



The Emmanuel Epistle November 2023

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
222 West 13th St.
Goodland, KS 67735
www.elcgoodland.com

Office – (785) 890-6161
sec.elc.goodland@gmail.com
Pastor Don – (785) 890-6110
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<u>Worship Services</u>	Sunday 9 a.m. (Communion 1 st & 3 rd Sundays)
<u>Sunday School</u>	Sundays 10:15 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
<u>Adult Bible Study</u>	7:00 p.m. on Mondays & 10 a.m. on Tuesdays
<u>Confirmation Class</u>	Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Leadership of Emmanuel

Pastor Don F. McMillan
Shelly Willems, Secretary

Marla Harrison, Organist
Nathan Boll, Custodian

Church Council 2023

President – Lawrence Musil (899-2642)
Vice President – Robin Deeds (821-1569)
Secretary – Carol Deeds (821-1584)
Treasurer – Shelly Willems (890-5847)
Financial Sec.-Mary Ann Snethen (899-5858)
Tara Avelar (728-7076)
David Branda (821-0811)
Amber Farris (890-6234)
Donna Miller (728-8287)
Harold Snethen (899-5858)
Roger Snethen (899-5817)



Shades of GRACE

by Pastor Don McMillan

ANNUAL GATHERING OF LCMC

Thank you for allowing me the time away to attend the 23rd Annual Gathering of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. This year the Gathering was held in the St. Louis, MO., area. I have often described the Gathering as my annual pep rally, I attend. It has always been a way I am rejuvenated every year, but also the annual reunion of friends in the small world of Lutheranism. The Gathering includes worship, Bible study, Keynote Speakers, smaller breakout sessions, vendors and exhibitors, a short business meeting and budget proposal, election of board members, and several meals.

What I love about the Gathering is how you rarely know when you sit next to someone whether they are pastors or non-pastors. We are all equals, and Jesus is strongly present. At one of our meals, I got to chat briefly with Pastor Erwin Spruth, whom I met during my first year or two of ministry—our church sponsored him as a missionary in Papua, New Guinea. He was honored later that day for being ordained 71 years. At that same meal our table was shared by Pastor Eenok Haamer from Estonia. He shared about ministry in their country, being near the Ukraine, and the importance of theological education in that place. It is conversations like this, and many others more domestic, that are great energizers—hearing what other churches are doing all over our country.

The focus of this year's Gathering was related to ministry leadership and growing future leaders for the church. We spent time being reminded who Jesus is, building the Body of Christ, and the importance of shared gifts of the Spirit. Dr. Ed Stetzer shared a two-part keynote talk with us. First, about living in the Post-Covid Reality, and second, Our Mission this Moment. We have challenges, for sure, in our world, but there is hope and good news as well. I plan to share some more of Dr. Stetzer's talks in future sermons.

I was able to attend two breakout sessions. Jonathan Haseley spoke about *“How to do Mission and Ministry Differently.”* Jonathan just began serving a Buffalo, NY area church that is new to him. When he was there to interview, the sanctuary was destroyed by fire. Doing ministry and mission differently is very real for that church, and Jonathan spoke from the heart. And I heard Sharon Franta on, *“Sharing your Story”* as a mission tool for listening and growing the church. Sharon’s gave us hands on practice where we actually shared a bit of our story with others.

LCMC Staff Member, Pastor Julie Smith, closed our Gathering by reminding us our mission is to Make Christ Known, to address the challenges that keep people away from church, to keep returning to the center of the church—Word and Sacrament, and to remember, Mission is Messy!

Three days of the Gathering were fulfilling, energizing, tiring, and joyful. Over 600 people attended this year’s event. We will gather next year in Marion, Iowa (near Cedar Rapids). As Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ our mission statement is ‘We are a first century church in the 21st century.’

Serving Together

Pastor Don McMillan

TOPICAL SERMONS

Have you ever wanted to know more about a Bible passage? Is there a “faith topic” you would like to hear a sermon about? In 2024, Pastor Don is planning to do something like that. Beginning in early November there will be forms available to submit your ideas. About once-a-month, Pastor Don will plan to preach one of those sermons. You may also email Pastor Don at elc.goodland@gmail.com. Please include a short description of why the topic or Bible passage is important to you. And include your name and telephone number so Pastor Don may call for more information, if needed.



