

This Week at Epworth

Sunday, December 10

- 10:00am Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30am Worship
- 11:45am Staff Appreciation Potluck

Tuesday, December 12

- 1:30pm Tuesday Bible Study
- 6:00pm Girl Scouts

Wednesday, December 13

- 5:30pm SLT
- 7:00pm Choir
- 7:00pm Youth

Thursday, December 14

- 10:00am Bible Study
- 2:30pm Staff Meeting
- 7:00pm Cub Scouts

Friday, December 15

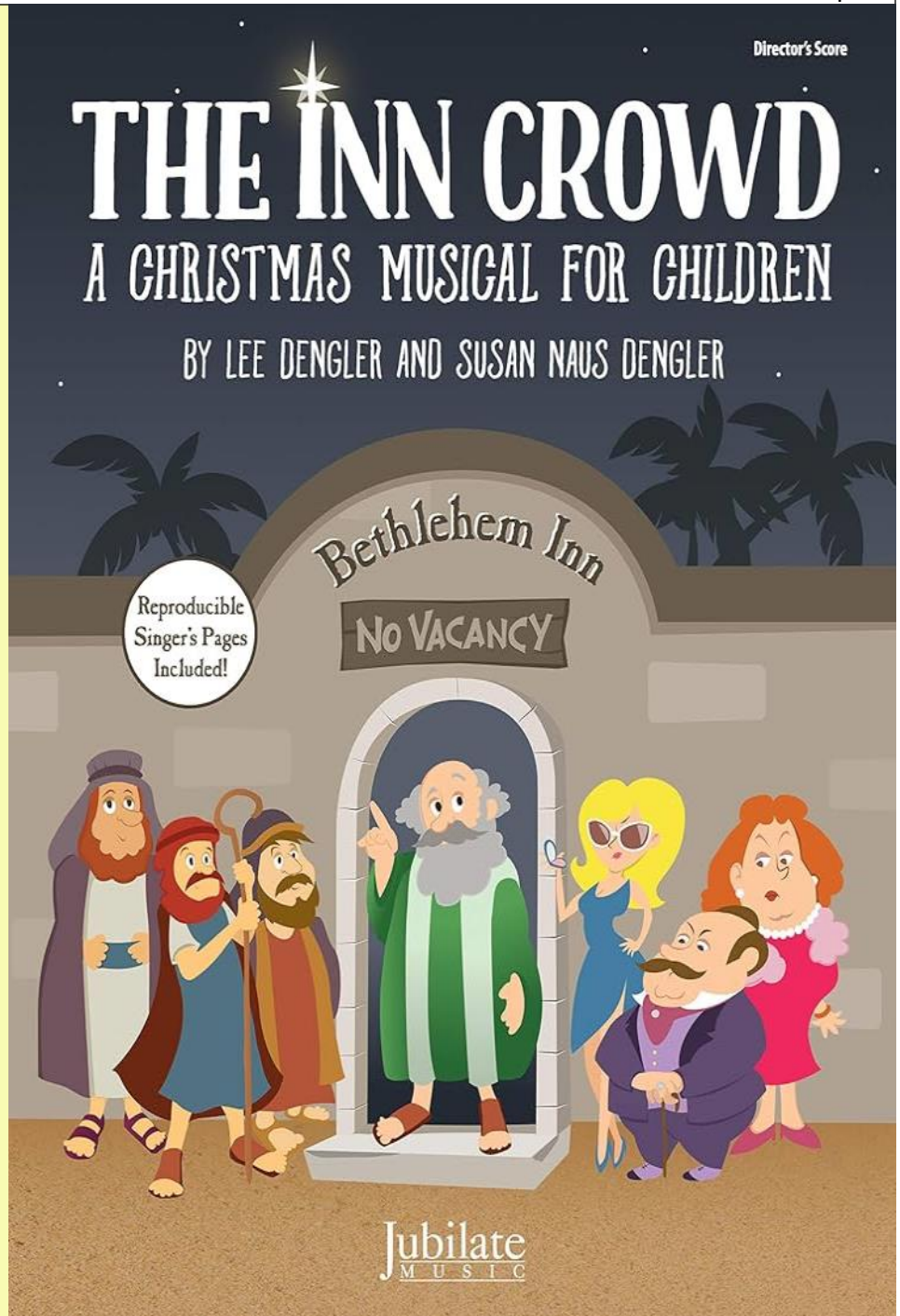
Newsletter Articles Due

Sunday, December 17

- 9:00am Sunday School
- 10:00am Coffee Fellowship
- 10:30am Worship

Welcome! If you're a guest, know that we're glad you're here, and that we'd love to get to know you better. If this is your first visit, welcome. If you are returning, welcome back!

