

We are a Christ-Centered congregation committed to the authority of the Bible as the inspired Word of God. We follow His Word, which commands us to reach out to all people with the saving power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, witness and service.

Christiana Courier

Carl Haynes, pastor
704-279-4516 (Home)
704-223-1468 (Cell)

Angel Tree Project began November 27

The Angel Tree will be in the narthex beginning November 27th. Please be sure to place your name on the sign-up sheet by the number of the angel you choose. Presents need to be placed under the tree no later than the morning of December 18th with the angel taped to the present.

We will also be collecting toboggans, gloves, mittens and scarves for Rowan Helping Ministries. Please use the clothespins in the basket near the tree to clip them on the tree.

Update on pencil/eraser collection to Nigeria:
Thank you so much for your amazing response to this outreach. The church donated over 2,400 pencils and 1,500 erasers, along with several other school items and lollipops. These items have arrived in Nigeria and the village is overwhelmed with your generosity and was so very thankful for everything, including our prayers!



New Council members announced

The newly elected members of the Church Council are: *Vickie Agner-Keene, Dale Beaver, Branson Pethel, Cam Ritchie, Terry Ritchie*

Benevolent Foundation 2017-2021: *Emily Barnes.*

The 2017 budget was approved.

We congratulate those elected on being called by God to serve as leaders of his people for the next three years. They will be installed during the worship service on December 11. **The new members are to attend the December 11th Council meeting.** Council officers for 2017 will be elected at that meeting and installed during the worship service.



December 4

10:30 am 2nd Sunday in Advent
Hanging of the Greens

December 11

10:30 am 3rd Sunday in Advent

December 18

10:30 am 4th Sunday in Advent
Holy Communion

December 24

7:30 pm
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion.
Pre-service music at 7:00 p.m.

December 25

(no Sunday School)
10:30 am Worship
Lessons and Carols

Salisbury Swing Band announces Benefit Christmas Concert/Dance

Saturday evening, December 3rd from 7 to 10pm at the Civic Center, the Salisbury Swing Band will play holiday tunes for your dancing/listening pleasure. Tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online at Rowan Helping Ministries website. This is a fundraiser and all proceeds will go to Rowan Helping Ministries. There will be light refreshments. And for every can or box of food you bring, you will be entered that many times in a drawing for a \$50 gift card to Longhorn Steakhouse. (And in case you didn't know, Pr. Carl is the bass trombone player in the band.)

THRIVE

Youth Ministries

December Acolytes

Dec. 4:

Chase & Caylee Hawkins

Dec. 11:

Aubrey & Gabe Honeycutt

Dec. 18:

Blessed & Blessing Thompson

Dec. 24:

Carlee Lowry & Jackie Davis-Mancia

Dec. 25 Michael & Ainslee Lowry

- ◆ December 4—Thrive will take part in the Hanging of the Greens service
- ◆ December 9—Advent Ball 7:00—9:30 p.m. at Union Lutheran
- ◆ December 11—Thrive meets at church at 5 p.m. to go out to eat and then serve as ushers at the Norvell Theater
- ◆ December 18—Thrive meets at church at 4 p.m. to deliver Christmas gifts, then go caroling.

