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The United Methodist Church
109 North Freeman Ave
Luverne MN 56156

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December 2019

The Messenger

UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH of LUVERNE

109 N Freeman Ave
Luverne MN 56156





**From the
Pastor's Desk**



Thank you, Faith Family for all the ways you have been present this year. It is a special thing to watch your faith grow and your connection with Jesus find more depth. I am also thankful for your care and concern in these last months. It has been a challenging 2 years and my family, and I would not have made it without you. We have much ahead of us, much for which to anticipate and be excited! May God bless you all at Christmas and in the New Year!

BUDGET € T

GENERAL BUDGET TOTALS

October 3, 2019, 2019 thru October 27, 2019

Envelopes	\$ 13,533.00
Loose offering	\$ 393.30
Apportionments	\$ 150.00
Online giving (Oct.)	\$ 3,760.00
	\$ 14,076.30
TOTAL	\$ 14,076.30

NON-BUDGET DONATIONS

Silver Bucket	\$ 147.92
Upper Room	\$ 5.00
Misc. Giving	\$ 20.00
	\$ 472.92
TOTAL	\$ 472.92

TOTALS	\$ 14,076.30
	\$ 472.92
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 14,549.22

Did you know that one of our parishioners had an electric bill of \$174.10 just for one month! Can you imagine what the electric bill would be for the church??

PLEASE NOTE:

THIS TOTAL INCLUDES THE ONLINE GIVING TOTALS FOR OCTOBER 2019

Date	Lay Reader	Hosts	Power Point	Sound	Tellers
Dec. 1	Kim Donth	Roger Carlson	Jennifer Hilfers	David Vis	Jack and Felicia Hanson
Dec. 8	Lola Donth	Jerry Rigney	Jeanne Bowron	Jason Kruse	Jerry and Beth Wieman
Dec. 15	Phyllis Mohr	John and Jeanne Bowron	Carol McDonald	Matthew Fick	Jay and Bev Mann
Dec. 22 Dec. 24	Open Sandy Vogt	Everett and Jan Brandenburg/ Roger Carlson/ The Mann's	Jennifer Hilfers	Luther Hall Jason Kruse	Everett and Jan Brandenburg
Dec. 29	Jerry Wieman	Steve and Penny Cattnach	Jessie VandeHoef	Luther Hall	Jack and Felicia Hanson

Date	Worship Assistants	Coffee Makers
December 1	Jerry Rigney	Mary Gehrke
December 8	David Vis	Jack and Felicia Hanson
December 15	Josh Crabtree	Clyde/Ginny Menning
December 22/24	Jeanne Bowron/Open	Jeanne Bowron/Open
December 29	Mary Gehrke	The Dwire Family

Communion: Jim and Deb Hanson

Video: Beth Fick

TRUSTEE OF THE WEEK DECEMBER 2019

November 25, 2019 thru December 1, 2019 - Al Aanenson
 December 2, 2019 thru December 8, 2019 - Morris Fick
 December 9, 2019 thru December 15, 2019 - Darwin Reyne
 December 16, 2019 thru December 22, 2019 - Jay Mann
 December 23, 2019 thru December 29, 2019 - Jeanne Bowron
 December 30, 2019 thru January 5, 2020 - Cody Gehrke

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS



**Celebrate With us on Sunday,
December 1, 2019**

We are celebrating the beginning of Advent on Sunday, December 1, 2019 with a Hanging of the Greens Service. We will bring in evergreens and poinsettias, we will light our Advent wreath, decorate our tree and let the little children come with smiles and giggles!

We are also celebrating 50 years in our new building! Can you believe it has been 50 years since the first church service? There will be cake to enjoy and celebrate!

Following our service, we will have our traditional Christmas Potluck. Please join us for this time together. We encourage you to invite your friends to this special Sunday!



Annual FUEL Christmas Program!

Cassie, our new Children's Ministry Director, will be leading the kids for their annual Christmas Program on Wednesday night, December 18 beginning at 7 pm. It always brings a smile and warms our hearts to watch our kids come together and present the Christmas Story. We would love to have EVERYONE come and see what a special night it will be!



