***Weekly Announcements***

**Advent 2024:**

**Wednesday Night Advent Dinners/Services: Dec. 4th, 11th, and 18th**

Join us on Wednesday evenings during advent for worship and a meal. Dinner begins at 6pm, and is followed by worship, which begins at 7pm. The service ends promptly at 7:45pm so that you can be home by 8pm.

**Scone Mix Fundraiser for The Divine Child Care Orphanage**

Thank you to everyone who bought scone mixes last week as we sold out. The Divine Scone mixes will still be available to purchase in the courtyard by the Preschool for the next two Sundays for $10 each. They come in 3 flavors cranberry, chocolate chip and plain/lemon. All proceeds benefit The Divine Child Care Orphanage [www.divine-orphanage.org](http://www.divine-orphanage.org/)

**Advent By Candlelight Update**

Thank you to everyone who came to the Advent by Candlelight Tea! It was a great afternoon with lots of friends, fellowship and food! We raised $705 for Lutheran Social Services in gift cards. They were very happy to receive them and were surprised at the amount, saying “they didn't expect that much and could help even more people out!”

**Adult Ed. News for December**

We welcome back this December two previous teachers, Dr. Kerri Tom and  Dr. Jeff Held, who will lead us through studies that examine the poetry and music of the Christmas season. Details on these studies can be found below.

**The Mystery, Memories, and Music of Christmas - Sun. Dec. 1-15**

How have poets imagined and responded to Christmas in the past?  Join us as Dr. Kerri Tom guides us in our exploration of medieval, Renaissance, and  Victorian poetry that reflects upon the beauty of Christ's birth and the means by which we celebrate it.

**Ways to Hear the Wonders of Weihnachten with Wassail while Waiting around the Weihnachtsbaum - Sun. Dec. 22**

Expand your sacred music listening palette this Christmas season. Jeff Held will share numerous carols in different formats from different traditions. We will hear examples, discuss the text, and do some singing in 4-part harmony! And as a bonus, you can ask him anything about the Concordia Christmas Concerts at Segerstrom Hall ([www.scfta.org](http://www.scfta.org/) for tickets)!

**Christmas Services 2024**

***Christmas Eve Candlelight Service***

~ Services at 5pm and 7pm

***Sunday, December 29th***

~ One Service at 9:00am, no Sunday School

or Adult Bible Study

***Sunday, January 2nd***

***~*** TBD

**December Reading Plan**

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|  | December 2024 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sunday | December 1 | Luke 1 |  | Monday | December 16 | Luke 16 |
| Monday | December 2 | Luke 2 |  | Tuesday | December 17 | Luke 17 |
| Tuesday | December 3 | Luke 3 |  | Wednesday | December 18 | Luke 18 |
| Wednesday | December 4 | Luke 4 |  | Thursday | December 19 | Luke 19 |
| Thursday | December 5 | Luke 5 |  | Friday | December 20 | Luke 20 |
| Friday | December 6 | Luke 6 |  | Saturday | December 21 | Luke 21 |
| Saturday | December 7 | Luke 7 |  | Sunday | December 22 | Luke 22 |
| Sunday | December 8 | Luke 8 |  | Monday | December 23 | Luke 1:1-39 |
| Monday | December 9 | Luke 9 |  | Tuesday | December 24 | Luke 1:40-80 |
| Tuesday | December 10 | Luke 10 |  | Wednesday | December 25 | Luke 2:1-39 |
| Wednesday | December 11 | Luke 11 |  | Thursday | December 26 | Matthew 2 |
| Thursday | December 12 | Luke 12 |  | Friday | December 27 | Luke 23 |
| Friday | December 13 | Luke 13 |  | Saturday | December 28 | Luke 24 |
| Saturday | December 14 | Luke 14 |  | Sunday | December 29 | Genesis 1-2 |
| Sunday | December 15 | Luke 15 |  | Monday | December 30 | Genesis 3 |
|  |  |  |  | Tuesday | December 31 | Genesis 6-8 |

**Reading the Bible in a year.**

Do you want to read the bible in less than a year? If you read four chapters a day, you will finish the bible in about 10 months. The readings will take between 25-30 minutes. You can read two chapters in the morning and two at night or two in the morning, one in the afternoon and one at night? Add your five minutes of prayer and you will be good to go. THIS CHALLENGE IS NOT FOR EVERYONE! Maybe now is not the time. You can build up to it. Try reading at least two chapters a day and you will be developing the discipline to get to this project. There is a reading guide to help you with this reading project. I recommend a Psalm a day and three chapters starting with Genesis 1. When you complete the book of Psalms, read one chapter from Proverbs and three chapters of where you are at the time. Don’t be afraid to try this one. It is hard but it is doable. Look for the yellow card stock sheet on the counter as you enter the sanctuary.