

January 2020



*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!



**Love. Grow. Serve.**

# JANUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 	2	3	4
5	6	7 <i>"Harlem Globetrotters" Day</i>	8 <i>"Bubble Bath Day"</i>	9	10	11
12 <i>"Kiss a Ginger Day"</i>	13 <b>Council @ 7:00 pm</b>	14 <i>"Dress-up Your Pet Day"</i>	15 <b>Seniors @ Mt. Tabor @ 10:30 am</b>	16	17	18
19 <i>"Popcorn Day"</i>	20 <b>Agape @ 6:30 pm</b>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 <b>LMiM @ 7:00 pm</b>	28	29	30	31	

January 2020



Altar Guild- Janna Waitman  
Mother's Rose Garden- Minnie Conrad

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5<sup>th</sup> *Second Sunday of Christmas* *Holy Communion*

*Basket Offering:* Backpacks

**Assisting Minister:** Micky Conrad      **Acolyte:** Roselia Sommer  
**Communion Assistant:** Gary Hedrick      **Bucket Holder:** Mason Chapman, Ashton Chapman  
**Ushers:** Scott Black, Eddie Heitman, Ty Heitman, Johnny Fritts  
**Altar Flowers:** Norris & Kara Feeny-In honor of Our Anniversary & Family  
**Children's Church:** Susan Lohr      **Children's Chat:** Tina Heitman

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12<sup>th</sup> *Baptism of Our Lord* *Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Andy Ferguson      **Acolyte:** Madison Lohr-Pope  
**Communion Assistant:** Lynn Dennis      **Bucket Holder:** Gaven Ferguson, Calvin Carrick  
**Ushers:** Mary Ellen Hinson, Jane DiBonaventura, Paula Hedrick, Susan Lohr  
**Altar Flowers:** Harold & Judy Curry Landis-In memory of Euzelia Johnson  
**Children's Church:** Jordan Chapman      **Children's Chat:** Pastor

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19<sup>th</sup> *Second Sunday after Epiphany* *Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Neil Clark      **Acolyte:** Gracie Ferguson  
**Communion Assistant:** Kim Troutman      **Bucket Holder:** Conrad Sommer, Gaven Ferguson  
**Ushers:** Gaven Ferguson, Andy Ferguson, Lynn Dennis, Gary Hedrick, Max Carrick  
**Altar Flowers:** OPEN  
**Children's Church:** Tina Heitman      **Children's Chat:** Joe Davis

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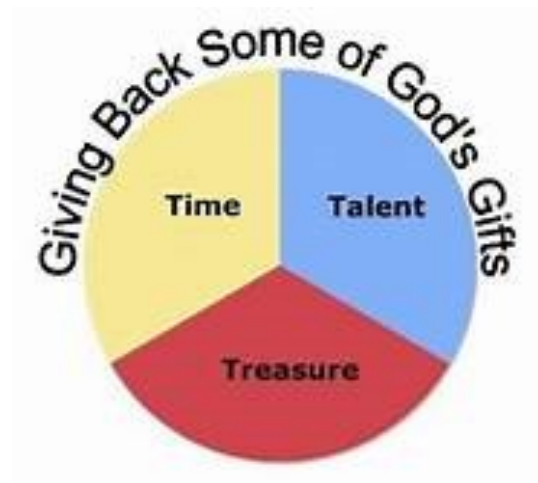
26<sup>th</sup> *Third Sunday after Epiphany* *Holy Communion*

**Assisting Minister:** Kim Troutman      **Acolyte:**  
**Communion Assistant:** Debbie Frank      **Bucket Holder:**  
**Ushers:** Bob Troutman, Michael Willson, Robin Beck, Frank Hamilton  
**Altar Flowers:** Lynn & Lateffa Dennis-In memory of Randy Rose  
**Children's Church:** Jane DiBonaventura      **Children's Chat:** Pastor

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





"Every seed sown is a  
promise waiting to be  
multiplied by God's  
bountiful hand!  
#blessing"



# Trivia, Trivia, Trivia

## History of New Years Day

January 1<sup>st</sup> is considered New Years Day in today's society. But this is a fairly new concept because up until the time of Julius Caesar, the Romans celebrated the New Year in March because it was the first month in the Roman calendar. However, January 1 marked the time when the Romans changed their governmental figures and new consuls were inducted into office. And, they had games and feasting to help celebrate the new officials. But, they still used March 1 as their official mark of the new year and had a festival to their god, Mars (God of War).

It was Caesar who changed the Roman New Year's Day to January 1 in honor of Janus, (God of all beginnings and gate keeper of heaven and earth). Janus was always depicted with two faces: One looking back to the old year (past) and one looking ahead to the new year (future). One of the customs in the festival honoring Janus was to exchange gifts and then make resolutions to be friendly and good to one another.

When Constantine ruled the Romans and accepted Christianity as their new faith, they kept the Festival of Janus as the New Years Day ( Not March as before) and turned it into a day of prayer and fasting and not parties etc. It was a day for all good Christians to turn over a new leaf. However, the Romans may have accepted January 1 and Janus as the New Year, but many did not accept the turning over a new leaf, prayer and fasting part of it.

However, even in 1582, Great Britain and the English colonies in America still kept March for the beginning of the year. (Spring as a beginning?) It wasn't until 1752 that Britain (and it's colonies) adopted the new Gregorian calendar and January 1 as the beginning of the year. But many Puritans in New England felt Janus was an offensive pagan god and chose to simply ignore January 1 as a New Years Day. Instead they just made the entire month of January as "The First Month" of the months.

And, today no one really considers January 1 a fasting day. Ironically, for many it is a major day of feasting on junk food and watching football games on television.

## How did New Year's Resolutions all begin?

Once again, we go back to the wild and crazy parties of the ancient Romans. :) They indulged themselves in alcoholic and sexual excess as a way of acting out all the chaos that they hoped a new year would get rid of. So, the New Year's festival was a way to start over. By purging yourself of all this so-called excess energy and confessing your sins, there was a hope that you would be much better in the next year ahead.

Now, the Puritans never did approve of all this New Year's hoopla. So of course they went for this religious renewal of cleanse, purge, fast, confess idea. So they encouraged young people not to waste the new year on foolish things but to use it as an opportunity to make a good change in their lives for the good. So, like some Christians, they made New Year's vows or pledges focused on overcoming their own weaknesses, to enhance their god-given talents and to make them better citizens to others.

The custom of making New Year's Resolutions came into vogue in the 20th century. But most of it was done with jest and an understanding that they would not be kept (for long anyway) since humans were naturally backsliders by nature to their naughty habits and ways.

The resolutions today are simply a secular version of the religious vows made in the past toward spiritual perfection. They are often made with good intentions and broken with a sense of humor and renewed annually.



# Birthday & Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <i>Norris/Kara Feeney</i>	2 <i>Jan Watkins Marty Varner</i>	3	4 <i>Kim Payne</i>
5	6 <i>Gary Hedrick</i>	7	8 <i>Bobbie Fritts David Miller Michael Kepley</i>	9	10	11
12	13	14 <i>Amy Fritts</i>	15	16	17	18
19 <i>Steven Frank</i>	20	21 <i>Angie Laster</i>	22 <i>Burnette Monteith Judt Thomason</i>	23	24	25 <i>Jennifer Lohr</i>
26 <i>Sarah Kepley Addair Varner</i>	27	28	29 <i>Mary Ellen Hin- son</i>	30	31	



**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.

**January 13<sup>th</sup>:** Council @ 6:00 pm.

**January 20<sup>th</sup>:** Agape @ 6:30 pm.

**January 26<sup>th</sup>:** SiLLY youth will be going bowling @ YMCA from 1:30 to 3:30.

**January 27<sup>th</sup>:** LMIM @ 7:00 pm.

**February 2<sup>nd</sup>:** The annual audit of Church reports and accounts.

**February 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Congregational Meeting.

**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.



# HGLC DECEMBER 2019 Council Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2019

Call to Order: President, Andy Ferguson with the following present: Karen Beck, Max Carrick, Dean Chapman, Lynn Dennis, Tim Everhart, Carey Fritts, Eddie Heitman, Judy Thomason, Sandra Vaughn, Michael Wilson and the new council members (Chip Blower, Johnny Fritts, Marie Palmer, Sherry Proctor).

Devotions: Michael led us in devotions; Lynn Dennis has devotions in January 2020.

## **Business Meeting**

### **Approval of Reports**

Minutes: a correction to the November minutes was made. Under unfinished business, corrected the following to: "3 year term" rather than "4 year term". Minutes for the Congregational Meeting on November 17, 2019 was also presented. Lynn moved to accept both. Michael seconded. Motion approved.

