

Barneveld Lutheran Church

Merry Christmas!

December 2022

We are called to be Christ's Light...in all things we are committed to seeking & following God's will.

Believe it! Live it! Come to it!



Christmas Eve Services

*Celebrate the birth of Jesus at BLC!
Candlelight and Communion December 24th
at 3 and 7pm*

**Faith In Action Committee invites you to join us on Sunday,
Dec 11 from 4-6pm for Christmas Caroling!**
Cookies and cocoa afterwards at church

Do you know anyone who needs or would benefit from a visit by the carolers. Please contact Peggy Jones (608) 574-6703 to let us know whose season we can brighten.

Community Band Christmas Concert

Wednesday, Dec 7 from 7:00-8:00 p.m.



It's Time For Poinsettias!

You can purchase a red or white Poinsettia for:

\$16.00 single stem

\$25.00 double stem

Orders and payment are **due** to the BLC office by Tuesday, December 6, 2022.
(Checks should be made out to Barneveld Lutheran Church).



"A Night in Bethlehem"

Come see and hear the wonderful story that changed the world.

Wednesday, Dec 21 at 6pm

Supper starting at 5pm

Cookie fellowship afterwards!

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Advent Pause

Check the church Facebook page for a weekly *Advent Pause*. 10 mins to breathe, slow down and connect with God.

Christmas is not always a happy time for everyone. If your heart hurts this season, join us online for,

A Blue Christmas.

Prs. Chris & Rhia Strohm will guide you through scripture and music as a reminder you are not alone.

December 22, 7pm on Facebook Live.

Pastor's Pen



Advent Blessings People of God!

It has been said that God is most profoundly at work in our fear, confusion and woundedness. Why can't God work in the joy, clarity and comfort of our lives? I would suppose the truth of the matter is that God does work in all circumstances for good. However, we are only able to really experience and feel God at work when we are going through a "walk in the wilderness." When we are enjoying a "walk in the park" we are distracted, we are more self-reliant and confident that we forget how dependent we are on God. I suppose it is only when I acknowledge I cannot make the journey on my own, that I accept God's walk with me.

We are on a journey this Advent season. We are journeying to Bethlehem and along the way we will encounter some very familiar characters of the Christmas story. Zechariah & Elizabeth, Mary & Joseph and the shepherds—but there is much more to their stories, their journeys, than just the Sunday School Christmas program of baby Jesus lying in a manger. We will journey with these ancient people and connect with their fear, their confusion and their woundedness. Ultimately, we will discover how our lives are not much different than those of ancient times. The many challenges we face, the unexpected twists and turns of life, and the shame and guilt that travels along with us.

But, it is there in the mess of life, that God is hard at work for good. Mary reminds us that all things are possible with God—and certainly there is no other story in our Christian tradition that demonstrates how God meets us in surprising and impossible ways, then as a baby, born to poor and humble parents.

The story of Jesus' birth is a story that has been read and handed down for generations. It is our most important story. But at its center, is a story of hope. I read something this week that said hope requires risk and sacrifice. Our instincts are to run away and hide, to self-protect and self-medicate. Hope requires believing in what is unseen. It means we may hurt. It means we may be afraid. It means taking steps on an unfamiliar journey.

In the midst of the hardship that went with Mary and Joseph's journey, amid the deferred dreams and dashed hopes, God was working to redeem the world. I imagine this was not a journey Mary or Joseph wanted to be on. Just like our lives many times lead us on paths we would rather skip. But the most important part of the journey is not the road, but who walks with us, and that is God, and that is where our hope comes from.

All of us take unwanted journeys. But God always walks with us on these journeys. God works through them and redeems them and these difficult journeys will never be the end of our story!

My hope and prayer for you this Advent and Christmas season is that you will experience the birth of Jesus with new eyes and new ears; that you will connect your personal journey with those who have gone before and renew your hope, trusting all things are possible with God!

Blessings of Comfort & Joy!

Pr. Rhia

Highlights of the month

- Community Band Christmas Concert 12/7
- Advent pause: Wednesdays
- Christmas Caroling 12/11
- "A Night in Bethlehem" 12/21
- Blue Christmas on Facebook live 12/22

Send us your Advent Wreath pictures!

Whether you have a homemade wreath or a family heirloom, take a picture of your family lighting your wreath and send it to us! We would like to put them all together for a Christmas project! Email: barneveldlutheran505@gmail.com



Text: Pr. Rhia
@
6083415034

Christian Education at BLC

K-4th grade

**Bridge
(5-6th grade)**

**Confirmation
(7-8th grade)**

**Wednesday
Nights
6-7pm**

BLC Sweatshirts for sale!

There are a limited number of dark blue hoodies and crew BLC sweatshirts available for \$10. Stop in and grab them before they're gone!

Isaac Baumgarten and Jacob Sandry were recently trained to run the tech desk! It is not difficult and we are always looking for more people to help!



