

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
875 Sunflower Drive ~ DuBois, PA 15801
(814) 371-2470

Rev. John Miller, Pastor
Rev. Amy Godshall-Miller, Pastor
Chris Luckenbill, Organist & Choir Director

Lessons & Carols ~ December 22, 2024 ~ 9:45 a.m.

THE SERVICE

BOLD lettering indicates a spoken response

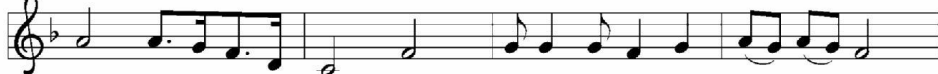
Prelude

Announcements

Carol – Go Tell It on the Mountain

CCLI 1763436

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



- 1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
- 2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
- 3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

P: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

P: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

P: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In Him was life and the life was the light of all people.

P: Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ who came to share our humanity, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen**

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

A: The First Reading is from the 3rd chapter of Genesis.

Adam and Eve heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this,
cursed are you among all animals
and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go,
and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.
I will put enmity between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and hers;

he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.”

A: Here ends the reading.

Solo – *The Christmas Hope*

~ Payson Preston

Her wish this Christmas was
that Christmas would just pass her by.
Nothing could reach her, or answer her questions why.
She feels so alone. She wonders if all hope is gone.

Chorus: Hope is a candle, a light in the window,
showing the way for a heart to come home.
Hope is a Savior who was born in the manger,
sent down from Heaven to rescue our hearts.
Our Christmas hope.

She never imagined that for her there was hope to find.
Isn't it amazing how God brings a heart back to life?
She's smiling now.
She's finding out what Christmas hope is all about. *Chorus*

Hope is a present,
a gift freely given to all who receive and open their hearts.
Hope is a promise for a better tomorrow.
In a world filled with sorrow, we always have. *Chorus*
Our Christmas hope. Our Christmas hope.

Second Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

A: The Second Reading is from the 31st chapter of Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt--a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and

they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

A: Here ends the reading.

Carol – Love Has Come

CCLI 1763436



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Third Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

A: The Third Reading is from the 5th chapter of Micah.

But you, O Bethlehem,
 who are one of the little clans of Judah,
 from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel,
 whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

³Therefore he shall give them up until the time

when she who is in labor has brought forth;
 then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel.
⁴And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
 in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
 And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
 to the ends of the earth; ⁵and he shall be the one of peace.

A: Here ends the reading.

Carol – O Little Town of Bethlehem

CCLI 1763436



O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and, gath - ered all a - bove
 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly the won - drous gift is giv'n!
 O ho - ly child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - d'ring love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
 cast out our sin, and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing light.
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth,
 No ear may hear his com - ing; but, in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais - es sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth!
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 oh, come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Im - man - u - el!

Fourth Reading: Luke 1:26-38

A: The Fourth Reading is from the 1st chapter of Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."

But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God."

Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

A: Here ends the reading.

Contemporary Team – Mary Did You Know?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
would one day walk on water?

Did you know that your baby boy
would save our sons and daughters?

Did you know that your baby boy
has come to make you new?

This child that you've delivered will soon deliver you?

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
will give sight to the blind man?
Did you know that your baby boy
would calm a storm with His hand?
Did you know that your baby boy
has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little baby, you've kissed the face of God?

The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again.
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.

Mary, did you know that your baby boy
is Lord of all creation?
Did you know that your baby boy
will someday rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy
was Heaven's perfect Lamb,
and the sleeping Child you're holding is the great I AM?

Fifth Reading: Matthew 1:18-25

A: The Fifth Reading is from the 1st chapter of Matthew.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

A: Here ends the reading.

Children's Christmas Play Singers – The virgin Mary had a baby boy

The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
The virgin Mary had a baby boy,
And they say that his name is Jesus.

Refrain:

He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.
Oh, yes, believer! Oh, yes, believer!
He come from the glory, he come from the glorious kingdom.

The angels sang when the baby was born,
The angels sang when the baby was born,
The angels sang when the baby was born,
And they sang that his name is Jesus. *Refrain*

The wisemen saw where the baby was born,
The wisemen saw where the baby was born,
The wisemen saw where the baby was born,
And they say that his name is Jesus. *Refrain*

Sixth Reading: Luke 2:21-35

A: The Sixth Reading is from the 2nd chapter of Luke.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had

been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed — and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

A: Here ends the reading.

Contemporary Team – Child of Bethlehem

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Still, quiet night in Bethlehem.
Earth sleeps and few take thought of Him.
But the heavens rejoice, and the angels sing.
The Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings.

Still, wise men worship at His feet.
And lost souls awaken from their sleep.
And the heavens rejoice, and the angels sing.
The Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings.
Down from heaven's glory to a manger bed.
Crucified glorified He was born to be our Savior.

Come, children over all the earth.
Come, celebrate the Savior's birth.
Every knee shall bow, every nation sing.
The Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings,
the Child of Bethlehem is the King of Kings.

Seventh Reading: John 1:1-14

A: The Seventh Reading is from the 1st chapter of John.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

A: Here ends the reading.

Carol – God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

CCLI 1763436

God rest ye merry gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Savior Was born on Christmas day.
To save us all from Satan's pow'r When we were gone astray; *Refrain*

Refrain: O tidings of comfort and joy.

Comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

In Bethlehem, in Israel This blessed Babe was born.
And laid within a manger, Upon this blessed morn.
To which his mother Mary, Did nothing take in scorn; *Refrain*

From God our heavenly Father, A blessed angel came.
And unto certain shepherds, Brought tidings of the same.
How that in Bethlehem was born, The Son of God by name; *Refrain*

Prayers

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The Pastor will offer prayers for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish, and special concerns.

