

# THE SUNDAY PAPER

December 2018

## THE PARISH CALENDAR

TODAY, First Sunday of Advent - the new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon!  
 8:00 a.m. Worship-Holy Communion  
 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 10:15 a.m. Worship-Holy Communion/ Sunday School  
 11:30 a.m. First Sunday BLAST Pot-Luck Breakfast  
 12 Noon Choir Rehearsal

## PEOPLE ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Asst. Ministers: 8-Farris Parker/10:15-Melanie Apicella  
 Usher: Joe Apicella  
 Reader: Melanie Apicella  
 Acolytes: Landon Ruggiero  
 Counters: Lois Kummer/Peter Susling  
 Altar Guild: Beate and Wolfgang Benz

Toni's Kitchen: Carole Behnke/Rebecca Ford/Janice Hogan/Irene Smith/Tammy Zolnowsky

We welcome back and thank Rev. Carol Brighton for preaching and presiding at our worship services today. Pastor Will returns next Sunday.

The church office will be open while Pastor Will is away. If you have an emergency you can reach Cathy at her home 973-857-0143 or leave a message at the office.

## LAST WEEK

8:00 a.m. 12 10:15 a.m. 29 Pledge Income \$1073

## NEXT SUNDAY, The Second Sunday of Advent

8:00 a.m. Worship-Holy Communion  
 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal  
 10:15 a.m. Worship - Holy Communion/Sunday School  
 11:30 a.m. Coffee/Goodies/Fellowship-Gathering Area  
 4:00 p.m. Confirmation I  
 5:00 p.m. Youth Group - Bake cookies

## PEOPLE ASSISTING IN THE SERVICE

Asst. Ministers: 10:15-Megan Wills-Llewellyn  
 Usher: Wolfgang Benz  
 Reader: Tim Ford  
 Acolyte: Kierstin Walter  
 Counters: Melanie/Joe Apicella  
 Altar Guild: Beate and Wolfgang Benz

## First Sunday BLAST! TODAY

A Pot-Luck Breakfast following the  
 10:15 a.m. Worship  
 for adults/children (members and  
 non-members)  
 Free will offering

On that day expect to see:

- Special music - We welcome and thank Claudia Wigent, harpist for being our special BLAST music today and for sharing her talents at our service. We also thank Rosie Vallese and Kevin Brown for joining our choir this morning for our special music.

- A Special Stewardship project - "think Christmas Trees", but instead "fruit-tree seedlings through the ELCA Good Gifts. This gift keeps the doctor and hunger away, year after year. Fruit-tree seedlings are specially selected for each location and climate and can include varieties, like mango trees. \$10 -fruit-tree seedling, \$150-fruit-tree nursery.

- Evangelism Emphasis: Fill the Church Sunday!



## FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MONTCLAIR

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## FUND (Fellowship and Stewardship)

At the Council meeting on October 28th, as we have done in the past at this time, the church council authorized a special designation in the Thanksgiving and Memorial Fund for "Deficit reduction". The simple title "Deficit" will be added to the Thanksgiving and Memorial Fund report. Any monies gathered that are earmarked or designated specifically for deficit reduction will be totaled under this category. If you desire to help with the deficit, please use the special Deficit reduction envelopes found on the table in the entrance way. Please make sure your name and envelope # are on the envelopes. Our deficit is around \$83,000.

2019 Stewardship. Estimate of Giving Cards are due back today. Additional cards are available on the table in the entrance way.

## INVITE (Evangelism)

If you are visiting today, our family extends a heartfelt welcome and please join us again. Sign our "guest book."

## REJOICE (Worship, Music and Arts)

Advent Icon. John the Baptist - please take a moment to enjoy the new Advent Icon that is now displayed at the front of the Sanctuary. The icon was given by Ulrike Wiede in honor of teachers.

We will be having poinsettias, wreaths (already up) and a tree for Christmas Decorations. Use the sign-up sheet found on the table in the entrance way to give a \$10+ gift towards these decorations. Checks should be made payable to First Lutheran Church [labeled for Christmas Decorations] and put in the offering place or mailed to the church office. All gifts will be noted in the Christmas bulletins.

Christmas Caroling. On Sunday, December 16th a group of choir members, youth, and all other interested will gather at noon to go to sing Christmas Carols to our Homebound members: Janet Ramsammy in Van Dyke Nursing Home, and Shirley Peterson at home. We will be carrying along the homemade cookies baked by our youth as well as hot cocoa and apple cider to share. If you would like to sing along, please come to the church at Noon on Sunday, Dec. 16th. We'll car pool to the two locations.

## SERVE (Social Ministry)

Devotionals for Advent are available today on the table in the entrance way. For adults, Journey into the Light by Susan M. Lang. The devotional for children Advent A to Z by Arden W. Mead has been mailed to their homes and our Confirmation I class received in the mail God's Word Comes Down by Jeremy Becker.

Check out the table in the Gathering Area. Fair Trade Items (chocolates) are available for purchase. Make great Christmas gifts.

There is a basket on the table for your payment. Please make checks payable to First Lutheran Church. There is also a sheet available on the table for you to add your name ONLY "if you take an item with you, but will send a check to the church office later." No need to sign the sheet if you are paying for the items now!

The Advent Giving Tree has angels with cards attached to them. You leave the angel behind to decorate tree and bring a gift back for the one you chose. We are supporting this year "children" through MEND (Meeting Emergency Needs with Dignity), The Salvation Army (toys), and Toni's Kitchen. (supplying Hats/Gloves/Mittens/Scarfs for their Back-Pack Project - they fill 200 back-packs a week for children with food - will now add hats, etc. (children sizes, please!)

If you are unable to shop but would like to give a monetary gift to help with some items, please call the church office or leave a check payable to First Lutheran Church in the office.

Let's fill the tree with angels and surround the tree with gifts. Please read the angel cards carefully. Sign your name on the sheet indicating which card you selected and be sure to return the gifts by the date on the card. Also attach the blue card as a label. Questions - call Cathy in the church office.

## TEACH (Education)

Our Sunday School continues. Students first gather at the 10:15 a.m. service with their parents. Children are dismissed after the Children's Sermon and gather for Sunday School with their teacher, Melissa Foord. Sunday School is for youth ages 3 through 6th grade. Each session has a Bible story & craft. Please join us!

Deacon Clemens Reinke. At our recent Council meeting a motion was made and approved to give Clemens Reinke the honorary title of Parish Deacon. Clemens was an ELCA Pastor in Brooklyn, Jersey City, and Teaneck before retiring from pastoral ministry. The Biblical title of Deacon was given to the helpers of the Apostles and generally refers to a ministry of Word and Service. Clemens has joined the choir, has agreed to be the Youth Club director, and is working with Pastor Moser on an initiative to create a Lutheran presence on The Montclair State University Campus. Please greet Deacon Clemens warmly!

Youth Club. Our F.L.Y.C. (First Lutheran Youth Club) has gotten off to a great start! Luscious brownies were baked for Toni's Kitchen for the Thanksgiving holiday! Deacon Clemens will be the new Youth Club leader, and will be meeting with the youth on Sunday, December 9th at 5 PM to bake Christmas cookies and to plan the 2019 program. We hope to have one group for the confirmation aged students and one for the older youth. Pray for our ministry to our youth.