



Messenger



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America



Jackson Park Lutheran Church

Pastor Fred Thomas-Breitfeld
4535 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53219

Office Phone: 414-545-2828

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A Message from Pastor Fred

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! I pray that all of you, and your families, will have a wonderful, happy, and healthy new year! Whenever January 1 rolls around, we tend to greet it with a sense of wonder and hope and expectation, and maybe even a bit of anxiety. What will this new year be like? Will it be a "rerun" of the year just past? Will something new and exciting happen to me in the coming year? What will the challenges be? Will I have enough inner strength and faith in God to meet those challenges? Am I in for something good, or something difficult?

Whatever the new year holds in store for you, I pray that you will always depend on our great and mighty God to be with you! And He certainly will be, and He Is with You! Jesus' parting words were these as he ascended to his Father in heaven: "Lo, I am with you always, even to the close of the age." This he has promised. And his promises never fail.

As we look forward to this new year in this way in our personal lives, so do we as a Congregation. What does God have in store for us, the people of God gathered here at Jackson Park Lutheran Church? We spent much of last year gathering some very helpful information about our history, about the community, and about our desired goals for the future. As the year went on I believe our hopes started to rise as we witnessed new families coming to worship and as we saw a significant increase in the number of children around each Sunday. It has been exciting! We have a First Communion Class and a Confirmation Class for the first time since before COVID! That has been great to witness! We ended the year with four Baptisms and a packed Sanctuary for our Christmas Eve Service! Our Live Nativity event was again a great successful outreach to the neighborhood as many of our neighbors paid us a visit that day! These are all signs of vitality and HOPE! And it gives us something wonderful to build on as we enter this new year. The challenge for us will be: HOW do we build on it?

At this point, we simply do not know. But what we DO know is that the Spirit of God will dwell in our hearts and souls and show us the way. God has always led his people. We just have to learn to follow his way. And good things will happen!

Finally, I do want to thank all of you for the many cards and gifts I received during the Christmas season. Thank you for your show of love and care. Thank you for the gifts. But most of all, thank you for the gift that all of you are to each other, to this church, and to the world. And have a very happy new year! *Pastor Fred*

Worship Services:

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

Saturday Worship 4:00 pm

the 2nd & 4th week of the month

Contact Information

Pastor Fred Thomas-Breitfeld

Home: 262-781-0672

Church Office: 414-545-2828

E-mail:

jacksonparkchurch@gmail.com

pastorfred81@gmail.com

Website- www.jacksonparkchurch.com

Facebook

Jackson Park Lutheran

Church ELCA

On December 17, Pastor Fred and Gregg Roessger were at the Boathouse in Jackson Park for the 2nd Annual Winter Farmers Market. They met many of our neighbors as they sold some delicious Mt. Meru Coffee!



Four Baptisms on December 17th

How wonderful that we had 4 Baptisms in one Church service!

We welcomed the following into God's family:

Amelia Grace Rabell

Khalia Natavida Rabell

Eli Emmanuel Rabell and

Aries Williams

Congratulations to both families!

Praise be to God!

JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

1/2 Bry Adler
 1/3 Kaye Jung
 1/3 Nancy Krah
 1/4 Donald Bernstein
 1/5 Elaine Zautke
 1/4 Dale Potter
 1/5 Shamus Wright
 1/8 Derrick Johnson
 1/9 David Phillip
 1/10 Joseph Przychowski
 1/12 Andrew Caswell
 1/14 Jeff Luedtke
 1/15 Samantha Hertel
 1/15 Jeff Przybylski
 1/17 Lydia Diaz
 1/18 Tom Tarczewski
 1/19 Jeremy Van Sliedrecht
 1/22 Terry Buth
 1/24 Kari Przybylski
 1/25 Kaine Cornell
 1/25 Isabelle Diaz
 1/26 Bill Krahn
 1/27 Brandon Tompkins
 1/28 Matthew McMahon
 1/29 Adam Coyne

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS & PARENTS!

Please remember that our next Class will be on WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, at 6:30 p.m. I am looking to fill out the ACOYTE Schedule for January. Let Pastor Fred know when your child would be available!

ALL ANNUAL REPORTS

(excluding Financial Reports) should be into the Church Office by Sunday, January 14.



REMINDER!
PLEASE
REMEMBER
TO PICK UP
YOUR 2024
OFFERING
ENVELOPES!



MANY THANKS TO...

THANK YOU to **Dan Paget** for all the painting, patching, and weather sealing he has done around our church! Thank You, Dan, for helping to make our building look very good to all our members and visitors!

THANK YOU to **Jeff Luedtke** who again has volunteered to clear the snow from our sidewalks! We hope it is a mild winter for you, Jeff! And thank you for all the help you give us in opening up the church when needed and so many other tasks you take care of!

THANK YOU to **Wade Cranfield** who is our "go to" for Christmas trees, floodlights, electrical issues, and so much more! And for keeping the lower doorways clear of debris!

Our Live Nativity and Cookie Sale

on December 9th was well received by our community. We had many families visit the Manger scene and then came in for hot chocolate, refreshments, chili, soup, crafts and shop for handmade gifts made in Tanzania from Hearts in Unity. Thank you everyone that "played a part" in making this annual outreach event so successful! We are sharing the message of "The Reason for the Season"!



Join our Sunday School children on **Sunday, January 14th** as we make Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches for The Guest House Shelter. We will also be collecting new and gently used blankets in February to be used for a local shelter.



THANK YOU To everyone that donated items for our Shoebox Sunday on December 17th. Our Sunday School children and staff filled 47 boxes to benefit the families at Hope House shelter, a non-profit emergency homeless shelter and rapid rehousing facility located in the near south side of Milwaukee.