

**December 24, 2023
Nativity of Our Lord**

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 9:2-7, Psalm 96; Titus 2:11-14; Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]**. *Readings for next week: Isaiah 61:10-62:3; Psalm 148; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke 2:22-40. 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
Verne "Barney" Sutherland, with serious heart issues

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 : Darlene Willbrandt

Congregation Prayers for December 2023: Yolanta & Harry Swiatek



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

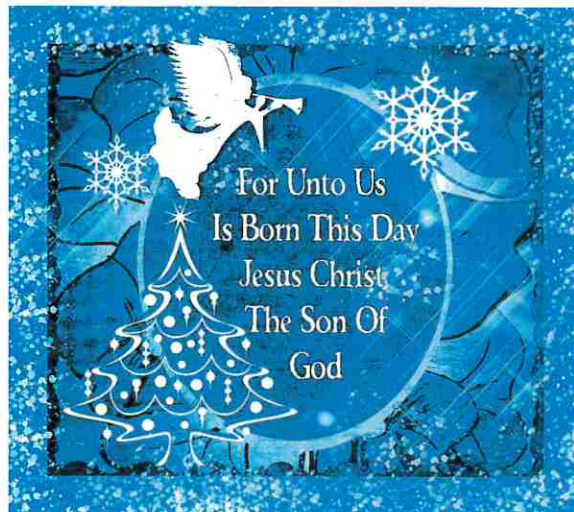
As Jesus calls us to be one even as he and the Father are one, please remember these leaders, and judicatories in prayer on Sunday mornings.– Today we pray for: **Mamrelund Lutheran Church / Kent City; Rev. Michael Conklin.**

Next week we pray for: Ascension Lutheran Church/Kentwood; Father Michael Wernick.

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.....	2,337.00
Non-Budget.....	165.00
In & Outs.....	0.00
Total Deposit.....	2,502.00
Fund of the Month - Dec. Worship & Music	80.00

2023 Budget	208,731.00
Budgeted giving needed through 12/17/23	187,671.99*
Shortfall	21,059.01

* Total includes transfer of remaining land contract money - \$6,826.59

Food Pantry Numbers for December 20: 90 families & 189 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

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.

24 Christmas Eve Shout “Glory to God in the highest!” The good news of the birth of the promised Messiah and Savior for all creation and humankind has been made known to us and is the foundation of our faith and life.

25 Christmas Day Lift up shouts of thanksgiving and praise for all to hear! God lives among us in the birth of Jesus Christ and pours hope and joy into our lives to fill their voids and mend our brokenness.

26 Kwanzaa Pray for our African-descent neighbors and siblings in Christ who celebrate Kwanzaa, a weeklong observance of African culture and traditions that emphasizes family, community and shared principles. Give thanks for the rich and enduring practices of our African-descent siblings and the global African community.

27 Give thanks that the gift of grace found in Jesus Christ is both deeply personal and for all humankind. “Of what benefit would it be to me if Christ had been born a thousand times, and it would daily be sung into my ears in a most lovely manner, if I were never to hear that he was born for me and was to be my very own?” (Martin Luther, 1522).

28 Christmas may have come and gone, but we carry into every day the joy of Christmas and the birth of the Christ child, the manifestation of God’s love for humanity. Give praise and thanks to God!

29 Lift up prayers of relief and thanksgiving for God’s mercy, which is fair and generous and is never swayed by our actions or words, no matter how good or well-intended.

30 Share with God your hopes, concerns, uncertainties and aspirations for the year ahead. Pray for the Spirit to strengthen our faith in God’s concern for us and in God’s attention to our prayers — spoken and silent.

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!



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

This Week's Calendar

12/24 SUN	9am 10:15am 6:30pm	Adult Forum Communion Candlelight Communion
12/25 MON		Christmas Day Office Closed today MERRY CHRISTMAS!
12/26 TUES	9am-1pm	Office Hours
12/27 WED	9am—1pm 9:30am-10:30 am	Office Hours Food Pantry (Drive-Thru)
12/28 THURS	9am-1pm	Office Hours
12/29 FRI	9am-1pm	Office Hours
12/30 SAT		

Next Sunday December 31 - New Year's Eve

9am	Adult Forum
10:15am	Communion

Happy New Year!

Church office is closed on 1/1/2024



Lebanon Lutheran Church

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Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com
#llcsignsofgrace

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

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.