

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
"The church on the hill, lighting the way to God's love"
821 Durham Road - P.O. Box 100 - Durham, PA 18039-0100
Phone: 610-346-8500 e-mail: evangel@durhamlutheran.org

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821 Durham Road—
PO Box 100
Durham, PA 18039-0100
610-346-8500
www.durhamlutheran.org

Reverend James Heckman,
Bridge Pastor
267-664-3160
bridgepastor.ELD@gmail.com
Pastor's Office Hours: Wednesdays' & Friday's from
10:00 - 1:00PM

Ken Anderson, Secretary
610-346-8500

EVANGEL



2022

EVANGEL



**December
2022**

Annual Budget Meeting

December 4, 2022



The annual meeting to review and approve the 2023 Budget presented on Page 3 on the right immediately after the worship service. Please be sure to attend this short meeting, your participation is vital ! (continued on page 3)

In December...
Saturday, December 3
• Community dinner @
Riegelsville Fire Company

Sunday, December 4
Second Sunday of Advent
• Worship at 10:30 AM
• Annual budget meeting
then Worship and Music
following worship

Sunday, December 11
Third Sunday of Advent
• Worship at 10:30 AM
• Nativity rehearsal at 1:00

Saturday, December 17
• Live nativity at 5:00 PM
and 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 18
Fourth Sunday of Advent
• Worship at 10:30 AM
• Caroling after Worship

Saturday December 24
Christmas Eve

• Worship at 7:30 PM
Sunday December 25
• Service of Lessons and
Carols at 10:30 AM

Greetings sisters and brothers in Christ,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! No, I am not confused. I know this is my December newsletter article and not January, and I stand by my greeting, Happy New Year! As Christians we actually observe two new year's celebrations. Along with the rest of the world we celebrate the beginning of a new calendar year each January 1st. But as Christians, we celebrate another new year – a liturgical new year. It isn't always the same date, but it is always around the same time, four weeks before Christmas. Obviously, I am referring to the celebration of Advent which commences the four Sundays before Christmas Day. This year our liturgical new year begins on Sunday, November 27th. Like the astronomical new year, our liturgical new year brings with it the grace and hope of anew beginning as well as an opportunity to let go of the pain and sinfulness of the past year.

Here at Durham, the newness of this year is in a returning to a sense of normalcy. Like all other churches, the last two years have had to be adjusted to deal with Covid. In addition, you have had the adjustment of saying goodbye to a beloved pastor of 20 plus years. Much of the last year which I have spent with you as your Bridge Pastor, has been focused on stabilizing things and looking toward the future, and I think we have done that. (continued on Page 2)



Your Transition Team and Council worked very hard to put together your mission profile and make it available to future candidates. Now is the time of faithful waiting – putting our trust in the Holy Spirit and the guidance of the Call Committee. In the meantime, there has been a lot of effort put into “getting things going again” and your efforts are bearing fruit. Our in-person worship has continued to increase and our commitment to continuing our on-line presence, will allow us to have our worship continue as the center of strength and growth over the next year.

However, worship is not the only place of renewed energy and life. Over the last year, our participation in the Palisades Area Lutheran Ministry (PALM) has increased. We joyfully share with St. Peter’s, Trinity, and St. Luke’s in a confirmation program and are considering additional activities which we might undertake for our older youth. We also worked with those churches for Vacation Bible School and are looking forward to our joint leadership of a “Live Nativity” hosted here at Durham on December 17 (more details later in the newsletter). Also we are participating in a “friendly competition” with the other churches in a social ministry collection of food for the hungry with the “Reverse Advent Calendar Challenge”. In the newsletter you will see the list of items to be collected. The idea is that instead of taking one item out each day of advent as a part of our Advent devotion, we are reversing the process and putting one item in the box or bag which, when filled on December 25, will be brought to church and then donated to each church’s supported food banks. The “competition” comes in seeing which church can fill the most boxes. We are asking that your completed boxes or bags be brought to the church by January 8th. The winning church will be the guest at a PALM (palisades Lutheran Ministry) Dinner.

As you can see, things are happening here at Church, and I want you all to be a part of it. I encourage you to worship regularly. We are trying to keep everyone up to date with an expanded announcement section in the weekly bulletin. However, if you ever have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me or a member of the Church Council.

