



**Griffith Lutheran
Church
1000 N Broad St
Griffith, IN 46319**

2024

***“Growing Christ-Centered
relationships in our communities
through love and service.”***

Synod Authorized Minister (SAM):
Miriam Schmidle

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Office Hours Monday - Thursday: 9a - 3p

Friday: 9a - 2p

Worship Time: Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.

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Griffith Lutheran Church ELCA

**Griffith Lutheran Church
is Live Streaming all of our
Worship Services on Facebook.**

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Like us on Facebook

Instagram: griffithlutheran



2024 Council Officers, Board/Committee Chairs

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OFFICERS

President: Nina Miller

Vice President: Martha Krop

Treasurer: JoEllen Pilipow

Bookkeeper: Sue Tomes

Financial Secretary: Annette Johanson

Recording Secretary: Shirley Comer

BOARD / COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Music & Worship Committee: ~ Open ~

Mutual Ministry Committee: Martha Krop

Altar Guild: Carol Boyle

Christian Ed/Sunday School: Dennis Robbins

Evangelism: ~ Open ~

Fellowship: JoEllen Pilipow

GLCW: Gail Shimala

Missions: Sandra Ruban

Trustees: Jeff Csonka

Social Ministry: ~ Open ~

Stewardship: ~ Open ~

**** For any Member Spiritual Care needs, please contact:**

Synod Authorized Minister (SAM) Miriam Schmidle: Miriam.schmidle@griffithlutheran.org
or Cell # 773-231-3902

Or Martha Krop: martha.krop1978@yahoo.com OR Cell # 219-308-6829



A Light In The Dark

When I was a child Christmas was special to me. We don't open our presents on Christmas morning but on Christmas Eve. This means a typical Christmas day looked like this: In the morning of December 24th, we were bring in the Christmas tree and decorate it, while we listen to Christmas music. It was fun. The afternoon felt like it would never end.

At 4:30pm we attended a family church service. After service was dinner in my parents' house together with my grandparents. After dinner we were waiting for the "Christkind", who would bring our presents. While we had to wait in the dining room my father sneaked over into the living room to see if the "Christkind" was already there. How excited, when he was coming back telling us that it is time to come over. The door to the living room was always locked, so we had to wait until all of us were in front of the door before my father opened the door and we were allowed to enter the room.

How beautiful it was! A fresh tree with real candles and underneath the tree presents for all of us. Years later I learned that it was my father who lit the candles and put the presents underneath the tree. I grew up and don't believe in the "Christkind" anymore but Christmas is still something special for me. Christmas brings so much joy and light to so many people. Not just to me.

I am amazed by all the lights in front of the houses or in the front yards. They remind me that Jesus came as a light into the dark world. It reminds me that Christmas is much more than presents. It reminds me that Christmas is love. And God shows his light and love in so many ways; with the lights at the houses, or in the love of a father to his children providing a special Christmas. As we are in the middle of the dark season, let us remember that Jesus Christ was born to bring light into our dark.

I wish you all a blessed Advent and Christmas.

Miriam Schmidle (S.A.M.)

Prayer Requests

New to Prayer List:

Don & Suzanne Schmidt ~ Family, friends and all those grieving the loss of John Kane who passed away Monday, Nov. 18 – brother-in-law of Madeline Conn ~ John Spinner, cancer and Wendy & Tony Heavner, Wendy was recently diagnosed with brain tumor – friends of Lee Nedreau ~ Family, friends and all those grieving the loss of Lois Reichel, Lois passed away peacefully, surrounded by family on October 12, 2024 ~ Richard Koehler, Hospice care at Colonial, Crown Point ~ Melanie Obermeyer, health issues – daughter-in-law of Phyllis Darnell ~ Scott Carey, cancer – son of Marilyn Carey ~ Brian Wagner, cancer – grandson of Geri Larson ~ Jim Reyome, health issues ~ Denise Stribbling, health issues – friend of Jim Reyome ~ Janet Malone ~ Terry Blythe, hospice care – cousin of Sandra Ruban

We Pray for Worshippers:

Denny & Cheri Robbins ~ Rich Shimala ~ Geri Larson ~ Anna Jauregui, daughter of Kari Hartog (Smith) ~ Phyllis Darnell ~ Sylvia Hedges ~ Anna Reyome ~ John Kettwig ~ Bernice Morris ~ Chris Shropshire ~ Fred & Margie Steinke ~ Lauren Fullgraf ~ Maradele Koehler ~ Sandra Ruban ~ Elaine Kearney ~ Geri Larson – Residences of Deer Creek ~ Louise Oman ~ John & Linda Aldrin ~ Nancy Carrell ~ George Boules ~ Shelle Sharp Williams ~ JoAnne Villa Christian Village, Crown Point

