

**DECEMBER 2022**

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

				1 7pm AA	2	3
4 9:15 Bible Study 10:30a Worship	5 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pastor  6:00p, Reflec- tions of Grace	6	7 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pas- tor	8 7pm AA	9 Quilters Meet	10
11 9:15 Bible Study 1030a Worship	12 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pastor	13	14 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pas- tor	15 6:00 Council Meeting  7pm AA	16	17
18 9:15 Bible Study  10:30a Worship	19 Fisher Deadline  9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pastor	20	21 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pas- tor	22 7pm AA	23 Quilters Meet	24 Christ- mas Eve Service 6:30pm
25 9:15 Bible Study 10:30 Worship  CHRISTMAS DAY	26 OFFICE CLOSED	27	28 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pas- tor	29 9a-3p Office 10a-12p Pastor  7pm AA	30	31



**“The Fisher” December 2022**

A newsletter for the members and friends of



**Bone Lake Lutheran Church (ELCA)**

1101 255th Ave Luck WI 54853

**Address Service Requested**

Picture by Joan Sorenson





## Pastor's Pen Pastor Matt

**Contact for Pastor Matt: If you need to reach him for any reason, Pastor Matt says his cell-phone is the best way. 715-553-2670**

December is a nostalgic month for me. Images of family gatherings, with relatives sitting around the table, hearing stories from relatives, some recent, and some from the distant past, from an era gone by. Sometimes we would gather around the piano, enjoying and singing Christmas carols.

Our house was warmed by an oil burner stove with a portal window through which you could see the flames. Perhaps that was the origin of the warm feelings I get from gazing into the flames of a fireplace.

And then there were the gifts. Some neighbors opened gifts on Christmas morning. Our celebration would begin on Christmas Eve, with a dinner reflecting our Norwegian heritage, which included lutefisk, lefsa, mashed potatoes and gravy, and stewed tomatoes. We would eat until we were very full.

I would wait with great anticipation for the opening of the gifts, but that was always delayed until the table was cleared and all the dishes were washed, dried, and put back in the cupboard. Finally, the time for opening gifts would arrive. We would all sit in a circle, but before anyone touched a gift, we would hear, once again, the old, old story of Jesus' birth as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. With the Nativity Story as the backdrop, we would then receive and open our gifts.

I would receive the gifts with joy. I have discovered over the years that the greatest gift of all was that described in the reading from Luke's gospel, the gift of God's son, who came to us as a helpless babe in a manger, and who ultimately would die for us, and rise again. It was that gift, the gift of God's Son, that has given me joy over the years. It has sustained me through the times of struggle and grief. It is that story that fills my future with hope.

This year, Christmas comes on a Sunday. of course we will have services on Sunday, and we'll celebrate Jesus' birth. We will also have a Christmas Eve candlelight service on December 24th.

So, from our household to yours, we wish you a very blessed Christmas, and hope to see you at the services.

God's Blessings to You!  
Pastor Matt



Santa and Mrs. Claus talked to kids of all ages!!



Nov 20th The Sanctuary was decorated with quilts sewen by the Quilters for Lutheran World Relief  
Quilters present were Joan, Peggy, Ruth, Rita, Judy, JoAnn, Terri, Pat, Betty, Barb and Gloria.

Special music was provide by the Trio of Pat Rupp, Sue Saarem and Shahla Brown.





On November 6th Kennedy Elizabeth Buck was baptised by Pastor Matt Saarem.



Council President Ben Buck received new members Barb Walstrom and Sue and Pastor Matt Saarem. Welcome to Bone Lake Lutheran.

### THANKSGIVING

Peyton delivered the 7 turkeys donated by Quality Propane & Fuel of Chippewa Falls, WI. A giant Thank You to them.

Pastor Matt Saarem led the group assembled for Thanksgiving in a short devotional and prayer before eating. We served 104 sit-down meals and 51 take-out meals. A total of 155 meals.

A large variety of pies made selecting dessert difficult. Thank You to all who made pies and who worked to make all the food and served the friends and



On June 19, 2020 our granddaughter was born. She was born three months into the pandemic. Her parents were worried. Her grandparents were worried. It is challenging enough to be pregnant and give birth in the best of times but to give birth in the middle of a worldwide pandemic is an even greater worry. We worried about the unknown dangers this virus might present to the mother, the unborn baby, and the new born baby. Our worries kept us up at night. Our worries were relieved when she was finally born, perfect in every way. Our worry gave way to wonder-filled joy. Worry transformed to wonder as we looked back to see how God was holding and carrying them through the unavoidable worry. Our worry transformed to gratitude and wonder watching for what God would be up to next in her tiny life.

It's December 2022. We prepare to celebrate the birth our Lord Jesus. This Advent we come with our fears and worries too. We are living in the midst of challenging times in our country. The very foundation of our nation seems less stable. We each come with our own personal set of worries and fears about our families, health, finances, work, safety, the future...What is it that keeps you up at night? What are you worried about today?

