



www.unitymilwaukee.org

1025 E. Oklahoma Ave.

Milwaukee, WI 53207

(414) 744-6311

Winter 2020-21 Newsletter

Greater Expectations

The beginning of winter is often a time of great expectations: expectations about traditional family meals, wish lists, and perhaps even a vacation. In the midst of a pandemic, our expectations have shifted: beloved Christmas worship services now online, a season of isolation as we huddle indoors, and the wait for news about how and when a vaccine might be distributed.

Yet this is also a season of greater expectations as we prepare for and then celebrate the birth of a Savior who both shifts and exceeds earthly expectations – in biblical times and today. The birth of Jesus is a greater gift than we could ever expect, and his saving presence with us today through the power of the Holy Spirit helps us live into the greater expectations of being church in a pandemic.

Livestreamed Christmas worship raises our expectation that anyone, anywhere might be joining us. Invite friends and family near and far to join us for Christmas Eve worship at 7 p.m. and a Lessons and Carols service at 10 a.m. on Christmas Day, both on the Unity Lutheran Church Facebook page.

The Holy Spirit also calls us to greater expectations about living as disciples of Jesus and growing in faith when we are prevented from gathering physically. We imagine families with children or grandchildren growing in faith together as they explore the Kids Time at-home kits we are beginning to deliver during Advent. We invite you to explore and to share what God is up to in your home and neighborhood as you participate in our Advent photo calendar, which you'll find inside this newsletter. We continue to grow deeper in faith and in our ability to witness to our faith through Dwelling In The Word on Zoom each Tuesday at 7 p.m. And we'll have an opportunity later this winter to join in learning more about the Lord's Prayer while we practice praying it in Spanish.

Another area where we are called this year to shift our expectations is the annual meeting. Our constitution does not specifically allow for an online annual meeting (as required by the state of Wisconsin), so we will not be having an annual meeting in January. Because another budget cannot be voted on, we will operate under the existing budget, with allowances made as needed due to the COVID environment. Because Council, Endowment and other group members cannot be voted on, the council will appoint replacements for vacancies as needed, in line with the constitution, until the next congregational meeting. If possible, a congregational meeting will be held prior to our next regularly scheduled annual meeting.

Amid these shifting expectations, we bear witness to a Savior who continues to upend our limited earthly expectations. We pray in this season that Jesus will continue to form us as disciples, aligning our hopes and expectations with the greater expectations – and greater possibilities – of the reign of God.

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We remember the following people as we pray...

Ebony Brown and family (friends of Unity); **Gail Senelon** (AAC member); **Mary Cicerelli** (member); **Dareyl Wahl** (member); **Jeff Tessmer** (son of Marge); **Keith Mueller** (son of Dorothy Mueller); **Jean Weibner** (mother of Tricia Skinner); **Kayla Wheeler** (friend of Krista Emmons); **Don Plant** (friend of Jeff Kornreich); **Blake Oleson** (friends of Unity); **Dorothy C.** (outreach member); **Tony Seffeldt** (nephew of Chris Brown); Pastor **Kevan Penvose**; **Patsy Lenz** (member); **Patricia Orłowski** (friend of Unity); **Sandy LeBombard** (friend of Unity); **Vivian Lucci** (member); **Jerry & Nellie Javorski**; **Becky Lefebvre** (friend of Krista Emmons); **James Lopeman** (son of Jennifer Lopeman); **Cindy Larson** (friend of Frank Jendisa); **Dan Blank** (family of Rachel); **Bonnie Ziowkoski**; **Lori Jameson** (member); **Yvonne Baczanski** (mother of Yvette Baczanski); **Dan Baczanski** (brother of Yvette Baczanski); **Kathy** (friend of Unity); **Joan** (friend of Unity); **Jack Badalik** (friend of Unity); **Andy Wegner** (member); **Mary Noe**; **Sandi Buchman**; **Nikkeya Berryhill**; **Robin Servantez** (friend of Lori Jameson); **Kim Deschler**, **Justin**, **Nathan**, and **Frank**, (friends of Unity); **William Darden** (friend of Unity); **Jamie Kornreich** (member); **Elaine Kornreich** (member); **Ruth Learman** (member); **Dale Davis** (associate of Unity); **Joe**, **Shelly**, and **Joey Tuzzo** (friends of Unity); **Lu Butler** (friend of Krista Emmons); **Jackie**, **Laura**, and **Stewart** (siblings of Patty Johnson); **Steve Rowley** (member); **Gloria Brandenburg**; **Jeannine Lau** (member); **Trudy Rossman**; **Neil Larsen**; **Rachel Kaiser** (granddaughter of Judy Kaiser); **Thom R. Bagley**, **Marty**; **Jacob Kaiser** (Grandson of Judy Kaiser); **Cindy Bereiter**; **Susan & Betty Johnson** (Ross); **Paul**, **Donna**, **Paula**, **Cathy**, **Izzy & Lee**; **Hernandez family**; **David Hellrung** (member); the **Toni Fare family**; **Nicholas Whitehead**; **Brian Karnes** (friend of Alisha Flechner); **Greg Mueller** (Brother of Kim Thomas); **Rita Smith** and son **Junior** (members); **Josefa Puerta-Villacrez** (member); **Rachel Hahn-Hanson** (member); **Marion Karol** (member); **Elliott Krieser** (friend of Unity); and the **family and friends of Ruth Kosanke**, **Shirley Giovanini**, **Cindy Lone-Pratis**, **Carol Johnson**, and **Lyle Phelps**.