Those Who Serve in December

Nursery Attendants

Dec. 4 Joe & Denise Koehn

Dec. 11 Chris & Katie Sease

Dec. 18 R Honeycutt & L Klutz

Dec. 25 Jill Shank & Brandy Fox

Children's Sermon Part 2

Dec. 4 Wendi & Caylee Hawkins

Dec. 11 Jason & April Smith

Dec. 18 LuAnne Scott & M Rid-dle

Dec. 25 *No CS Pt. 2*

Offering Counters

Dec. 4 M Zieverink & L Haynes

Dec. 11 Laurie & Cam Ritchie

Dec. 18 Marsha & Dale Beaver

Dec. 24 R Crouch & E Eller

Dec. 25 D Smith & K Goodman

December Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1 Ella Shank | 11 Ann Renegar |
| 1 Madeline Zieverink | 12 Elizabeth Ritchie |
| 2 Amy Cozart | 13 Wendi Hawkins |
| 2 Susan Holland | 13 Annabel Holland |
| 3 Laura Ritchie | 17 Juanita Hovis |
| 4 Tim Lingle | 19 Chris Sease |
| 4 Joe Koehn | 20 Cameron Eller |
| 4 Cardell Gibson | 21 Carmen Pethel |
| 4 Lani Isley | 24 Mary Morgan |
| 5 Glenn Wilson | 24 Joyce Ketchie |
| 5 Mason Preslar | 24 Brittney Ritchie |
| 6 David Lingle | 27 Earlene Ritchie |
| 7 Carmen Merrell | 28 Debbie Lyerly |
| 7 Woodrow Frick | 29 Anne Strazzulla |
| 9 Matthew Rowland | 30 Chris Connell |



December Altar Flowers

Dec. 4 Carmen Merrell

Dec. 11

Pedestal-Wendi Hawkins

Dec. 18 Don & Rose Dedmon

Dec. 24 Don & Rose Dedmon

Dec. 25 Don & Rose Dedmon

Please see Kathy Haynes ASAP to sign up for 2017 altar flowers.

Congregational Prayer Concerns

Ed Clark taking chemo for cancer. Jenny Roberts recovering from surgery, no signs of cancer. Pete Ward's mother Rose. Dale and Marsha's daughter's friends, the Grunwald family in Wasilla, AK, 16 son missing. Marsha Beaver, recovering from surgery to repair broken elbow. Juanita Hovis, back at Brookdale. Janis Smith's friend Sharon Whittington at TOHARC. Wanda Smith, diagnosed with spinal stenosis and stage 3 kidney disease. Zach Thompson, ERHS grad and SRHS teacher diagnosed with stage 4 brain cancer. Patti Boles, Cushing's disease. Pat Ramsey, back at the Meadows taking rehab therapy. Becky Preslar's mom, Ruby Peck, Lutheran Home, Albemarle, recovering from broken hip & wrist. Joyce Ketchie's daughter Tonya recovering from brain surgery to remove cancerous tumor. LaVaughn Beaver's husband Alan, renal dialysis. Katherine Lyerly, fractured pelvis, recovering at Trinity Oaks Nursing and Rehab. April Smith's brother, Chase Deal, continues to improve and gain strength. Dee Smith, continuing rehab. Linda Connell's co-worker, Michael Socorro, paralyzed in motorcycle accident. Denise Koehn's friend Sandy Morris, stage 3 breast cancer. Pauline Lyerly, Carillon, rm. C13. Gloria Cross, kidney issues. Marsha & Dale's friend, Gail Reynolds, stage 3 pancreatic cancer. Miles Rhodes, prostate cancer. Ann & Bill Meacham in poor health.



Our Sympathy is expressed to:

Ron and Wanda Smith at the death of their son Mark who died November 25.

Poinsettia Orders Due December 6

Orders for Poinsettias will be accepted until December 6th. The cost is \$9.75 per plant and payment must accompany this order. We must have a minimum order of 26 plants for this price. The poinsettias may be taken home after the Christmas Day Service.

Name _____

Phone number _____

Number of Poinsettias _____

Given in Memory of:

By:

Given in Honor of:

By:





Whose Birthday is it, anyway?

*And the King will answer them,
'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these
my brothers, you did it to me.'*

Matthew 25:40

Imagine it's your birthday... you wake up and look forward to a day of birthday wishes given in person and on social media, of cards and gifts and even a cake all given to you to celebrate your birth into the world, into the lives of your family members and friends.

But as the day goes on you find that everyone, even your family, wishes everyone but you a happy day. Everyone is giving gifts to everyone but you. Cards are sent to everyone but you. Finally you can stand it no longer and in the midst of a crowd you yell, "WHOSE BIRTHDAY IS IT, ANYWAY?!"

I think Jesus must feel like that about this time of year. We Americans will spend billions of dollars on presents, cards, parties and food to give to family and friends and wish them a Merry Christmas. But whose birthday is it, anyway? It's Jesus' birthday. Do we give Jesus a birthday present? We can, you know.

Jesus tells us how in Matthew 25:40—*'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'* Prior to this verse Jesus commends the righteous for feeding him when he was hungry, giving him a drink when he was thirsty, welcoming him as a stranger, clothing him when he was naked, visiting when he was sick and when he was in prison.

