

MILLARD COMMUNITY
COVENANT CHURCH

...WE WAIT
FOR THE
BLESSED
HOPE— THE
APPEARING
OF THE
GLORY OF
OUR GREAT
GOD AND
SAVIOR,
JESUS
CHRIST...

TITUS 3:5

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Millard Community Covenant Church

DECEMBER 2018

Worship this Month...

In this busy season, make the time to prepare yourself for the coming of the Lord. Experience the good news again in these familiar passages.

December 2—Luke 1:5-25, 57-66

December 9—Luke 1:26-45

December 16—Children's Christmas Pageant

December 16—Blue Christmas, 7:00 p.m.—
John 1:1-5, 9-14

December 23—Cantata "There is a Savior"

December 24—7:00 p.m.— Luke 2:1-20

December 30—Matthew 2:1-12, Pastor Dave Auker

Millard Community
Covenant Church

Blue Christmas: A Service of Hope
December 16, 7:00 p.m.

Choir Cantata: "There Is a Savior"
December 23, 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve Service
December 24, 7:00 p.m.

N6713 County Road O, Elkhorn 262-742-3457



December Pastor Notes

Most of us dislike waiting, and we're not very good at it, either. Technology seems to make us less and less patient. If you are my age or older, you may remember dial-up internet. Remember how great we thought it was? It was so slow, but we waited and waited to check our new email accounts. Now, if our devices do not load instantly, we're ready to throw them across the room.

According to the latest news I can find, 249 people are still missing even as the Northern California Camp Fire is fully contained. (Thank you for your prayers. Rain arrived just before Thanksgiving.) What an agonizing wait for all those families. Though they hope for good news, they are bracing for the worst. It's been more than three weeks since a fire that suddenly engulfed a small foothill city with few exits. There were traffic jams with fire on both sides of the road. I really feel for those who are waiting for what will probably be bad news (if they get any news at all).

Advent is also a season of waiting, but it's waiting in hope. Psalm 130, one of my favorites this time of year:
*Out of the depths I cry you, Lord;
 Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, Lord, kept a record of sins, Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, so that we can, with reverence,*

serve you. I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits, and in his word I put my hope. I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.

During Advent, we're waiting to celebrate the birth of our Savior. We are also waiting and longing for Jesus to come back and make all things right. Maybe the waiting is difficult or even downright painful for you. Or maybe you are simply feeling a bit impatient and wanting to open the presents NOW like a child anticipating Christmas morning. Either way, we wait in hope.

...We wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ...
 Titus 3:5

Pastor
 Sharon

Contact Us:

Church Office: 262-742-3457

New Church Email:

millardcovenant@gmail.com

We've had some problems with millardchurch@elknet.net, so we are transitioning to this new email. If you sent an email and didn't hear from us, try again, or call/text. Thanks!

Pastor Chris Cell: 262-379-4487

Pastor Sharon Cell: 262-379-4387

sharonnelson.pastor@gmail.com

chrisnelson.pastor@gmail.com

Drop-in Office Hours:

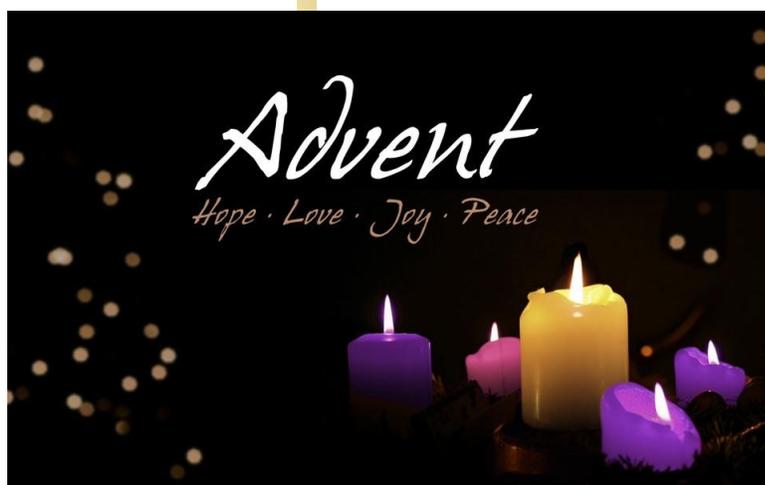
Mon 10-2

Tues 9:30-10:30, 2-4:30

Fri. 1:30-4:30

Or almost anytime
 by appointment

Prayer requests and notifications of hospitalizations can continue to come to Pastors Chris or Sharon as we pray for Pastor Linda's healing.





