

DECEMBER
2022

INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

Education 2

High School Youth 3

Financial Update 4

4

SAINT JAMES

LUTHERAN CHURCH



Advent

Come, join us on Wednesdays for Holden Evening Prayer! (November 30 & December 7, 14, 21). This is an opportunity to step back from the busyness, noise, and rush the season often imposes on us.

Schedule will be:

- 6:00pm Soup Supper with free-will offering
- 6:45pm Holden Evening Prayer (Confirmation students are expected to attend this service instead of having class during Advent.)
- 7:15pm Choir Practice and High School Youth Group

Join us as we move deeper into our watching and waiting for God's unfolding work in our lives.

Christmas Services

Christmas Eve

4:00 & 6:00pm

Christmas Day

9:00am



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Advent & Christmas Education

Preschool-5th Grade

Wednesdays in Advent for the whole family:

- **6:00 pm**—Soup Supper: *When your child has finished dinner, please send them to the north end of fellowship hall to work on a craft or service activity (schedule below) before the start of Holden Evening Prayer.*
- **6:45 pm**—Holden Evening Prayer in Sanctuary

Make and Take Schedule:

- **November 30:** Create an Advent Wreath
- **December 7:** Wooden Ornament
- **December 14:** Applesauce/Cinnamon Ornament
- **December 21:** First Day of Winter Craft

Sundays in December:

- **December 4:** Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal—10:15-11:00 am
- **December 11:** Christmas Program—10:30 am
- **December 18:** Christmas Party! Treats, crafts, games, and more!

Confirmation

Wednesdays in Advent:

- **6:00:** Soup supper...join us if you are able!
- **6:45:** Holden Evening Prayer (required for Confirmation students)

Immediately following HEP, Confirmation students meet with Pastor Bill at the tables by the memorial garden to fill out a reflection on the evening's homily and touch base. We will be done no later than 7:30.

Confirmation Reminders:

- At least 10 sermon notes are due by May.
- Your student must acolyte at least four times by May.

Please contact Rebecca if you have any questions on either requirement!

Advent & Christmas Education (cont.)

Opportunity for Confirmation Students

Lock-In with Lakeside!

- What:** Join Lakeside staff for a night of camp games, worship, and songs, along with food, crafts, and service projects!
- Who:** 6th-9th grade students
- Where:** St. John's Lutheran Church, Des Moines
- When:** Friday, January 27, 7:00 pm—Saturday, January 28, 7:00 am

We need adult chaperones (one per 10 students) to make this happen, so contact Rebecca if you are interested!

High School Youth

Service Projects!

High school youth have been working hard this past month on a variety of service projects! Students had fun making notes for backpack buddies, knitting, and making keepsake ornaments for Blank Children's hospital NICU! They created over 100 ornaments that will bless the NICU families through the whole month of December!

DSM Metro Youth Meet Up!

Faith Lutheran in Clive will host a gathering for all Metro area 9-12th graders on December 11th from 5-8. We will have time for fellowship, games, and service projects! If your youth is interested in participating, please reach out to Vicar.

Monthly Financial Update

General Operating Fund 10/31/22

This fund is used for the general offerings, benevolence and expenses of the church that are approved at our annual meeting. The other funds are designated for specific uses; like the building fund, which accounts for the donations and expenses for the existing mortgage.

| Category | Actual YTD | Budget YTD | Difference |
|----------|------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Income | \$332,49 | \$323,500 | \$8,649 Over budget |
| Expenses | \$348,044 | \$365,730 | \$17,686 Under budget |

Please have any year-end offerings to the church by Friday, December 30. If you have any questions about your estimate of giving for this year, please contact Linda at 515-276-0134 of steward@stjamesjohnston.org

