

December 2018



Welcome to Holly Grove Lutheran Church!



LOVE GROW SERVE

The Holly Leaf

Mission Statement of Holly Grove Lutheran Church

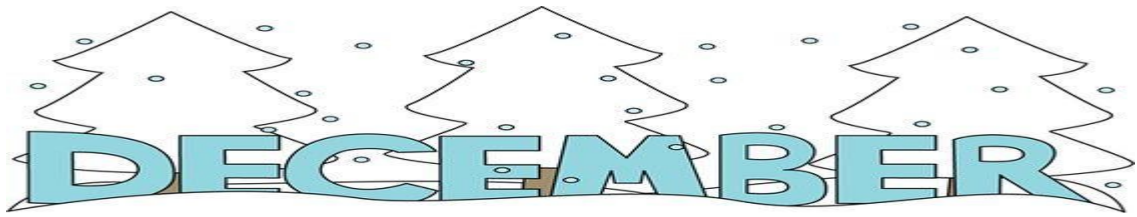
“As united people of God under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our purpose is to provide worship and Christian education, and respond in a loving action to a needy world.”

• Daily Prayers, links, to ELCA , sermons, The Holly Leaf, events & more on our website:
www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org


Find us on Facebook!



Love. Grow. Serve.



DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Council @ 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 AGAPE @ 6:30 pm	18	19 Seniors @ Mt. Tabor @ 10:30 am	20	21	22
23	24 LMiM @ 7:00 pm	Happy Birthday Jesus 	26	27	28	29
30	31					

December 2018



Altar Guild- Sandra Vaughn

Mother's Rose Garden- Norris & Kara Feeney-In Honor of Grandmother's & Great-Grandmother's

2nd 1st Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Basket Offering: Staff Bonuses

Assisting Minister: Debbie Frank

Acolyte: Victoria Voletto

Communion Assistant: Carol Conrad

Children's Church: Tina Heitman

Ushers: Lynn Dennis, Andy Ferguson, Gaven Ferguson, Frank Hamilton, Harold Beck

Altar Flowers: Neil & Terri Clark-In honor of The Clarks

Nursery Attendant: Kara Feeney

Children's Chat: Tina Heitman

9th 2nd Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Basket Offering: Staff Bonuses

Assisting Minister: Norris Feeney

Acolyte: Victoria Voletto

Communion Assistant: Debbie Frank

Children's Church: Susan Lohr

Ushers: Johnny Fritts, Robin Beck, Ty Heitman, Eddie Heitman

Altar Flowers: Micky & Carol Conrad-In honor of Family

Nursery Attendant: Monica Parsons

Children's Chat: Pastor

16th 3rd Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Assisting Minister: Toni Chapman

Children's Church: Jordan Chapman

Communion Assistant: Judy Thomason

Ushers: Gary Hedrick, Michael Willson, Bob Troutman, Rex Everhart

Altar Flowers: Andy and Kristal Ferguson in honor of Jessica Ferguson's Birthday

Nursery Attendant: Susan Lohr

Children's Chat: Pastor

23rd 4th Sunday of Advent

Holy Communion

Assisting Minister: Joe Davis

Children's Church: Lateffa Dennis

Communion Assistant: Neil Clark

Ushers: Keith Cecil, Dean Chapman, Max Carrick, Herbert Frank

Altar Flowers: Christmas Poinsettias

Nursery Attendant: Jordan Chapman

Children's Chat: Pastor

24th Christmas Eve Candlelight Service *Holy Communion*

Assisting Minister: Micky Conrad

Acolyte: Gracie Ferguson

Communion Assistant: Joe Davis

Bucket Holders: Mason Chapman & Gaven Ferguson

Ushers: Bob Troutman, Max Carrick, Frank Hamilton, Herbert Frank

Altar Flowers: Christmas Poinsettias

30th 1st Sunday of Christmas

Holy Communion

Assisting Minister: Kim Troutman

Children's Church: Jane DiBonaventura

Communion Assistant: Herbert Frank

Ushers: Joe Davis, Lynn Dennis, Andy Ferguson, Gaven Ferguson, Frank Hamilton

Altar Flowers: Micky and Carol, Kim and Bob, Todd and Lori- In memory of John Conrad

Nursery Attendant: Carol Conrad

Children's Chat: Pastor



IN THE WILDERNESS

In the Hebrew Bible the book of Numbers is called “In the Wilderness.” It starts with great hope. God delivered God’s people from Egypt, from bitter slavery, grinding toil and infanticide. What a delivery! The entire people—ancients, infants and everyone in between—escaped from one of the world’s superpowers, walked dry-shod through the sea and went on a 40-year journey to the land the Lord had promised them.

