



Spirit of Hope

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF MOUNT HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH
PRESCHOOL AND CHILDCARE * DECEMBER 2019

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Isaiah 60:1

It is hard to believe, but we are on the doorstep of Advent! Once again, we will prepare our hearts and minds for our celebration of Jesus' birth. It never gets old, does it? It is truly "a" most wonderful time of the year. I say "a" instead of "the" as does our contemporary culture because, yes, we celebrate the birth of our Savior, but "the" most wonderful time of the year for sinners has to be the Ascension of our Lord. Without conquering sin, death, and the devil and then taking His proper place on the throne, we would simply be remembering a life well-lived.

On Wednesday evenings during Advent we will be working our way through a series, titled, *Arise and Shine*, authored by Rev. Reed Lessing, a professor at Concordia Seminary St. Louis. In the study we "Welcome the Christ Child", highlighting different aspects of Christ's light. Lessing encourages us in celebration, how we may shine with the light of Christ for all the world to see the brightness of His love. Each week illustrates a different way in which we are enlightened by Jesus now and throughout our lives.

And that is what it's all about. We joyfully remember and celebrate Jesus and all that He has done for us; but we know that we are blessed to be a blessing. Jesus shines His light on us so that we in turn shine our light in the world. We know that this is not supposed to be a one-time-a-year event. We are called to shine the light of Jesus every day.

Yet, there is something about the season that opens people's hearts a little bit more and makes it easier to invite them to church. Who do you know that you could invite to one of our Advent services? Who is there in your life you could invite to Christmas Eve or Christmas Day worship? What a wonderful opportunity we have to invite **Guests who become Friends and Friends who will become part of our Family here at Mount Hope** as we celebrate our Lord and Savior Jesus!

Serving together,
Pastor Fran Green

ARISE AND SHINE

Advent and Christmas at Mount Hope

Help Needed – Decorate for Christmas

Join us on Tuesday, December 3, at 6:30pm to decorate the sanctuary and narthex for Christmas. Many hands make quick work. Please consider joining in. There's a job for everyone.

Advent Midweek Services

Please join us for *Arise and Shine* at our midweek Advent services December 4, 11, and 18 at 6:30pm.

Advent Dinner

A supper will be served beginning at 5:30pm on Wednesday, Dec 4 prior to the first Advent service. Thank you to the Women of Hope for hosting this meal.

Christmas Caroling

Bring your beautiful voice and your love for sharing the Good News to Mount Hope's Christmas Caroling event. A Chili dinner will be served at 5:00pm in the Fellowship Hall to start the evening and a hot chocolate bar will end the evening back at Mount Hope. Please reach out to Christina B with any questions and sign up on the bulletin board if you would like to participate.



Preschool Christmas Program

You are invited to "Show and Tell Christmas" as performed by the Center's preschoolers on Saturday, December 14th, at 9:30am and 11:00am. The performances will take place in the sanctuary. A cookie reception follows.

Sunday School Christmas Program

The Sunday School children will present a Christmas program as part of the 10:45 worship service on Sunday, December 15. Come enjoy their Christmas joy!

Christmas Worship

Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship – December 24 at 4:00pm
Christmas Day Worship 9:30am



In-Home Bible Study

Our In-Home Bible study has a Christmas party in December. Enjoy food, beverages and a Christmas gift exchange. Join us on Tuesday, December 17th at 6:30 pm at Jennifer Adamek's home (9117 Yukon Ave, Bloomington). Call 952-451-5860 with any questions.



The Women of Hope Invite You to our Christmas Celebration Thursday, December 12 @ 6:30 pm

Candlelight, a Christmas program and songs.
Treats, punch, coffee and beautifully decorated tables.
Celebrate the joy of Christmas with your friends.
Please sign up on the bulletin board if you wish to attend.



In-Touch Ministries

All donations are due by December 9th. Please speak with Dianne R if you have any questions.



LifeLight Bible Study

Thursday Morning Bible Study will start back up again on January 9th. If you would like to join the group, please reach out to Harriet B at 952 888 0392.



First Friday Book Club

The Book Club will have their annual Christmas luncheon on Friday, December 13, at 11:30am at the Bloomington Olive Garden. Spouses and guests are welcome to attend. Please RSVP to Renata at melby@q.com by December 6th. We will discuss *The Good Neighbor*, a book about Mr. Rogers.



