

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



New Year's Message

F R O M T H E P A S T O R

Covenant

Covenant Lutheran Church
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Happy New Year. And Happy Epiphany as well. January 6th – following the “12 days of Christmas” – we celebrate Epiphany, marked by the visit of the Magi to Jesus. But Epiphany is more than that. Epiphany is about the revealing of God to people beyond Israel.

Simeon sings, on holding the infant Jesus in the temple, that he, “has seen God's salvation, prepared for all people,” that Jesus is a light for the gentiles. Even after the resurrection, Peter and Paul fight over who is truly able to be a part of Jesus' new community: Only Israel, or everyone else, too. Epiphany stands as a reminder that God's love in Jesus is for all people, not just a chosen few.

We sometimes argue about this, too. We ask who is truly welcome in our church, or in our community. But on Epiphany, we are shown that strangers – Magi from far away, of a different heritage and different traditions – these Magi are a part of God's story, and our story as well.

In this coming year, I hope that the message of Epiphany will guide us as we share the story of Jesus.

Pastor Joshua



1 st	Cindy Kahrs
2 nd	Teri Cordingly
7 th	Floyd Thompson
8 th	Thelma Foster
12 th	Thad Ehde
15 th	Kathy Hahn
	Trista Mattern
	Tessa Skari
22 nd	Nancy Lubeck
24 th	Andrew Seim
25 th	Dave Young
28 th	Cameron Hanks
29 th	Connie Thomas



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.



ANNUAL MEETING

Committee reports from 2014 are due in the office no later than Friday, January 16. The annual meeting will take place on Sunday, January 25 after the service.



THANK YOU for the gift of the Platte County Pride Certificates! I had a wonderful Christmas with my family and friends; I hope you did, too! Happy New Year!!

Sarah

Covenant Lutheran Church
1863 South Road
Wheatland, WY 82201
Office: (307)322-9423
Office: CLCWheatland@gmail.com
Pastor: pastorjoshua@wyomingwireless.com
<http://clcwheatland.weebly.com>
www.facebook.com/CovenantLutheranChurchWheatland

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

“Just a Little Christmas”

December 14, 2014



Mary: Avery Rodocker

Joseph: William Jesse

Angel: Eleni McKee

Emperor: Michael Jesse

King Herod: Jack Hudson

Cow: Mekenna Garcia

Sheep: Chace Washington

Chicken: Emily Morris

Soldier: Austin Rodocker

Shepherd: Owen Rodocker

Kings: Fletcher McKee, Aiden Walters and Hudson Ehde

Narrators: Mekayla Garcia, Peter Jesse and Raegan Ehde

Piano: Sam Jesse

*Many thanks to Sarah Rodocker for arranging and directing the play, and to the parents and other church members who helped make it a success.

**COVENANT LUTHERAN CHURCH
COUNCIL MINUTES
December 11, 2014**

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at

Devotions:

Devotions were led by

Roll Call:

Reed Elmquist, Pastor Joshua, Jim Lockwood, Beth Morris, Stu Hammersmark, Dorothy Lockwood, Melissa Garcia, Connie Thomas, Christy Watkins, Rick Robbins, Rich Bohm.

Absent: Nancy Lubeck, Lee Morrison, Terry Lubeck, Sarah Jesse, Dawn McKee, Marge Scholten.

Additions to Agenda: None

Thrift Store:

	Receipts	Assistance	Ending Ck Bal	Ending Sav Bal
Thrift Store	\$7,927.15	\$652.71	\$2,956.01	\$8,609.00*
Grandma's Attic	\$1,515.59	NA	\$4,584.13	NA

*Withdrew \$3,659.71 from savings and paid off the van loan.

Correspondence: Pastor shared a map of the Rocky Mountain Synod with pictures of the directors. It is posted on the bulletin board on the west wall of the fellowship hall.

Reports:

Secretary: Beth moved and Rich 2nd to accept the Secretaries report as written. Motion carried. A copy of the report is posted on the bulletin board.

Financial Secretary: Jim moved and Dorothy 2nd to accept the Financial Secretaries report as written. Motion carried. A copy of the report is posted on the bulletin board.

Treasurer: Melissa moved and Rich 2nd to accept the Treasurers report as written. During discussion, it was pointed out that there is a good deal of funds building in the "Good Gifts Account". It was suggested that we deal with that under New Business. Motion carried. A copy of the report is posted on the bulletin board.

President: Very busy with School.

Elders: Working thru schedules, Christmas schedules were very tough.

Trustees: It was pointed out that during the power outage in November, that none of the emergency lights came on. They should be looked at and new batteries installed.

Pastor: Written report available and posted on bulletin board. In addition Pastor asked the question if there should be some policy in place in case there is an emergency before or during services. It was discussed and we came to the conclusion that no policy could cover all cases. Everyone agreed that Pastor and the elders handled Merlyn's situation very well, including Merlyn's family.