While I am very excited about what this new year holds. I also recognize that this will also be the year that we will part ways as you will be (by God’s grace) welcoming your new full-time pastor. As I said before, the excitement of this year is the opportunity to build to the anticipated new birth with the new pastor. In the meantime, let’s have fun growing together in Christ.

Blessings,

Pastor Jim

Christmas Flowers

It is time to order Poinsettias to decorate our chancel for Christmas. Orders will be taken until December 12. You can place your check and completed order form in Victoria Phillipps mailbox located in the back of the church, or you can order by mail. Send your check and completed order form to: Victoria Phillipps, 100 Meadows Lane, Riegelsville, PA 18077. Make checks payable to Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham. Please make sure to include your Name and phone number in the space provided below. The flowers will be in the church on the 18th and can be taken home after Xmas Eve service. Any questions, please contact Victoria at 610-346-1996

Name:			Phone Number:	
Quantity	Plant	Price	Total Amount	In Honor/In Memory of
	Red Poinsettia	\$8.00		
	White Poinsettia	\$8.00		
	Grand Total			



	December BIRTHDAYS		December ANNIVERSARIES		December BAPTISMS
				1	Kerri Rhine
2	Clayton Leichliter			2	Blake Trauger
				4	Rowan Froehlich
				6	Brian Ashmore Sr.
		8	Dianna & Peter Streletz (31)	8	Brendan Snyder
				9	Lois Altemose
				10	Jocelyn Frey, Hunter Frey
				11	Alex Crouse
14	Victoria Phillipps, Benjamin Williams			15	Lee Ann Kressman
19	Bob Starling			18	Ken Anderson
20	Val McGinn	21	Kathy & Joe Hlavaty (47)		
23	Scott Gaun, Clayton Helfrich	26	Cheryl & Wayne Mesko (45)	23	Coraline Trauger
29	Leo Grzelkowski	28	Jayne & Jim Miller (53)	29	Matthew Mueller
30	George Kreitz	30	Laura & Dave Helfrich (15)		

Council Members (council@durhamlutheran.org)

Member	Email	Phone
President - Scott Gaun	scootgone@gmail.com	215-262-4170
Vice President - Val McGinn	mensans@frontier.com	610-847-6021
Secretary- Cathy Mueller	cjsmueller@gmail.com	732-208-0422
Financial Secretary- Kathy Hlavaty	hlavatyk@icloud.com	610-360-5756
Treasurer- Beth Snyder	bethjonczyk@comcast.com	215-485-7203
Mark Harwick	mcharwick@gmail.com	908-297-5977
Becky Praster	tpraster@aol.com	703-819-3602
Barb Naska	btbnbnaska@epix.net	610-721-0301
Ken Anderson	kenanderson@ptd.net	610-349-4391

2023 Budget

Yearly Budget Comparison

		Year Ending December 2023	Year Ending December 2022	Year Ending December 2021	Year Ending December 2020
INCOME	4000				
CONTRIBUTION INCOME	4010				
UNRESTRICTED	4020	\$114,990.00	\$121,755.96	\$119,531.96	\$133,556.86
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED	4201		\$200.00	\$200.00	\$500.00
Subtotal Contribution Income	4010	\$114,990.00	\$121,955.96	\$119,731.96	\$134,056.86
INVESTMENT INCOME	4500	\$48,457.00	\$37,003.00	\$40,327.00	\$35,627.00
TOTAL INCOME		\$163,447.00	\$158,958.96	\$160,058.96	\$169,683.86
EXPENSES	5000				
PASTORAL MINISTRY	5050				
PASTOR COMPENSATION	5050-010	\$90,837.00	\$73,938.44	\$73,938.44	\$74,938.44
OTHER	5050-059	\$6,100.00	\$1,600.00	\$1,600.00	\$2,950.00
Subtotal Pastoral Ministry	5050	\$96,937.00	\$75,538.44	\$75,538.44	\$77,888.44
WORSHIP AND MUSIC	5100	\$4,400.00	\$4,100.00	\$4,100.00	\$6,325.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	5300	\$1,300.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,800.00	\$2,550.00
LOCAL COMMUNITY SUPPORT	5400	\$500.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$375.00
WIDER COMMUNITY SUPPORT	5400-039	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$500.00
Subtotal Local Community Support	5400	\$700.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$875.00
STEWARDSHIP	5500				
PROPERTY	5500-100	\$13,350.00	\$11,850.00	\$12,650.00	\$13,780.00
ADMINISTRATION	5500-200	\$12,760.00	\$11,660.00	\$11,160.00	\$11,600.00
STAFF	5500-300	\$33,000.00	\$45,010.52	\$45,010.52	\$47,015.42
FINANCE	5500-400	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,750.00
PARSONAGE	5500-500		\$7,200.00	\$8,200.00	\$7,900.00
Subtotal Stewardship	5500	\$60,110.00	\$76,720.52	\$78,020.52	\$82,045.42
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$163,447.00	\$158,958.96	\$160,058.96	\$169,683.86
TOTAL BUDGETED INCOME/EXPENSE	-				

