

# *The Scribe*



*Black Forest Lutheran Church  
December, 2019 Vol. I*

## **Advent**

The Season of Advent begins Sunday, Dec. 1

Advent means coming or appearing. In this season, we wait expectancy for the birth of our Lord, his coming into our world. We keep awake with eyes open to how he shows up in our everyday lives, with light and hope and encouragement. We also wait with expectation for his appearing at the end of time to make all things new. Our Advent hope is Emmanuel, God with us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Advent Sunday**

Dec. 1	Wake up.	Open your eyes
Dec. 8	The Voice	John the Baptist
Dec. 15	Have you heard?	Christmas Cantata
Dec. 22	Emmanuel	God is with us

### **Matthew: The Gospel of Discipleship**

Starting Dec. 1, I am offering a Sunday class on Matthew.

It's the one gospel that majors in the word 'go'. Over 30 times we hear it.

Go search for the child.  
Go, be reconciled to your brother.  
Go into your room and pray  
Go into the streets, invite everyone.  
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.

Join me on Sunday mornings as we study Matthew:  
The Gospel of Discipleship.

***Sundays in December***

**Dec. 8-Worship** at 8:00a & 10:30a

**Mini Fair Trade Fair**-in between services. All info. on pg. 7.

**Dec. 15-Cantata** at both services.

**Dec. 22-Worship** at 8:00a & 10:30a

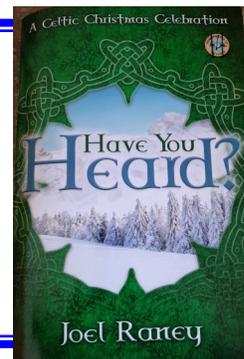
**Children's Christmas Program**

**Tuesday, Dec. 24-Christmas Eve Candlelight Services**  
3:30p, 5:30p. 7:30p

**Dec. 29 Young Adult/College Worship** at 8:00a & 10:30a

***Christmas Cantata*** both services on  
*Sunday, Dec. 15.*

*A Celtic Christmas Celebration-*  
*Have you Heard?*



## Annual Ladies Christmas Tea

Theme: Happy Birthday Jesus!

Saturday, Dec. 7 at 10:00am

Invites will be coming in your church mailboxes.



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**Christmas Tea Set-up and Clean-up-helping hands are appreciated.**

Thursday, Dec. 5 9:00a-11:00a in fellowship hall.

Friday, Dec. 6 9:00a-11:00a in the kitchen. Food prep.

Saturday, Dec. 7 (after the tea) If you could stay for 1/2 hr. or so to help clean up and get the fellowship hall ready for Sunday morning it would be appreciated.

## Mini Fair Trade Fair

The Social Ministry Committee has scheduled Fair Trade fair to make your Christmas shopping a happier, easier experience with just a walk into Fellowship Hall on **Sunday, December 8** between services.

When you purchase an item from any of the displays, you are buying a unique gift and impacting a life in another country. **On display will be olive wood from the Holy Land, coffee, tea, chocolate from the Fair-Trade program and a variety of items, such as Christmas decorations, purses, beans, etc. through the Lutheran World Relief program.** Remember, we can only accept checks or cash. **Beautiful hand made pillows by Lynn Pierce, with 100% of sales going to Ecumenical Social Ministry, will be available. Doll clothes for an 18" doll will also be available with 100% of sales going to the olive wood ministry.**



*You are invited to join us.*

## Posadas

Join Karen Pforr for a trip to El Paso, TX to celebrate Posadas (the inn) a traditional Mexican celebration. Help with this event and enjoy a new tradition. Worship with a Mary and Joseph reenactment and children's play. Mexican dinner, mariachis and pinata.

We will be leaving Friday, Dec. 13 and coming back Sunday, Dec. 15. Each individual is responsible for their meals (most eaten out, tho you can bring, too) gas and accommodations are covered. Open to everyone.  
Contact Karen Pforr.



**Intergenerational Caroling**– We're coming together on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 5:00p to carol out in the community and bring some holiday cheer to those who need it most.  
Sign-up!



*Black Forest Cares says a hearty thank you for generously donating food, turkeys and monetary donations for our families this Thanksgiving.*

thank  
you!

## **The Lutheran Seminary at Betela, Madagascar**

By Ed Storey

The seminary in northern Madagascar is one of ten in the island Nation. Madagascar has about four million confessional Lutherans, according to Eric Swensson of the Institute of Lutheran Theology (ILT). Rev. Swensson was recently in Madagascar and believes the seminary is well run.