Kylie Mieden
and Pr. Rhia
learning about
generosity.



Recipe of the Month from Ronda Bowe

Butternut Squash Soup

8-10 cups peeled and cubed butternut squash (one median-large squash)
1 heaping cup chopped onion
4 TBSP unsalted butter
4 cups chicken stock/Bouillon
1 tsp. dried marjoram
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper (add more if you like spice)
6 oz. cream cheese (8 oz. for a heavier soup)
Black pepper and salt to taste

In a large saucepan,, sauté the chopped onion and butter until onions are tender. Add cubed squash, chicken stock, marjoram and cayenne pepper. Bring to a boil then cook for 15 minutes on medium, or until squash is tender. Purée squash and cream cheese in a blender or food processor in batches until smooth. Return to saucepan and heat through on low. Finish with salt and pepper to taste.

*Do not boil (squash and cream cheese will separate).

Prayers Concerns

Congregation:

Kyle Thompson
Joann Rue
Marie Dimpfl
Barb Gentz
Randy Cox



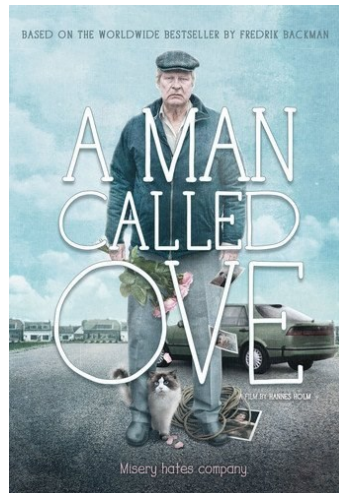
Friends and Family:

Pete Zenz
Betty Lou Gordon
Kari Kahl
Terri Schlimgen
Karlene Tom
Carolyn Glover
Betty Cox
Mike Owens

Friends and Family whom lost a loved ones:
Carl Arneson

A Man Named Ove

Faith In Action is hosting a group Read event focused on the book, "A Man Named Ove," by Fredric Backman. We will meet January 17 to discuss and go see the new movie based on the book, starring Tom Hanks sometime in February. This book will make you laugh out loud as well as cry so hard. Join the fun! Sign up to receive a book. Any questions contact Peggy Jones (608) 574-6703.



Free Blood Pressure Checks



**2nd Sunday of each
month after worship**

GAME DAY

Friday, December 16, 2022

9:30 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.

Cards, dominoes and light lunch!

Lunch will be Potluck.

Reminder:

Where your favorite Christmas Sweater!!

THANK YOU!

A huge thanks to Bill Jones for his many years of snow removal at BLC!

Pauline Dimpfl and Judy Johnson for the Game Day lunch. All those that assist with worship, Food Pantry, Christian Education, and Family Faith Night. Thank you to those that help with funerals. And the many other contributions that support our church....

THANK YOU!



If you love to have fun, laugh and learn new things, then come check out the **BLC Hand Bell Team!** Mondays at 6:30 pm, Check in with Julie Reese for more information!

Community Life



Barneveld Community Food Pantry

The Food Pantry needs volunteers to staff it each Wednesday

Hours to staff are:

1st Shift: 9:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
2nd Shift: 1:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

December 2022

December 7	9:15 a.m.—12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.	Sharon Thousand Earlene Laudin
December 14	9:15 a.m.—12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.	Peggy Jones Nancy Bilse
December 21	9:15 a.m.—12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.	Barneveld U.C.C. Barneveld U.C.C.
December 28	9:15 a.m.—12:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m.—3:30 p.m.	Nancy Bilse Nancy Bilse

Thank you to the Barneveld Community School that made a generous donation to our community food pantry!



Teacher Nancy Schave and student Isaac Melizha dropped off donations for the food pantry.

Health Tip

**From Ronda Bowe,
Health Ministry Liaison**

Have a Healthy Holiday Season

- Wash hands often to help prevent the spread of germs
- Bundle up to stay dry and warm
- Manage stress
- Don't drink and drive or let others drink and drive
- Be smoke free
- Fasten seatbelt while driving or riding in a motor vehicle
- Get your vaccinations
- Practice fire safety
- Prepare food safely
- Eat healthy, stay active

Be inspired to stay in the spirit of good health!



Thank you Kunes Auto Dealership for collecting and delivering supplies for the food pantry! You are awesome!

Pastoral Care



Please contact the church office if you or a loved one would like to be placed on the prayer list or would like a pastoral visit. Contact Pr. Rhia at 608-341- 5034 or through the church office.
Thank you!

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER

Free Ham Dinner Meal!

Thursday, December 25, 2022

11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

To get a delivered meal or pick up a meal via drive-thru.
Call 608-535-7051 by Noon Friday, December 16.

