

TOGETHER IN FAITH



Saved by Christ, Connected by Love, Called to Care



The theme for the fourth Sunday of Advent is "Love." We continue our look at Israel's history leading up to the birth of Jesus through the lives of Zechariah, Elizabeth, and John the Baptist.

This Week at SCC

December 20th: AA Meeting, 8:00 PM

December 21st: Fellowship Hall Reserved

December 24th: Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 PM

December 25th: Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22nd VOLUNTEERS

Lay Leader: Connie Biggs

Reader: Marcia Culver

Praise Team: Nancy Downs, Bob Krieger

Singers: Melody Dotson, Terri Powers, Dean Gage, Sr., Chris Roberts, Virgil Biggs

Tech Team: Todd Rosenberger, Bob Hemmingsen, Bruce Chadwick

Greeters: Julie Gage & Margaret Chadwick

Ushers: Harvey & Dianne Flanagan

Advent Candle Lighting: Bart, Jennifer, & Marlene Denny

Nursery: Heather Hemmingsen

Children's Message: Connie Biggs

Refreshments: Heather Hemmingsen & Darcy Benjamin

Sunday Service

*"Through Israel's History:
Zechariah, Elizabeth, and
John the Baptist"*

Pastor Ethan Tews

22 December 2024

10:00am

Readings:

- John 1:32-34
- John 3:16-19
- John 15:12-14
- 1 John 4:16-18

Music Selections:

- We Three Kings
- What Child Is This
- Come You People Of The Promise

Bible Studies

Sundays:

- Men's Bible Study, 8:30 AM

Tuesdays:

- Women's Bible Study, 6:00 PM

Wednesdays:

- Ladies Bible Study, NOT meeting until Jan 8th!

The Children's Program



(Thanks to Tom Westbrook for taking all these pictures!)



Spotlight on Our Very Own

PASTOR ETHAN TEWS!

While there is no commission I exclusively serve on, I am a member of the Council. In that capacity, and as the pastor, I help support each commission as I can – with leadership, guidance, encouragement and vision.

If you could live anywhere besides Saranac, where would it be?

~I have spent my whole life in the Midwest and have enjoyed many aspects of it. But, while I enjoy the four seasons, I would probably pick a place that is warmer and sunnier in the winter months.

What is your favorite childhood book?

~To the best of my memory, it was the Bible, or various Bible-story books.

If you could choose a different career path, what would it be?

~Ever since I was a young teenager, I wanted to serve in the military. Although I do not think I would make that choice today, my choice when I was younger was to try for the Air Force Pararescue program. Otherwise, I would probably choose law enforcement.

What is your favorite genre/type of music?

~That is a hard question to answer, but I mostly listen to contemporary Christian music (of all genres) and keep abreast on what is new and popular.

What do you do to relax?

~Exercise. While it isn't necessarily "relaxing," I enjoy it, and it makes me feel good. It is a stress reliever and something I do for my mental, physical, and spiritual well-being. Otherwise I like to read and spend time outdoors.

What verse in the Bible do you claim as your own?

~I love all of God's Word, and I am amazed at how it transforms, convicts, and encouraging me constantly. I do not have one particular verse, but a few that have been quite meaningful to me over the years are: Jonah 4:2, John 8:58, Rom. 8:38-39, Eph. 6:18-20, and 1 John 4:18.

If you could live in another time period (e.g., '60s, '40s, etc.) what would it be?

~The mid-late 1800's. I have always wondered what life would have been like before all of our technology today. It would have been fun to see America in a more natural form than today.

What is your favorite place to eat?

~At home with my family, enjoying a nice healthy meal.

What is the most dangerous/risky thing you've done?

~Either my AFF Level 1 skydiving jump, or doing swim training in the freezing cold waters of Lake Michigan (on the Wisconsin side).

FYI...

Kid's Busy Bags are on the coat rack by the Welcome Center
Please return them to the gray basket when done!



December

17th	Margaret Chadwick
21st	Tom Westbrook
24th	Jim Lóser

The Advent Devotionals
Available at the
Welcome Center!

Thanks to Mike & Tina Hooper
For printing them!

Popcorn \$5.00

- Cheese
- Caramel
- Toffee with peanuts

All proceeds go to the DR Missions Trip
See Connie Biggs or Sharon Darby

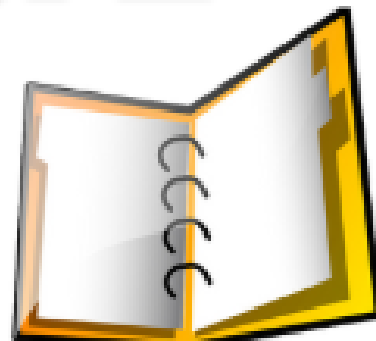
Opportunities TO SERVE

Nursery Volunteers
Needed!

Sign up at the Welcome Center!!



For more information, feel free to contact
Sarah Downs and/or Lynn Kaufman.



Additional opportunities can be found in
the 3-ring binder at the Welcome Center!

