



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2, 2018

MESSIAH EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
NEW BERLIN, PENNSYLVANIA

### **Today's Worship Leaders/Assistants**

Acolytes:	Amanda Schlegel, Nathan Sauers
Organist:	Mary Agnes Hackenberg
Head Usher:	Kay Trick
Greeters:	Katie and Ross Mitchell family
Lector:	Katie Williard
Cantor:	Alicia Saxon
Offering:	Bob and Jean Sauers Rob and Audrey Sauers
Comm. Assist.:	Chuck Ritter, Kay Hestor Ross Mitchell, Ginny Engel
Altar Guild:	Betty and John Hollenbach
Fellowship Hosts:	Knit Wits

### *Evangelical Lutheran Worship Liturgy Music Setting 4*

*"This morning we are led in worship by Kenneth Stitley, an Authorized Lay Worship Leader of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. Authorized Lay Worship Leaders have received extensive training so as to provide worship leadership and preaching, and also have been authorized by the bishop of the synod to preside at the Eucharist in specific situations."*

### **VISITORS and FRIENDS: WELCOME!**

*We are glad that you are worshipping with us and hope that you will be encouraged and empowered for the coming week. Please fill out a pew card so that we can get to know you better. You may place it in the offering plate or hand it to the usher at the end of the worship service. If you are interested in joining our church family, please let the usher know.*

**If you receive Communion today,  
and haven't filled out a Communion Card this year,  
fill one out today and place it in the offering plate.**

## +GATHERING+

### Announcements

#### Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness    *Stand as you are able.*  
*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism,*  
*as the presiding minister begins.*

Blessed be the +holy Trinity, one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace.

**Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

To you, O God,  
**we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you. Remember not our sins; remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of +Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn - "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"    #254

#### The Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## Hymn of Praise - "This is the Feast"

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

The Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.

**By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

Advent Wreath Lighting

Holy are you, God of power and glory;

**you promised to make your mighty presence known among the nations, and to strengthen your people to the end, when Christ will come in clouds to gather his people.**

**As we light this candle, open our eyes to see the sin that separates us from you and from one another, and restore us again, that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Stir up your might and come to save us.

**Reveal your face to us, and give us life. Amen.**

*An acolyte lights one candle during hymn.*

Hymn - "People, Look East" verse 1

#248

**+WORD+**

First Reading

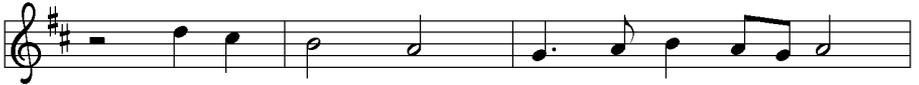
Jeremiah 33:14-16

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Acclamation



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 21st Chapter.  
**Glorify to you, O Lord.**

Gospel Reading

Luke 21:23-36

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

The Children’s Message

The Message

The Nicene Creed

Let us confess our Christian faith together.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**

**he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of God's People

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*(After each petition, we hear the words, "Lord in your mercy," and the people respond, "Hear our prayer.")*

... Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Prayer List**

### *Prayers of healing, wholeness, encouragement—Long Term:*

Julia Hauck, Logan Roush, Alicia Saxon, Aimee Erdley, Noah Navickas, Katie Benfer, Bill and Bonnie Pontius, Nancy Pursley, Keith Phelps, Melanie Sanders, Bev Fausey, Kermit Dale Carnahan, Tom and Dana Mitchell, Ruthie Miller, Travis Erb, Christine Koons, Matthew Myers, Steve Boonie, Janet Neidig, Peg Mattern, Lori Haines, John Snook, Baby Nolan Redmond, Vicki DePhillips, Jamie Zeiders, Craig Ritter, Deb Dressler, Gloria Callahan, Gayle Napp, Paul Kratzer, Jr., Paul Treaster, Lois Lark, Nancy Hummel, Mary Hummel, David Hummel, Gary Keister, David Brill, David Kline, Bertie Foust, Jean Smith, Darren Moyer, Dawn Wagner, Loren Miller, Darrell O'Bryant, Rev. David Hauck, Mary Stillman, Pete Dreisbach, Patti Faux, Donnie Ritter, Delilah Worthington, Robert "Butch" Hestor

### *Prayers of healing, wholeness, encouragement—Short Term:*

Gaye Wetzel, Marion Fisher, Eric McDonald, Bill Frank

### *Providence and protection for first responders, military service men and women:*

Stanley Miller, Shane Keller, Jonathan Ward, Sean Wagner

### *Prayers of care and help for our homebound:*

Bob Frank, Erma VanHorn, Roberta Hollenbach, Martha Wetzel, Carol McJilton, Ralph Geiswite, Donald Wetzel, Wayne Moyer, Bob Hummel

### *Prayers of consolation and comfort for those who are grieving*

## **We Share God's Peace Together**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

### **And also with you.**

*(We greet our brothers and sisters with a kiss, a handshake or a hug as we say, "Peace be with you." They respond, "And also with you.")*

*Please be seated.*

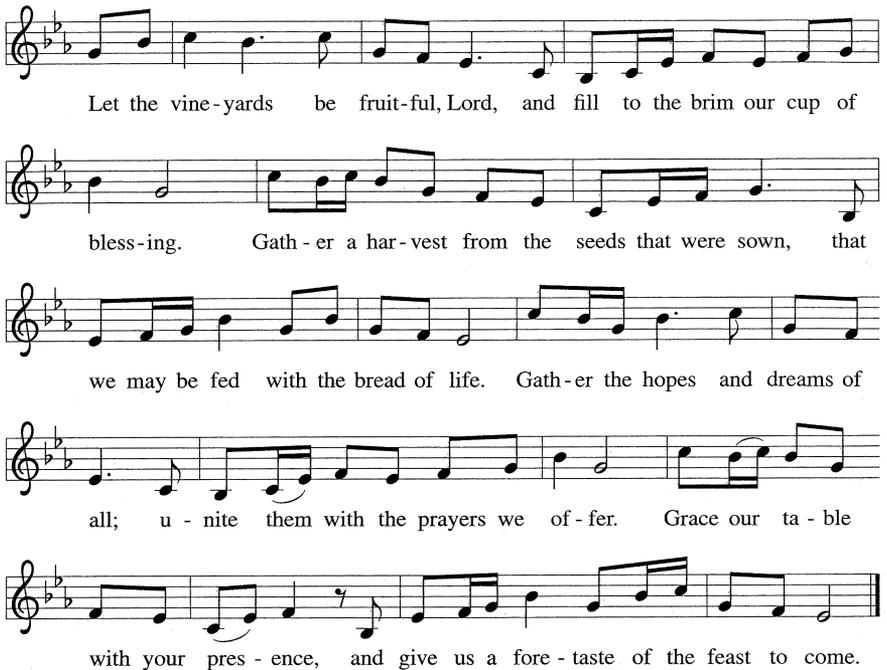
## +MEAL+

The Offering An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. We are encouraged to give cheerfully and freely in response to all that God has first given us through the bounty of creation, the life of the Son, and the work of the Spirit.

### Chancel Choir Anthem - "Morning of Promise"

*Please stand as able when the Gifts are brought forward.*

### The Offertory



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that  
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of  
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble  
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Offering Prayer

Let us pray. God of abundance,  
**we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and  
with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we  
care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our  
Savior and Lord. Amen.**

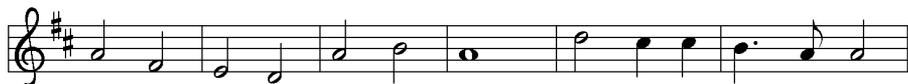
The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has a double bar line after the first measure. The second and third staves also have double bar lines after their first measures. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line.

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the day or season; the assembly responds:*

### Holy, Holy, Holy



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Eucharistic Prayer (III)

Holy One,...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

With this bread and cup...We look with hope for his coming.

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

Holy God,...Bring the gift of peace on earth.

**Come, Holy Spirit.**

All praise and glory...now and forever. **Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

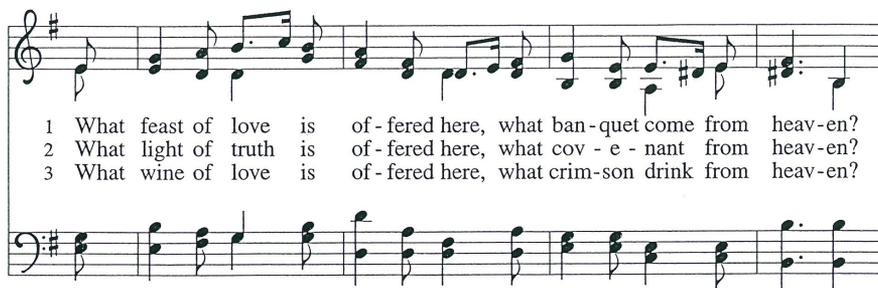
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

