

Our Saviour's & Balsamlund Lutheran Church; ELCA E-News



For December 15, 2024

DAILY BIBLE READINGS 12/15/24—12/21/24



SUNDAY John 3
MONDAY Deuteronomy 29-31
TUESDAY Esther 1-5
WEDNESDAY Psalm 146-148
THURSDAY Song of Solomon 3-4
FRIDAY Revelation 12-17
SATURDAY Acts 25-26

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OSLC Office: 218-837-5831

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OSLC WEEKLY CALENDAR



12/15 Third Sunday of Advent

9am Fellowship & OSLC Adult Choir practice
10am Sunday School Christmas Program/ no Communion /
2nd offering for Sebeka Angel Fund.
11am Potluck

12/18 Wednesday

9am Quilters
1-5pm Janet Eckman SAM is in-office on Tues the 17th
6:30pm Council Committee Meeting

12/22 Forth Sunday of Advent

9am Fellowship & OSLC Adult Choir practice
9am Sunday School
10am Worship



BALSAMLUND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you know of someone who would like a visitation, please let the office or Janet Eckman SAM know and we will accommodate the request in the best possible way.

Confirmation Class is every 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm-7:30pm in the church basement.

December 24, Christmas Eve service at 6:00pm.

OSLC ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Fellowship Hall Reservations: Every first Sunday of the month, at 4pm, is reserved for the 4H; December 14, 10:45am for Sunday school Practice; December 28, 8am-4pm for a private family function; Jan 26, 2025, 12:30pm-4pm for 4H.

2024 Wadena County Operation Christmas Child wish list is fulfilled! A huge success this year. Thank you to all who volunteered to help make other's Season bright! Jim and Maureen, you both are commended for your tireless out reach in our community and a very special THANK YOU!

December 15th is our Sunday School Christmas Program. Bring your favorite dish to share in the Potluck afterwards.

Christmas Poinsettia sign-up sheets are on the Fellowship Hall table! Thank you for supporting our Youth Group while honoring your loved one(s) too. Merry Christmas! You may take your plant(s) home after the 4pm Christmas Eve "Light" Service on December 24th.

Stress-free giving is here! VANCO! It is an electronic automatic online offering method available to all who have a bank account. Simply fill out a form (ask Rita) along with a voided check and return it to the office to get processed. No cost to sign-up & forms are free. It's simple and efficient.

Calling all OSLC Adult Choir members! On Sundays, during Fellowship Hour, gather by the piano to practice for the Christmas Eve (12/24) worship service.

Christmas Eve Worship: Tuesday, December 24, 4:00pm at OSLC.

To All Church Members: Please note that Hilda Mary Schoon sends her warmest wishes for this Christmas Season. Please read her note on the main bulletin board in the Quilt hallway.

DECEMBER 25, Wednesday, is Christmas Day! Rejoice in his promise!

One of the best parts of Christmas traditions is Children's programs. This year Balsamlund had their program this last week and as always it was amazing. The kids saying their parts, the congregation singing, children singing and Noah's solo. It is all memories of Christmas's past. Many of you remember performing in that Christmas program. The practices – the parts you said or played. The songs that you sang. Think back to that time and reminisce. Some of you may have enjoyed being in these and some of you may have been terrified and did not want to participate.

I remember Dotty Olson and Ethel Luukkonen having us practice our parts and singing in front. I remember getting a bag of hard candy along with the apple and the peanuts. I have no idea what I said but the songs we sang are still mostly memorized. "Away in the Manager", "The Little Drummer Boy", "Joy to the World" – etc.

This next week we will enjoy the performance of OSLC children. I can't wait.

On Sunday the 8th we lit the candle of Peace – peace for all. Peace does not mean being in a still quiet place – Peace means to have close relationship with God. If we cultivate that close relationship with God, we can always have peace even in the chaos of the world around us.

This week we will light the pink candle of Joy. As we continue with the "O Holy Night" we will sing "Fall on your Knees"

As we fall on our knees we can rejoice in the birth of Jesus.

C.S. Lewis wrote in *Mere Christianity*, "Look for Christ, and you will find Him. And with Him, everything else." *Look for Him first. Choose Him this Christmas season. And when you do, you will find eternal pleasures and joy in abundance.*

In Faith,
Janet Eckman
Synod Authorized Minister

The word "Advent" is written in a purple, cursive script font. The letters are fluid and connected, with a decorative flourish at the end of the word.