EVENTS

- ☒ Winterfest Begins - December 6
- ☒ ARC Christmas Cantata - December 7
- ☒ Communion Service December 8
- ☒ Shut in Communion - December 17
- ☒ FUEL Children's Program - December 18
- ☒ Christmas Meditation - December 23
- ☒ Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - December 24
- ☒ Annual Christmas Eve Meal - December 24



Communion Service
December 8, 2019 - 10:00am

Communion day for shut-ins
December 17, 2019

⁴
Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 2019

she suggests the questions we need to hold in this season are: How will we now be with God? And how will we now be with one another? "Liminal times are messy and can be anxiety-producing for those of us who have a hard time with the unknown," she said. "But this is where God shines. We are invited to enter into the mystery of this holy, creative work, and listen deeply for what God is up to."

BRIGHT SPOTS IN OUR MIDST

- **Youth explore what it means to follow Jesus at The Event:** When we choose to follow Jesus, we have a new perspective and a new mission in the world. This is the message that 300 youth (and chaperones) explored in early November when they gathered in St. Cloud for "The Event," an annual conference youth gathering that drew people from 32 churches. "I hope these youth understand that following Jesus is a choice you make," said Youth Ministry Co-chair Sami Tierney. "When you choose to follow Jesus, you're a new creation and it impacts how you care about people and how you show up in the world. I want these students to know they have an opportunity to live that out every day."
- **Recovering Love Church transforms lives:** Recovering Love Church in Richfield, which specifically targets those recovering from addiction, launched public worship seven weeks ago. "The most important thing I've learned at this church is that I am powerless over the fact of God's love for me," said Michael Coyne, a recovering alcoholic who recently joined both the faith community and its launch team. "I have a stronger connection to God now than I ever have in my life." Rev. Brad Herman hopes that as the church becomes more established, it connects with clinical treatment centers and becomes an extension of their work.

STAY CONNECTED!

"Like" the Minnesota Annual Conference on Facebook, follow the conference on Twitter and Instagram (@MinnesotaUMC), and sign up (at www.minnesotaumc.org) for e-newsletters. For more information about any of the items listed above, visit www.minnesotaumc.org.



Minnesota Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church

CONFERENCE CONNECTIONS

All United Methodist churches are connected through shared mission and ministry and united in their efforts to grow in love of God and neighbor, reach new people, and heal a broken world. Check out these news tidbits from the Minnesota Annual Conference, which serves all 360 United Methodist churches in the state.

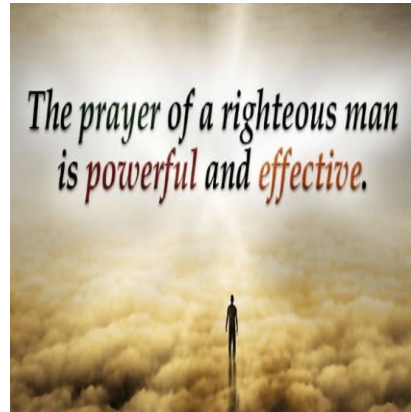
- **Area makes 13,000 scarves for General Conference visitors:** Hundreds of United Methodists across the Dakotas-Minnesota Area and beyond have participated in the Lydia Project (after Lydia in Acts 16)—which will provide every delegate, bishop, visitor, and volunteer with a handmade purple scarf when they arrive in Minneapolis next May for the denomination's quadrennial gathering. Participants have collectively made roughly 13,000 scarves, which will be given to all who attend General Conference 2020, regardless of their role. "What I have learned through this experience is to not put limits on God's extravagance," said Rev. MaryAnne Korsch, who coordinated the Lydia Project and initially hoped for 5,000 scarves. "It's a tangible reminder that we love and serve a God who gives without limits. God's extravagance is for everybody." Thank you to all who have participated in this effort to provide radical hospitality to our siblings in Christ!
- **Navigating this liminal time:** Many have named this era in the life of The United Methodist Church a liminal one. Something has ended; a new thing has not yet fully emerged. It is disorienting as what is familiar fades away and what is to be is not yet clear, said Rev. Cindy Gregorson, Minnesota Conference director of ministries. She points out that there are no quick fixes, and this is a time of listening and learning. Drawing from author Gil Rendle,