Folks across our church are experiencing doubts and uneasiness about the future of their church. Does it keep you up at night? What are the threats to your church's future? How can the conversation move from fear and worry to wonder? As the miracle of Christ's birth is celebrated this season, we can move from worry to wonder. We wonder what God is up to now in this day and age. Together we wonder what God's will is for the future of our church. Together we wonder; how can we use the abundance and blessings, (what we do have and opportunities in front of us), to make a difference in Jesus' name.

*Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. Luke 2:8-10a*

Shepherds living in the fields watched over their sheep to keep them safe. There were dangers that kept the shepherds up at night and plenty of things for the shepherds to worry about in the cold night like wild animals, predators, thieves, & bad weather. There was so much to worry about, but one night an angel of the Lord, all shiny and bright appeared and transformed their fears and worldly worry to divine wonder.

*To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" Luke 2:11-14*

Friends, you are precious, beloved, baptized children of God. We know that the antidote to worry is to trust in God.

During this Advent, Christmas and Epiphany season I pray that your worries will be transformed to wonder at what God is doing and promises to do in your lives and in our churches. May the miracle of Christ's birth transform your worries to wonder! I am grateful for your partnership in ministry.

Peace be with you,

*Rev Laurie M. Olson*

# BONE LAKE LUTHERAN COUNCIL

Bone Lake Lutheran Church  
“Knowing Jesus—Making Jesus Known”  
Council Meeting Thursday, November 10, 2022 6:00 p.m.

**Present:** Brenda Ysen-Buck, Nancy Beduhn, Leora Dueholm, Pastor Matt

**Meeting Called to Order:** 6:00 p.m.

**Devotions:** “Autopsy of a deceased Church” Chapter 4-Discussion on Questions on Chapter 4.

**Highs and Lows:**  
Discussion by all

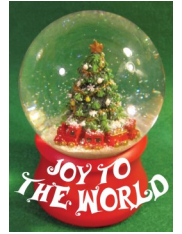
**Newsletter Article:** December-Danielle, January-Ben, February-Leora, March-Nancy

**Meeting Minutes:**  
Motion to accept minutes accepted by Nancy, seconded by Leora.

**Pastor’s Report:** Pastor Matt  
Woman’s Thank Offering-November 20, 2022  
Advent November 27, 2022  
Native American Heritage Month-November 27, 2022 with Land Acknowledgement  
Pastoral care  
9:30 Bible Study attendance  
Transition Team  
New Directory Discussion

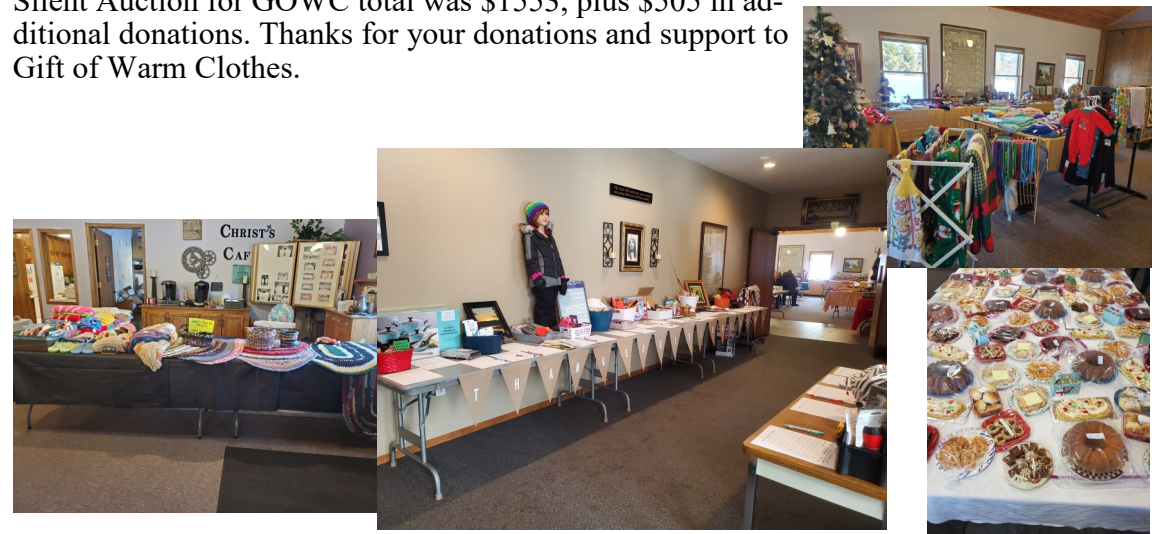
**Worship/Education Report:**  
No Meeting

**Property Report:** Nancy  
Church Mutual has issued two (2) checks: one for \$692.47 the other for \$3196.25 for hail damage.  
Jon Erickson will remove the trash and boxes from the parsonage. He also located a remote heat sensor with the ability to notify if the parsonage gets too cold by phone (John, Ben, and Danielle Buck offered to be contacts.) He also placed non-toxic bait balls for rodent control in the parsonage and the church. John plans to fix or replace the lock on one of the doors to the parsonage.  
We need to consider investing in and new sound system for the church, perhaps WELCA could help pay for it? Chad uses his own equipment for church services.  
Pastor Matt would prefer two (2) earpieces for his microphone.  
We should consider an update on our directory.  
Nate Bell can no longer plow the Church lot. Nancy to contact Noah Musial.