Our Loved ones in the Armed Forces:

Marissa Darnell, granddaughter of Phyllis Darnell – Medical Facility Officer, stationed in Camp Pendleton Marine Corps Base, CA

Friends & Family:

Marie Cox – sister of Louise Oman ~ Lois White – friend of Louise Oman ~ Jack Berry – Cancer, friend of Annette Johanson ~ Nancy Schmidt, health issues - daughter-in-law of Don and Suzanne Schmidt ~ Greg Coddington, Chemo treatments – son of Elaine Kearney ~ Melinda Pepik, cancer – daughter of Janet Malone ~ Kenny, ongoing health issues – brother of Annette Johanson ~ Eugene Fields, Cancer – brother of Anna Reyome ~ Velma Thiel - Cedar Creek nursing home, Lowell ~ Russ Schroeder, father-in-law of Deborah Schroeder ~ Charlotte, prayers for strength – Loretta's sister ~ Lenore, sister of Karen Slager ~ Beth Wagner – granddaughter of Geri Larson ~ Chad Aldrin, son of John & Linda Aldrin ~ Sky Allen, battling Bone Cancer – family friend of the Stutlers ~ Eloise, hospice care – friend of Karen Slager ~ Ray & Lisa Guyse – cousins of Cheri Robbins ~

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

December 1: Richard & Maradele Koehler Celebrating 6 years.

December 14: Jeff & Nina Miller Celebrating 28 years.

December 23: Less & Jenny Bias Celebrating 40 years.

BIRTHDAY

December 5: Gavin Pack

December 11: Martha Krop

December 17: Roy Runyan

December 19: Don Schmidt

December 19: Suellen Cain

December 19: Ethan Buck

December 20: John Kettwig

December 20: Theresa Mirowski

December 21: Carrie Sovola

December 21: Gabriel Dudlicek

December 22: Donna Clark

December 22: Lennon Garibay

December 29: Linda Anderson

December 31: Pat Ignas

December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30a.m. Worship Service 2p. Advent Sing- Along	2	3 10a. - 3p. Bound W/ Love Quilters	4 10a. –Noon Stitched In Christ 5p - 5:30p Pick up Advent “to go” meals	5 6p.m. Cub Scouts 7p.m. Boy Scouts	6 11a.m. serving lunch @ Hammond Shelter	7
8 9:30a.m. Worship Service	9 6:30p. Cong. Council Meeting	10 10a. - 3p. Bound W/ Love Quilters	11 5p - 5:30p Pick up Advent “to go” meals	12 6p.m. Cub Scouts 7p.m. Boy Scouts	13	14
15 9:30a.m. Worship Service Noon GLCW Christmas Celebration	16	17 10a. - 3p. Bound W/ Love Quilters	18 5p - 5:30p Pick up Advent “to go” meals	19 6p.m. Cub Scouts 7p.m. Boy Scouts	20	21 11a.m. serving lunch @ Hammond Shelter
22 9:30a.m. Worship Service	23	24 Christmas Eve 7p. Worship Service GLC Office Closed	25 Christmas Day 10a. Worship Service GLC Office Closed	26	27	28
29 9:30a.m. Worship Service	30	31 New Year’s Eve				

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**The Griffith Lutheran Church Mission Of The Month:
Habitat for Humanity of NW Indiana.**

The local Griffith, Indiana Habitat for Humanity, opened the ReStore in 1986, with the purpose of helping to make current and future building projects possible, by selling over stock, recycled & new & used materials, to individuals and contractors. All items are sold at a fraction of the cost of normal store prices, and all revenue goes to the local Habitat affiliate to support the building program.

The Mission ~ Bringing people together to build homes, creating communities and hope to those in need.

The Vision ~ A world in which everyone has a decent place to live.

For information about donating buildings materials or furniture, you may contact Theresa @ 219- 972-3000.

In Christ,
Sandra Ruban
Mission Board Chairperson



GLC BLESSING BOX

Some of the most needed items are:

Soups

Canned foods such as chili, ravioli, tuna, canned meats, etc.