WORSHIP SCHEDULE FOR DECEMBER

ACOLYTES for December-

12/4
12/11
12/18
12/24
12/25

LECTORS for December

12/4 Bob Starling
12/11 Karen Beerer
12/18 Bonnie Pyne dePortillo
12/24 Tom Gaun
12/25 Linda Sauter

- ALTAR GUILD for November- Barb Naska & Nancy Moskella
- COUNCIL COUNTING TEAM for December- Cathy Mueller & Kathy Hlavaty

Casting call - Living Nativity

The Palisades Cluster is off to a great start creating a live Nativity at our church, but we still have lots to do and need your help.

We need people to volunteer for the following:

1. Actors (most are non-speaking parts. No auditions necessary) Looking for shepherds, angels, wise men, etc.
2. Animals for the stable (Becky Praster from Durham is the point of contact)
3. Help with scenery, lighting, etc.
4. Any and all volunteers willing to give time and talents to make this event successful.
5. Prepare and serve Cookies and Hot Chocolate.

Rehearsal is on Sunday, December 11 at 1:00pm and the event will be December 17, with two showings at 5 PM and 7PM

Contact Becky Praster or Kathy Hlavaty if you can help.
Let's make this a great holiday event!



PRAYERS

Please lift up in prayer the following ...

For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Michael Altemus; Joanne & David Antoni; Frank Erceg; Virginia Hager; Betty and George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Bethany Michl; Barbara Naska; Donnie Pyne; Donald Seipt; and Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

For Healing of Friends and Family:

Wanda Altemose; Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Michael Barats; Anthony Beck; Jason Bigley; Kelly Bordelon; Emma Brown; Ollie Butler; Deb Carmichael; Stephanie Courtney; Miriam Deal; Rev. Dennis Durasoff; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Chris Fear; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Debbie Gardner; Candie Gimbar; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Virginia Johnson; Lauren Keebler; Martine King; Jane Litzenberger; Chelsea Marley; Lenny Marin; Jim McAnally; Sue Odor; Lucia Otero; Debra Patten; Lisa Pezzino; Jennifer Phelps; Dr. Larry Rakowski; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Lani Schlegel; Debbie Schultz; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Saxton Vargo; Nancy Vetter; Linda Wilson, and Henry Wong.

For those who are Homebound:

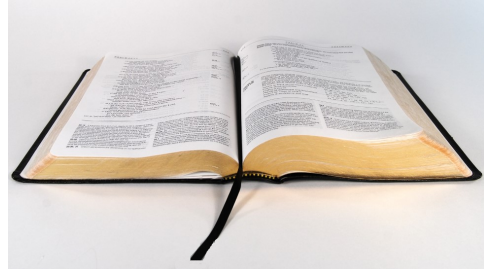
Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; Silas Rodenbach; and Hal Taylor.

For the grieving:

Mary Ellen Jonczyk; Jeffrey Tapler

If you want to add someone to the prayer list or correct or update it, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at: yakkityyak7@gmail.com.





Helen Dungan

Bible Study

The Adult Bible study meets on **Wednesdays** from **1:00-3:00** at the home of **Don Seipt and Kathy Hlavaty**. We are studying the Gospel of John. Please feel free to join us.