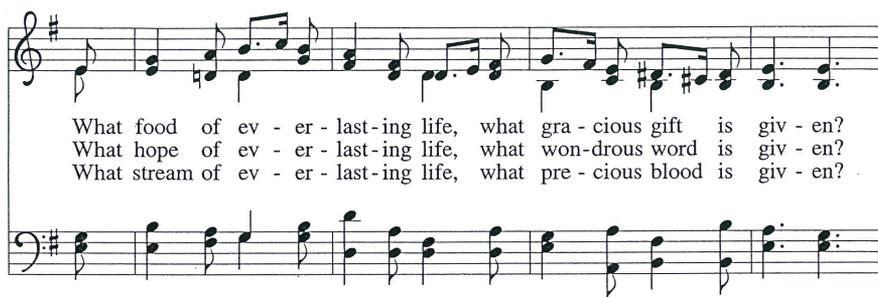


**Stand and sing:**

**“What Feast of Love” Verse 1 #487**



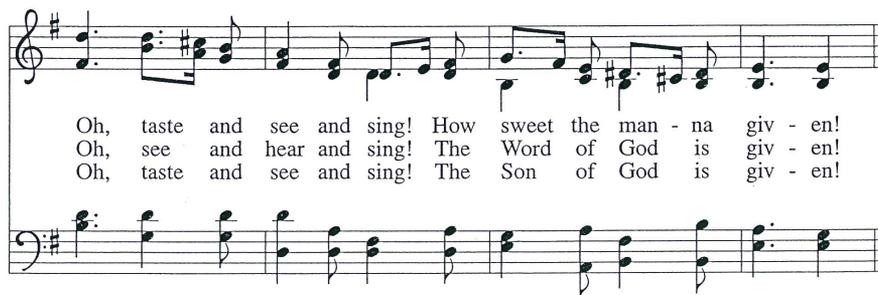
1 What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav-en?  
2 What light of truth is of-fered here, what cov-e-nant from heav-en?  
3 What wine of love is of-fered here, what crim-son drink from heav-en?



What food of ev-er-last-ing life, what gra-cious gift is giv-en?  
What hope of ev-er-last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv-en?  
What stream of ev-er-last-ing life, what pre-cious blood is giv-en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav-en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav-en.  
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of heav-en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man-na giv-en!  
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv-en!  
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv-en!

The most precious body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray. Holy One,  
**we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**+SENDING+**

The Blessing

May God direct your ways in peace, make you abound in love for one another and for all, and strengthen your hearts until the coming of our Lord Jesus. Almighty God, Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn - "Savior of the Nations, Come"

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The Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude

**All are invited to our Fellowship Hall for light refreshments and fellowship immediately following worship this morning.**

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**Interim Pastor: Rev. Rick White**  
**Pastor White's Cell: 570-847-3113**

**Parish Secretary: Tina Fern**  
**Secretary Email: messiahlutherannewberlin@gmail.com**  
**Church Office Phone: 570-966-2815**  
**Regular Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday 10am-2pm**

**Our Website: [www.newberlinlutherans.com](http://www.newberlinlutherans.com)**

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***For Pastoral Emergencies while Pastor White is on vacation through TODAY, contact Pastor Stina Schaeffer at 845-636-9487.***

***After Dec. 2: For Pastoral Emergencies, contact Interim Pastor Rick White at 570-847-3113. If the pastor doesn't answer the phone, please leave a message and include that you are a member of Messiah, New Berlin.***

***For Immediate Prayer Requests, contact Tom Milbrand at 570-966-1352, Diane Walter at 570-966-0333 or Frances Blatchley at 570-966-0288.***

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**Attendance & Offering for Sunday, November 25, 2018**

Attendance – 73

Offering - \$ 6,867.25

This offering includes:

Weekly Giving	1252.00
Altar Flowers	80.00
Building	190.00
Benevolence	25.00
Building Fund Challenge	5000.00
Thanksgiving Envelope	15.00
Copies	5.25
Fellowship Hall Rentals	200.00
Corey Milbrand Memorial	100.00

## **Please Remember ...**

All offering that is designated to the Building Fund through December 2018 will be placed on the principal of the church mortgage. These contributions will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$5,000, by an anonymous donor.

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**Altar Flowers** are placed to the glory and honor of God by Betty and John Hollenbach in memory of Grace Hauck.

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**TODAY:** Dec. 2018/Jan. 2019 Newsletters are available downstairs.  
3:00pm MACY baking cookies for Christkindl

Wed., Dec. 5 3:00pm Sub/Sandwich Pick Up  
*Please note time change.*  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

## ***Worship Leaders/Assistants for next Sunday, December 9***

Acolytes: Collin Sauers, Joshua Hauck  
Organist: Gaye Wetzel  
Head Usher: Kay Trick  
Greeters: Clyde and Diane Walter  
Lector: Jeff Benfer  
Cantor: Ronald Blatchley  
Offering: Chuck and Bonnie Ritter  
Chris and Stacy Sauers  
Comm. Assist.: Nate Williard, Gary Anderson  
Patty Wetzel, Deb Wetzel  
Altar Guild: Gary and Barb Anderson  
Fellowship Hosts: Chris Sauers, Tom Milbrand  
Flower Sponsor: Gary and Barb Anderson

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***December 16th is Christmas Cookie Sunday.  
Everyone is encouraged to bring a dozen cookies  
to share during Fellowship!***

There is a list of members on the table downstairs.

- \*Please look over your family's information by Dec. 9.
- \*Make any changes/corrections on the pages in the binder.
- \*Please add the year to any dates without the year listed.
- \*Put a check mark or "OK" by your information if it is all correct, to confirm it was verified.

**This year's Christmas Musical**, *Twas the Night Before: A Christmas Musical* by Roland Claire Jr., will be on Sunday, December 23rd. Rehearsals will take place from 10:30am to 11:30am each Sunday through December 16th. Dress rehearsal will be on Saturday, December 22nd at a time to be determined.

**Food Pantry Stats:**

On November 15th, our food pantry served 28 families or 76 people. Thank you to all of the volunteers who give of their time every month. Please bring **Holiday Desserts (for example: cake mix, cookie mix, pie filling, etc.)** before December 20th. If you wish to contribute monetarily, checks may be made payable to New Berlin Food Pantry. Of course, you may still donate other food items to the pantry if you find good sales on different items. Thank you for your support of this ministry!

**UPDATE**

**Logan Roush** graduated from rehab on November 21st. He is getting closer to being listed for the transplant. He and his dad were home for Thanksgiving but returned to North Carolina on Sunday. Logan thanks everyone for their prayers and concerns; he really appreciates the church family. If you would like to continue to support Logan while he is in North Carolina, his address is:

Logan M. Roush  
Apt. 1C  
201 Hampton Lee Court  
Cary, NC 27513

## **2019 Altar Flowers**

For 2019, the cost of honoring or memorializing someone with altar flowers will remain at \$40. If you prefer not to be responsible for fresh flowers, you may request the church's silk flowers be used.

The sign-up chart for flowers for 2019 is now available in the Fellowship Hall. Sign up as you want your name in the bulletin and indicate if the flowers are in honor or in memory of someone or a special event. Also, indicate if you are unable to serve on Altar Guild the week you sponsor flowers.

The following lists are 2019 dates that need to be filled for each category.

### Flowers and Altar Guild:

July 28

September 8

September 22

November 17

December 15

### Fellowship:

March 3

July 14

October 6

October 13

**XYZ (eXtra Years of Zest) Luncheon** ... Tuesday, December 18th at 11:30am at Country Cupboard, Lewisburg. Please sign up on the sheet in the Fellowship Hall if you plan to attend. If you have a Messiah t-shirt, please wear it for this lunch. These luncheons are open to anyone who wants to join in, regardless of age.

**Quilters need sheets** ... Full-size flat sheets are needed for making quilts that are sent to Lutheran World Relief. If you have sheets to donate, please give them to Miriam Milbrand.

## **Upcoming MACY (Mifflinburg Area Christian Youth) Events**

Today: Baking cookies for the Christkindl cookie stand will take place in the basement of the Mifflinburg Methodist Church. Start time is 3:00pm. Plan to Bake - Eat - Devos - Bake again! It is a fun time! See Janine Fee if you have any questions.

Sunday, December 16: Dinner and Devos at Sawyer's home at 6:00pm. If you are interested in going, please let Janine know. We will carpool.

### **2019 Mission Trip Fundraiser—Grocery Cards**

Madison Styers, Kaylin Foss, Hannah Fee, Jillian Fee, Brian and Janine Fee are planning to go on a Mission Trip to Puerto Rico in June 2019. To help defray costs we are selling \$25 Weis cards and \$25 Wenger cards. The girls will get 5% of the Weis cards sold and 10% of the Wenger's cards sold. The cards will be available for purchase every Sunday during fellowship. Prayerfully consider helping our youth by purchasing these cards.

The **Susquehanna Valley Chorale (SVC)** will usher in the holiday season with \*Candlelight Christmas\* on Saturday, December 8 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, December 9 at 3p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, Market Street, in downtown Sunbury.

The performance will include glorious voices singing songs of the season accompanied by brass, organ and harp with very special guest, the Susquehanna Valley Youth Chorale and the traditional ringing-in of Christmas with the Zion Handbell ringers.

Tickets for the performance are \$20 for adults and \$8 for students. Youth under the age of 12 are free. A Season Subscription costs \$70 and consists of four "freestyle" tickets that can be used at any SVC concert in any combination.

Anyone that brings in a bulletin publishing the concert will get 1 free ticket to the December concert. Though - first come first serve, if 10 of you all go to the same church and only one announcement is made, not everyone can get a ticket.