Please join us for our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service that begins at 4pm with a wonderful Christmas Eve Meal to follow. At 5:30pm. We love to have everyone gather for this prayerful candlelight service and we love inviting the community to join us for a hot meal and bring wonderful feelings of peace and fellowship during this special time as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

He is the reason for the season! ⁵ God Bless and may you feel peace this holiday season.

The Prayer Chain Please call Jan Brandenburg @ 283-4059 for specific announcements. Our prayer chain has been expanded to include our faith family and areas of ministry on a rotating basis. Who couldn't use the help of prayers in life occasionally? The Prayer Chain list for the month is as follows:



We will be discontinuing movie night for the season. Please talk to Pastor Dorie about beginning it again. Thank you to those who were a part of this special event. We've seen some great movies!

WEEK OF December 1, 2019 - Everett and Jan Brandenburg, Sondra Coulter, Mary Gehrke, Marie Paulsen, Vicki Walker and for revival of our Nation.

WEEK OF December 8, 2019 - Jason and Mandy Brecher Family, Brad and Heather Petersen Family, Erica Menning and Jana Read and for evangelism.

WEEK OF December 15, 2019 - Adam and Amanda Breheny Family, Eleanor Dicks, Merlin Gross, Bryce Schomacker, Elwayne Petersen, Rick and Deb Ward and for the annual Christmas Eve dinner.

WEEK OF December 22, 2019 - Kim Donth, Pastor Dorie and Luther Hall Family, Angie Shelton Family and for the Epiphany Season.

WEEK OF December 29, 2019 - Al and Dixie Aanenson, Karen Buus, Paul Jr. and Lola Donth, Ray Hankins, Ryan and LaRae Koenen Family, Jay and Bev Mann, Meg Petersen, Ralph Watts and for the F.U.E.L. Children's Ministry Program.



December 24, 2019 - Christmas Eve Meal

January 22, 2020

February 26, 2020



UMC Luverne Members and Friends that live in Special Homes.

MN Veterans Home - Luverne
- Marv Hawes

Poplar Creek Assisted Living - Luverne
- Bill Holling

Tuff Memorial Home - Hills
- Bernice Aukes

Sponsor a broadcast for \$90. The chart for 2019 is on the bulletin board by the church office. Signup today!!!! UMC TV broadcast can be seen on Mondays @ 3:00pm and Fridays @ 5pm on Knology Local Channel 3. Listen to KQAD Radio Broadcast on Sundays at 10:30am on 800 Radio. Here is a list of our honoree supporters for November 2019:

November 3, 2019 - Was sponsored by Annabelle Frakes in loving memory of Ada Adams. We thank and bless Annabelle for sponsoring this broadcast.

November 10, 2019 - Was sponsored by anonymous angels who believe strongly in sharing of our church services publicly. We would love to thank those angels for sponsoring this broadcast.

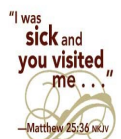
November 17, 2019 - Was sponsored by anonymous angels who believe strongly in sharing of our church services publicly. We would love to thank those angels for sponsoring this broadcast.

November 24, 2019 - Was sponsored by anonymous angels who believe strongly in sharing of our church services publicly. We would love to thank those angels for sponsoring this broadcast.



Lavonne Anderson and Pastor Dorie are still taking time out of their busy schedules to go on home visits to some of our homebound church family. This has become something that has brought them so much joy and many blessings for not just the 2 of them, but also those individuals they get the opportunity to visit with! It gives our homebound something to look forward to and let's them know that, even though they are not in church on Sunday, they still are a vital part of our faith family and are loved.

They bring communion and visit the homebound on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. Please talk with Pastor Dorie if you feel you would like to take part in this very important and rewarding ministry.





