

2015 MT. EDEN CHURCH CALENDAR DECEMBER

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 NO PROPERTY MEETING	2 Preschool 9:15-11:45	3	4	5
6 <i>2nd Sunday of Advent (Blue)</i> Worship 9:30 a.m.; No Family Bible Time; COPIER FUND; Decorate church for Christmas after Worship; Refreshments to follow	7 Preschool 9:15-11:45	8 Church Council Mtg. 7 PM	9 Preschool 9:15-11:45	10	11	12 Wreaths Across America 12:00 Noon 
13 <i>3rd Sunday of Advent (Blue)</i> Worship 9:30 a.m.; No Family Bible Time; Congregational Meeting after Worship; FOOD BANK	14 Preschool 9:15-11:45	15 Worship & Music Mtg. 7 PM	16 Preschool 9:15-11:45	17	18	19
20 <i>4th Sunday of Advent (Blue)</i> Worship 9:30 a.m.; Family Bible Time after Worship; BUILDING FUND; Evangelism after Worship	21 Preschool 9:15-11:45	22 Social Ministry 7 PM	23 Preschool 9:15-11:45	24 Christmas Eve – Office closed <i>The Nativity of Our Lord Christmas Eve – Candlelight Service of Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m.</i>	25 Christmas Day – Office Closed 	26
27 <i>1st Sunday of Christmas (White)</i> Worship with Carols 9:30 a.m.; No Family Bible Time; FAMIY IN NEED FUND; <i>Annual Reports of the Church are due in the office in typewritten form</i>	28 No Preschool	29	30 No Preschool Serve a Meal at Water Street Mission 4:00-6:30 p.m.	31 		

HELP IS NEEDED ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27TH AFTER WORSHIP TO MOVE EVERYTHING OUT OF THE SOCIAL ROOM DOWNSTAIRS IN ORDER TO STRIP AND WAX THE FLOORS OVER CHRISTMAS BREAK; AND ON SATURDAY, JANUARY 2ND, TO PUT EVERYTHING BACK INTO THE ROOM. QUESTIONS? SEE TOM OR RALPH

Mt. Eden Messenger

DECEMBER 2015

LAY SERVERS FOR DECEMBER

9:30 a.m. Service

Open Church & set-up Communion

NEED VOLUNTEERS ALL MONTH

Please sign up TODAY!



The Happenings at Mt. Eden:

- Giving Thanks at Mt. Eden
- Church news, events & updates
- The December Birthdays, Servers & Prayers

PRAYER CONCERNS

Home Hospice Care: Barbara Kerchner.

Hospital: Judy Buckwalter – Home now.

Prayers: Rose Foose Tolley, Pat McCauley, Betty Groff, Gary Strubel, Emma & Shorty Bland, Jessica Morrison, Ralph & Nadine Reinhardt—Eric & Emma and family, the family of Norma Lechner, Matt Bland—his wife BJ and daughters Mara and Paige, Craig Lefever, Theresa McMahon, Russ Wimer, Dave Kerchner, Donna Spade & the family of George Spade, Sr., Bob Eckman, Ken & Marge Pineda, Wendy Whisman, Holly Miller, Megan Creter, Linda Wallace, Scott Patterson, Clifton Kent, Irene Witmer, Eric Grein, Nikki Goodwin, Millard Hess, Keith Wittig, Gary Gill, Brenda Wright, Betty Walborn, Vivian Mellinger, Terri McKonly, Donna Kauffman, Ivars Celmins, Peggy Kauffman, Sharon Klugh, Doris Kennedy, Debbie Kauffman. ***Please notify the office a.s.a.p. of any changes needed to this prayer list.**



...to Nadine Reinhardt for bulletin coverage while I was off!!!

...to Fred Williams for coordinating the annual Wreaths Across American ceremony to honor our veterans.

...to Susan Mull for coordinating the poinsettia sale this year.

...to all who are helping decorate the church for Christmas!

...to all who volunteer on committees and in groups to help keep the church going! THANK YOU!!!

...and to all of our incoming and outgoing council members! We thank you for your service!!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

December 2 – Jack Mahoney

December 3 – Kimberly Richards

December 4 – Taylor Williams, Tina Findley,

Alexa Musser

December 5 – Christine Richards

December 8 – Pastor Don Costlow

December 10 – Jada Marie Brown

December 12 – Brooke Kauffman, Matt Spade, Jr.

December 15 – Susan Mull

December 18 – Dustin Titherington

December 20 – John Janisak

December 22 – Evelyn Book

December 24 – Emily McComsey

December 25 – Mary Stottlemeyer

December 26 – Dana Gainer

December 27 – Faydra Haywood



UshersSign up today please

GreetersSign up today please

Wine Server12/6 & 12/13 – Donna Spade

..... 12/20 – Shaylyn McComsey

..... 12/24 & 12/27 – Vonnie Mitchell

Lay Reader 12/06, 12/13, 12/20 & 12/24

.....Desiree` Haywood

.....12/27 OPEN

Acolyte12/06 – Sophia Haywood

.....Need volunteers for 12/13, 12/20, 12/24 & 12/27

Altar GuildSign up today please

Offering Counters..... Brenda Moran, Jon Webb

Outside SignSign up today please



DECEMBER LESSONS & PRAYERS

FOR WORSHIP

Sunday, December 6 – Advent 2 – Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

Sunday, December 13 – Advent 3 – Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

Sunday, December 20 – Advent 4 – Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45[56-55].

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

Sunday, December 27 – 1st Sunday of Christmas – I Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-52.

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen*

Pastor's Perspective:

"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace
among those whom [GOD] favors!"
– Luke 2:14, NRSV

It's that time of year when our thoughts turn to our gracious Lord descending to Earth and taking on human flesh; being born a child in a manger in Bethlehem. He would be the awaited one who will grow, teach, sacrifice himself for us upon the Cross, die, rise again, ascend back into heaven, send his Holy Spirit to dwell with us and in us, and then return to us to take us to our heavenly home. It's that time of year many of us recall the story of the shepherds in the fields, tending their flocks by night, and experiencing the angel proclaiming the Good News:

'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom [GOD] favors!' – Luke 2: 10-14, NRSV

...“On earth peace among those whom God favors.” ... We all long for peace on this earth. We all long for peace with one another. God favors, God loves ALL of us! And God's peace is already ours. But unfortunately, human sin creeps in and disrupts this peace. Perhaps someone says something we don't care for. Perhaps someone does something that is not to our liking. Perhaps the other person is just so different from us that we feel that we could never get along together. AND ... perhaps they are thinking the same about us!

There are a lot of “perhaps” mentioned in those statements. And many times it is those “perhaps” that hold us back from discussing issues that trouble us. Instead of going to the other person to talk one to one in private, many of us lack the courage because our ego is telling us “perhaps” the other person will not listen to me, “perhaps” they will mistreat me, “perhaps, perhaps, perhaps.”

In this joyful time of year, when we reflect on the baby Jesus and the peace of God being given to us as a gift to experience and share, may we take time to pray, look beyond our self, keep focused on Christ, and seek the courage to meet our challenges. May we throw aside the ‘perhaps’, the ‘what ifs’ that our “selfish wants” are forcing us to focus on, and focus instead on Christ Jesus and his love. In the 1960s, a band who called

themselves “Friend & Lover” had a song titled Reach Out In The Darkness. The verse from this tune states:

I knew a man that I did not care for,
And then one day this man gave me a call,
We sat and talked about things on our mind,
And now this man he is a friend of mine.

This Christmas Season - and all- year around - I pray- we all experience the peace of God in our hearts and minds. I pray we ‘reach out in the darkness’ and shine the light of Christ upon others, I pray we make that call to talk with whoever may be troubling us and gain reconciliation, ... and I pray, as your newly Called Pastor at Mount Eden, that together we do ministry and bring to this earth – through the guidance of the Holy Spirit – “peace among those whom [GOD] favors!”

Your Brother in Christ,
Pastor Don

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WHAT'S UP NEXT AT MT EDEN?

