

1105 N Washington Blvd Ogden, UT 84404 801-782-2810

Parish Notes

Welcome to Worship

December 24, 2020

Pastor Debra Jimenez Cell: 770-841-7610

Email:

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Office Hours:
To be determined

Gathered and gifted to celebrate and share the love of Jesus

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday, we heard words of truth, hope, and promise from the angel Gabriel, "For nothing will be impossible with God."

For so many of us, this year has seemed impossible. The truth that we are experiencing a global pandemic that has robbed so many of their very lives is inescapable. Many are burdened by sadness at the loss of loved ones to this virus. Others are working day and night to care for and bring healing to the afflicted.

Still others have lost jobs and worry that they can no longer provide for themselves or their families. All of this, while all the other expected challenges of life continue. Christmas this year finds many celebrating without friends and family gathered in the traditional ways. It can seem as if it is too much, the load is too heavy, and fear threatens to overtake us.

Even so, there are other stories every day. Stories that remind us that goodness still exists, that hope, peace, joy, and love cannot be extinguished. I've seen it again and again as people across this country and around the world come together to share and care for others.

You've heard the stories I'm sure. People making desks for children faced with learning at home. Others breathing new life into computers to be given to children that would otherwise be left behind. People preparing food and care packages for their friends and neighbors in need.

The cheers, songs and messages of encouragement shared with those working on the front lines of this pandemic. Even in the short time James and I have been here with you, I've seen your love and concern for one another.

Listen to the words uttered by the angel to the shepherds in the fields long ago. These words were for you as well. "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." For all the people....

We are all the people! God has not forgotten you. God loves you! God is with you!

With love and joy,

Pastor Debra

December Birthdays

Deanna Brown	2
Don Brown	4
Janet Kilhefner	13
Mark Hughes	14
Steve Rhees	31



Christmas Eve Worship Services

We will hold in-person Christmas Eve Worship Services on Thursday, December 24th at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Masks are required and we will social distance. We will recite prayers and sing songs silently in our hearts. This Advent season we have embraced the disruption in all our lives this year by reflecting this disruption in our Advent wreath and as we symbolize the "Light of Jesus Christ". We chose to use candles we already had on hand, unmatching as they are, to remind us that the simple message of Advent is preparing and welcoming the light of Jesus, with whatever we have and whoever we are, into our hearts and lives.

This evening, we will light all the candles in our Advent Wreath, including the "Christ Candle". We will include the Christmas readings, Pastor Debra's message, silently-sing Silent Night in candlelight, and weatherpermitting, jubilantly sing "Joy to the World" as we exit the church into the breezeway. Join us if you are able and dress for a few minutes of singing outside. We hope you find the Wonder and Joy in this Christmas Season!! Facebook Live will be available at 5:00 and 7:00 pm. Online Zoom links will be available shortly after the 5:00 pm worship service.

www.facebook.com/AscensionLutheranOgden

We Need Your Help with a Few Small Projects

- 1. Looking for snow shovelers who have the time and want the exercise. If you can be available for future storms, contact Pat Refsdal, 908-625-2039
- 2. Looking for someone to check-out the snowblower to ensure it is ready for winter.

2021 Annual Congregational Meeting and Council Vacancies

As a reminder, our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held January 31, 2021 after the worship service at 10:30 AM. We anticipate three Council vacancies, so please consider serving on your Church Council. We will approve the 2016 and 2019 updates to our constitution, approve the 2021 budget and have available the 2020 Ascension Annual Report. Ministry Leads, just a reminder that End-of-Year Ministry Final Reports will be due January 4, 2021. Online links will be available for the Annual Congregational Meeting.

†Please Lift Up in Prayer:

- Family of Barbara Edisinger Brenton
- Family of Mildred Tolle
- Lillian Hughes & Family
- Tracie Truitt, friend of Alyson's
- Kristy Shari Morosky's daughter
- Joan Marlow
- Stephanie, niece of Gloria
- Cory, Nancy Byrne's son
- Pam Burbank
- Jessica Stewart, Dick Graves daughter
- Dan Harkin, Lillian Hughes cousin
- Delilah Sell, Lillian Hughes cousin
- Rebecca Rens and the Eyre Families
- Patti, Shari Morosky's sister
- Roy Zimmerman
- Randy and Janie Karas
- Jefferson Barrett
- Kyle and Kristen friends of Kelly
- Karla and Lynn Davis
- Maylan Chugg, Don & Dee's granddaughter
- Julie Jensen, Mike Williams' sister
- Heather Nolting, wife of Arliss' nephew
- Holly & Libby, friends of Kim Engelby
- Gloria Mike
- Chris, friend of Alyson W.
- Judy Sherman

- Sean Zeller, Pastor Gene's nephew
- Cheryl, friend of Alyson
- Mark Hughes and family
- Richard, Shari Morosky's husband
- Harold and Mary VanDehey, friends of Leo Seeber
- Shelley, Diana Warkentin's friend
- Ardis, Elaine Shelburne's sister
- Jason Shepherd, Nancy Byrne's nephew
- Heidi, Diane Shultz' sister-in-law
- Don Hughes
- Dick Graves
- Jim Johnson, Sharen's brother-in-law
- Karen O.
- Marijka, Grace and Dallas
- Paula and Dave Stuart and Paula's Dad
- Steve Morlan
- Ruth Ann Hudspeth, friend of Dick G.
- Butch and Lou, Pastor Lisa's parents
- Charles , Arliss' brother

†Praying for Loved Ones in the Military:

- Kaleb Tarr
- Dariyan Edsinger
- Mason Bushey and his wife Ida, and family
- Brody Wilcock
- Renee Kiel
- Justin Kiel
- Kris Kiel
- Matt Malde
- Jason Chugg

