

CEDAR UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

17541 Jefferson St. NE , Ham Lake, MN 55304 | 763-434-7463 | cedarumc.org

Pastor Cliff Nelson

DECEMBER



2024

"We are on a journey, committed to share God's love and the hope of Christ with our community"

A NOTE FROM PASTOR CLIFF



A pastor tells of visiting in someone's home in early March. He says, "We were talking, and suddenly I looked up on a corner shelf and noticed a Christmas ornament hanging-almost as though it had been forgotten in the mad rush to put away the holiday season. I quickly looked away, hoping that my glance had not been noticed. But the woman caught me. Before I could say a thing, she smiled and said: "No, I didn't forget. Every year when I clean up the mess, I choose one ornament to leave up to remind me that Christmas is not just one day or one season - but a lifetime. That little bulb is my reminder that Jesus walks with me everyday."

What a wonderful story, and I thought what kind of visual item do I have, that when I see it, I am instantly reminded that Jesus walks with me everyday. What is it in your life that when you see it you are immediately reminded of Christ's presence in your life. That's something worth pondering about during this Advent and Christmas season. The message of this season is Emmanuel - God with us. What an amazing promise. So I ask each of us, is there something that when you see it you are immediately reminded of Christ's presence no matter what you are going through. Maybe a good gift to give yourself this year, is that something that when you see it you are immediately reminded Christ walks with you everyday. That would indeed be a wonderful gift this year.

*In Christ,
Pastor Cliff*



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MISSIONS

Our Missions emphasis for November and December has been and will continue to be NACE Food Shelf. We have been collecting nonperishable food items in the NACE cart in the entryway as well as on the altar in the front of the sanctuary. Our Noisy Sunday offering collected on November 24 will also be given to NACE. We will continue to collect food items throughout December. Thank you for showing your concern for others with your generous donations.

God bless you all and grant you a very Merry Christmas.
Junelle and Sue

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH (UWF)

Our women's group has also taken part in the collection of nonperishable food items for NACE food shelf and will continue throughout December. We have also started collecting books, puzzles, games and personal care items for residents of a nursing home. We will not be having a December meeting so our next meeting will be January 9, 2025 at 5:30 pm. All women are invited, so we hope you will join us.

We wish everyone a blessed Christmas.
Connie and Junelle

FELLOWSHIP

We wish to thank all of the volunteers (about 30 of them) for all of their help with Trunk or Treat event on October 26th. We couldn't have pulled it off without you. We had 100 children!

Marty did a super job with the car show again this year.

God bless you all and thanks again!

The Fellowship Committee



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MEMORIAL

DID YOU KNOW.....

The memorial cabinet that is in the back of our sanctuary was given in honor of Len and Irene Stern by Kathy Bell-Fiedelman and family. It displays many of our precious items from our past history.

We cherish and respect every gift.
The Memorial Committee



SOCIAL MEDIA

Cedar is on a journey to share the God's love with our community. When we have events at the church, it is obvious that it is what we are doing. But when we do things away from the church like Feed my Starving Children, Hope For Youth, leaf raking, offsite youth activities, or maybe even a local hayride, it would be good for us to be recognized as Cedar UMC. Our current logo is a cedar tree, albeit from Lebanon and not Cedar Mn, or the Methodist flame & cross. We would like to leverage the talent within the congregation to explore ideas for a logo that will readily connect with the church and able to be reproduced onto banners, signs, t-shirts etc. If you have any interest in discussing ideas, please contact Lisa in the church office and let her know. We will let you know when the group will meet.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all who came out the past 2 Saturday's to help get the Christmas decorations and tree out and then all of the decor in place!

We all had fun, many hands always make work easier; comradery, laughter and great friends bring so much love and joy to us. Great work, all.

Lorraine



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DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- | | |
|-------|--|
| 12/2 | Dale Pahan |
| 12/7 | Kelsey Meier |
| 12/14 | Sheryl Zagaros |
| 12/17 | Kathy Bell-Fiedelman
Daisy Wallenmeyer
Pam Yenor |
| 12/26 | Lisa Crepeau |
| 12/27 | Don Fineran |

SUNDAY SCHOOL

*** COME and ADORE HIM ***

December 8th at 10:00 am our kids will be bringing us a musical version of JESUS' birth entitled THE MIRACULOUS CHRISTMAS STORY.

Bring your parents and grandparents to see how this all comes together! Our special guests will be our very own, Cedar Choir with a few surprises!! There will even be a Bake Sale afterward!!!

Tammy & Lorraine

There will only be Sunday School program practice December 1st and on December 8th please be here, no later than 9:30 am for getting into costumes, and settling down a bit before show time. December 15th no Sunday School, we would like kids to enjoy Music Sunday provided by the Cedar Choir. Thank you to Marty, our awesome director and to Amy our accompanist, extraordinaire.

January 5, 2025 Sunday School will return.

Merry Christmas and Happy 2025
Lorraine & Tammy



DECEMBER 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1. 1st Sunday in Advent 9:30 am SS Program Rehearsal 10:00 am Worship	2. 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing	3. 6:00 pm Book Club	4. 7:00 pm Choir	5. 7:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting	6.	7.
8. 2nd Sunday in Advent 9:30 am SS Program Rehearsal 10:00 am Children's Program Bake Sale following worship	9.	10. 5:30 pm UWF	11. 7:00 pm Choir	12. 7:00 pm Piecemakers	13.	14.
15. 3rd Sunday in Advent 10:00 am Music Sunday No Sunday school	16. 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing 6:00 pm Trustee Meeting	17.	18. 6:00 pm Bells	19.	20.	21.
22. 4th Sunday in Advent 10:00 am Worship No Sunday school	23. 6:00 pm Caring & Sharing	24. 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service	25. Christmas Day	26.	27.	28.
29. 10:00 am Worship No Sunday school	30.	31. New Years Eve				