Coffee Fellowship time is at 10:00 a.m. Enjoy coffee, lemonade, water, and a treat. We welcome our visitors to join us!



Contact Information

680 8th Ave. SW
Valley City, ND 58072
Ph: 701-845-0340
epworthvalleycity.com

Sermon Series

Previous Sundays—

On the Gratitude Path

Giving Thanks in Every Situation

Bring in the Tithes

Do You See What I See?

Today—

Children's Christmas Program

Our Mission

To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Our Vision

Living, sharing and growing in God's love by bringing the world to Christ and Christ to the world through open hearts, open minds, and open doors.

Our Strategy

Radical Hospitality
Spiritual Growth
Signature Ministries
Collaborative Leadership

Where + is indicated, standing or sitting, we praise God.

*You are invited to read aloud the **bold text**.*

Large print hymnals are available upon request to an usher

On the screen—Leader=white text, People=yellow text

The Church Gathers to Worship

+ Call to Worship –

Leader: Come let us join together in worship, lifting our voices in praise and thanksgiving, singing a new song to the Lord!

People: We will sing to the Lord and lift up God's name.

Leader: God is composing a melody of grace for all who have ears to hear.

Based on a ritual by the Rev. Matt Rawle in Experiencing Christmas: Christ in the Sights and sounds of Advent © 2023

+ Opening Hymn – No. 220 *Angels from the Realms of Glory*

The Church Lifts Prayers to God

Unison Prayer –

Lord, we hear the Advent sounds, and they invite us to be of good cheer. Yet, this year, many of us feel as lonely as the shepherds. **Others feel as unwelcome as a family with an unplanned pregnancy arriving unannounced at a crowded house. Help us Lord, to hear your voice calling us beyond this present din of despair. Help us to listen for a calling to the place where glory dwells, hope persists, and all are welcome. Help us when we leave to reflect this service's joyful buzz. May that buzz be heard not just in our ears, but also in our homes, hearts, and minds. May others hear our excitement, rise like shepherds, and follow us figuratively to the manger. In the name of the One born in a barn, Jesus Christ, Amen.**

Lifting our Joys and Concerns

Leader: Lord, in your mercy / in our joy

People: Hear our Prayer

A Time of Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer in Unison

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,

They will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Announcements —

The Church Hears God's Word

Time Mostly for Children — *Children's program*



In Our Prayers This Week

Fighting Cancer

Jan Barlow
Jo Thorson
Jill Olson
Arin Lutiker
Dale Neuberger
Don Baasch

Prayer Requests

Our 4GoG Ministries
mental health concerns

Lori Glaser
World Leaders
Military
Jaxon Horsager
Kathy Mah
Mark Ziebert
Vivian Ziebert
LeRoy Magnuson
Wayne McKirdy
Erin Reielbach
Wyatt Tulp
Karen Pullen
Gail Pederson
Chesney Thomsen
Ashley Enright
Jerry & LaWanna Hieb
Macy Raven
Pat Nielson

In Joy

The holiday season
Time with friends &
family

If you or a member of your family is going into the hospital or moving from one care center to another and you would like the church to know about this, please call the church office at 701-845-0340 or email office@epworthvalleycity.com. This helps our church family care for one another.

Ministers of the Gospel

All members of the congregation.

Appointed Clergy

Rev. Duane Coates
pastor@epworthvalleycity.com
Phone: 701-845-0156
Cell: 605-695-5561

Program Staff

Cassidy Fraedrich
Office Administrator
office@epworthvalleycity.com
701-845-0340

Hayley Winkler
Christian Ed. Director
christianed@epworthvalleycity.com
Cell: 701-840-7073

Paul & Brenda Lint
Youth Ministries
youth@epworthvalleycity.com
Cell: 701-840-0410

VirLyn Hoff
Congregational Care Coordinator
virlynhoff@yahoo.com
Cell: 701-840-9285

Northwest District Superintendent

Rev. Joel Winckler

Dakotas Bishop

Bishop Lanette Plambeck

You can use your smartphone to give electronically today. Just scan the QR code below.



epworthvalleycity.com/giving

Guest wifi: Epworth Guest
Password: epworth@guest

The Church Responds to God's Word

Offertory –

+ **Doxology No. 95**

+ **Prayer of Dedication**

+**Closing Hymn** — No. 213

*Lift Up Your Heads,
Ye Mighty Gates vs. 1-3*

+**Dismissal with Blessing** —

Leader: The hills and mountains will be singing praise to God.
Every tree in the forest will be clapping its hands.

