

WEEKDAY WORDS

Thursday, December 5, 2024

THIS SATURDAY

We are continuing our tradition of gathering for a **dish-to-pass supper at 5 PM** followed by everyone joining in to decorate our church for Christmas. Bring your own place setting and we'll gather around the tables for dinner. Around 5:45, we will decorate the sanctuary and the RFR. We have an activity planned in the nursery rooms for the youngest children, while the rest of us decorate. Bring the whole family!

THIS SUNDAY

At 9:30, our kids will rehearse for next week's Children's Pageant. Everyone in Faith Formation (preK – youth) will gather upstairs for parts and costumes and rehearsal. Meanwhile, our adults will continue discussing *A Place Called Home* - chapters 7-9.

When we worship at 10:30, our children will light the Advent candle of Peace and meet our new Director of Children's Ministry. The scripture for the morning is Luke 1:67-79 focusing on John-the-Baptist's dad, Zechariah. Our choir will provide special music as we move forward on our journey to Bethlehem. Stick around afterward for Coffee Hour, hosted by Kathy Rutan and Gail Van Patten. If you cannot attend worship in person, find our worship service live stream on Facebook, YouTube or at www.homercc.com

Special Opportunity:

In November, the Cortland County Housing and Homelessness Coalition opened **Grace Space** at Grace & Holy Spirit Church in Cortland. Some of us have been interested in seeing what is being offered through the work (ministry) of this coalition of non-profits in the area. Rev. Jennifer Mannis has agreed to meet us at Grace Space on Sunday at 12:15 PM (after our coffee hour). You are invited to join the tour. Afterward, some of us will have lunch at Central City. If you can, join us.

NEXT WEEK

Tuesday **Christmas Tea** at 2:00

If you are free on a Tuesday at 2 PM, come to the RFR for some tea, pie and Christmas Cheer. Do you have a favorite Christmas carol/song? If so, bring the background of your favorite (some history and/or why it is special to you) and we'll enjoy learning and singing.

Deacons meet at 6:30

Saturday **Kids' Christmas Shopping 30 minutes** sometime between 10-noon.

We've got all kinds of donations so kids can do their very own Christmas Shopping – FOR FREE! We've got some grandmas and aunts who will help our kids choose gifts, and then our youth will help them wrap the presents. We think it will take about **30 minutes** to pick things out for the grown-ups and then wrap them. We have enough things for grandparents' gifts, too! As the kids depart, we have a treat-in-a-bag for them to take along with the wrapped presents!

FOR YOUR LATER DECEMBER PLANNING

- Thursday, Dec. 19 Blue Christmas Service at 6:30 PM.
Sometimes Christmas brings pangs of grief or despair. This is a service that gently recognizes sadness and pain. Let your friends and neighbors know they are welcome.
- Sunday, Dec. 22 HCC's choir presents their Christmas cantata "Bethlehem's Child".
It's not too late to join in the rehearsals and sing with us!
- Tuesday, Dec. 24 4 PM Family Friendly Birthday Party for Jesus
Michael the Mouse will visit our celebration of Jesus' birthday. Stick around for birthday cupcakes afterward.
- 7 PM Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight
On this holy night, the scriptures will guide our worship as we hear the story of Jesus' birth. Our choir and other musicians will bring words to music. At the end, join our circle of candlelight as we proclaim JOY for our world.
- Sunday, Dec. 29 Brunch Church at 10:30 AM
As we worship, we will baptize Morgan Menard-Seiffert.
Bring a dish to share as we continue to celebrate Christmas.

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Bry Meyka
- 3 Dottie Kelley, Katrina Andersen
- 4 Amanda McCaslin
- 8 Rachel Rood
- 12 Evan Faulkenbury, Roosevelt Thomsen
- 15 David Ford
- 18 Terry Pedersen
- 23 Jennifer VanSlyke
- 29 Erin Gavidia (Leach)
- 30 Clara Faulkenbury
- 31 Elise Schmidt McCall

