

7he Mountain 7op Messenger

ZION LUTHERAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH, ASHLAND, WI DECEMBER 2020

Welcome to Advent! As we start out another church year, we look to the close of another calendar year and wonder what lies ahead. It has been a most interesting year. In last month's newsletter I spoke of how this past year kind of blindsided us all and how so much of our normal-day-to-day lives changed. Truthfully even with all the talk of a vaccine and its effectiveness and distribution I don't believe the early part of 2021 is going to be much different. As I was preparing for a quiet unassociated Thanksgiving dinner and looking at a similar Christmas, I realized how quickly we change and adapt and how things take on a new sense of normalcy. Several months ago, there seemed to be more resistance to the mask wearing and the distancing, now, not so much, the person without the mask has become the exception instead of the norm. People aren't so quick to offer a handshake or hug. And it seems to me that the world has become a little colder because of it. Now mind you, I am not saying that we should run out and start handshaking and hugging in rebellion, but what I am thinking is that we need to break that ice in some way or another. We need to recognize each other, the virtual high five, the invisible handshake, something more than the eyes down, isolation head nod. It seems that as we distance socially, we are also distancing emotionally. I have spoken to an ever-increasing number of people who while they still make it out in the world to shop and perhaps partake in an occasional meal are feeling isolated, alone, and perhaps even a bit abandon. I also talk to people who are feeling overwhelmed by all the change and the new accepted norms. The moms and dads who now beside parenting and providing for their families are now home schooling, and trying to balance between making a living and trying to make sure their children are getting the education they need to grow and become productive in this world. The other thing that I am seeing is that while in this time of change we should be looking to our faith for support and strength, I'm not sure that is happening. I think we need to really work at being like Jeremiah and say "O LORD, my strength and my stronghold, my refuge in the day of trouble," (Jer 16:19a). At a time when it seems we are tasked with taking more and more on ourselves we have to share our burdens with the Lord. We need to reach out, to share our struggles, our needs, our hurts, with the Lord. The Psalmist reminds us in Psalm 46;

"God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.² Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea. ³ though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling." Now to this point, the mountains have not been moved into the heart of the sea, its waters aren't roaring and foaming yet, the mountains aren't trembling. However, in our individual corners of the world it may seem like it. When we feel that way, when we are feeling overwhelmed we need to do a couple things, first and foremost we must remember the words of verse 7 of that same Psalm; "The Lord of hosts is with us;" You are not alone, we are not alone, Jesus himself tells us in the last line of the last verse of the last chapter of Matthew; "And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." You are not alone, so you must never be afraid to reach out, reach out the Lord, reach out to your church family, reach out to your pastor, your family, your friends. There are times in all our lives when we need help, sometimes it's as simple as a cup of coffee and an ear, other times it can be more, but you must never feel like you are alone. One thing this pandemic has done is separate us from our time in church. our time together with our church family, time to share with those of like mind and beliefs. We must find ways to fill in those lost times, watch our services online if you are able. Watch services on TV such as the LCMS service on Sunday mornings. Talk with those of your church family. Call your Pastor, heaven knows he like to talk, and he tries to be a good listener as well. If you need or would like, he will come see you, share the Lord's Supper with you, and try his best to encourage you. Over the last month or so, we have focused on the end of time, of Jesus triumphant return. Jesus himself told us in His own words that we would face tribulation. He never said the life of a Christian would be easy, in fact He told us the opposite. He also reassures us that He is with us and will be with us until His return. While it is going to be different this year, let us do our best to lift up each other's spirits as we prepare to celebrate His first Advent as we await His second Advent. Sing praises to the infant king, to God come to earth as a little child to save us all from this fallen, sinful world. I am looking forward to Christmas lights, Christmas hymns and carols, to the decorated church, the lighting of the Advent wreath, and the coming Advent of Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

As I close, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas as you celebrate the arrival of Jesus, and I close with these words spoken by Jesus for us all. "Behold, the hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each to his own home, and will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone, for the Father is with me. ³³ I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world." (John 16:32-33)

My friends the Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10b-11)

In His service,

Pastor Rick



ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship Service 9:00am in-church service and live streamed Wednesday Evening Service - live streamed 6:30pm (a more in-depth look at Sunday's service) Sunday School - 3yrs.—5th grade At-home lessons Bible Studies—currently cancelled.

Pastor Rick Williams - 715-209-0479 Office Hours: M/T/TH 8:30-4:30 W 12-8 F Off Please call ahead if you need to speak with Pastor.

Office Secretary Lynn Ladd 715-682-6075 Office Hours M-W 8:30-2:30 Days and times may change upon need of work.

Church President: John Pruss 715-292-4825 Head Elder: Darryl Warren 715-492-0488

Little Friends of Jesus Child Care Center: 715-682-5185 LFOJ Administrator: Karyn Leino 715-682-6075

Website www.zionashland.org E-mail secretary@zionlutheranashland.com Facebook

PRAYERS for Homebound,

Assisted Living, Nursing Home Those who aren't able to attend common worship that they would find comfort knowing that the Lord is with them. Walt Schutte Violet Basina Nancy Zehe

PRAYERS FOR PROTECTION

For our full-time troops and public servants, for travel, missionaries, and for peace and protection for families. David Wright Emily Melecha Tucker Melecha Jordan Thimm Andrew Pruss





PRAYERS FOR HEALTH AND HEALING

For good test results, treatment, positive thinking, healing, and comfort during cancer treatments, for those suffering from addiction, mental illness and for healing, strength, comfort, and peace for family we pray for:

Linda Larson-Nelso	n Tim Smith
Bob Heggie	Kevin Heggie
Kate Smith	Alice Balmer
Brad Prill	Mary Siefers
Mike Dimich	Mary Bullis
Jim Bullis	Angie Guski
Lloyd Koosmann	Theresa Koosmann
Grace Turney	Penny Mattson
Penny Larson	Francis Balmer
Rebecca Gurske	David Gustafson
LeAnn Billing	<i>Jim</i> & Tina
Marvin Lathe	Vi Basina
Andrea Gunderson	Chico Chingo
Bill Young	Lisa Landry-Thomson
Dan Schick	Melanie Bush
James Fletcher	Brad Campbell
Vivian Bayliss	Gary Mertig
Marge Draeger	Ana Johnson
Joe Anderson	Margaret Goodwin
and those in our he	arts.



For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus ... (Romans 3:22b-24).

No matter how well we know someone, finding the perfect gift can be a real challenge. Will we give something needed or look for a one-of-a kind gift guaranteed to bring delight? Sometimes the perfect gift is just too expensive. Maybe a gift card is the best choice.

Out of love, God sent Jesus, His one and only Son, to give us the gift of forgiveness. He is the perfect size. He easily fits into any heart and can be taken everywhere. He is the perfect gift for any age – from conception through the day we are called home. In fact, He is the only gift that comes with a heavenly guarantee. His lifetime guarantee promises a life with Him for all eternity, and it costs absolutely nothing. However there was a price, and it was high. It was paid by Christ Himself when He died to take away all of our sins. Lovingly, He sends to us His Holy Spirit to provide the faith to believe in Him. Jesus! Truly the Perfect Gift!

Prayer: Gracious God, we thank You for the gift of salvation given to us through Your Son Jesus. What comfort it is to know how much we are loved! In His perfect name. Amen.

How well do you think you know the Christmas story? Here are some Christmas Bible quiz questions for you to think about. Many of these are basic knowledge questions, but some of them will make you dig to see if my answer really is right. In fact, one of the answers is based on a very educated guess and may not be completely true. Contact the office for the answers. They didn't fit in any of the empty spaces of the newsletter.