Confused, the righteous asked Jesus when they ever saw *Him* in any of those conditions and that is when Jesus told them *as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.* So at Christmas time, and any other time of the year, the way we give gifts to Jesus is by giving to those in need—"the least of these, my brothers and sisters."

Gifts given to them are gifts given to Jesus. All year long we have opportunities to give gifts to Jesus through our giving to Rowan Helping Ministries, Pregnancy Support Center, and a number of others agencies that help "the least of these." Our Pastor's Discretionary fund helps many individuals and families in Rowan County to keep their power, their gas, their water from being turned off. This Advent/Christmas Season, as in the past, we will have the opportunity through our Angel Tree to help those in need—Heritage Plantation residents, as well as members of Christiana and folks in the community.

We will have the opportunity on Christmas Eve to help bolster our Pastor's Discretionary Fund well into 2017. This time of year is hard for a lot of people. The people we see have to have been to Rowan Helping Ministries and the Salvation Army before we help them. Many have a good portion of their bill taken care of at RHM, but they will only help once a year. That's where we come in and help. People can come here once every six months. We see single parents, widows and widowers, families where one or more of the adults are out of work, or are disabled.

It is a blessing to be able to help these folks, especially when it comes to making it possible for them to be able to keep their power or water from being turned off, or from being evicted from their home. At the same time it is a heartbreaker to have to say to them "I'm sorry but we are out of funds." We are out of budgeted funds for 2016. We are operating on what comes in in loose offering on Sundays for the rest of the year, from a generous gift from a member and from the Christmas Eve offering.

As we prepare our gift list this Advent/Christmas to give to family and friends—let us remember Jesus is our friend, yea—he is our Savior, our Lord and Master. He above all deserves a gift on his birthday and there are plenty of those in need to whom we can give gifts in Jesus' name. Amen!

Merry Christmas, Pastor Carl

LCW Happenings

Group #1 LCW

will meet on Tuesday, December 6
at 12:00 noon
at the Salisbury K & W Cafeteria

Sister Lucille LCW

Christmas Dinner
Tuesday, December 6, 6:30 pm
Alpha Restaurant in Rockwell

Not too Late to Fill Out a Time and Talent Sheet

If you have not filled out a Time and Talent Sheet for 2017, please see an usher before worship. Fill it out, fold it and place it in the offering plate, hand it to Pastor Carl or bring it by the church office. It is very important that everyone fill one out. These are used by the Council, the pastor, the committees and support groups to involve members in using their talents to serve God.

Also, if you have a new cell phone number or email address, please, please, please, get it to the Church Office ASAP!



The Church Office will be closed
December 26—December 30

Festival of Trees set for Rockwell museum

Historic Rockwell Foundation announces its 14th annual Festival of Trees at the Rockwell Museum December 9-18. On opening night, Friday, December 9, the lighting of the town Christmas tree will take place at 7:00 followed by caroling around the gazebo. The museum will be open from 6 – 8 p.m. each evening and Sundays 2 – 4 p.m.



Congregational Concerns

Church Directory

UPDATE

Work has begun on this year's annual report booklet and the directory for 2017.

Please notify the church office if there

are any changes to your personal information such as a change in address, phone number or e-mail address or if your birthday is listed incorrectly or if there are any misspellings.

Call the office at 704-279-4655



Genesis: Carolyn Barringer Corl

Liberty Commons: Elizabeth Ritchie

Brookdale: Juanita Hovis

Trinity Oaks Health & Rehab: Katherine Lyerly

NC State Veterans Home: Gib Russell

The Meadows of Rockwell: Pat Ramsey

Carillon Assisted Living: Pauline Lyerly

Dear Fellow Members of Christiana,

Earlier this year our Christiana Church Council unanimously approved a recommendation from our Brighten The Beacon Committee to present the congregation with a proposal to establish a relationship with the In-Faith Community Foundation. Our purpose would be to allow the In-Faith Community Foundation to assist our committee with our Brighten The Beacon campaign and help provide various estate and financial planning services to interested members of the church. Between now and the first of the year, we will provide you with a summary of information, including a series of questions and answers, which we hope will help educate and inform the congregation about the Foundation and the services it can offer. This is the first in a series of Questions and Answers (Q&A's).