2022-23 Gowc season so far has served 260 individuals (65 families). **Thanks** for all the donations, help with set up, the distribution, clean up, washing and mending. We accept new or clean gently used winter outerwear (warm jackets, snowpants, boots, gloves and hats) all year round.

Silent Auction for GOWC total was \$1553, plus \$505 in additional donations. Thanks for your donations and support to Gift of Warm Clothes.





## PIES! PIES! PIES!

**Support our faith journey by helping us go to the Northwest Synod's young adult service mission this spring!**

The Bone Lake Lutheran youth would love to help you with your holiday baking. We are offering a variety of flavors that you can take home frozen to bake at your convenience.

Please place your order at church on the list in the narthex or by contacting Shahla Brown at 715-501-9747 or by email at shahlabrown8@gmail.com.

Payment may be made at the time of pick-up.

Tell all your friends and neighbors too!

### PIE FLAVORS - \$16.00

Apple	Blueberry
Apple Cranberry	Peanut Butter Hot Fudge



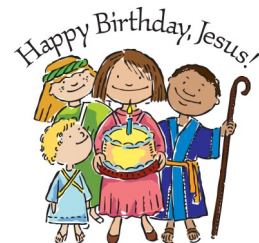
## OPERATION CHRISTMAS

**Once again, Bone Lake Lutheran is sponsoring Operation Christmas. Please bring in new blankets, mittens, hats, toys for all ages, as well as gift cards for 13-18 year olds**

**Deadline is December 11!**

**Let's help kids in Polk County have a great Christ-**

**mas!!**



### Old Business:

- Encourage all groups to set up a regular meeting time and to communicate these meetings with the office so they can be published on our calendar.
- Figure out how to communicate calendar items to Laurene
- Fungus in yews is spreading to crabapple trees - Have someone remove them?
- Transition Information & Committee development begun
- Christmas cards - Decided to send Christmas cards this year
- Christmas Eve - 6:30pm service. Christmas falls on a Sunday this year so there will also be a Christmas morning service.

### New Business:

- Transition Team Discussion and call assignment-
- Parsonage use for family whose home burned-Discussion, Pastor Matt has experience with this. Brenda to contact synod regarding the use of the parsonage.
- Review Church use requests
- Annual Meeting January 29, 2023
- Worship Teams discussion-College kids-Women's Circles could send cards or gift baskets-
- Brenda will get list of College Kids
- Brenda shared three thank you letters
- Create Timeline for Transition and Call Committee.

**Hunter's Widow November 19, 2022**

**Thanksgiving Dinner November 24, 2022**

### Treasurers Report:

Did not receive financial reports.

Counters for November

November 20, 2022 Brenda Buck, Nancy Beduhn

November 27, 2022 Ben Buck, Leora Dueholm

December 4, 2022 Shahla Brown, Danielle Buck

December 11, 2022 Ben Buck, Nancy Beduhn

### Next meeting:

December 15, 2022 6:00 p.m.

### Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Brenda, Seconded by Nancy Beduhn

### Closing Prayer:

Pastor Matt



# DECEMBER

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Justin Strusz	12/03
Tiffany Brown	12/04
Melissa Rock	12/05
Mike Boland	12/05
Kim Erickson	12/08
Susan Gregorash	12/08
Shahla Brown	12/08
Nick Kuechenmeister	12/08
Kris Mattson	12/09
Mason Brown	12/09
Rhonda Bazey	12/11
LeRoy Buck	12/14
Matt Saarem	12/16
John Denny	12/17
Lynn Albee	12/20
Katie Musial	12/27
Alayna Snider	12/28
Linda Hostrup]	12/29

### BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES

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

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Tim & Nancy Bradwell	12/21/1976
Todd & Christina Strusz	12/21/??

### ALTAR GUILD SCHEDULE DECEMBER

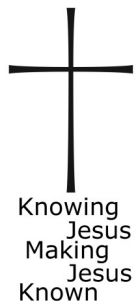
Judy Randall  
Gloria Rolstad  
Jill Route (as needed)

### DECEMBER WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

\*\* Neil and Tammy Peterson

Errin and Joe Schleusner  
Jim and Linda Syoboda  
LeRoy and Sue Buck  
Todd and Jill Route  
Mike and Alana Montpetit  
Wayne and Jean Boatman

Rita and Dale Frandsen



Archaic term for Christmas:

The first one to provide the correct answer wins a prize.

Reflection of Grace will be gathering at church on Monday, December 5th, 6:00 pm.



### FROM THE CHURCH COUNCIL

#### CHURCH FINANCE UPDATE

October Financial Update

<b>October Beginning Balance:</b>	<b>9,984.81</b>
Income/Donations:	8177.48
Expenses:	6990.74
<b>October Ending Balance</b>	<b>11,171.55</b>

It's been requested that we also include the beginning and ending checkbook balances in our monthly updates.