Care-A-Lot



Care-A-Lot students and teachers would like to wish everyone a blessed Christmas season and a healthy New Year!



Look forward to seeing you at the Live Nativity!

Random Notes:

- ♦ The Palisades Cluster is sponsoring a friendly contest between the churches to collect for local Food banks using a Reverse Advent Calendar. The church that collects the most will be treated to a dinner prepared by the remaining churches. (See Page 7 for the details).
- ♦ We still have some December openings for Acolytes and Ushers! Please Sign up on the Bulletin board in the Narthex.
- ♦ The January Newsletter deadline is 12/16/22
- ♦ We will be updating our constitution in 2023 since it has been (only) 12 years since we last updated it. We are looking for a few volunteers to help. Contact Ken Anderson for more information.

Yours in Christ, Ken Anderson

LIVE NATIVITY



WHEN

Saturday, December 17th
2 shows: 5 pm & 7 pm

WHERE

Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham
821 Durham Road, Durham, PA

FEATURING • LIVE animals and community cast!

COME ENJOY THE FREE SHOW
SPONSORED BY PALISADES AREA LUTHERAN MINISTRIES (PALM)

NO TICKETS REQUIRED!

FREE WILL DONATION

All donations will be given to **LAST CHANCE RANCH** (provider of the live animals)

WINTER HAT AND MITTEN TREE

All items collected will be donated to **AHUB** (Advocates for the Homeless of Upper Bucks)

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED



WELCA

On **Sunday December 11th**, WELCA will host our annual Christmas covered dish dinner. Please join us for a time of fellowship and good food. We will supply the beverages, rolls & butter; you bring a dish and/or desert to share.

Our next meeting is **Friday Dec. 9, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** This is a planning meeting for our soup suppers and to set up for our congregational luncheon.

On Sunday **January 8, 2023** Lynn Gaun will share a history of Evangelical Lutheran Church through the perspective of the women’s organizations. We have minute books from 1883 on! We will offer light refreshments after church and begin our program around noon.

Outreach

Food banks: Thanks to all who contributed to our food collection in November.

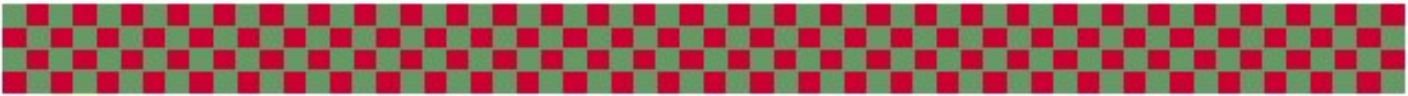
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Outreach envelope: Our Outreach envelopes for December have been designated to help the homeless. Our gifts will be given to The Upper Bucks Code Blue Shelter at 501 West Broad Street, Quakertown. The shelter will be open from November 15 to April 15 when the temperatures are 26 degrees and below.

Children’s gifts: Lynn Gaun will get the names of some local children whose Christmas would be brightened by a gift from you. Speak to her if you would like to help.

Caroling: After church on **Sunday December 18th** (weather permitting) we will go caroling to our shut-in members. We will share a light lunch in the fellowship hall before heading out. Please join us – all ages and singing levels are welcome. **You do NOT have to be a great singer to share the music of Christmas.**

Thank you,
Helen Dungan



REVERSE
ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A FOOD BANK.

December 1	Box of Cereal
December 2	Peanut Butter
December 3	Stuffing Mix
December 4	Boxed Potatoes
December 5	Macaroni and Cheese
December 6	Canned Fruit
December 7	Canned Tomatoes
December 8	Canned Tuna
December 9	Dessert Mix
December 10	Jar of Applesauce
December 11	Canned Sweet Potatoes
December 12	Cranberry Sauce
December 13	Canned Beans
December 14	Box of Crackers
December 15	Package of Rice
December 16	Package of Oatmeal
December 17	Package of Pasta
December 18	Spaghetti Sauce
December 19	Chicken Noodle Soup
December 20	Tomato Soup
December 21	Can Corn
December 22	Can Mixed Vegetables
December 23	Can Carrots
December 24	Can Green Beans



Feeding the
Community

