

The Journ-E Dec. 3, 2011

the weekly e-newsletter of *Journey Lutheran Church*

for more information and calendar be sure to check our web page www.journeyluth.org

608-317-5433 church cell or 783-1892 church office

Devotional thought: One of the main characters of the Advent season is John the Baptist as he comes preparing the way for Jesus. Not the baby Jesus in a manger but Jesus as he begins his ministry. John comes as a prophet, calling people to examine their lives, to confess their sin and get ready for the new way that God is breaking into our world. I have attached two videos to help us catch the spirit of John of Baptist the first is a piece done in the spirit of John, challenging us to reflect on how we are living it is called [advent conspiracy](#) The second clip comes from Handel's "Messiah" where the words of the prophet Isaiah are used to talk about the radical change that Jesus would be bringing ["Every Valley" from Handel's Messiah](#)



We have a new printed church directory...They are in your mailbox at the back of the sanctuary. Please check it over...this is our chance to catch mistakes and add any missing information. Our goal is to have a corrected copy (with pictures) available by the annual meeting. If you don't have a mailbox and would like one please contact the church office.

We say that "All are Welcome" how do we make sure that is the case? It falls on all of us to first turn our attention to those who may be visiting before hanging out with old friends. In addition we want to have trained "welcome team" people at each worship service who are especially focused on welcoming and following up with visitors. **If you would like to be part of the "Welcome Team" we will have a brief training on Sunday at 9:30 in the conference room.**

As a gift to visitors we have made some “**Journey Lutheran mugs**” that we will be giving out to acknowledge visitors. If you are already a member of Journey and would like a mug we will be selling them for \$5 each (the proceeds will allow us to give them away to visitors)

Worship assistants at 10:15 In the past we have not had assigned **greeters, ushers or communion assistants** at the 10:15 (we just grabbed volunteers) but as we have grown bigger it would be helpful to have someone to provide some leadership in those roles along with the volunteers we grab. So we will be using the time and talent inventory to come up with names of those willing to serve. We will assign you a week to serve and send out a schedule, if you are unable to serve we will also send you the list of others willing to serve and have you swap places. If you can't find a sub please contact the church office.



We will be having a **Fellowship Time following the 10:15 worship** as well as between the services. But we need volunteers to help serve as well as provide the goodies to eat. There are signup sheets in the kitchen for you to indicate your desire to help out with this.



Help us decorate Journey for Christmas Monday, Dec. 5 at 6:30pm...Altar guild will provide cider and cookies.

If there are any young people that would like to play an instrument and/or sing a song for one of the Advent Services or for one of the Christmas Eve services, please contact Deb Welander at wheels@charter.net or call Pat in the church office at 783-1892. Either prelude music or special music during the service would be wonderful.

The Christmas program will be **Sunday, December 11th at 10:15 AM**. All students are encouraged to participate. Our class rotation will resume on January 8th. Parents bring your children to the Science room Sunday mornings at 9:15 and pick them at 10:00.



Sunday will be the last day to order Christmas Poinsettias. If you would like to purchase a Poinsettia plant(s), please fill out a form from the back table.

A Quiet Christmas On Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 7pm we will be offering a special worship service designed for those who have experienced a significant loss in this last year. Holidays can be difficult for those who have lost loved ones and you may not feel like being around big crowds of people. Our “Quiet Christmas” is a time for remembering and recognizing our losses



On Sunday at the 10:15 service we will be celebrating the baptism of **Addison Kathleen Burt and Kyler Terrance Burt**. Parents: Terry & Cara Burt, big brother: Creston Godparents: Rick Burt, Nicole Ruehlow, Amanda Howes, Josh Howes, Mike DeWall, Lynnette DeWall



On Sunday at the 8:15 service we will be celebrating the baptism of **Owen Daniel Anderson** Parents: Leif and Marie Anderson Godparents: Andy and Amber Lee



We are looking for someone with early childhood training for the position of **Nursery Coordinator**. This will be a paid position starting after the first of the year. If you have an interest or know someone who would be good at this position please contact the church office.

If you are on one of the ministry teams remember to send your notes from your last meeting and suggestions for the budget to the office by Tuesday.

We remember Shawn Campbell, the brother of Lillie Zoeller who passed away. Shawn's memorial service was held at Journey on Saturday

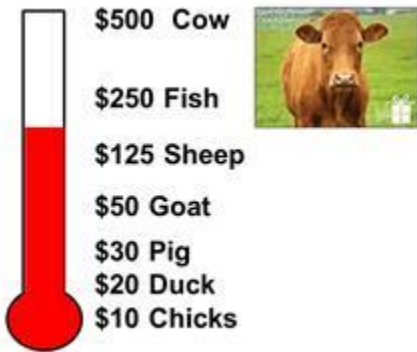


Prayer Ministry. One of the benefits of being part of the a faith community is the support that can be shared. We are looking for people willing to be part of a prayer ministry that would lift up the concerns of the people. When prayer requests are made known we would email you and ask you to pray. If you would like to be included in the email and didn't indicate your desire to be on the "prayer chain" on the Time and Talent inventory please contact the church office.

Children's Bulletins are now available again. We have a couple different kinds we are looking at. Copies are available on the back table. Parents please take a look and let us know which ones work best for you.



Christmas Caroling We will be Christmas caroling at the Villa on Saint Joseph's Ridge on Saturday, Dec. 10. We will leave from Journey at 1:45. All ages are welcome.



Thanks for your gifts to the CareBear! Your offerings last week totaled \$137. Let's see how many animals we can provide for hungry families with the ELCA World Hunger Fund (**God's Global Barnyard**)

FISH... our Young Adult Group (post high school - pre family, singles or couples) The area ELCA Lutherans are working to put together a group for young adults to support each other in their journey through life. The group meets on **Monday evenings at Journey** Lutheran. You are invited to come at 6:30 for informal fellowship time and then at 7:02 the gathering officially begins. Check out their



Facebook page



Taking Faith Home

Faith Formation happens 24/7 not just during the couple of hours that you are in the church building. For tools you can use at home or wherever... check out Taking Faith Home... [The week of Dec. 4](#)



Sunday School Christmas Program...practice schedule

We have scheduled the **Sunday school Christmas program for Sunday, December 11th** at the 10:15 worship service. In order to prepare and practice with the kids for the program, we will not have a regular Sunday school rotation this time around. We will still meet during the regular Sunday school time between 9:15 and 9:30 to practice and learn the songs for the program. We will plan to meet as a group in the back Sunday school room where the science center is held. All kids from preschool, age 3 through the 5th grade will be part of the program so hopefully the date will work out for most of you.

This will be the schedule through the end of the year for Sunday school.

- Sunday, Dec. 4th following the 1st service Christmas program practice
- Saturday, Dec. 10th (time to be announced) Dress rehearsal/Christmas program practice
- Sunday, Dec. 11th at the 10:15 worship service Journey's first S.S. Christmas program.
- Sunday, Dec. 18th, 25th and Jan. 1st No Sunday school
- Sunday, Jan. 8th following the 1st service Sunday school resumes

Please let either Lisa Reimler or myself know if you have any questions or concerns regarding the Christmas program or Sunday school in general. Thank you! Amy Denson 788-1440



“Drawn from Darkness to the Light”

You are invited to a special Advent Celebration sponsored by Thrivent at the Pumphouse Art Center in LaCrosse (119 King St.) on Sunday, Dec. 18. Artist Paul Oman will create a large mural as part of an evening of worship and song. The event is free by seating is limited and reservations are required. Contact Gale Hellpap 608-514-2747 gale.hellpap@thrivent.com to reserve space for you and your guests. Treats served at 5:30, program at 6:30pm



WORSHIP UNPLUGGED...is what we call our Wednesday evening worship. It is offered **every Wednesday night at 7pm**. The worship is in “the chapel” the back of the fellowship hall. We gather around tables and snacks to reflect on the scripture and how our faith and daily lives intersect.

Like to sing?

Journey Choir sings every Sunday alternating between the early and late services and practices Sunday mornings at 9:30am.

Worship Band that leads the 10:15 service and practices on Thursdays at 7:00pm.



Email address for Pastor Steve pastorstevemeyer@gmail.com

Email address for church office journeylutheran@gmail.com

Don't forget to check out the new web page www.journeyluth.org

On the lighter side:

An anagram is a word or phrase in which the letters can be rearrange to spell a different word or phrase. For example:

DORMITORY:

When you rearrange the letters:

DIRTY ROOM

SNOOZE ALARMS :

When you rearrange the letters:

ALAS ! NO MORE Z'S

ELEVEN PLUS TWO:

When you rearrange the letters:

TWELVE PLUS ONE

Pastor Steve Meyer