



Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church



Sundays at 10 am

Office Hours Tuesday & Thursday 8:30 - 3:30

Pastor Tim Stadem

December 2022



Let every heart...prepare Him room; and heaven and nature sing
(Hymn "Joy to the World")

On the first Sunday of Advent, we read the Apostle Paul's words to the Christians in Rome, "Now is the moment for you to wake from sleep." It sounds a bit like a warning: it's possible we could simply sleep-walk right through this Advent and Christmas season, or right through the rest of our lives. Yet herein is also invitation and promise: there is always more to receive - like the surprising opening of eyes and ears, of heart and mind...to the inbreaking of new ways of being in this world. Here is where the simplicity and quietness of Advent are coming through.

You can feel the power: you and I are heavily coached in a culture that is tempting us to do the opposite of Advent, which is slowing down enough, being quiet enough and opening to the newness of God. Among other things in this season, you and I are being lured into buying more, doing more, and expecting more.

"I can't wait", children will oftentimes say - for a birthday, for dessert, for spring to come. And we adults are much the same—there are projects and deadlines, events to plan, test results. Waiting is hard; we manage most everything, even time—make time, save time, waste time, and suddenly run out of time or don't know what to do with it. It's almost like we would rather sleepwalk...than wait upon God.

Advent is about waiting—waiting upon the 'coming of God'... in God's time, for our healing and wholeness and subsequently for the care and love of our neighbor (and their healing and wholeness). Yet because waiting is particularly difficult (clearly not our American pastime), we fill most of our times with 'something, anything', even if it's 'just the TV on'. Rarely will we search for something like 'being still', with the placing our hands and voice and ears and thoughts and schedules **quiet**...so we might hear our Lord's voice, and agenda, and comfort and new calling.

*Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee*
(Hymn "Come, thou long-expected Jesus")



*Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,
who mourn your joys departed and tremble at your doom.
All hail the Lord's appearing! O glorious Sun, now come,
send forth your beams so cheering and guide us safely home*
(Hymn "O Lord, how shall I meet you")

Yes, these places and time of quiet can be in your own home. Let's talk more about that. And here is a very specific invitation for you:

come together, listen and sing in the Holden Evening Prayers,
each Wednesday evening, 6:00pm
and listen for God's voice, receive a new calling...while you wait.

Advent and Christmas Blessings to you,
Pastor Tim



Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church, ELCA

750 Seneca Lane, PO Box 3257, Jackson, WY 83001

307-733-4382

office@sotmlc.org










www.shepherdofthemountainsjh.org

Pastor Tim Stadem

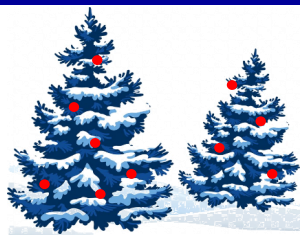
970-219-2277 (please feel free to call & text)

pastor.tim@sotmlc.org

December Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 Advent 2  Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem	5	6 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	7 Advent - Holden Evening Prayer 6 pm 	8	9	10
11 Advent 3  Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem	12	13 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	14 Advent - Holden Evening Prayer 6 pm 	15	16	17
18 Advent 4  Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem	19	20 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom Potluck Luncheon 12:30 pm AA 6:30 pm 	21 Blood Drive @ Community Bible Advent - Holden Evening Prayer 6 pm 	22 Blood Drive @ Community Bible 	23	24 Christmas Eve Worship service at 6 pm 
25 Christmas Day Intergenerational Round Table 9 am Worship at 10 am with Pastor Tim Stadem 	26	27 Bible & Breakfast 8 am on Zoom AA 6:30pm	28	29	30	31 New Years' Eve 

Christmas Services



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6:00 pm

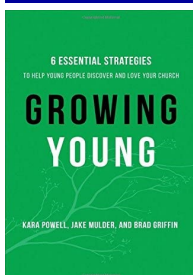
Holy Communion & Christmas Songs

Christmas Day Service at 10:00 am

Holy Communion with a quiet & simple celebration of the mystery of the birth of Jesus.