Let us reach out to those who may not be able to reach us for whatever reason this season. Send a Christmas card or a Christmas treat. Let them know the love we feel for them cannot be beat. A little

love goes a long, long way bring them cheer on Christmas day...Here is the list of the homebound who have taught us so much...

Ramona McDowell 120 N. Spring Street, Apt. 107 Luverne, MN 56156	Joyce Holm 212 Oak Drive Luverne, MN 56156	Bill Holling 201 Oak Drive Apt. 301 Luverne, MN 56156
Raymond Hankins 1516 E Avenue Worthington, MN 56187	Bernice Aukes Tuff Home #31 505 4th Street Hills, MN 56138	Marie Paulsen PO Box 36 Hills, MN 56138
Kenny Swenson 215 N. Cottage Grove Luverne, MN 56156	Charles & Sally Cooksley 411 E. Lincoln Street Luverne, MN 56156	Carol Ohlsen 301 8th Street E Cresco, IA 52136
David Johnson 1801 College Way, Apt. 125 Worthington, MN 56187-4000	Grace Boeve 120 N. Spring Street #308 Luverne, MN 56156	

And let us not forget the college kids we miss so much...



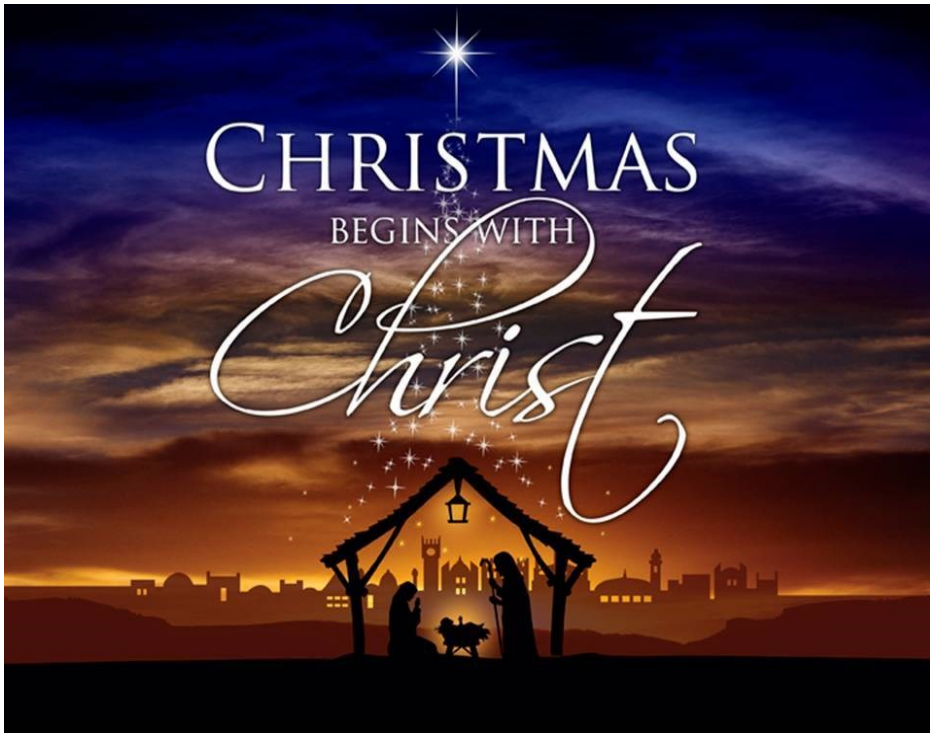
Happy Birthday



December 2019

- 3- Nova Like
Silvia Recuero
- 4 - Jerry Rigney
Kaysen Kruse
- 5 - Paul Donth, Jr.
- 6 - Mitchell Schomacker
Kurt Schomacker
- 7 - Adam VonHoltum
- 8 - Jarod Berndt
LaRae Koenen
- 10 - Blake Sauer
- 11 - Deb Hanson
- 13 - LaVonne Anderson
- 15 - Marv Hawes
- 16 - John Thies
- 19 - Harper VandenHoek
- 20 - Jay Mann
Caitlynn Moeller
Olivia Moeller
- 23 - Aubrey Davis
- 25 - Carol Ohlsen
- 26 - Ashley Christensen
- 29 - Brianna Jonason
- 30 - Donald Ray
- 31 - Jessa Dahl
Meg Petersen

LUVERNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH STAFF
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 507-283-4529 luverneumc@iw.net
 Pastor Dorie Hall (home)507-283-4551 (cell) 507-920-5278
 pastor@umcluverne.com
 Church Secretary - Jakki Lindsley - jakki@umcluverne.com
 Youth Ministry Director - Manny Olson - manny@umcluverne.com
 Children's Ministry Director - Cassie Snyders - cassie@umcluverne.com



Their life is so busy, so much to learn and so much to do...they may be worried, anxious, or stressed but a quick note from you will make them feel blessed. Send them a note..lend them your ear...just let them know their church is still here. It doesn't have to be big or anything much, just let them know you'll keep in touch!

Jarod Berndt	Bergin Flom CSB Box #0523 37 South College Avenue St. Joseph, MN 56374	Madison Crabtree CPO #3403 901 8 th Street South Concordia College Moorhead, MN 56562
Solomon Neilson 2211 Riverside Avenue S. Augsburg University Minneapolis, MN 55454	Brianna Jonason 1801 Monks Avenue Apt. 427 Mankato, MN 56001	Kasyn Kruse 1544 Wellman Road Ashville, NY 14710
Alex Nelson 35109 57 th Avenue Eden Valley, MN 55329	Megan Petersen PO Box 264 Akron, IA 51001	Mandie Petersen 1215 S. Norton Avenue Sioux Falls, SD 57105
Donald Ray 3916 N. Potsdam Avenue Sioux Falls, SD 57104-7045	Tyler Reisdorfer Caldwell Hall #0365 Brookings, SD 57007	Andrew Hanson 2227 County Road DE Maplewood, MN 55109



Calling All Members

It's that time of the year again! The holiday time us near...we are going to need service helpers for Advent, Hanging of the Greens and our Christmas Eve Service. Please be sure to talk to pastor Dorie if you are able or interested in helping with any of these important services during our busy holiday season!

Thank you for your consideration!





December 2019 Silver Bucket

Now that Fuel has been going for a few months it's been fun for the teachers and students to get to know each other better and see each other's personalities come out through activities and lessons. The kids have been working hard on the Christmas program and we really hope you will join us and invite friends to our program on Wednesday December 18th. As you can see in the pictures it's been great bonding with the kids while praising and worshipping God as we practice our Christmas songs together. We are looking forward to our final practice where we will also throw a fun Christmas Party for the kids!

We are wrapping up The Lord's Prayer series and after Thanksgiving we will begin our Christmas Series! We are so excited to learn why Jesus is the reason for the season! Here are some pictures for you to see how much fun it has been this last month!



Luverne United Methodist Church Community Meals



COMMUNITY DINNER



And also the Annual Christmas Eve Dinner

These meals have been such success and a wonderful opportunity to share our love and a meal with our community. Please give generously to this month's Silver Bucket so that we can continue providing these meals to those who would like to come!

Here are some important dates to remember and add to your calendars:

- ** **December 15** - Kids Christmas Party and Final Practice **11am - 3pm**. (lunch will be served)
- ** **December 18** - **FUEL Christmas Program 7pm**. A light supper will be served for FUEL kids and Families at 6pm.

Please have the children here no later than **6:30pm**. ~ Cassie :)

All donations will go toward this cause.



Annual Christmas Meditation
December 23, 2019
6pm - 8pm

For many people Christmas can be stressful and chaotic, perhaps a time of feeling the loss of loved ones. The intent of this event is for you to be able to come to a quiet peaceful place to reflect and remember the real reason for this season.

Please join us for our Annual Christmas Meditation. Have a seat in the sanctuary, listen to peaceful Christmas music and relax. This is a free event and open to the public.