Q. What is- the In-Faith Community Foundation?

A. The In-Faith Community Foundation, formerly known as the Lutheran Community Foundation, is one of the largest Christian organizations established to assist churches and other religious organizations with a variety of estate and financial planning services for the church and its members.

Q. What kind of services are available?

A. Christiana and our members will be able to take advantage of many different services which are available, but not limited to assistance with our campaign, investment management services, financial planning advice and estate planning services such as wills, trusts, annuities, life insurance and other services. Thrivent first recommended this program to Christiana and our Brighten The Beacon Committee.

Q. Who will manage or help make decisions with the Foundation?

A. Christiana will establish a separate committee or board of directors who will help administer the program for the church and congregation.

Q. Is there a cost or a fee for this service?

A. In order to join the foundation and start taking advantage of the various foundation services, a minimum refundable deposit of \$25,000 is required. In addition, a management or administrative fee of 1% of assets on deposit or under management is paid annually to the Foundation. Christiana has secured a grant of \$25,000 for this initial deposit.

Q. How will this program benefit Christiana and our members?

A. Christiana will be able to select from the available services, including various investment management accounts which can pay interest or earnings to the church. We can also establish separate funds or accounts for special projects such as our Brighten The Beacon campaign, Capital Fund, Cemetery Fund, etc. Members can also contribute to these funds. In addition, various other estate and financial planning services such as wills, trusts, annuities and insurance will be available to members.



BRIGHTEN THE BEACON

Your Brighten the Beacon committee feels this may be an excellent opportunity for Christiana to take advantage of the available financial planning services for our church and congregation. Please see members of the Brighten the Beacon committee if you have any questions. More information will be forthcoming. We hope to vote on this proposal early next year.

Hanging of the Greens Service is December 4th

- ♦ Christiana Youth, children, and adult choirs will present a service for Hanging of the Greens at 10:30 on December 4.
- ♦ All Thrive Youth and Little Thrive have rehearsal for Hanging of the Greens on Saturday, December 3 at 10:00 am in sanctuary. Thrive Tots should plan to meet in the sanctuary to go over their parts on Sunday morning Dec 4 at 9:30 AM.



Christiana Rowdy Seniors invited to Billy Graham Library

Christmas is a special time at the Billy Graham Library with plenty of family-friendly attractions to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Christiana's seniors are invited to travel to the library with a group from the JF Hurley YMCA on Tuesday, December 6. The group will leave from the YMCA on Jake Alexander Blvd at 3 p.m.

Activities include

- ♦ Live nativity
- ♦ Carriage rides
- ♦ Christmas carolers
- ♦ Holiday goodies
- ♦ Christmas dinner
- ♦ Story time

Contact the Y at 704-637-0111 for complete information.

Bible Quiz

How many wise men followed a star to Bethlehem to worship the child Jesus?

- A. two
- B. three
- C. four
- D. We don't know because the Bible doesn't say.

Answer: D (See Matthew 2:1-12.)



CRS Christmas Party set for Dec. 14

Christiana Rowdy Seniors will meet at the Salisbury K & W Cafeteria at 11:30 for lunch and their Christmas party. Please bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange.

TIME TO
Decorate



Altar Guild will decorate
the Sanctuary on
Thursday, December 1
beginning at 6:00 p.m.

**“I WILL RAISE
UP YOUR
OFFSPRING
AFTER YOU ...
AND I WILL
ESTABLISH
HIS KINGDOM.”**

2 SAMUEL 7:12, NRSV

6190 US Hwy 52
Salisbury NC 28146
Address Service Requested
Phone: 704-279-4655

Sunday School 9:15 AM
Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Pastor: Carl M. Haynes
E-Mail: pastorcarl@charlotte.twcbc.com
Council President: Laurie Ritchie
Council Vice-President: Jeff Fleming
Council Secretary: Bruce Wilhelm

Church Secretary: Ann Teague
Email: christiana1@charlotte.twcbc.com
Church Treasurer: Dale Beaver
Organist/Music Director: Becky Morris
Youth Director: Brittney Barnhardt

Lutheran Church Women: Sue Wall
Christiana Lutheran Men: Jason Smith
Christiana Rowdy Seniors: Jenny Roberts

Chancel Choir
Becky Morris, Director
Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

Handbell Choir
Kathy Haynes, Director
Sundays at 5:00 p.m.

