



The Clarion

December

2024

Vol. 38, Issue 11

**WELCOME TO
CLAIREMONT LUTHERAN/IGLESIA LUTERANA**



**Worship Services
Sunday at 9:30 (English)
Domingos at 11:30 (Español)**

FROM YOUR SENIOR PASTOR

Dear Clairemont Lutheran Church,

Grace and peace to each of you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! It is with great joy, humility, and a deep sense of calling that I introduce myself as your new Senior Pastor. As I begin this journey with you, I am filled with gratitude and excitement about all that God has planned for us as a church family.

Allow me to share a bit about my background. I was born and raised in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico, where my family and community instilled in me a deep love for God and a passion for ministry. From a young age, I felt a calling to serve and share the Gospel, leading me to pursue theological studies at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary (PLTS) and serve in developing multicultural ministries over the years. Each role I have held has strengthened my conviction that the church is not just a building but a living body, a diverse community of believers united by faith, love, and a common mission.

My journey in ministry has been blessed by opportunities to accompany and serve congregations in the ELCA Oregon Synod, which has broadened my understanding of God's work in the world. I've learned the importance of listening, building relationships, and creating spaces where everyone feels valued and welcomed. I come to you not only as a pastor but as a fellow servant of Christ, ready to walk alongside you in faith and growth.

As I step into this new role, I look forward to learning

(Continued on page 2)



Senior Pastor: Manuel Borbon

858-273-7423

Pastor.manuel@clairemontlc.org

Associate Pastor: Elena Enriquez

Cell: 858-248-7898

iglesialuterana@clairemontlc.org

Church Office: Tanya Buchanan

Office: 858-273-7423

clc@clairemontlc.org

Don't forget to vote on Sunday, December 8, at our Congregational meeting

These members of the congregation have offered to serve on our Council:

Gary Jaus, President (1yr)
Bill Fredericks, Vice President (1yr)
Lorri Carlsen, Treasurer (2 yrs)

Council Members at Large:

Pam Allen (2 yrs), LeRoy Bannach (2 yrs), Emilie Lauchmen (2 yrs), Harriet Morris (2 yrs), Kathy Reed, (2 yrs), Tsega Teklehaimanot (2yrs), Angelina Vasquez (2 yrs)

Additional Council Members at Large completing their 2nd year of service:
Bill Huston, Martha Munevar, and Tomy Oregon. **Voting not required.**

We still need a congregational member to offer to take the job of Council Secretary. Kathy Reed can answer any questions you have about this job, phone 619-847-8289.

Senior Pastor—Continued from page 1

more about each of you – your stories, dreams, and experiences that make this church so special. I am eager to hear about the traditions that have shaped this community and explore new ways we can make an impact together.

My vision for our church is simple but powerful: to be a place where all people experience the love of Christ, find purpose in Him, and feel encouraged to share His light in their everyday lives. Together, we will strive to be a church that loves deeply, prays earnestly, and serves faithfully, both within our walls and in our greater community.

Over the coming weeks and months, I would love to meet with each of you, whether that's over a cup of coffee, in a small group, or during worship. Please don't hesitate to reach out – my door is always open. I believe that as we get to know one another, God will reveal the unique ways we can support each other and grow together.

Thank you for the warm welcome you've already extended to me and my family. I am honored to be a part of your lives and this vibrant community of believers. Let us trust that God is going to do incredible things in and through us as we follow His leading.

