

OUR
MISSION:
In Christ we
love & serve
God and our
community.

MAPLE LEAF LUTHERAN CHURCH

C R O S S R O A D

DECEMBER
NEWSLETTER 2017

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS: This year our **December 17** Christmas pageant is going to be shorter and more simple than years past, because of this rehearsals will be shorter and more simple than years past! Rehearsals will be held on **Sundays at 9AM, Dec 3, 10 and 17...** with only one **Saturday: Dec 16th at 9am**, the day before the actual pageant. Please save these dates and plan on your kids participating! Dorothy is again directing our play. Thanks, Dorothy! If you have any questions please email Wendy, dcmum@live.com or Dorothy Ann, welsharcher@live.com. We look forward to working with your child to bring an extra special touch to Christmas this year!

ADVENT 2017: Advent begins on Sunday, **DEC 3rd**. Join us every week as we use the ever-popular "Holden Evening Prayer" liturgy that is slightly adjusted for a morning service; weekly add to an "Advent Prayer Tree" and also light candles on our Advent Wreath. We are offering various online options for Advent devotionals as well as some paper copy booklets for those of you not online. The last Sunday of Advent, DEC 24, will be normal Sunday worship at 10:30AM with a Christmas Eve service at 8PM that evening. Prepare the way of the Lord, this Advent season.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECT: Just a reminder to our Confirmation families that our joint service project with the students

from Luther Memorial and Edmonds Lutheran Church will be on **Sunday, DEC 10th**. We will meet here at Maple

ADVENT DEVOTIONALS & CALENDARS: This year we have several options for you: **1)** In the narthex (back of sanctuary) we have some random Free Advent devotional books, calendars and coloring sheets you may choose from. Sort of like a variety pack. Look through them and feel free to take whatever you'd like. **2)** If you are a Kindle user we suggest a .99 cent book you can download from Amazon: "Moving Toward the Manger: Reflections on the Writings of Frederick Buechner" Kindle Edition. **3)** On the Maple Leaf Lutheran Church Facebook page we will post online Advent devotionals and ideas throughout the season. "Like" our page & check it out.

DEC 24TH WORSHIP: Yes, Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year and while **we will not have** Sunday school, Adult Forum or Confirmation that day, **YES, we will have worship at 10:30AM.**

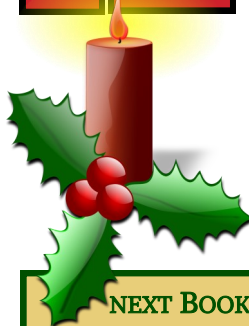
The morning worship service is technically the 4th Sunday in Advent. Once the sun sets we are officially on to Christmas Eve. Our candlelight Christmas Eve service will be at **8PM on Sunday, December 24th**. Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior with beautiful words, inspiring music & songs as well as the ever-popular candlelight portion of the service. It's one of the most beautiful and touching worship services of the year and to have you here makes it all the more special. Invite your friends and family to this annual event. In the midst of your other plans, please set aside some time to worship God & celebrate the birth of Christ together.

Leaf for a pizza lunch at 12:30 (probably in the Fireside room) and then help with the Lake City Holiday Project from 1-3PM (bagging, carrying gifts out to cars, etc.) We encourage you to make this service event a priority for your student. Not only are we teaching Christian service, giving in response to the great gift we have been given, we are also teaching about the importance of Christian community and belonging to something bigger than ourselves. Mark your calendars now and plan for your student to attend.

CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR: Need Christmas gift ideas for the fine young people in your life? Look no further! Please see the display table in the narthex/lobby of Maple Leaf Lutheran this Sunday, **December 3rd**, for faith-filled children's books from Sparkhouse Family/Augsburg Fortress. Fill out an order form & submit your check written to "Maple Leaf Lutheran Church" (memo: kids book fair). Pastor Julie will place the order on DEC 4th for delivery before Christmas. You may also sign up to win \$100 from Sparkhouse. See sheet on the book fair table, no purchase necessary.

ADULT FORUM: Sunday morning class will continue with our "Ever-Reforming: A Reformation 500 study." Please join us from 9-10AM in the 3rd floor church library to learn more. Here is what we will be looking at each week: **Dec 3:** Human Sexuality - Gift & Trust (ELCA Social Statements); **Dec 10:** A Very Brief History of Lutherans in USA; **Dec 17:** Lutherans & Roman Catholic Church Today.

NEXT BOOK CLUB: JAN 16th - *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles at Gloria M's. Join us!



ATTENDANCE & GIVING STATISTICS

NOV	5	12	19	26	Totals	Average
Attendance	76	78	82	60	296	74
Offering	\$ 4495	\$ 3441	\$ 1946	\$ 4182	\$ 14064	\$ 3516



LAKE CITY HOLIDAY PROJECT is bustling with activity and working it's way toward Dec. 14th when distribution of gifts to over 500 low-income, homeless and foster children will occur. There are still opportunities to help with this fun and worthwhile project. Check the volunteer sign-up board in the narthex to see where help is still needed. It is also not too late to buy scrip (\$25 gift cards for Target) to provide a little extra cash for food or other items for families that are registered with the project. Thanks, in advance, for your help & blessed holiday season to you all!



SAVE THE DATE-- JANUARY SERVICE PROJECT: Join us for a Martin Luther King Jr. weekend service project on Saturday, **January 13** from 3pm to 5pm. Once again Maple Leaf Lutheran Church will be joining several other neighborhood churches (Wedgwood Presbyterian, Sandpoint United Methodist and Wedgwood Community) for a service project at North Helpline Foodbank. Like last year, this year we are doing it on Saturday, instead of Monday, in hopes that more folks will be able to join in. Save the date and stay tuned for more details to come.

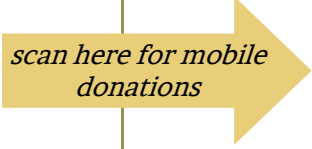




WELCOME INTERIM MUSICIAN: Natalie Bartels is a musician from Puyallup, WA. She is now studying at the UW for her Masters of Music in Organ Performance with Dr. Carole Terry. She graduated from Concordia University Irvine in spring 2017 where she studied Sacred Music and English. Her favorite composer is J. S. Bach, and her favorite writer is Oscar Wilde. Natalie has been known to spend her free time going on nature excursions or to the opera, and loves to go out for a pint of beer after either.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

DEC	3	10	17	24	31
READER	Marijayne	Sandy G	Dody F	Dorothy	Susan T
COMM ASSTS	Lynne & Karen A.	Sandy & Paularose	Lynne S. & Kris H.	AM: Catherine J/ Paularose PM: Cokelets	Catherine J. & Harrison
GREETERS	Bruce R	Lily V.A.	Paularose	AM: Catherine J. PM: Jeromes	Nancy G
USHERS	Lentzs	Olsons	Wendy & Dorothy	AM: Tiptons PM: Jeromes	Gossards
ASST. MINS	Gangnes	Gangnes	Gangnes	Gangnes	none
ACOLYTES	Soren J. & Emmett	Emmett & Josh K.	Britt J. & other	AM: other & Marie J PM: Stella O. & other	other & Marie J.
ALTAR	Randy	Kiki	Susan	Emeline	Kathy
VAN DRIVER	Aaron	Bill	Jim	Ned	Joe
KIDS' TIME	Pr Julie	Mike R	Pageant	Pr Julie	none
MUSICIAN	Natalie Bartels	Natalie Bartels	Natalie Bartels	Natalie Bartels	Natalie Bartels
MINISTER	Pastor Julie Blum	Pastor Julie Blum	Pastor Julie Blum	Pastor Julie Blum	Pr Sue Wanwig
LITURGY	Holden	Holden	Holden	Holden	ELW 10
COOKIE chart	Aanerud, Artz, Bakkala, Juhl, Harvey, Chamberline, Lentz, and Riswold.				

December EVENTS 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>NOTE FROM FAMILY MINISTRY: Printed copies of the 2018 Sharing Groups List (A.K.A "cookie chart") are in the Narthex. Please look for the blue paper. Thanks!</p>					<p>1 janitorial LCHP-all upstrs 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo 6:45PM Seattle Rec Soc; 9PM Nightly Shelter</p>	<p>2 janitorial LCHP-all upstrs Waldorf parking 3:30 PM Organist 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>
<p>3 Advent Begins LCHP-all upstrs 9:00 AM Adult Forum 9AM Pageant Practice 10:30 AM Worship Scrip Sunday 5PM Baby/Toddler grp</p>	<p>4 LCHP-all upstrs 9AM Quilters 4:45 PM Pacifica Choir</p>	<p>5 LCHP-all upstrs</p>	<p>6 LCHP-all upstrs 4:00 PM Pacifica long practice</p>	<p>7 LCHP-all upstrs 7:30 AM Bible Study; 10AM Text Study; 7PM Church Choir</p>	<p>8 janitorial LCHP-all upstrs 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>	<p>9 janitorial LCHP-all upstrs 11AM Pacifica event 3:30 PM Organist 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>
<p>10 LCHP- all spaces 9:00 AM Adult Forum 9:00 AM Pageant Practice 10:30 AM Worship 5PM Advent Event</p>	<p>11 LCHP- all spaces 9:00 AM Quilters</p>	<p>12 LCHP- all spaces 1PM Alzheimer s Assoc</p>	<p>13 LCHP- all spaces; 8:30 AM SHARE inspects; 4PM Pacifica; 7PM Exec Cmt</p>	<p>14 LCHP- all spaces; 7:30 AM Bible Study; 10AM Text Study; 7PM Church Choir</p>	<p>15 janitorial LCHP- upstrs 8:30 AM SHARE treats 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>	<p>16 janitorial 8AM Rotary event 9AM Pageant rehearsal; 2PM Estenson Memorial 3:30 PM Organist 6:45 PM Camino</p>
<p>17 Pageant Day 9:00 AM Adult Forum 9AM Pageant Practice 10:30 AM Worship 3:00 PM Shelter Meal</p>	<p>18 9AM Quilters 5PM Church Shelter meal</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 9:00 AM Deadline for CrossRoad</p>	<p>21 Winter Begins 7:30 AM Bible Study; 10AM Text Study; 7PM Church Choir</p>	<p>22 janitorial 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>	<p>23 janitorial 3:30 PM Organist 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>
<p>24 10:30 AM Worship 8PM Christmas Eve Candlelight service</p>	<p>25 Christmas SHARE stays</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 7:30 AM Bible Study; 10AM Text Study; 7PM Church Choir</p>	<p>29 janitorial 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>	<p>30 janitorial 3:30 PM Organist 6:45 PM Camino Al Cielo</p>
<p>31 SHARE stays 10:30 AM Worship</p>						



TAPROOT THEATRE

SAVE THE DATE: Our Advent Dinner & Taproot Theatre performance will be on **Sunday, Dec 10th**, starting at 5PM with appetizers in the Fellowship Hall. A potluck dinner will follow at approximately 5:30 - 5:45 and that will last until about 6:30 or so. **The congregation is being asked to please bring/share/contribute a side dish or salad that would feed 10.** Taproot will present "Gift of the Magi" at 7PM.

GIFT OF THE MAGI

By Courtney Kessler-Jeffrey
Based on the short story by O. Henry

Pastor: *Rev. Julie Blum (xt 102)*
MapleLeafELCAPastor@comcast.net
 Cell: 206.579.4274, Hrs: T-F

Community Partnerships
Director: *Terry Vogel (xt 103)*
 Hrs: M-Th, Meadowbrook
 Community CARE (MC²)
ML.Outreach@comcast.net

Office Administrator: *Sarah (Bisram) Stewart (xt 101)* Hrs: M-F, 9-1
MapleLeafOffice@comcast.net

Choir Director: *Handel Shin*
tcma.piano@hotmail.com

Accompanist: *Yoon Shin*
tcma.piano@hotmail.com

Bookkeeper: *Jim Francis (xt 104)*
jidufancis@aol.com

Webmaster: *Chris Toney*
Webmaster@reachoutchurch.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP - 10:30 AM

9a Sunday School/Confirmation
 9:30AM Adult Forum

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

10:30AM - Last Advent service
 8PM - Candlelight Christmas

Weekly Education

7:30 AM Thursday Bible Study
Grateful Bread Bakery
 NE 70th St & 35th Ave NE



At Maple Leaf Lutheran Church, we rejoice in the diversity that enriches, nurtures and challenges the life and ministry we share in Christ. We welcome visitors and members of all backgrounds, races, gender identities and sexual orientations. We share Word, Baptism and Communion with all people. We believe that the Gospel is God's unconditional gift. To all — especially those who have ever felt excluded, alienated or left behind — we extend a heartfelt embrace. In the spirit of love and goodwill, we treasure one another's similarities and accept our differences as we strive to discover what it means to be reconciling in Christ. Come walk with us as we are transformed by God's path of grace and peace, truth and love. **To those who see what we say, come and see what we do.** — "For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another" — Rom 12:5



AILANGA BOARD POSITION: The Ailanga School Project Board seeks a second member from Maple Leaf Lutheran. The candidate should have an interest in the organization and be willing to contribute to meetings and volunteer assignments. Currently, a candidate interested in taking the Treasurer position, too, would be ideal, though not required. Interested? Contact Darrick M.

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