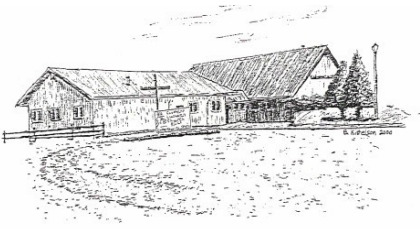


Connecting people to God with the message of God's love!



Covenant

Covenant Lutheran Church
VOLUME 18, ISSUE #12
December 2014

The Christmas Eve service that we are so familiar with has a long history in the church. It is, at heart, modified from the Easter Vigil service. The Vigil of Easter has songs accompanied by candlelight, a number of readings interspersed with hymns, and takes place at sundown as we celebrate the return of light into the world. The Christmas Eve service does these same things – we sing “Silent Night” with candles, we hear the Nativity story while we sing carols, and we praise God after nightfall, again to celebrate the coming of light into the world.

Throughout Advent we will look to John, who points to the Messiah, and in this way our Christmas service itself points to Easter. Hopefully, this will serve to remind us of what the season is about (especially when retailers have their own agenda for the meaning of Christmas – this year some are opening at 6 pm on Thanksgiving, and will be open until 10 pm on Christmas eve) and point us, even at Christmas, to the cross.

As Christmas comes, we celebrate a Servant King, an Incarnate God. We remember that the one who creates the universe loves us enough not just to live with us, but to die with us, and rise with us.

I hope to see you there.

Pastor Joshua





Our Advent Soup & Services will be held on Wednesday evenings, December 3, 10, and 17. We will begin with supper and fellowship at 5:30 pm, followed by the service. A sign-up sheet for bringing food is located by the church mailboxes. Call the office with any questions.

MISSION STATEMENT

We covenant ourselves to gather around Word and Sacrament for mutual support and strength in Christ, that by God's grace we:
Proclaim the gospel of the Kingdom
Nurture the community through Christian Education
Provide settings for Christian fellowship, and
Equip the membership to be Christ's servant people within God's world.



Please join us on Sunday, December 14th when the children will be performing "Just a Little Christmas" during the church service.

Gorman Funeral Home – Platte Chapel would like to invite the community to their Christmas Service of Remembrance at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, December 2. Let us come together to remember and celebrate the lives of those we have lost. Take time to say a prayer and thank them for being part of our lives.



Gorman Funeral Home – Platte Chapel
1108 Ninth Street
Wheatland, Wyoming
322-2384

Covenant Lutheran Church
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Wheatland, WY 82201
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Office: CLCWheatland@gmail.com
Pastor: pastorjoshua@wyomingwireless.com
<http://clcwheatland.weebly.com>
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Office Hours:

Pastor Bruns—Mon - Thurs.: 9 am - 12 pm
Office: M - F: 9 am - 12: pm
Sunday Worship: 9:00 am Sunday
Sunday School: 10:30 am Sunday
Adult Bible Study: 4:00 pm Thursday
Adult Book Study: 10:30 am Sunday

Anderson Podiatry Center and Associated Podiatrists of Cheyenne are collecting donations of new or gently used shoes for the homeless at their clinics through December 31st. Please call 970-484-4620 Ext 122 for more information.



The nursing home Christmas party will take place on Wednesday, December 10th at 3:00 pm. If you would like to volunteer to help with the party, please contact Arlene Robbins.



The women's prayer partner reveal and gift exchange will take place on Sunday, December 7th. Everyone who participated last year is asked to bring their favorite Christmas cookie or dessert to share with the congregation during Fellowship time.

Afterward, they will go into a separate room to reveal their current prayer partners with cards and/or gifts. Then they will draw names for next year's prayer partners. All of the women of the congregation are welcome to participate. If you have any questions, please speak with Arlene Robbins.

We are looking for 5 or 6 volunteers to help with the Christmas Eve service as greeters, readers and ushers. If you will be here on Christmas Eve and would like to help, please contact the office. Thank you!



**COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
November 13, 2014**

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:07pm

Devotions:

Devotions were led by Pastor Joshua

Roll Call:

Reed Elmquist, Pastor Joshua, Jim Lockwood, Beth Morris, Sarah Jesse, Stu Hammersmark, Dorothy Lockwood, Lee Morrison, Rick Robbins, Rich Bohm, Marge Scholton.