Beginnings are filled with expectation. There is excitement and a sense that everything is possible. Think about the first day of school, a vacation, new job, one’s honeymoon or the first day of a child’s life. It was no different for the Israelites. The first chapters recount the enumeration of the tribes of Israel—hence the title, Numbers. This description is of the mustering of the people as they strode into the future. This was the beginning of an adventure! This part ends with God commanding Moses to make two silver trumpets. The entire journey would be heralded by the clear ringing of silver trumpets.

In the beginning it was possible to disregard the fact that they were setting off into the wilderness. But it caught up to them. We know how that goes—halfway through the road trip, the school year, the job, the marriage or life with a baby and the traits that were at first endearingly quirky just become annoying. On epic family cross-country vacations, the landscape becomes monotonous. The food is no longer novel but noxious. Life before, at least in memories that have become trip-jaded, was bliss.

It was no different for the pilgrims in the wilderness. By [Chapter 11](#) things have started to go downhill. In band camp we called this “Whiney Wednesday.” The people were sick of manna. In their defense, there are probably a limited number of manna recipes. They remembered the “cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions and the garlic” (Numbers 11:5). They remembered the fish they used to eat in Egypt “for nothing.” For nothing? Bondage and oppression were nothing? The people began to protest. They clamored for meat. They stood at the doors of their tents and wailed.

Moses had enough. “Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ... Where am I to get meat for all this people? ... I am not able to carry this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once” (Numbers 11:11-15). Wow, and I thought I had bad days at work.

To all this God answers: “Is the Lord’s power limited? Now you shall see whether my word will come true for you or not” (Numbers 11:23).

Sometimes, when things are the most difficult, or the way forward is thwarted, or hearing someone blithely remind us that God is faithful, it seems like the equivalent of offering “thoughts and prayers” to those living through a devastating tragedy. But for those who live because this promise is not trite but true, for whom it is water in a dry land, a rock in sinking sand, this is the solid promise of life in God.

From being people of the promise until that promise is realized is hard work. In the moment, or the day, or the decade, it is difficult to see that God is moving us. Some give up. Remarkably, some who are most ground down by the journey hang on.

This year we elected six new bishops—all of them women, one Latina and the first two [African Americans](#). Guided by the Spirit, the people of the [Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod](#) elected Patricia Davenport and the [South-Central Synod of Wisconsin](#) elected Viviane Thomas-Breitfeld. It took 31 years—not quite 40. What didn’t seem possible a generation ago is reality in our church. We are becoming a generation not quite arrived at the promised land but seeing God declaring, “Now you will see if my word will come true for you or not.”



Davidson County Senior Services is in need of dedicated Meals on Wheels volunteers to deliver meals in the Cotton Grove, Denton, Holly Grove, Pilgrim, Reedy Creek, and Wallburg communities. Prepared meals are picked up from local fire departments, churches, or civic centers and routes take no longer than two hours to complete. In addition, most volunteer drivers deliver once every other week. If you would like to support and befriend the homebound older adults in your community, please contact Jacob Gordon, Volunteer Services Coordinator, at (336) 474-2646 or [jacob.gordon@davidsoncountync.gov](mailto:jacob.gordon@ davidsoncountync.gov).”



Children's Christmas Program

Please join us on December 21st for our Christmas program, beginning at 7:00 pm. We hope you can be part of the greatest story ever told as our youth brings the story to life. Refreshment will follow in the Fellowship Hall.



Please don't forget to
return your
Time & Talent forms.....

ADVENT READING LIST

- DAY 1** - John 1:1-5
- DAY 2** - Jeremiah 33:14-16
- DAY 3** - Luke 1:5-10
- DAY 4** - Luke 1:11-17
- DAY 5** - Luke 1:18-25
- DAY 6** - Luke 1:26-38
- DAY 7** - Matthew 1:18-21
- DAY 8** - Matthew 1:22-25
- DAY 9** - Isaiah 7:14
- DAY 10** - Luke 1:39-45
- DAY 11** - Luke 1:46-56
- DAY 12** - Luke 1:68-79
- DAY 13** - Luke 2:1-5
- DAY 14** - Luke 2:6-7
- DAY 15** - Luke 2:8-12
- DAY 16** - Luke 2:13-14
- DAY 17** - Luke 2:15-18
- DAY 18** - Luke 2:19-20
- DAY 19** - Matthew 2:1-2
- DAY 20** - Matthew 2:3-6
- DAY 21** - Matthew 2:7-8
- DAY 22** - Matthew 2:9-12
- DAY 23** - Galatians 4:4-7
- DAY 24** - Isaiah 9:6-7
- DAY 25** - John 1:14



