

# MILLARD COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. Worship Service

December 10, 2023

**Preparing for Christmas:** John the Baptist's job was to point the people of God to the Savior. He quoted Psalm 40, saying, "Prepare the way for the Lord, (Mark 1:3)" and he called for repentance. For many of us, there's so much to do to get ready for Christmas. There aren't enough hours in the day to match our to-do lists. This can work against Advent's main purpose: preparing our hearts to welcome Christ. We feel so busy and exhausted; who has time for prayer? Instead of adding something else to your to-do list, let me invite you to open your heart in the midst of this busy time. Maybe this means greeting God in the quiet of the morning, or maybe you need to take some deep breaths in the middle of the chaos. Maybe this means getting on your knees before sleep. Sometimes we have to say "no" to some invitations or obligations in order to clear the way for Jesus.

What would it take for you to clear the way for Jesus this Advent? If there are barriers between you and Jesus, ask for God's help to open the path. *Pastor Sharon* 

# Sundays at Millard

Sunday School classes begin at 9:00 a.m. for children, youth, and adults. Come dig deeper into God's Word.

Worship service begins at 10:00 a.m. Our service can be viewed live (or later) on our <u>YouTube Sunday Wor-</u> <u>ship playlist</u>. Upon request, an audio of the Sermon is available by CD or you can view it on our <u>website</u>.

What's that new song? Check out our church Worship Music <u>Playlist</u> to hear some of the new music before Sunday mornings.

# **Upcoming Events**

Children's Christmas Pageant: meet at 9 a.m. Dec 10th to rehearse and get into costume. The pageant will take place during the service at 10 a.m. Eighth graders and younger are invited to take part in this fun tradition.

Cantata Choir Rehearsal December 10th after church and Wednesday, Dec 13th at 6:30 p.m.

Youth Fun Night at Bruns: Dec. 17th at 5 p.m. for all middle/high school teens; bring a white elephant gift.

Our adult **Grow Group** is meeting to read Gospel passages and discuss Season 1 of *"The Chosen."* Find episodes at <u>angel.com</u> or contact Pr Sharon. Join in at the church Thursday at 6:30 p.m. on upcoming dates: December 7th and 14th.

# Christmas at Millard Church

*Christmas Bell Choir* December 3, 10:00 a.m.

Children's Christmas Pageant December 10, 10:00 a.m.

Choir Cantata: "Heaven Has Come" December 17, 10:00 a.m.

Blue Christmas: A Service of Hope December 21, 5:30 p.m.



Christmas Eve Services 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship 7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service

www.millardchurch.com Corner of County Roads A & O, Elkhorn 262-742-3457

**Blue Christmas Service, A service of Hope:** This will be a quiet and contemplative time that offers space for those experiencing grief, loss or other mixed emotions this holiday season. The service takes place on the shortest day of the year as a reminder that *God is With Us* even in our darkest times.

We were blessed with a beautiful Bell Choir program

at our service last Sunday . . . Priceless!



**Free Will Offering**: There will be an opportunity to make donations towards a Safe Haven Baby Box for our community on December 17th and 24th. For more information go to <u>shbb.org</u>.

Summer 2024 registration for camp at <u>Covenant</u> <u>Harbor</u> and <u>Covenant Point</u> open now for children going into grades 2-12. Plan to *register early; openings fill up fast!* Financial assistance may be available; contact Pr. Chris or Sharon.



Thank you to all who helped decorate for Christmas/ Advent; it all looks beautiful!

**Agape House Christmas Open House & Gift Market**: Sunday, December 10th from 1—3 p.m. Unique gifts, Raffles, Refreshments in the MPR and Holiday Music in the Sanctuary at 215 S Main St, Walworth. Also see the pinewood derby at 2:45 p.m. at 119 Phillips

Heifer Int'l Fundraiser: Ornaments made by the chil-

dren are for sale in Fellowship Hall - \$2/each. *These are a great* way to share the Christmas message by placing on gifts! Thank you for helping the children with this project, Carol Dillner.





Poinsettias for the sanctuary may be donated throughout December. To make a dedication, contact the church office or sign up in Fellowship Hall. Poinsettias

have been donated in memory of Matthew Schleich, Nancy Spaulding, Michael Dillner, Matthew Fletcher.

> Agape House now hiring **Office Manager**. If interested, call 262.275.6466 or email admin@agapehouseheals.org



## This Sunday, December 10

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25, Reader: Donna Marshall Greeters/Ushers: Needed Sound/Video: Doug Muzatko Coffee Set Up: Betty Baerwald

### Next Sunday, December 17

Scripture: Luke 2:8-20, Reader: Emily Bruns Greeters/Ushers: Bruns Family Sound/Video: Jan Baker Coffee Set Up: Carole Stanczak

Our Quilt Silent Auction ended last week; thank you to all who submitted a bid. We are happy to announce that Cathy Garoutte had the highest bid.

#### Happy Birthday!

December 9	Michaela Fletcher
December 11	Alexis Guthrie
December 13	Sheri Alexander
December 13	Gerald Chamberlain
December 13	Jaxson Gunyon
December 15	Megan FitzGerald
December 15	Adeline Berg
December 15	Madiline Boyd

#### Happy Anniversary!

December 17	. Tim & Kayla Anderson
December 21	Jerry & Michelle Morgan

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

#### Keep in Touch

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