Are you ready? (20 questions - some are on different pages)

- 1 Who told Mary and Joseph to go to Bethlehem?
- 2 True or False: Mary and Joseph went to Bethlehem for the birth of Jesus because they were following a star.
- 3 What form of transportation did Mary and Joseph use to get to Bethlehem? The answer is not a taxi cab.
- 4 Which Old Testament prophet had the most to say about the birth of Christ?
- 5 In the accounts announcing the birth of Christ (Matthew 1 and Luke 1 and 2) how many times did an angel or angels appear?

The Amazing Christmas Ceasefire

December 24th 2009. Kathryn Hawkins.

During World War I, British and German soldiers put down their weapons to celebrate the holiday spirit together, in a remarkable event known as "the Christmas Truce."

It was Christmas Eve, 1914, and the war was on. German and British troops lay stationed in trenches along the border of Belgium and northern France, aiming their rifles at enemy soldiers, their bodies pressed flat in the frozen dirt. The battle had gone on for weeks, relentless; it seemed there was no end in sight.

Then suddenly, a British soldier received an unexpected gift from the German soldiers – a chocolate cake. Even more surprising was the attached note: The German troops were requesting a ceasefire, so that they could celebrate Christmas without warfare. The stunned British soldiers agreed.

Later that evening, the guns fell silent as the German soldiers began to sing Christmas carols in their native tongue. In turn, the British soldiers responded with a Christmas song in English. The caroling continued through the night – and eventually, the two opposing sides joined their voices to sing in harmony.

All night long, the Western front glowed, illuminated by the burning candles on the German soldiers' small Tannenbaums. Even the Indian troops on the British side, who did not celebrate Christmas,

were brought to tears – the lights reminded them of their own Hindu Festival of Lights. The next day, British soldier Rifleman J. Reading wrote in a letter, the Germans "came towards us, and our chaps went out to meet them. Of course neither of us had any rifles. I shook hands with some of them, and they gave us cigarettes and cigars. We did not fire that day, and everything was so quiet that it seemed like a dream."

Soon, some of the soldiers from both sides began venturing into the area known as "no man's land" for impromptu games of soccer. Others showed off their juggling skills, played cards, gave haircuts,

or simply talked about their lives back at home. For that single day, the soldiers were no longer at war: They were simply young men again, sharing their joy on Christmas day. "So there you are," wrote another British officer. "All this talk of hate, all this firing at each other that



has raged since the beginning of the war quelled and stayed by the magic of Christmas."

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



Six Lessons Christians Must Learn From Church History by Barry Vross 2017 Blog

Those who do not remember the past are doomed to repeat it." George Santayana (1863-1952)

Church history reveals some lessons that Christians today would be wise to consider and reflect upon. The Christian Church has existed for 2,000 years, but it has changed and evolved significantly over that time. It is therefore im-

but it has changed and evolved significantly over that time. It is therefore important to look back and learn the lessons from the history of the Church that can help us chart a way forward today.

A few years ago I read a wonderful book on the history of the Church written by Dr. Bruce Shelley entitled, "Church History in Plain Language" (Thomas Nelson, 2008). He does a great job of documenting and summarizing the key events in the history of the Church. Based on his book, I would like to present 6 lessons that we as Christians should learn from Church history that will enable us to more effectively go forward in building God's kingdom on earth.

[Lessons 1-4 from previous month]

Lesson #5: Christianity and Science are NOT mutually exclusive.

The world entered a new era after the Middle Ages that challenged the people's view of the world and how it worked. New discoveries in science and math could now explain the world as never before and this ushered in the age of reason, also called the age of "enlightenment." Since man could now know and better explain how the world worked, intellectualism replaced faith in God and His Word. But are Christianity and science mutually exclusive? Science has never been able to repudiate one fact of the Bible. On the contrary, science continues to affirm the facts of the Bible, especially in the field of archeology. Darwin's theory of evolution as to the origin and evolution of species has never been proven and is still a theory, despite its widespread acceptance. To me, science is simply discovering what God already created. Science has not refuted the Bible, it has confirmed it! ("For by Him all things were created; things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by Him and for Him." – Colossians 1:16)

Lesson #6: Man will always try to replace God with himself.

As the world progressed in its knowledge of science and technology, liberalism invaded universities (which were Bible based at the time) and the Church. Many Christians began to try and reconcile modern thought with Biblical teaching and refused to accept the authority of God's Word alone on many issues. They believed that truth must pass the test of human reason. Consequently, universities abandoned the Bible and liberal theology in the Christian Church began to grow. Today it manifests itself in prosperity theology, acceptance of homosexuality, and other false teachings that go beyond or outside of Scripture. These are all an attempt to make God subject to our intellect rather than adhere to His teaching as found in His Holy Word. ("Submit yourselves then to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you." – James 4:7)

As we look back on the history of the Christian Church, we see that many of the issues the Church faces today are not new, but have existed for ages (church vs. state, reason versus faith, man versus God, etc.). The above lessons remind us that the Christian faith, unlike every other religion, is not based upon a set of rules requiring strict adherence. But rather it is based on the fact that God appeared as a man in Jesus Christ, who suffered and died on a cross to redeem mankind and pay the price for all sin, and who made a way for the human race to live with their Creator forever. It's about faith in the work of one person, Jesus Christ, God's Son, and belief in the Bible as God's true Word.



From Lutheran Hour Ministries:

Copy and paste this link https://pursuant8.com/lhm/2020/christmasquiz/

Answer six questions to find out which Christmas carol fits you best. Be sure to share your results with friends so they join in on the lighthearted fun. Mine was "My Fa-vorite Things"

When you're done, explore what Jesus' coming means for us and the world with our **free downloadable Advent devotions, God with Us.** Written by Dr. Karl Vo, God with Us takes the reader through the familiar pages of the Christmas story, mining it to fresh depths and inspiration for the season.

Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

God with Us

What better news is there than to know that God is always by our side! In *God with Us*, we learn again what God the Father has done—He has kept His promise. In so doing, He has announced that grace and forgiveness are available to all, freely given in the birth of Jesus: God's Son, our Savior. He is Immanuel, "God with us."

The story of God coming to earth as a human child is a profound one. In *God with Us*, we find no aloof divinity who is unconcerned and remote somewhere in the cosmos. Rather, He is deeply involved in all our affairs—our joys as well as our heartaches. He *knows* us for He became one of us. At Christmastime, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Lord of the universe, Savior of the world, Shepherd of our lives.

6 Who told Joseph the baby's name was to be Jesus?

- 7 Can you list 5 names of Jesus found in the Bible? Some on my list are from Old Testament prophecies.
- 8 What are the meanings of the names Jesus and Emmanuel?
- 9 The shepherds and the wise men went to see Jesus. Which group followed a star and which group went to find the baby because an angel told them where to look?

10 What did the angels sing to the shepherds?

- 11 When the shepherds went looking for Jesus, what was the sign they were to look for?
- 12 How many wise men or kings or magi came to see Jesus?

'THE LUTHERAN HOUR' MOBILE APP



NEW APP AVAILABLE!

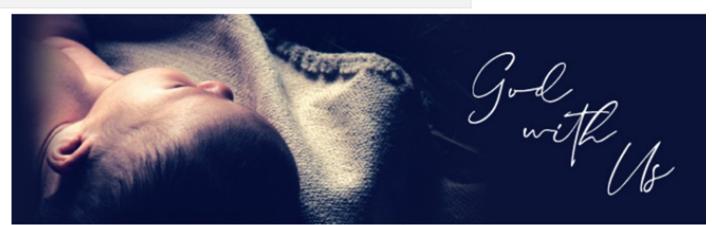
You can take **The Lutheran Hour®** program with you anywhere you go! An updated mobile app is now available for the world's longest-running Christian outreach radio program!