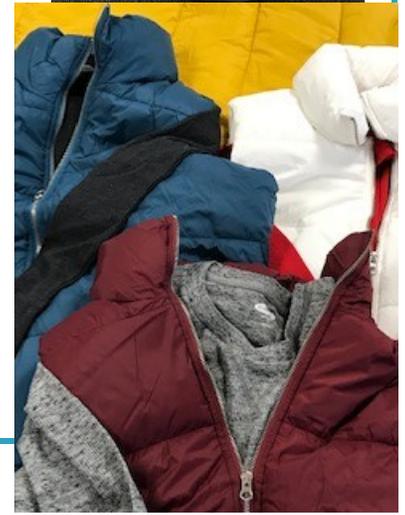
Crafts in the Country 2018

The November 2-3 craft fair was a big success. With several new vendors this year, a good time was had and **\$2,650** was raised for the **Walworth County Holiday Care Program**.

Pictured to the right are the thirty sets of puffer vests and thermal shirts, fifteen for young women (teen) and fifteen for young men (teen). The remaining **\$900** will be used to purchase gift cards for teens. Items for

teens are sometimes in short supply at the Holiday Care Program.

Thank you to everyone who crafted, baked, set up, served, shopped, and cleaned up. Special thanks to organizers Betty Baerwald and Carol Dillner.



More Giving for God's Glory and Neighbor's Good

The **GROW** project is completed with another crop harvested and trucked (by the Guthries— thank you!). Five acres produced 325 bushels of soybeans for an average of 65 bushels per acre. You gave **\$825** through the sale of rows, and the crop sold for **\$2,375** for a total of **\$3,200**. We are able to give **\$1,600** to the **Open Arms Free Clinic** in Elkhorn and **\$1,600** to the **Elkhorn Food Pantry**. Sara Nichols from the clinic and Jennie Rado from the pantry will join us in worship Dec. 2 to receive the funds.

So far, we are able to send **\$179** to **Heifer International**, which gives livestock and other agricultural gifts to people all over the world so that they can feed their families. The children's Sunday School class is still selling walking sticks, ornaments, and stools to benefit this program.

Our noisy change offering for **Covenant World Relief** amounted to **\$238.35**. That's a lot of quarters! This is a good time to thank all our faithful offering counters!

The Sunday School kids are not slowing down. They are collecting gifts for a local family in financial need. We have been assigned to this family of five by **Hope Now**. Tricia Fletcher will have tags on December 2. Grab a tag and bring the item unwrapped on December 9. The children will wrap the gifts during church. We will also have the opportunity to provide food for this family. The kids are also collecting all month for the **Lakeland Animal Shelter**. See the list in the fellowship hall for needed items.

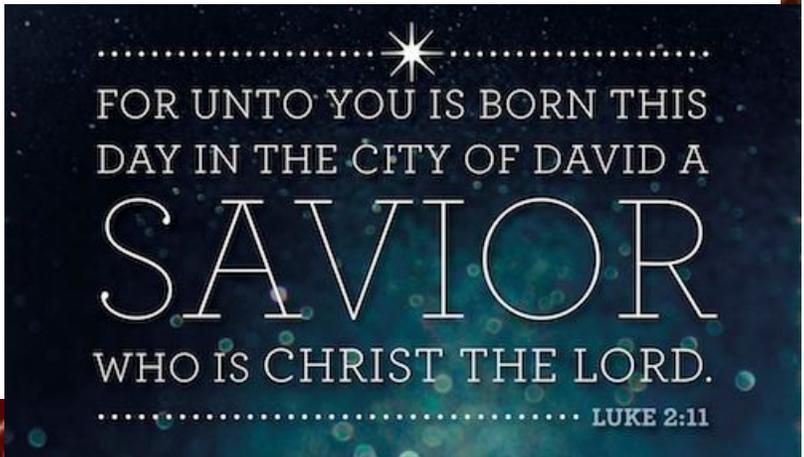
Christmas Cantata: Sunday, Dec. 23, 10:00 a.m.

