

MILLARD COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

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

Preparing for Christmas: Read Psalm 126. In tough times, we still get up everyday and deal with life's requirements. Psalm 126 is about putting one foot in front of the other, and planting the seeds even if we are weeping the entire time. This psalm looks forward to better days, when we "return with songs of joy," carrying the harvest. The Negev was a desert, but occasionally the dry land would receive enough rainfall to generate rushing streams. Even if it looks as if nothing can grow, we plant in faith that God is still working. God's amazing acts will turn our sorrows to laughter and smiles. So don't give up, Church: sew those seeds of good news and love, and let God make the seeds grow. *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.



Our Sunday School children presented a fun interpretation of the 'animals' in the manger for their Christmas pageant! Thanks to everyone who contributed to this joyful presentation. December 17, 2023

Millard Community Covenant Church

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

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

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

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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.

Upcoming Events

Rehearsal for Cantata Choir on December 17th at 9 am.

Youth Fun Night at Bruns: Dec. 17th at 5 p.m. for all middle/high school teens; come to a Christmas party with a "white elephant" gift and cookie decorating. **RSVP to Ashleigh** Bruns as soon as possible.

Board meeting on Monday, December 18th @ 6:30 pm.

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 Pastor Sharon. Join in at the church on Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 pm.

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



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, Don and Elsie Schoenbeck.

Happy Birthday!

December 15	Megan FitzGerald
December 15	Adeline Berg
December 15	Madiline Boyd
December 22	LouAnn Getzen
December 28	Amanda Noehl

Happy Anniversary!

December 17 Tim & Kayla Anderson December 21 Jerry & Michelle Morgan December 23Jim & Carol Dillner

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

2024 Offering Envelopes can be picked up in Fellowship Hall. Using offering envelopes, you will receive an end-of-year statement of giving. Please contact the church office or Peggy Watson if you would like to receive offering envelopes. Thank you for giving in 2023!



<u>This Sunday, December 17</u> Scripture: Luke 2:8-20, Reader: Emilie Bruns Greeters/Ushers: Bruns Family Sound/Video: Jan Baker Coffee Set Up: Carole Stanczak Advent Candle Lighters Needed

<u>Thursday, December 21 (5:30 pm)</u> Greeters/Ushers: Needed Sound/Video: Jan Baker

Next Sunday, December 24 (10 am)

Scripture: John 1:1-14, Reader: Mary Anderson Greeters/Ushers: Mary, Colwyn, Brit Sound/Video: Brit Radloff Coffee Set Up: Needed

<u>Next Sunday, December 24 (7 pm)</u> Scripture: Several, Readers: More needed Greeters/Ushers: Needed Sound/Video: Jan Baker Coffee Set Up: Needed

Heifer Int'l Fundraiser: Ornaments made by the children are for sale in Fellowship Hall - \$2/each. These are a great way to share the Christmas message by placing on gifts!



Thank you to Carter Nelson and Braelyn Fletcher for using their musical gifts to enhance our service last week—it was enjoyed very much!



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