P: +Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Offertory – Create in me

CCLI 1763436



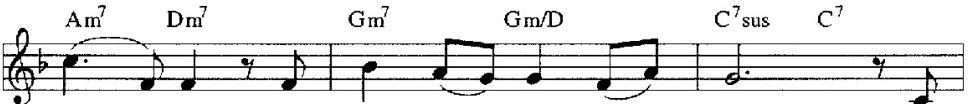
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve



you; cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, that



I might be re - newed. So fill me and



heal me, and bring me back to you. Cre -



ate in me a clean heart, O God, that I might serve you.

Offertory Prayer

P: Merciful God,

C: in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you embrace our lives with your great love for humanity. With joy and gladness we ask that these gifts may be for many a sign of that love, and that we may continue to share in your divine life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

HOLY COMMUNION

Communion Prayer

P: Responding to the command of our Lord and desiring the life-giving presence of Christ, we come to the table.

C: The love of God is a gift and we do not deserve this gift.

P: Responding to the command of our Lord and desiring the life-giving presence of Christ, we share the body and blood.

C: We come with our wounds and faults, ready and willing to be refreshed with the true presence of Christ among us.

Words of Institution

P: Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

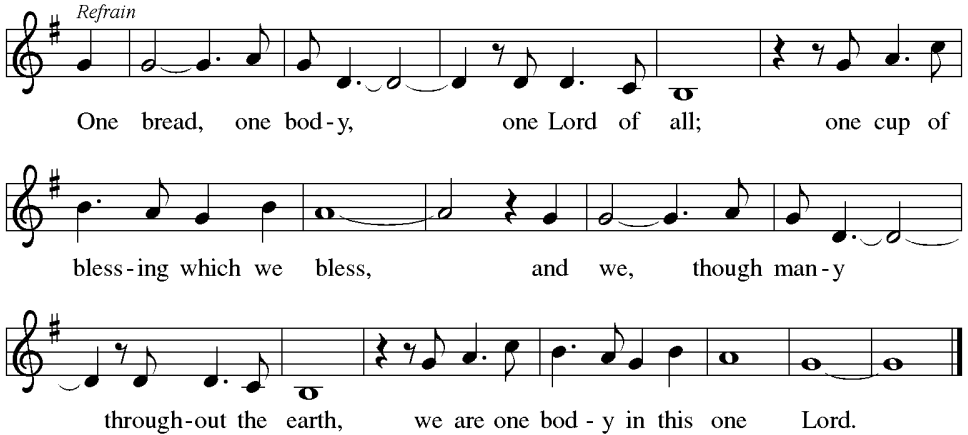
The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

One bread, one body

CCLI 1763436

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

The Meal

Please receive the bread and wine as the pastor speaks the words:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: "Amen."

MUSIC AS WE SHARE COMMUNION

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

CCLI 1763436

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

What Child Is This?

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1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar - y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas - ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

Prayer

P: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SENDING

Blessing

P: In Jesus our Savior, God is with us. Almighty God, Father, Son +and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

C: Amen

Closing Carol – Joy to the World

CCLI 1763436



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Dismissal

P: Go out with joy to the world. Serve in the name of Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

OPPORTUNITIES AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Today

8:30-Traditional Worship

9:45-Contemporary Worship

11:00-Traditional Worship

Monday-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Tuesday-Christmas Eve Worship Services

6:00 p.m.-Traditional

8:00 p.m.-Contemporary

10:00-p.m.-Traditional

Wednesday-Merry Christmas Day ~ office closed

Thursday-office closed

FUTURE MINISTRIES

Mon-Dec 30-9:00-Quilters/Sewers

Wed-Jan 1-New Year's Day – Office Closed

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Next Sunday's Gospel: Luke 2:41-52

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Attendance last week: Sunday Worship: 8:30-56; 9:45-69; 11:00-23

The flowers in the chancel vases have been presented to the Glory of the Lord and in loving memory of husband Don Miller on his Birthday by Emma Miller.

We welcome our newest members, Nathan & Abbey Weber this morning at the 8:30 service.

Christmas Eve: Traditional Worship ~ 6:00 p.m., Contemporary Worship ~ 8:00 p.m.—both of these services are very child-friendly!

Traditional Worship ~ 10:00 p.m. All services include Holy Communion and the traditional candlelighting with Silent Night.

At the Annual Meeting in January, your Church Council will ask you to approve a new constitution for Christ Church to reflect our membership in the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). This constitution is similar in form to our previous constitution but ensures the greater congregational freedom and flexibility membership in the NALC allows. You may pick up a copy of this new constitution on the tables in the narthex. Please see Pastor John or Debbie Brubaker with any questions.

Communion Bread Bakers . . . Two of our longtime faithful communion bread bakers are retiring! Do you like to bake? Would you consider serving your church family by baking communion bread? If so, please speak with Pastor Amy.

Advent/Christmas Devotions, The Main Characters of the Christmas Story, are available in the narthex and can be downloaded from our website.

Mission of the Month: DuBois Food Pantry Christmas Gifts. Every client of the Food Pantry has received a \$5 gift from our congregation. If you would like to contribute financially towards this effort use a pew envelope and write "Food Pantry Gifts" in the *other* line. Checks may be made payable to Christ Lutheran Church.

Volleyball . . . If you are interested in playing on the church volleyball team this winter, a sign up sheet is on the bulletin board.

Coming in January 2025: For youth in 6th-12th grades!! A road trip to Pittsburgh for YouthQuake, **Friday-Saturday, January 24-26, 2025**, at the Marriott Pittsburgh Airport, Coraopolis. Registration forms are on the table in the narthex. It's not too late to join in!

Food Pantry Items for December are CANOLA OIL and/or STEVIA.