Children's Choirs
Becky Morris, Director
Sunday afternoons; times & days vary

Mailed Nov. 30, 2016

Check out these websites:
www.christianalutheran.org
<http://carolinasnalc.com>
<http://thenalc.org>

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Agner

*Allen*Barnes*

*Barringer*Basinger**Beaver*

*Bernhardt*Beretsky*Boles*

Braun*Brown*Bruce*

*Burris*Carscaddon*Casper**Chapman

*Clark*Cline*Coffey*Connell*Corl*Cowden*Cozart*

*Cross*Crouch*Crowther*Dedmon*Douglas*Doyle*

*Duncan*Edens*Eller*Fesperman*Fleming*

*Fox*French*Frick*Gibson*Goodman*

*Hatley*Hawkins*Hayes*Haynes*Hill*Holland*Holshouser*

Honeycutt*Hovis*Huneycutt*Honeycutt*Isley*

Keene*Kelsoe*Klutz*Koehn*Lingle*

*Lowry*Lyerly*Madison*McKenzie*McKinney*Meacham*Merrell*

*Morgan*Morris**Pacilio*Paskiewicz*Peeler*Pethel*

*Preslar*Pruette*Ramsey*Reavis*Renegar*Riddle*Ritchie*Roberts*

*Robinson*Roper*Rowland*Russell*Scott*Sease*Sechler*

*Shank*Smith*Stack*Stokes*Stoner*Strazzulla*Swanner*

*Swicegood*Thomas*Thompson*Trexler*

*Ward*Wall*Wilhelm*Wilson*Witty*Wood*Wright*Yost*Zieverink*

Pastor Carl
Becky Morris
Brittney Barnhardt
Dale Beaver
Ann Teague

Christiana Lutheran Church Council Minutes
November 13, 2016

Members Present: Laurie Ritchie (President), Bruce Wilhelm (Secretary), Jeff Fleming (Vice President), Pastor Carl Haynes, Jason Smith, Richard Crouch, Robbie Robinson, Glenn Wall, Jenny Roberts, Banks Kluttz, Charlotte Pacilio and J. Wood, Harold Morris, Joe Koehn, Glenn Wall

Members Absent: Madeline Zieverink, Leanne Kluttz

Also Present: Dale Beaver (Treasurer), Brittney Barnhardt (Youth Minister), Jim Duncan (Brighten the Beacon Committee)

Invocation: Pastor Carl Haynes

Prayer of Blessing: Council members in unison.

Council Business

Concerns, Receptions and Approvals

October 9, 2016 council minutes were approved as submitted.

Financial Report for October, 2016 was presented and explained by Dale Beaver, Treasurer. The financial report was then approved as submitted.

Pastor and Youth Director Reports were accepted as submitted.

Prayerful Consideration of Council Matters

Brighten the Beacon

Richard Crouch, Chairman of the Brighten the Beacon committee, presented two motions to the council for their approval from the Brighten the Beacon committee.

Motion 1:

Based on the results of the October 30, 2016 congregational survey, the Brighten the Beacon Committee moves to re-start the fundraising campaign and begin designing the “combination building” and hire Ramsey, Burgin Smith Architects to design the structure and provide a cost figure for each of the three stages of construction. Funds to pay architect’s fees are in hand and will come from the Master Plan Fund. (Estimates of fees will be provided)

The motion was made and a brief discussion followed. The motion then passed on a unanimous vote.

Motion 2:

The Brighten the Beacon Committee moves to eliminate all sub-categories under “Master Plan” except “Operating Cost” and combine into one fund called “Master Plan”.

The motion was made and a brief discussion followed. Dale Beaver, treasurer, informed Council that only the funds from the existing sub-accounts would be transferred into one account and that the existing sub-accounts would still exist but only with zero balances. The motion then passed on a unanimous vote.

