

December 2019



*Welcome to Holly Grove Lutheran Church!*



LOVE GROW SERVE

# The Holly Leaf

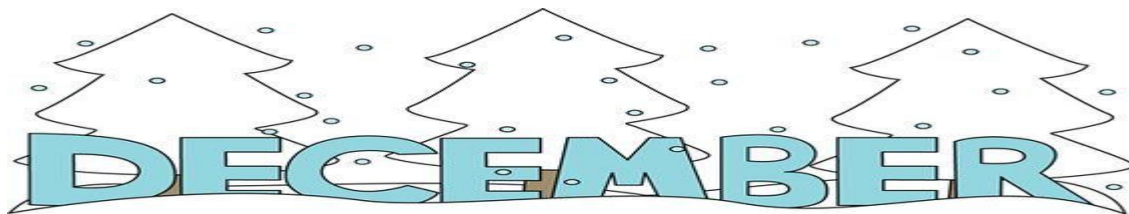
## *Mission Statement of Holly Grove Lutheran Church*

*“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](http://www.hollygrovelutheranchurch.org)

Find us on Facebook!





# DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 <b>Council @ 7:00 pm</b>	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 <b>Agape @ 6:30 pm</b>	17	18 <b>Seniors @ Mt. Tabor @ 10:30 am</b>	19	20	21
22	23 <b>LMiM @ 7:00 pm</b>	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31				

December 2019



Altar Guild- Kim Troutman  
Mother's Rose Garden- Eugene Queen-In memory of Betty Queen

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1<sup>st</sup> *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*Holy Communion*

*Basket Offering:* Staff Bonuses

**Assisting Minister:** Norris Feeney

**Acolyte:** Gracie Ferguson

**Communion Assistant:** Chip Blower

**Bucket Holder:** Gaven Ferguson, Mason Chapman

**Ushers:** Rex Everhart, Mason Chapman, Alex Chapman, Scott Black, Dean Chapman

**Altar Flowers:** Nancy Curry & Family-In memory of Frank Curry

**Children's Church:** Susan Lohr

**Children's Chat:** Tina Heitman

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8<sup>th</sup> *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*Holy Communion*

*Basket Offering:* Staff Bonuses

**Assisting Minister:** Joe Davis

**Acolyte:** Roselia Sommer

**Communion Assistant:** Scott Black

**Bucket Holder:** Kodi Lomax, Conrad Sommer

**Ushers:** Eddie Heitman, Ty Heitman, Johnny Fritts, Gary Hedrick

**Altar Flowers:** Judy Thomason-In honor of My Children & Grandchildren; In memory of my parents L.P. & Helen Keller, My Sister Brenda Rose & Evan Grubb

**Children's Church:** Jordan Chapman

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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15<sup>th</sup> *3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Debbie Frank

**Acolyte:** Gracie Ferguson

**Communion Assistant:** Tina Heitman

**Bucket Holder:** Mason Chapman, Ashton Chapman

**Ushers:** Mary Ellen Hinson, Jane DiBonaventura, Paula Hedrick, Susan Lohr

**Altar Flowers:** Andy & Kristal Ferguson-In honor of Jessica's Birthday

**Children's Church:** Tina Heitman

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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22<sup>nd</sup> *4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent*

*Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Carol Conrad

**Acolyte:** Roselia Sommer

**Communion Assistant:** Neil Clark

**Bucket Holder:** Brody Fritts, Gaven Ferguson

**Ushers:** Gaven Ferguson, Andy Ferguson, Lynn Dennis, Max Carrick, Bob Troutman

**Altar Flowers:** Christmas Poinsettias/Dean & Toni Chapman-In memory of Kirk Saunders-In honor of Our Family

**Children's Church:** Jane DiBonaventura

**Children's Chat:** Pastor

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24<sup>th</sup> *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service* *Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Andy Ferguson

**Acolyte:** Gracie Ferguson

**Communion Assistant:** Bob Troutman

**Bucket Holder:** Gaven Ferguson, Mason Chapman

**Ushers:** Michael Willson, Robin Beck, Frank Hamilton, Matthew Parsons

**Altar Flowers:** *Christmas Poinsettias*

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29<sup>th</sup> *1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas*

*Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Chip Blower

**Acolyte:** Roselia Sommer

**Communion Assistant:** Judy Thomason

**Bucket Holder:** Calvin Carrick, Conrad Sommer

**Ushers:** Joe Davis, Rex Everhart, Mason Chapman, Alex Chapman, Dean Chapman

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

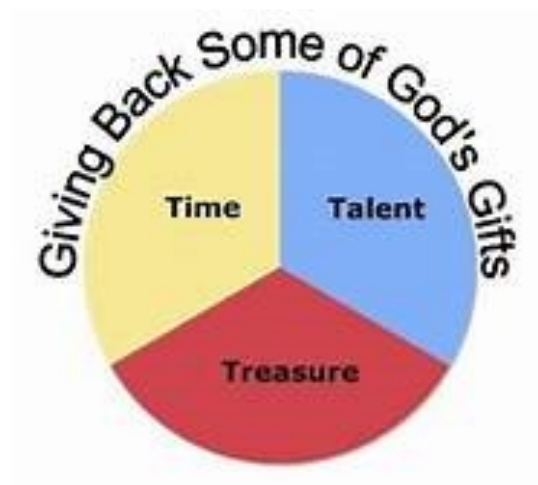
**Children's Church:** Monica Parsons

**Children's Chat:** Sarah Grace Davis

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





# Children's Christmas Program

Please join us on December 22, 2019 for our Christmas program, preformed during worship. We hope you can be part of the greatest story ever told as our youth brings the story to life.

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# 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 6<sup>th</sup>, in connection with Epiphany. The Western Christian Church had placed Christmas on December 25<sup>th</sup> sometime in the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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	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 2019 directory is in the narthex to review. Forms are located in the narthex.

**December 1st:** Today is the last day to order your flower! Order forms are in the narthex for you if you want to order a Christmas Poinsettia.

**December 1st:** Christmas Play practice @ 4:00 pm. Supper & Advent Wreath making to follow.

**December 4<sup>th</sup>:** {Parish Ed} Advent meal @ 5:45 and worship @ 6:30.

**December 11<sup>th</sup>:** {LMiM} Advent meal @ 5:45 and worship @ 6:30

**December 15<sup>th</sup>:** Christmas Caroling @ 2:00 pm.

**December 18<sup>th</sup>:** {Agape} Advent meal @ 5:45 and worship @ 6:30

**2020 Offering envelopes** are in the narthex for you to pick up.  
Advent Devotionals are in the narthex.

**Holly Leaf News:** If you have information that needs to go into the Holly Leaf submit this info to the church office by the 20<sup>th</sup> 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 15th.**

## HOLLY GROVE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Holly Grove Senior Citizens Club met Wednesday, November 20 with 13 members present. Our hostesses were Jane Smith and Virginia White.

We have many cares and concerns this month with our members and also members of the community who need to be remembered in our thoughts and prayers.

Virginia and Jane had prepared an informative devotion explaining each line of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm.

Jane told us of little known trivia facts that was very entertaining. One of the most surprising being that Quaker Oats is the largest cereal manufacturer. We had thought that it would be Kellogg's.

Myra Beck gave the Treasury Report.

We discussed our up-coming Newcomers Brunch in January and began to make plans for the brunch.

The group sent out Birthday wishes to all members who will celebrate their special day between now and our December meeting.

Our Christmas meeting will be a catered meal on December 18<sup>th</sup>. We are very blessed to have an anonymous donor pay for our meal. Thank You! Members were reminded to bring a \$1.00 gift to our next meeting for the exchange.

Once the blessing was said we ate lots of delicious food prepared by Virginia and Jane.



