Advent, a time of seeking, a time of soul searching, a time of questioning, a time of strengthening faith. We hear again the stories of our Savior's birth, through the scripture readings, by singing the hymns that point us to the answers for our needs in this time of turmoil, gaining confidence in the shelter that God provides at every twist and turn of life's challenges, resting in the assurance of God's never-failing love and protection for us. We have been adopted by God through Jesus to enjoy all the fruits and benefits of this new life, and can be confident that this familial relationship will never disappoint us and will never end. We are God's children. Of this I am very sure.

And so we prepare for our Savior's birth once again, we remind ourselves of God's abundant love for us in the gift of Jesus and the gifts of our amazing family all around us. I am reminded of Jesus clarifying his family relationships. Mark 3:31-35 tells of the situation where Jesus was teaching in parables to an attentive crowd and skeptical scribes:

Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, "Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you." And he replied, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

WE ARE HIS MOTHER AND HIS BROTHERS AND HIS SISTERS! WE ARE THE ADOPTED FAMILY OF GOD! HALLELUJAH!

And so, as a family we prepare, we wait in anticipation of this glorious thought, that Jesus came into this world FOR US! And we pray!

LORD, LISTEN TO YOUR CHILDREN PRAYING

Ken Medema, text and music

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

And, in these turbulent times, send us peace.

DONA NOBIS PACEM

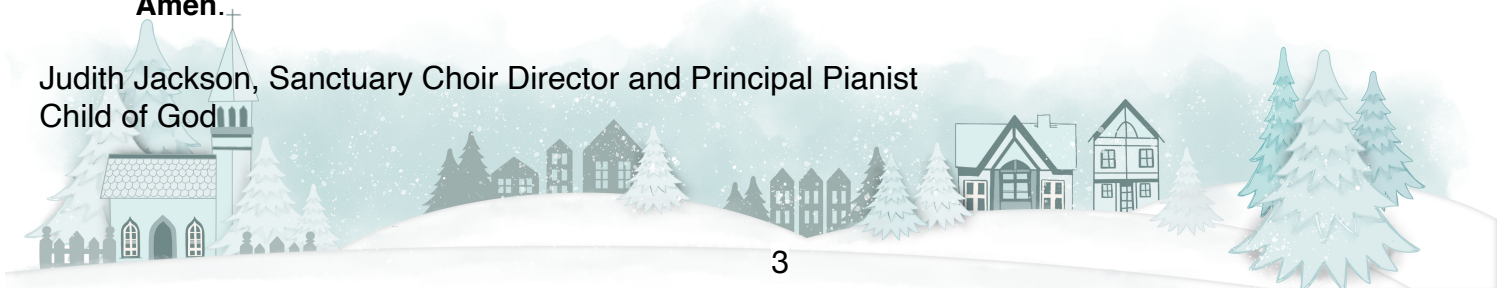
Dona nobis pacem, pacem.
Dona nobis pacem.

Give us peace, peace.
Give us peace.

Wishing all of us a blessed, peaceful, hopeful Advent Season. May we continue to be mindful of God's love for each of us ... and our love for each other.

Amen.

Judith Jackson, Sanctuary Choir Director and Principal Pianist
Child of God



Guatemala Mission Trip

James 1:27

Join our team from Shepherd of the Bay on a short term mission trip to Guatemala February 21 - March 1, 2025. Last March, we had the privilege of serving the Lord through the organization Pray America/Manos de Jesus, working with Mayan widows and orphans. We built a house, repaired a house, installed a latrine, helped tutor kids in English, visited families, and played with kids all while we were building relationships with the people of Guatemala and each other.

Here is a recent post on Facebook from Manos de Jesus:

We are committed to being highly relational, walking with our kids, families, and staff to holistically realize a better future for all. Each name is known, each story is heard, and each person is embraced with love: as it is in heaven let it be on earth.