NO ON-SITE DINING

Drive through and pick up is at:

Culver's Restaurant

1122 N. Johns Street, Dodgeville

Stewardship

Giving of our time, our talents, our treasure



BLC Council Vice President David Baumgarten called a “Time Out” recently during worship to give a quick financial update. BLC Treasurer Joann Manteufel explained information mailed out with YTD giving statements in November and the importance and ease of automatic giving.



Grateful for the *Table Talk* with longtime members Doug & Judy Johnson and Dawn Baumann recently as we discussed connecting faith and generosity.

Giving Snapshot through October 2022

October Snapshot

Total Oct Revenue \$14,973.90
Total Oct Expense \$17,682.13

Oct total : (-\$2708.23)

YTD Snapshot

YTD Revenue \$124,185.86
YTD Expenses \$181,806.10

YTD Deficit: (-\$57,620.24)



Giving has never been easier! Scan this QR code with your smart phone and go directly to the “Give Now” button on the Barneveld Lutheran Church website. You can give a one time gift or choose recurrent giving! If we could enroll 25 people into automatic giving who are able to give just \$25 a month, it would make a huge impact. Thank you for your generosity!

December Serving Calendar



	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24 3:00 p.m.	December 24 7:00 p.m.
Usher	Peggy and Dennis Bilse	Mike and Bette Vivian	Doug Johnson and George Ranney	Russell Moyer and Family	Ken and Denise Hummel
Accompanist	Linda Seeley	Karen Erickson	Linda Seeley	Karen Erickson	Karen Erickson
Assisting Minister	Ken Hummel	Earlene Laudin	Deb Piquette	Becky Stauffer	Jeff Ziegler
Altar Guild	Joy Coyne and Teri Hendrickson				

Volunteers are always **NEEDED** - call the church office to sign up
608-924-8621

December Church Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 GriefShare 10-12 pm	2 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	3 Spectacular, Spectacular! Community Christmas Concert 5 pm
4 9:00 am Worship Service Baptism: Evelyn Bergman	5 Hand Bells 6:30 pm	6	7 Food Pantry 9:30—3:30 Confirmation Field Trip Barneveld Area Community Band 7-8 pm	8 GriefShare 10-12 pm	9 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	10
11 9:00 am Worship Service BP Check Caroling 4-6 pm Hot Cocoa & cookies afterwards at BLC	12 Hand Bells 6:30 pm	13	14 Food Pantry 9:30—3:30 Christian Education 6-7 pm	15 GriefShare 10-12 pm	16 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed Game Day	17
18 9:00 am Worship Service 10:00 am Council Meeting	19 Hand Bells 6:30 pm	20	21 Food Pantry 9:30—3:30 No Christian Education Attendance Encouraged for A Night In Bethlehem: Community Supper 5 pm Christmas Story 6 pm	22 GriefShare 10-12 pm Blue Christmas Facebook Live 7 pm	23 Pastor's Day Off Office Closed	24 Christmas Eve Worship Services 3 and 7 pm
25 No Worship Service Christmas Day	26 Hand Bells 6:30 pm	27	28 Food Pantry 9:30—3:30 No Christian Education	29 GriefShare 10-12 pm	30	31

#BeingBLC

We hope you are enjoying the new furniture in our gathering space! After 30 years, it was time for an update. We would like to thank **The Foundation** for approving this gift to refresh our space! Please take time after worship to have coffee and a treat and enjoy conversation around our new tables and chairs!



Special thanks **The Foundation** for funding our new monitor in the back of the sanctuary. This will allow worship leaders to participate more easily with worship and the congregation.



We celebrated the first week of Advent last Sunday!
Join us on our Journey to Bethlehem!

#BeingBLC

It has been a very busy season for our community food pantry! So many generous donations! Our shelves are full and we are so grateful to be able to provide this much needed ministry within our community.



Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the food pantry! As well as all the people who helped organize and put the food away! Thank you to the many volunteers who staff this weekly ministry!



Praise & Pie Worship was a fun night giving thanks and connecting with our UCC friends!



Barneveld Lutheran Church
 505 Swiss Lane
 Barneveld, WI 53507

Non-Profit Organization
 US Postage Paid
 Barneveld, WI
 Permit No. 4

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Time Dated Material:

November 30, 2022



Barneveld Lutheran Church

Join us for Worship on Sundays at 9:00am

Office Phone: 608-924-8621

Tuesdays 9:00am - 4:00pm

Wednesdays 9:00am - 4:00pm

Thursdays 9:00am - 11:30pm

or as needed.

barneveldlutheran505@gmail.com

Pastor Rhia Strohm

Email: rstrohm61@gmail.com

Cell: 608-341-5034

BLC LIVE streams Sunday Worship Services at 9:00 am through our Facebook page. You can see the most recent service as well as weekday videos using this link (no account needed to view videos):

<https://www.facebook.com/BarneveldLutheranChurch/>