Ongoing Prayers



Cancer:

Dan Bowers
Paula DeYoung
Brad Edwards
Chris, Pastor Tews' mother
Jim Plotts
Christopher Poff
Craig Schiller
Robert Shepherd
Lenny Venneman
Stephanie Voland
Teresa, co-worker of Bob H.
Claire, Sue Carter's niece
Christopher Poff
Diane (friend of Perry Cook)

Medical Needs:

Kelley Becker	Kevin Hielman	Karen Taylor
Sawyer & Daxton Blain	Stan Hagemeyer	Patsy Veenstra
Catherine Cove	Dana Lepien	Stephanie Voland
Emma Dawson	Christopher Piché	Carol Washburn
David & Nancy Downs	Sharon Ross	Dave Washburn
"Micki" (4-year old with leukemia)	David Seymour	Randalyne Westbrook
Mela Dotson	Jess Spychiger	Colin Williams
Valerie Emelander	Harvey & Estelle Stark	Scott Zeeryp
		Ron (Nancy Zeran's son)

UPDATES: This list reflects current needs that we are aware of. Please contact the office if your name (or the name of your loved one/friend) should be on the list. Also let us know if names can be removed. (We will need permission prior to posting any prayer requests.) THANK YOU!



Military Friends

Riley Bedard	Tyler Johnson	Brian Swiger
Zach Bevington	Ben Littlejohn	Conor Talcott
Kristin Carl	Andy Lytle	Cody Westbrook
Jasmine Chadwick	Ian Manion	Robert Westover
Kameron Conroe	Trey Matthews	Jim Whittum
Tyler Gorby	Charlie Miller	Jayne Wilson
Landon Hall	Patrick Miller	Bryant Zander
Audra Hawkins	Maverick Musser	
Kyle Hill	Jon Powers	
Levi Jackson	Richie Sands	
Jared Johnson	Mitchell Simmons	

Current Events

Reminder:

Dec 24th: Christmas Eve Service, 6:00 PM

Ladies Bible Study
Not meeting until
Jan 8th!



Advent Candle Lighting

December 22nd—The Candle of Love
Bart, Jennifer, & Marlene Denny

NEW

Women's 10 Week Bible Study:
Luke (Lydia Brownback)
Tuesdays at 6 PM starting Nov
5th. (Contact Julie Gage)



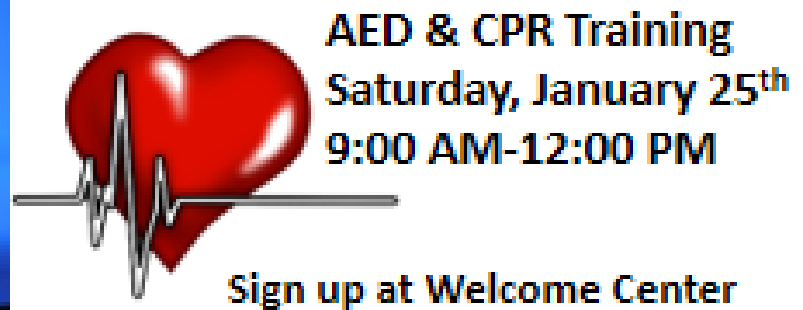
Will start back up on January 7th!



Upcoming Events

Men's 2025 Breakfast Topic

Starting on **JANUARY 4th** and for the next couple of months, we'll be exploring the 7 churches of Revelation with presentations titled "The 7 churches, then and now." We'll see some of the largest archaeological sites in western Turkey and in some cases, the current cities that surround them. This series will also include a few surprise side trips to other Turkish destinations. Don't miss out. Men's breakfast, 8 AM the first Saturday of the month.



PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED!

One way we can stay Connected by Love is thru prayer! As James 5:16 says
“...confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed.
The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.”



This Week's Prayer Needs

Christine Tews, Ron (Nanci Zeran's son)
Kevin Homrich Family (Relative of Carly Rosenberger)
Peace for the USA, Israel, Gaza, Ukraine, & the Middle East

(If prayers have been answered and therefore someone needs to be removed from this list above, please let the office know.)

Special People of the Week: James & Cathy Merrifield

SCC Leaders of the Week: Luke Brogger, Chair of Missions & Evangelism Commission

Community Group of the Week: Michigan State Police and Ionia County Sheriff's Dept. as they protect us and promote safety especially during the holiday season

Government and Military Friends around the world

UPCOMING EVENTS AT SCC

December 21st-Jan 1st: Jim Lóser will be out of the office

January 1st: Happy New Year!

January 2nd: Food Pantry, 2:00-4:00 PM

January 4th:

- Men's Breakfast, 8:00 AM
- Topic: "The 7 Churches, Then and Now"

January 14:

- Joint Council Meeting, 5:30 PM (ALL members of Council attend) followed by the Council Meeting

January 16th: Food Pantry, 2:00-4:00 PM

January 25th:

- AED & CPR Training, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM (sign up at Welcome Center)

January 26th: Annual Meeting & Potluck

Contact Information

Pastor: Ethan Tews (pastorethan@saranacchurch.org)

- **Pastor's Working Days:** Mon-Thur, Saturday (off on Fridays)

Office Manager: Jim Lóser (churchoffice@saranacchurch.org)

- **Office Hours:** Closed Dec 21st-Jan 1st

Phone: 616-642-6322

Website: www.saranacchurch.org

If you are NOT receiving weekly announcements and/or prayer chain information and would like to, please complete the form located in the church office or contact Jim Lóser at the email or phone number listed under "Contact Information."