New Year's Eve Party

All Sunday School children are invited to Mount Hope from 5:00-8:00pm on Tuesday, December 31 for a night of fun and games. We will be ringing in the new year together!

Those Who Serve in December

Altar Guild
Sunday Morning Coffee
Kitchen/Reception Committee

Carol T and Linda C
Prepare: Carol T
Linda Q and Kirsten B

Clean-up: Jennifer A

December 1

Elder	Matt F	
Counters	Harriet & Jerry B	
	8:15	10:45
Reader	Faith A	Kim W
Greeters	Linda C	Harriet B
Ushers	John & Karen M, Conrad N, Eileen D	Joel S, Dave S, Armand B

December 4 (6:30pm)
Ushers Jeff & Faith A, Bob T

December 8

Elder	Al J	
Counters	Kirk V & Kim W	
	8:15	10:45
Reader	Conrad N	Tammy G
Greeters	Gene & Pat R	Linda Q
Ushers	Jerry B, Bob T, Ted S	Kirsten B, Steve S, Steve S, Lloyd Q

December 11 (6:30pm)
Ushers Arnie B, Gene R, Mike R, Butch C

December 15

Elder	John M	
Counters	Jenny & Cody R	
	8:15	10:45
Reader	Ted S	Karen M
Greeters	Pauline V & Sue H	Shirley F
Ushers	John & Karen M, Conrad N, Eileen D	John M, Bill R, Kirk V

December 18 (6:30pm)
Ushers Jerry B, Arnie B, Gene R

December 22

Elder	Lloyd Q	
Counters	Betty & Joel S, Kirsten B	
	8:15	10:45
Reader	Paul H	Renata M
Greeters	Conrad & Marilyn N	Eileen D
Ushers	Arnie B, Gene R, Mike R, Butch C	Joel S, Dave S, Armand B

December 24 4:00pm
Greeters Arnie & Hope B

December 25 9:30am

December 29

Elder	Dave S	
Counters	Harriet & Jerry B	
	8:15	10:45
Reader	Faith A	Kim W
Greeters	Linda C * Harriet B	Darlene B
Ushers	John & Karen M, Conrad N, Eileen D	Kirsten B, Bill R

Many of you are serving during Advent services as well. Please see your area's schedule. Thank you.



Thank you

Thank you to everyone who greeted and served treats on Election Day. Our neighbors are so appreciative of the pleasant welcome to Mount Hope.

Thank you to everyone who packed meals at Feed My Starving Children. What an opportunity to be of help to God's children around the world.



Thank you to Carrie N and everyone who worked on and supported the Operation Christmas Child project. This year we sent off fifty full boxes. The Sunday School children will be tracking three of those boxes.



Celebration Days

Happy December Birthday

5 Ramona Moss
6 Linda Carstens
8 Will Herman
9 Ina Adams
11 Jane Johannes
14 Jack, Penelope & Charlotte Rosner
16 Ed Borgen
19 Cory Blauvelt
23 Dave Wallin
26 Micah Hinz
30 Janice Elbert
30 Shannon Hinz
30 Karen Mueller

Wedding Anniversary

16 Pastor Ralph & Kathi Rokke
28 Matt & Candy Frein

Baptismal Anniversary

5 Valerie Lessard
16 Colin Alt
18 Rose Kitt
24 Andrew Nazy
31 Will Herman

Worship Attendance


Oct 27	8:15= 42	10:45= 67
Nov 3	8:15= 57	10:45= 52
Nov 10	8:15= 47	10:45= 48
Nov 17	8:15= 42	10:45=