Youth are a short walk away as the education programs are nestled into their communities - such as the Chilima Education Program held at Monte Flor Campus. Relationships grow strong as more than half of the youth in our Soccer Academy are also enrolled in our Chilima Education Program - which means many of these students are connecting three times a week with coaches, teachers, missionaries, staff, and volunteers at Manos de Jesus. Kids and families experience belonging, grace, devotionals, support, and new learning experiences.

Leaders, teachers, and missionaries enjoy family outreach through home visits to connect with families, share a scripture or bible story, learn about the family's needs, and pray together. As part of the home visit, a gift of food, such as beans, pasta, corn, cereal, and eggs is brought as a blessing to the family. These are highly relational, meaningful times of sharing, prayer and connection for everyone who is able to be together.

There is still much work to be done, and this could be your opportunity to serve during a week-long mission trip to support Mayan women and children. The next mission trip is scheduled for February 21 to March 1, 2025.

We welcome people of all abilities and talents to join us. Our goal is to build a team of 10 to 15 participants, and many others who can support this project in various ways.

Please join us on Sunday, December 1st, at Shepherd of the Bay. We will have a short temple talk during the 9:30am service and then gather after the service to answer any questions you may have. If you are considering going on the trip, this is a great opportunity to ask questions and learn more.

If you cannot make it to the service but would like to discuss the trip, please let me know. Also, feel free to share this information with anyone you think may be interested.

To see videos of past trips, visit our website, <https://www.shepherdofthebay.org/guatemala-mission-trip-1> or the Manos de Jesus facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/PrayAmericaMDJ>

As always, we ask for prayers for those who will be going and for those with whom we will share the love of God.

*Please pray about how you can participate in this mission activity....
Think about it..... Pray about it..... Join us*



Thriving Congregations

The Senior Care Research Action Team continues their work to make their recommendations in January for Seniors in our congregation. They have conducted a survey, done phone calls and visits with seniors, and are collecting information on groups who serve seniors in Door County. All of this to make recommendations on what actions SOTB should take to better serve our seniors.

The Community Engagement Action Team is getting closer to be formed and kicked off. Stay tuned as this team progresses.

The Thriving Congregation team is going to start a new round of one on one meetings so that we individually continue to get to know each other better, with the goal of continuing to thicken the relationships within the church. You are also being invited to reach out and get to know others too.

Please continue to pray for our team as we do our work, discern what we learn and make decisions. Our team wishes you and yours a prayerful and WONDER-ful Christmas season. Please let me know if you have any comments or questions.

Vicki Amundson 920-839-5013



Youth and Family Ministry News

from Lynda Pietruszka
720-227-4079 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com

Wishing you, our children, youth, and families are very Merry Christmas! We celebrate your Faith Formation at this time of Jesus' Birth! Be Blessed in the New Year ahead!

The Good News Radio Flash!

Come join your church family, Sunday, 9:30 a.m., December 15th, for our Children's Intergenerational Christmas program! We'll take you back in to the 1940's as a family gathers in their living room around the radio to hear the Christmas story!

The Rehearsal Schedule for "The Good News Radio Flash!"

- Sunday, December 1st - 10:30 am following worship.
- Wednesday, December 4th - at Wonderful Wednesdays, 4:00 p.m. Rehearsal, followed by our Christmas party!
- Sunday, December 8th - Quick check in, just prior to the Advent Workshop and Great Cereal Box Challenge.
- Saturday, December 14th - full dress rehearsal in the Sanctuary, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon.
- Sunday, December 15th - please arrive by 9:00 a.m. for costumes and final adjustments before the program, which begins at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Celebration/Sunday School

Check out our new worship celebration bags for children ages four and up!

Come to Worship at 9:30 a.m. Following the Children's message, Sunday School will take place in the lower level classroom. Parents please pick up/sign out your children after worship. Enjoy visiting with your church family in the fellowship hall after. Please have a registration form on file (see Lynda). Sunday School is a one-room schoolhouse for children ages 4 thru 6th grade.