**Please notify the office to add or remove someone from Unity's prayer list.*

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Stewarding our resources for Jesus' mission

Member Giving to Unity Missions and Operations thru October 2020: \$101,926.75.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support during this critical time!

Income: \$190,518.89 YTD

Annual Budget: \$229,650.00

Expenses: \$188,746.04 YTD

Annual Budget: \$229,561.88

We find ourselves with a \$1,772.85 gain at the end of October. We have no operating reserve for 2020. In the Property Reserve Fund, we have \$6,742 in cash with investments of \$12,500 as savings for emergencies that may arise. Thank you for your continued generous support during the pandemic.

We were granted the Payroll Protection Plan loan for \$28,630.87 and recently found out the loan was forgiven in November. We received ELCA COVID grants and a gift from Talon Inc.

Stewardship: Let Us Be Faithful Servants

Let us be faithful servants! Because we see Jesus doing so much in our lives and in the world, our generosity equips us to do what he is doing and to invite others to participate with us even during the pandemic. God is calling us to love our neighbor as ourselves. Please prayerfully consider giving generously to God's mission at Unity, helping us reach more people to see the good news of Jesus in action. **To confirm your commitment to Unity in 2021** either complete the electronic stewardship form or sign up to give electronically by visiting [Donation Schedule - Unity Lutheran Church - Milwaukee, WI \(unitymilwaukee.org\)](http://Donation Schedule - Unity Lutheran Church - Milwaukee, WI (unitymilwaukee.org)).

Five Ways to Give Generously and Securely to Unity:

1. Donate button of Facebook:

Look under the cover photo of our sign for Soup Kitchen, and there should be a blue 'Donate' button. Click it and continue to our Vanco page.

2. Shop with Amazon & Give to Unity!

Switch to AmazonSmile (<http://smile.amazon.com>).

Go down to the bottom to search, type 'Unity Evangelical Lutheran Church,' and press enter. There are a few to choose from, but make sure you find the one from Milwaukee, and that's us!

3. On our website!

Go to Unity's website at <http://www.unitymilwaukee.org/donate> and click on 'DONATE' button in the upper righthand corner. Our site is secure.

4. Phone App

(1) Download the Give+ Mobile app!

(2) Look for 'Unity Evan Lutheran Church' or enter zip code 53207, then Register.

Watch the YouTube video for more help: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUa9oGC1zkc&feature=youtu.be>

5. Thrivent Choice

If you are a Thrivent benefit member you can recommend how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable grant funds using a vehicle called Choice Dollars. For more information about Choice Dollars:

· Visit Thrivent.com/thriventchoice

· Call 800-847-4836 or contact your local Thrivent Financial Representative

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2020 Advent Photo Calendar

"Advent" is from the Latin "to come." During the four weeks of this season, we anticipate the birth of Christ. It is a season of watchfulness and hope. For each day of this season, we have chosen a word or phrase from the daily scripture reading. We'll share this word and reading each day on the Unity Lutheran Church Facebook page, and we invite you to respond to each day's word by posting a picture in the comments. It can be a picture from your home or neighborhood, a picture of an art project inspired by the word, or a picture from your cell phone gallery that the word brings to mind. Consider inviting others into this practice by posting photos on your own social media pages as well!



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov. 29	30	Dec. 1	2	3	4	5
Daniel 6: 6-27 PRAY	Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14 WATCH	Daniel 9:1-6 STEADFAST LOVE	2 Timothy 4:16-18 PROCLAIM	Psalms 7:1-5 SAVE	Joel 1:1-12 WAKE UP	Joel 1:13-14; 2:1-2, 15-16 GATHER
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Joel 2:12-13, 28-29 DREAM	Psalms 51: 1-12 MERCY	Acts 2:14-21 LISTEN	Joel 3:1-2a, 17- 18 RESTORE	Amos 9: 11-15 TIME	Micah 5:2-4 MAJESTY	Isaiah 40:1-5 PREPARE
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Isaiah 61: 1-11 JUSTICE	Leviticus 25:8- 12 HOLY	Genesis 1: 1-5 LIGHT	Isaiah 42:1-9 DELIGHT	Zechariah 9: 9-17 PEACE	Luke 1:5-24 WISDOM	Luke 1:57-80 COVENANT
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Luke 1:26-45 [46-56] ANGEL	1 Samuel 1: 9-18 REMEMBER	1 Samuel 2:1- 10 LIFE	Genesis 18: 1-15 LAUGH	Isaiah 7: 13-17 SIGN	Luke 2:1-20 JOY	

