

HAPPY CHRISTMAS

A seasonal special of The Salt Newsletter

Jesus' Christmas Party

On Sunday 18 December the Church School will be presenting a Christmas Play during morning worship.

Christmas Eve

5:00 p.m. Family Service

11:00 p.m. Holy Communion

Christmas Day

11:00 a.m. Worship

In the New Year...

January 1 - 11:00 a.m. Worship

January 8 - Holy Communion

January 9 - 3 p.m. Session

January 14 - 10 a.m. AMS

January 15 - Coffee &
Conversation

January 18 - 7 p.m. Board

February 5 - Annual Meeting



“The Grace of God has appeared!”

Christmas is a celebration of God's grace appearing among us —

A light breaking into the darkness...

A message of hope to those who have lost everything...

A vision of peace to confront nations at war...

A cause to rejoice for those filled with sorrow...

A declaration of a love for the world, for us,
though we might feel unworthy of that love...

The message of Advent and Christmas is of how God fills, saturates, overwhelms the world and us with light and good news! As Christian we are called to bear witness to God's good news breaking into our world, as we point to the eternal light that, “in thy dark streets shineth.”

One of the ways that we celebrate this season is we light candles to shine brighter as daylight diminishes and the nighttime increases. We kick against the darkness!



AMS Craft & Bake Sale

On Sunday 27 November the AMS held their annual Craft & Bake Sale.

The sale raised \$470.25 for the AMS's World Vision foster child.

Elder Elections

Many thanks to the members who submitted their ballots at the end of November for elder elections. The ballots have been counted and over the next few weeks the members elected for consideration will be approached and asked to discern their call to the office of ruling elder.

2016 Annual Meeting

The Congregation will hold its Annual meeting on Sunday 5 February 2017 following worship and a lunch.

Reports are due Monday 23 January for them to be compiled and made available to the Congregation on Sunday 29 January.

Another way that we celebrate this season is with the sacrament of the Lord's supper, which is celebrated three times in the Advent/Christmas/Epiphany season.

The table of great thanksgiving again marks how the grace of God has appeared, breaking into the world, lifting us up to heaven to partake of the sacred elements all to reveal God's love for this world. Such a love moves us to rejoice and to bear witness that, "heaven and earth are *full*" of God's glory.

The sacrament moves us to see beyond the selfish tendencies of our world (and of this season) in order to celebrate God's self-giving with our joyful thanks and praise.

As we celebrate the blessed hope of this season I wish you all a joyful Christmas as you share the light of Christ with family and friends!

Peace & Blessings,

The Rev. Jeffrey M. Murray

Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

To find out if a service is cancelled on a Sunday morning with inclement weather you may:

- 1) check the website – a notice will be posted on the main page
- 2) call the church (536-1952) – notice will be given as part of the standard greeting on the answering service.

Notices of cancellation will be made by 9:30a.m. for both website and phone answering service.