

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 3rd

FIRST SUNDAY OF IN ADVENT

8:30 am-Confirmation
 9:00 am-Bible Study w/Melva
 9:00 am-Kids Sunday School
 10:00 am-Worship w/Communion
 & NOW Singers

Monday, December 4th

10:00 am-XYZ Exercise class
 4:00 pm-Food Distribution

Tuesday, December 5th

9:30 am-Staff meeting
 3:30 pm-Zone 1st-3rd graders

Wednesday, December 6th

1:30 pm-Women in Mission
 3:30 pm-Zone 4-6
 5:00 pm-Handbell practice
 6:00 pm-Bible Study w/Kiboko
 6:00 pm-Youth 7th -8th
 7:00 pm-Youth Meal
 7:30 pm-Youth 9th-12th

Thursday, December 7th

3:30 pm-Christmas Pageant practice

Saturday, December 9th

7:30 am- UMM meeting
 10:00 am-Christmas Pageant
 Dress Rehearsal

Sunday, December 10th

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 am-Confirmation
 9:00 am-Kids Sunday School
 9:00 am-Adult Bible Study w/Melva
 10:00 am-Worship w/...

**SUNDAY SCHOOL
 CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

YOUTH GROUP serving COOKIES!

Kathy Wadsley
 Advent (coloring) Calendars
 are available in the Narthex.



Prayer Requests

Jenny (Brouwer) Allen	David Walker
Melva Bainbridge	Margaret Weber
Coleen Baughman	Sherie Ellis
Lance Bellinghausen	Rob North
Donna Blom	Harold North
Virginia Carlson	Barb Seiler
Marlon Gasner	Wayne Stark
Drew Havens	Kathy Wadsley
Wally Johnson	Cass (Meyer) Loesche
John Nichols	Tyler Crandell
Kim Piercy	The family & friends of...Marilyn Krier
Deb Richardson	Those battling depression.
Karen Salmen	
Bev Schmidt	
Reid (Rude) Sears	

Birthdays this week in December

Tom Ellis	3rd
Jen Magnussen	3rd
Nate Reichter	3rd
Melva Bainbridge	4th
Ron Bryan	4th
Joan Rude	5th
Megan Jones	6th
Virginia Carlson	9th
Ty Eggers	9th
Linda Hecht	9th





Sunday School Christmas Pageant
"It's Time to Name the Baby"

Sunday
 December 10th
 10:00 am

We are soooo blessed to have so many children in our congregation!



New Church Directory is Here!

The printed version of our new Church Directory is here and will be available for you to pick up after the worship service in the Narthex. We have put labels on them so we know who has or hasn't been able to pick them up.

The Directory is also available on a mobile app. Follow the directions to download the app and create a login. (see to the right) If you have any questions, please talk to Lynn Snyder, 732-5458.



Android Mobile App QR Code



iOS Mobile App QR Code

STORM LAKE UNITED CHURCH



This nursery is staffed during Sunday morning worship services

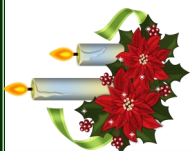
PLEASE

1 year olds

through 2nd graders

ONLY

Requests for Christmas Gifts in Memory or Honor of a Loved One



If you wish to donate to our United Methodist Missions and Ministries (Apportionments), or purchase a Church World Service Blanket or Church World Service Tools of Hope, please complete this form and place it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office, or mail it to the church office along with your payment.

Silk poinsettias are available for you to make a donation in memory of or, in honor of, a loved one for \$10. The poinsettias will remain here at the church for use next year. CWS Blankets or Tools of Hope are available for \$5.00 each. You may donate any amount you would wish for the UMC Missions & Ministries. We ask that you please pay at the same time you place your order.

All donations received by **Thursday, December 21st** will be acknowledged in the bulletin on December 24th.

Number of Poinsettia requested # _____ x \$10= _____

UMC Missions & Ministries \$ _____ (Apportionments)

CWS Blankets # _____ x \$5= _____ Tools of Hope # _____ x \$5= _____

TOTAL _____

in loving memory of: _____

or in honor of _____



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
Best Gift

—MOMENT FOR MISSION—

Does anyone here give those cozy, comfy blankets at Christmas?
The ones you would give to someone you love, like your grandparents or children?
What if I told you that a blanket is the best gift you could give this season?

Imagine being without shelter, a place without warmth, in the frigid winter air. You would be miserable, cold to the bone.

Now imagine what it feels like, in the midst of that bone-chilling cold, to be offered a blanket. That's the kind of action that warms you from the inside out; it means you can wrap up against the cold temperatures...or even use it to create a temporary shelter from the rain and other elements. It also means that someone cares - and that's the part that warms the soul.

You could give to Best Gift Blankets today and provide someone with shelter.

Today, you can show you care by supporting blankets for someone who needs one. You can provide an entire family with shelter and comfort. For \$10 a blanket, you could provide protection, you could provide warmth.

With a simple blanket, you can change someone's life.

Please, give a blanket today to share the warmth of love. You could give in honor of your loved one - give them a blanket and also give someone in need a blanket! Make someone's Christmas this year.



Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

- MATTHEW 2:11



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE • P.O. BOX 988 • ELKHART IN, 46515 • CWSGLOBAL.ORG • CWSBESTGIFT.ORG



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
Best Gift

—MOMENT FOR MISSION—

Imagine for a moment that you are a parent who is struggling to support your family.

Unfortunately, this is a reality for billions of people all over the world. Let me tell you a short story that happens often.

Parents are struggling to make ends meet - growing vegetables on land they own but never manage to make ends meet as farmers.

They decide to go to a bigger city, work a labor job, and send money back to their children they left in care of their grandparents. It seems like they have plenty of money but after spending most of it paying for food and rent in the bigger city, there isn't much left over to send home.

