

Advent

A Season of Hope & Expectation

For Next Week – Sunday,
December 23



Read: “Jesus as Immanuel”
(Matthew 1:18-25)

Recite: “All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet (Isaiah): “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means “God is with us.” —Matthew 1:22-23

Reflect:

- Matthew reminds us of Isaiah the Prophet’s words about a servant of God whose name would mean ‘God is With Us.’ Have you ever felt the comfort of knowing that God was with you in a personal way?
- Joseph was afraid of all the complications that came with Mary’s unexpected pregnancy, and God sent an angel in a dream to reassure Joseph. Who – in your life – has been like an angel to you to reassure you when you were anxious or afraid?
- Isaiah’s original words about Emmanuel (‘The God Who Is With Us’) were intended to give God’s people something to look forward to and to anticipate. Talk about what you are most looking forward to this Christmas.

Pray: O, Lord—The prophet Isaiah said there would come one who would be “God with us.” As the time for celebration draws near, continue to speak to us through your Word, that we may see how Jesus is with us. Amen.



Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool
will present
The First Christmas
Wednesday, December 19
11:30 in Gregersen Hall
Everyone is invited!



Altar flowers this morning have been given by Otto and Yvonne Tschudi in celebration of Solveig Tschudi Lawrence’s Birthday. Happy Birthday, Solveig!

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
December 16, 2018
Phone 925-254-3422 www.holyshepherd.org
Office Hours 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Monday - Thursday

Save the Date

- December 24 - January 4 - Preschool Closed for Christmas Break
- December 24 - December 28 -LARC Closed for Christmas Break
- December 25 & 26 Office Closed
- December 26 Wednesday, Loaves & Fishes, Pittsburg
- January 1 - New Year’s Day - Office & LARC Closed
- January 13 Return to two Worship Services at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m.
- January 17, 2019 9:00 a.m. Women’s Bible Study CFM



HS Sunday School
will present a
Christmas Play
this morning at 10:45 a.m.
Gregersen Hall
Please join us!



- Dec. 16 Rolf & Donna Benseler - 57 years
- Dec. 18 Bert Enstrom
- Dec. 19 Dorelle Kemp
- Dec. 22 Abigail Gardner
Lisa Merlin

THIS WEEK AT
HOLY SHEPHERD

- Sunday, December 16**
9:15 am Christmas Pageant rehearsal for children
9:30 am Combined Worship Service
10:30 am Coffee Fellowship in Gregersen Hall hosted by Joan Kiekhaefer
10:45 am Children’s Christmas Pageant in Gregersen Hall
11:00 am KCCL Bible Study
12:15 pm KCCL Worship
- Monday, December 17**
10:30 am AA Meeting
11:00 am LARC
3:30 pm Mandarin Program
- Tuesday, December 18**
11:00 am LARC
11:00 am Caregiver Coffee
7:00 pm Congregation Council Meeting
- Wednesday, December 19**
11:00 am LARC
11:30 am HSCP Christmas Program in Gregersen Hall - Everyone invited!
3:30 pm Mandarin Program
- Thursday, December 20**
11:00 am LARC
11:00 am HSCP Christmas Party
6:00 pm Canticle Choir
7:00 pm Shepherd’s Bells
7:00 pm Men’s Weekly Bible Study, Europa Restaurant, Orinda
- Friday, December 21**
11:00 am LARC
11:00 am HSCP Christmas Party
5:30 pm Parents Night Out
- Saturday, December 22**
Sunday, December 23
9:30 am Combined Worship Service
10:30 am Coffee Fellowship in CFM hosted by Nina and Steve Berchtold
11:00 am KCCL Bible Study
12:15 pm KCCL Worship



You will find envelopes in the pew racks this morning for donations for Sanctuary decorations. Designations and money must be received by **TODAY** in order to have names included in the Christmas bulletins. Be sure to make check payable to HSLC and memo “Christmas Decorations.”



