

ASLC NEWS

United in Christ. Welcoming All.

Christmas Eve Worship

There are two opportunities to worship on December 24, Christmas Eve. 11am is a family-friendly creche service where we will celebrate the birth of Jesus in story and song. There will be lots of carols and kids will have an opportunity to participate in the service by helping to construct the nativity scene on our altar. 7:00pm is our regular Christmas Eve candle light worship service. A cookie reception will follow both services.

Treasurer's Report

| | Oct 2017 |
|------------|-------------------|
| Income | \$10,380.52 |
| Expenses | <u>-10,024.96</u> |
| Net Income | +\$355.56 |

YTD 2017 Net Income =
-\$3,210.74

Sincerely, **Bob Lierman**

October was a good month. Let's finish the year strong and try to make up the YTD difference.



Pastor's Column

Advent 2017: Bring Us Focus: Fill us With Hope, Peace, Joy and Love

“May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” — *Romans 15:13*

It has been a stressful year in the life of our nation. Gun violence, racism, political bickering, and stories of sexual harassment and abuse have grabbed the headlines on a daily basis. In the midst of these challenging times, it's easy to lose sight of the good things that God is doing in our world. This year's Advent theme is designed to help us shift our focus from what's going wrong to what's going right. No matter what stresses you these days, I think we can all agree that we could use a little more hope, peace, joy and love in our lives.

In addition to Sunday worship, there are downloadable devotional sheets on our web site, one for each week of Advent. They are designed to *[con't p.2]*

[from p. 1] help us be more prayerful this Advent. If you made Advent Prayer Beads, these sheets will tell you how to use them. If you didn't there are "virtual" prayer beads on each devotional sheet where you can write your prayer requests and intentions.

I've also set up our Angel Station in the gathering space where you can choose a word that represents something you'd like to see more of in your life. Place this word in a prominent spot in your home and make sure to pray for this every day.

Also, don't forget to check out our book cart for lots of great reads for the season.

Blessings,
Pastor Dave

Christmas Tree Decorating

We will decorate the church Christmas tree on Sat, Dec 2, 10:00am. Come help us make the church sparkle for the holidays. Refreshments will be provided.

Christmas Feast

Our annual Christmas Feast is Sunday, Dec 10, 5:00pm. Everyone is asked to bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. We are also looking for a few people who are willing to cook a ham or turkey breast. Please see the sign-up sheet in the gathering space for more details.

Annual Congregational Meeting

Sunday, Dec 17, there will be a brief congregational meeting after worship for the purpose of voting on the 2018 church budget. You can pick up a copy of it in the gathering space to preview it. Any questions should be directed to your Church Council.

Advent Worship Schedule

Sun, Dec 3—1st Sunday of Advent,
 "Bring Us Focus, God of Hope" Isaiah
 2:2-5, 11:00am

Sun, Dec 10—2nd Sunday of Advent,
 "Bring Us Focus, God of Peace" Isaiah
 11:1-3, 6-10, 11:00am

Sun, Dec 17—3rd Sunday of Advent,
 "Bring Us Focus, God of Joy" Isaiah
 35:1-10, 11:00am

Sun, Dec 24—4th Sunday of Advent,
 "Bring Us Focus, God of Love" Isaiah
 7:10-16, 11:00am, Kid-friendly Christmas
 eve Worship; 7:00pm, Christmas Eve
 Candlelight Worship

Rescue Mission Coat Drive

Here are some pictures from the event. Thanks to everyone who donated their time and/or baked cookies.