Come be blessed by the Millard Choir's presentation of a Christmas musical, "There is a Savior."

Rehearsals are Sundays after church, with a final rehearsal Wednesday, December 19, 6:00 p.m. We need a few actors to play the parts of Jesus and shep-

herds, men and women. These are non-speaking (and non-singing) parts.

See Sandy Johnson or Carol Dillner if you can help or for more information.



Anyone is welcome to bring a poinsettia to decorate the sanctuary. If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia in honor or in memory of someone, let us know. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall, reply to this email (if you receive the newsletter by email), or tell Sharon VandeSand.



Children's Christmas Pageant

On December 16, 10:00 am, the children and middle school students will present, "New Star." In this story, an old star tells a new star about the first Christmas.

Practices will be December 9th and 16th during

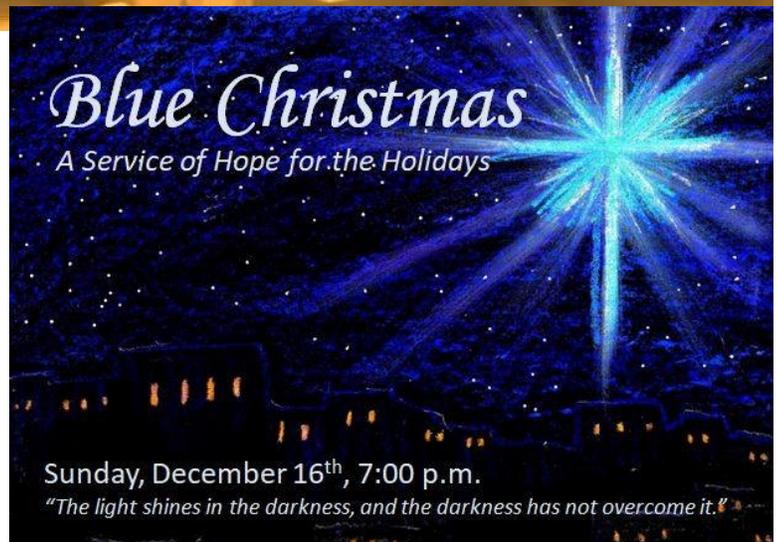
the 9:00 a.m. Sunday School hour. The Confirmation students will be helping, so we won't have regular Confirmation class on those two Sundays. All young people are welcome to join in.



For many, the holidays can be a difficult time. It may be that there is an empty place at your table this year. Family relationships may be strained or tense. Or the dark days of December may bring with them feelings of loneliness and depression.

"Blue Christmas" is a simple service with a message of hope. It will include peaceful music, prayers and readings from the scriptures, candle lighting, and a brief message.

Come if this is a difficult season for you, invite a friend in need of some hope, or just come if you are curious. Let us know if rides to church are needed.



January Community Dinner

It is our turn to host the Community Dinner on January 12, 2019. The dinners will be served on the second Saturday each month. There should be fewer conflicts with holidays by choosing those days. We are planning on serving a turkey meal so look for the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board after Christmas. We will be asking for donations of food, volunteers to set up and serve, and will happily also welcome monetary donations.
Janet Muzatkko

"Pray Continually." I Thessalonians 5:17

Char Nettesheim
 Jack Papke
 Karen Paladino
 Bill and Joyce Aspinall
 Keith Shallcross (friend of the Dillners & Fletchers)
 Don Steichen (Mary Anderson's brother-in-law)
 Mary Guse (mother of Heather Anderson)
 Kent Brown (Dolores Mogensen's friend)
 Georgia Ramthun
 Curt Rowley
 Becca & Bennett Anderson & family
 Bonnie Lynn
 Shirley Pitt
 Lavon Mamerow and son, Craig Hartung
 Roger Blood (friend of Donna Yungerman)
 Pastor Linda Heesch
 Family of Janet Enright (sister to Jim Meisel)
 Ken Anderson
 Steve Jacobson
 Mike (Judy Boyd's brother)
 Kay Meyer
 Marilyn Notestine (Jim Meisel's sister)
 Judy Boyd
 Kent Sollener
 Mark Beaver



Advent Candle Lighters

Individuals or Families – We need at least 2 people: a lighter and a reader.