Growing Young



'Growing Young' is a conversation—that while most every congregation in the United States is decreasing in membership, and especially among young people, there are places that are thriving; there are safe and generative congregational settings where young people are exploring and growing, sharing their lives, their questions, and their fruitful gifts.

The book *Growing Young* is based on the research (and conversations) generated from the findings among the 250 congregations that are living in healthy interrelationships with teenagers and young adults. (I would suggest that these congregation have also developed and nourished a culture of 'intergenerational respect, appreciation, and trust'—there is profound honor for every generation).

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church will begin this conversation in an intentional way in January 2023—reading this book (for those who will dive in, including our remaining teenagers and young adults and their friends and our guests), and conducting all sorts of dialogue around 'how we interrelate with the young in the orbit of our community'. As all this unfolds, "Please enter into the conversations!" More news coming.

Intergenerational Round Table

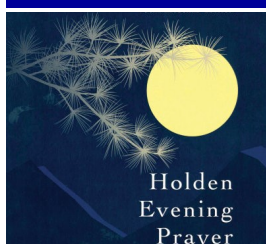
INTERGENERATIONAL ROUND TABLE – "We're off to a great start!"

On Sunday mornings, 9:00am to 9:45am (before 10am worship), we open both Our Stories and the Stories of the Gospel of Matthew (an exploration of worship's lectionary gospel reading). PLEASE DO COME AND ENJOY!

- 1) It's named *The Intergenerational Round Table*—a descriptive way of saying: Sunday School designed for every age, each generation learning and growing together.
- 2) The mindset: we honor each and every life and faith journey—"from the wonder of the child...to the wisdom of the elder"
- 3) Curriculum is designed for everyone together: listen, pray, play, scripture, images, conversations/stories, 'hands on', and of course, snacks and coffee.
- 4) Invitation: bring/invite a friend, child, grandchild, neighbor family, young persons, elder neighbor. All are welcome into these gatherings for hearing each other and listening for God's voice.



Holden Evening Prayer



Wednesdays during Advent

at 6 pm

Beginning on November 30th

Join us for this special Vespers service commemorating the season of Advent

News From Our Dean - Rev. Wayne Shipman

As we stare into Advent and our anticipation of Christmas, let us take a little time to be clear why we do what we do: God is Calling Us. It's easy to think that all the stuff around us is because of the Christ Child coming into the world. While the joy and fun things around us are happening, there is much more simple truth: **Christ Jesus comes to save the world from its sin.** It's that simple.

The business of the church gets lost in the hubbub, too, so my job is to keep it 'found'. As you and your councils finalize budgets, don't forget the expenses related to attending Synod Assembly in Pasco, WA in April. Two voting members are encouraged to attend; no proxy votes are allowed and there is no provision for absentee ballots in the constitution! Rostered leaders get a vote, too. That means up to three votes from your congregation are at stake.

The Upper Snake River Cluster will convene in January to select up to three names for the nomination to bishop. There will be other business of the cluster conducted, in person and via Zoom link, at the meeting. There is great hope in reviving the tradition of a Cluster Picnic in early summer. Let me or your pastor know of your interest in helping to chair, organize, or host the event at your church.

Our cluster will host our two visitors from Ulanga Kilombero Diocese (Tanzania) in our region from May 16-20 following the Synod Assembly. The Rev. Paulson Matimbwi and Ms. Ang'alifye Mandele will be exhausted by the time we host and ready to return home soon after. I hope that we can offer hospitality and a special cluster event or two to welcome them. Please consider being a host, driver, or participating in every way. Hospitality is a key attribute to the culture of Idaho/Wyoming and Tanzania. We Got This!

Blessings as you enter the holiday season and celebrate Our Savior coming into the world.



