

ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH of Navarino

W6106 Navarino Road, Shiocton, WI 54170

Pastor: Jon Paquette Phone: 920-459-0778 (home)
or 920-980-8899 (cell)

Change service requested

Church Office: (715) 758-8312

Church E-Mail: ascensionavarino@granitewave.com

Pastor's E-Mail: joshuapaq@charter.net

Pastor's Hours: Sundays

Thursdays: 9:00 AM—Noon—Church Office

Visitations on Thursday afternoon

Time dated: November 30, 2010

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

BONDUEL, WI 54107
PERMIT NO. 11

The “Visitor”
December 2010

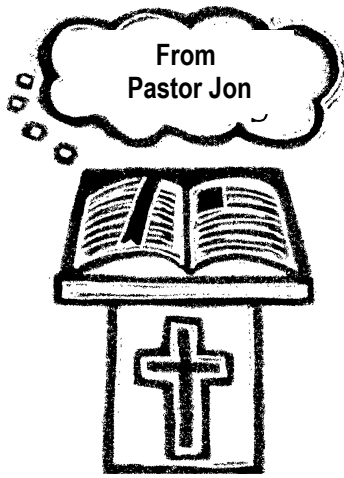
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LABEL



*A
Season
to
Rejoice*

“Joyfully, we invite and equip all people to share Christ’s love”
The Mission Statement of Ascension Lutheran Church.



The word **Advent** means "coming" or "arrival." The focus of the entire season is the celebration of the birth of Jesus the Christ in his First Advent, and the anticipation of the return of Christ the King in his Second Advent. So - Advent is far more than simply marking a 2,000 year old event in history. It is celebrating a truth about God, the revelation of God in Christ whereby all of creation might be reconciled to God. That is a process in which we now participate, and the consummation of which we anticipate.

Our Scriptures in this season have us focusing on the same questions that were present at the 'advent' of Jesus birth: *Who* is it that comes into our lives? What does it mean for *this one* to come into our midst? Where is it that we find *this one*? If you are 'older than dirt' or have been a church person for many years you probably, somewhere in the back of your mind, remember that. Yet we go through this season every year not just as an exercise to get to Christmas, but as a reminder that it is those very questions we are called to wrestle with on a daily basis – both as to what they mean for us as individual believers and what it means for us as a Christian community called Ascension Lutheran Church!

This is important to keep in mind as we continue to move forward in the next few months as a congregation. We might begin to look to the one who comes into our lives for the power of reconciliation and wholeness that only He can bring. We are certainly praying for God's power of reconciliation for Ascension, as Kathy and I have come to love Ascension and the many members we have spent time with these past several months.

Much will be coming to Ascension in the next few months. We must wrestle with our congregations direction, a congregational meeting will happen, new officers for council will be decided, and - -oh yeah – there is that little day called Christmas! My prayer for you, and for all of us, is that maybe – just maybe – in the middle of all that will go on in your life this season – you will sense the still small voice of hope, anticipation, renewal, and joy in your head and your heart. That a sense of the one who comes to us daily will allow us to grow together, to reconcile with one another, and to rejoice together as brothers and sisters in Him who was, who is, and who is to come.

I am blessed to be given the opportunity to be a part of your lives. I pray that our journey together continues to be a blessing in this season of advent. May your Christmas be one of peace, wisdom, and hope – for God loves you and so do I.

Pastor Jon



**O Give
Thanks..**

*"The eyes of the world wait upon you,
O Lord,
And you give them their food in due season.
Your hand opens wide,
And satisfies the desires of every living thing.
O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,
And His mercy endures forever."
(~Psalm 145:16-17 & 107:1)*

Dear Friends,
As you know, in July and August, 2010, we experienced some flooding due to extreme rainfall in very short periods of time. In response to the flooding, MANY PEOPLE were there to help – with everything from manual labor, to donations of shop vacs, dehumidifiers & fans, and money (both personally and through Ascension's sponsored 5K Fun Walk/Run with matching funds from Thrivent) to help cover extra expenses involved with clean-up. We are extremely grateful for the vast outpouring of support. Thank you to all who helped!
Darrel & Toni Klemp



Christmas Party

Golden Age Christmas Party

Saturday, December 4th

11:30 AM — 1:30 PM

at

Ascension

If you are a golden-ager, please plan to attend for good food, fellowship and singing Christmas Carols

Please call 715-758-8312 to let us know you are coming.



**Christmas Eve
Worship Services
will be:
4:00 PM and
7:00 PM**

Muehl-Boettcher Funeral Home along with the Seymour United Methodist Church will be co-sponsoring an inspirational program entitled "Blessings of Hope"

This program will take place on Thursday evening, December 16th at 6:30 PM at the Seymour United Methodist Church, 721 Pleasant Way in Seymour. It will be an evening of fellowship and prayer. The main purpose of the program is to help those families who have lost loved ones understand how to cope with the upcoming holidays.



