

## Once Again!

It is the time of year to get our membership list in order. In the narthex you will find a list that of the information we have. Please check to see if your information is correct. We may have missed a change or slipped in a typo. After the first of the year an updated list will be placed in your mailbox.



If you would like to share a poinsettia with the congregation this season, you may bring it at any time, but please sign the sheet in the narthex.

Thank you for sharing!

## The Advent Wreath



The Advent wreath first appeared in Germany in 1839. A Lutheran minister working at a mission for children created a wreath out of the wheel of a cart. He placed twenty small red candles and four large white candles inside the ring. The red candles were lit on weekdays and the four white candles were lit on Sundays.

Eventually, the Advent wreath was created out of evergreens, symbolizing everlasting life in the midst of winter and death as the evergreen is continuously green. The circle reminds us of God's unending love and the eternal life He makes possible.

Advent candles are often nestled in the evergreen wreath. Additional decorations, like holly and berries, are sometimes added. Their red color points ahead to Jesus' sacrifice and death on the cross, shedding his blood for our sins.

Pinecones can symbolize the new life that Jesus brings through His resurrection. Families begin lighting a candle on the fourth Sunday before Christmas, and they light another candle each subsequent Sunday.

Recently, names have been given to the candles.

The first candle symbolizes hope and is called the "Prophet's Candle." The prophets of the Old Testament waited in hope for the Messiah.

The second candle represents faith and is called "Bethlehem's Candle." Micah foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem.

The third candle symbolizes joy and is called the "Shepherd's Candle." To the shepherd's great joy, the angels announced that Jesus came for humble, unimportant people like them, too.

The fourth candle represents peace and is called the "Angel's Candle." The angels announced that Jesus came to bring peace—He came to bring people close to God and to each other again.

*[from various sources. Ed.]*

Sunday

Monday

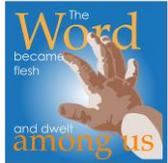
Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

		1	2	3	4	5
			 <p>Advent Service 5:00pm</p>			
<p><b>6 Second Sunday in Advent</b></p> <p>Zoom Service 8:00am Worship with communion— 9:30am Bible Study – 11:00am</p> 	<p>7</p> <p>Grace Men's Fel- lowship – 8:30am</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Elders – 8:00am Council – 9:00am</p>	<p>9</p>  <p>Advent Service 5:00pm</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p><b>13 Third Sunday in Advent</b></p> <p>Zoom Service –8:00am Worship with Commu- nion – 9:30am Annual Voters' after Service</p> 	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Circuit Conference</p> <p>Ladies Guild GLC Bible Study 10:00a Meeting – 11:00am</p>	<p>16</p>  <p>Advent Service 5:00pm</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p><b>20 Fourth Sunday in Advent</b></p> <p>Zoom Service – 8:00am Worship with Com- munion – 9:30am Bible Study – 11:00am</p> 	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>  <p>Christmas Eve Ser- vice – 5:00pm</p>	<p>25 Christmas Day</p> 	<p>26</p>
<p><b>27 First Sunday after Christmas</b></p> <p>Zoom Service – 8:00am Worship with Com- munion – 9:30am Bible Study – 11:00am</p> 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p> 		