Stewardship Wrap Up

Our 2023 Stewardship Drive is now coming to a close. If you have not gotten your commitment card into the church, there is still time to do so. You may mail the card into the church at the address listed below, place it in the offering plate on Sunday, or you can email or call the church with your commitment for 2023.

As we plan, pray, and expand with the mission Christ gives us, we want to continue being able to support our pastor and be a blessing for our church family and the wider community.

For more information please talk to any of the Council members or call the church office at 307-733-4382.

Please feel free to cut out the pledge card below and mail it in to the address listed on the card.

Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church

2023 Commitment of Giving

*In gratitude for all of God's Blessings in our lives we
respond by helping our church family's mission.*

**Our/my total pledge
for 2023 is**

\$ _____
(monthly or annually)

Please mail this pledge card to SMLC
PO Box 3257
Jackson, WY 83001



Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for your commitment to
Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church!

Thank You

This month we will recognize a few of our church heroes for their steadfast fellowship and love to our church family.



- To all the elves who put our Christmas tree up.
- To those who stayed to help decorate the church for Christmas.
- To our Stewardship Committee for putting together the reception for Pastor Tim's Installation.
- To our Worship Board for all their input on our Sunday and special services.

Prayers

Chris Moulder, knee surgery on Friday.
 Janelle Weber, healing from surgery.
 Robyn Lunsford, who is still navigating health issues.
 Patrick Corun (son of Dan & Kay Corun) healing prayers.
 Don Corun (brother to Dan Corun), cancer.
 Ann (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.
 Cecillia, (friend of Mary Lou Klene), cancer.
 Chuck & Carolyn Hast (friend of Mary Lou Klene), health.
 C.T. (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.
 Jimmy O.M., (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer.
 Ken S., (friend of Margie Aeckerle), cancer
 Paul Cote, (friend of Mary Lou Klene)
 Bill Doyle (member of the community), cancer



*For prayers or prayer updates please email
or call the church office.*

Church Council

Please know that your Church Council is always here to serve you and listen to your questions and concerns.

Please feel free to contact a member of the Church Council or chat with them after church on Sundays.

Shepherd of the Mountains

Church Council

President

Scott Daily
scott@hoback.org

Vice President

Terry DiMattio
tnjintv@gmail.com

Secretary

Rusty Mizelle
wyomingmizelles@gmail.com

Council Members

Sherry Kinsella
kinsellas8@msn.com

Brent Schaffer
schafferbg@gmail.com

Lorrie Lee
alliswellnow@bresnan.net

Pam Zernis
zcircus3@yahoo.com

Birthdays & Anniversaries

December Birthdays

Carolyn Svendsen on December 7th
 Nancy Ninnemann on December 14th

Please call or email the church office and tell us when your special day is.
 Your church family would like to wish you birthday or anniversary greetings.



Pastor Tim's Installation

On November 4, 2022, Rev. Tim Stadem was installed as the new pastor of Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church. The service was led by Rev. Wayne Shipman. A wonderful reception was held after the service.



Above: Pastor Tim, Pastor Shipman & Scott Daily during the installation.



Above: Pastor Shipman giving his sermon during the service.

Left: Pastor Tim gets installed by Pastor Shipman.



Above: Pastor Shipman, Pastor Ann Bjorklund and her wife Theresa enjoy the food at the reception.

Right: Ron Fabry joins Rusty Mizelle, Chris Moulder, & Bob Krause for the party.



Above: Rev. Jimmy Bartz, Pastor Wayne Shipman, & Pastor Ann Bjorklund robe up for the ceremony.



Left: The Dick & Mary Lou Klene along with Jim Wells & Rose and Dale Jeske as they enjoy the new furniture in the narthex.



November Church Council Meeting

Highlight of discussions and planning - keeping our congregation informed.