- ☆ Sunday, November 29 – First Sunday of Advent – Family Bible Time after Worship
- ☆ Sunday, December 6 – Decorate church for Christmas after Worship. Refreshments to follow.
- ☆ Saturday, December 12 – Wreaths Across America – 12 Noon by the Cemetery
- ☆ **Sunday, December 13 – Please join us for worship on Sunday, December 13th at 9:30 a.m. followed by the annual Congregational meeting to elect new officers of the church and vote to approve the 2016 proposed budget. This is a very important meeting, so please plan to attend!**
- ☆ Sunday, December 20 – Special Worship Service at 9:30 a.m. – Family Bible Time after Worship
- ☆ Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve – Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols with Holy Communion – 7:00 p.m.
- ☆ Sunday, December 27 – Carol Service at 9:30 a.m.
- ☆ Wednesday, February 10 – Ash Wednesday
- ☆ Sunday, March 27 – Easter Sunday



Mt. Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church Council Minutes

*The Mission of Mt. Eden Evangelical Lutheran Church is to be
an Instrument of Jesus Christ in Word and Deed to our
Community and Beyond.*

Meeting called to order by President Jim Barnett at
7:00pm on November 10, 2015

Attending:

X Jim Barnett	X Pat Dearolf	Jay Groff
X Barbara McComsey	X Brenda Moran	X Susan Mull
Ken Pineda	X Bonnie Summers	
X Sam Summers	X Fred Williams	X Jon Webb
Pastor Don Costlow		

Devotions: Devotions were led by Barb McComsey.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Barb McComsey made the motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting which was seconded by Sam Summers and was approved by all.

Communications: Received a letter from Pastor Don accepting the position of part time Pastor at Mt. Eden as of January 1, 2016.

Treasurer's Report: Sam Summers made the motion to accept the treasurer's report which was seconded by Fred Williams and approved by all.

Committee Reports:

Budget and Finance: Nadine presented the proposed 2016 Budget. After some questions and discussion Fred Williams made the motion to accept the 2016 Budget which Brenda Moran seconded and was approved by all.

Cemetery Trust: There were 3 interments and 1 lot sold. Cemetery Clean up is March 12th 2016 at 9:00am. Their next meeting is Jan. 26th, 2016.

Christian Education: Next Family Bible Time will be Nov. 22, 2015 after the church service.

Endowment Fund: As of Sept. 30, 2015 the checking account balance is \$195.92. The saving account balance is \$101.13. The Thrivent Mid Cap account balance is \$17,499.21. The Thrivent Moderate Aggressive account balance is \$14,656.76. Mission Investment CD's: #305647 is \$6,271.89 and #062453 is \$2,069.87. The total balance of the Endowment Fund is \$40,794.48.

The committee asked what would need to be done to change the term limits for the members. A recommendation would have to come to the council and then council would have to make a recommendation to change the constitution at a congregational meeting.

Evangelism: Next meeting Dec. 20th after church.

Mutual Ministry: No report.

Property: They purchased a new vacuum cleaner. Will look into a cigarette container for out front of the church, and replace a dimmer switch. We need help to move everything out of the social room downstairs on Dec 27th while the floor is stripped of wax and waxed during Christmas break. On Jan. 2nd we need help

putting everything back into the room. Painting the parking lot lines will be done in spring of 2016. The next meeting is Jan. 5th, 2016.

Social Ministry: Next activity is collecting for the Mitten Tree. Will be lining up activities for 2016 at the next meeting on Dec.20th after church. Thinking of having "Souper Sunday" in Jan. 2016.

Stewardship: No meeting

Worship & Music: Nov. 1st had "All Saints Sunday". Nov. 15th will have a joint service with Zion U.C.C. at 10 am. Nov. 29th Advent will start with using Setting 1 in the LBW. Dec 6th we will be decorating the church for Christmas with refreshments. Dec. 24th will have a Christmas Eve service but no service on Christmas Day. Dec. 27th we will have a Christmas Carols service.

Youth Group: no meeting

Pastor's Report: Pastor is on vacation but had his report available.

Ministerial events Pastor participated in additional to weekly prep for Worship Services, sermon prep, and leading Sunday Worship Service for October:

Led a memorial service for Florence Sheaffer at Mt Eden on Oct. 3rd. Led Family Bible Time on Oct. 4th & 18th. Led "Blessing of the Animals" on Oct. 4th. Taught Holy Communion Class during Family Bible Time on Oct. 11th. On Oct. 13th he attended Lancaster Conference Meeting and also church council. Oct. 19th he attended a Pastor's Support Group and attended Worship & Music meeting on Oct. 20th. On Oct. 25th Pastor was called as our part time Pastor at Mt Eden. Oct. 27th he attended the Social Ministry Meeting, Oct. 28th taught Bible Lesson to Pre-school Children and from Oct. 29th till Nov. 2nd he was covering for Pastoral Emergencies for Pastor Cheryl Hoffman, at St. Michael Lutheran Church.