There will be homemade Christmas goodies with coffee and cider available in the Narthex.



PRAYER WARRIORS

Just a reminder...We are meeting regularly on the second Sunday of every month after church. We come together and lift up the cares and concerns of not only our Faith Family, but also our community, our nation and our world. You are welcome to join us at any time. We are reminded in James 5 that "great things happen when believing people pray." Because there have been many great things happening among this faith family, we feel it important to expand our prayers and expect God to do even more great things among us as we continue to care for each other.

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 8th.

Everyone is invited to join us!!

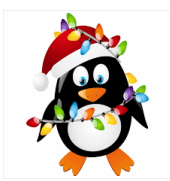


Christmas Eve Community Meal

Christmas is about the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ; without him where would we be?! There is much to celebrate! As a Faith Family, it becomes important for us to also live out our faith in our Community. Our first Christmas Eve Community Meal was in the year 2013. It was very well received in our community by people who were alone, who did not necessarily have a place to go, to those who wanted to have fellowship and for those who wanted to live out their faith. A couple of those years, it was even a difficult travel year, so people joined us instead of risking the weather. We continue this special evening of fellowship, warmth and food. Our meal begins at 5:30 pm after our Christmas Eve service. You are ALWAYS welcome to join us! You are especially encouraged to share this event with others! If you would like to donate, please use the offering on Sunday for the Silver Bucket or talk to Pastor Dorie. If you would like to sign up for the meal or to offer to bring something, there will be signup sheets available soon!








2019



December



2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1 <i>1st Sunday of Advent</i> 9am - Coffee Hour & Adult SS 10am - Hanging of the Greens Service 4:30pm - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study 6pm - ALIVE Youth Group - Great Bear Christmas Potluck after Service</p>	<p>2 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>3 12pm - Homeschoolers 7pm - Scouts</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 1-3pm - Rock Co. Food Shelf</p>	<p>6  December 6-8 LuVerne <small>WYLLISSA</small> <i>Love the life!</i></p>	<p>7 8pm- AA Meeting</p>
<p>8 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent</i> 9am - Coffee Hour & Adult SS 10am - Worship Service with Communion Prayer Warriors following service 4:30pm - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study 6pm - ALIVE Youth Group - Ice Skating</p>	<p>9 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>10 7pm - Scouts</p>	<p>11 6pm - F.U.E.L. and Confirmation 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>12 1-3pm - Rock Co. Food Shelf</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14 8pm - AA Meeting</p>
<p>15 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent</i> 9am - Coffee Hour & Adult SS 10am - Worship Service Christmas Program Practice/Party after service 4:30pm - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study 6pm - ALIVE Youth Group - Christmas in the Catacombs</p>	<p>16 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>17 SHUT IN COMMUNION DAY 12pm - Homeschoolers 7pm - Scouts</p>	<p>18 6pm - Kids and Parents gather for program 7pm - Christmas Program Confirmation 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>19 1-3pm and 5pm - 6:30pm - Rock Co. Food Shelf</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21 8pm - AA Meeting</p>
<p>22 <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i> 9am - Coffee Hour & Adult SS 10am - Worship Service 4:30pm - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study NO ALIVE Youth Group</p>	<p>23 6-8pm - Christmas Meditation 8pm - AA Meeting Messenger Deadline</p>	<p>24 4pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 5:30pm - Christmas Eve Meal </p>	<p>25  OFFICE CLOSED 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>26 1-3pm - Rock Co. Food Shelf</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 8pm - AA Meeting</p>
<p>29 <i>First Sunday after Christmas Day</i> 9am - Coffee Hour & Adult SS 10am - Worship Service 4:30pm - Genesis/Revelation Bible Study NO ALIVE Youth Group</p>	<p>30 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>31  9:30am - Folding Team 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>Jan 1  OFFICE CLOSED 8pm - AA Meeting</p>	<p>2 1-3pm - Rock Co. Food Shelf</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4 8pm - AA Meeting</p>