Daily Devotional

1 Dec	Is 7:10—8:8	1 Pet 3:1—22	
2 Dec	Is 8:9—9:7	1 Pet 4:1—19	
3 Dec	Is 9:8—10:11	1 Pet 5:1—14	
4 Dec	Is 10:12—27a, 33—34	2 Pet 1:1—21	
5 Dec	Is 11:1—12:6	2 Pet 2:1—22	
6 Dec	Is 14:1—23	2 Pet 3:1—18	
7 Dec	Is 24:1—13	1 John 1:1—2:14	
8 Dec	Is 24:14—25:12	1 John 2:15—29	<i>Obadiah 1—21</i>
9 Dec	Is 26:1—19	1 John 3:1—24	
10 Dec	Is 26:20—27:13	1 John 4:1—21	
11 Dec	Is 28:14—29	1 John 5:1—21	<i>2 John 1—13; 3 John 1—15</i>
12 Dec	Is 29:1—14	Jude 1—25	
13 Dec	Is 29:15—30:14	Rev 1:1—19	
14 Dec	Is 30:15—26	Rev 2:1—29	
15 Dec	Is 30:27—31:9	Rev 3:1—22	
16 Dec	Is 32:1—20	Rev 4:1—11	
17 Dec	Is 33:1—24	Rev 5:1—14	
18 Dec	Is 34:1—2, 8—35:10	Rev 6:1—17	<i>Micah 1:1—7:20</i>
19 Dec	Is 40:1—17	Rev 7:1—17	
20 Dec	Is 40:18—41:10	Rev 8:1—13	
21 Dec	Is 42:1—25	Rev 9:1—12	
22 Dec	Is 43:1—24	Rev 9:13—10:11	
23 Dec	Is 43:25—44:20	Rev 11:1—19	
24 Dec	Is 44:21—45:13, 20—25	Rev 12:1—17	<i>Daniel 10:1—12:13& Isaiah 48:1—22</i>
25 Dec	Is 49:1—18	Matt 1:1—17	
26 Dec	Is 49:22—26; 50:4—51:8, 12—16	Matt 1:18—25	
27 Dec	Is 51:17—52:12	Matt 2:1—12	
28 Dec	Is 52:13—54:10	Matt 2:13—23	
29 Dec	Is 55:1—13	Luke 1:1—25	
30 Dec	Is 58:1—59:3, 14—21	Luke 1:26—38	
31 Dec	Is 60:1—22	Luke 1:39—56	



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Noisy offering 1 8:15a Worship 9:30a Fellowship Hour No Bible Study/SS 10:45a Worship	2 5:00p IFC	3 6:30pm Decorate MH for Christmas 8:00p AA	4 9:00a Prayer group 10:00a IFC 5:30p Advent dinner 6:30p Advent worship	5	6 10:00a IFC	7
8 8:15a Worship 9:30a Connecting Hour 10:45a Worship 5 – 7p Christmas Caroling Event Due Date for In-Touch Ministry donations	9 5:00p IFC	10 8:00p AA	11 9:00a Prayer group 10:00a IFC 6:30p Advent worship	12 6:30p Women of Hope	13 10:00a IFC 1:30a First Friday Book Club	14 9:30a & 11:00a Preschool Christmas Programs
15 8:15a Worship 9:30a Connecting Hour 10:45a Worship including Children's Christmas Program	16 5:00p IFC	17 8:00p AA 6:30p In-Home Bible Study	18 9:00a Prayer group 10:00a IFC 6:30p Advent worship	19 5:00p Ministry Staff Meeting 6:30pm Governing Board Meeting	20 10a IFC Bethesda Thrift Shop Work Day	21 Mack – Facility Use 9am-4pm
22 8:15a Worship 9:30a Connecting Hour No Sunday School 10:45a Worship	23	24 Christmas Eve 4:00p Worship Offices Closed 	25 Christmas Day 9:30a Worship Offices Closed	26 Church Office Closed	27 Church Office Closed	28
29 8:15a Worship 9:30a Fellowship Hour 10:45a Worship	30 Church Office Closed	31 Church Office Closed 5p-8p SS New Year's Eve Party				

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:15am Traditional Worship Service

9:30am "Connecting Hour"

Bible Study and Sunday School

10:45am Praise Worship Service

Phone: 952-888-5059

E-mail: church@mthopelutheran.org

Website: www.mthopelutheran.org

Mount Hope Lutheran Church Staff

Fran Green

Candy Frein

Christina Brantner

Kathy Sundseth

Kelly Rosner

Kim Woebke

Sam Killam

Steve Sundseth

Pastor

Administrative Assistant

Music Director

Custodian

Connections Director

Preschool & Childcare

Director/Administrative Assistant

Custodian

Custodian

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Address Service Requested