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

Treasurer: Max moved to accept. Michael seconded. Motion approved.

Building Fund for October and November: Lynn moved to accept. Michael seconded. Motion approved. Sandra advised that the Heating and Air invoice for \$13,700 was paid out of Building Fund. Council had previously voted to pay this from the General Fund. A motion was made by Dean to reimburse the Building Fund for this amount from the General Fund. Eddie seconded. Motion was approved.

### **Committee Reports:**

Fellowship

Provided meal for Advent Wreath event

Luminaries on Christmas Eve

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Covered Dish on December 29

### **Unfinished Business:**

In Pastor Matt's exit interview, it was in his strong opinion that the carpet in the sanctuary be replaced before a new Pastor is called. This was given to the property committee to research.

A discussion was held in regards to calling an interim pastor and our options. A motion was made by Dean and seconded by Max to call Pastor Tallent as our interim. The motion was approved. Andy will advise the Synod office.

Dean reported that the Blessing Box is finished. A decision is to be still to be made for placement and start-up.

### **New Business:**

Pastor Matt's name should be removed from the sign in the front of the church. Tim volunteered to handle this.

No action was taken, but a discussion was held regarding placing smoke, CO2 alarms and exit signs in the church.

The annual audit of Church reports and accounts will be held on Feb. 2, 2020.

Congregational Meeting will be held on February 23, 2020 for the approval of audit and annual reports for 2019.

All who participated in Pastor Matt's exit interview was reminded to complete their notes in order to send to the Synod office for their records.

Basket offering for January will be designated to Back Packs. The remaining basket offerings, devotions and committee council reps will be completed at the January meeting.

New officers for the coming year was elected:

President: Andy Ferguson by unanimous approval

Vice President: Lynn Dennis (motion by Sandra to accept, Max seconded, motion accepted)

Secretary: Marie Palmer (motion to accept by Max, seconded by Eddie, motion accepted)

Next meeting: Dinner meeting on January 13, 2020 in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 6PM.

Motion to adjourn by Max, Michael seconded, motion accepted.

Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

## HOLLY GROVE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

The Holly Grove Senior Citizens met on Wednesday, December 18 with 15 members present for our annual Christmas Party.

The group first shared our care and concerns for missing club members and friends in the community.

After a short business meeting that included a discussion on our Newcomer's Brunch in January, Myra Beck gave the Treasury Report. We also sent out Birthday wishes to Jan Watkins, Jane Smith and Myra Beck who will have birthdays before our next meeting.

A short program was presented on the birth of Jesus.

After the business was concluded the group began our Christmas Party playing various games winning door prizes.

Pastor Darrell Sluder said the Blessing and we all enjoyed a delicious catered meal by Southern Lunch. They served a wonderful meal as always.

The group would like to send out a big Thank You to a Secret Santa who defrayed the cost of the meal for us all. Thank You!

After we had all finished our meal, we began our gift exchange. It is our custom to give \$1.00 gifts to each other. The gifts tend to be creative and we all enjoy seeing what you can do with just \$1.00! The "Left/Right Game" always produces lots of fun and laughter.

Our next meeting will be January 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 in the Mt Tabor Church Hut. All of our members will be the hostesses at our Newcomer's Brunch.



## Please pray for:

January 2020

### **Our Members:**

- Burnette Monteith
- Gary Hedrick
- Bill Roberts
- Jo Ann Turner
- Walter Blower
- The Family of Shelia Hanes
- Aldean Conrad
- Teresa Fritts
- Mandy Fritts
- Brody Fritts
- Sharon Everhart
- Gracie Ferguson
- Gene Kepley
- Dwight Everhart

### **Our Friends & Family:**

- Noah Byerly-friend of Sharon Everhart
- James Church
- Lohr Younts
- Tyler Thompson
- Judy Rose
- Robert (Buddy) Brown
- The Family of Joyce Roach-Sister of Judy Thomason
- 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
- 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 BarnharEva
- Rae Clark-Neil Clark's Mother
- 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: [hqloffice@gmail.com](mailto:hqloffice@gmail.com) or leave a message at the church office complex (336-249-2807).

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**Sundays**

915AM Sunday School  
1030AM Worship



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