United in prayer,

Pastor Manuel Humberto Borbon Talamante



DECEMBER SERVICES

Sunday, December 01

- 9:30 a.m. English (Welcome Pastor Manuel!!)
11:30 a.m. Servicio de adoración (¡Bienvenidos Pastor Manuel!)
3 p.m. Rise & Shine Special Needs Choir Christmas Program,
"A Dickens of a Christmas" (See flyer, page 6)



Sunday, December 08

- 9:30 a.m. English worship
11:30 a.m. Servicio de adoración
3 p.m. selections from the *Messiah*
Sanctuary choir & chamber orchestra (See flyer, page 7)
5 p.m. All Children's Choirs Christmas program,
"A Charlie Brown Christmas" (See flyer, page 10)

Sunday, December 15

- 9:30 a.m. Service of Lessons & Carols w/instrumentalists
no sermon this service
11:30 a.m. Servicio de adoración
5:30 p.m. La Posada



Sunday, December 22

- 9:30 a.m. English worship
11:30 a.m. Servicio de adoración

Tuesday, December 24 – Christmas Eve

- 5:30 p.m. Servicio de Nochebuena
7:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service



Sunday, December 29

- 9:30 a.m. English worship
11:30 a.m. Servicio de adoración





Church Business

August, September, October



Financial Report 2024								
Income					Expenses			
	Actual	Budget	Actual Year to Date	YTD Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual Year to Date	YTD Budget
August	\$41,966	\$31,203	\$346,488	\$272,177	\$65,632	\$37,613	\$331,161	\$313,205
September	\$34,036	\$31,203	\$380,524	\$303,380	\$56,220	\$38,063	\$387,381	\$351,268
October	\$17,700	\$31,203	\$398,544	\$334,583	\$33,686	\$38,063	\$421,067	\$389,331
October net income	-\$15,986				2024 YTD Net income		-\$22,523	

Calling all Bunco players!

When: 2nd Friday every month.

Where: Narthex

Time: 1:00 p.m.



\$5.00 Donation for charity and prizes.

All are welcome.

December 13 at 1:00 p.m.

FAITHFULLY SERVING

We are in serious need of people to help on Sundays as communion assistants or the welcome team.

Christmas services are a challenge to find people with so many traveling or having other obligations, so please consider signing up to help in December and/or regularly in 2025.

You can contact Tanya in the office at 858-273-7423. Thank you for faithfully serving at CLC/IL.



JANUARY 2025
CLARION DEADLINE
 Friday, December 20 @ 4 p.m.
harrietmorris@cox.net



**December 2024 “In God’s Garden:
What fig trees teach us about Advent”**

by Hannah Hawkinson

This Advent, we’ll learn from some surprising teachers: fig trees. Astonishingly vibrant, fig trees have a zest for life. Their roots have even been known to bust through plumbing and climb walls like ivy! Yet fig trees also have a dormant period — a time when they do not grow or bear fruit. But this period of waiting and rest isn’t a time of waiting around. It’s a time of pruning and fertilizing and watering; a time to prepare for the fruitful season ahead.



As we prepare the way of the Lord in this season, we are in our own dormant period of waiting and anticipation.

Still, Jesus calls us to “keep awake” and to prepare ourselves for God’s coming.

Join us to explore what fig trees can teach us about waiting and preparing for God’s coming!

ALL are invited to attend the *Gather* Bible Study’s:

Patience Bible Study: Monday, December 9 at 12:30 p.m. in Room 4.
Bible Study Leader is Karen Creusere; Hostess is Linda Van Eyck

Ruth Bible Study: Thursday, December 12 at 10:00 a.m. in Room 1.
Bible Study Leader is Anna Bailey.

THANKOFFERING

The founders of Women of the ELCA decided back in 1988 that Thankofferings are to support the ongoing ministries of the churchwide women’s organization. We here at Clairemont Lutheran Church/Iglesia Luterana have and will continue to participate in this annual offering.