Dec. 1st A Good Ruler Jeremiah 33:14-17

Dec. 8th Zechariah Luke 1:68-79 The Advent Workshop and the Great Cereal Box Challenge (Parents please meet up with your children in fellowship hall today!)

Dec. 15th Children's Christmas Program during Worship at 9:30 a.m. No Pancakes and Praise today.

Dec. 22nd Mary visits Elizabeth Luke 1:39-55

Dec. 29th The Boy in the Temple Luke 2:1-20

High School Youth Group "Created to Be" 9-12th grade!

Our High School students meet every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 6-7:30 p.m. for a time of exploring what it means to be brave, authentic, disruptive, free, disciples! We will hold our monthly cooking school, plan outings, participate in service, and worship together! Please register with Lynda.

Dec. 11th, 6:00-8:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party! "Created to be Free".

Join your fellow youth as we decorate the Sanctuary, light the Advent wreath Sunday mornings, celebrate the season with our Advent workshop Sunday, Dec. 8th, and join in our Children's Christmas program on December 15th!

Watch for registration/deposit information/deadlines for Journey with Jesus, taking place at Imago Dei, the weekend of February 21-23, 2025!

Wonderful Wednesdays

Welcoming Kindergarten through grade 5 to Wonderful Wednesdays! The SOTB van will be available for pick up at Gibraltar, after school, **the first and third Wednesday of every month**. Parent pick up/sign out is at 5:30 p.m. Music, Stories, Games, Snacks, and Service. An after school faith formation experience! To register, please contact Lynda at 720-227-4079, or sotb.lynda@gmail.com.

Dec. 4th Christmas program rehearsal, followed by our Christmas party!

Dec. 18th The Nativity, and outreach to the community

Little Lambs

Infants, Toddlers, PreK, and their care providers! All are Welcome!

Little Lambs gather every **THURSDAY from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.** in our church nursery and then head upstairs for a Bible story, music, games, a sensory experience, and art to take home! To register, please contact Lynda at 720-227-4079 or sotb.lynda@gmail.com.

Dec. 5th Baby Jesus

Dec. 12th Happy Birthday Jesus Party today!

Dec. 19th The Nativity for Littles

Enjoy the Christmas Holiday season with your family!
See you back January 2nd!

Confirmation

Confirmation is a critical time of faith formation, where we plant foundational roots that help us to flourish along our journey. Class will meet the **first three Wednesdays of the month**. The SOTB van will be at Gibraltar, after school. Pick up time is at 5:30 p.m. See Lynda for a complete schedule, and service sign up.

December 4 Ruth/Pastor Jim

December 11th David, The Jesse Tree/Service/Lynda

December 18th Elijah/Pastor Jim

Merry Christmas, we will see you back Jan. 8th!

New Members

We had three families join in November. Be sure to welcome Mark Beecher and Susan Szabo, Robert and Sharon Bridges, and Greg Canard and Amy Hennings, along with their children Dillon and Lila, to the Shepherd of the Bay family!



Mark Beecher & Susan Szabo

We recently retired and moved here from Oshkosh. We've been married for 32 years. Our daughter, Erin, is a counselor and lives in Minneapolis. Our son, Matthew, works in retail sales in Milwaukee and has a masters in Opera performance. Mark worked for JC Penney for 32 years and then for 8 years at Diverse Options in Ripon. Sue was a pediatrician in Oshkosh for 34 years. She enjoys singing, reading, & gardening. We have an almost 5 year old dog named Maddy. We enjoy the outdoors and activities in Door County.

Bob & Sharon Bridges

Bob & Sharon are delighted to be new residents of Door County and members of Shepherd of the Bay church. They have spent the last 26 years living in the Northwoods on Papoose Lake in Manitowish Waters, WI. Bob spent 33 years teaching middle school math in Libertyville, IL and Lake Bluff IL. Sharon was a nurse in the Lake Bluff schools for 26 years. Sharon has one son, Brian Grube. Bob has two children, Erin Potter and Chris Bridges.

Bob & Sharon were very involved in the Community Presbyterian Church as Elders and Sharon sang in the choir and played handbells. They both love to kayak, bike, and participate in the local Readers Theater. Now on the the next chapter of their lives.



Greg Canard & Amy Hennings

Dillon and Lila Canard

We moved from the Slinger/West Bend, WI area where we had previously lived for about 18 years. Greg is a chemist and Amy is a college professor/therapist. Dillon currently attends UW-Green Bay pursuing a degree in Chemistry and Lila attends Gibraltar school. The entire family really enjoys the outdoors and goes hiking and boating on a regular basis. We are also big fans of theater, live music, board games, and murder mystery puzzles. We also enjoy traveling and try to fit that in as much as possible.



WELCA Book Selections

All meetings will begin at 9:30am, the 3rd Thursday of the month. Please contact Gretchen Farwell if you have any questions regarding the Book Group and its meetings.

No Meeting in December

January 16

- Hannah, Kristin. **The Women.** 2024. Novel about women in the Army Nurse Corps during the Vietnam War and their homecoming afterwards.

WELCA Prayer Chain

The WELCA Prayer Chain continues to serve all the members and friends of SOTB for prayer requests.

To send a Prayer Request:

1. **Send an email to Cheri Boock at cheriboock@gmail.com**
2. State the request with wording that you want for the request. Make sure you have received permission from the person in need of the request.
3. The request will be sent when received by Cheri.
4. The Prayer Chain members always are glad to receive a report of how the person is doing as they are sending out their prayers, so if you request a prayer for someone, please let us know how that person is doing.

If you want to be included as a recipient of the Prayer Chain, and pray for those in need, contact Cheri Boock at 920-854-5493 or cell 920-421-1210 or the above email.

Partners in Ministry

Are you seeking meaningful ways to contribute at Shepherd of the Bay or in our community? Discover the diverse opportunities to volunteer and engage in programs that resonate with your passions, abilities and needs.



Help Olive Growers in Israel

Discover the goodness of Extra Peaceful Olive Oil, now available in our Fair Trade Marketplace in the fellowship hall.

When you buy this product, you help provide Arab farmers in Israel with fair prices for their crops, create greater economic opportunities for Palestinian and Israeli women, and support a rare model of coexistence between Jewish and Arab communities.

Since 2003, SERRV International has partnered with olive growers in Israel to create a long-term trading relationship, providing interest-free advance payments on orders. This collaboration ensures olive growers receive just prices for their products while offering Israeli and Palestinian women unique job opportunities. Furthermore, growers gain access to education, financial guidance, and insights into sustainable and organic farming practices, fostering a brighter future for all involved.

Advent Lessons and Carols:

A Service of Hymns, Scripture, and Poetry Celebrating the Coming of Christ.

Join friends from St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 2336 Canterbury Lane in Sister Bay and the wider Door County community for a candlelit evening of song and prayer at 4:00 PM on Sunday, December 8th. A festive reception will follow in the St. Luke's parish hall.



VOLUNTEER BELL RINGERS NEEDED!

Ring a bell...help change a life

The holiday season's red kettle campaign is a crucial lifeline for the Salvation Army, providing essential emergency services to our community. By volunteering to ring the bell, you make a direct impact on individuals facing urgent circumstances—whether they need help with rent, utilities, transportation, or other critical needs.

All contributions collected in Door County stay right here to support our neighbors in need. We invite you to consider volunteering for a two-hour shift on a Friday or Saturday between November 29 and December 21. You can ring at various locations, including Piggly Wiggly, Al Johnson's, The Christkindlmarkt at the Corner of the Past Museum in Sister Bay, Baileys 57 BP in Baileys Harbor, and The Pioneer Store in Ellison Bay.

To view available time slots and sign up, please visit RegisterToRing.com or reach out to Mary Rosecky at (920) 473-5006. Your support makes all the difference—thank you!

