

# JOYFUL NEWS

## LUTHERAN December 2024

### MISSION STATEMENT

*Joy Lutheran is a community of faith, love, and JOY! We will serve our community and God's world by; faithfully welcoming and including all people, serving and meeting the needs of poverty and hunger, striving for justice and peace in the world, and gathering together as a JOYful community to be refreshed and sent.*

**JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
PO Box 217  
501 State Road 35  
Centuria WI 54824  
715-646-2357  
[joylutheranwi.org](http://joylutheranwi.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**  
Tues & Thurs 9a to 2p

**PASTOR**  
Angela Kutney  
715.222.7915 (Cell)  
[angkutney@gmail.com](mailto:angkutney@gmail.com)

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**  
Meg Anderson  
715.501.6648 (Cell)  
[office@joylutheranwi.org](mailto:office@joylutheranwi.org)

**MEDIA & MARKETING**  
Deanna Wheeler  
[deanna@joylutheranwi.org](mailto:deanna@joylutheranwi.org)

**YOUTH MINISTER**  
Heather Zimmer  
[heather@joylutheranwi.org](mailto:heather@joylutheranwi.org)



@joylutheranwi

### November Sunday Morning Worship Attendance

3rd | 96 10th | 67 17th | 107 24th | 92

### November Generosity (General Fund)

3rd | \$3,395 10th | \$2,987 17th | \$5,122 24th | \$1,361

### HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday December 1st | Star Word Devotionals Due to the Church Office

Tuesdays December 3rd, 10th, and 17th | Power of Rest through Scripture (Led by Deanna)

Wednesday December 4th | 6p Advent Party and Congregational Potluck

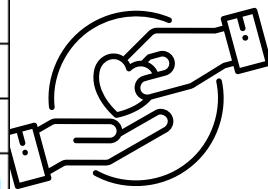
Sunday December 8th | Youth Led Worship / Christmas Program and WELCA Cookie Walk

Saturday December 21st | Blue Christmas Service and Fellowship

Tuesday December 24th | 4p and 9p Christmas Eve Worship Services

Sunday December 29th | Pajama Party Worship Service

	October	Year to Date
Income	\$ 12,504.35	\$170,047.68
Expenses	\$ 20,094.07	\$188,561.56
Difference	\$ (7,589.72)	\$ (18,513.88)



If you would like to receive council minutes or congregational financial reports please contact the Office. Call (715) 646-2357 Email [office@joylutheranwi.org](mailto:office@joylutheranwi.org)

### OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

### HOURS: NO OFFICE HOURS UNTIL JANUARY

Maternity Leave Reminder: Meg will be on Maternity Leave beginning on October 1st and will return after the New Year! David Beaulieu will be the primary Office point of contact during this time. Pastor Angie may be contacted in case of emergencies.

# December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> NO Faith5 Family 10a Worship   Service of the Word Fellowship: Joy Council STAR WORD DEVOS DUE TO OFFICE <i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	<b>2</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 4:30p Good Neighbors Ukulele Beginners Time 5p Good Neighbors Ukulele	<b>3</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 10:30a Staff Meeting 6:30p Mindfulness Class – Power of Rest through Scripture	<b>4</b> 10a to 12p JOYful Quilting Ministry 6p to 8p Advent Party   Cong. Potluck	<b>5</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 1p Kitchen in Use   Warrior Bonfire Program 5:15p Handbell Choir Practice	<b>6</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels	<b>7</b> 8a to 2p Building in Use   4H Day Camp
<b>8</b> 9:15a Faith5 Family 10a Worship w/ Holy Communion Bells Special Music   Youth Led Worship	<b>9</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 4:30p Good Neighbors Ukulele Beginners Time 5p Good Neighbors Ukulele	<b>10</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 10:30a Staff Meeting 6:30p Mindfulness Class – Power of Rest through Scripture	<b>11</b> 10a to 12p JOYful Quilting Ministry 1:30p Gather Bible Study Christmas Potluck Luncheon @ Evelyn Bystrom's 5:30p Choir Practice 6p Youth Programming Dinner 6:30p Confirmation & HS Youth Group	<b>12</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 1p Kitchen in Use   Warrior Bonfire Program 6:30p Council Meeting	<b>13</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 11a to 5p Red Cross Blood Drive	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 9:15a Faith5 Family 10a Worship w/ Holy Communion	<b>16</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 4:30p Good Neighbors Ukulele Beginners Time 5p Good Neighbors Ukulele	<b>17</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 10:30a Staff Meeting 5p Recovering Together Café 6p Gather Bible Study 6:30p Mindfulness Class – Power of Rest through Scripture	<b>18</b> 10a to 12p JOYful Quilting Ministry 6p Youth Programming Dinner 6:30p Confirmation & HS Youth Group *Caroling from 6:30p to 8p* <b>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</b>	<b>19</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 1p Kitchen in Use   Warrior Bonfire Program	<b>20</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels	<b>21</b> 5:30p Dinner 6:30p Blue Christmas Service   Kristin Jagt and Megan Anderson Fellowship to follow Service
<b>22</b> 9:15a Faith5 Family 10a Worship w/ Holy Communion	<b>23</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 4:30p Good Neighbors Ukulele Beginners Time 5p Good Neighbors Ukulele	<b>24</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels NO Staff Meeting 4p Christmas Eve Worship 9p Christmas Eve Worship	<b>25</b> NO Youth Programming Dinner NO Confirmation or HS Youth Group <i>Christmas Day</i>	<b>26</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 1p Kitchen in Use   Warrior Bonfire Program	<b>27</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 9:15a Faith5 Family 10a Worship w/ Holy Communion Pajama Sunday	<b>30</b> 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 4:30p Good Neighbors Ukulele Beginners Time 5p Good Neighbors Ukulele	<b>31</b> Admin Office CLOSED 6a to 1p Meals on Wheels 10:30a Staff Meeting <b>END OF YEAR GIVING STATEMENTS</b>				