HEALING

Dona Lawrentz	Kathy McCarty Schwab
Kathy Williams	Howard Hansen
Tony Sanchez	Dinah Washington
Mary Herchert	Gloria Enstrom
Harry Howe	DeLane Riveness
Laura Zellmer	Mallory Weiss
Henry Kramer	Mary Ann McCauley
Cecily Bartsch	Richard Feldmann

WELLNESS

Grace Adams	Rolf Benseler
Pat Tveitmo	Dottie Russell
Cathy Johnson	Del Hock
Kellen Derrough	Carol Kramer

PEACE / COMFORT

Kitti Colucci

MILITARY

Keep our armed forces safe and give them courage, hope and strength.
Brian Henson Megan Howard



This year we are offering an opportunity to support your favorite charity through our Christmas Giving Tree. The tree is in Gregersen Hall through today with envelopes for various charities. Please choose the

envelope for your favorite charity or charities and return the envelope(s) by TODAY.

Make checks payable to HSLC with the name of your charity on the memo line. Thank you for sharing your Christmas spirit through gifts to others.

Financial Concerns

If you have donated stock to the church during 2018, please contact Lisa Verley so she can be sure it is recorded correctly.

If you have questions regarding designated giving and how it was recorded on your quarterly statements, you will need to discuss this with the appropriate person. Please again contact Lisa, 925-254-3422.

The weekly news inserts are available on the church's website every week - www.holyshepherd.org - click on Weekly News

Attendance

Dec. 9 9:30 a.m. 102

Editor: Linda Hudak, lhudak@holyshepherd.org

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, December 21, 5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Need a date or shopping night? Let the kids play while you're away. Drop off your kids for a night of fun at Gregersen Hall. We will provide crafts, snacks and dinner. Let us know ahead of any food allergies or dietary restrictions. Email [Cristi Chow christi@msn.com](mailto:christi@msn.com).
\$5/kid or \$10/family. Sorry NO diapers!



Dear HSLC Family,
Thank you for your generous best wishes and the delicious cake on the occasion of our 70th Anniversary. We are so blessed to have you.

Opal & Russ Bliese

From the New Life Band -

A sincere thank you for welcoming the New Life Band to Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church during our fall California tour. Your support, warm hospitality, and the opportunity to share our ministry with you, our supporters, is greatly appreciated and valued.

Mungu awabaniki

The New Life Band

P.S. Hope to see you in 2021!

As written by a 10-year old student at Calvary Temple Christian School. Letters were sent to the soldiers through the Chaplains Wings Christmas letter writing event.

November 13

Dear Soldier,

Thank you for risking your life to save ours, thank you for running through the battlefield knowing you can die and fighting for our freedom, thank you for putting others before yourself. Also I'm not sure if you know my grand (sic) but his name is Mike and he helped in the war too. Hopefully you read this letter and take time to appreciate yourself for what you're doing. Sorry if (you) can't read this - I write bad. And thanks for keeping this flag (with picture) standing proud. Thank You!!!



Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool
March 23, 2019

We so appreciate having new bark on our playground. Thank you Scout Troop #225 and all the dads who were able to help out!

Holy Shepherd Christian Preschool



To the congregation of Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church

Thank You,

Through the organizing of a clothing drive by Karen Rose, your Congregation has donated warm coats, sweaters, blankets and so much more to the Hillcrest Church Clothing Room. A special thanks to those who helped Karen collect and sort the donations.

Over 500 people will receive your donations in the next 5 winter months. Many will be homeless. They will come for warm jackets, blankets and other clothing. They will thank the volunteers that give them what they need.

The thanks go to all of you.

Your Congregation has made a difference.

Bill Cunningham

Hillcrest Outreach Ministry Coordinator

Lay Servers NEEDED for Christmas services - see sign-up sheet in CFM.

New sign-up sheets for coffee and flowers for the first half of 2019 are available. Please add your name to dates you would like.