December 2 _____ Mary Anderson _____; _____ Brit Radloff _____

December 9 _____; _____

December 16 _____; _____

December 23 _____; _____

December 24, 7:00 p.m. _____ Neil Watson _____; _____ Peggy Watson _____

Christmas Eve Special Music

7:00 p.m.

_____ Lauren Harkness _____

_____ Jillian Harkness _____

December Scripture Readers

December 2 _Sharon VandeSand_____ December 9 _____Diane Bauman_____

December 16 __Sharon VandeSand_____

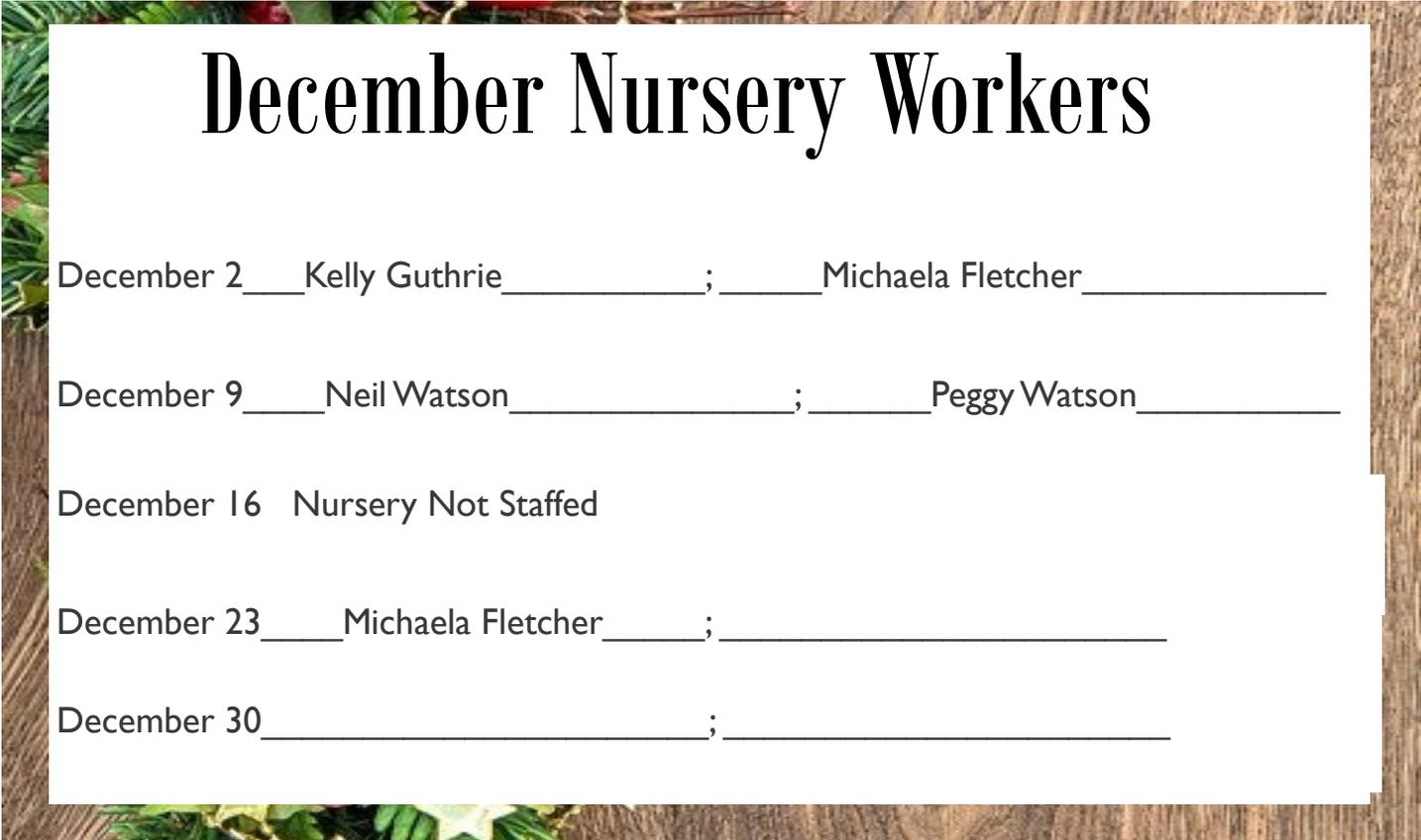
December 16, Blue Christmas, 7:00 p.m. _____