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Winter Scripture Messages & Daily Readings

"Danger and Dominion" November 29th

Sunday Daniel 6:6-27
Monday Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Tuesday Daniel 9:1-6
Weds. 2 Timothy 4:16-18
Thurs. Psalm 7:1-5
Friday Joel 1:1-12
Saturday Joel 1:13-14; 2:1-2, 15-16

"Yes, Even You" December 6th

Sunday Joel 2:12-13, 28-29
Monday Psalm 51:1-12
Tuesday Acts 2:14-21
Weds. Joel 3:1-2a, 17-18
Thurs. Amos 9:11-15
Friday Micah 5:2-4
Saturday Isaiah 40:1-5

"Deck the Halls with Boughs of What?" December 13th

Sunday Isaiah 61:1-11
Monday Leviticus 25:8-12
Tuesday Genesis 1:1-5
Weds. Isaiah 42:1-9
Thurs. Zechariah 9:9-17
Friday Luke 1:5-24
Saturday Luke 1:57-80

"But Wait ... There's More!" December 20th

Sunday Luke 1:26-45 [46-56]
Monday 1 Samuel 1:9-18
Tuesday 1 Samuel 2:1-10
Weds. Genesis 18:1-15
Thurs. Isaiah 7:13-17
Christmas Luke 2:1-20
Saturday John 1:1-13

"The Big Reveal" December 27th

Sunday Luke 2:21-38
Monday John 1:14-18
Tuesday Psalm 23
Weds. Jeremiah 23:1-4
Thurs. Matthew 2:1-12
Friday Matthew 2:13-15
Sat. Luke 2:39-40

"Had to Be There" January 3rd

Sunday Luke 2:41-52
Monday Genesis 17:9-14
Tuesday Exodus 13:1-2
Weds. Leviticus 26:3-6
Thurs. Leviticus 26:7-13
Friday Malachi 4:4-6
Sat. Isaiah 62:10-12

"(Baptism) Into the Fire" January 10th

Sunday Luke 3:1-22
Monday Malachi 3:1-4
Tuesday Matthew 11:10-19
Weds. Ephesians 4:1-7
Thursday Luke 3:23-38
Friday Luke 4:1-4
Sat. Luke 4:5-13

"Mission Misunderstood" January 17th

Sunday Luke 4:14-30
Monday Isaiah 58:6-12
Tuesday 1 Kings 17:8-14
Weds. 2 Kings 5:1-17
Thurs. Luke 4:31-37
Friday Luke 4:38-41
Sat. Luke 4:42-44

"You're Gonna Need a Bigger Net" January 24th

Sunday Luke 5:1-11
Monday Luke 5:12-16
Tuesday Luke 5:17-26
Weds. Philippians 2:1-11
Thurs. Philippians 2:12-18
Friday Luke 5:27-32
Sat. Luke 5:33-39

"A Day of Renewal" January 31st

Sunday Luke 6:1-16
Monday Deuteronomy 5:12-15
Tuesday Luke 6:17-19
Weds. Luke 6:20-26
Thurs. Luke 6:27-36
Friday Luke 6:37-45
Sat. Luke 6:46-49

"Words With Authority" February 7th

Sunday Luke 7:1-17
Monday Luke 8:40-56
Tuesday John 11:38-44
Weds. Luke 18:1-8
Thurs. Acts 10:1-16
Friday Deuteronomy 24:17-22
Sat. Luke 8:26-39

"What's That Supposed to Mean?" February 14th

Sunday Luke 9:28-45
Monday Isaiah 55:1-3
Tuesday Luke 9:46-50
Weds. Luke 9:51-62
Thurs. Luke 10:1-12
Friday Luke 10:17-20
Sat. Luke 10:21-24

"Hello, Neighbor?" February 21st

Sunday Luke 10:25-42
Monday Leviticus 19:13-18
Tuesday Romans 13:8-10
Weds. Luke 11:1-13
Thurs. Matthew 6:5-13
Friday Luke 12:22-34
Sat. Philippians 4:4-9

"Walking Toward Trouble" February 28th

Sunday Luke 13:1-9, 31-35
Monday Luke 13:10-17
Tuesday Luke 13:18-30
Weds. Luke 14:1-6
Thurs. Luke 14:7-14
Friday Luke 14:15-24
Sat. Luke 14:25-33

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Mission: Transformed by Jesus, our Lord,
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Vision: To lead the people of Unity in living worship,
empowered to make disciples of Jesus.

Values: Faith is a way of life.
Outreach is relationship building.
Diversity is sought and celebrated.
Worship is life-shaping.

Exploring our scripture theme Sundays at 10 a.m. (view the live stream at
<https://facebook.com/unitymilwaukee>):

"Greater Expectations"



STAFF

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Carla Lonski

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