Committee Reports:

Education: The Sunday school presentation of “Just A Little Christmas” will be December 14th be sure to attend. Thanks goes out to Sarah R. for all her hard work. Sunday school will start back up January 11 so be sure and check if you’re scheduled to teach or assist. Still working on a date for VBS.

Youth: Discussing doing another lock-in. Confirmation classes still going well.

Stewardship: the Stewardship committee did meet last month after Sunday school; they are having a hard time getting everyone together.

Worship: The Worship committee is thinking about doing setting 8 longer.

Women of ELCA: Prayer partner reveal and exchange went very well. New partners were drawn for next year. They would also like to use some of the “Gather Magazine” lessons for adult Sunday school classes.

Hospitality: It was discussed as to whether or not we should host special events i.e.: 50th Anniversaries, special birthdays. It was pointed out that if people ask we will host such events.

Men of Covenant: 9 men and 1 guest, Fletcher, met for breakfast and fellowship at Tasty Treats. They decided to fund the December birthday party at the nursing home.

Outreach: Will start sending a CD and bulletin to Linda, visits are still being made to Thelma, Dorothy & Kenny.

Altar Guild: Will be very busy but is ready for Christmas.

Landscape: No report till spring.

Old Business: Columbarium; nothing new to report.
Budget Committee did not meet yet.

New Business: Annual Meeting; The Annual Congregational Meeting will be January 25th right after Church services. Please plan to attend. Council positions that must be filled this year are Vice President, Financial Secretary, Secretary, 2 Elder positions, Trustee and Member-at-Large. Please consider giving your time and talents in this area.

Rick moved and Rich 2nd that we give Platte County pride certificates in the amount of \$50 to our Church secretary and house cleaner as Christmas gifts. Motion carried.

Good Gifts Account; after some discussion it was decided that all council members should bring three ideas on how the Good Gifts money should be spent i.e. Fish farm, farm animals, missionary scholarships. And we would decide at our next meeting exactly how we should disperse those funds.

The meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer
Next Council Meeting January 8, 2015
Devotions for next Meeting: Melissa Garcia

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Lockwood, Secretary

JANUARY SERVERS

ELDER		ASSISTANT		GREETERS	
1-4	Christy Watkins	1-4	Connie Thomas	1-4	Dave & Lisa Young
1-11	Rich Bohm	1-11	Christy Watkins	1-11	Nadine Morris
1-18	Rick Robbins	1-18	Rich Bohm	1-18	Floyd & Peggy Ingold
1-25	Connie Thomas	1-25	Rick Robbins	1-25	Don & Judy Race
ACOLYTE		READER		USHERS	
1-4	Peter Jesse	1-4	Woody Shore	1-4	Woody & Karen Shore
1-11	Raegan Ehde	1-11	Larry McKee	1-11	Larry & Joan McKee
1-18	Sam Jesse	1-18	Larry McKee	1-18	Larry & Joan McKee
1-25	Gage Brown	1-25	Reno Taylor	1-25	Larry & Joan McKee
MUSICIAN		ALTAR CARE		VISITATION	
1-4	Sarah Rodocker	1-4	Christy Watkins	1-4	Nadine Morris
1-11	Gwen Seidel	1-11	Rena Kittelson	1-11	Cheryl Meier
1-18	Lisa Young	1-18	Gail Mattern	1-18	Dorothy Lockwood
1-25	Nancy Schumann	1-25	Lorretta Lauck	1-25	Bill Windmeier
FELLOWSHIP		SUNDAY SCHOOL			
1-4	Dave & Lisa Young	1-4	Inter-generational Sunday School		
1-11	Larry & Joan McKee	1-11	Group #1: Dawn McKee and Sam Jesse Group #2: Sarah Jesse		
1-18	Nadine Morris	1-18	Group #1: Melissa Garcia and Nadine Morris Group #2: Beth Morris		
1-25	Annual Meeting & Potluck	1-25	Group #1: Sarah Rodocker and Gage Brown Group #2: Thad & Tifanie Ehde		



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	2	3 MEN'S BREAKFAST AT TASTY TREATS 7:30 AM
4 INTER- GENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TAIZE 7:00 PM	5 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	6 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM		8 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM CHURCH COUNCIL 7:00 PM	9	10
11 SUNDAY SCHOOL TAIZE 7:00 PM	12 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	13 PRAISE BAND 6:00 PM	14	15 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	16 DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL REPORTS	17
18 SUNDAY SCHOOL TAIZE 7:00 PM	19 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	20 DIAPER DAY 9:00 AM WELCA B-DAY LUNCH @ 11:30 AM PRAISE BAND 5:30 PM WORSHIP COMMITTEE 6:30 PM	21	22 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	23	24
25 SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNUAL MEETING & POTLUCK NURSING HOME SERVICE 2:00 PM TAIZE 7:00 PM	26 CONFIRMATION CLASS 7:00 PM	27 PRAISE BAND 6:00	28	29 BIBLE STUDY 4:00 PM	30	31