ADVENT
CONSPIRACY

adventconspiracy.org

ADVENT CALENDAR

Light a candle and read John 8:12	Invite someone over for dinner	Collect cans to give to a local food pantry	Pray for families in your city who don't have a home	Make a birthday card for Jesus
Write down 5 things you are thankful for	Pray for kids around the world who don't have clean water or food to eat	Watch a Christmas movie with your family	Sing Silent Night	Read Luke 2:10
Read Luke 2:13-15	Sit by someone new at school or church	Read Isaiah 9:6	Put up Christmas decorations and sing Joy to the World	Collect coins in a donation jar
Call someone in your family and tell them you love them	Read Matthew 2:7-11	Choose 3 of your toys to donate	Make a Christmas card for someone in your neighborhood	Read Luke 1:26-32
Read Luke 2:16-20	Sing O Holy Night	Write a thank you note to a teacher or coach	Read Isaiah 7:14	Make Christmas cookies for your mailman



adventconspiracy.org

A fun alternative to the traditional Advent Calendar!

These activities will help you *worship fully, spend less, give more, and love all!* To play, choose any activity on the board and mark it off once completed. See how many you can complete before Christmas!

Trivia, Trivia, Trivia

Fun Facts About Christmas

Hello, and Happy December.

Christmas (from the Old English, meaning 'Christ's Mass') is a commemoration of the birth of Jesus Christ. Christmas is celebrated as a major festival and public holiday on December 25 by billions of people around the world.

According to popular tradition, the birth of Jesus took place in a stable surrounded by farm animals. A manger (a feeding trough) is mentioned in Luke 2:7. The precise date of Jesus' birth is unknown.

The original date of the celebration in Eastern Christianity was January 6th, in connection with Epiphany. The Western Christian Church had placed Christmas on December 25th sometime in the 4th century, possibly to coincide with the solstice.

The holiday has been known by various names throughout its history, such as Midwinter, Nativity, Xmas, Yule, and Noel. The popular customs associated in various countries have a mix of pre-Christian, Christian, and secular themes.

Countries in which Christmas is not a formal public holiday include China (except Hong Kong and Macao), Japan, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Thailand, Nepal, Iran, Turkey, and North Korea.

Christmas Trees and Decorations

The Christmas tree is considered by some as Christianisation of pagan tradition and ritual surrounding the Winter Solstice. The first artificial trees were made using dyed goose feathers.

The first commercially produced decorations appeared in Germany in the 1860s, inspired by paper chains made by children.

The words, 'Christmas tree' was first recorded in 1835. By the 1870s, people in the US had adopted the custom of putting up a Christmas tree.

The traditional colors of Christmas are red, green and gold.

The earliest known Christmas tree decorations were apples.

The poinsettia is a native plant from Mexico and has been associated with Christmas since the 19th century. Other popular plants are holly, mistletoe, red amaryllis, and Christmas cactus.

Poinsettias are NOT poisonous, but holly berries are.

The tallest Christmas tree ever cut was a 221 foot Douglas fir, displayed in 1950 at the Northgate Shopping Center in Seattle, WA.

Santa Claus

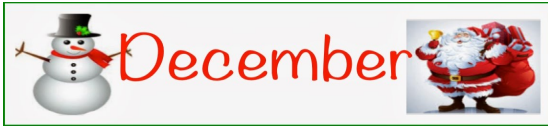
A number of figures are associated with Christmas and the giving of gifts: Father Christmas, also known as Santa Claus, Pere Noël, Sinterklaas, Kris Kringle, Joulupukki, Babbo Natale, Saint Basil, and Father Frost.

The modern popular image of Santa Claus was created in the US and made his first appearance in 1810, drawn in bishops' robes.

The German-American cartoonist Thomas Nast (1840-1902) drew an image of Santa Claus annually, beginning in 1863. By the 1880s, Nast's Santa had evolved into the figure we now recognize. The image was standardized in the 1920s.

Current tradition in some Latin American countries hold that while Santa makes the toys, he gives them to the Baby Jesus, who is the one that delivers them to the homes.

Each year, there are approximately 20,000 'rent-a-Santas' across the US who undergo seasonal training on maintaining a jolly attitude under pressure from the public.