Council Meeting Highlights

(full council report posted on bulletin board)

- 1) Healthy Financial Report; decision to invest \$3000 of savings into 90 day Certificate of Deposit and monitor for possible increases of investments
- 2) Renewing Our Congregation – book discussion, Ch 2
- 3) Insurance discussion with follow up of bonding our treasurer
- 4) Many ‘ministry reports’ – see full minutes on board
- 5) Review/approve Descriptions of Boards/Ministries; Draft of Council Responsibilities
- 6) Process of updating our Congregational Constitution
- 7) Annual Meeting set for January 29, 2023



Worship Board

Much gratefulness for all of the joy and care preparing our church for the Advent and Christmas Season – the “Hanging of the Greens” was a lively party; the wassail was fuity-tasty. Our church building looks wonderful!

Please come, and extend invitations, to the beautiful music, singing, and scriptural imagery at *Holden*

Evening Prayer – each Wednesday, 6:00pm

Christmas Eve worship is Saturday, at 6:00pm

Christmas Day worship is Sunday, at 10:00am



Outreach Board Invitations

- 1) ELCA ‘Good Gifts’ at Christmastime - from chickens & pigs to bee hives, from clean water to school supplies, from personal care to leadership. Visit goodgifts.elca.org to join in on the mission.
- 2) Support of One22 Resource Center – a list of items is in our church narthex--for supporting people in our community in need. Bring items when you come to worship. Thanks!
- 3) Update on Old Bill Event – we received \$2250 for ‘Serving Our Neighbor’

2023 Annual Meeting



Our Annual Meeting date is set for Sunday, January 29th. Committee Chairs, please get your ministry reports into the office by January 15th. We will also need two volunteers as delegates to attend our Synod Assembly meeting April 28-30 in Pasco, Washington. Please talk to pastor if you are interested in attending.

Christmas Poinsettias

Poinsettia Donations Needed

Christmas poinsettia donations are always welcome at our church. If you wish to donate poinsettias for our Christmas Eve and Christmas day services please place your plants in the storage room at the back of the church.



December Blood Drive

This month the blood drive, sponsored by SMLC, will take place at The Community Bible Church located at 1450 S. Park Loop Rd.



Blood donors are still needed for December. If you don't have an appointment and want to donate please go to the Vitalant website at <https://www.vitalant.org> to make an appointment.

Giving



You may sign up to give one time, weekly, monthly, or yearly .

You can give by text (307-207-3866), by credit or debit, or by online checking. Go to this link and you're on your way!

<https://sotmlcjackson.breezechms.com/give/online>

You may mail your donations to

Shepherd of the Mountains

P.O. Box 3257

Jackson, WY 83001

Your financial support is important to us!

Giving While You Shop at Smith's

Link your Smith's card to Shepherd of the Mountains Lutheran Church.

The church will receive a check for .5% of your purchases!

It's easy:

1. Sign in to your account and choose "My Account" in the top right corner.
2. This brings up a list on the left. Choose "Inspiring Donations."
3. Look for our organization number—YJ339



Church Office Hours
Tuesdays & Thursdays
8:30 am - 3:30 pm

November 2022
attendance & offering

November 4 Installation	40	\$ 225.00
November 6	25	\$ 3,118.39
November 13	19	\$ 630.00
November 20	29	\$ 11,470.00
November 27	15	\$ 1,220.00

Volunteering Each Week

Sunday Servants



Sign up to assist or read

There is now a physical sign-up sheet in the church narthex.

You can also call the church office if you wish to sign up.

	December 4 Advent 2	December 11 Advent 3	December 18 Advent 4	December 24 Christmas Eve 6 pm	December 25 Christmas Day
Preacher	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem	Pastor Tim Stadem
Assistant Minister	Scott Daily	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Mizelle	Scott Daily
Reader	Sherry Kinsella	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Mizelle	HELP NEEDED
Greeter/Ushers	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	Mizelle	HELP NEEDED
Counters	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED
Altar Minister	Pam Zernis	HELP NEEDED	Sherry Kinsella	Pam Zernis	HELP NEEDED
Coffee Hour	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	HELP NEEDED	N/A	HELP NEEDED