



# Reformation Lutheran Church

“Come and See, Learn and Rejoice, Go and Tell!”

December, 2019

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From Romans 13 vs 11 and 14...Put on the armor of light . . . Put on the Lord Jesus Christ . . .

I can remember back when my five children learned how to dress themselves. With their newly developed independent minds, they would go to the dresser drawer or the closet and choose an outfit that they wanted to wear that day. It may or may not have matched, but it was all about being able to have a say in what they put on their little bodies that day. If we dared try to amend their choice... well you can imagine what happened! There would be protesting and insistence that they wanted to be in control, no matter what we thought of their fashion sense or their feel for the weather outside.

Whenever I read the words of Paul, who several times in scripture speaks about “putting on” something, I always think of situations like the one I described above. “Put on the armor of light... put on Christ... put on the new self.” The Greek word he uses is enduo (en-doo-oh) which is “to dress oneself.” I don’t know about you, but it is **not** everyday that I stand in front of my closet and ponder how I will dress myself. In the summer it’s a t-shirt, short and sandals. In the winter it’s blue jeans and a flannel shirt or sweatshirt. And of course for work it’s the standard fair for a pastor. Simple. Yet, the outfit many choose to wear each day is often a harder decision than following Paul’s advice. We want to put on Christ each day! We want to live in all that Christ chooses to dress us in: love, patience, generosity, grace, mercy, peace, and hope! Those attributes matter much more than the shirt, trousers, or shoes one might pull out of the closet.

As we begin another Advent season, it is a perfect time to assess our spiritual wardrobe. A new church year means a new beginning, and who doesn’t love a new beginning? As we center our hearts on Christ and wait for his imminent return, may we continue to pray that he would clothe us with his righteousness, mercy, love, and hope. How wonderful it would be if those who don’t know Jesus, or those who outright reject him, would see his love through us. Our world needs to know the glorious feeling of being clothed in Christ. His love renews us daily and fills us with all confidence for our future. He is trustworthy and his promises never fail. May our outward appearance reflect to all people the gifts that Christ clothes us in. May his love, through us, change lives and set people free. .

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Our Annual Business Meeting and council elections will take place Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Those who have offered to serve: President – Gabi Owen, Vice President – Cheryle Wadsworth, Secretary – Linda Adams, Treasurer – Judy Grigsby, Property – Junior Erickson, Education – Wayne Ramming, Worship and Music – Chuck Hunsaker. Our 2020 budget will also be voted on so please plan to attend! Gabi

**Treasurer’s Report:** As we head toward the end of the year, I want to say how blessed we are! We are holding steady with our finances and even increasing in some areas! Let’s stay positive as we head into 2020. Thanks be to God!

Yours in Christ  
Matthew DeWinter

**Fellowship:** We have three Wednesdays in Advent this year. There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall for those that wish to contribute to our Advent meals. Thanks everyone!

**Property:** All is well with property. Our work day is changing this month. We will meet on December 7<sup>th</sup> and get everything nice and spiffy for Christmas!

**Worship and Music:** We have just celebrated Thanksgiving and have much to be thankful for. Now, as we look forward to Advent and Christmas, please plan to join together at our Advent services, and celebrate the birth of our Savior during this special season. Many people do not worship during the year, but they do at the special occasions, so reach out to friends and neighbors and bring them to one...or more...of our services.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

Great and merciful God and Father, of who the whole family in heaven and earth is named, during this time of thanksgiving I appear before you with gratitude in my heart and praise upon my lips. I extol you who has opened your hands to supply our needs and your heart to forgive us our many sins. You have permitted our fields to be tilled, the seed to be sown, the grain to ripen, the harvest to be gathered, and gardens and orchards to give their yield. You have helped our industries and business to prosper. You have blessed the labors of our hands. You have preserved peace within our borders and protected our soldiers as they support freedom during our nation's longest war. You have mercifully permitted the nation to pursue its course under the protection of our Constitution, granting us liberty of conscience and worship, freedom of speech and of movement. I confess that we are unworthy of all these many blessings and undeserving of your love. Forgive us our many transgressions, and draw us closer to the heart of Christ, our Redeemer, who has atoned for all our iniquities. Continue your blessings on our beloved land, grant us an enduring peace and continued prosperity, and graciously provide employment for all breadwinners. Let your gospel be preached throughout the length and breadth of the nation for the salvation of many souls, and help us to make Reformation Lutheran Church a beacon of your Word throughout our community. Hear me for the sake of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

**Mission and Ministry:** Whew! Where to start....We packed twenty-seven shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child and dropped those off to be shipped. We filled seven boxes with non-perishable food items and added a turkey and ham in each. Sheriff Jolley and his deputies delivered those for us. Next up, we will be shopping for, and filling, Christmas gift bags for our friends at Thrive/RiverPlace/Oaks. What great opportunities to share God's love with others in our community!



10<sup>th</sup> – **Chuck Hunsaker**

11<sup>th</sup> – **Jarrold Ervin**



**Sunday – December 1<sup>st</sup>– Executive council**

**Tuesday – December 3<sup>rd</sup> – Advent meal – 6:00 \* Service – 7:00**

**Saturday – December 7<sup>th</sup> – Clean up day starting at 9:00**

**Sunday – December 8<sup>th</sup> – Annual Business Meeting/Council elections**

**Tuesday – December 10<sup>th</sup> - Bible study – 7:00**

**Wednesday – December 11 – Advent meal – 6:00 \* Service – 7:00**

**Tuesday – December 17<sup>th</sup> – Bible study – 7:00**

**Wednesday -December 18<sup>th</sup> – Advent meal – 6:00 \* Service- 7:00**

**Thursday – December 19<sup>th</sup> – AARP Driver’s Class - 9-4**

**Tuesday – December 24<sup>th</sup> – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service –  
7:00**

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	<u>Dec. 1</u>	<u>Dec. 8</u>	<u>Dec. 15</u>	<u>Dec. 22</u>	<u>Dec. 29</u>
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Linda	Junior	Wayne	Carolyn	Judy
<b>Comm. Asst.</b>	Mel	Matthew	Junior	Chuck	Gabi
<b>Usher</b>	Junior	Judy	Carolyn	Wayne	Junior
<b>Lector</b>	Chuck	Lynne	Matthew	Mel	Junior
<b>Sermon</b>	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor	Pastor	Chuck
<b>RP/Thrive</b>	Pastor	Wayne	Gabi	Wayne	Gabi
<b>Oaks</b>	Chuck	Pastor	Chuck	Pastor	Chuck



And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, 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, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:10-14



