

**December 31, 2023
Christmas 1**

Welcome to long-time Lutherans, to Christians from every tradition, and to people new to the faith.

Welcome to you who have no church home, or who want to follow Christ, have doubts, or do not know for sure what you believe.

Welcome to new visitors and old friends

Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, every sexual orientation and gender identity, socio-economic status, marital status, ability and challenge.

We welcome your questions and your beliefs

**Welcome to Lebanon
All are welcome in this place**

Readings for today: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40. Readings for next week: Baptism of Our Lord - Genesis 1:1-5, Psalm 29, Acts 19:1-7, Mark 1:4-11. Try reading these ahead at home and see if you can find what holds them together. We need a Volunteer reader for Sundays.

Did you know

*.....that you can always watch recent worship services on our website, and find the Yellow Pages for each week there too?
www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com*

Worship on the Web & in person - Sundays at 10:15am

Stay tuned to our Facebook page for more updates when then occur.

Bible Study via Zoom on Thursday evenings at 7pm. Please email Pastor Ogden or Kathy Keller (Kellerk2@msu.edu) for the link

Prayer Concerns and Announcements

It is an important part of our ministry to be constantly praying for one another. *We add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality.*

Prayers for those who are homebound: *Our Minister*

Helen Bartlett, at daughter Carol Roods' home now.
Mary Bernhardt, at Robinswood Assisted Living #115 (Kay Snell)
Marlene Holmstrom, at home
Ken Kolb, with health issues
Sandy Kolb, hip replacement surgery
Elaine Liska, at White Lake Assisted Living - Whitehall
Phyllis Monte, at Legacy of Caring - Whitehall
Ruth Nurmi, with health concerns
Nancy Peterson, McCauley Place, E. Sherman, Muskegon #407 A
Barb Smith, at Legacy of Caring - Whitehall
Marty Windbacher, at home under Hospice Care

Special Prayer Concerns:

Cindy Albert, recuperating from recent gallbladder surgery
Brianne Beekman, (Terry & Mary Beekman's granddaughter) diagnosed with multiple brain tumors.
Anita Benes, ("oboe sister" of Michele Wheeler), battling leukemia
Lucas Carlson, (Terry and Mary Beekmans grandson) for new treatment.
Sheila Fretty, re-occurring cancer.
Elin Frietsch, diagnosed with Lymphoma
Margaret Fountain, (Mary Koenen's sister) diagnosed with multiple myeloma
Dave Gross, (Kathy Keller's brother) hospitalized in Canada
Frank Hollister, with health concerns
John Lewallen, (Mary Lewallen's brother-in-law) liver cancer
Mary Lewallen, with home & pet issues
Jill (Chuck Miller's daughter) Knee replacement on 10/11/23
Dwight Mead (Paula Moreau's brother-in-law), non-hodgkin lymphoma mantel type (stage four).
Pastor Sarah Samuelson, recently diagnosed with colorectal cancer
Wendy Shalifoe, undergoing chemo treatment
Donna Stacy, undergoing knee replacement surgery 12/4

For our partners in faith, our companion synods in Salud para la Vida in San Pedro Sula, Honduras for their mission and ministry in their place as we fulfill our mission in our place; for all the churches of the Lutheran World Federation, for people of the gospel throughout the world

Each week we pray for one of our members or families. This week we pray for :

Congregation Prayers for January 2024 :



Praying for Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop, ELCA and **Craig Satterlee**, Bishop of the Northwest Lower Michigan Synod.

As Jesus calls us to be one even as he and the Father are one, please remember these leaders, and judicatories in prayer on Sunday mornings.— Today we pray for: **Ascension Lutheran Church / Kentwood; Father Michael Wernick.**

Next week we pray for: Advent Lutheran Church / Lake Ann; Rev. Timothy Jahn and local congregations and leaders.

