

The Burning Bush

News and information about growing God's children at
Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

Odessa, DE

December 22, 2024

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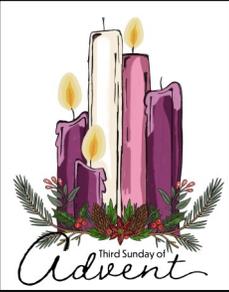
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This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

We share a living, daring confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you

as a whole person -- questions, complexities all. Join us as we do God's work for the life of the world.



Welcome!

We hope you feel comfortable being your full self here. We trust you find compassion and forgiveness, joy and community, and love among us. Please sign in to let us know who you are. We'd love to get to know you, connect you with others, and accompany you along your faith journey.

ALL baptized Christians are welcome to participate in Communion here at Tree of Life. And please join us for fellowship for a snack and coffee or tea following the postlude.

We are all called to serve the church

To volunteer to serve during worship, see Gene Zaiser or contact him at gzaiser@yahoo.com.

We thank today's worship service volunteers:

Maxine Campbell, usher; Janet Adams, worship assistant; Volunteer, acolyte; Sue Vetrano, altar preparer; Becky Bullock, fellowship provider; and Gene Zaiser, offering counter.

The offering for last Sunday, December 15, was \$730.00. The average weekly offering for the month of November was \$4,460.33.

You can serve the community and make a difference

** Knot Quilters and Project Linus Blankets - 10am to noon, second Wednesdays. Questions? See Nicky Zaiser and Janet Adams, respectively.

** Seamens Center - Donations of toiletries, snacks, socks, etc. at the Donation Station between the Narthex and the kitchen. Questions? See Gene Zaiser.

** Donations for "Our Daily Bread" - Pick up a bag and list of food products at the Donation Station; and/or volunteer to serve a meal the first Wednesday of the month. Questions? See Sylvia Schill. Thank you!

** Pill bottle ministry - Place your clean, empty pill bottles in the box at the Donation Station. Bottles are sorted, counted and packed up for mailing to the Matthew 25 Ministries by our Kingdom Kids. Questions? See Pam Nichols.



Christmas Lessons and Carols next Sunday

Our Christmas worship continues next Sunday as we hear the story of Jesus' birth interspersed with more Christmas carols and reflections from Martin Luther's writings. This service will be led by members of Tree of Life while Pr. Robbie is away. **If you would like to help, please sign up at the entryway to the sanctuary or the bulletin board in the kitchen.**

Are you called to offer your skills, wisdom and insight on Council?

Please prayerfully consider this important way to serve. Elections will occur at the Annual Meeting, **Sunday January 26** following Worship Service. *Have questions?* See Council President Nicky Zaiser.

Committee reports and budget requests due by the end of this month!

If you are a committee chair, PLEASE send your budget requests for 2025 to Gene Zaiser asap at gzaiser@yahoo.com. Thank you. And please send your committee's annual report to Maria Gue at treeof-life@verizon.net (or you can leave it on her desk) by the end of this month so that it can be included in the documents for our **Annual Meeting, January 26**.

Let us pray for ...

Amanda Campbell, Annalise Fratta, Anya Smith, Bill Glass, Christine K., Cindy Johnson, Dale & Clara Newcomb, Danielle Fangman, Elizabeth Schreppler, Elizabeth Zaiser, Erica Zaiser, the family of Brian Fluck, Gail Norris, Grace Cilento and family, Grace Haviland, Jack Barilla, Kenneth LaMar, Linda Klein and Jeff Hillwig, Marilyn Brill, Mercedes Fisher, Noretta Burke, Patrick Pileggi, Paul Schuler, Richard Jackson, Sarah Schreppler and William Brill. **Let us also pray for** those who serve and have served in our military; disaster victims and victims of violence and injustice everywhere; the health of our members and the world; our volunteers, church leaders, and Church Council; the people of Ukraine; the Israelis, Palestinians, hostages, civilians and everyone grieving —may warfare and hate give way to peace and justice.



Prayer list to begin anew with the new year

Members are asked to resubmit names to the new prayer list if they want names on the current Prayer List to remain. This can be done via a note in the offering plate, an email to treeoflifec@verizon.net, or by leaving a phone message at (302) 378-3345.

Thereafter, the process is the same: If you would like to add someone to our prayer list, please leave a message at 302-378-3345 or email your request to treeoflifec@verizon.net. Please include the full name of the person as well as your own. It is also important to notify the church office when this person can be taken off the list.

Volunteer, participate						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
DECEMBER 22 FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT 9am Adult Bible Study 10:30am Worship Service 3:00pm Blue Christmas service at St. Paul's UMC in Odessa	DEC 23 Office closed through January 2; calls and emails will be monitored	DEC 24 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service with Communion	DEC 25 	DEC 26 Pastor Robbie on vacation through December 31. For any pastoral needs ..	DEC 27 ... while Pastor Robbie is away, call Pastor Linda Ray at St. Paul's UMC, (540) 207-1787.	DEC 28
DECEMBER 29 Bible Study resumes Jan. 15 - Examining and discussing what the Bible says about the Afterlife 10:30am Worship Service of Lessons and Carols	DEC 30	DEC 31	JAN 1 	JAN 2	JANUARY 3 10:00am-1:00pm Pastor Robbie in office 1:00pm-4:00pm Sec. Maria Gue in office	JAN 4

Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Nicky Zaiser, president, Church Council; Pam Nichols, editor, *Burning Bush*

Facebook: [TreeofLifeLutheranChurch](https://www.facebook.com/TreeofLifeLutheranChurch); Email: treeoflifec@verizon.net

The Rev. Robbie Ketcham, pastor, Pastor@TreeOfLifeMOT.org

Duane Dillard, music director, duanedillard@gmail.com; Maria Gue, secretary, treeoflifec@verizon.net