November Events

Mondays	7:00 p.m.	Adult Bible Study
Tuesdays	10:00 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
Wednesdays	7:00 p.m.	Confirmation Class
Fridays	All Day	Pastor's Day Off

1 st	10:15 a.m.	Worship @ Wheat Ridge
2 nd	11:00 a.m.	Ministerial Alliance
5 th	2:00 a.m.	Daylight Savings Time Ends
10 th	11:30 a.m.	Lunch Group @ China Gardens
12 th	9:00 a.m.	Thankoffering Service, Noisy Offering
12 th	11:00 a.m.	Thanksgiving Potluck
13 th	1:30 p.m.	Care Committee
13 th	6:00 p.m.	Safety Ministry Committee
14 th	9:00 a.m.	Mission of the Month Committee
14 th	7:10 p.m.	Church Council
15 th	1:30 p.m.	Worship Committee
18 th	All Day	Fellowship Hall Reserved
22 nd	10:15 a.m.	Worship @ Wheat Ridge
23 rd	All Day	Office Closed – Happy Thanksgiving
26 th	11:00 a.m.	Hanging of the Greens
27 th	8:00 a.m.	Newsletter Deadline
30 th	6:00 p.m.	Lutheran Brotherhood





1 st	12:10 p.m. CT	Teen Stress & Anxiety Webinar
3 rd	6:00 p.m.	Paintbrush & Cocktails
3 rd -4 th	5:30-9:30 p.m.	NWKTC Engineering Haunted House
5 th -8 th	10 a.m. & 6 p.m.	Prayer & Discipleship Conference
10 th	7:00 p.m.	Alice in Wonderland Musical
11 th	2:00 p.m.	Alice in Wonderland Musical
14 th	4:30 p.m.	“Give Thanks” Block Craft
15 th	10:00 a.m.	Winter Safety Tips
15 th	7:00 p.m.	Todd Becker Story
18 th	9 a.m.-2 p.m.	Simply Chic Holiday Craft Fair
24 th	6:30 p.m.	Parade of Lights
25 th	TBA	Downtown Holiday Event
28 th	All Day	Match Day

**November RightNow Media –
Pastor Don Recommends**

“The Beatitudes” by Matt Chandler

What does it mean to be blessed? And, more importantly, how do we become someone who is blessed?

The kind of life God is calling us to may not look the way we imagined, but it will be better than we could have hoped. In this eight-session series, pastor Matt Chandler takes us through the Beatitudes and shows us what it means to live in the kingdom of God. Through Jesus’s teaching, learn what the blessed life really looks like.

This look at the Blessings found in Matthew 5: 1-12 includes a free printable study-guide for each session.

Pastor Matt Chandler leads The Village church in Flower Mound, TX.



Thank you for your words of kindness and encouragement, and especially for your prayers during Pastor Appreciation Month. It is my joy to continue serving as your pastor. -Pastor Don

Dear Emmanuel Friends, The outpouring of love and support to our family has been so very appreciated. We thank you for each prayer, text, card, call, as well as the food, flowers, and memorials. And a special thanks to Pastor Don, David Branda, Robin Deeds, Shelly Willems, and many others who helped the day of Mike's memorial service. Women of Emmanuel, you outdid yourselves with the beautiful lunch for our family and close friends! Mike often commented about what a wonderful Church Family we have at Emmanuel. He appreciated his time with each of you and we thank you for remembering him in such a special way. Lovingly in Christ, Marla, Bradley and Mark Harrison

Dear Ladies, Thank you so much for the wonderful meal you prepared for our lunch after Vivian's service. It was so special to have friendly, smiling faces serving us. The Vivian McClung Family

Thank You for donating school supplies, Kleenex and under clothes for the students of West Elementary, and also backpacks. Your donations will impact many young students. Thank you!

We would like to thank those who have continued to remember the church with offerings when they are not able to attend worship service. Your support is greatly appreciated! **Offerings can be mailed** to the church (222 W 13th St., Goodland, KS 67735) or you can **donate online** at www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=3F8CGHKAV5T8E or **Venmo** @EmmanuelLutheran-Church.