Hand sanitizer is located at several stations as well as masks

Masks in the church building are optional

**Adult Forum at 9:00 am. Coffee will be on!
Please join us each Sunday!**

Last Week at Lebanon

Budget.....	4,935.00
Non-Budget.....	300.00
In & Outs.....	0.00
Total Deposit.....	5,235.00
Fund of the Month - Dec. - Worship & Music	140.00

2023 Budget	208,731.00
Budgeted giving through 12/24/2023	192,606.99
Shortfall	16,124.01

Food Pantry Numbers for Dec 27 - 59 families and 125 individuals

**NOTE: NEW PANTRY HOURS ARE 9:30 AM TO 10:30 AM
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

DONATE RIGHT FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE

Giving through our Vanco Mobile app is an easy and convenient way to donate to our church. It only takes a moment to set up and account:

1. Download the free Vanco Mobile app from the App store or Google Play.
2. Find our Church by searching for our Church name:
Lebanon Lutheran Church
3. Donate: to the General Fund

Thank you for your generosity!

Take home - Prayer Ventures December 2023 and January 2024

These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.

31 New Year's Eve Our baptism with water, the word of God and the blessings of our siblings in Christ marks us as children of God and followers of Jesus, loved, forgiven and made new every day of our lives. Alleluia!

1 Give thanks and praise to God, for we have been redeemed through the undeserved gift and sacrifice of Jesus Christ that liberates us from darkness, hopelessness and bondage to sin.

2 Pray without ceasing for an end to the conflicts and humanitarian crises in the Middle East, Ukraine, South Sudan and other countries. Ask God to make us instruments of peace, reconciliation and justice in the world wherever there is turmoil and suffering. Pray for the vital work we do together through Lutheran Disaster Response, ELCA World Hunger, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, Lutheran World Federation, Church World Service and other partners.

3 "Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!" (Psalm 148:7-8). Pray for the Spirit to stir our sense of awe for all that God has created and for God's boundless love for humankind.

4 Human Trafficking Prevention Month Pray that we will work together diligently to prevent sexual slavery, forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation, including online forms of trafficking. Pray for our communities of faith to be safe places of refuge, respect, care and support for victims and survivors of human trafficking, especially young people of all genders and gender identities.

5 Give thanks that God leads us to the light and truth of Jesus Christ — God's Son, the promised Messiah — when we might wander aimlessly in despair, longing and chaos.

6 Last year there were over 40,000 gun deaths in our country, including suicides (gunviolencearchive.org). Pray for an end to these senseless deaths and the resulting trauma, grief and anguish that spread through our communities and nation. Ask God to lead us out of hopelessness and inaction and to renew our commitment to end gun violence.

Milestone Birthdays



Helen Bartlett - 98 on 1/22
C/O Carol Rood
5337 W. McMillan
North Muskegon, MI 49445

Mary Bernhardt - 95 on 1/19
Robinswood Assisted Living #115
2650 Ruddiman
Muskegon, MI 49445

Sleigh Ride

Saturday, January 20, 2024

1:00 pm

Country Dairy
3724 S. 80th Avenue
New Era, MI 49446



Sign-up sheets are located near
the kitchen.

If we have enough interest, we are
able to add a 2pm time slot.

This Week's Calendar

12/31 SUN	9am 10:15am	Adult Forum Communion
1/1/24 MON		New Year's Day Office Closed today
1/2 TUES	9am-1pm	Office Hours
1/3 WED	9am—1pm 9:30am-10:30 am	Office Hours Food Pantry (Drive-Thru)
1/4 THURS	9am-1pm	Office Hours
1/5 FRI	9am-1pm	Office Hours
1/6 SAT		

Next Sunday January 7

9am 10:15am	Adult Forum Communion
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Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 893-5745
Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com
#llsignsofgrace

Websites of Interest

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

www.mittensynod.org

www.elca.org

www.whitelakescouting.com

www.whitelakechorale.com

www.hopescarves.org

LivingLutheran.org.

www.samaritas.org

Suicide Hotline 1-800-273TALK.org
[www.co.muskegon.mi.us/cmh suicide prevention](http://www.co.muskegon.mi.us/cmh_suicide_prevention)

Every Woman's Place
231-722-3333 or www.everywomansplace.org

The Trevor Project
1-866-488-7386

The Trevor Project is the world's largest suicide prevention and crisis intervention organization for LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning) young people.