Motion made to approve all reports: Sam Summers made the motion to accept all the reports which was seconded by Bonnie Summers and approved by all.

Unfinished Business: Talked about members that are needed to fill Council, Cemetery Committee, Endowment committee, Nominating committee, Auditor committee and Synod delegates.

Fred Williams confirmed the council dinner is Dec. 3rd at "The Gallery Grill" at Tanglewood at 7:00 pm. Sixteen are planning to attend.

New Business: Pat Dearolf asked to use the social room on Jan. 10th 2016 for a family get together. Fred Williams made the motion to allow the use of the room on Jan.10th and Barb McComsey seconded the motion which was approved by all.

Items for Next Congregational Meeting:

Present the 2016 Budget for approval and complete the nominees on Dec. 13th

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:20 pm

Next Meeting: December 8th 2015

Respectfully submitted, Pat Dearolf

The November 2015 Council Minutes are printed in this newsletter pending approval at the next formal council meeting in December.

DECEMBER COMMITTEE MEETINGS

No Property Meeting

– Waxing floors over Christmas break

Dec. 3 – Council Dinner at the Gallery Grille – 7 PM

Dec. 8 – Council Meeting 7 PM

Dec. 15 – Worship & Music Meeting 7 PM

Dec. 20 – Evangelism Mtg. after Worship

Dec. 22 – Social Ministry Meeting 7 PM

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FAMILY BIBLE TIME: We are continuing with our Family Bible Time after Worship with this *tentative* schedule:

- December 6 & 13 – NO FBT
- December 20 – Jericho (Lesson #11)
- December 27 – NO FBT

SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

will be collecting things for the “Mitten Tree” between Thanksgiving and Christmas. Look for the tree in the Narthex.



Christmas Boxes 2015

(Donations due to the Solanco Food Bank by Monday, December 14, 2015)



- ☆ Roaster Chicken
- ☆ 1 box au gratin potatoes
- ☆ 1 can **each** whole and creamed corn
- ☆ 1 can green beans
- ☆ 1 box corn muffin mix
- ☆ 1 bag bread cubes
- ☆ 1 16-20 oz. crushed pineapple
- ☆ 1 lb. margarine
- ☆ 1 can turkey/chicken gravy
- ☆ 1 small jar mayonnaise
- ☆ 2 4-6 oz. Jell-O
- ☆ 1 small container Cool Whip
- ☆ 1 pk brown and serve rolls
- ☆ 1 head cabbage, 1 lb. carrots
- ☆ 1 can fruit cocktail
- ☆ 1 pk pie crust
- ☆ 1 can fruit pie filling
- ☆ ½ gal milk
- ☆ 1 doz. Eggs

DISASTER RESPONSE TRIP TO NEW JERSEY APRIL 24—30, 2016



Mark your calendars and begin spreading the word that the next Disaster Response Trip, again to New Jersey, will be held April 24-30, 2016. More information will follow regarding planning meetings, but for now, please add these dates to your calendar and get the word out that another trip is being planned. We had a wonderful group of 20 volunteers participate in our most recent trip in late September and early October where we were able to place another piece of the puzzle together, that is helping to restore the lives of our brothers and sisters who are still displaced, more than three years later, from Super Storm Sandy.

Peace be with you!

Rev. Glenn A. Beard, Jr., Coordinator, Lower Susquehanna Disaster Response Network

ANNUAL REPORTS OF THE CHURCH

All annual reports of the church are due in the church office in typewritten form by **Sunday, December 27, 2015.**

Reports are needed from the following:

- ✓ Council President
- ✓ Pastor
- ✓ Audit Committee
- ✓ Budget & Finance Committee
- ✓ Cemetery Committee
 - Cemetery Investments
 - Lawn Mowing Expenses
- ✓ Christian Education Committee
- ✓ Endowment Committee
- ✓ Evangelism Committee
- ✓ Mutual Ministry Committee
- ✓ Property Committee
- ✓ Social Ministry Committee
- ✓ Worship & Music Committee
 - Worship Schedule for 2016
- ✓ Mt. Eden Church Women Report
- ✓ Youth Group
- ✓ Preschool Report
- ✓ Financial Secretary
- ✓ Treasurer's Report
 - Annual Budget Review 2015/2016