All: The Lord will come and rule forever. Alleluia. Amen.

Traditional Monastic Liturgy

+**Postlude** —



We Care For Our Community

Please share with the church office if you, a family member, or another in our church family are experiencing illness, hospitalization, or need of pastoral care.

Pastor Duane Coates, Office: 845-0340 Cell: 605-695-5561

DECEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Paul Owen
 Jim Burchill
 Katie Clark
 Katy Van Dyke
 Austin Shape
 Michelle Grebel
 Todd Burchill
 Kevin Tulp
 Meredith Cummings
 Carol Peterson
 Eden Cuypers
 Ellen Drevecky
 Patricia Triebold
 Kyle Vareberg
 Abby Rohrbeck
 Wayne Winkler
 Celeste Breske

14th Amy & Carl Martineck
 15th Jennifer & Dan Elston
 20th Liz & Dennis Fick
 23rd Susan & Bruce Larson
 26th Deb & Jim Hegdahl
 28th Avis & Dwayne Richter



Epworth Ministry Review

Attendance: Sun. December 3

In-person— 91 Online—20
 Sunday School— 15 Adults— 9

Attendance: Wed. December 6

Youth— 17

Stewardship: December 3—December 9, 2023

Daily Expenses— \$2,837.00
 Glory of God's House— \$200.00
 Building & Maintenance— \$100.00
 Upper Room— \$50.00



In Ministry Today

Pianist— Hayley Winkler
 Tech Team—
 Lector—
 Ushers—

Address Change?

If your address has changed, please notify the church office @ 845-0340 or e-mail: office@epworthvalleycity.com

Please help us keep our postage costs down by notifying the church of your address change.

Ushers Needed



Christmas Love Gift & Staff Appreciation Potluck— “Thanks be to God for His indescribable Gift!” 2 Corinthians 9:15. Where would Epworth Church be without the caring gifts of our hardworking staff? Please join the Spiritual Leadership Team by showing your appreciation at a potluck dinner today after the children’s Christmas program. The staff will all be there so you can meet our new Office Administrator, Cassidy Fraedrich, if you haven’t already done so. Plus we would like to recognize all of our staff: Pastor Duane Coates; Virlyn Hoff, (Congregational Care), Lance Drevecky (choir director), Marian Drevecky (pianist), Pastor Paul and Brenda Lint (Youth Directors), Dawn Thomsen (Epworth Holy Grounds Manager), and Hayley Winkler (Christian Education).

We also would like to encourage you to consider a Love Gift for each of our staff members. You can send them directly to each person, bring them to the potluck, or drop off your gifts at the church office. We will make sure they are delivered. May all the gifts of this wonderful Christmas season be yours! Hope to see everyone at the Staff Appreciation Potluck today right after worship.

Christmas Eve Service Announced— Epworth will host one Candlelight Christmas Eve service on Sunday, Dec. 24 at 5 p.m. Pastor Duane is looking for people who would be willing to read certain sections of Scripture for that service, offer special music, usher, and/or greet. Please see Pastor Duane if you are interested. All are welcome to this service. So, please bring your family, neighbors, and friends.

Poinsettias— We love to see Poinsettias decorating the chancel at Epworth. Many of these are given in honor or memory of someone. So, you are invited to bring a Poinsettia to share as part of the sanctuary decorations. Please provide the names to Cassidy in the office by Dec. 17.

17th Annual “Sounds of the Season” Brown Bagger Series— If you like to listen to Christmas music during the holiday season, you now have another opportunity to listen to Christmas Holiday music the Wednesdays in Advent beginning on Dec. 6th during the noon hour. These listening opportunities will be held in the sanctuary of Our Savior’s Lutheran Church from 12:10pm to 12:50pm, giving listeners time to pick up a sandwich or other type lunch and make their way to the church.

Wednesday, Dec. 13th, will feature Faye Buebach, and Wednesday, Dec. 20th will feature Beth Quick Berge. So bring your lunch or just come listen to the music of the holiday season and enjoy provided refreshments. The public is invited to attend any or all of the sessions in this Christmas Holiday music series.



Christmas Trays and Visitations— Christmas treat trays and visitations will be made throughout the week of December 18. Trays will be prepared Monday morning Dec. 18. Please bring items Sunday Dec. 17 or by ten Monday morning. Suggested items are cookies, treats, sweet breads, crackers and cheese, chex mix, hot chocolate mix, fruit. Visits to both Legacy and Bridgeview and those recovering from recent illness.

Both men and women are invited to participate. If you can make a visit, contact Virlyn Hoff. Sponsored by United Women in Faith.

