

Adoration Evangelical Lutheran Church

ETCERA



...Our Mission Continues

Celebrate the Savior



Holiday Worship Schedule

Christmas Musical Cantata

December 10

9:00 AM

Christmas Eve Services

December 24

4:30 PM & 9:00 PM

Christmas Day Service

December 25

10:00 AM

PASTOR

Rev. Tim Singleton

Office: 414-281-0414

Mobile: 414-345-7368

Email: adorationpastor@gmail.com

STAFF

Lori Hamilton Secretary

Office: 414-281-0414

Email: adorationelca@hotmail.com

Barb Regent..... Music Director

Email: regent@execpc.com

Janet McGinty..... Choir Director

Email: smcginty@wi.rr.com

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 9:00-2:00

PASTOR'S NORMAL WEEKDAY

OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30-2:30

Thursday 9:30-12:30

Friday 12:00-2:30

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OUR CHURCH LABYRINTH

Faith and spirituality come to us as a journey from the outer beginning toward the inner finishing, perfecting and fulfilling — and Jesus Christ is the Way. Saint Paul the Apostle of Christ declared the following message of Christian faith: “Let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and finisher of our faith” (from Hebrews 12:1-2). Also, Saint John the Apostle of Christ revealed the following message of hope from Jesus our Savior and Lord: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End” (from John 22:13).



Consequently, early Christians adopted and adapted the pre-Christian symbol of the labyrinth as a very useful illustration of the Christian journey of faith, hope and love in Christ Jesus. In fact, labyrinths have been around for approximately 4000 years. For example, the brain-like shape to the left of this paragraph is a crude ancient form of labyrinth.

Basically, a labyrinth is a spiritual design with a path that eventually leads us to the center. So as a tool for prayerful mediation, the labyrinth first moves the walker only near the center before it finally leads to the true center. Another example is to the right of this paragraph, and it is the design of a Medieval Christian labyrinth from Chartes Cathedral in France.



For Christians the **True Center** of our faith and spiritual life is Jesus. By God’s grace through faith in Jesus Christ we are reconciled to God, and by his Holy Spirit we are guided in the faith, hope and love of Christ. As Jesus himself said, “The Helper, the Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you” (from John 14:26-27).

The labyrinth, therefore, is not a maze or a puzzle. It is simply a geometric path used in prayerful mediation to connect us more deeply with the True Center of all life and existence, the infinite and eternal God of all.

To that end, the path of our church labyrinth at Adoration begins with a stone at the starting point, reminding us of Jesus Christ, the great Cornerstone of God’s Kingdom. For through Jesus’ life, crucifixion, death, and resurrection, he has fulfilled the poetic prophecy of Psalm 118:22-23, which states, “The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.” (The center bench is also made of stone.)

Our hexagonal church labyrinth was designed and constructed by Nicholas A. Singleton for his Eagle Scout project. He was assisted by the Scouts of Adoration’s Boy Scout Troop 501.



Lastly, the following are guidelines for prayerfully walking our church labyrinth:

+ JOURNEY TOWARD THE CENTER +

As you enter the labyrinth, you begin the first of three stages of your prayer walk:

Stage I — Purgation

This is a time for releasing, letting go, relaxing, centering and focusing.

+ AT THE CENTER +

As you reach the center, you are open to the second stage of your prayer walk:

Stage II — Illumination

Stay in the center for as long as you like, because it is a place of deep quiet and prayerful meditation. The time at the center is for clarity, insight, and the Holy Spirit's guidance, so openly receive from God whatever is there for you.

+ JOURNEY FROM THE CENTER +

As you travel the path outward from the center, you are walking the third stage:

Stage III — Union

In deeper communion with the Holy Spirit of God, you bring back with you a refreshed spirit. And you may also experience a renewal of purpose, vision and mission in life.

May this church labyrinth at Adoration be a tool for you to find restful stillness, a deeper connection with God, and the inner joy and peace that Christ promises to give us by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Good Advent & Merry Christmas!
Pastor Tim

CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of the items discussed at the NOVEMBER Church Council meeting:

- * Congratulations go out to Pastor Tim and Hilary as their son and daughter-in-law in Omaha, NE, are expecting!
- * The Church Council is checking to see if there is an education program for church members to learn how to handle unwanted intruders and active shooters. Jim Hass will check with Chris Dudzik about the front door alarm.
- * We need to see what changes or upgrades are needed for the phone and fire alarm system to see if we are able to save any money with our telephone service.
- * Snow plowing was the main topic discussed at this meeting. A final decision was made at a special council meeting on November 19.
- * Sandy Eigner stated that the Memorial Committee has voted to buy new risers for the church to replace the old risers. Sandy made a motion to accept the memorial fund to pay for the risers. Motion seconded by Dave Krueger, motion carried.
- * Some church members have commented that the "sharing of the peace" needs to be shortened.
- * Christmas Day service is at 10 AM. No worship service on Wednesday, December 27.

For more information on any or all of these items, please check the complete minutes of the meeting posted on the kiosk in the Gathering Space or contact one of your Council representatives.

Wishing our Adoration Family a blessed Christmas & a joyous New Year!

BIRTHDAYS

12/01	Charlotte Douangmala
12/01	Heather Kokalj
12/02	Lori Wargolet
12/03	Madeline Pettke
12/05	Adele Kujawa
12/07	Frank McGinty
12/08	Carol Glisch
12/11	Nicholas Young
12/14	Larry Ringwall
12/15	Ellen Ziarek
12/16	Kristen Delano
12/16	Millie Roshar
12/17	Makayla Lewitzke
12/18	Kerri Cwiklinski
12/18	Spencer Servais
12/19	Peyton Kuzminski
12/21	Jeremiah Faltersack
12/22	Austin Kerlin
12/22	Dave Krueger
12/24	Katelyn Ponath
12/24	Scott Wood
12/26	Brenda Schneider
12/30	Jeff Schneider
12/30	Megan Wallrath
12/30	Zachary Young

ANNIVERSARIES

12/03	William & Elizabeth Delano
12/26	David & Sandra Nichols

Thank You! A special thank you to Donna Babilus for displaying her beautiful Christmas village for all to enjoy this holiday season!

Consider sending a Christmas card to our homebound members during the Christmas season to cheer them. A current list is posted on the kiosk in the gathering room.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Join us on Saturday, December 2, as we share the carols of the holiday season with some of our homebound members. See Janet McGinty if you would like to come along to spread some holiday cheer. The more the merrier!



AAA CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tuesday, December 5
12:00 PM
Potluck Luncheon &
Gift Exchange



WE LOVE OUR CHURCH AUCTION

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

Show your love of Adoration by supporting our auction. Either by donating baked goods, craft or specialty items or by making large bids on items up for sale. You are helping the ministry of our church. Tables are set up for your generous donations. Please make sure to mark down your item(s) on the donations sheet. Thank you again for your continued support!

~Ted & Mardy Lazaris

Attention: Instrument Ensemble Members

Please plan to attend one of the following rehearsal dates to practice for Christmas Music Sunday.

*Saturday, December 9
8-9:30 AM or 11-12 PM

*Saturday, December 16
8:30-10:30 AM

Barb Regent will be available during these dates and times. Please bring your instrument and music.



Joy
Love
Hope
Peace
Mission
Outreach
Donation
Give Back
Contribute
Volunteering
Generous Hearts
Faith into Action
Make a Difference
Share
Gifts



This holiday season, thanks are expressed to all who have supported the ministry at Adoration this past year with their time, talents and financial contributions. We look forward to continued support from all our members in the year ahead. We have heard Jesus' words that those who are faithful in the little things will be faithful in the big things. Giving on a regular basis is practicing our faith, providing resources to share God's message in many ways and many places.



Faithful Giving is Faithful Living



Commitments for 2018 were received at worship and brought to God's altar on Sunday, November 12. God's people at Adoration pledged their gifts to support His ministry here, in our community and throughout God's world. These gifts represent our response to God's abundant love and generosity in our lives.

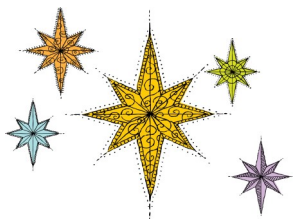
As of November 26, we received 55 pledges totaling approximately \$138,852. Thank you to all the members who have turned in their commitment cards. If you have not returned your commitment for next year, please put it in the offering plate at worship or bring it into the church office. Watch the Sunday bulletin for continued reports on the number of commitments received. If you make your contributions through electronic giving (Simply Giving) and wish to change the amount you give, complete the authorization form from the mailing and return it to the church office. Thank you!

~ The Twelve Days of Christmas ~

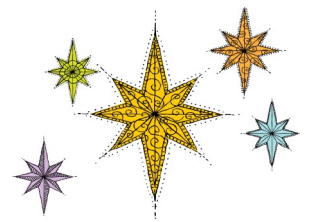
From 1558 to 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to practice their faith openly. This popular carol was written as a catechism song. It has two levels of meaning, a surface one and one known only to members of the Church. Each element in the carol was a code for a religious reality, which all ages could remember. Of course, the meaning of these words can be affirmed by all Christians, including both Catholics and Protestants.

1. **The partridge in the pear tree** is Jesus Christ.
2. **Two turtledoves** are the Old and New Testaments.
3. **Three French hens** stand for faith, hope and love.
4. **The four calling birds** are the Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
5. **The five golden rings** recall the Torah, the first five books of the Bible.
6. **The six geese a-laying** stand for the six days of creation.
7. **Seven swans a-swimming** represent the seven fold gifts of the Holy Spirit: prophecy, serving, teaching, exhortation, contribution, leadership and mercy.
8. **The eight maids a-milking** are the Beatitudes of Jesus.
9. **Nine ladies dancing** are the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.
10. **The ten Lords a-leaping** are the Ten Commandments.
11. **The eleven pipers piping** stand for the eleven faithful disciples.
12. **The twelve drummers drumming** symbolize the twelve points of belief within the Apostles' Creed.





The season of giving



CHRISTMAS SALE AT ADORATION **DECEMBER 16 9:00 AM—1:00 PM**

BAKE SALE

The Evangelism Committee is happy again to sponsor this year's cookie/bake sale. Show your support with this outreach project by donating baked goods to the sale. Please bring your donations to church the week of December 10, between 9:30-1:30 PM. We will be packaging on Friday, December 15.

CHRISTMAS RESALE

Our Partnership Committee is looking for your donations of unwanted Christmas decorations and ornaments. Please consider donating items to the Christmas resale. Proceeds will be donated to Mulala Parish to help support our Tanzania partnership.

Spread the word to promote this special day at Adoration!

DIVINE INTERVENTION MINISTRY

An interfaith ministry providing emergency overnight safe sanctuary to the homeless, respecting the dignity of all God's adult children.

We are continuing to help support this mission by providing dinners to our homeless neighbors at Divine Intervention. Thank you to the McGinty family for serving dinner on Thursday, December 14.

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.
Matthew 25:35-36*

SOUTHWEST INTERFAITH

SW Neighborhood Outreach Program is a non-profit organization for older adults. Their mission is to link older adults with a caring community.

Volunteers are needed to provide rides to doctor appointments, shopping, and other transportation needs. Help is needed with minor household repairs or yard work. Volunteering is on a flexible basis, (when you are available). For more information call the SW Interfaith office at 414-421-3678.

MT. MERU COFFEE PROJECT

By purchasing Mt. Meru coffee you are helping the farmers of Tanzania. We sell this delicious full-bodied coffee in many varieties including ground, whole bean, drip, perk, regular or decaf. Flavored varieties are also available. Your purchase of Mt. Meru coffee would make a special holiday gift for yourself or others and help our brothers and sisters in Tanzania.

LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES

Providing Help, Healing and Hope in the Name of Jesus Christ

The Mitten Tree

Our special tree is set up and ready to be filled with your gifts of holiday warmth. Scarves, hats, caps, mittens and gloves either purchased or homemade can be placed on the tree.

*Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
Hebrews 13:16*

MILWAUKEE RESCUE MISSION **&** **THE HOPE HOUSE**

We will be collecting unwrapped toys until December 6 for Christmas for both of these worthwhile organizations. Containers are set up in the gathering space for your holiday gift donation. Legos, blocks, games, dolls, action figures, books, hand held games, card games, arts/crafts, nail polish, make-up kits, hot wheel cars, head phones, ear buds are a few gift suggestions.

ASCENSION FOOD MINISTRY

Thank you for your continued support of food donations to our shopping cart! Your generous contributions are helping families in need during the holiday season. A special thanks to Ted & Mardy Lazaris for delivering our food gifts each month.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER

Provides support for those most affected by hunger and poverty.

ELCA World Hunger helps 48 states and 63 Countries. Year to Date offerings of \$2,221.43 Thank you!

*The generous will themselves be blessed,
for they share their food with the poor.
Proverbs 22:9*

MERU & MULALA ~ Our Partners in Ministry

Greetings!

As ambassador for our Meru Coffee Project I had the opportunity to meet with members from other congregations throughout the Greater Milwaukee Synod to hear updates from Meru and share our successes and struggles. I was so proud to be the representative for Adoration. We may be a small congregation, but we are very involved in our partnership and it shows. Not only did we help purchase a new vehicle for our project coordinators, Felix and Nnko, but we helped send between 60-80 farmers for training at the Tanzanian Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI). Both of these endeavors will help to sustain the coffee project for years to come. We even had 3 teams in the Meru Golf Outing!

While buying coffee is one way of supporting the coffee project, there are other non-coffee items that are available. The holiday items for 2017 include a Meru coffee mug (\$9) and a jute tote bag (\$10). Items are already available for purchase in the Narthex. These items make great gifts in addition to the coffee and allow you to be as creative as you like. (Look for one such loaded bag in the We Love Our Church Auction!)



In other news, Pastor Nnko will be retiring as pastor of Mulala at the end of December. He has served as pastor on two separate occasions during our 18 years together as partners. The Meru Committee is sending him a retirement gift to commemorate his many years of friendship to Adoration. Please keep him in your prayers as he and his family make this transition.

Asante sana,

Jess Hodgson, Partnership Committee



Join the Prayer Chain

We are looking for members who would like to be part of our Prayer Chain. **What is a prayer chain?** A prayer chain is a network of people who pass a prayer request on to others and pray for each request. **How does it work?** Every prayer chain member has a list of the other members and their phone numbers. The prayer chain coordinator, Judy Goodwin, calls the first person on the list. That person does three things; (1) They contact the next person available on the list. (2) They convey the prayer request as it was received. (3) They pray for the person who has requested the prayer. The prayer request continues through the entire prayer chain until it comes back to the coordinator. If you would like to be part of our Prayer Chain, please contact Judy Goodwin at (414) 281-9368.

Adoration Lutheran Church

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Email: adorationelca@hotmail.com

Website: adorationlc.org

Facebook: facebook.com/
adorationlutheran

Pastor: Rev. Tim Singleton

Worship Times:

Sunday Morning.....9:00 AM

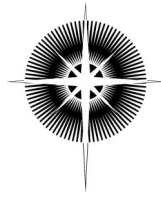
Wednesday Evening.....6:15 PM

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Mission Statement:

Living in God's love we share the good news of Jesus through spirited worship, serving God in our daily lives, creating a welcoming space to all, providing outreach, educating the young and old, and creating worldwide partnerships.

Reconciling in Christ:

Adoration Evangelical Lutheran Church identifies itself as a "Reconciling in Christ" congregation and publicly welcomes all persons to full membership and participation in the ministry we share without regard to race, ethnicity, social status, ability, gender identity or sexual orientation.

KIDS PAGE