## Please pray for:

### *Our Members:*

- **Burnette Monteith**
- **Gary Hedrick**
- **Bill Roberts**
- **Jo Ann Turner**
- **Walter Blower**
- **Shelia Hanes**
- **Aldean Conrad**
- **Family of Lydia York**
- **Walt Anderson**
- **Scott Black**
- **Teresa Fritts**
- **Mandy Fritts**
- **Brody Fritts**



### *Our Friends & Family:*

- Noah Byerly-friend of Sharon Everhart
- James Church
- Lohr Younts
- Tyler Thompson
- Judy Rose
- Robert (Buddy) Brown
- Joyce Roach-Sister of Judy Thomason
- Family of Becky Helms Aycoth
- Gary Helms-cousin of Gaynell Davis
- Garland Essick-Father of Edwina Louya
- Cleston Nester-friend of Lynn & Lateffa Dennis
- Kenneth Miller-Friend of Joe & Bonnie Hedrick
- Charlotte Cable-Aunt of Jay Proctor
- Antonio Rodriguez-Baby of TPP Mother
- Terry Buie & Michelle-Friends of Diane Younts & Kent Everhart
- Winfred & Jennifer Evans & children
- The Family of Jennifer Waller Charles
- Colton Rose-Grandson of Lateffa Dennis
- Lynn Helms-cousin of Gaynell Davis
- Kay Kepley
- Jordan Greene
- Maddison Kline
- The Family of Ben Cline
- Randy Wafford
- Tommy Barnhart
- Our service men and women all over the world
- Those unemployed, looking for work

\*\*\*\*Names are generally rotated off after three weeks but we are happy to add them again if requested. Please send Prayer Requests to: [hglcoffice@gmail.com](mailto:hglcoffice@gmail.com) or leave a message at the church office complex (336-249-2807).



# HGLC OCTOBER 2019 Council Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Vice President, Tim Everhart; 12 plus Pastor present.

Devotions: Karen led us in devotions; Judy has devotions in November.

## **Approval of Reports**

Minutes: Sandra moved to accept. Michael seconded. Motion approved.

Financial Secretary: Max moved to accept. Eddie seconded. Motion approved.

Treasurer: Karen moved to accept. Sandra seconded. Motion approved.

Building Fund: Dean moved to accept. Lynn seconded. Motion approved.

A Memorial Fund Report was presented for review only. The fund balance remains at \$5,164.58 at the time of the report. There was some discussion for possible projects using some of the memorial account funds. No motion was made at this time.

## **Pastor's Report**

In September Holly Grove hosted the kickoff event for Davidson Lutheran Youth. It was a great event but only 1 young person from Holly Grove attended. Programming is set for each month through May 2020. A reminder to all of us to encourage our young people to attend.

LMIM sponsored Chicken BBQ was a successful and profitable event.

Pastor spent several days at Lutheridge for the Fall Convocation.

Thanks were given to all who helped pack backpacks, especially Toni Chapman who organized all the supplies. It was a great effort by Holly Grove members from age 3 to folks in their 70's.

Kameron Cecil will be baptized on October 27 during worship. Pastor will look for a date to receive Robert Napolitano as a new member.

Coming events of interest:

October 19 Davidson Lutheran Youth Service Project

October 27 Reformation Sunday

Kameron Cecil Baptism

Countywide Reformation Service at St. Luke's (7 PM)

Silly Halloween Party (6 PM)

November 17th: Congregational meeting to elect new Council Members and approve 2020 Budget.

November 17 Children's Christmas Play practice begins

December 1 First Sunday of Advent

June 15-19, 2020 Lutheridge Daycamp in Partnership with Davidson Lutheran Churches and hosted by First Lutheran

Karen moved to accept the Pastor's Report. Michael seconded. Motion approved.

## **Committee Reports:**

Fellowship

Held a Fifth Sunday Potluck after church on September 30

Reception planned after service for the Cecil baptism

Clergy Day Meal after service on October 13

Property

Air Conditioning is in and ready to work as soon as we need it.

## **Unfinished Business:**

Blessing Box: will continue to work on

Parking Lot Paving: tabled at this time

## **New Business**

Budget:

Explanation as to why there appears to be a 12% increase for Music Assistant. Had to account for mistake made in previous years in regards to HGLC contributions to withholding taxes. Actual increase in salary is 5%.

Eddie made a motion to add the \$1500 (new copier contract) that will be saved in Administrative back to the budget as a line item under Youth Activities to help defer costs of Lutheridge Day Camp. Michael seconded. Motion was approved.