December 23 _____

December 24, 7:00 p.m. 1) __Peggy Watson_____ ; 2) _____

3) _____

December 30 _____



December Nursery Workers

December 2 __Kelly Guthrie_____ ; _____Michaela Fletcher_____

December 9 _____Neil Watson_____ ; _____Peggy Watson_____

December 16 Nursery Not Staffed

December 23 _____Michaela Fletcher_____ ; _____

December 30 _____ ; _____

December Greeters

December 2 __Confirmation Class_____;

December 9 _____;

December 16 _____;

December 16, Blue Christmas, 7:00 p.m. _____;

December 23 __Jan Baker_____;

December 24, 7:00 p.m. _____;

December 30 _____;

December Ushers

December 2 __Ralph Williams_____; __Eileen Guthrie_ ; __Sharon VandeSand__

December 9 __Tom Getzen_____; __Luann Getzen_____; __Alisha Porter__

December 16 _____;

December 23 _____;

December 30 _____;

December Notes...Going Deep In Discipleship & Wide In Fellowship!



Happy Birthday!

- December 3.....Gage Gilbert
- December 5.....Sally Rowley
- December 6.....Kaitlin Vellender
- December 8.....Leanne Riggs
- December 9.....Michaela Fletcher
- December 10.....Davin McHane
- December 11.....Alexis Guthrie
- December 12.....Dustin Radloff
- December 13.....Sheri Alexander
- December 13.....Gerald Chamberlain
- December 15.....Jim Sendt
- December 15.....Megan Buelow
- December 15.....Adeline Berg
- December 19.....Nathaniel Cahill
- December 22.....Lou Ann Getzen
- December 27.....Dennis Garoutte
- December 28.....Amanda Nettesheim

Please let us know if we need to add or correct a birthday or anniversary.

Fellowship Set-Up:

- Dec. 2: Barb Papcke
- Dec. 9: Sharon VandeSand
- Dec. 16: Carole Stanczak
- Dec. 23: Jan Baker
- Dec. 30: Barb Papcke



- Dec. 23—Jim & Carol Dillner
- Dec. 31—David & Judy Boyd

Schedule of Events:

- Dec. 16:** Children's Pageant, 10:00am
(Birthday Party for Jesus afterwards)
7:00 p.m. Blue Christmas
- Dec. 17:** 6:30 p.m. Board Meeting
- Dec. 19:** 6:00 p.m. Final Cantata Rehearsal
- Dec. 23:** Christmas Cantata, 10:00a.m.
- Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve, 7:00p.m.
- Dec. 30:** No Children's Sunday School or Confirmation class, Adult class TBD



Millard Community Covenant Church

Pastors Chris and Sharon Nelson
N6713 County Road O
Elkhorn, WI
53121
262-742-3457
millardcovenant@gmail.com

Service Times:

9:00a—Sunday School
10:00a—Worship Service



What We're About...

The purpose of this Church shall be the advancement of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. It shall seek to attain this end through preaching of the Gospel, consistent Christian living by its members, Christian stewardship, Christian education, evangelism, and missionary endeavor.

