

Sunday Notes

December 6, 2020

RESTORE: now for tomorrow trusting God and each other

Advent Sunday Worship – Sundays at 9:00 am we will celebrate the Coming of Christ through the lens of a sermon series titled, *“Ornaments of Grace.”* Each week will explore a different ornament from God’s tree, the Jesse Tree. Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace will be the ornaments for our reflection. Worship will be in the Sanctuary and online.

Advent Service – You are invited to a devotion for advent this Wednesday at 6:30 pm online. The devotion is based upon Charles Dicken’s A Christmas Carol. The style of devotion is an Operetta in scripture, prose, song and prayer. Please join me and prepare for the birth of God’s Son.

Christmas Eve – We will celebrate the birth of Jesus in one public worship service on Christmas Eve at 5:30 pm with a Service of Lessons and Carols. The service will be livestreamed on our Facebook Group page, *St. Luke’s Montgomery*. If you do not currently subscribe to the group page search for *St. Luke’s Montgomery* and ask for an invitation. Hint, this is the page with a lobster dinner as the header. Please share with family and friends as well

Sunday Worship – As we continue to meet in the Sanctuary, we will observe all recommended health and safety protocols such as masks and social distancing. While it is difficult, please refrain from physical contact while at church to maintain the good health of you and your neighbors. In the event we have too many people in attendance to adhere to social distancing protocols, we will add seating in the Narthex and balcony.

A Call to Action – Imagine in a year of COVID turmoil, employment interruption, social uncertainty, and health insecurity, you lost your house to a fire. Your home.

The whole thing. Everything you own. All that was spared was your life and the lives of your family. And then imagine it happened the week before Thanksgiving. That has happened to the employee of a friend of mine. Her name is Ashley Miller. Chris (my friend) is organizing a campaign to collect gift cards to help replace the everyday items they need. Cards for any amount to any business (Target, Walmart, Meijer, Home Depot, Menards, or any grocery store in the St. Charles/Geneva area) will help them. Maybe include an encouraging word about God's grace and love through Jesus?

If you can help, we will collect them on Sunday mornings through December 13. No amount is too small. Sometimes God puts opportunities in front of us. Let's work together to make the world a little brighter for this family and our neighbor. Thank-you. Pastor.

Wayside Cross Ministries – St. Luke's is promoting a giving campaign to benefit Wayside Cross Ministries. The campaign will run until December 13th, which is a short time. Our goal is that every member of St. Luke's will give an item for this drive. The need includes personal care and hygiene products, paper towels, Tylenol, batteries, socks, disinfecting wipes, etc.

If you are unable to attend worship, please contribute by calling or texting Ruth Henning at 630-738-0373 to arrange for purchases or pick up of donations. Many ministries are currently experiencing a short fall and struggling to care for their clients. Please keep them in your prayers especially as Christmas approaches.

LWML – Lutheran Women's Missionary League will have their next meeting in the FLC on December 5 at 9:00 am in the Family Life Center. This group is open to all St. Luke's women. The meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month and last about 2 hours. The group will be practicing social distancing, wearing masks and each woman will need to bring her own beverage and snack if she desires. Please enter through the FLC door.

Connecting – If your group or ministry is resuming public gathering, send your info to Chris Hansen at churchoffice@stlcfamily.org by Thursday and she will include it in the Friday issue of Sunday Notes.