

Mountain Lutheran Church

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Ralph B. Herman and Ginger DuMars, Pastors

www.mountainlutheranchurch.com

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December 2010

Christmas Eve Worship

From Pastor Ralph

The Message of Christmas

Amidst the glitz and tinsel, the message of Christmas comes down to this: "And the Word became flesh and lived among us." John 1:14. Saddened by the brokenness of our humanity, our compassionate God arrived on earth, just like us, as a helpless baby. And as it is with all of us, this infant became a child. Jesus played, learned, and grew taller, just like each of us. Like us, he cried, laughed, and even on occasion got angry.

Sometimes, like us, Jesus spent time by himself. He experienced the deep loneliness that all humans feel. Other times, he surrounded himself with friends. He feasted, celebrated, and experienced the joy of being alive. And just like us, he felt disappointment when his friends let him down. Like us, he hoped, prayed, and experienced temptation. He suffered, and he met the fate which awaits us all. Like everyone who went before him and all of us who have yet to go, he died.

Then something incredible happened. Jesus rose from the dead! And because of Jesus Christ, we too shall live forever. That is the message of Christmas.

Our Christmas Eve (December 24) worship service will be at 7:00 p.m. We will sing many of your favorite Christmas carols. We encourage you to invite your friends to attend with you.



Church Council Members:

President	Tom Carman
Vice President	Tom Sweeney
Secretary	Mary Bruha
Treasurer	Elden Bruha
Financial Secretary	Stan Bruederle
Members at Large	Jean Cox
	Dorine Smith
Pastors	Ralph Herman
	Ginger DuMars

Our Volunteer chairpersons for this year are:

Web Master	Tom Carman
Altar Guild	Delores Van Brocklin
Publicity	Dorothy Parker
Prayer Chain	Judy Basey
Newsletter Editor	Mary Bruederle
Refreshments	Judy Basey
Music & Worship	Tom Carman
Property Manager	Bob Smith



Pastor Ginger's Advent & Christmas News

We are entering the Season of Advent with the lighting of an additional candle each week & the hanging of a new Advent banner for each Sunday too! Although December is one of the darkest months of the year, we are reminded that Jesus is the Light of the World. "And the darkness did (& does) not overcome God's Light." See John 1:1-5 & John 8:12 where Jesus says: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." What powerful & beautiful promises God gives us with the Gift of Jesus – for this hectic & dark time of the year & for eternity! So, as we light our Advent & Christmas candles – Keep Awake & WATCH for Jesus! PREPARE for Jesus & Invite him into your heart by taking some special Prayer or Scripture reading time with him every day this Advent & Christmas

Season. We'll REJOICE in God's Gift of Jesus with the lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle & then experience God's GLORY on the 4th Sunday of Advent. Many churches use the word "BEHOLD" for the 4th Sunday of Advent. I think that God wants us to invite others to BEHOLD the GLORY of God on these Sundays of Advent & Christmas. BEHOLD – Come & See, Come & Experience God's LOVE for you & experience God himself – made manifest in the presence of Jesus – now in 2010 & for eternity.



A single candle can begin to dispel darkness – like opening the door of a well lit & welcoming house. When the door is opened the darkness does not enter in, but rather the light flows out. Just a single candle of light (YOU) offer a glimmer of hope, an opportunity to be in God's presence, to know God's love – when you invite others to church – especially during these Holy Seasons! The light of Christ glows & flows from you! Invite others to

BEHOLD – to Come & See! There are many services & activities at Mountain Lutheran Church that include the warm, welcoming Light of Jesus Christ during these Holy Seasons:



Advent & Christmas Sunday Worship at 10:00 a.m. (Christians officially celebrate Christmas from Dec. 24 – Jan. 6, but we'll include Christmas carols in most or all of our Dec. Worship Services.)
1st & 3rd Thursday Bible Study at 1:00 on Dec. 2 & 16, Jan. 6 & 20. We'll start a study of 1 Corinthians as soon as the books arrive & discuss some interesting interim topics.

Sat., Dec. 4 at 10:00 a.m. – Decorate the church.



More Calendar Events:

Sun., Dec. 5 at 11:30 –
Council Meeting.

Tues., Dec. 7 at 6:00 p.m. –
Advent Pot Luck Supper.
7:00 – Eve. Prayer Service –
set to music.

Sun., Dec. 12 at 11:00 a.m.
“End of the Year”
CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING.

**Fri. & Sat. Eve., Sun. at 2
p.m., Dec. 10-12** – Pine Cone
Singers Concert at Evan. Free
Church.

Tues., Dec. 14 at Noon –
Thrivent Financial Christmas
Lunch for Chapter Officers,
Congregational Advocates,
Pastors, Spouses at Banny’s
(Mt. Springs Golf Club,
Sonora).

Sat., Dec. 18 from 9:00 a.m. –
NOON “Coping with the
Holidays” for those who want
to learn about the grieving
process & those who are in a
grieving process. Bring your
lunch for fellowship time at
Noon. Coffee, Tea & Dessert
will be provided.



Fri., Dec. 24 at 7:00 p.m.
Candlelight Christmas Eve.
Service.



Sundays, Dec. 26 & Jan. 2 at
10:00 – Sundays of
Christmas.

Sun., Jan 2 (during 10:00
worship) Installation of
Council Members for 2011.
Both Pastors are hosting a
Noon Lunch Meeting for
2011 Council Members &
Spouses – after Coffee Hour.
Place – TBA.

*May God Fill Your Homes &
Your Hearts with the Light of
Jesus Christ this Advent &
Christmas Season. BEHOLD &
SHARE THE LIGHT of CHRIST!*

**With Faith & Hope &
Love – Pr. Ginger
DuMars**

Some Bulletin Bloopers

**The sermon this
morning: 'Jesus Walks
on the Water.' The
sermon tonight:
'Searching for Jesus.'**

**Don't let worry
kill you off - let the
Church help.**

**Next Thursday there will
be tryouts for the choir.
They need all the help
they can get.**

**Eight new choir
robes are
currently needed
due to the addition
of several new
members and to
the deterioration
of some older ones.**



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Label Here