Vegetables especially corn and baked beans

Cereal, pancake mix, oatmeal

Canned fruit and applesauce

Peanut butter, jelly, crackers

Mac and cheese, Ramen noodles



Angel Tree

The GLC Angel Tree is up!!!

Please put your name and phone number on the clip board next to the number of the angel you choose.

Please return the gifts, unwrapped by December 15th with the information card attached to the gift.

Any questions, please contact the church office or Gail Shimala.

Happy Shopping!!!



GLCW

On December 15th, at noon, the GLCW will be having a light luncheon as our Christmas celebration. Then we will get busy and wrap all the Angel Tree gifts.

All ladies of the church are welcome to attend. We will be combining a time of fellowship with a time of service. Come join us!

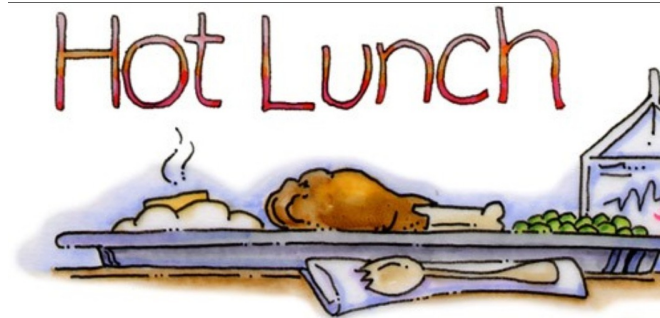


Gift Wrapping
Party

GLC Service Suggestions

Galatians 6:10 ~ "So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith."

You can find more opportunities to serve throughout the newsletter, weekly bulletin, or by calling the church office.



Hammond City Rescue Mission

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**Lunch Program at the Hammond City Rescue Mission Shelter
527 State Street, Hammond, IN**

The GLC provides a homecooked meal prepared by the Fellowship Committee twice a month for the Hammond City Rescue Mission.

Meals include; entrée, sides, beverage and dessert.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP SERVE MEALS!

Serving Friday, December 6: Nancy Carrell & Garrett Wright

Serving Saturday, December 21: _____ & _____

Please meet at GLC by 11a.m.

**If you are interested in volunteering to serve meals please call or email
the church office.**

FOR IT IS IN THE
giving
THAT WE RECEIVE.
~ FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Advent Dinners

This Advent Season, we will continue to have our “To Go” Advent Dinners on Wednesday evenings. These have become a wonderful ministry for the fellowship committee as many people are being reached that wouldn't be able to come in person for the dinners. They will be prepared for takeout on Advent Wednesdays, December 4, December 11 and December 18, 2024 and be ready for pickup between 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. We would need a total minimum number of 30 meals requested in order to prepare them. There are only three Wednesdays in Advent this year with Christmas being on a Wednesday.

Please review our menu and place your orders with Loretta in the church office (219) 838-1626. Please remember your family and friends that could use an extra dinner when you are ordering for yourself.

Please come to the church between 5:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. to pick up your meals. Please drive up to the north side entrance under the canopy and we will bring your meal(s) out to you. You will not need to get out of your vehicle. If you would like to order meals and are not able to pick them up, we have volunteers to deliver meals.

If you need to cancel your meal or if you wish to order additional meals, please call the church office by noon on Monday of each week. If you are able, we would ask for a donation to help defray the cost of the meals. We will not be making enough extra for walk-ins, only pre-orders.

Our menu will be:

December 4 - Grilled pork chops, cheesy potatoes, baked beans and 7 layer salad

December 11 - Mostaccioli, garlic bread, salad

December 18 - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable and 7 layer salad



Christmas Poinsettia

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

6.5" pot @ \$12.00 each

Quantity White _____

Quantity Red _____

Quantity Pink _____

Quantity Marble _____

= total \$ _____

Please print legibly to ensure the spelling is correct.

I would like this in Honor of:

And / Or in Memory of:

**All orders and payment are due by
Tuesday, December 10, 2024.
Please make checks payable to Griffith Lutheran**

Poinsettias are ordered from Alsip Nursery, St. John, IN.

(Office use only: Paid: __ Cash: __ Check #: _____ Total Rec'd: \$_____)



Lake County, IN Toys for Tots

GLC is collecting **new, unwrapped toys, games, books, sports equipment, and crafts** for children in need this holiday season. Gifts for children aged 9 to 16 are always lacking. Please consider donating a gift for that age group this year.

**The last day to turn in your new, unwrapped donations is
Wednesday, December 4, 2024.**

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Address