In Christian Sympathy

Sympathy of the Congregation is extended to:

The Stramel Family in the loss of Monica's mother, Virginia Carter, of Kirk, CO. Virginia passed away unexpectedly on October 18th. Funeral service for Virginia was held Friday, October 27th in Joes, CO.

Shelly, Kent, & Kaylee Willems in the loss of Shelly's uncle, Scott Wiese. Scott passed away on Saturday, September 30th at his home in Benkelman. Services for Scott were held on October 6th at Zion Lutheran Church in Benkelman.

Please keep their families in your thoughts and prayers.

In Our Prayers

WE PRAY FOR Family of Virginia Carter, Elaine Freiburger, Miranda Ostmeyer, Kara Johnson, Helen Musil, Jerry & Sam Teel, Janet Tubbs, Sherry Lehman, Vivian Redfern, Marilyn Eklund, Brad Harrison, Gary Snethen, Dennis Snethen, Neil Schritter, Ruby Hesse, Randy Lee, Evelyn Finnegan, Judy Berry, Jan Zimmerman, Mary Harper, Sandy Jamison, and our Military: D.J. Glassman, Aaron White, Adam Rector, Cade Anderson.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the prayer list, please contact us.

EMMANUEL

Announcements

All Saints Sunday is November 5th. If you have a loved one who has passed away that you would like remembered on this day, please add them to the list in the back of the volunteer notebook or let Shelly in the church office know.

Thankoffering Service: The Women of Emmanuel will have their annual Thankoffering Service on **Sunday, November 12th**. The offering envelopes (available at the entrances of the church) will be collected with the offering that day. Please prayerfully consider your blessings for the year and give to the Women of Emmanuel for their upcoming projects. Donations can also be mailed to Emmanuel at 222 W. 13th, Goodland, KS 67735. Thankoffering services are a long-standing custom of Lutheran women.

Thanksgiving Dinner: The Women of Emmanuel invite you to join our church family for the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner on November 12th at 11:00 a.m. We will prepare turkey and ham with mashed potatoes and gravy, rolls, tea and coffee. Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving dish of veggies, munchies, salad or a dessert. Please consider food safety and remember we have only one fridge. Pack to keep cold or hot if needed. Crockpots welcome. If you are "Cooking Challenged" bring yourself. Remember your THANK OFFERING ENVELOPE. Bring a guest to church and to our traditional Thanksgiving meal!

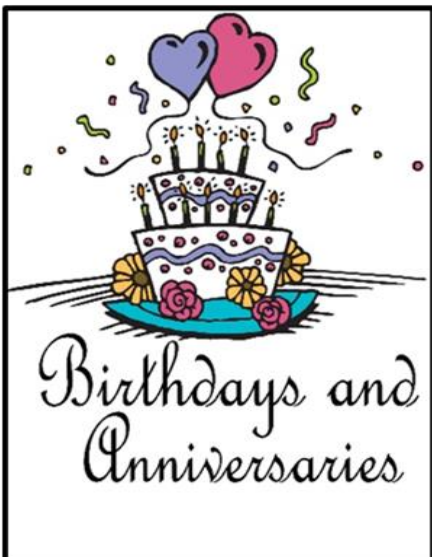
Call Coach Training: The LCMC Heartland District is offering training on **Friday, November 17th** for all clergy and lay folks to help as congregations move from one pastor to another. Learn how to ask the questions, what to look for in theology, and how to access the information you gather. The workshop is being offered in Omaha and via Zoom. Deadline to register is **Wednesday, November 1st**. If you have served or would like to serve on a Call Committee, this training is for you! Let Pastor Don or Shelly know if you are interested!

Hanging of the Greens: We will decorate the church for the Christmas season on **Sunday, November 26th** after fellowship. Please plan to help decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas Season!

Rides for Ruby: Ruby Hesse would like to attend church but needs a ride. If you are able to help Ruby, please sign up on the sheet in the notebook. It is up to you to contact Ruby to see if she wants to come the day you can help and to arrange a time to pick her up. Ruby's number is 785-890-3910.

Church Directory: The church directory has arrived! If you have your photo in the new directory, see Denise Floyd or Shelly Willems to get your directory! A very big thank you to Denise Floyd & Oly Johnson for working with the Graphic Design Department at NWKTC to have the directory made!