- Play or download the audio or read the text of the program's current sermon
- Search and play a sermon from The Lutheran Hour
 archive
- Save your favorite sermons for easy access
- Share sermons with your friends and family directly from the app!



ou do know what would have happened if it had been three wise WOMEN instead of men, don't you? They would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and brought disposable diapers as gifts!

Advent Devotions are in the Narthex or one can be emailed to you.



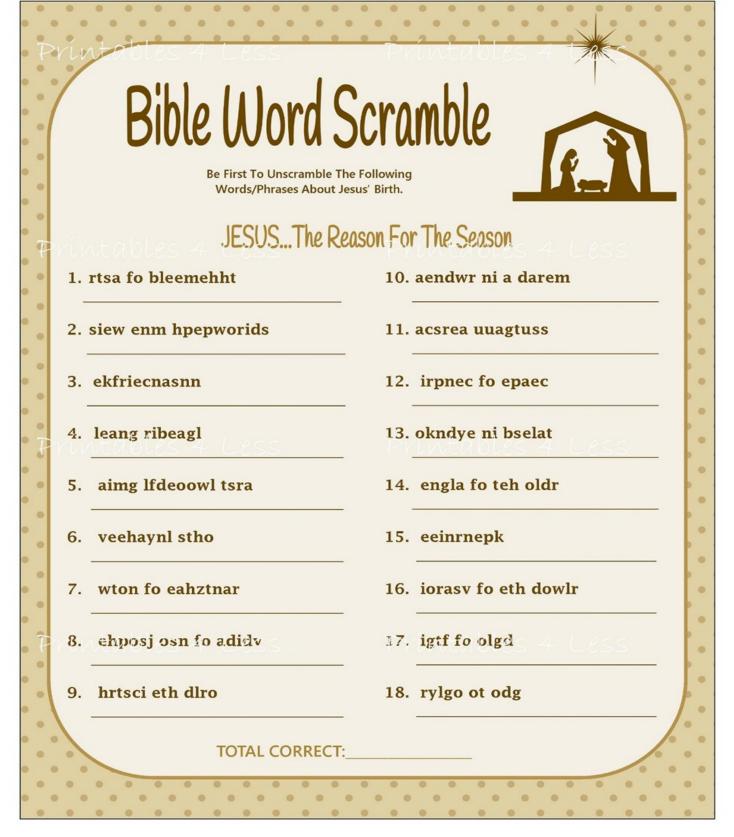
What is Advent?

The church divides the year into different seasons that emphasize the life of Christ and the life of the church. Beginning on Sunday, November 29, 2020, we will enter the season of the church year called Advent. Advent is the season of preparation and anticipation leading up to Christmas, and continuing to Epiphany January 6th, 2021. The focus of Advent is two-fold. On the one hand, we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who came into the world as both God and man so that our sins might be forgiven. On the other hand, we anticipate the day when Jesus will return to Earth and bring an end to this world. Those will be scary days, but we can look forward to the end of the world with hope

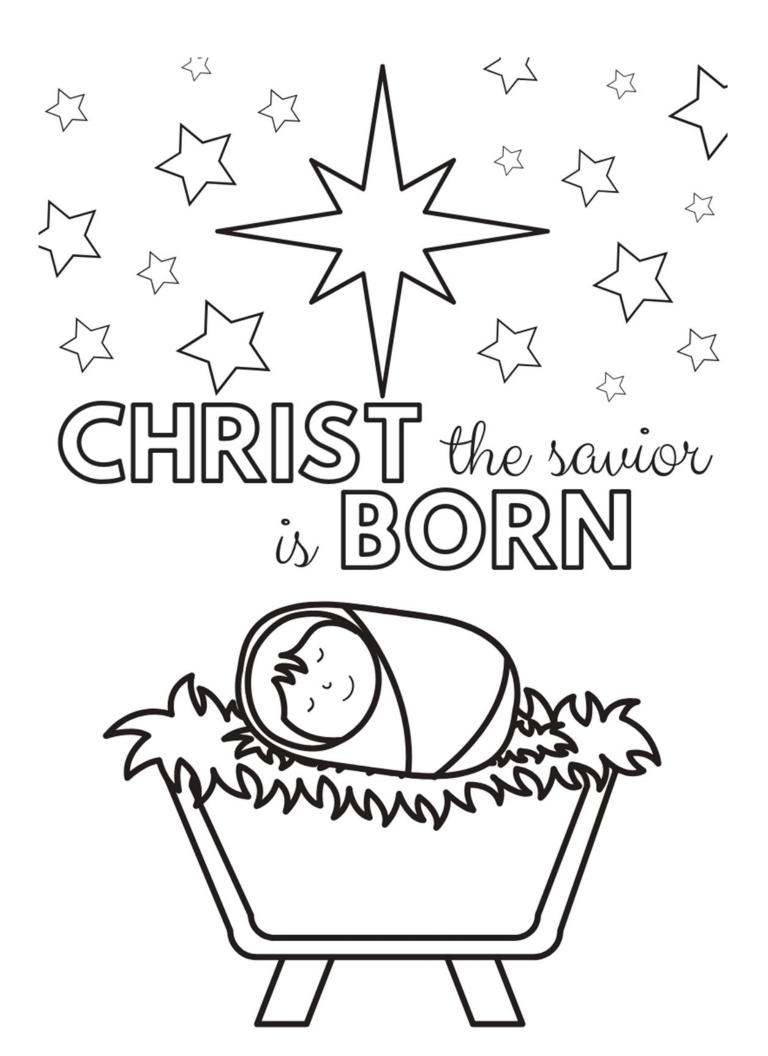
because through faith in Jesus, the end of this world will mean the beginning of a new life with Christ for eternity.

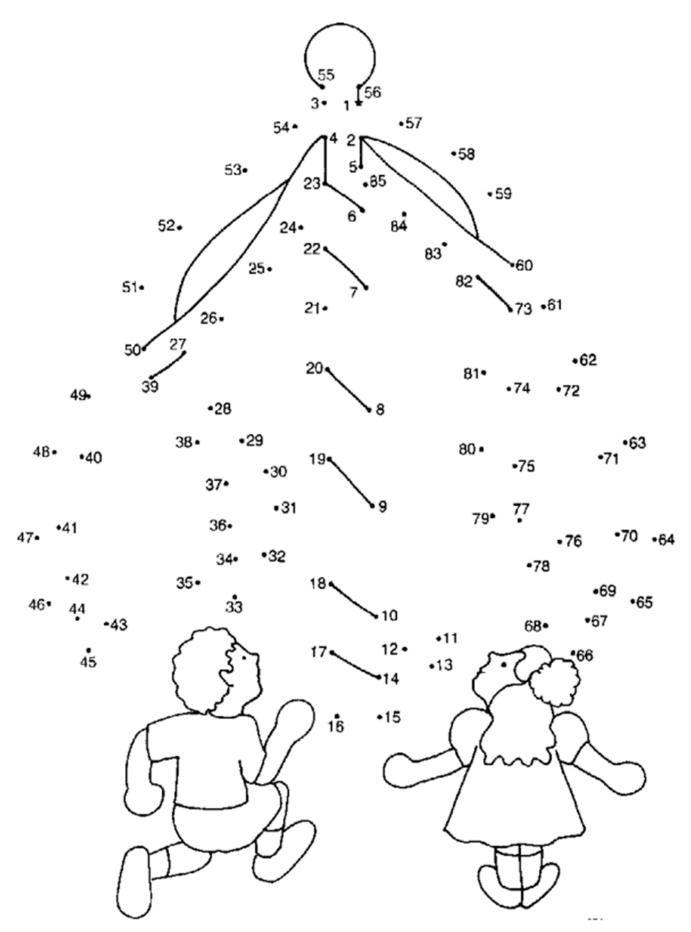
Advent, then, is a time for us to repent and believe. Knowing that Jesus was born to forgive our sins, we repent (admit our failures to God) and believe that we are forgiven because of the death and resurrection of Jesus on our behalf. Also, knowing that Jesus is coming back, we repent and believe that when He returns, He will give us eternal life