The following have been receptive to running for council so far:

Lindsay Black (to fill Caroline's 1 year term)

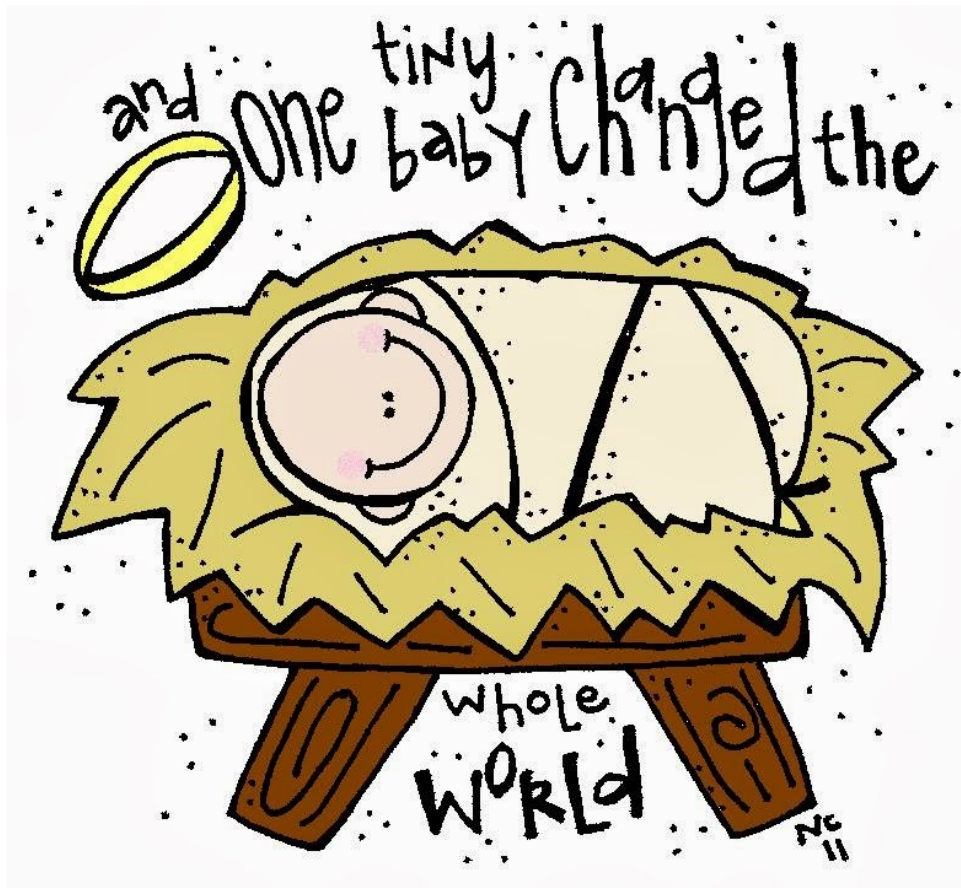
4 Year term: Chip Blower, Marie Palmer, and Johnny Fritts. We will continue to ask folks in order to get 4+.

We were very saddened to receive Pastor Matt's letter of resignation after 5 years as our pastor. He will be accepting a new call to St. Mark's in Asheville, NC. November 10<sup>th</sup> is the last day he will serve as our pastor. He has asked for our prayers and he will, in turn, continue to pray for our congregation at Holly Grove. His official letter of resignation is recorded into the minutes.

Andy gave each of us a copy of "The Call Process At-A-Glance." He encouraged us to go online and check out the Call Process Booklet. All agreed that an exit interview would be appropriate. Andy will get with Pastor to set that up.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

2019	2020	2021
Karen Beck – Secretary	Lindsay Black (until Congregational Meeting)	Lynn Dennis
Dean Chapman	Max Carrick	Eddie Heitman
Carey Fritts	Tim Everhart- Vice President	Judy Thomason
Sandra Vaughn	Andy Ferguson-President	Michael Wilson



Holly Grove Lutheran Church  
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**Sundays**

915AM Sunday School  
1030AM Worship



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