Emmanuel has a **confidential prayer chain** for special/urgent needs. If you would like to be part of this ministry or would like to have someone lifted up in prayer, please call Helen Musil (899-2642 or 728-7091), Pastor Don (785-890-6110), Cheryl Peck (785-890-5528), Tara Avelar (785-728-7076), Carol Deeds (785-821-1584), Connie Hatcher (785-821-4872), or Shelly Willems (785-728-7100).



5-Alice Cress, Wanda Schritter, Kasey Stramel; 7-Crystal Kreger; 8-Rodney Mays; 14-Mary Ann Briney; 19-Jeff Bhend; 20-Alex Howard; 21-Deb Martin, Coletín Schritter; 23-Ryan Johnson; 26-Kay Barton, Karen Lucas, Jo Ann Wahrman; 28-Autumn Wynn; 29-Ponch Avelar, Talen Martin

9-Larry & Peggy Martin
27-Perry & Jan Lohr



Mission Of the Month

November – VFW Post 1133

The Lowell Coleman VFW Post 1133 serves military veterans who served in the Armed Forces of the United States during a war, campaign, or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters. The Post provides assistance and support to local veterans, engages in community projects and programs, and provides programs and scholarships for youth. They currently have a little over 100 members, which is down from around 300 in the 1990s and 500 in the 1950s.

October Update – Hope's Place

As of 10/25/2023

Benevolence	\$150.00
Noisy Offering	\$341.57
Donations	<u>\$ 25.00</u>
Total	\$516.57

The next meeting will be at 9:30 a.m. on **Tuesday, November 14, 2023**. We are accepting requests for the schedule. You can share your requests with Shelly, Pastor Don, Marla, or Donna.

Thankoffering Service

The Women of Emmanuel will have their annual Thankoffering Service on Sunday, November 12th. The offering envelopes (available at the entrances of the church) will be collected with the offering that day. Please prayerfully consider your blessings for the year and give to the Women of Emmanuel for their upcoming projects.

Donations can also be mailed to Emmanuel at 222 W. 13th, Goodland, KS 67735.

Thankoffering services are a long-standing custom of Lutheran women.

In the beginning, women set aside small amounts at home throughout the year and brought them together for the women of the church on one particular Sunday. Eventually those became known as Thankofferings. The movement grew and now one Sunday of each year the Thankoffering is celebrated by the entire congregation to celebrate and honor the women and the missional work they do.

ORGANIZATION NEWS



CARE COMMITTEE will meet at 1:30 p.m. on **Monday, November 13th**.

CHURCH COUNCIL will meet at 7:10 p.m. on **Tuesday, November 14th**.

LUNCH GROUP will meet at 11:30 a.m. on **Friday, November 10th** @
China Gardens.

LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD will meet at 6:00 p.m. on **Thursday,**
November 30th.

LUTHERAN RELIEF WORKERS will not meet in November and December.

MISSION OF THE MONTH COMMITTEE will meet at 9:30 a.m. on
Tuesday, November 14, 2023. We are accepting requests for the
schedule. Requests can be shared with Shelly, Pastor Don, Marla, or
Donna.

RUTH CIRCLE will not meet in November.

SAFETY MINISTRY COMMITTEE will meet at 6:00 p.m. on **Monday,**
November 13th.

WOMEN OF EMMANUEL BOARD will meet at 10:15 a.m. on **Sunday,**
November 12th.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE will meet at 1:30 p.m. on **Wednesday,**
November 15th.

Women of Emmanuel Board Meeting

Women of Emmanuel Board Meeting September 21, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Marsha Sieck. Present were Connie Cole, Amber Farris, Marsha Sieck, and Vivian Redfern.

Treasurer's Report- balance- \$5,123.00, bills-\$306.71, Vivian McClung memorial - +\$400, Steve Zeigler memorial-+150.00.

A devotion titled "Fried Chicken and Funerals" was read by Marsha Sieck. We thank David Branda for giving us this passage during this especially sad month for Emmanuel as we have lost four dear members of the flock this month.

New Business- The German Dinner will be held October 15th. Work days will be October 7th and 14th.

Meeting adjourned.