- 13 Matthew 2:8 says that Herod asked the wise men to inform him where the baby Jesus was. Why does this verse say he wanted to know?
- 14 How old was Jesus when the wise men found him?
- 15 What are the three gifts which are mentioned being given by the wise men?
- 16 Which emperor ordered all the young children be killed?
- 17 What animals does the Bible say were present at the birth of Jesus?
- 18 What was the name of the unkind innkeeper who would not allow the pregnant Mary to lodge in his inn?
- 19 What is the name of the priest who was told he would not die until he saw the Savior?
- 20 Two of the four Gospels do not mention the birth of Christ. Which two?



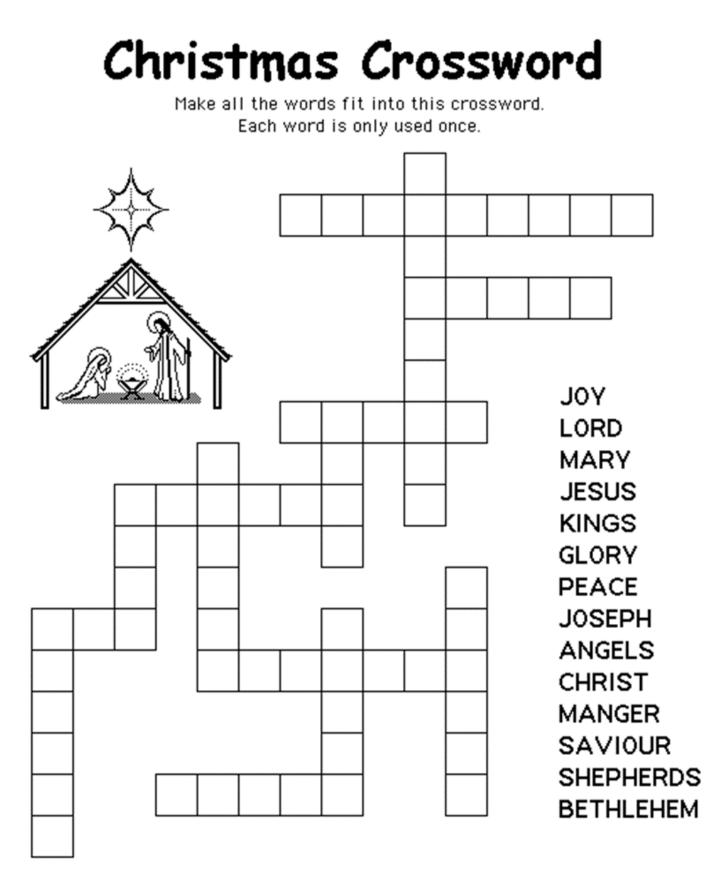


Coloring-Page.net

ADVENT 2020

D	U	W	D	0	Μ	F	С	s	v	Е	0	т	K	Н	F	Z	L	I	N	R	М	0	R	W
Х	L	Q	М	Y	A	Y	A	Κ	R	Μ	Μ	т	Q	A	Е	Μ	s	0	Μ	0	A	L	L	U
F	J	Μ	0	N	N	Μ	Ε	Ν	U	М	K	U	V	D	A	Ρ	s	Μ	т	L	Н	L	V	N
J	L	Z	Х	Е	т	R	Ρ	R	Μ	A	Z	K	Н	V	Х	I	Q	т	V	W	Е	K	A	W
A	I	U	т	S	A	С	I	Q	I	Ν	Κ	Y	J	Е	0	т	R	Ν	В	т	L	G	D	s
Ρ	т	s	I	Ρ	U	I	Н	Н	D	U	Μ	Ρ	Ρ	Ν	G	G	U	A	Ρ	F	Η	В	Е	Y
W	I	R	Е	A	R	Q	Q	0	т	Е	Ρ	J	R	т	s	Z	0	F	Ν	Q	т	В	K	A
L	Н	R	Ζ	Q	Μ	W	0	W	т	L	С	s	F	Н	s	R	F	Ν	Μ	N	Е	Е	В	F
С	Ρ	R	Е	V	L	J	Z	W	Е	V	Н	Е	V	Z	I	Е	L	I	С	В	В	U	Ν	R
G	Е	W	Е	S	Х	Е	G	G	0	Е	U	Z	Μ	Ν	R	Y	J	С	V	Х	Η	Y	Ν	J
S	V	V	т	Ρ	Е	G	J	A	Е	Z	J	V	I	В	F	т	W	D	K	Ν	т	В	D	С
F	I	Ν	K	V	Е	I	J	Ρ	Е	Ν	I	Н	s	т	Е	Z	G	Z	Х	N	U	С	R	K
Y	G	0	I	V	0	Ν	Z	Η	G	Η	0	Ρ	Е	0	Ε	R	K	F	D	Ρ	L	т	Q	R
R	R	G	S	Y	F	V	т	G	Z	0	0	Z	G	Q	D	Z	F	Е	R	Ν	Η	F	Ν	A
N	0	Y	Е	С	Η	Е	R	I	s	Е	D	Y	Q	Z	K	V	Q	0	Н	W	L	U	Ν	В
Е	F	V	Е	R	С	A	т	V	Z	Е	U	J	Q	В	K	J	С	I	D	С	Q	G	s	S
J	Η	R	I	Κ	A	D	В	I	S	J	V	R	U	Μ	т	L	Ρ	В	U	т	Е	Y	С	т
Y	R	I	Е	Κ	Ν	С	L	В	Ε	Ζ	0	Е	L	Х	A	D	С	D	В	L	Κ	L	Ρ	K
I	В	Ζ	W	Y	A	0	Η	0	R	R	Ρ	Μ	I	I	L	Q	Y	A	S	0	Μ	S	F	A
Е	Y	F	С	0	С	Х	D	Μ	V	Η	U	Η	Μ	L	Μ	A	Ν	G	Ε	R	т	W	A	J
Μ	U	Е	J	Q	R	F	L	Η	Ρ	Е	т	L	Е	Е	Ε	F	S	т	Μ	A	Μ	0	W	U
Η	Q	Ζ	Y	J	Ζ	S	Κ	Κ	R	A	С	т	I	Μ	A	В	I	W	R	I	Ρ	Ν	V	A
Ρ	R	0	т	Е	С	т	Η	Ε	A	Η	Е	J	Е	R	U	S	A	L	Е	Μ	С	D	Y	С
Е	S	I	R	Ρ	R	U	S	I	Y	Ρ	I	W	U	G	Ν	F	I	0	J	U	Μ	Е	Η	0
I	A	R	Μ	I	S	U	С	Y	Ρ	т	D	V	0	Q	Q	D	т	A	Q	V	U	R	Y	L

