



*"Which hope we have as an Anchor of the  
soul,  
both sure and steadfast."*

Hebrews 6:19

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Vol. 52, Num. 4

**THE ANCHOR**

December 2017

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### **From the Pastor . . .**

We are used to the expression: "You are what you eat." We get the point. The stuff you put into your body literally becomes part of you, and if it's unhealthy stuff, you become unhealthy. The same goes with hearing. You are what you hear. It has struck me lately how often "Christmas" or the "holidays" are mentioned on TV or radio, how often it is said, "The holidays are all about family," or, "Show her you love her this Christmas" by buying this or that. And no word of Jesus. Never. I think it might be illegal. Just kidding. It's not illegal. But you'd think it was. No, the real reason is that people think Jesus divides, that it will lose them business to talk about Christ during Christmas. And in the meantime, we constantly hear Christmas mentioned, the holidays mentioned, without ever hearing about Jesus, about why Christmas exists. And you become what you hear.

So come to Church and hear what Christmas is about. Hear about Jesus, your God who became a baby to be your Savior from sin and rescue you from every evil. Hear what unites all Christians together, that our God wears our flesh and blood and has died and risen to make us His people. Be what you hear this Christmas. A Christian, a child of God, because you hear the voice of Christ, the incarnate Son of the Father. Merry Christmas.

"Softly from His lowly manger  
Jesus calls  
One and all,  
"You are safe from danger.  
Children, from the sins that grieve you  
You are freed;  
All you need  
I will surely give you."  
(LSB 360)

### **From the School . . .**

Last month, before Thanksgiving, I asked our students to tell me what they appreciate about their school. Many of you never get to meet the boys and girls who attend Mount Hope so I decided to share some of their thoughts with you.

- I like to play the violin.
- I like going to chapel.
- It's a Lutheran school. I'm very glad to go here.

- I like saying, "I love you," in Latin.
- I like learning the capitals of the states.
- My favorite thing is to learn music. I also like art and learning about the people who made the art.
- It is fun to learn math. My favorite problems are division problems.
- I read literature books with hard words at this school.
- I also like this school because we talk about our beliefs and the Bible.
- I am thankful for my friends and teachers.
- I am thankful for this school because I have the opportunity to learn Latin.
- I like to sing hymns.
- I like school because we have God.
- I like violin and friends.

Merry Christmas from the staff and students at Mount Hope! We thank you for all your prayers, generosity, and support this school year.

*Love caused Your incarnation; love brought You down to me.  
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.  
Oh, love beyond all telling, that led You to embrace  
In love, all love excelling, our lost and fallen race.*

LSB 334

Mrs. Angela Hill

 **OFFICIAL ACTS**

**Transfer In:** None  
**Reception by Profession of Faith:** None  
**Transfer Out:** None  
**Peaceful Release:** None  
**Funeral:** Herman Lee Karst, died Nov. 24, 2017;  
 Funeral at MHLC Nov. 30, 2017  
**Wedding:** Cameron David Thorne & Asya Lynn  
 Ashby, Nov. 25, 2017  
**Baptism:** None  
**Adult Confirmation:** None

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Dec. 1	Jessica Jacob	15
Dec. 1	Kirsten Southard	
Dec. 4	Nickolas Lewallen III	
Dec. 4	Vickie Pavey	
Dec. 8	Gabe Bouse	
Dec. 8	Martin Ritzman	
Dec. 9	Macei Engelke	14
Dec. 13	Linda Snyder	
Dec. 15	Jeannie Sides	
Dec. 17	Joyce Karst	
Dec. 18	Brittany Smith	
Dec. 20	Brody Parks	11
Dec. 22	Thomas Graham	13
Dec. 23	Sam Cordova III	
Dec. 26	Don Sides	
Dec. 26	John Sides	
Dec. 27	Debbie Holthus	
Dec. 29	Dr. Christina McCann	
Dec. 31	Beverly (Geise) Woodcock	

 **WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES**

Jeremy & Denise Wendinger	Dec. 7	10 yrs.
Dan & Amy Graham	Dec. 11	18 yrs.
Dale & Debbie Lee	Dec. 29	38 yrs.

## News & Notes

### LWML NEWS

"This is the Christ, Our God Most High,  
Who hears your sad and bitter cry;  
He will Himself your Savior be,  
From all your sins to set you free."  
LSB 358, v. 3

Please join us in celebrating our Savior's birth on **Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am.** We will be learning about and singing Martin Luther's cradle song, *"From Heaven Above to Earth I Come."* We will also be making small Christmas baskets for our five fabulous shut-ins and signing Christmas cards that Rebecca Cordova is preparing for us.

Please bring an item to go in our baskets. Items that have been brought in the past are: sugar-free chocolates, warm socks, chapstick, Kleenex, Christmas goodies, a small stuffed animal, a devotion, a book mark, and packets of hot cocoa, tea, or apple cider. Praise God for His great love that send His Son to set us free from sin and death!

We will have our regular business meeting to start up the New Year on **Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 am.**

Merry Christmas!  
The LWML Board

**MONDAY NIGHT AND WEDNESDAY  
MORNING BIBLE STUDIES ARE  
SUSPENDED FOR DECEMBER.  
THEY WILL RESUME IN JANUARY!**

### Good Shepherd News

The Good Shepherd Auxiliary prayerfully and financially supports Bethesda Lutheran Communities, which serve people with developmental disabilities in group homes.

Our members at Mount Hope join in the mission to reach forward in Faith, Word, and deed by sharing the love of Jesus.

Our annual Christmas Luncheon will be held at **11:00 am on**

**December 15, at Lilacs and Lavender.**

Please consider coming to any of the meetings as we enjoy Christian fellowship and Christ's love.

### DECEMBER WORSHIP AND PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**December 6, 13, 20:**

**Wednesday Advent Vespers  
Services, 7:00 pm**

**December 17:**

**Sunday School Christmas  
Program, 6:00 pm**

**December 24:**

**Divine Service, 9:00 am  
Readings & Carols Service,  
7:00 pm**

**December 25:**

**Divine Service, 10:00 am**

**December 31:**

**Divine Service, 9:00 am**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Elders</u>	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Ushers</u>
3	9:00 AM On Call	Bob Doctor Benjamin Craig	Tristin Jacob	Pattie Gould, Kathy Clifford	A: Bob Harris, Sr., Greg Harris, Chad Thorne, Tim Switzer
6	7:00 PM	Dan Graham		Lloyd & Janet Walters	D: Mike Baden, Jeff Richter, Jeff & Samuel Snyder, Mark Brattis
10	9:00 AM On Call	Randy Sorenson Randy Sorenson	Brody Parks	Lorraine Radford	I: Dan Graham, Anthony, Samuel, & Daniel Airisa, Michael Hill
13	7:00 PM	Randy Sorenson		Tarayca Walters	B: Darrell Bayer, Luke Drury, Russel Paulson, Wally Aakre
17	9:00 AM On Call	Dan Klassen Mike Baden	Thomas Graham	Greg & Tiana Harris	E: Ken Temme, Randy & Paul Sorenson, Sam & Daniel Cordova
20	7:00 PM	Dan Graham		Randy, Michele, & Paul Sorenson	G: Ed Fink, Randy Thoroughman, Dennis Rollins, Phil Baumann
24	9:00 AM On Call	Benjamin Craig Benjamin Craig	Brody Parks	Jeannie, Don, & John Sides	H: Larry Harrington, John Rudd, Bryan & Logan Soliz
24	7:00 PM	Ed Fink	Tristin Jacob		C: Bob Doctor, Dan Klassen, Brandon Weaver, Nick Lewallen
25	10:00 AM		Thomas Graham	Mike & Pam Baden	F: Benjamin Craig, Ed Engelke, Dan & Eric Graham, Charles Bonds
31	9:00 AM	Mike Baden	Brody Parks	John & Janet Rudd	A: Bob Harris, Sr., Greg Harris, Chad Thorne, Tim Switzer

*Reminder to Greeters: Please have each visitor sign the guest book with their home address and the name of their home church.*

**Altar Guild:** Rebeca Cordova, Paula Thoroughman      **Offering Counter:** Ed Fink, Samuel Airisa      **Sunday Coffee:** Darrell & Betty Bayer

**December Cleaning Teams:**  
2: Randy, Michele & Paul Sorenson  
9: Mike & Pam Baden; Janet & Tarayca Walters  
16: Wally & Charlene Aakre; Sam & Rebecca Cordova  
23: Benjamin Craig; Luke Drury  
30: Bob & Wendy Doctor; Ed Fink

*Anyone who cannot clean at 9:00 AM on Saturday can clean on Thursday or Friday after 4:00 PM or exchange dates with others. If you do not have a key to the church, call the Board of Maintenance Coordinator, Wally Aakre, or the Church Office. Be sure to enter your name on the cleaning checklist when doing your cleaning.*