Pastor Albert is in charge of the seminary, which is training about 70 candidates to be pastors in a 2-year curriculum. About 30 new pastors graduated last spring. The curriculum includes Greek and Hebrew, as well as Genesis, Exodus, Romans, leadership and English. In the first year, the classes include the new and old testaments, as well as some Jewish history, the Book of Luke and an understanding of the Madagascar Lutheran Church.

Pastor Albert (with a very long surname) has a bachelors degree. The church leaders would like him to have a more advanced degree. Thru Mission Endowment, BFLC has paid for his first two classes. These are online via the ILT. He is currently taking his second class. There is also a need to provide for the internet connection, some books and a computer. With our help, Rev. Swensson delivered the books and laptop in October.

Your Mission Endowment Committee will be providing assistance for his third class, beginning in January. In addition, we will assist with internet fees for his online class. Since Pastor Albert is to the point where he needs glasses to maintain his eyesight, we also made a donation toward his new glasses.

If you have an interest in learning more about the Betela Seminary, talk to someone on the mission endowment committee.

## **Poinsettia Sign-up**

If you would like to help defray the cost (\$10), please make a check out to BFLC with a notation in the memo line "poinsettia" and put in offering plate. You can denote the name of a loved one you wish to dedicate or remember on the sign-up sheet. The plants may be picked up following the 7:30p Christmas Eve service.



## Mom's Group

Meeting and activity date for Mom's Group  
is: Dec. 9 at 9:00a—Advent Calendar Craft  
Contact: Misty Hopp



## December Wedding Anniversaries

Stephen & Christine Makowsky	4	John & Angelique Spadaro	28
Tom & Lorraine Wallace	6	Mickey & Cindy Bannister	29
Rives & Jan Duncan	17	Bruce & Laura Betts	29
Jim & Martha Johnston	20	Mike & Mary Nifong	30
Mike & Jutta Romans	28	Brian & Avelyn Green	31
		John & Jennifer Rutherford	31



*Advent devotionals  
are on the table in the narthex.*



Dear BFLC,

I feel very blessed to be part of this caring BFLC church family with everyone helping my lengthy recovery proceed more positively and smoothly. Your prayers and concerns have been very much appreciated.

My gratitude goes out to everyone who assisted me so that I could continue to remain with the tour and have help returning to the States. Their desires for me far outweighed their personal desires for additional vacation enjoyments. This includes all of the telephone calls to my family, and discussions with the German medical staff, airline personnel, and others trying to decide upon safe and realistic medical and travel options.

I am grateful for all of the concern and generosity shown during my recent injury and required hospital and rehabilitation stays. The visits, cards, emails, prayers, beautiful prayer shawl, assorted gifts, including an unexpected 3" ceramic angel with the wording "Jesus loves you," were very much appreciated.

Joyce Donicht

### **Office Hours**

Close on 20 & 27 at noon.

Closed Dec. 25 & Jan. 1

Black Forest Cares will be closed on Dec. 27.



**Dec. 29 Young Adults** will lead the service.

If you would like to be a part of it, please contact Rebecca.



2020 flower chart is up on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Flowers are \$18.00.  
When signing please print.

### **Senior Social**

Takes a break in Dec.-  
Will resume in January, 2020

### **Annual Meeting**

Sunday, January 26 at 12:00p.

Potluck, bring a dish to share!

Committees don't forget to turn your Annual Reports into the office or email to [bflc@bflchurch.org](mailto:bflc@bflchurch.org) by Friday, Jan. 3.

# Meeting

**Coffee schedule is up. Sign-up to help clean or set-up!**

## **Primetimers**

Next get together will be **Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6:30p at Karen Pforr's home for a wine and cheese gathering.** Bring your favorite bottle of wine or other beverage and a finger food to share.

RSVP to Pam Wagner

Black Forest Cares is needing hams for families for their Christmas Baskets. Please sign-up on bulletin board.



**Quilt made by our quilters of the church!**

\$1.00 per ticket/pencil. Also, they are selling homemade dogs and Christmas Trees. Check it out on Sunday between services!

# Bridging Borders

## Appalachia-Summer 2020

**Mike and Lisa Regennitter are looking to put together an Intergenerational Mission trip to Appalachia with Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp through their Bridging Borders.**

*Watch for details of a meeting coming up, we have several people interested.*

On our newest service trip, groups travel to the Appalachian region to serve those in need of a drier, safer, warmer home. We are partnering with Appalachian Service Project. Through your group we will be doing some meaningful labor, building relationships is a key objective of all Bridging Borders trips. In this way, we can show the love of Christ regardless of physical ability or construction experience. There is so much we can learn through conversations, playing with others, and partaking in a culture different than our own. Youth and adult groups alike are immersed into a new community and are able to discover their gifts and what they have to offer in a very tangible way. Take your group to new levels working together in a challenging environment and experience faith in a unique way!

### AGE REQUIREMENTS

Entering 9th grade

### 2020 FEES INCLUDE

Transportation in Appalachia

Food & Lodging

Construction Materials

RTLCL Staff, Programming, and Pre-Trip Bible Study materials

### 2020 FEES

\*\$700 + airfare (Minimum 12, Maximum 30 per Trip)

(We will be doing some fundraisers.)

### NATURE OF WORK

Construction

Relationship Building

Community Outreach

Team Building

Please let Mike or Lisa know if you are interested.

*Thank you to all members who filled and donated shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, a joint effort of the Social Ministry and Evangelism Committee. Thirty-eight boxes were collected and brought to the Samaritan Purse Distribution Center in Monument, CO.*



### **BFLC Staff Christmas Gift**

It has been the practice for many years to invite special contributions from the members of the congregation towards a cash Christmas gift for the paid staff of BFLC. This includes the Pastor, Ministry Coordinator, Youth/Family Ministries Director, Administrative Assistant, Organist Choir and Bells Director.



### **End of the Year**

December 31

Donor must deliver or mail (postmark) on or by this date in order to claim a charitable contribution deduction for 2019.

Checks that are placed in the church offering during the first worship service on 2020 will not qualify for a charitable contribution deduction in 2019, even if the check is predated to 2019 or was actually written in 2019.

However, checks that are written mailed and postmarked in 2019 will be deductible in 2019 though they are not received by church until 2020. If you have questions, please contact the church office.

**Reverse Advent Calendar**  
**Each day add an item to a box.**  
**On Dec. 15 bring to church and donate to**  
**Black Forest Cares.**  
**You still have time to catch up!**

Nov. 21	Box of Cereal
Nov. 22	Peanut Butter
Nov. 23	Stuffing Mix
Nov. 24	Boxed potatoes
Nov. 25	Macaroni and Cheese
Nov. 26	Canned fruit
Nov. 27	Canned tomatoes
Nov. 28	Canned tuna
Nov. 29	Dessert mix
Nov. 30	Jar of applesauce
Dec. 1	Canned sweet potatoes
Dec. 2	Cranberry sauce
Dec. 3	Canned beans
Dec. 4	Box of crackers
Dec. 5	Package of rice
Dec. 6	Package of oatmeal
Dec. 7	Package of pasta
Dec. 8	Spaghetti sauce
Dec. 9	Chicken noodle soup
Dec. 10	Tomato soup
Dec. 11	Can of corn
Dec. 12	Can mixed vegetables
Dec. 13	Can carrots
Dec. 14	Can of green beans
Dec. 15	Ham



**Feeding the  
Community**

## OUR STAFF

Pastor	-	Kenneth D. Hohag
Ministry Coordinator	-	Jeanette Gould
Interim Youth & Ed Director	-	Rebecca Hohag
Administrative Assistant	-	Lisa Regennitter
Organist	-	Barbara Gurnett
Choir Director	-	Melanie Hohag
Handbell Choir Director	-	Bill Fitzpatrick
Ministers	-	All Members

## OUR HOURS

### Weekday Hours

9:00am-2:00pm

Tuesday-Friday (Closed Mondays)

Phone: 495-2221 + Fax: 495-2222

e-mail: [bflc@bflchurch.org](mailto:bflc@bflchurch.org)

Web site: [bflchurch.org](http://bflchurch.org)

### Sunday Hours

SUNDAY WORSHIP	8:00 & 10:30 a.m.
SUNDAY SCHOOL	9:30 am (September - May)
SUMMER WORSHIP	9:00 am (June – August)

## OUR MISSION

Black Forest Lutheran Church glorifies God through worship, prayer, education and service as ambassadors of Christ.