ANGELS	DONKEY	LISTEN	SHEEP
ADVENT	EMMANUEL	LOVE	SHINE
BELIEVE	FOUR	MANGER	STAR
BETHLEHAM	FORGIVE	PRAY	SURPRISE
CARE	GIVE	PREPARE	WAKE
CHRISTMAS	HOPE	PROCLAIM	WONDER
DECEMBER	INFANT	PROTECT	WORSHIP
DESIRE	JERUSALEM	REPENT	



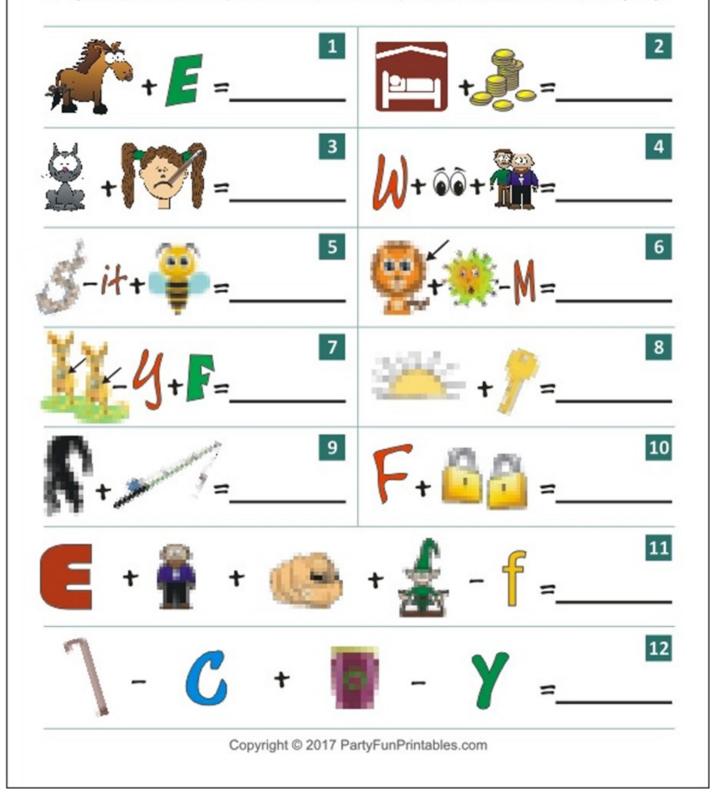
©1999 The Kid's Domain

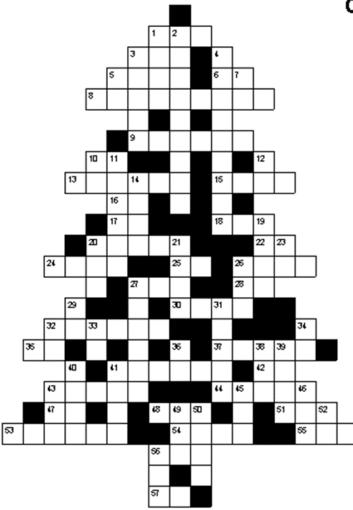
www.kidsdomain.com

free for non-profit use

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY PICTURE PUZZLE GAME

Rebus puzzles or picture puzzle games depict a group of images and symbols that represent words or phrases. For instance, the letter H in front of a picture of an ear would become H + EAR which could mean HEAR or HERE. Can you decipher the 12 rebus puzzles below to find words or phrases associated with the Bible nativity story?





Across

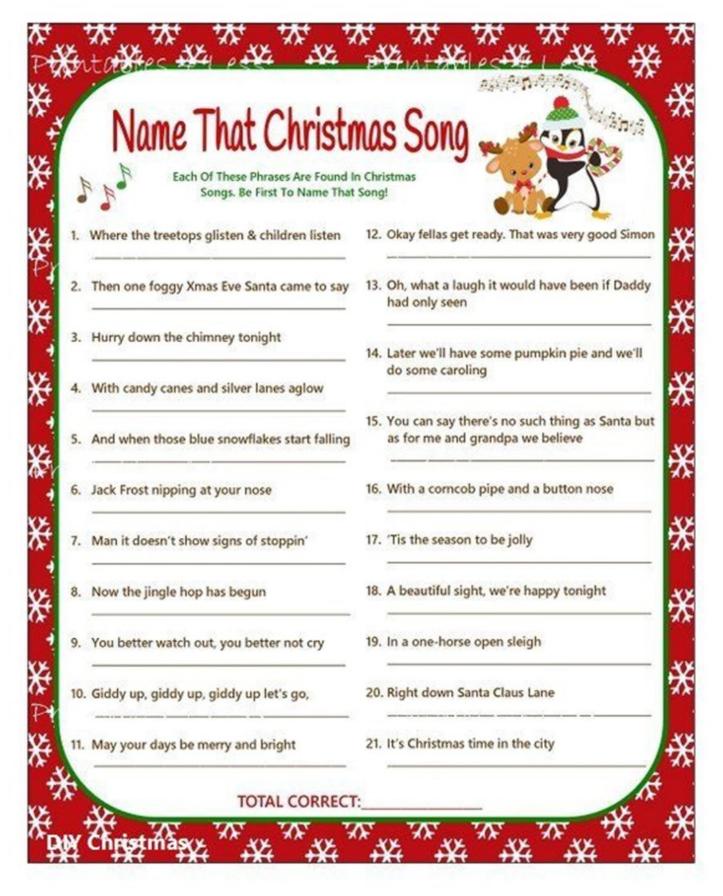
- 1. President
- Observe
- Discuss
- 6. "And shall reign over the house of Jacob ... '
- 8. Flock watchers
- Satisfy
- 10. The great I
- 13. Mary's resting place
- 15. Mother of Jesus
- 16. Negative
- 17. "____ and search diligently for the young child"
- 18. Jesus is the ____ of God
- 20. The baby
- "...and shall be called the Son ____ of the Highest:"
- 24. Destitute
- 25. "...and laid Him ____ a manger"
- 26. Bearded nanny
- 27. "And she brought her first born

- 28. "...and earth peace, good will towards men."
- 30. Wiseman gift
- 32. "And him with all the heart" (two words)
- "...what have we to _____with thee, thou Jesus..."
- What the wisemen brought
- 41. Stepfather
- 42. Either
- 43. More accurate.
- 44. "And all went to be _ _, every one into his own city."
- 47. "For unto you ____ born this day
- 48. No room here
- 51. Consume
- Singing Cherubs
- 54. Present decorations
- 55. "For unto you is born, this ____ in 49. Broadcast TV network the city ... '
- 56. Pro
- 57. Way to win in boxing

Christmas

Down

- 1. Jump
- Birth city
- Shepherds flock
 The Holiday we observe
- 5. Brand of suger
- Mr. McMahon
- 10. "Hee shall be born of Mary, Jerusalem..."
- 11. Baby's bed
- 12. Northwestern state
- Hisses
- 19. Mid day
- 20. Happiness
- 21. What the angels did
- 23. "____ la la la la la la la la"
- 26. Jehovah
- 27. Redeemer
- 29. "His name was called Jesus, which was ____ named of the angel"
- 31. Illumination
- 32. "and it came _____ pass..."
- 33. "... and _____, the star which they saw in the east ... "
- 34. "When ____ his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph,"
- 36. "Master what shall do?"
- 38. Sly canine
- 39. Decorated pine
- 40. "...behold, there came men from the east."
- 41. Not Gentiles
- Parable of the _____ tree
- 45. Mary's transportation
- 46. Father
- 50. Christmas carol
- 52. Instructor's helper
- 56. Inquire



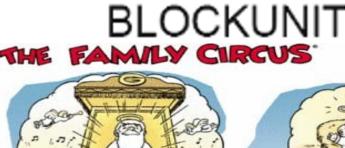
The birth of Jesus marked hope throughout the world. Let Christmas surround you with love. Merry Christmas.