Christmas Caroling at Christkindlmarkt

Everyone is invited to come and sing Christmas Carols at the Christkindlmarkt in Sister Bay on **Saturday, November 30 from 2 -3 pm; Saturday, December 7 from 2-3 pm, and Friday, December 13 from 2-3 pm.** You don't need to sign up for all 3 dates. There are sign-up sheets on the table in the church narthex or you can contact Carolyn Hitzeman at chitzeman4@gmail.com.

We will need to meet at 1:45, and we can park in the parking lot at the Corner of the Past museum on Fieldcrest Rd, Sister Bay. We will sing familiar Christmas music, and the sheet music will be provided. I need to have the names of those planning to sing, so that we have enough music for everyone. For more information, talk to Carolyn Hitzeman.

You don't need to be a member of the choir... anyone who enjoys singing is welcome.

Come, get into the holiday spirit and help make this event special for everyone.

Toys for Tots

We are excited to partner with the Marine Corps Reserve once again this year to bring joy to children this Christmas through our toy drive. Please consider donating new, unwrapped toys to help make this season special for those in need.

The collection box will be available in the narthex until December 12th. Your generosity can truly make a difference!



Stephen Ministry

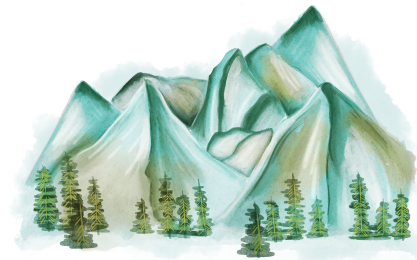


The upcoming holiday season can be difficult for many people.

There are many reasons why people may be hurting during the holidays, including the loss of a loved one, a busy social calendar, or work deadlines. Here are some ways to support those who are hurting during the holidays:

- Ask how they are: Ask if they want to talk about their struggles or loss.
- Listen: Listen without trying to fix everything.
- Be present: Be present with them where they are hurting.
- Invite them to worship: Invite them to sit with you during a worship service.
- Pray for them: Pray silently for them during the worship service.
- Participate in a service project: such as ringing the Salvation Army bell, donating to charity, or making gifts of service.
- Validate their emotions: Let them know that their feelings are valid.
- Avoid statements that start with "Don't feel": Instead, try saying something like "I can tell you are feeling really down today".

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from talking to a Stephen Minister, contact Carol Omernick at sotboffice@yahoo.com or George Cobb at 920-421-2702 or gscobb37@gmail.com.



The Reckoning of Time - *Pr. Jim Honig*

The Julian calendar is a uniquely worldly way of reckoning time. While we use the calendar in our worldly lives -- after all, we are in the world -- we have a different way of reckoning time when we gather as church. Our time hinges on the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of the One who came to bring us salvation. The church calendar is different than the Julian calendar. Our new year is not in January, but the First Sunday of Advent which begins a time of getting ready for Christ's coming. Then we celebrate Christmas as the coming of God to the world in human flesh; then Epiphany, the time in which we take note of Jesus appearing to the whole world. From there, we enter the season of Lent, a time of focus on Jesus suffering and death, and our own call to follow. The center of our church year is Holy Week, a time to focus on both Jesus' death and his resurrection. Then we celebrate his resurrection for a week of weeks -- seven weeks that take us to Pentecost and the birth of the church. All the Sundays after Pentecost -- and it varies each year according to how early or late Easter is -- are the time to reflect on our own calling to be the church in the world.

So while it seems tedious to announce the progressing Sundays of the Pentecost season, it is a reminder that we are in our own season of growth, of calling, and of discipleship. That season of growth, calling, and discipleship is a long one -- in fact, as long as life itself. So, we remember that each week with the announcement of our own church calendar, a weekly reminder that we reckon time differently in the church, a part of our larger collection of practices in which, though we are in the world, we are not of the world; and so we live differently, including reckoning time differently.