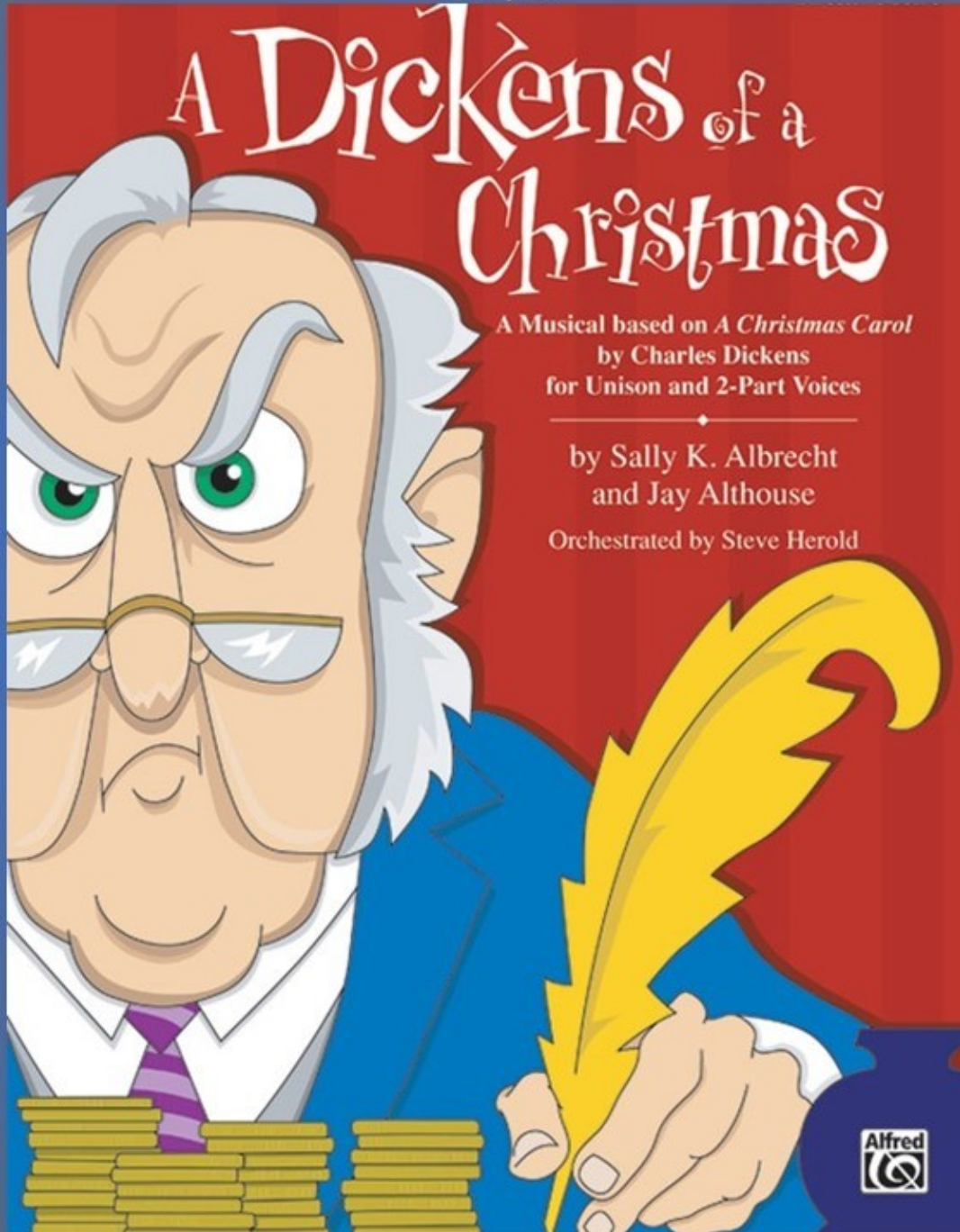
We received \$1,421.00 for the 2024 Thankoffering and are extremely grateful for your continued support. If you need a charitable tax receipt, please contact Janet W. at janmich6@aol.com or 858-334-8017.

God Bless you.

Clairemont Lutheran Church presents:
Rise & Shine Special Needs Choir

December 1st, 2024

3:00pm



Clairemont Lutheran Church
4271 Clairemont Mesa Blvd San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 273-7423

COLD-CALLING OR RELATIONSHIP BUILDING

By Gary Jaus

I was driving recently when a political pundit came on the radio talking about the effectiveness of door-to-door vacuum cleaner salespeople versus the effectiveness of having a relationship with people. The speaker pointed out the historically poor success rate of door-to-door sales versus the documented success rate of sales through relationships. The pundit noted that Encyclopedia salespeople had experienced the same “no-thank you” and doors being closed in their faces that the vacuum salespeople did. As we know, both of those products via those sales methods are pretty much extinct.

The radio commentary caused me to reflect on my experiences as a financial advisor compared with my experiences in law enforcement. Law enforcement is a person-to-person profession. Patrol officers, detectives and supervisors meet with strangers every day, be they victims, suspects, or people just needing help through a variety of situations. As a patrol officer I interacted with people in the community every day and was always amazed at what they shared with me when just I let them talk.

When I went to work for a brokerage firm I marketed to the people I already had a relationship with, namely police and emergency personnel. After my first year I received an award for the clients and funds I had brought into the firm. My reward was an all-expense paid trip to New York for a week of training. One of the training topics was “cold-calling.” In retrospect it was the equivalent of door-to-door sales using a phone. The training for cold-calling lasted almost an entire day. I listened as the trainers extolled the techniques, words and phrases we should use to convince the person on the phone to meet with us so we could continue the conversation about their money. In law enforcement I looked for patterns and trends to help solve crime so I asked the instructor “*What’s the success rate of cold-calling?*”

The reply, “*If you can get two percent of the people to let you call them back, you’re a success.*”

To make sure I’d heard the instructor correctly, I said, “*So, you’re spending almost an entire day of training us on a method where we’ll maybe succeed two percent of the time?*” The room was dead quiet. In those silent seconds I thought, *We should be talking about face-to-face networking and building relationships, not cold-calling.*

A year later my boss told me he wanted to see me sitting in my chair cold-calling for three-and-a-half hours a day. When I asked him why, he said, “*Because I*

(Continued on Page 8)

WELCA BULLETIN BOARD

Please check out the WELCA bulletin board in the narthex at least once a month. You will see information about church events, updates and general information about CLC/IL along with what is happening with Women of the ELCA (WELCA).

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Janet Wood at janmich6@aol.com or call/text at 858-334-8017.

“Christ Lutheran Church Pacific Beach”

The women from this church blessed us with a donation of 15 boxes of fabric for our Mission Quilts Group. This donation of fabric contributes to our ongoing mission of providing quilts to Lutheran World Relief (LWR).

If you would like to help out occasionally or join the quilting group, please contact Ruth Andersen at 858-408-5194.

Thank you to the women who faithfully continue to produce beautiful quilts for those in need.

(Cold-Calling — Continued from page 7)

don't understand what you do and cold-calling worked for me. Not a good enough reason for me to stay and not long after that I resigned.

I share that anecdote to make this point. Are we ‘cold-calling’ the people we meet or are we networking with people we meet to build relationships? Are we thinking about the people we routinely interact with as possibly needing Christ in their lives? Are we listening to our neighbors, our friends, or the local cashier where we buy our daily coffee for the clues they share about what’s going on in their lives? Can we, or better yet, do we try to align what we’re hearing from them with some of our life experiences so we can legitimately say, “I know that feeling, I’ve experienced that myself.” Building a relationship with a person almost always involves having something in common with the person and if we can find what we have in common we’re off to a good start.

Our Stephen Ministers are taught active focused listening skills. Law enforcement taught me that attentive listening opens doors to deeper conversations. Maybe the person you’re listening to has Jesus Christ in their life and they just need to talk about something with someone. Great, and maybe God puts us in those situations just to be the compassionate listener in that moment. Then again, maybe that person doesn’t have Christ in their life. When we listen first, we don’t sound like a cold caller pushing a product. Listening first creates the opportunity for a myriad of conversations later including conversations about God and faith when the opportunity presents itself. When done through a relationship and at the right time those conversations can change lives. And they’ll never feel like a cold-call.

SALUTE TO THE ARMED FORCES

On Veterans Day Sunday the congregation sang the closing hymn by that title. But I think many do not know in the Marine Corps hymn the meaning of the first stanza:
“From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli”

“The Halls of Montezuma” refers to the Battle of Chapultepec (1847) during the Mexican-American War.

“The Shores of Tripoli refers to the Barbary War (1801-1815). President Jefferson sent a naval and military force to battle the Barbary pirates that were attacking American shipping. After the Battle of Deren in 1805, where the marines hoisted the American flag over the Old World for the first time, the phrase was added to the battle colors of the Corps.

The Navy Hymn, “Anchors Away” has the line, “Farewell to college joys.” This refers to Naval Academy graduates moving on to their duty assignments.

The Coast Guard Hymn includes the moto “*Semper Paratus*” which translates as Always Ready.

Bill Fredericks



CCSA HOLIDAY PROGRAMS

We will support CCSA by providing gift cards for Family Christmas Baskets and Christmas Homeless Gift Bags again this year. CCSA clients sign up with Clairemont or Pacific Beach centers for their bag or basket.

Christmas Homeless Gift Bag – We will donate gift cards only. CCSA distributes Gift Bags that will have gloves, hats, socks, hygiene items, candy, and a \$10.00 gift card from McDonalds, Jack-in-the-Box, Vons, Subway, etc.



Gift cards or monetary donations for gift cards can be brought to church and/or given to the Office by **Sunday December 1**.

Family Christmas Basket - We will donate gift cards only. CCSA distributes a festive Basket to a client family that will contain non-perishable food and a \$50.00 (family of 1-4 members) or \$75.00 (family of 5-8 members) gift card from Target or Walmart for perishable items. Gift cards or monetary donations for gift cards can be brought to church and/or given to the Office by **Sunday December 8**.



Please contact Heidi Acosta 858-373-8634 if questions. Thank you for your support of this wonderful Christmas gift of giving.

Clairemont Lutheran Church presents:
Highlights with choir and orchestra

HANDEL MESSIAH

December 8th, 2024
3:00pm

Kartik Sundaram, Tenor
Giselle Mendoza, Soprano



Followed by
The Children's and Youth Choirs Presenting:



**A CHARLIE BROWN
CHRISTMAS**

Clairemont Lutheran Church
4271 Clairemont Mesa Blvd San Diego, CA 92117
(858) 273-7423

DECEMBER

2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p>9:30am Worship Service 10:30 Birthday cake 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 3pm Rise & Shine Christmas concert</p>	<p>2</p> <p>1:00pm AA 4:15-5pm Cherub Choir, 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>3</p> <p>1:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>4</p> <p>12:30-2pm Southern Care 4pm Stephen Min. 4:30-6pmpm Southern Care group</p>	<p>5</p> <p>8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00am SA 1-3pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 3pm Christmas Concert Sanctuary Choir & Youth choir</p>	<p>9</p> <p>1:00pm AA 12:30pm Patience bible study 4:00pm Gospel Study 4:15-5pm Cherub Choir, 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>10</p> <p>1:00pm AA 4:30pm Evangelism team 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Executive Team 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon 7:15pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>4pm Stephen Min. 4:30-6pmpm Southern Care group</p>	<p>12</p> <p>8:00am Sandwich Min. 10:00am Ruth bible study 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm Bunco 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00am SA</p>
<p>15 Lessons & Carols</p> <p>9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1:15pm Rise & shine 5:30pm Posada</p>	<p>16</p> <p>1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study 4:15-5pm Cherub Choir, 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>17</p> <p>1:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Cub scouts 7:00pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>18</p> <p>12:30-2pm Southern Care 4pm Stephen Min.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00am SA</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1:15pm Rise & shine 12:30 - Iglesia Luterana fellowship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study, 6:30pm Scouts 4:15-5pm Cherub Choir, 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir 8:00pm AA Meeting</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Services</p> <p>5:30pm En Español 7pm & 10pm English</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Christmas Day</p> <p>Office Closed</p>	<p>26</p> <p>8:00am Sandwich Min. 1:00pm AA Meeting 2-3:30pm Southern Care group 5:30- 6:30 Cherub Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8-12pm Food Distribution 1:00pm AA 6:00pm Al-Anon</p>	<p>28</p> <p>7:00am SA</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30am Worship Service 11:30am Servicio de Adoración en Español, 1:15pm Rise & shine 12:30 - 6pm Iglesia Luterana</p>	<p>30</p> <p>1:00pm AA 4:00pm Gospel Study, 4:15-5pm Cherub Choir, 5-6pm Glee Choir, 6:30pm Scouts 6-7pm Esperanza Youth Choir 7:30- 9pm Sanctuary Choir</p>	<p>31 New years eve</p> <p>1:00pm AA 6:30pm Handbell rehearsal 6:30pm Cub scouts</p>				