Property Acquisition

Jason Smith updated the council on the status of the property adjacent to the church property that was recently for sale. An investor made an offer to the seller that was accepted before the church was able to make an offer. After a brief discussion the council made a unanimous decision to appoint Jim Duncan,

who is a licensed Real Estate Broker, to represent the church and attempt to negotiate a purchase of this property from the new owner. Council approved a motion to authorize Jim to spend no more than \$30,000 to purchase the property.

Property Committee Report

Jason Smith reported that the cost estimates to resolve the carpet problem in the downstairs classroom would be between \$350 and \$900. The moisture problem has been solved but the carpet needs to be replaced. Jason stated that he would get quotes from a couple of different flooring companies and present them at the next council meeting.

Council Nominees

A motion was made to accept this list of nominees for election to church council. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Loose Offering

A motion was made to have all loose offerings for the remainder of this year that were not previously designated for a specific purpose to go to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Bible Study – “Growing in Christ”

Next Council Meeting: December 11, 2016 at 7:30am

Church Lock up: October - Harold Morris: November – Charlotte Pacillio

Respectfully submitted,
Bruce Wilhelm
Council Secretary

Gift-giving solutions

Trying to find gifts for certain people — or letting others know what you want — can be quite challenging. After all, most of us don't need anything.

Realizing that the best gifts aren't material items offers a new perspective on giving and receiving. Consider these insights from author Charles Swindoll:

“Some gifts you can give this Christmas are beyond monetary value: Mend a quarrel, dismiss suspicion, tell someone ‘I love you.’ Give something away — anonymously. Forgive someone who has treated you wrong. Turn away wrath with a soft answer. Visit someone in a nursing home. Apologize if you were wrong. Be especially kind to someone with whom you work. Give as God gave to you in Christ, without obligation, or announcement, or reservation, or hypocrisy.”



Dear friends,

This is a note of thanks to my church family for the prayers, cards, visits, phone calls, food, and love sent to me over the past months. It is hard to explain how much this has meant to me and unless you have been the recipient of this kind of Love In Action, from our church, you may not realize the comfort it brings.

I am feeling better since surgery and my hair is slowly growing back. At this time I have had some follow-up tests but do not know the results. I'm hoping to be at church soon.

May God bless each of you as you have blessed me.

Pat Ramsey

Thank you

Thanks to Pastor Carl and the congregation for their support, prayers, cards, phone calls and food. I appreciate all the love and concern shown to me during my recent surgery.

Love,

Jenny Roberts



In memory of Claude Lyerly by Gary Cauble, Ellis Cauble, Larry Corl, Larry & Sandra McKenzie, Livengood-Peeler-Wood American Legion Auxiliary, James Cauble, Roselyn Misenheimer, Henry & Helen Harvey, Cam & Laurie Ritchie, M/M R Sutton Edmondson III

In honor of Pastor Carl by Larry & Sandra McKenzie

In memory of Nancy Fisher by Roselyn Misenheimer

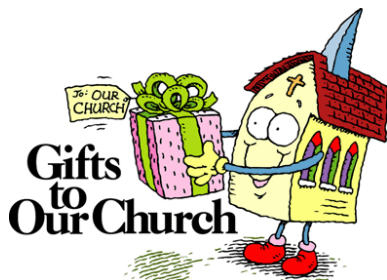
In memory of Moses & 'Mac' Klutz by Kay and Elvin Clapp

In memory of Marie Ritz by Onetia Bruce

In memory of Naomi Cates by Mike & Vickie Keene, Charles & Jenny Roberts, Don & Rose Dedmon, Dale & Marsha Beaver

In honor of Branson & Carmen Pethel by Woodrow & Zelia Frick

In memory of his parents by Frank Lyerly



December Scripture Lessons for Advent/Christmas

2nd Sunday in Advent, Dec. 4

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

John 1:1-5, 9-18

Luke 2:1-7

3rd Sunday in Advent, Dec. 11

Isaiah 135:1-10

Psalm 146

James 5:7-11

Matthew 11:2-15

4th Sunday in Advent, Dec. 18

Isaiah 7:10-17

Psalm 24

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

Christmas Eve, Dec. 24

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalm 96

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-20

Christmas Day, Dec. 25

Isaiah 9:2-7

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1:26-35, 38

Matthew 1:18-25

Luke 2:8-20