

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 17th

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:30 am-Confirmation

9:00 am-Bible Study w/Melva

9:00 am-Kids Sunday School

10:00 am-Worship w/

GOLDEN TONES HANDBELL CHOIR

Monday, December 18th

10:00 am-XYZ Exercise class

4:00 pm-Food Distribution

7:00 pm-Trustees meeting

Tuesday, December 19th

9:30 am-Staff meeting

3:30 pm-Zone 1st-3rd graders

Wednesday, December 20th

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

Sunday, December 24th

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:00 am-Worship

CHRISTMAS EVE

3:00 pm-Candlelight Service
w/Communion & soloist Melanie Hauser

5:00 pm-Candlelight Service
w/Communion & soloist Shelby O'Bannon

7:00 pm-Candlelight Service
w/Communion & soloist Matt Collins

Monday, December 25th

CHRISTMAS

Office closed



Prayer Requests

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

Birthdays through December

Laurie Kofmehl	17th
Brenda Nickolisen	17th
Makenna Petersen	17th
Dawson Masterson	20th
Drew Binning	22nd
Amy Hartnett	22nd
Tim Moize	23rd
Keaton Carver	26th
Ty Cameron	28th
Nellie McKenna	20th
James Camerer	31st
Avery Wilson	31st



MISSION & MINISTRY PLAN 2023:

To know Jesus Christ and make him known.

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

VIEW OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE!

FREE App for iPhone, iPad & Android



Our church directory is a great resource tool that allows you to get to know our church family better!

Simply go to the App Store, search for *Instant Church Directory*  and download the FREE app to begin.

You will use your email address listed in the directory to CREATE A LOGIN the first time you use the directory app.

If you're not listed in the directory, OR if you have trouble logging into the app, please contact the church office.



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.

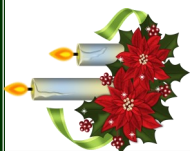


Android Mobile App QR Code



iOS Mobile App QR Code

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 _____

STORM LAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 17, 2023
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
COLOR: PURPLE

PRELUDE

"Noel"
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Deanna Larson, organist
L. Daquin
H. Hopson

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOLDEN TONES HANDBELL CHOIR
"Carol of the Bells"

Linda Baier, director
arr. Dick Averre
Rev. Kiboko I. Kiboko

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please stand and join in singing...

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (1-4)"

UMH # 211

O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

-Chorus-

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

-Verse 2-

O come Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all things far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go

-Chorus-

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

-Verse 3-

O come O come great Lord of might
Who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law
In cloud and majesty and awe

-Chorus-

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

-Verse 4-

O come thou Root of Jesse's tree
An ensign of thy people be
Before thee rulers silent fall
All peoples on thy mercy call

-Chorus-

Rejoice rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

Please join in the Call to Worship and read responsively...
***CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 133)**

Larry Hecht

- L: Love has come down to us this Advent Season.
P: **Divine love which heals and transforms our lives.**
L: With great joy, we receive that love and share it with others.
P: **We open our hearts to all God's children, the last, the least, and the lost, as well as those who feel privileged.**
L: The Lord has done and continues to do great things for us.
P: **Praise be to God who loves us so much and who challenges us to be people of joy in this darkened world. AMEN.**

Please join in the...
***OPENING PRAYER**

Larry Hecht

Lord God, as we gather this morning, we open our hearts to you, seeking your healing and transforming love. Our world cries for justice for all people, yet the leaders seem intent on bantering with one another, unmindful of the peace-bringers and those who would heal and teach the ways of peace. Be with all of us. Prepare us for this bright light of love which you are sending to us, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. 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 and join in the...

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

UMH # 229

Infant holy infant lowly
For His bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing little knowing
Christ the babe is Lord of all
Swift are winging angels singing
Noels ringing tidings bringing
Christ the babe is Lord of all

-Verse 2-

Flocks were sleeping
Shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory heard the story
Tidings of a gospel true
Thus rejoicing free from sorrow
Praises voicing greet the morrow
Christ the babe was born for you

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**

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Cheryl Baughman

THE CHURCH IN MISSION

LIGHTING OF THIRD CANDLE OF ADVENT

Jason & Kim McKenna, Nellie and Mavrick

Reader 1: In days when God's people longed for peace, Isaiah declared, "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins" (Isaiah 40:1).

Reader 2: We who gather today also seek comfort and peace, yet we are unsatisfied with ideas of peace that tell us to keep quiet and go with the flow. We long for real peace, true peace, just peace.

Congregation: We wait as people who yearn for peace that bears the fruit of community, equity, and flourishing for all.

Reader 1: We light these candles as signs of God's shocking hope and just peace. May they be beacons calling us to repent and to live the good news of Jesus Christ as we wait and watch and labor for the day when all people can gather together to worship and glorify God.
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

THE SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:1-20

Shelby O'Bannon

SPECIAL MUSIC

GOLDEN TONES HANDBELL CHOIR
"O Holy Night"

Linda Baier, director
arr. Joel Raney

SERMON

"Beloved Christmas Carols-A History Lesson"

Carl Turner

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 "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" (UMH # 204).

Emmanuel Emmanuel
His name is called Emmanuel
God with us revealed in us
His name is called Emmanuel
(repeat all)

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 INVITATION TO GIVING

As God has so richly poured gifts of love, peace, hope, and joy into our lives; let us receive the morning's offering as tokens of our gratitude for all these blessings. AMEN.

OFFERING

"The Snow Lay on the Ground"

A. Jordan

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!

*OFFERTORY PRAYER (In Unison)

Larry Hecht

Lord, you have blessed our lives in so many ways. Receive these tokens of our blessings and cause them to work in this world which you have loaned to us to make light shine in the darkness and peace an attainable goal in all conflicts. We offer these gifts in Jesus' name. AMEN.

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN "Silent Night, Holy Night"
with the
GOLDEN TONES HANDBELL CHOIR

UMH #239

Linda Baier, director
Deanna Larson, organist

-Verse 1-

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace

-Verse 2-

Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born
Christ the Savior is born

-Verse 3-

Silent night holy night
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth
Jesus Lord at Thy birth

***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

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Deanna Larson, organist
F. Mendelssohn