Amber Farris, secretary





**Church Council Minutes
September 12, 2023**

President Lawrence Musil called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Pastor Don McMillan opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

Present: Tara Avelar, David Branda, Carol Deeds – secretary, Robin Deeds – vice-president, Amber Farris, Pastor Don McMillan, Donna Miller, Lawrence Musil – president, Harold Snethen, Roger Snethen, and Shelly Willems – treasurer.

Absent: none

Secretary's Report: Carol read the minutes from the August 8th meeting. Minutes stand approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Shelly presented the report. The General Fund CD matures October 6, 2023. It was moved and seconded that we renew the CD for 3 months at the current rate upon maturity. David made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. Robin seconded and the motion passed.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Don presented his report. Pastor made a motion to receive the following for membership to Emmanuel Lutheran: Shelby Johnson, Eli Lewis, Larry & Peggy Martin. Shelly seconded and the motion passed. Pastor plans to attend the LCMC Gathering in St. Charles, MO October 1-4. Pastor Kent Scott will officiate October 1st, and David volunteered to unlock the church.

Committee Reports

Worship Committee: Donna reported the committee met August 16th and have services planned through Reformation Sunday. The next meeting is scheduled for September 20th.

Christian Education Committee: Amber reported the first day of Sunday School was September 10th.

Scholarship Committee: No report.

Care Committee: Pastor reported the regular meeting has been postponed to September 18th. They plan to send letters of encouragement to the college students.

Memorial Committee: Elaine Freiburger and Deb Boyle have volunteered to be on this committee. We are looking for one more person from the congregation to serve.

Buildings and Grounds: Our custodian, Nathan Boll, painted the three crosses in front of the church.

Women of the Church: Amber reported the women have served several funeral dinners in the last month.

Lutheran Brotherhood: Harold reported the men made corn dogs for Rally Day. Next meeting is September 27th.

Mission of the Month: No report.

Safety Ministry Committee: Tara reported the committee met twice and they are going through the booklet. Buildings and Grounds may be asked to help install some safety elements within the church.

Unfinished Business: None

New Business: We received \$350 from the Fair Carnival Board for the ring toss game. Harold made a motion to donate the money back to the Carnival Board, Amber seconded, and the motion passed.

The Sherman County Historical Society has requested to use the fellowship hall and kitchen for their annual Mystery Dinner January 26-28. Roger made a motion to allow the group to use our facilities, Harold seconded, and the motion passed.

Comments: Pastor wants to remind everyone about Bible Studies offered Monday nights at 7:00 p.m., and Tuesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.

Tara made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Donna seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be October 10th at 7:10 p.m.

Council Minutes recorded by Carol Deeds.

WORSHIP AS THE YEAR 2023 ENDS

November's calendar has us worshipping together for two festival Sundays: All Saints Sunday, November 5, and Christ the King Sunday, November 26.

We begin Advent with midweek worship, November 29, at 6:30 pm (MT). Our midweek mediations will focus on the theme, "Look" – the places we look for Jesus. Midweek Advent services will also be held December 6, 13, and 20. Midweek services are preceded by soup suppers at 5:30.

December 3, 10, 17, and 24, on Sunday mornings we worship for our four Sundays in Advent. At 5:30 pm, December 24, we gather for Christmas Eve worship – a service of Bible readings, Carols, Holy Communion, and Candlelight. On December 25, Christmas Day we gather again at 9 am, for a simple worship service with Holy Communion.

This is a beautiful time of year to invite someone to fellowship and worship.

BUDGET REPORT



2023 income through September 30 th	\$114,244.53
2023 expenses through September 30 th	<u>\$112,631.21</u>
Net income for 2023	+\$ 1,613.32

General Fund balance Sept. 30, 2023	\$44,085.74
General Fund CD @ 5.45% (1/16/2024)	\$77,000.00
Interest on General CD	\$218.26
Restricted Fund balance Sept. 31, 2023	\$60,737.85
Restricted Fund CD @ 5.1% (3/8/24)	\$100,000.00

GENERAL FUND GIVING

Date	Amt. Needed	Offering	Over/Short	Attendance
Sept. 24	\$3,018.00	\$1,963.00	-\$1,055.00	57
Oct. 1	\$3,018.00	\$1,550.00	-\$1,468.00	33
Oct. 8	\$3,018.00	\$5,775.00	+\$2,757.00	64
Oct. 15	\$3,018.00	\$1,883.00	-\$1,135.00	59
Oct. 22	\$3,018.00	\$2,760.00	-\$258.00	49



There will be Christmas Caroling on **Sunday, December 17th**.