**Faith5 Family**

Sunday Mornings @ 9:15am

Join Pastor Angie before Worship for education and fun - bring the entire family!

***No Faith5 Family on Sunday December 1st***



**Confirmation and High School Youth Group**

Wednesday Nights at Joy Lutheran | Dinner Served at 6pm

Confirmation Class and High School Youth Group 6:30pm to 7:30pm

***Wednesday December 4th | Advent Party and Congregational Potluck***

***Wednesday December 25th | NO Dinner or Confirmation / HS Youth Group***



**Sunday December 8th** during worship, our youth will share the story of when Christ was born.

Children of all ages are invited and encouraged to sign up for a part!

Sign-Up Online or contact the church office.

***Please arrive at 9:15am. Props and costumes will be provided in the Fellowship Hall.***

We would like to **thank everyone who helped make the Harvest Dinner a huge success!** Whether you helped with preparing or cooking the meal, serving the meal, helping with tickets, donating food, helping with clean up or came to eat, we thank you all for whatever you did to help make it a success. We appreciate you all! Money was raised for the general fund and for the JOYful Quilting ministry. - Submitted by Pam Livingston

# Power of Rest

## THROUGH SCRIPTURE

### 3-Part Mindfulness Series

led by Deanna Wheeler

6:30-7:30pm

12/03

Caring for Ourselves  
Ephesians 5:29

12/10

Embracing Rest  
Matthew 11:28-30

12/17

Guarding Our Hearts  
Proverbs 4:23

come to one or all, space is limited  
REGISTER: [bit.ly/power-of-rest](https://bit.ly/power-of-rest)

This mindfulness series blends meditation, journaling, and creativity to deepen your connection to self-care, self-love, and faith, guided by four biblical scriptures. Each session will focus on integrating these themes into practical and spiritual practices.

This three-part mindfulness class will empower participants to reflect on self-care from a holistic perspective - body, mind, and spirit - grounded in biblical truths.

Led by Deanna Wheeler. Sign up online or contact the church office.



JOY LUTHERAN CHURCH

## Cookie Walk

December 8th  
before & after worship  
Cookies will be sold, mix and  
match, for \$8/lb.

Plates and wrapping will be provided.  
Small craft items will also be available.

This variety of treats will be a great  
way to add to your holiday baking  
while supporting the ELCA Good Gifts  
program.

Thank you,  
Joy Lutheran Women of the ELCA

As you are able, please donate 2 dozen cookies by 9:00am on December 8th



**Please sign up to serve and bring food for the Advent Party Dinner on December 4th from 6p to 7:30p.** Sign up online or contact the church office. If you would like to give a monetary donation for other supplies, please make checks payable to Joy Lutheran Church - write in the memo: Advent Party. You can mail them to PO Box 217, Centuria WI 54824 or drop off at the church.

