

# CONCORDIA LUTHERAN CHURCH



## THE DECEMBER CHRONICLE 2024

Empowered by Christ's forgiveness,  
We worship Him, praise Him, and study His Word.  
We nurture community members, and serve mission fields.

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# PASTOR'S CORNER



*“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”*

*Isaiah 9:6*

Advent is the first season in the Time of Christmas. The calendar of the church begins with Advent (from Latin *adventus*, which means “coming into”), a four-week period of preparation before Christmas. The Savior’s birth is second in importance only to His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Traditionally, Advent encompasses a spiritual preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus Christ at Christmas. The Western Church sets the season of Advent as beginning on the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day, or the Sunday that falls closest to November 30, and lasting through the daytime services of December 24. Christmas begins with the evening services (Vigil) on December 24 and extends through the twelve days of Christmas. The Christmas octave (eight days) includes the Nativity on December 25; the Feast of St. Stephen, the first martyr, on December 26; the Feast of St. John, apostle and evangelist, on December 27; the Feast of the Holy Innocents on December 28; and the Festival of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus on January 1.

During the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate the birth of God’s Son, who was given the name Jesus—a Hebrew name that means “God saves.” In addition to His earthly name, Holy Scripture calls Jesus by various titles which describe something about His person or work. In this year’s Advent series, we are going to examine four titles given to Jesus in Isaiah 9:6. Those titles are “Wonderful Counselor,” “Mighty God,” “Everlasting Father,” and “Prince of Peace.” We will learn how each of these titles describes something about who Jesus is and what He did for our salvation.

December 4, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

“Wonderful Counselor”

December 11, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

“Mighty God”

December 18, 2024 - 7:00 p.m.

“Everlasting Father”

With Great Joy In Christ Jesus,

*Pastor Brad A. Brown*

# What's Happening?



Keep Christ in  
**Christmas!**  
Have a  
blessed holiday!

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**THE CHURCH OFFICE  
WILL BE CLOSED  
DECEMBER 23-27TH**

**Mark your calendars!**



**VOTERS'  
MEETING**

**Sunday, December 15th  
following service**

**Youth Group Christmas Party—Sunday, Dec. 15th**  
Youth get ready for another fun filled night!  
Please sign up on the bulletin board. Everyone is  
welcome to bring one guest. Please bring a gift  
for the gift exchange no more than \$15

**Let's go shopping!  
October 13—December 31**

**The Women's Bible Study is  
sponsoring a food gathering project.**

Every 2 weeks we will identify a new item to  
shop for to help fill a pantry shelf at a local food  
bank. At the end of the year, we will deliver our  
collection to a food bank to start off the new  
year with a good supply. Simply bring in your  
items as you purchase them and place them in  
the food box outside the church office (under  
the Youth bulletin board). You may also choose  
to donate funds, and we will do the shopping.

Please drop those off to Kathy  
in the church office.

**December 8th—Cereal**

**December 22nd—Travel size Hygiene Products  
(soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste,  
tooth brushes, lotion, etc.)**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!**



*Advent & Christmas  
Services*

**Midweek Advent Services**

Wednesdays

December 4th, 11th, and 18th

7:00 pm

**Christmas Eve Worship with  
Holy Communion**

December 24

5:00 pm

**Christmas Day Service**

December 25

8:30 am

## **Christmas Cookie Walk**



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**BAKERS NEEDED!**

IF YOU LIKE TO BAKE, PLEASE SIGN UP TO BRING COOKIES  
TO THE YOUTH COOKIE WALK WHICH WILL BENEFIT THE  
YOUTH ATTENDING THE LCMS NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING  
NEXT SUMMER IN NEW ORLEANS.

SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN BOARD & DROP YOUR  
COOKIES OFF IN THE KITCHEN ON SAT. DEC. 14, 10AM-NOON

**Reminder—Poinsettia  
orders are due on Sunday,  
December 8th. They will be  
used to decorate the church for  
Christmas Service. Cost is \$10**





Wow. What a year!?! It is so easy to *know* God when you spend your days in this space. As anyone on the Board of Education would tell you, I want to retire here, at Share and Care. As anyone in my family would tell you, I never want to retire. Life is crazy. Life is uncertain. Life is busy. But Share and Care...Share and Care is a place that always makes sense.

A year ago, we weren't sure what this school year would look like at Share and Care. Our numbers were down with the opening of a new early childhood education center that offered "free" all day care a few blocks away. Our Share and Care families spoke highly of our program and everyone "loved" the feel of our education, but free all day care with transportation was an offer that many of our families couldn't refuse. Still, we prayed over it as a board and as a staff and decided to open registration for the 2024-2025 school year. ***Lead me in your truth and teach me because you are God, my savior. - Psalms 25:5***

God had a plan. We started the year with more kiddos than we ended our 2023-2024 school year with and we haven't stopped adding to our roster with our last two friends joining us in mid-November. Our walls and storage cubbies are FILLED with the names of our friends. We just keep looking around and saying, "There are so many kids!" ***We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God—those whom he has called according to his plan. - Romans 8:28***

We have a classroom full of love and learning because God knows that this ministry of Concordia Lutheran Church is as needed today in 2024 as it was when it was started all of those years ago. We know that there are children in our space that may never hear about God's love if they didn't come to our program. We believe that teaching our kiddos that they are so incredibly special that God shared his only son for them, plants a seed of faith that we can only hope will continue to be fostered as our friends grow and leave our program. Our work is relevant. Our work is important. We are blessed to be able to do it each day. ***Train a child in the way he should go, and even when he is old he will not turn away from it. - Proverbs 22:6***

God's plan is not always comfortable. We don't always understand the why or the how, but God's plan is always for good. I think we are all fairly familiar with another plan from God that seemed a bit absurd when that angel first appeared. Without the great faith of Mary and Joseph, trusting that God's plan was better than their own, we wouldn't live in a world with Jesus. ***Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!" - Luke 1:45***

Merry Christmas.  
With HIS Love,  
Sarah Hoffman





# Celebrating birthdays in December...

4. Landon Cutter, Keegan Oehlerich

10. Kalena Parks

13. Bonnie Rimrodt-Primrose

14. Brylee Bruner

15. Lisa Jaschen

17. Noah Fritz

22. James Johnson, Dwight Oehlerich

24. Sharon Peters

25. Neil Buettner, Sue Cutter, Marilyn Junge

27. Kathy Terrington

30. Judy Oehlerich



# Celebrating anniversaries in December...

1. Jan & John Sperry

9. Sharon & Lynn McCullough

31. Carole & Ed Pooch