This Biblical unit of measurement measured the length of the arm from the elbow to extended fingertips. Its Hebrew name is Ammah which means "mother of the arm" Find the Bible answer



"Putting Baby Jesus in swaddling clothes was the first Christmas present wrapping."









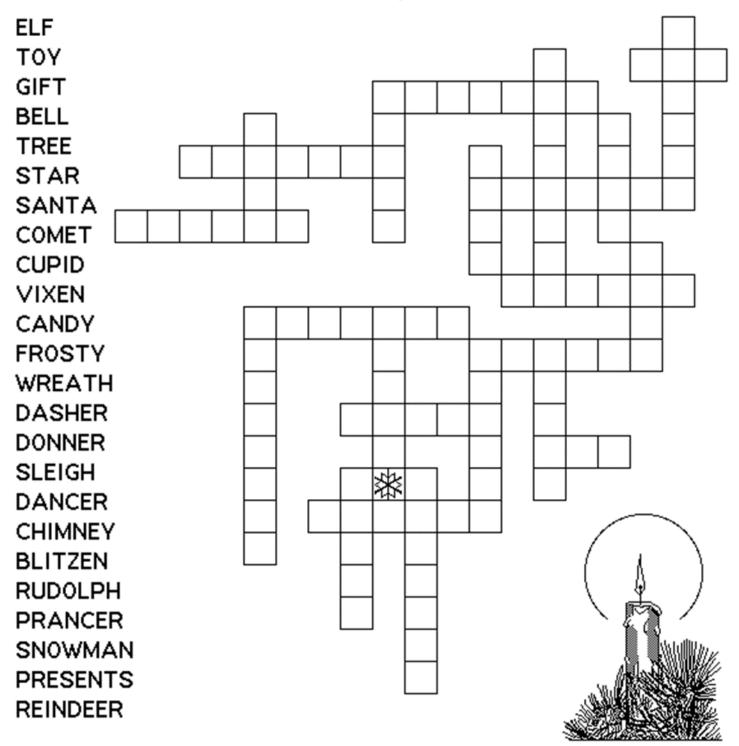


R



Christmas Crossword

Make all the words fit into this crossword. Each word is only used once.



free for non-profit use

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI Treasurer's Report as of October 2020

Monday, November 23, 2020	-				Page 1 of 2
Account Name	Period		YTD Balance	Over/Under	Annual Budget
	Activity	Budget		YTD+(-)	
Income					
BUILDING CAP PROJ FUNDRAISER	0.00		0.00		
EDUCATION FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
EVANGELISM FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
GEN. FUND ENVELOPE RECEIPTS	8,720.95	13,968.00	142,577.31*	2,897.31	167,620.00
GEN. FUND INTEREST EARNED	1.77		33.35		
GENERAL FUND LOAN PROCEEDS	0.00		0.00		
LFOJ FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
Member services\$ etc	0.00		0.00		
Mission MISC IN/OUT	0.00		0.00		
ORGAN FUNDRAISER	0.00		0.00		
Special Gifts	0.00		0.00		
STEWARDSHIP FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
Transfers in/out general fund	227.49		3,748.10		
Trivent Choice Dollars	0.00		1,507.00		
TRUSTEE FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
YOUTH FUNDRAISERS	0.00		0.00		
Total Income	\$8,950.21	\$13,968.00	\$147,865.76*	\$2,897.31	\$167,620.00
Expense					
CHOIR DIRECTOR SALARY	0.00		0.00		
Guest/vacancy pastors	0.00	25.00	0.00	(250.00)	300.00
MILEAGE OR TRAVEL EXPENSES	0.00	42.00	276.00	(144.00)	500.00
ORGANISTS SALARY	0.00	337.00	2,040.00	(1,330.00)	4,040.00
PASTOR'S SALARY	3,651.94	3,956.00	40,131.17*	571.17	47,475.00
SECRETARY SALARY	900.00	926.00	9,618.77*	358.77	11,115.00
SEXTON SALARY	170.63	275.00	1,579.40	(1,170.60)	3,300.00
SMP PROGRAM VICAR ED	0.00		0.00		
Church Salaries	\$4,722.57	\$5,561.00	\$53,645.34	(\$1,964.66)	\$66,730.00
EMPLOYEE RELATIONS	0.00	42.00	36.92	(383.08)	500.00
EMPLOYER'S FICA TAX EXP	361.30	473.00	4,082.94	(647.06)	5,677.00
HEALTH & DISABILITY INS.	119.04	115.00	1,188.44*	38.44	1,382.00
PASTOR'S HOUSING ALLOW.	1,153.84	1,250.00	12,692.24*	192.24	15,000.00
PASTOR'S PENSION PLAN	452.95	453.00	4,521.93	(8.07)	5,441.00
PASTOR'S PROFESSIONAL EXP	0.00	42.00	0.00	(420.00)	500.00
Pastor's retirement Savings	0.00		0.00		
SEC. PENSION PLAN	0.00		0.00		
Employee Benefits	\$2,087.13	\$2,375.00	\$22,522.47	(\$1,227.53)	\$28,500.00
ELECTRICITY - CHURCH	366.29	333.00	2,688.53	(641.47)	4,000.00
FUEL - CHURCH	34.05	250.00	2,498.06	(1.94)	3,000.00
INTERNET SERVICE & SOFTWARE	79.99	70.00	799.90*	99.90	840.00
TELEPHONE - CHURCH	121.58	117.00	1,199.84*	29.84	1,400.00
WASTE DISPOSAL	393.75	93.00	1,594.02*	664.02	1,120.00
WATER - CHURCH	242.82	150.00	1,501.32*	1.32	1,800.00
Church Utilities	\$1,238.48	\$1,013.00	\$10,281.67*	\$151.67	\$12,160.00
BUILDING CAPITALIZED PROJ	0.00	531.00	6,372.00*	1,062.00	6,372.00
CHURCH MAINTENANCE	0.00	167.00	4,394.27*	2,724.27	2,000.00
ORGAN PURCHASE EXPENSE	0.00		0.00		
PRESCHOOL BLDG. MAINTENANCE	14.99	167.00	51.04	(1,618.96)	2,000.00
PROPERTY/WORK COMP INSURANCE	3,872.00	604.00	9,217.00*	3,177.00	7,245.00
Snow Removal	0.00		682.50		
TRUSTEE SPECIAL PROJECTS	0.00		0.00		

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI Treasurer's Report as of October 2020

Monday, November 23, 2020 Account Name	Period Activity	Monthly Budget	YTD Balance	Over/Under YTD+(-)	Page 2 of 2 Annual Budget
Church Maint. & improvements	\$3,886.99	\$1,469.00	\$20,716.81*	\$5,344.31	\$17,617.00
BANK SERVICE CHARGES	0.00	8.00	259.17*	179.17	100.00
JANITORIAL SUPPLIES	58.00	57.00	631.89*	61.89	678.00
KITCHEN SUPPLIES	0.00		0.00		
Member services in and out	0.00		306.61		
MUSIC	0.00	20.00	137.00	(72.00)	250.00
Office Supplies	202.66	83.00	750.71	(79.29)	996.00
POSTAGE	0.00	20.00	207.40*	7.40	240.00
Technology - Marketing	260.11	248.00	3,588.85*	1,108.85	2,976.00
WORSHIP SUPPLIES	94.33	177.00	1,804.34*	34.34	2,124.00
Church Supplies	\$615.10	\$613.00	\$7,685.97*	\$1,240.36	\$7,364.00
\$ FOR CONFER/ CONVENTIONS	0.00	167.00	819.99	(847.01)	2,000.00
\$ TO EDUCATION	45.00	342.00	869.12	(2,550.88)	4,104.00
\$ TO EVANGELISM	0.00	83.00	0.00	(830.00)	1,000.00
\$ TO LFOJ CHILD CARE SUPPORT	0.00		0.00		
\$ TO STEWARDSHIP	0.00	8.00	0.00	(80.00)	100.00
\$ TO YOUTH PROGRAMS	0.00	83.00	0.00	(833.00)	1,000.00
BRICK MISSION	135.00	135.00	1,350.00	0.00	1,620.00
MISSION varoius	0.00		0.00		
MISSIONS TO SYNOD	800.00	800.00	8,000.00	0.00	9,600.00
OVERALL OFFERINGS PD TO SYNOD	0.00		0.00		
PUBLICATIONS LUTH WIT. ETC	3.68	33.00	660.98*	330.98	400.00
Ministry Disbursements	\$983.68	\$1,651.00	\$11,700.09	(\$4,809.91)	\$19,824.00
interest on line of credit	0.00		0.00		
LOAN FEES	0.00		0.00		
Mort. & credit card interest	190.83	250.00	2,094.96	(405.04)	3,000.00
PRINCIPAL payment	844.46	1,035.00	8,288.63	(2,061.37)	12,425.00
Total PRIN. AND INT. payments	\$1,035.29	\$1,285.00	\$10,383.59	(\$2,466.41)	\$15,425.00
Ordination Expenses	0.00		0.00		
principal to principal from bl	0.00		(7,444.17)		
TRUSTEE CONTROLLED DISBURSEMNT	0.00		0.00		
Total Expense	\$14,569.24	\$13,967.00	\$129,491.77	(\$3,732.17)	\$167,620.00
Difference	(\$5,619.03)	<u>\$1.00</u>	<u>\$18,373.99</u>		<u>\$0.00</u>

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI Consolidated Fund Activity Report for October 2020

Monday, November 23, 2020 Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	Page 1 of 1 End Balance
BUILDING ACCOUNT TO BALANCE LOAN	(45,226.08)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(45,226.08)
BUILDING CAPITALIZED General Fund ORGAN FUND	(6,372.00) 85,944.62 0.00	0.00 8,950.21 0.00	0.00 14,569.24 0.00	0.00 0.00 0.00	(6,372.00) 80,325.59 0.00
Total	\$34,346,54	\$8,950.21	\$14,569.24	\$0.00	\$28,727.51

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH - Ashland WI Balance Sheet as of October 31, 2020

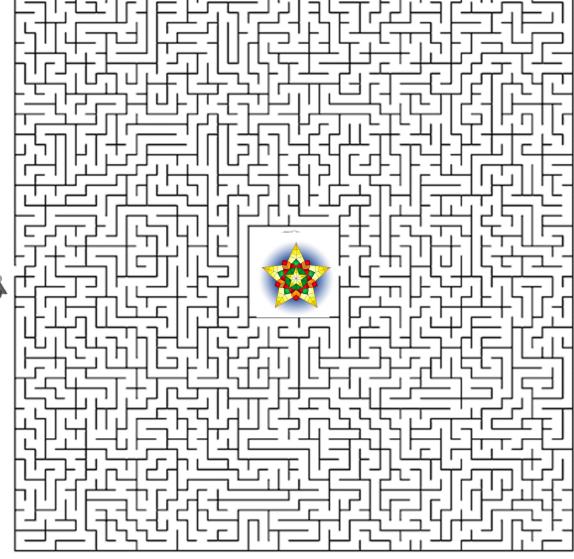
Monday, Noven	nber 23, 2020		Page 1 of 1
Account #	Account Name	Beginning Balance	YTD Balance
Assets			
101.101	fM & 1 CK ACCOUNT Gen.	33,212.06	41,719.09
	General Checking	\$33,212.06	\$41,719.09
101.201	GEN FUND SAVINGS Northern Stat	31,625.10	33,151.18
119.999	TO BALANCE 01/01/2015 - 12/31/2015	0.00	0.00
	Total Assets	\$64,837.16	\$74,870.27
Liabilities			
202.102	M & I Line of Credit Loan	0.00	0.00
202.103	BULDG LOAN PAYABLE	95,714.71	95,714.71
202.104	Principle from Bldg Fund	(43,044.46)	(50,488.63)
	Note payables LCEF & M& I bank	\$52,670.25	\$45,226.08
200.000	Accounts Payable/Vendors	(243.46)	(464.87)
201.101	BORROWED WITHIN ORGANIZATION	0.00	0.00
201.201	EMPLOYER'S TAXES PAYABLE	1,627.52	1,249.28
201.203	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PAYABLE	429.33	132.27
	Total Liabilities	\$54,483.64	\$46,142.76
Fund balance			
	Total Fund balance	\$10,353.52	\$28,727.51
	Total Liabilities and Fund balance	\$64,837.16	\$74,870.27

"It's Christmas Eve! It's the one night of the year when we all act a little nicer, we smile a little easier, we cheer a little more. For a couple of hours out of the whole year, we are the people that we always hoped we would be." -**Bill Murray**

"The best way to spread Christmas cheer is singing loud for all to hear."



Though we're apart, you're in our hearts this Christmas and FOREVER!



At the December 2019 Annual Meeting it was voted by the congregation to hold annual meetings in February and since February was only two months away, the next annual meeting would be in February 2021. Another request was to see the budget ahead of time. So below is the 2021 budget.. It has not been reviewed by the council yet. It is only preliminary, the first draft. If you have any guestions you can ask the board member that would cover the subjects you would like to discuss. Call the office for any further information.

		2019		2019		2020		2020	\$2,021.00
							Thr	rough 10/30/2	020
Receipts		Budget		Actual		Budget		Actual	Budget
General	\$:	162,017.93	\$	163,986.53		169620	\$	142,577.31	168966.1
Gen.Fund Interest Earne	\$	-	\$	37.19				33.35	\$30.00
Transfers in/out Genera	\$	-	\$	(851.90)				3748.1	
Thrivent Choice Dollars	\$	-	\$	575.00				1507	
Mission Misc IN/OUT	\$	-	\$	570.72					
Member Services in & ou	\$	-	\$	-					
Special Gifts	\$	-	\$	1,450.00					
Trustee controlled receij	\$	-	\$	-					
LFOJ Child Care Support	\$	-	\$	-					
Evangelism Fundraiser	\$	-	\$	-					
Youth Fundraiser	\$	-	\$	-					
Organ Fundraiser	\$	-	\$	-					
Building Cap Proj Fundraiser	\$	-		0					
Total	\$ 1	162,017.93	\$	165,767.54	\$	169,620.00	\$	147,865.76	\$168,996.19
Operating Expenses									
Salaries & personnel ex	00	neae							
Pastor	-		~	46 420 80	c	47 475 00	~	40 121 17	C49 E42 10
	\$	46,430.85	\$	-	\$	47,475.00	\$	40,131.17	\$48,543.19
Secretary	\$ \$	11,115.00	\$	11,030.65	\$	11,115.00	\$	9,618.77	\$11,115.00
Employee Relations		500.00	\$	200.00	\$	500.00	\$	36.92	\$500.00
Organist	\$	4,040.00	\$	4,040.00	\$	4,040.00	\$	2,040.00	\$4,040.00
Sexton Salary	\$	3,300.00	\$	2,200.00	\$	3,300.00	\$	1,579.40	\$3,300.00
Choir Director	\$ \$	-					\$	-	
Youth Director		-					\$		
Mileage for vacancy pas		-					\$	-	
Moving Expenses	\$	-	~		~	200.00	\$	-	
Guest Pastor	\$	300.00	\$	-	\$	300.00	\$	-	ÅF 677 00
Church Portion taxes	\$	5,677.00	\$	4,873.17	\$	5,677.00	\$	4,082.94	\$5,677.00
Pastor's Retirement Savings	\$	-	~	5.946.46	~	5 4 4 4 0 0	\$	-	AE 444 00
Pastor's Pension Plan	\$	5,255.16	\$	5,346.46	\$	5,441.00	\$	4,521.93	\$5,441.00
Health & Disability Ins	\$	1,381.92	\$	1,402.96	\$	1,382.00	\$	1,188.44	\$1,382.00
Professional Expense	\$	1,000.00	\$	-	\$	500.00	\$	-	\$500.00
Pastoral Travel Expense		1,000.00	\$	-	\$	500.00	\$	276.00	\$500.00
Housing Expense	\$	15,000.00	\$	14,999.92	\$	15,000.00	\$	12,692.24	\$15,000.00
Total Personnel Exp.	\$	94,999.93	\$	90,523.96	\$	95,230.00	Ş	76,167.81	\$95,998.19
Church Utilities	~	1 400 00	~	1.046.00	~	1 400 00	~	1 100 01	A4 400
Telephone	\$	1,400.00	\$	1,246.99	\$	1,400.00	\$	1,199.84	\$1,400.00
Internet Service	\$	840.00	\$	798.90	\$	840.00	\$	799.90	\$960.00
Water	\$	1,800.00	\$	1,501.43	\$	1,800.00	\$	1,501.32	\$1,800.00
Electricity	\$	4,000.00	\$	3,451.19	\$	4,000.00	\$	2,688.53	\$4,000.00
Fuel	\$	3,000.00	\$	2,674.79	\$	3,000.00	\$	2,498.06	\$3,500.00
Waste Disposal	\$	1,120.00	\$	758.64	\$	1,120.00	\$	1,594.02	\$1,120.00

		2019		2019		2020		2020	\$2,021.00
								10/31/2020	
Receipts		Budget		Actual		Budget		Actual	Budget
Building Maint. & Ins.									
Property/ Work comp. Ins	\$	7,245.00	\$	8,814.50	\$	7,245.00	\$	9,217.00	\$8,145.00
Church Maint.	\$	2,000.00	\$	6,370.64	\$	2,000.00	\$	4,394.24	\$2,000.00
Snow Removal	Х				\$	2,000.00		682.5	\$2,000.00
LFOJ Maint.	\$	2,000.00	\$	19.30	\$	2,000.00	\$	51.04	\$2,000.00
Building Capitalized Proje	\$	-			\$	6,372.00	\$	6,372.00	\$0.00
Organ Purchase Expense	\$	-							
Tot. Bldg. Maint. & Ins.	\$	11,245.00	\$	15,204.44	\$	19,617.00	\$	20,716.78	\$14,145.00
Supplies									
Worship	\$	2,124.00	\$	2,031.13	\$	2,124.00	\$	1,804.34	\$3,958.00
Office includes copiers	\$	996.00	\$	1,015.47	\$	996.00	\$	750.71	\$2,188.00
Technology - Maint	\$	2,976.00	\$	4,201.55	\$	2,976.00	\$	3,588.85	\$3,500.00
Postage	\$	240.00	\$	-	\$	240.00	\$	207.40	\$300.00
Kitchen	\$	-	\$	23.91			\$	-	\$0.00
Music	\$	250.00	\$	193.21	\$	250.00	\$	137.00	\$100.00
Janitorial	\$	678.00	\$	326.69	\$	678.00	\$	631.89	\$678.00
Member Services in & out	\$	-	\$	(759.15)			\$	306.61	\$0.00
Bank Service Charges	\$	100.00	\$	38.00	\$	100.00	\$	259.17	\$100.00
Total Supplies	\$	7,364.00	\$	7,070.81	\$	7,364.00	\$	7,685.97	\$10,824.00
Ministry & Mission									
LFOJ Child Care Support			\$	-			\$	-	\$0.00
Evangelism	\$	1,000.00	\$	758.75	\$	1,000.00	\$	-	\$1,000.00
Education/S.School & Cor	\$	4,104.00	\$	3,679.94	\$	4,104.00	\$	869.12	\$4,104.00
Stewardship	\$	100.00	\$	-	\$	100.00	\$	-	\$100.00
Youth Programs	\$	1,000.00	\$	2,852.36	\$	1,000.00	\$	-	\$1,000.00
Conventions/Conferences	\$	3,000.00	\$	1,323.17	\$	2,000.00	\$	819.99	\$2,000.00
Misc Publications etc.	\$	400.00	\$	413.02	\$	400.00	\$	660.98	\$400.00
Miisions various	\$	-	\$	84.06			\$	-	\$0.00
The BRICK Mission	\$	1,620.00	\$	1,620.00	\$	1,620.00	\$	1,350.00	\$1,620.00
Missions to Synod	\$	9,600.00	\$	10,689.60	\$	9,600.00	\$	8,000.00	\$9,600.00
Total Mission Ministry	\$	20,824.00	\$	21,420.90	\$	19,824.00	\$	11,700.09	\$19,824.00
Debt Obligations									
LCEF Loan Payments	\$	12,425.00	\$	9,501.98	\$	12,425.00	\$	8,288.63	\$12,425.00
Mort. & Credit Card Inter	\$	3,000.00	\$	2,951.46	\$	3,000.00	\$	2,094.96	\$3,000.00
Loan Fees	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-	\$0.00
Line of Credit Used	\$	-			\$	-	\$	-	\$0.00
Interest on line of credit	\$	-					\$	-	\$0.00
Total Debt Payments	\$	15,425.00	\$	12,453.44	\$	15,425.00	\$	10,383.59	\$15,425.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	-	162,017.93		157,105.49	\$	169,620.00	\$	136,935.91	\$168,996.19
TOTAL RECEIPTS		162,017.93	_	165,767.54	\$	169,620.00	\$	147,865.76	\$168,996.19
	-		-		-		*		+



SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT		
3014	MON	TUES		INUKS	LUI	JAI		
		1	2 Confirmation 3:30-5pm 6:30pm Advent Service	3 10:30 LFOJ Chapel 4-5:30pm confirmation	4	5		
6 9:00am Service 2pm LGP	7	8	9 Confirmation 3:30-5pm 6:30pm Advent Service	10 4-5:30pm confirmation	11	12		
13 9:00am Service Drive-up Communion			16 Confirmation 3:30-5pm 6:30pm Advent Service	17 10:30am Taping of LFOJ Christmas Program 4-5:30pm confirmation	18	19		
20 9:00am Service 2pm LGP	21	22	23246:30pmEveAdvent Service(See below)		25 Christmas Day (See below)	26		
27 9:00am Service Drive-up Communion	28	29	30 6:30pm Prayer Service	31	1 January			



We are looking at having in-church services on Dec. 24h at 4:00pm and Dec. 25th at 9:00am. Both would be live-streamed. We need to know an approximate number for attendance to verify that we will have them or add another service.. If you would, call the church or email a reply of yes, no, or maybe. If things change you can always call us again. We will keep you posted. Thank you.