

DECEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 7pm Worship Comm	3	4 Luther Point Campfire Christmas 4pm
5 10:30aWorship	6	7 6:30 Bible Study	8	9	10 -	11
12 1030a Worship Communion	13	14 6:30 Bible Study	15	16 6pm Council Mtg	17	18
19 10:30aWorship	20 Fisher Deadline	21 6:30 Bible Study	22	23	24  7:00pm	25  Pastor Mikayla vac
26 No Worship Pastor Mikayla vac	27 →	28 →	29 →	30 →	31 	



“The Fisher” December 2021

A newsletter for the members and friends of



Bone Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)

1101 255th Ave Luck WI 54853

Address Service Requested



FROM THE BISHOP'S DESK

[Psalm 137:4](#) How can we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land?



Christmas Message to the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

In 1926, my maternal grandmother left Germany and immigrated to the United States. One of my earliest memories is singing *Silent Night (Stille Nacht)* in German by the Christmas tree in her small house in Jackson, MN. I wonder what it was like for her to move to a foreign land not speaking the language. I wonder how difficult it must have been for her to sing her song in a foreign land.

Last Christmas most of us couldn't gather inside our church buildings to sing *Silent Night* on Christmas Eve. Some of us sang to our computer screens, some sang in their cars in the parking lot, some sang with masks. We were all trying to sing the Lord's song in a foreign land, the land of COVID. It has been difficult. Our song has been muted.

Psalm 137 is a lament Psalm. The writer of Psalm 137 is describing the pain of the people who were forced to live in a foreign land after witnessing the destruction of their homeland and their temple. They are grieving the losses, lamenting, crying, and finding it impossible to "sing the Lord's song in a foreign land."

My heart goes out to the Afghan Refugees¹ who are experiencing their first winter at Fort McCoy. I wonder how difficult it will be for them to sing their songs of faith in a foreign land. Many know that they will never go home again.

In Luke 1 Mary sings her song in unknown territory. She has received the message from Gabriel that she will bear God's son and his name is to be Jesus, and he will reign as king forever. This incomprehensible message is confirmed by her relative Elizabeth and changes Mary's life's circumstances. Mary is asked to do what no one has ever done before. This is uncharted and foreign territory for a young girl. She sings her song in a foreign land like her sisters before her Miriam, Ruth, and Hannah. She sings a song of courage, faith, hope, and love.

Luke 1:46-49 And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name."

This Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season I invite you to reflect on Mary's song as an old song sung in new circumstances. Many of us and our churches find ourselves dealing with circumstances we might not have chosen for ourselves and wish were different, circumstances that might cause us to lament and grieve. We are here now. Sing. Join Mary and the faithful of every time and place, that great cloud of witnesses, and sing of courage, faith, hope, and love. Sing. Sing an old song of trust in unfamiliar territory, and sing a new song of hope in a new land. We are here now.

May the Hope of Advent, Joy of Christmas and Light of Epiphany bring you Peace. Bishop Laurie

¹ For more information about helping Afghan refugees Volunteering at Fort McCoy contact Wisconsin Council of Churches volunteer@wichurches.org. Resettling families contact LSSWI [Refugee Resettlement - Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan \(lsswis.org\)](#). Sarah Halstad Donations contact Catholic Charities in La Crosse <https://cclsc.org/afghanistan-refugee-assistance/>

Miranda Strusz was confirmed on Sunday November 21, 2021 by Pastor Mikayla Kopp.



Knowing
Jesus
Making
Jesus
Known

Did you get your deer? I did...



SPIRITUAL GIFTS AND SERVICES

DECEMBER
Birthdays & Anniversaries

DECEMBER
Baptisms

Justin Strusz	12/03/2004
Tiffany Brown	12/04/1998
Melissa Rock	12/05/1973
Mike Boland	12/05/2005
Kim Erickson	12/08/1956
Nick Kuechenmeister	12/08/1973
Shahla Brown	12/08/1969
Susan Gregorash	12/08/1956
Kris Mattson	12/09/1960
Mason Brown	12/09/2003
Rhonda Bazey	12/11/1961
LeRoy Buck	12/14/1962
Irene Ogilvie	12/16/2009
John Denny	12/17/1994
Lynn Albee	12/20/1950
Katie Pfaff	12/27/1996
Alayna Snider	12/28/2015
Linda Hostrup	12/29/1950

Caleb Nick	12/05/2004
Sabrina Dueholm	12/07/2014
Raymond Dueholm	12/07/2014
Peter Dueholm	12/07/1975
Aubre Witthoft	12/08/1985
Susan Buck	12/08/1963
Kamdyn Snider	12/08/2013
Lisa Fjorden	12/16/1984
Kendra Mosay- Buck	12/18/2005
Kristine Mattson	12/22/1960
Riley Runnels	12/23/2001
David Buck	12/24/1967
Benjamin Buck	12/24/1967
Judy Randall	12/25/1938

Tim & Nancy Bradwell	12/21/1976	45
Todd & Christina Strusz	12/21/2001	20

NAOMI CIRCLE WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER OR JANUARY



JANUARY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

**** Craig and Paulette Adaire—LEAD**

- Nancy Beduhn
- Melissa Runnels
- Paul & Lori Denny
- Tammy Brenizer
- Nikki & Ryan Grey
- Kris Mattson
- Darla Nick
- Donna Asper

FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE

Our October financial overview:

Income \$7,277.21

Outgoing \$10,383.84

In October we were short of our budgeting goals. Our budget reflects the mission as well as immediate needs of Bone Lake. All the time, energy and financial resources that are given to Bone Lake Lutheran are appreciated.