The parents go back home to visit and it becomes clear to neighbors that they are struggling. That's where we come in.

Through Best Gift, these parents can link to better plans for their future. In the scenario I just read, congregations like ours offered parents an option to move back home and learn new vegetable gardening techniques. They received training, tools, vegetable seeds and community support...and now they have flourishing food gardens! They don't have to struggle through food shortages anymore, or the high cost of living that comes with city life. They can stay at home with their families and feel peace that they will have enough.

By giving to Best Gift, you are able to provide the environment and tools for families to learn how to home garden. You are able to provide the environment for success. You are able to provide a life changing garden for parents struggling to feed their children.

Donate to Best Gift today!

Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

- MATTHEW 2:11



PHOTO: SEAN HAWKEY

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STORM LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 3, 2023
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
COLOR: PURPLE

PRELUDE

"Noel VI"
"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Deanna Larson, organist
J. Charpentier
R. Schulz-Widmar

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Kiboko I. Kiboko

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand and join in singing...

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN** "What Child Is This"

PRAISE BAND

-Verse 1-

What child is this who laid to rest
On Mary's lap is sleeping
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping
This this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The babe the son of Mary

-Verse 2-

Why lies he in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding
Good Christian fear for sinners here
The silent word is pleading
Nails spear shall pierce Him through
The cross be borne for me for you
Hail hail the Word made flesh
The babe the son of Mary

-Verse 3-

So bring Him incense gold and myrrh
Come peasant king to own Him
The King of kings salvation brings
Let loving hearts enthrone Him
Raise raise the son on high
The virgin sings her lullaby
Joy joy for Christ is born
The babe the son of Mary

-Ending-

This this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing
Haste haste to bring Him laud
The babe the son of Mary

Please join in the Call to Worship and read responsively...

Tim Gallagher

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The Lord be with you.
P: **And also with you.**
L: Lift up your hearts.
P: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
P: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Please join in the...

Tim Gallagher

***OPENING PRAYER**

Dear Heavenly Father, we have come to worship You as we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent. We are waiting for your Son to be born in our hearts. O Come, Lord and guide us. Please hear us when we call upon your name. Receive all our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI**

"Glory Be to the Father"

UMH # 70

Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning
Is now, and ever shall be
World without end.
Amen, Amen

Please be seated...

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE NOW SINGERS

Joan Rude, director
Deanna Larson, accompanist

"Come, Jesus Prince of Peace"

Deb DeHaan, Viola

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND FOR THE PEOPLE

Rev. Kiboko I. Kiboko

Please observe a short moment of silence after each prayer, then the leader would conclude: Lord, in your mercy, and all may respond: Hear our prayer.
Together, let us pray:

L: for the people of this congregation...(moment of silence)
Lord, in your mercy. P: **Hear our prayer**
L: for those who suffer and those in trouble...(Moment of silence)
Lord, in your mercy. P: **Hear our prayer**
L: for the concerns of this local community...(Moment of silence)
Lord, in your mercy. P: **Hear our prayer**
L: for the world, its peoples, and its leaders...(Moment of silence)
Lord, in your mercy. P: **Hear our prayer**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere ...

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
(continued...)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Dear God, we pray for the following:
This congregation
This community
This State, this country, and the world

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Marjean O'Bannon

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Kurt & Shelby Lucas, Nora & Mia

First reader:

The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside still waters;

Second reader:

Today, we light the candle of Hope. *(pause to light candle)*
Let Jesus Christ our Lord oversee your life. Amen.

HYMN OF ILLUMINATION "Thy Word is a Lamp"

UMH #601

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

When I feel afraid
Think I've lost my way
Still you're there right beside me
And nothing will I fear
As long as you are near
Please be near me to the end

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet
And a light unto my path

GOSPEL READING

Mark 13:24-37

Shelby Lucas

SERMON:

"Keep Awake"

Rev. Kiboko I. Kiboko

MOMENT OF TRANSFORMATION

(This is a moment for us to commune with God. Feel free to pray right where you are, or you can come to the altar as we sing "Sanctuary" by the PRAISE BAND)

Lord prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy Tried and true
With thanksgiving I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you
(repeat 3 x)

Let us pray:

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ ...

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father (God), now and forever.

Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

Colton Lindgren

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERING

"Here, O My Lord, I See Thee"

P. Stearns

Tithing & Offerings / online giving / VENMO: @StormLake-UMC
Offering plates will be passed.

Please sign the attendance books at the end of each pew, and pass down the row.

Please stand and join in singing...

*DOXOLOGY

No 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER (BASED ON MARK 13:24-37) *Tim Gallagher*

Great God of wonderful surprises: we enter this season of preparation for your Son's coming, looking not for just a memory of past events, but anticipating a return. The master is near. We strive to get our lives in order and pray that our giving of ourselves to these preparations might reflect the earth-shaking importance of his coming. Help us to give ourselves generously, for we do not know the time -- day or the hour. We pray in the name of the one who will come. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

"Shalom"

UMH # 666

Shalom to you now
shalom my friends
May God's full mercies
bless you my friends
In all your living and
through your loving
Christ be your shalom
Christ be your shalom

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Kiboko I. Kiboko

***CLOSING PRAYER SONG**

A CLOSING PRAYER

The time has come, O Lord, for us to leave this place;
Guide us and protect us and lead us in thy grace.
Wherever life may take us as we go our separate ways,
Help us share with others the things we've shared today.
May the peace of God the Father, and the love of Christ,
His Son, Guide us in the days ahead and strengthen us, each one.
May the blessings of the spirit fill us from within;
God bless us and return us to this fellowship once again. Amen

POSTLUDE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Deanna Larson, organist
R. Haan