Klaud's Pantry

If you're looking for a great way to share this Christmas season, donate to Klaud's Food Pantry using this reverse advent calendar.

What is a reverse advent calendar? Typically, advent calendars are filled with candy and you open one each day starting December 1 and ending on Christmas Day. Reverse advent calendars allow you to donate or give something each day – thus giving instead of getting.

Here's how to do a reverse advent calendar giving box:

- each day put a new/unexpired item into a box or basket.

- each Sunday, we will have the grocery cart in the church narthex to collect that week's items.

No matter how you choose to give ~ consider doing something small for those in need as we head into this festive season. We are blessed to be a blessing, and I'm excited to join you this year as we bless others who may need an extra gift this year!

Thank You!

ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.

ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A FOOD BANK.

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



The Cereal Box Challenge!!

Please help the Children and Youth as they attempt to collect over 150 boxes of cereal as part of their Mission project for the Door County Food Coalition! The cereal collected will be given to Northern Door Food Pantries including Klaud's Pantry.

You can donate to the box in the church Narthex anytime from now until December 8th. And on that same date, following 9:30 a.m. Worship, join us for our annual Advent Workshop, as we watch our cereal boxes fall like Dominoes!

We will collect in the spirit of Thanksgiving, in gratitude to God!!

Fair Trade Marketplace

Looking for a fantastic gift? Shop in the Fair Trade Marketplace in the fellowship hall. We have 7 different Chocolate Bars, 5 different flavors of Spice Grinders, Olive Oil, Balsamic Vinegar, Nativity Scenes, Coffee, Tea, Hot Cocoa, and lots more. All Jewelry is 50% off! Everything is organic and Fair Trade.



Lessons for December

December 1 : First Sunday of Advent - You Are A Blessing

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

Holy Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

December 8 : Second Sunday of Advent - We Can't Go Alone

First Lesson: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12

Holy Gospel : Luke 1:39-45

December 15 : Third Sunday of Advent - Do The Good That Is Yours To Do

First Lesson: Isaiah 58:9b-12

Holy Gospel: Luke 3:7-16

December 22 : Fourth Sunday of Advent - Hope Is Worth the Risk

First Lesson: Luke 1:46-55

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:18-25

December 24 : Christmas Eve - Love Knows Your Name

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2-7

Second Lesson : Titus 2:11-14

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:1-20

December 25 : Christmas Day

First Lesson: Isaiah 52:7-10

Second Lesson: Hebrews 1:1-4

Holy Gospel: John 1:1-14

December 29 : First Sunday of Christmas

Luke 2:10

Matthew 2:10

Isaiah 9:2-3

Psalm 148

Psalm 126:1-3

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

Isaiah 55:12-13

January 5 : Epiphany

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21

Holy Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



Readers :

Dec. 1	Jeanne Aurelius
Dec. 8	Scott Henry
Dec. 15	Myrma Howard
Dec. 22	Cathy Henry
Dec. 24	Bob Sullivan (4:00)
Dec. 24	Werner Krause (7:00)
Dec. 25	Edee Madsen (10:00)
Dec. 29	Bob Loss

Ushers :

Dec. 1	Fred & Janet Perryman
Dec. 8	OPEN
Dec. 15	OPEN
Dec. 22	OPEN
Dec. 24	OPEN
Dec. 24	OPEN
Dec. 25	OPEN
Dec. 29	OPEN

Altar Guild :

December - Sharon Pluff
January - Jane Burress

*Merry
Christmas!*





Poinsettia Order Form

It is time to order poinsettia plants to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. They will be on the altar from
Tuesday, Dec. 24th to Sunday, Jan. 5th.

You may take your plant beginning Sunday, Dec. 29 or Jan. 5 after the service.

Place your order soon! The deadline to order is **Sunday, Dec. 8th.**

The price this year will be **\$20.00** each. Please send or bring your order **with CHECK** attached to church.

Please print –

Name: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

Phone: _____