Absent: Melissa Garcia, Nancy Lubeck, Dawn McKee, Terry Lubeck, Connie Thomas, Christy Watkins.

Additions to Agenda:

Thrift Store: Christmas stuff is out and selling. The new van will be paid off this month. Orphan train truck was loaded and sent off, thanks to everyone who helped load. Both vans being used a lot.

	Receipts	Assistance	Ending Ck Bal	Ending Sav Bal
Thrift Store	\$8,413.33	\$379.05	\$3,834.02	\$12,264.45
Grandma's Attic	\$1,516.24	NA	\$4,654.05	NA

Correspondence: Thank you letter from the nursing home, and also one from the Synod Council. Pastor also shared an article from the Rainbow Ranch Campground; they are looking for a retired forest service employee.

Reports:

Secretary: Rick moved, and Beth 2nd to accept the Secretary's report as written. Motion carried. Report posted on the bulletin board.

Financial Secretary: Beth moved, and Dorothy 2nd to accept the Financial Secretary's report as written. Motion carried. Report posted on the bulletin board.

Treasurer: Jim moved, and Rich 2nd to accept the Treasurer's report as written. Motion carried. Report posted on the bulletin board.

President: No report.

Elders: Doing fine, covering all shifts.

Trustees: Fixed transition and replaced motor in exhaust fan in women's restroom. Drained sprinkler system, and have bought more ice melt. Will change batteries in smoke alarms.

Pastor: Written report available, posted on bulletin board. Pastor also talked briefly about confirmation camp.

Committee Reports:

Education: Sunday school Christmas program will be Dec. 14th, the kids are working hard now during their Sunday school time, please be sure to attend. The pumpkin decorating and auction raised \$384, thanks to everyone who participated. Dawn is working on the dates for VBS. The ladies are also working on the teacher schedule for the spring semester, so if there are certain dates you would like to work, or have off, please let Dawn or Sarah know ASAP. Also a Secretary note, deadline for the December newsletter is November 24.

Youth: Pastor talked briefly about confirmation camp, all the confirmation kids have made an early commitment to go.

Stewardship: Next meeting scheduled for Dec. 9th.

Worship: Thank offering will be Nov. 16th. Have talked about and planned out Dec

Women of ELCA: In charge of the Thank Offering Sunday.

Hospitality: Nothing new to report.

Men of Covenant: 5 men showed for breakfast.

Outreach: Everything going well. Will check with Linda and Cindy to see if they would like, or are ready for visits.

Altar Guild: Rena is keeping up with the color changes, but wonders sometimes if anyone notices. Let her know she is doing a great job.

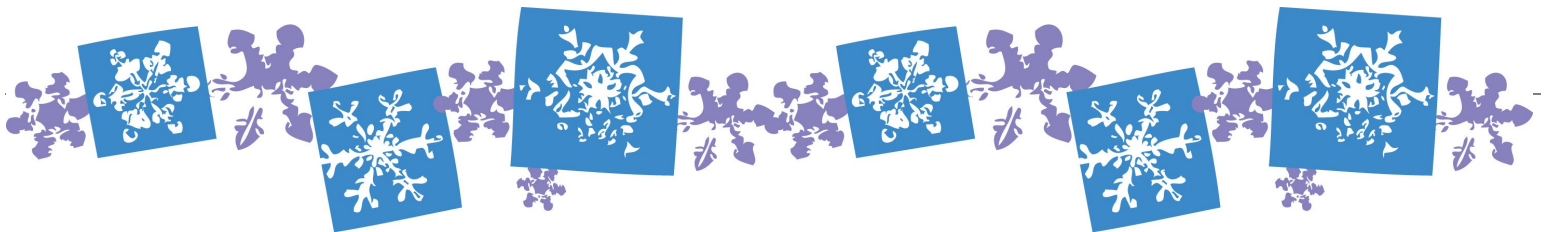
Landscape: Nothing happening, or anything to report on till spring

Old Business: Columbarium; nothing new to report

New Business: Budget committee formed, it will consist of Pastor Josh, Beth M, Nancy L, Reed E. and Jim L., we will also ask during Church announcements, if anyone else would like to join.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer
Next Council Meeting; December 11, 2014
Devotions for next Meeting: Pastor Joshua

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Lockwood, Secretary



At the annual meeting in January there are several council positions that will need to be filled. If you would like to be considered for any of the following positions please let one of our current council members know: Vice-President, Elder, Secretary, Financial Secretary, Trustee or Member-At-Large. Please prayerfully consider giving your time and talents to the church council. Thank you!