Meet at the church at 3:30 p.m.

We will eat at The Bricks following caroling. Sign up on the sheet in the notebook.

If you would like to have carolers visit your home or know of anyone who would, please put their name and address on the sheet in the notebook.

If you have any questions, please call Alice Cress at 890-5914. Thank you.

Perspective

Today was the absolute worst day ever
And don't try to convince me that
There's something good in every day
Because, when you take a closer look,
This world is a pretty evil place.

Even if

Some goodness does shine through once in a while
Satisfaction and happiness don't last.

And it's not true that

It's all in the mind and heart

Because

True happiness can be obtained

Only if one's surroundings are good

It's not true that good exists

I'm sure you can agree that

The reality

Creates

My attitude

It's all beyond my control

And you'll never in a million years hear me say that

Today was a good day

Now read from bottom to top.

Do You Know Your Hymns?

Dentist's Hymn . . .	Crown Him with Many Crowns.
Weatherman's Hymn . . .	There Shall Be Showers of Blessings.
Contractor's Hymn . . .	The Church's One Foundation.
Tailor's Hymn . . .	Holy, Holy, Holy.
Golfer's Hymn . . .	There's a Green Hill Far Away.
Politician's Hymn . . .	Standing on the Promises!
Optometrist's Hymn. . .	Open My Eyes That I Might See.
IRS Agent's Hymn . . .	I Surrender All.
Gossip's Hymn . . .	Pass It On.
Electrician's Hymn . . .	Send The Light..
Shopper's Hymn . . .	Sweet Bye and Bye.
Realtor's Hymn . . .	I've Got a Mansion, Just Over the Hilltop.
Massage Therapist's Hymn.	He Touched Me.

AND for those who speed on the highway - a few hymns:

55 mph . . .	God Will Take Care of You
75 mph . . .	Nearer My God To Thee
85 mph . . .	This World Is Not My Home
95 mph . . .	Lord, I'm Coming Home
100 mph . . .	Precious Memories

Give me a sense of humor, Lord, Give me the grace to see a joke,
To get some humor out of life, And pass it on to other folks.



If you have your photo in the new directory, see Denise Floyd or Shelly Willems to get your directory!

A very big thank you to Denise Floyd & Oly Johnson for working with the Graphic Design Department at NWKTC to have the directory done!



Altar Guild – Kim Roeder & Darla Wynn

November 5
All Saints Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor Don McMillan

Worship Assistant: David Branda

Organist: Marla Harrison

Usher:

Greeters: Jack & Doris Armstrong

Acolyte: Jacob Williams

Lector: Kaleb Williams

Communion (Altar): Virginia Palmgren

Flowers:

Coffee:

November 12
Noisy Offering
Thankoffering Service

Worship Leader: Pastor Don McMillan

Worship Assistant: David Branda

Organist: Marla Harrison

Usher: Duane Coash

Greeters: Duane & Alberta Coash

Acolyte:

Lector: Marilyn Snethen

Noisy Offering:

Flowers:

Coffee: Thanksgiving Dinner

November 19

Worship Leader: Pastor Don McMillan
Worship Assistant: David Branda
Organist: Marla Harrison
Usher:
Greeters: Denise Floyd &
Acolyte:
Lector: Connie Hatcher
Communion (continuous): Mary Ann Snethen
Flowers:
Coffee:

November 26
Christ the King Sunday

Worship Leader: Pastor Don McMillan
Worship Assistant: David Branda
Organist: Marla Harrison
Usher:
Greeters: Ken & Virginia Palmgren
Acolyte:
Lector: David Branda
Communion (continuous):
Flowers:
Coffee:

November 29
Advent Wednesday

Worship Leader: Pastor Don McMillan
Organist: Marla Harrison
Usher:
Greeters:
Acolyte:
Lector: Deb Boyle
Flowers:
Soup: