

December 23, 2018

Ministry Information & Contacts

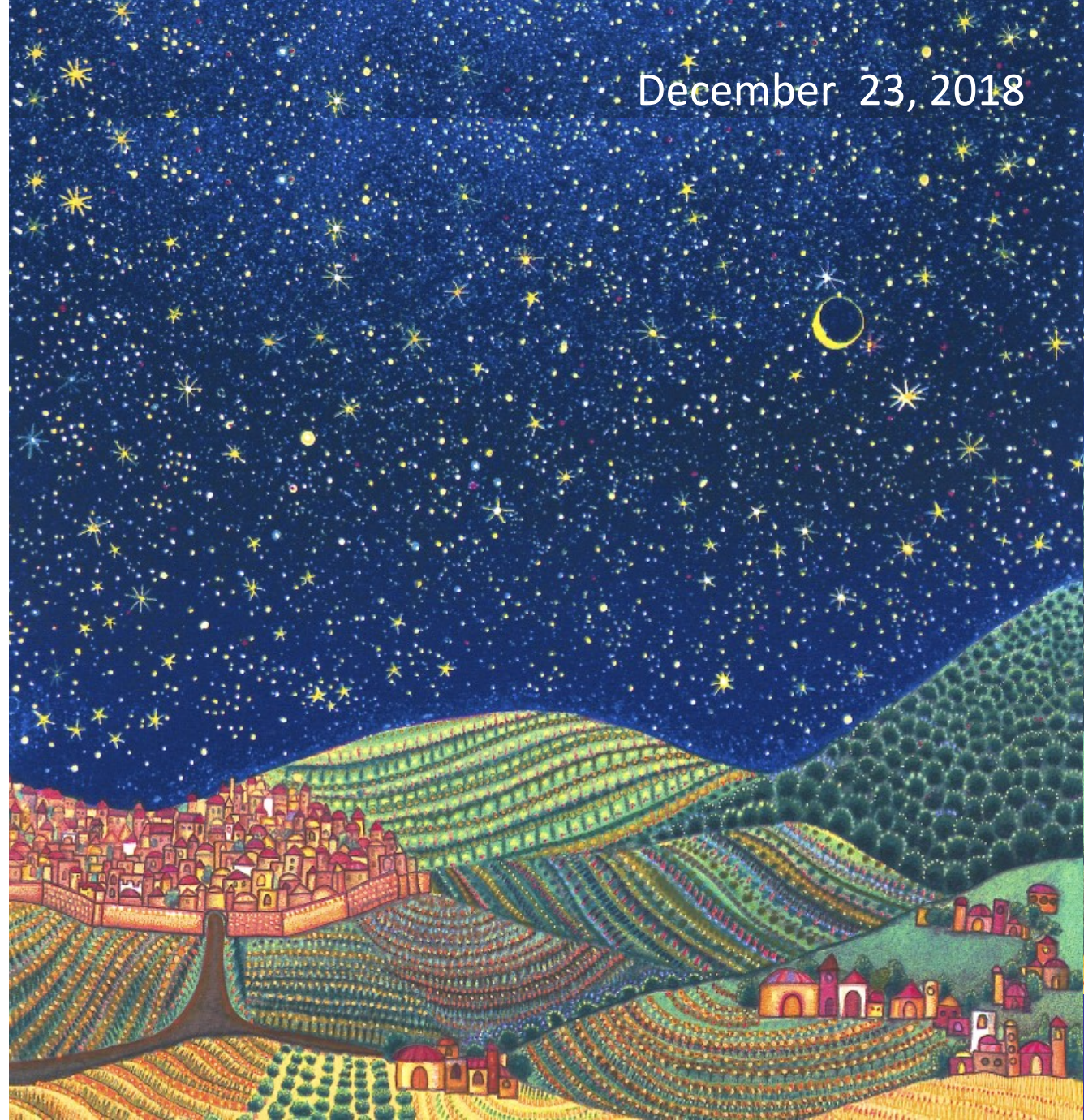
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Bulletin Deadline: 10am Thursdays

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Good Morning & Welcome to Ebenezer!

Good morning and welcome to the fourth Sunday of Advent.

This morning we continue to anticipate the arrival of the Messiah by looking at the portrait of Jesus in the prologue of John's gospel.

We have come to a verse that contains one of the great truths of Christmas:

The Word became flesh and dwelt among us!

May you experience the Lord's living presence in your life this Christmas season.

Cover Art: Nativity by John Swanson

Welcome & Prayer

Song: O Come All Ye Faithful

Greeting/God's Greeting

Song: What Can I Do?

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Song: Rejoice, Rejoice Believers

Time of Confession

Song: My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

Prayer of Assurance

Song: Be Still and Know

Announcements & Congregational Prayer

Offering

Children's Message (no children's church)

Scripture: John 1:14-18

Message: We Have Seen His Glory

Prayer

Song: Shine Jesus Shine

Parting Blessing

Parting Song: Glory to God

Church Family

We are thankful to hear that **Angela B's** surgery went well! Please continue to keep her and her family in your prayers as she recuperates.

Last week **Cor A** had a mini stroke. He is currently under doctors care and undergoing a number of tests. Please keep him and his family in your prayers.

Matt K's mom suffered from a stroke this past Monday, Please pray for her comfort and healing and also for the family at this time.

Walker I was admitted to the hospital for bronchitis. Please pray for complete healing.

Our Condolences to the **A family**, as Cor & John's niece and Quentin's cousin Anita K passed away a few weeks ago from cancer.

Congratulations to **Andy L** who is celebrating his 81st birthday December 26, to **Jay & Francine K** who will be celebrating their 10th Anniversary on December 27 and **Bryan & Emily M** who will celebrate their 25th anniversary on December 27. We wish God's blessings for you and your families as you celebrate these special milestones.

Please continue to remember **Andy & Shirley L, Darrin H & Henk G** in your prayers as they continue to struggle with health issues.

If you are experiencing physical or emotional difficulties, please speak to Pastor Jason, your district Elder, a Deacon or contact the church office. We want to support you in your journey. We pray that God will provide you with peace, comfort and healing.

HOLIDAY CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: The Church Office will be closed from December 24 until Jan 3 except for Friday December 28 when we will be open from 9am - 3pm.

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW: Pictures needed of events from this past year for year end power point. Please email Jen . Questions? Talk to Jen F. for more info.

TODAY BOOKS are in your mailboxes. If you would like large print Today Books, please let the office know.

LORD'S SUPPER DECEMBER 30TH. Next week, Lord willing, we will be celebrating the Lord's Supper together. This is a fitting way for us as a church to close out the year and look forward to the year to come. Please take some time this week to prepare your heart to receive this sacred meal. Make sure that you have confessed any known sins to the Lord and received His boundless grace. Also make it a point to seek reconciliation if you have any relational conflicts with anyone in the church. Parents, even if your children are not yet old enough to receive the Lord's Supper, use this as an opportunity to instruct your children about the wonderful grace of God. In 1 Corinthians 11 the Apostle Paul exhorts us to eat the bread and drink the cup of the Lord's Supper in a worthy manner. In accordance with that instruction, let's prepare our hearts beforehand to receive this gift with joy and thanksgiving.



PLANS ARE UNDERWAY FOR THE FIRST EVER OLIEBOLLEN CUP! A co-ed volleyball tournament in support of our Youth Group's service trip to Mexico this march! Mark your calendars for January 4th at Covenant Christian School and start gathering your team! There's room for 8 teams! Entry fee is \$250.00. Ages 15+. Want to donate money or food for the concession or volunteer to ref/lines games? Looking for a team or ready to register? Talk to our tournament coordinator, Nicole V!

CHRISTMAS DAY CAROL SINGING Each year on Christmas Day, St. Peter's Lutheran Church participates in carol singing to the patrons at Blackjack's Roadhouse. The patrons enjoy this immensely while they participate in this free Christmas meal. Many are alone and benefit from the company of the carolers. This year we would like to extend an invitation to all congregations to come and join us. We sing between 12 noon and 4 pm. Also musicians are welcome to play. We stick with the tried and true, nothing complicated. If you have any questions, please call Susan Perry at 780-719-1403.

Beginning the first week of Advent, we have watched the children receive gifts during the Children's Message. These gifts have been books selected by Pastor Jason. For those of you who are interested in tracking these books down for your own families, here is a list of the books used, including the gift to be given Christmas Day:

- *The Poison Cup* by R. C. Sproul
- *The Lightlings* by R.C. Sproul
- *The Plan: How God Got the World Ready for Jesus* by Sinclair Fergus
- *The Donkey Who Carried a King* by R. C. Sproul
- *The Barber Who Wanted to Pray* by R. C. Sproul
- *The Pine Tree Parable* by Liz Curtis Higgs

Denominational News

INGLEWOOD CRC is hosting a **Young Adults (18-35ish) retreat** Feb 8-10, 2019 at Camp Warwa. Young adults from across the city are encouraged to attend as we get back to basics and learn a new way to make the most of our Bible and assistive resources. The cost for the weekend is \$150.00, which includes meals, lodging, activities, speaker, and materials. Carpooling available. To register, email Emily Erin: icrcprogcoor@telus.net by Dec 20th, 2018.

More news and encouragement can be found at <http://www.ebenezercrc.com/news>. A paper copy is posted on the Bulletin Board.

Coming Up @ Ebenezer

Sunday, Dec 23	@ 9:15 am	Weekly Prayer Meeting
	@ 10:00 am	Worship Service - no children's church
	@ 11:30 am	CarolFest Choir Lunch and practice No Catechism Today
	@ 7:00 pm	Christmas CarolFest Service
Tuesday, Dec 25	@ 10:00 am	Christmas Day Service
	@ 6:00 pm	Ebenezer Christmas Dinner
Sunday, Dec 30	@ 9:15 am	Weekly Prayer Meeting in the Library
	@ 10:00 am	Worship Service - Communion No Children's Church
Tuesday, Jan 1	@ 11:00 am	New Years Day Service

CAROLFEST NEWS: We will have our final practice today after the service. Lunch will be served first, followed by practice at 12pm.

PLEASE NOTE: there will be no childcare offered tonight during the Christmas CarolFest service. Thank you!

The **SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS** have been practicing for the candlelight service CarolFest on December 23 and have also been practicing a song for Christmas Day. Parents are invited to practice the song for Christmas Day by searching it: "What a Glorious Night" by the Side-walk Prophets.

EBENEZER FAMILY CHRISTMAS DINNER! If you find yourself without plans the evening of December 25, come join us for a potluck dinner at 6 pm in the fellowship hall! Call Alesha or Maricha if you are interested in attending.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: On Sunday, December 30th, Lord willing, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper as a church.

A NOTE FROM OUR KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS: Please check the kitchen for dishes, cake pans, etc. that may belong to you. Also, if you brought a meal to someone, your dish may be in the kitchen. We ask that you would please take these dishes home. Thank you!

Deacon's Corner

1st Offering - EBENEZER MINISTRIES - This offering is used to cover the day-to-day expenses of the church, fund the various ministries at Ebenezer, cover the salaries of staff, and contributes to the ministry shares that we are committed to as members of Classis Alberta North and the CRC Denomination.

2nd Offering - DEACONATE - Deacons are church officers whose main job description is to administer the mercy of Christ to all people. The deacons are also called upon to motivate the members of Christ's church to faithful, obedient stewardship of their resources on behalf of the needy. Along with loving deeds and with gifts of money and assistance, the deacons serve the needy with counsel, leading people to see the grace of our loving Savior and recognizing the Lord through whom all blessings flow.

Christmas Day - WORLD RENEW World Renew envisions a world where people experience and extend Christ's compassion and live together in hope as God's community. World Renew's mission is to engage God's people in redeeming resources and developing gifts in collaborative activities of love, mercy, justice, and compassion. Serving worldwide as the development, disaster response, and justice arm of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, the aspects of World Renew's work are three-fold: Community development, Disaster response and rehabilitation, and advocacy. For more info see worldrenew.net

December 30 - SEA FARERS - The Ministry to Seafarers of the Christian Reformed Church is a Vancouver-based organization dedicated to caring for the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of seafarers visiting the port of Vancouver. The ministry exists to be a seafarer's advocate and first line of support, to lend both a sympathetic ear and a helping hand, and assist in providing a safe, relaxing place that all seafarers can call their home-away-from-home.

January 1 - FOOD BANK - The Leduc Food bank serves a population of approximately 55,000. Their mission is to promote human dignity, bring surplus food together with people in need, lend support to other agencies that care for those in crisis and develop community awareness, co-operation and education. For more info see leducfoodbank.ca

FOR NADC UPDATES AND NEWSLETTERS you can subscribe to receive email updates on the Classis website or check out new posts at www.classisalbertanorth.ca/nadc. Also like the NADC facebook page or friend Ab North to follow on social media.

REVISIONING THE FAMILY - learning how to survive and thrive in the face of addiction. The Calgary Dream Centre is a Faith-Based, Christ-Centered, Not-For-Profit Addiction Treatment and Recovery Center based out of Calgary, Alberta. This is a free program available on-line. The next session will start on January 17. For more information, see the poster on the bulletin board or visit their website www.revisioning@calgarydreamcentre.com.

Thank You to Our Volunteers!

Ushers: Luke K, Andrew V

Christmas: Dennis P, Ruby P

New Years Day: Marilyn & Andy Z

Greeters: Roy & Teena V

Dec 30: Gary & Jen F

Coffee Duties: Miriam P, Art & Linda T, Ben & Sandy M

Dec 30: John & Wendy T, Marco D

New Years Day: John & Joyce D, Gerard & Wendy B, Michelle O

Serving Elder: Jordan S

Dec 30: Andy T

Worship Team: Grace D

Dec 30: Marianne

Projection & Audio: Matt K/ Jamie B

Dec 30: Mike R/Nicole VDK

Nursery Supervisor - Glen H

Inf: Glen H, Michelle K, Alicia B, Sophie C

Tod: Emily M, Chelsea D, Damien B

CarolFest: **NO NURSERY PROVIDED**

Christmas: **Nursery Supervisor** - Lisa K

Inf: Lisa K, Matt B, Jay A, Bethany Gr

Tod: Jenna D, Jen F, Seth A

Dec 30: **Nursery Supervisor** - Linda K

Inf: Linda K, Sadie H, Carrie B, Julie B

Tod: Emma Ha, Chad D, Elliott D

New Years Day: **Nursery Supervisor** - Kara B

Inf: Kara B, Josh K, Joyce D, Grace C

Tod: Natasha D, Raquel D, Theo D

You will find new volunteer schedules in your mailbox and on the website.