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

3 rd	Sarah Taylor
10 th	Gage Brown
11 th	Hudsen Ehde
13 th	Gail Thompson
15 th	Perry Garcia
18 th	Bob Lauck
19 th	Sue Sluss
22 nd	Kaycee Cordingly
30 th	Dorothy Hanks



Avery Rodocker was presented with a book and certificate on Sunday, November 23 by Connie Thomas on behalf of our local food bank. Avery asked her friends to bring donations for the food bank instead of gifts for her birthday this year.



15 th	Lee & Tonya Morrison 1 year
21 st	Floyd & Peggy Ingold 57 years
22 nd	Steve & Mary Seim 35 years
27 th	Bob & Lorretta Lauck 54 years
28 th	Bob & Gwen Seidel 48 years Ben & Joanne Harnish 50 years
31 st	Tony & Sarah Rodocker 10 years

Do you enjoy **scrapbooking and record keeping?**

Contact the office if you would be interested in creating and maintaining church scrapbooks.

***If you are interested in being part of the Budget Committee, please contact Pastor Joshua.**

DECEMBER SERVERS

	ELDER		ASSISTANT		GREETERS
12-7	Christy Watkins	12-7	Connie Thomas	12-7	Jim & Lil Prince
12-14	Rich Bohm	12-14	Christy Watkins	12-14	Terry & Cheryl Meier
12-21	Rick Robbins	12-21	Rich Bohm	12-21	Terry & Nancy Lubeck
12-24		12-24		12-24	
12-28	Connie Thomas	12-28	Rick Robbins	12-28	Rich Bohm
	ACOLYTE		READER		USHERS
12-7	Raegan Ehde	12-7	Reno Taylor	12-7	Rich Bohm
12-14	Sam Jesse	12-14	xxxxxxx	12-14	Jim Prince
12-21	Gage Brown	12-21	Rich Bohm	12-21	Terry & Nancy Lubeck
12-24		12-24		12-24	Dave Miller
12-28	Mekayla Garcia	12-28	Reno Taylor	12-28	Melissa Garcia
	MUSICIAN		ALTAR CARE		VISITATION
12-7	Gwen Seidel	12-7	Suz Strom	12-7	Dorothy Lockwood
12-14	Lisa Young	12-14	Marge Scholten	12-14	Bill Windmeier
12-21	Sarah Rodocker	12-21	Hollee Bosch	12-21	Rich Bohm
12-24	Gwen Seidel	12-28	Judy Windmeier	12-28	Rick Robbins
12-28	Gwen Seidel				
	FELLOWSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL		
12-7	Prayer Partners	12-7	Christmas Program Practice		
12-14	Liz Bitterman	12-14	Christmas Program		
12-21	Melissa Garcia	12-21	No Sunday School		
12-28	Gwen Seidel	12-28	No Sunday School		

DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 CONFIRMATION 7:00 PM	2 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	3 ADVENT SUPPER 5:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE	4 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	5	6 MEN'S BREAKFAST AT TASTY TREATS 7:30 AM
7 PRAYER PARTNER EXCHANGE CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE TAIZE 7:00 PM	8 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	9 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	10 NURSING HOME XMAS PARTY 3:00 ADVENT SUPPER 5:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 630 PM BELLS 7:00 PM	11 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL 7:00 PM	12	13 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICE BELL CHOIR PERFORMS AT SHOPKO
14 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM TAIZE 7:00 PM	15 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	16 DIAPER DAY 9:00 AM WELCA B-DAY LUNCH 11:30 AM PRAISE BAND 5:30 PM WORSHIP COMMITTEE 6:30 PM	17 ADVENT SUPPER 5:30 PM CHOIR PRACTICE 6:00 PM BELLS 7:00 PM	18 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	19	20
21 TAIZE 7:00 PM	22	23 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE 6:00 PM	25 CHRISTMAS DAY	26	27
28 NURSING HOME SERVICE 2:00 PM TAIZE 7:00 PM	29 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	30 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE			