

The Journ-E Dec. 9, 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: The other day I was flipping through the channels and I came across the Shrek Christmas Special (Shrek the Halls)...I don't think it is destined to be a classic. Shrek wanted to have a nice family Christmas which of course got out of control. All he really wanted to do was to read the Christmas story to his kids...this perked my interest...really? Shrek is going to read the story of the birth of Jesus??? No he didn't ...for this Christmas special, the Christmas story begins "it was the night before Christmas..." I should have known. If you want to hear the real Christmas story you have to go back to [Linus](#), it's a classic. The stories we tell are important if you haven't checked it out yet, I invite you to read some great real life stories at [Living Lutheran](#)

The coming week at a glance....remember to the [calendar on our web page](#)

Saturday (12/10)

9:30am Sunday School Program Practice

1:45pm Meet at Journey to go Christmas Caroling...followed by potluck

Sunday (12/11)

8:15 AM Worship Service

9:15 AM Fellowship/Choir/Final practice for Sunday School Program

9:30 AM Choir Practice

10:15 AM Worship Service/Sunday School Program

Monday (12/12)

7:02 PM Young Adult Group (FISH)

Tuesday (12/13)

6:30 PM Vision Board Meeting

6:30 PM Worship & Music Meeting

Wednesday (12/14)

6:00 PM Confirmation

7:00 PM Worship Unplugged

Thursday (12/15)

7:00 PM Worship Band

Saturday (12/17)

7:30 AM Men's Group at Holmen Lutheran Church

1:00-4:00 PM Child Care provided by Youth

Sunday (12/18)

8:15 AM Worship Service

9:15 AM Fellowship/Choir

9:30 AM Choir Practice
10:15 AM Worship Service



Christmas Caroling We will be Christmas caroling at the Villa on Saint Joseph's Ridge and HillView Nursing Home on **Saturday, Dec. 10**. We will leave from Journey at 1:45 and afterward have a potluck dinner.



A Quiet Christmas Wednesday, Dec. 21 at 7:00 pm we will be offer a **special worship service designed for those who have experienced a significant loss in the 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. ***Please send or bring in a photo of your loved one for our presentation. We will scan the picture and return it to you***



Do you need a Christmas Tree??? We have 3 Christmas Trees that we would like to give to someone who needs one. One is a 9-foot tree, we a 5-foot natural tree and a 5-foot pre-lit tree with colored lights. Please contact Pat for further information.

Remember if we to grow in faith it won't happen if all we invest is one hour on Sunday be sure to check out [Taking Faith Home](#)



Christmas Eve we will be having two Candlelight Worship Services one at 4pm and one at 6pm

We will need help ushering and greeting and helping serve communion. Check your family plans so you know which service you will be attending and then sign at the back of the sanctuary.

Remember we will also be having worship on **Christmas Day** since it is a Sunday...but there will **only be one service at 10:15**

Likewise on **New Year's Day** the following week



On New Year's Eve we will gather in the fellowship room from 8:00 pm to midnight to celebrate the New Year. The New Year will be celebrated hourly on the hour, so you can stay as long as you want. There will be games with Wii on a large screen, board games, etc. Bring your favorite games and a snack to share.



Journey Coffee Mugs Available. On a table at the back of the church you may have noticed the

attractive coffee mugs bearing the logo of our congregation. We want to share these coffee mugs as gifts of welcome for our visitors and guests. If Journey members would like a mug, we invite you to purchase one for \$5.00. The money will be used to buy mugs for future visitors to our growing congregation. Please pay for mugs in the jar or drop off a check in the church office.



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 a Christmas Eve service, contact Deb Welander at wheels@charter.net or call Pat in the church office. Either prelude music or special music during the service would be wonderful.



The Youth will watch your children while you shop or just have some free time. **Saturday Dec. 17th from 1:00-4:00 pm** the youth will watch your children at Journey Lutheran Church. Please call the office if you have any questions at 783-1892. There will be no set fee for watching your children, but a freewill offering will be taken.

Youth Fundraiser Rent-A-Kid. *Do you have some chores you need help with?* We have several youth who are willing to help you with child care, housework, lawn care, pet care cooking, taking pictures, or most anything. There is no set fee, pay what you can, proceeds will help with costs for the Youth Gathering in New Orleans.



Calendars, Pocket Calendars and Magnetic Notepads. The youth are selling beautiful calendars for \$5.00 and pocket calendars for \$5.00 and magnetic notepads on sale for \$3.00 each.

A Church Directory has been printed and put in your mailbox. Please look it over and let Pat know of corrections/changes.

Children's Bulletins. We have 3 different kinds of children's bulletins we are looking at. Copies are available on the back table. Parents please let us know which ones work best for you.



Faith Chest ...looking for carpenters We will be giving a faith chest to all who are baptized...an also make some available for families who want to use them for their home altar. If you would like to help us build some, let the church office know. To see the plans [click here](#)

Fellowship will follow both the 8:15 and 10:15 worship service. *Volunteers are needed to help serve, clean-up and provide treats.* There are signup sheets in the kitchen on the bulletin board for you to indicate your desire to help with fellowship.

Worship Assistants at 10:15. In the past we have not assigned greeters, ushers or communion assistants at the 10:15 service. As we grow larger it is helpful to have someone to provide leadership in those roles along with volunteers. Using the Time & Talent Inventory we will assign you a time to serve and send out a schedule. You will be sent a list of all volunteers so if you are unable to serve you can find a replacement.



Prayer Ministry. One of the benefits of being part of the a faith community is the support that is 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 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, contact the church office.

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



Drawn from Darkness to Light. A special Advent Event at the Pumphouse in LaCrosse Sunday, Dec. 18, sure to help you get into the Christmas spirit. Come and watch an artist paint a huge mural before your eyes along with music and narration. **The event is free** but you need to reserve your spot because seating is limited. Tickets are still available. Please contact Gale Hellpap at 608-514-2747 for tickets.

Worship Trends

Attendance 12/04/11	239
Attendance 11/27/11	186
Attendance 11/20/11	171

JOURNEY OFFERING REPORT

First Sunday in December	\$4,679.00
--------------------------	------------

On the lighter side:

Life lessons attributed to Andy Rooney

Life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

We should be glad God doesn't give us everything we ask for.

Money doesn't buy class.

It's those small daily happenings that make life so spectacular.

Ignoring the facts does not change the facts.

When you plan to get even with someone, you are only letting that person continue to hurt you.

Love, not time, heals all wounds.

One should keep his words both soft and tender, because tomorrow he may have to eat them.