## *Blue Christmas* a worship service of calm & comfort for people with heavy hearts

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21ST** • 5:30-6:30PM LIGHT MEAL  
• 6:30PM SERVICE  
• CONTINUED FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW

*candlelight, communion, and the hope of Jesus*

501 WI-35, CENTURIA, WI 54824





As I reflect on my time in Malawi back in early November, I had so many experiences that merit being shared. As I write this letter, perhaps the most important lesson I can offer was that of my new reality as a guest overseas.

Everywhere I turned, I truly felt like I was the most important person present. Yes, there were times where I was the honored guest as a bishop. I was granted the best seats in the church, in the van, on the stage. When I walked the grounds at the Lutheran Compound in my purple clerical, EVERYONE immediately stopped what they were doing to greet me, even if that was their first encounter with me. I was fed better than most and I never had to carry my own luggage. I had women pour water over my hands before certain meals (including communion) much like Christ did during the Last Supper in washing the disciples' feet. And despite my innermost desires to remind them that I was just another guy, I simply could not insult them in that manner. The way in which they treated me was at the core of their faith practice.

Thankfully, Deacon Laura taught me a valuable insight that helped my understanding more clearly. They didn't treat only bishops that way, they treat all guests that way! Having been to Malawi five times before she took me, Laura has experienced that generous hospitality time and time again. And now that I'm a few weeks removed from their genuine welcome, I still firmly believe that their faith has taught them to love their neighbor and lift them up no matter how far away we may come.

What if we all treated our neighbor as though they are the most important person present at that time? What if we lifted the spirits of the people God places in our lives each and every day? As we prepare for the Christmas story once again this year, we emphasize the gift that comes in the Christ child, God made flesh to live among us mortals. Just think about the lives that the Christ child touched! It started with Mary and Joseph, continued to the shepherds in the fields, and even gave the heavenly host something to praise!

Of course, Jesus went on to touch so many lives - people in need of healing, children in need of welcoming, outcasts in need of community, sinners in need of redeeming. Jesus became the gift who helped them all feel that they were the most important person present at the time, people worthy of his unconditional love, people whose spirits were uplifted.

As we march through the season of Advent toward the birth of God Emmanuel, Jesus the savior of the world, remember the gift of God's presence in your lives. Recognize that God is even present within you and that you are a gift as well! And much like my new friends in Malawi, be that gift for others. Reveal Christ's presence to others through your continued faithfulness and dedication to the God of love because that love can overcome division. You are a gift to this synod and to God's church when you let God's light shine in and through you! May this Christmas also reveal to you the light of Christ through others.

Bishop Martin

# PRAYER LIST

**PRAYER CONCERNS:** Mary Ellen Deloach, Keenan Hacker, Marie Sogge, Kim Grossmann, Bob Jones, Mary Marlette, Ron Marlette, Chris Nelson, Tom Rivers, Joyce Skog; Rhiannon (Kathy Adascheck's granddaughter), Paulette Kapaun (Joyce Skog's daughter), Sonny Kapun (Joyce Skog's son-in-law), Debra Leubner (daughter of Pam Kruger), LouAnn Schwanz (Annette Skog's aunt).

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY and THEIR FAMILIES:** William Anderson (Dawn Swanson's son), Megan Anderson, Cambell Borrowman, Tina Brady (Edgell), Andrew Flor, Jordan Hughes, Josh Kreft, Cameron Wood.

**REMEMBER THOSE IN CARE CENTERS and AT HOME:** Betty Lou Chryst, Connie Dahl, Bill and Marge Johnson, Carol Lair, Mary Lunsman, Mary Mattson, Mary Lou Randall, Erling Voss, Lois Voss, Bob Yira.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

### Dec 1

Jennifer Rickeard

### Dec 3

Lucas Owen

### Dec 5

Melissa Patterson

### Dec 6

Tyler Bjornstad  
Les Sloper

### Dec 7

Logan Davis

### Dec 12

Nicholas Nelson

### Dec 14

Bridgette Lofgren

### Dec 18

Gary Ebensperger  
Luke Christensen

### Dec 19

Karen Edgell

### Dec 21

Elizabeth Hoag

### Dec 22

Mary Mattson  
Joyce Turnquist

### Dec 23

Theresa Jones  
Cindy Sturgal

### Dec 25

Jeff Moryn  
Christi Hendricks

### Dec 27

Jacki Owens  
Hallie Carlson

### Dec 28

Elaina Hanson  
Bodie Hanson  
Adalynn Hanson

### Dec 30

Tom Rivers  
August Vollrath  
Kyle Galle

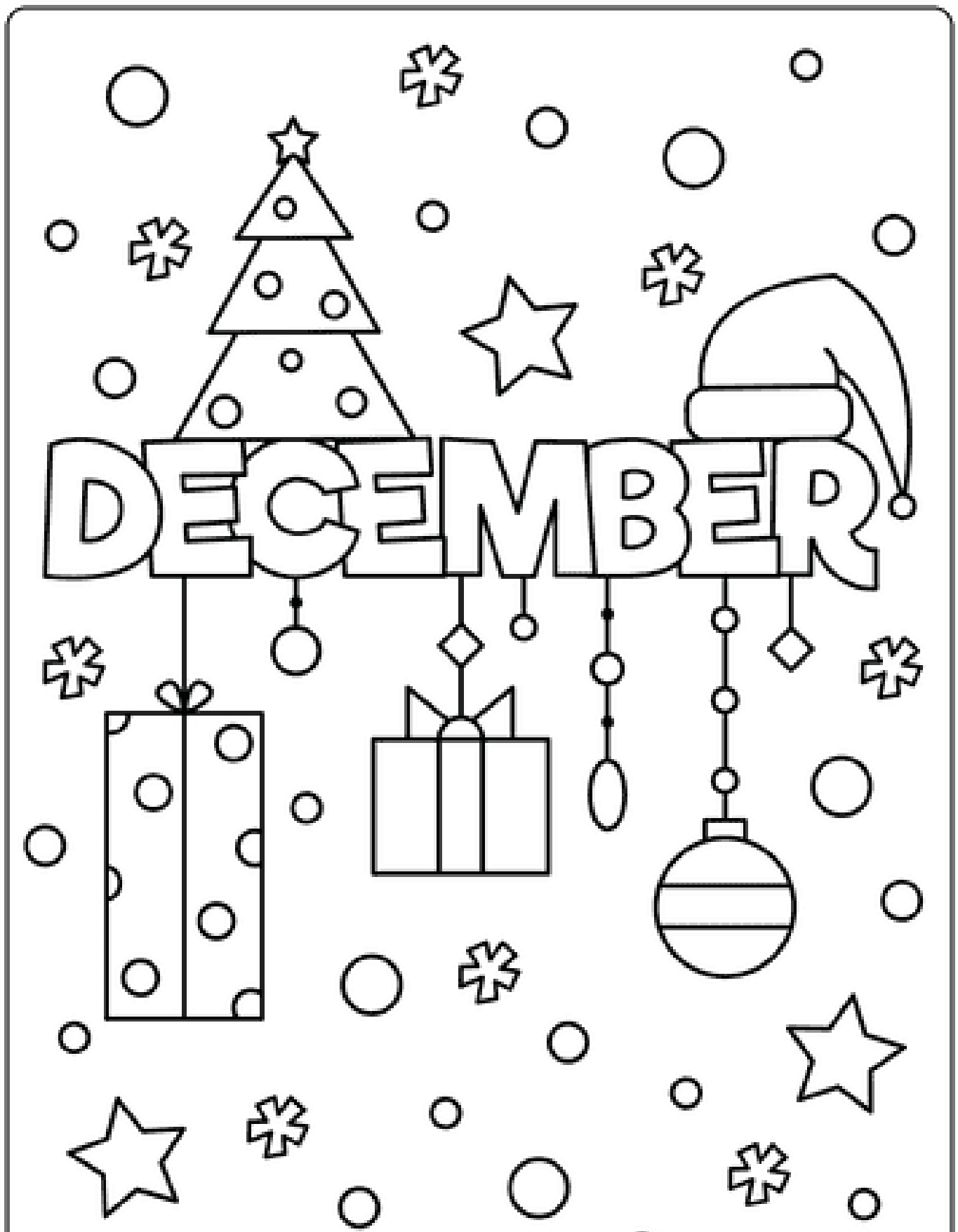
### Dec 31

Kathie Wilson  
William Nelson



If you have a birthday in the month of December and do not see it listed here, please contact the Admin Office to update your information on file.

## ACTIVITY OF THE MONTH





501 STATE ROAD 35 - PO BOX 217 - CENTURIA, WI 54824

PHONE: (715) 646-2357 EMAIL: [OFFICE@JOYLUTHERANWI.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@JOYLUTHERANWI.ORG)

PLACE LABEL HERE



Join us on Sundays  
10am Worship with Holy Communion