As a church, we've spent a lot of time in conversation about communication over the years. Since COVID began, communication has become more difficult and more important than ever!

Questions like:

How to communicate with our congregation when we can't meet in person?

How do we communicate to our members that are worshipping in our building?

How do we communicate with our members that can not or are not comfortable meeting in person?

What do we communicate to nonmembers that may join us virtually or over the phone?

How do we address miscommunications about or within our church?

These are very difficult and have no clear answers.

As a council, we've debated these questions and many more. We're doing our best to communicate. We communicate through the newsletter and making announcements after worship and we try to be available to the congregation, whether in person, over the phone or via email.

Communication is something that works best when it goes both ways. We love to hear new ideas and suggestions and although we're not always able to use each idea, we appreciate the passion and love that is felt for the mission and ministries of Bone Lake.

I'd encourage you to participate in the communication with Bone Lake Church whether it's through listening to announcements after worship, spending a little time going over the newsletters, or talking to your church family about thoughts, ideas, or activities that are going on at Bone Lake. You might just find out a little more to love about Bone Lake!

With much respect and good wishes for blessed Advent season,

Brenda Ysen Buck

Council Treasurer

BONE LAKE LUTHERAN COUNCIL

Bone Lake Lutheran Church
“Knowing Jesus—Making Jesus Known”
Minutes of Council Meeting
November 11, 2021 6:00 p.m.

Present By Zoom: Brenda Buck, Leora Dueholm, Pastor Mikayla, Ben Buck, Danielle Buck, Jon Erickson

Meeting Called to Order: Ben called the meeting to order at 6:08.

Highs and Lows:

Devotions

“Faithful Innovations”-Expectations analysis tool

October Newsletter Article: November-Danielle, **December-** Brenda

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Brenda and seconded by Danielle, carried

Pastor’s Report:

Worship

-Communion will continue on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, Altar Guild to take over

-Continue to tweak things for indoor worship, following COVID guidelines as appropriate

-Worship committee met Oct 21, see worship report for more info Next meeting December 2, 7PM. -Sue Saarem has started as new pianist, Sara Route to continue playing 4th Sunday of each month. -Working on Advent plans, season begins Nov. 28

Pastoral Care

-sending cards, publications, etc to home bound members

-Communion visits to homebound and nursing home residents

Education

- Tuesday Bible Study has started. Studying Daniel

-No Confirmation students this year. One to be Confirmed on Nov. 21

-Joint High School youth group with Joy Lutheran

Youth

-Have begun planning for Youth Gathering 2022

-High School Youth collaboration in the works with area churches, plan to meet monthly with area churches

Other

-Baptized Greyson Scott Oct. 24

-Attended Conference mtg. Oct. 14

-Trunk or Treat held Oct. 30 Approx. 100 kids in attendance

-Attended First Call Theological event Nov. 9

Upcoming

-Attending conference rostered leader book study Nov. 16

-Hunter Blessing Nov. 14

-Advent kits after worship Nov. 28

Luther Point Board mtg Nov. 29

-Vacation Nov. 23-27

Worship/Education Report:

-November 14, hunter blessing.

-First Sunday in Advent (November 28), assemble kits after church.

-Other Advent activities still being planned.

Property Report:

-Lawn mowing is done for the year, will be contacting snow plow guy, Nate, to get things set up for the winter.

-There’s a mouse problem at church.

Old Business:

-Comprehensive Ministry Review discussion.

-Trunk or Treat-October 30, 12:00-2:00 p.m. Brenda recommended having council members pickup elders.

-Singing in church-only if by distancing pews, with masks, further discussion was had

-Brenda suggests having a hunter blessings, with gift bags.

-Jessica requested a copy of the treasurers report.

New Business:

-COVID numbers are increasing in the county. In an effort to keep members as safe as possible, we will continue with current protocols and will strongly encourage masking, distancing and sanitizing.

-Building use and set-up-Council agrees events should be set up no more than 1 week ahead of the event. Time frames will be added to the request form. Council will review and approve accordingly. If more help is needed, the coordinator will announce the need for more help.

-Extra attention to financial report: The church is running short on giving vs. bills needing to be paid.

Members are encouraged to continue regular giving.

-Jon and Ben completed Pastor performance review.

-Mouse invasion: Jon will ramp up mouse catching efforts. May need to hire professional exterminator if current efforts don’t work.

Treasurer’s Report: Motion by Leora, seconded by Ben, carried

Counters for December, 2021

November 21, 2021 Tonya Leora

November 28, 2021 Danielle Jon or Brenda

December 5, 2021 Brenda Leora

December 12, 2021 Tonya Ben

Next Meeting: December 16 at 6:00

Motion to adjourn: Motion by Brenda, seconded by Danielle, Carried

Closing Prayer: Lord’s Prayer