



# MILLARD COMMUNITY COVENANT CHURCH

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

January 7, 2024

As I write this, it's the 10th day of Christmas. Thankfully, I see no "lords a leaping." The Valentine's Day section is up and running in the stores, and most of the world is ready to move on from Christmas. But let's linger just a bit longer. The shepherds were near enough to visit Jesus soon after his birth, but the Magi had a long and difficult journey to visit the newborn king. What a surprise it must have been to Mary and Joseph to be visited by these learned men from so far away. These sojourners discovered the new king from interpreting the stars in their own traditions. Think of all the different ways that God can communicate, often through his creation. Reflect on God's desire to draw all people to himself: the poor and the rich, the near and the far, educated or not. Later Jesus would say, "And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die (John 12: 32-33). From the manger to the cross, from the grave to the heavenly throne, Jesus remains the magnetic center. Are we allowing ourselves to be drawn closer today? Are we inviting others to come and see Jesus, no matter how far away they might seem? Truly, they may be closer than we think. Come near to God, and he will come near to you. James 4:8. By Pastor Sharon

## Upcoming Events

Sunday, January 7th: Please join us after church for a Soup Lunch and to take down Christmas decorations. Bring a soup or side if you can.

Monday, January 15th at 6:30 p.m: Board Meeting

Sunday, January 21st immediately after the worship service: Congregational Annual Meeting

Interested in becoming a member of the church? Talk with the pastors or contact the church office for more information.

Pastors Chris and Sharon were presented with a thank you gift for their service in so many ways-we are blessed!



Poinsettias were donated in memory of **Matthew Schleich, Nancy Spaulding, Michael Dillner, Matthew Fletcher, Don and Elsie Schoenbeck.**



## Sundays at Millard

**Sunday School classes begin** at 9:00 am for children, youth, and adults as we dig deeper into God's Word.

**Worship service begins at 10:00 a.m.** Our service can be viewed live (or later) on our [YouTube Sunday Worship playlist](#). Upon request, an audio of the Sermon is available by CD or you can view it on our [website](#).

**What's that new song?** Check out our church Worship Music [Playlist](#) to hear some of the new music before Sunday mornings.

**Save these Dates:**

**May 11, 2024:** Treasures From Your Trunk

**November 2, 2024:** Harvest Fair

**2024 Offering Envelopes** Pick 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!

**Happy Birthday!**

- January 7 ..... Michelle Buelow
- January 9..... Donna Marshall
- January 10 ..... Craig Guthrie
- January 14 ..... Ken Anderson
- January 15 ..... Ronda Kilcoyne
- January 15..... Carol Dillner
- January 16 ..... Pr Sharon Nelson
- January 16..... Alisha Porter

**Happy Anniversary!**

- January 10 ..... Eric & Heather Anderson

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

Thank you for the Christmas gift and all the ways that you express your care and appreciation. We are blessed, Pastors Chris and Sharon



**This Sunday, January 7**

- Scripture: Matthew 2:1-12, Reader needed
- Message: 'The Journey to Bethlehem', Pr. Chris
- Greeters/Ushers: Mary Anderson, Colwyn, Hannah
- Sound/Video: Jan Baker
- Coffee Set Up: Barb Papcke
- Communion: Jan Baker, Curt & Sally Rowley

**Next Sunday, January 14**

- Scripture: Romans 9, Reader needed
- Message: TBD, Pr. Sharon
- Greeters/Ushers: Needed
- Sound/Video: Needed
- Coffee Set Up: Betty Baerwald

***Thank you for serving God through Millard Community Covenant Church!***

Thank you to everyone who serves to make our worship services special! Below Pr. Chris helped the children light candles at our Blue Christmas service.



**Summer 2024** registration for camp at [Covenant Harbor](#) and [Covenant Point](#) 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. Looking for a great summer job? The camps are hiring now. Learn more about summer positions in Lake Geneva at [covenantharbor.org](http://covenantharbor.org).



**Keep in Touch**

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