"We found our donkey!"



Anyone with budget items for next year, please submit them to the church office before December 15th. Year end reports need to be submitted to the church office by December 19th. Thank you.

MONEY COUNTERS

December

5	Betty Hillsberg
12	Dawn Dingeldein
19	Glen Peebles
26	Jim and Alice Mueller

January

2	Bonnie Weyers
9	Betty Hillsberg
16	Dawn Dingeldein
23	Glen Peebles
30	Jim and Alice Mueller

December Birthdays

Your Church Council

Jim Mueller, President	(715) 758-8460
John Wudtke, Vice President	(715) 758-6378
Shelly Klemp, Secretary	(920) 450-5615
Lisa Wollenberg, Treasurer	(920) 525-2024



Council Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is December 8, 2010, at 7:30 PM. **You are invited.**



We want to thank those who visited Jim and myself during Jim's illness, as your gift of time meant so much to all of us. Many thanks to those who sent cards, brought food, helped serve the meal and those who gave to Jim's memorial. It meant a lot knowing that you cared.

We'll always remember the kind words of comfort from God's word, given by Pastor Jon. We are grateful for your support and kindness. God bless you all.

Pat Zuiches and Family

Thank you to everyone who donated a gift box for Operation Christmas Child. As Franklin Graham said "your gift of love may be the door God uses to open a child's heart to Jesus Christ."

Ascension,

Thank you very much for your solemn remembrance and celebration at the veteran's program on Sunday, November 7th. Thank you also for the fine meal and fellowship shared by all!! We hope that this program will become a yearly program! Your thoughtfulness will always be remembered with gratitude.

All of the members of Zernicke-Wegner American Legion Post 217, Bonduel

We are so happy to be back home at last! We have tried to write down how thankful we are, but there are no words that can ever express our heartfelt gratitude for all your thoughtfulness, prayers, and generous gifts throughout this last year. We are truly thankful to have such a wonderful and caring church family and community to have helped us through this difficult time. We are very blessed. Life takes us to unexpected places, but it's love that brings you home. Thank you can never be enough. God's blessings to all of you.

The Lloyd Allen Family

**November's Benevolence
will go to Good Shepherd
Retirement Center in
Seymour**



ASSISTING MINISTERS

December 2010	Greeters	Ushers	Acolytes	Reader
December 5 9:30 AM	Charmaine Olson Sue Schuelke	Roger and Lucas Steinbach	Anthony Pues Jason Steinbach	Shelley Podell
December 12 9:30 AM	Doug and Julie Wilber	Dave and Sally Richter	Janel Wudtke Mitch Sokolski	Allie Wilber
December 19 9:30 AM	Scott and Lisa Wollenberg	Sean Klemp Dave Klemp	Mackenzie Dingeldein Travis Wollenberg	Shelly Klemp
December 24 4:00 PM	Alan and Ruthann Meiers	Terry and Jean Conradt	Lloyd Allen	Dave Klemp
December 24 7:00 PM	Ken and Shelley Podell	Ken Podell Jim Mueller	Christopher Pues	Ken Podell
December 26 9:30 AM	Sherman and Mar- cella Pues	Sherman Pues Dave Klemp	Molly Craig Dylan Mueller	Shelley Podell



Holiday Craft Open House
Saturday, Dec 4th and
Sunday, Dec 5th
8:00 AM—4:00 PM

Julie Wilber's Art Studio
N1239 Wilber Road, Navarino
Ornaments, Santas, Snowmen—one of a kind
hand-painted items



Nichols Holiday Parade—
Saturday, December 4th

Parade: Starts at Noon
Craft Sale at Whistle Inn: 9—2

Following the parade, Santa will be at the Whistle Inn. Kids get to talk to Santa, get cookies, milk and a goody bag!



Loaves & Fishes
Ecumenical Food
Pantry

Set-up:

Wednesday, December 15, 2010
either—at 9:00 AM or 6:00 PM

Distribution:

Saturday, December 18th
9:00 AM—11:00 AM
(Volunteers Needed)

December Items— Soup



Happy Birthday to US!
Ascension Lutheran Church
celebrated 136 years on Nov 26,
2010!

MEN'S BREAKFAST
AND BIBLE STUDY



Saturday, December 11th
beginning at 8am—we meet at the
Memory Mall in Nichols. Men, please join us.

“Mattie Chitzmats”

My next door neighbor was a prune. I don't mean any disrespect, but she really looked like a four-and-a-half foot prune. I don't have a picture of her but the two closest descriptions of her I can give is either a prune or ET's grandmother. I really am not trying to be disrespectful! I remember her in the fondest of terms.

We called her Granny. If she went by any other name I never knew it or have long since forgotten it. She kept mostly to herself and would often be seen with a walking stick in hand carrying her wrinkled body through neighborhood alley's.

Her granddaughter (in her 70's) spoke a little English and told us that Granny had come from Mexico in her late 70's after her husband passed away and had stopped celebrating her birthday at 97 (which had been some years before I knew her). Most people stayed away from Granny. Not only was she very old, but she didn't speak English and wore a variety of tattered clothes. This grandmother several times over helped raise several generations of younguns'.

There would come a time when Granny would find herself alone. And when she was, my mother would make a little extra at supertime and my sister I would take it over to Granny's house. Granny would never come to the door although she might occasionally pull back a curtain and peer through the window at us, her eyes partially hidden by the flowing wrinkles on her face. So we learned to leave the meal on her doorstep and knock. Once we were a safe distance away we would see her hand reach outside the door and the plate and its contents would disappear inside.

The next morning we would hear a knock on our front door, by the time we got there Granny was gone, but she left behind a clean plate with a stack of homemade tortillas still warm from the pan.

Soon it became a neighborly ritual; we would supply her supper and she made sure we were never without fresh tortillas. Granny would never let us actually thank her or even talk to her, but she understood what my family was doing and she appreciated it and even without words she let us know of her gratitude.

One Christmas, after we had read Luke, chapter two, opened presents and were enjoying the holiday, I heard the doorbell ring. I didn't suspect Granny because she always knocked.

When I reached the front door I had to look down and I saw a short, toothless, wrinkled lady grinning from ear to ear. She held out a plate of Christmas Tamales and said, “Mattie Chitzmats”. I was so startled to hear Granny speak that her very broken English words didn't register right away. By the time I realized that she had personally wished my family a Merry Christmas she was backing away, waving and grinning.

This beautiful, wonderful, toothless prune of a granny had shared Christmas cheer with my family.

As I recall those were the only two words I ever heard Granny say, but her life spoke volumes. And in that moment of Christmas cheer I came to realize the arrival of our Savior Jesus Christ continues to leave a lasting impression on regular people.

He didn't come just for those of us who speak English. He didn't come just for those who attend church in their very best clothing. He didn't come just for those who had a particular color of skin. He didn't even come just for those who were wrinkle-free.

He came for me. He came for you. And He came for Granny. A smooth skinned baby and a wrinkled old woman. This, my friends, is the story of a Christmas past and the best Christmas present.

Mattie Chitzmats to all and to all – Jesus Christ.

by Glenn A. Hascall



“Weather” or not to Worship

If winters in Wisconsin teach us anything, it's learning how to be flexible. If on Sunday morning, the weather is “questionable” a message will be left on the church answering machine (715-758-8312) as to whether or not worship and education classes will be held. A message will be posted no later than 7:00 a.m. on those particular Sunday mornings.



Would you like to greet at the door on Sunday morning? We also need volunteers to help out with ushering and reading our bible lessons. If you'd like to help out, please let Ruthann know. Thanks.



YOUTH STUFF

Here's what's up for fun and outreach:

Watch for news on upcoming possible summer events:

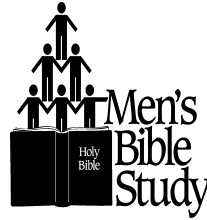
- ◆ Noah's Ark Trip
- ◆ Timber Rattler's Baseball Game
- ◆ Arena Football
- ◆ Mini Golf/Funset
- ◆ Don't forget the Annual Back to School Pool Party.

As always, parents are encouraged to join in all activities☺ and if you have any questions, call the Muellers at 715/758-8609



Quilters Need Sheets

When going to rummage sales this summer, please keep our quilters in mind. They like to use sheets - both top sheets and bottom sheets. You are welcome to bring the sheets to church so they will be here when the quilters begin their quilting project this winter. Thank you all for your help with this.



NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

In order to get the "Visitor" out to the congregation before the first Sunday of the month...ALL information needs to be in the church office by the third Sunday of the preceding month. Assembly of the newsletter will take place on the last Tuesday of the month.

Deadline for April 2009 is March 15, 2009

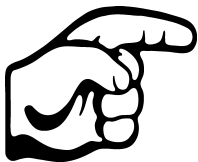
If you have announcements you would like to put on the screen on Sunday morning get them to Mark Mueller (758-8609) by the Thursday preceding that Sunday.

Don't Forget

If you have a change in address or telephone number, please remember to notify the church office! When mail is returned to us, we are charged extra.



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