Birthday & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <i>Donnie Parsons</i>
2 <i>Randall Lomax</i>	3	4	5 <i>Susan Lohr</i>	6 <i>Brandon/Brandy Conrad</i>	7 <i>Breanna Rose</i>	8 <i>Glenna Garner</i>
9 <i>Madison Lohr-Pope Trenton Parks</i>	10 <i>Jennifer Blower</i>	11 <i>Jane Brown</i>	12	13	14 <i>Jessica Ferguson</i>	15
16 <i>Brandon Hedrick</i>	17 <i>Greg Kepley</i>	18 <i>Johnny Fritts Jeff Littleton</i>	19 <i>Caroline Hedrick Colton Rose</i>	20 <i>Carolyn Black</i>	21	22
23 <i>Calvin Carrick</i>	24	25 <i>Happy Birthday Jesus</i> 	26	27 <i>Gene Queen Calvin Blower</i>	28 <i>Elisa Sommer</i>	29 <i>John Lohr</i>
30	31 <i>Jennifer Hester Frank/Jeanine Hamilton</i>					



Update Information Form: It's that time of the year to update your information for the upcoming year. Please make any corrections and either place it in the offering plate or give it to Lateffa. If you are not sure as to what is on file, a 2018 directory is in the narthex to review. Forms are located in the narthex.

December 5th: Advent meal @ 5:45 & worship @ 6:30.

December 12th: Advent meal @ 5:45 & worship @ 6:30.

December 19th: Advent meal @ 5:45 & worship @ 6:30.

Choir Robe Measuring: Choir members (and those who sometimes join in for special occasions!), if you have not been measured for a new choir robe, please contact Guyla to make arrangements.

Time & Talent Forms: It's time to fill out your Time & Talent for the upcoming year. Please get these back to Lateffa or place them in the offering plate

Holly Leaf News: If you have information that needs to go into the Holly Leaf submit this info to the church office by the 20th of each month.



The Angel Tree is up! Gifts must be wrapped with ID # listed on gift tag(s). All gifts must be at church no later than **5:00pm on December 16th.**

Americans spend over \$300 billion on Christmas shopping each year. This year, consider giving gifts that fight hunger and grow the church with [ELCA Good Gifts](#). Select from more than 50 gifts--from goats to water filters to school fees--to help people in need. Give in honor of friends and loved ones. Catalogs are located in the narthex.

Go **tail** it on
the mountain.



Please pray for:

December, 2018

Our Members:

- **Burnette Monteith**
- **Jane Brown**
- **The Family of Marshall Brown**
- **Bobbie Fritts**
- **Harold Rose**
- **The Family of Betty Queen**
- **Lydia York**
- **John Curry**
- **Gene Queen**
- **Lydia Rose**
- **Dwight Everhart**
- **Sheila Hanes**
- **Gary Hedrick**
- **Barbara Kepley**
- **Sue Anderson- Rehab @ Abbotts Creek**
- **Bill Roberts**

Our Friends & Family:

- Billie Allred
- Gracie Hedrick
- Chuck Clodfelter-Friend of Wendy Lohr
- Wayne Charles-Friend of Herb Lohr
- Judy Rose-wife of Harold Rose
- Eddie Wray-Friend of Herb Lohr
- Tommy Wrenn-friend of Bonnie Hedrick
- Kathy Owens-Sharon Everhart's Sister
- Noah Byerly-friend of Sharon Everhart
- Kevin Stewart-Robin & Karen Beck's son-in-law
- James Church
- Tyler Whitley-Lateffa Dennis' cousin
- Robin Sink
- Dean Fowler
- Melanie Burcham-Lynn Dennis' cousin
- The family of Kevin Connor
- Tony Roberson-Friend of Herb Lohr
- Gary Helms-Gaynell Davis cousin
- Becky Aycoth-Gaynell Davis cousin
- Joanne Koonts-Gaynell Davis cousin
- Harvey Potter-Family of Bonnie Hedrick
- Vince Tulizzotto-Friend of Herb Lohr
- Our service men and women all over the world



HOLLY GROVE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Holly Grove Senior Citizens Club met November 21 with 13 members and 3 guests present.

Jane Smith presented the devotions and introduced her granddaughter as our guest speaker.

Ashley Marcolivio is an Ombudsman for the Piedmont Triad Regional Council Agency on Aging. An Ombudsman Is an advocate for the rights of long term care facility residents.

The Ombudsman is an advocate for patients when their rights have been violated or they are not receiving proper care. They also investigate complaints, mediate disputes, and provide information to the residents, family and staff about various aspects of the patients care. An Ombudsman also educates the public on long-term care issues and elder abuse awareness. Ashley and her co-worker Tracy gave us a copy the North Carolina Bill of Rights for Nursing Home Residents. We thank Ashley for providing very important information which affects many of our lives in one way or another.

We enjoyed a wonderful Brunch that Jane and Virginia White provided. Everything was delicious and most of us took advantage and made sure our plates were very full!

Our cares and concerns this month included; Jane Brown, Sandra Burcham, and Melinda Roof.

Libby Holder is the only member with a Birthday between now and our next meeting, hope you have a great day, Libby.

Myra Beck gave the Treasury Report and we discussed our up-coming Christmas Party in December. Members were reminded to bring a \$1 gift for our exchange. We will also have our annual group picture made.

The canned goods received at this meeting will go to the Salvation Army. Our group voted to have another donation of canned goods in January which will go to Pastors Pantry.

We will meet December 19th for a catered meal, fellowship and fun.

Davidson Lutheran Youth

Christmas Caroling

Join with all middle & high school youth
from the Silver Valley Conference of the
ELCA to go Christmas caroling!

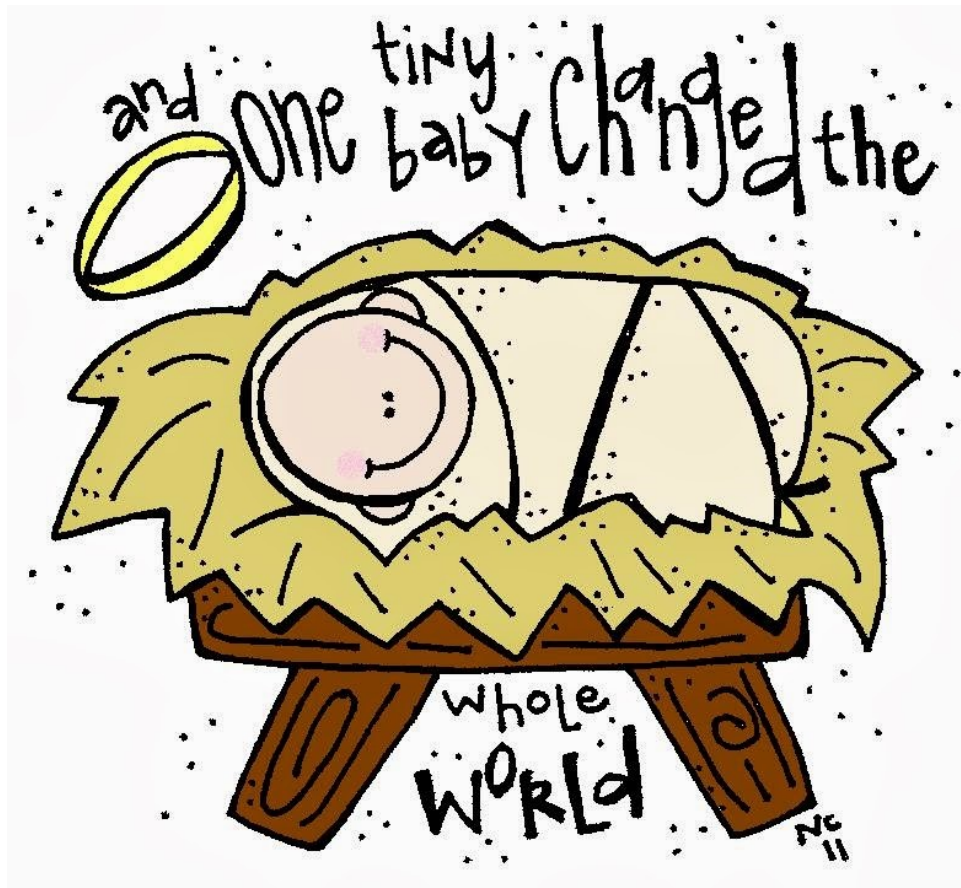
Sunday, December 16, 2018

2:00- 4:30

First Evangelical Lutheran Church
320 S. State St. Lexington. NC

Give us a call at (336)248-6018 opt.4 to get more details





Holly Grove Lutheran Church
212 Holly Grove Lutheran Church Rd
Lexington, NC 27292
336-249-2807

www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org
office: hglcoffice@gmail.com

Sundays

915AM Sunday School
1030AM Worship



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.