CLC Volunteer Schedule - December 2024

Lay Readers

- 12/1 Lynn Ten Eyck
- 12/8 Susan Gjerset
- 12/15 Gary Lange
- 12/24
- 12/29 Bonita Martinez



Communion Assistants

- 12/1 Rita Leatherman, Holly Boyle
- 12/8 Bonita Martinez, Lorri Carlsen, Lewis TenHulzen
- 12/15 Carol Nichols,, Gary Lange, Pam Allen
- 12/24 **7pm & 10pm services please call office if available**
- 12/29 Gary Jaus, Aida Jaus, Harriet Carmona

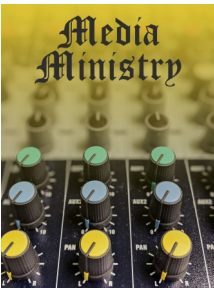


- Kathy Higgins 12/1
- Gary Lange 12/1
- Susan Brennecke 12/4
- Carol Fish 12/7
- Jack Shirley 12/8
- Anna Herfindahl 12/8
- Hanah Thomas 12/8
- Janine Coshow 12/8
- Phillip Allen 12/10
- Elena Enriquez 12/11
- Kiley Briggs 12/11
- Ray Skoglund 12/13
- Damian Diaz 12/14
- Josefina Cruz 12/15
- Mellissa Balderrama 12/15
- Stella Penyak 12/18
- Pam Allen 12/19
- Gabriela Oregon 12/20
- Leona Edblom 12/21
- Vicki Reece 12/21
- Tomy Magana 12/21
- Dorethea Brewer 12/24
- Jason Engel 12/27
- Jean Shirley 12/29
- Keelie Flax 12/29
- Gregory Buchanan 12/30
- Sydney Buchanan 12/31

Welcome Team

- 12/1 Pam Allen, Sandra Logan, Curtis Cline
- 12/8 Kathy Reed, Gary Lange, Emilie Lauchmen
- 12/15 Harriet Carmona, Pam Allen, Janet Wood
- 12/24 **7pm & 10pm services please call office if available**
- 12/29 Rita Leatherman, Curtis Cline, Karen Creusere

- 12/1 Gary Lange & Stella Penyak
- 12/8 Rita Leatherman
- 12/15 Allen family
- 12/22 LeRoy Bannach



Peggy Ritchie, Holly Boyle

Rita Leatherman, Ruth Andersen, Bev Covey, Sandra Logan, Harriet Carmona, & Rohany Purba

Thank you!!!!

If you are not on this list and celebrate a birthday in

December please contact the

- 12/1 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 12/8 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 12/15 Lewis John TenHulzen , Mitchell Little
- 12/24 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little
- 12/29 Lewis John TenHulzen, Mitchell Little