

WELCOME to St. James Lutheran Church

We ask you to, if you wish,.....

PRINT THE ATTACHED BULLETIN...to follow along with Sunday's Service.
As you are worshipping from home, you are invited to set aside a sacred space for worship.
Light a candle and set out your bread and wine.

Worship Service - Streaming live @ 9:30am or watch later!



Click on image OR
FB Search: Saint James Lutheran Church of Columbus, Montana



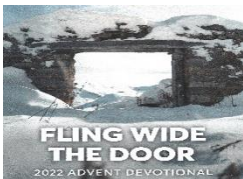
Click on image or the link below to be directed to our website:
www.lutheranchurchcolumbusmt.org

**Scroll down to "Click here for the St. James YouTube link"

To our faithful followers at home or where ever you are, PLEASE let us know you are watching by writing a post or give your name.

We'd love to hear from you!

****We hope these attachments are an encouragement to you as we are.....**



~ "Fling Wide the Door" Advent Devotional from Luther Seminary

~ "Names of Jesus Advent Calendar Weekly Devotional to help you focus on Jesus as we get closer to Christmas Eve.



John 1:14

John 8:58

Luke 1:35

St. James Lutheran Church

205 E 1st Ave. N. Columbus, MT 59019
Leader: Pastor Tonia Fisher (406) 656-9557
Email: toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com



*Our Mission: "We worship together, grow in faith,
share our faith and serve with the love of God"*

Sunday November 27th, 2022 – 1st Sunday in Advent

Welcome, Announcements & Opportunities for Serving

Let us stand, as you are able, and prepare our hearts for worship

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

Special Song by the Combined Choir – "Bless This House"

Let us stand, as you are able, and prepare our hearts for worship

Call to Worship: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"

- 1 God rest ye merry, gentlemen let nothing you dismay
Remember, Christ, our Savior was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray

Refrain:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy! O tidings of comfort and joy!

- 2 In Bethlehem, in Israel this blessed Babe was born
And laid within a manger upon this blessed morn
The which His Mother Mary did nothing take in scorn ***Refrain:***

Lighting the 1st Candle of Advent: Pastor Tonia & Donna Zeigler, LPA

WE SING:

***to the tune of "O worship the King, All Glorious Above!"*

**The candle of hope, we light in this hour; proclaims that the Lord
is coming in power. We wait for a future, now hidden from view,
when Christ in his glory will make all things new.**

GATHERING

Confession & Forgiveness

*God of new beginnings, we confess we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have
strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one
another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on
your way of love, so we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your
coming among us. Amen.*

Assurance of God's Love

Gathering Hymn: "Fling Wide the Door"



1 Fling wide the door, un - bar the gate; the King of glo - ry
2 He is the rock of our be - lief, the heart of mer - cy's
3 Oh, hap - py towns and bless - ed lands that live by their true
4 Come, Lord, our Sav - ior, Je - sus Christ; our hearts are o - pen



comes in state; the Lord of lords and King of kings, the
gen - tle self. His king - ly crown is ho - li - ness; his
king's com - mands. And bless - ed be the hearts he rules, the
wide in trust. Oh, show us now your love - ly grace, up -



Sav - ior of the world who brings his great sal - va - tion
scep - ter is his love - li - ness; he brings our sor - rows
hum - ble plac - es where he dwells. He is the right - ful
on our sor - rows shine your face, and let your Ho - ly



to the earth. So raise a shout of ho - ly mirth and
to an end. Now glad - ly praise our king and friend, and
Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his, cre -
Spir - it guide our jour - ney in your grace so wide. We



praise our God and Lord, Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Word.
wor - ship him with song for sav - ing us from wrong.
a - tor of the world, our on - ly strength for good.
praise your ho - ly name, from age to age the same!

Prayer of the Day

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

Hear the 1st Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ²In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; so he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Read Psalm 122 responsively by whole verse

¹I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the LORD." ²Now our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem. ³Jerusalem is built as a city which is at unity with itself; ⁴to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name of the LORD. ⁵For there are the thrones of judgment, the thrones of the house of David. ⁶Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you. ⁷Peace be within your walls and quietness within your towers. ⁸For the sake of my kindred and companions, I pray for your prosperity. ⁹Because of the house of the LORD our God, I will seek to do you good."

Hear the 2nd Reading: Romans 13:11-14

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Word of Wisdom, Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Please stand, as you are able, to welcome the Gospel

The Gospel Acclamation:

We sing: "Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel according to Matthew:

We sing the response after the announcement: "Glory to you, O Lord"

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples,³⁶"About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

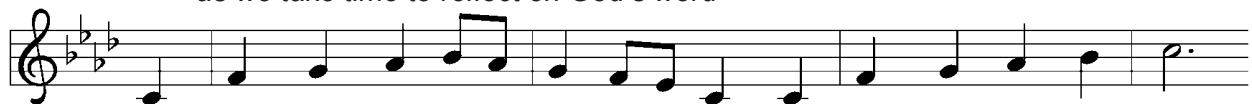
The Gospel of the Lord:

We sing the response after the conclusion: "Praise to you, O Christ"

Sermon: "Dark and Stormy Night"

Reflection Hymn: "The King Shall Come"

At this time, you are invited to go forward and light a candle of remembrance
as we take time to reflect on God's word



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone - some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen - dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick - ly, King of kings.

Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven. He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Lord in your mercy. Hear our prayer.

Passing of the Peace

.....and we say: and also with you.

MEAL

....we thank you for your faithfulness to St. James in sharing your tithes and offerings and allowing us to do God's work with our hands.

Bread & Wine and Our Gifts are brought forward..... *while we sing*

The Offering Hymn: "What Feast of Love" ***to the tune "What Child Is This"*

What feast of love is offered here? What banquet come from heaven?

What food of everlasting life, what gracious gift is given?

This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heaven.

Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!

Offering Prayer

Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. Amen

Table Setting Hymn: "In the Singing"



1 In the sing-ing, in the si-lence, in the hands ex-pect-ant, o-pen,



in the bless-ing, in the break-ing, in your pres-ence at this ta-ble,

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also 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**

....we join their unending hymn:

(C) sings: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might; Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Mystery of our Faith. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Invitation to Communion

In this meal of bread and wine, we believe Christ is truly present forgiving sin, reconciling us to God and one another, and giving new life. Christ is host. Christ is the one who invites us to the table even while it is properly understood as the meal of the baptized. All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

As communion is distributed, you are invited to sing the following hymns:

"In the Bleak Midwinter"



1 In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan,
2 Heav - en can - not hold him, nor . . . earth sus - tain;
3 What . . . can I give him, poor . . . as I am?



earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone;
heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign;
If I were a shep - herd I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall - en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed
if I were a wise . . . man I would do my part;



in the bleak mid - win - ter, long a - go.
the Lord . . . God al - might - y, Je - sus Christ.
yet what I can I give him— give my heart.

"Wait for the Lord"



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Repeat:

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

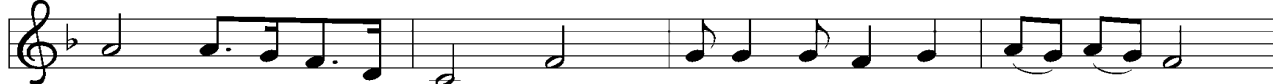
Prayer after Communion..... and we say: **Amen.**

SENDING

Benediction..... and we say: **Amen.**

Sending Hymn: "Go Tell It on the Mountain"

Refrain



Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;



go tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ is born!



1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo, a - bove the earth
3 Down in a lone - ly man - ger the hum-ble Christ was born;

Refrain



be - hold, through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

Dismissal Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**

November Mission offerings.....

~ Your continued support benefits

Columbus School – Lunch & Milk Programs

We also are collecting food items for Project Hope, starting November 25th, thru December 18th, in conjunction with the Columbus IGA's "Reverse Advent Calendar".

The IGA has designated the front area of their store for us to conveniently purchase and then drop off any items we choose.

You may also create your own box of goodies! Prepare to drop off your box on Monday December 19th between the hours of 8am & 3pm.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!!



December Mission offering.....

~ Your continued support benefits

ELCA Charities

i.e. World Hunger & Relief; Freedom in Christ; Good Gifts

****CONTINUE PURCHASING ITEMS FOR "REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR"**

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING

November 2022 Altar Guild: Kim Behrent

December 2022 Altar Guild: Sheri Luepke

November 2022 Cleaner(s): Lance & Patty Sundberg

December 2022 Cleaner(s): Leanne Sekora, Pat Lofing & Merridy Gauthier

November 27th, 2022 Reader(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

December 2022 Reader(s): **Will someone sign up to help this month?**

November 27th, 2022 Communion Helper(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

Thank you, Brian & Sheri Luepke for helping with communion last Sunday

December 4th, 2022 Communion Helper(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

November 27th, 2022 Usher(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

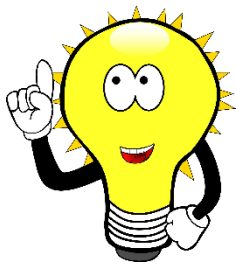
Thank you, Leslie Mullin & Rae Ellen Strickland for ushering last Sunday

December 4th, 2022 Usher(s): **Will someone sign up to help today?**

November 27th, 2022 Gate Keepers: Carrie Williams & Donna Zeigler

December 4th, 2022 Gate Keepers: Chris Fleury & Joy Goehner

2022 Musician(s): Marge Sunvold & Betty Ames



A thought: the church needs some "good quality" rags. Old bath towels cut in 1/4's or hand towels cut in half. If you can see through the towel, it is probably not going to stand up to wiping down walls or cabinets. As you are folding your towels and find one that should be good for something, give it the "see through" test! Maybe St. James could use the towel. Donna Zeigler.

Thank you for your prayers and generosity. May the Lord bless you and give you peace.

"Your faith in God's mission for St. James is unshakeable."

FYI: At the annual meeting held Jan 16th, 2022,

\$96,100 was the yearly approved 2022 budget ÷ 12 months = \$8,008.33 needed each month.

FOR YOUR REVIEW AND PRAYER.....

November 6th Offering gratefully received \$1,230.00

November 13th Offering gratefully received \$2,215.00

November 20th Offering gratefully received \$ 750.00

Total received so far this month \$4,195.00

****Our 2022 monthly budget to meet is \$ 8,008.33**

Jan (\$634.43) + Feb (\$1,718.33) + Mar (\$3,428.33) + Apr (\$1,868.33) - May \$6,476.91 + June \$(2,613.33)

+ July (2,248.33) + August (\$2,250.33) + September (\$1,432.33) + October (\$1,528.03) =

YTD UNDER Monthly Budget by negative (\$11,244.86)

Continued reminder of how to give your monthly tithe or offering to your church.....

1. Mail your offering to the church at St. James Lutheran Church, PO Box 356, Columbus, MT, 59019
2. Take your envelope offering to Pastor Tonia's parsonage and put in the designated box on her front porch.
3. Stop in at your bank and arrange a monthly auto pay transaction.
4. Give online through **Tithe.ly**, a giving app endorsed by the ELCA. Each transaction carries a small fee. Your gift is safe / secure and goes directly to our church or ministry. Plus, you'll be able to track all your gifts, setup recurring, and more!

Tithe.ly (click on this blue "Tithe.ly" link – takes you directly to St. James' account to sign-up)

Remember that Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever (Hebrews 13:8).



A big and heartfelt THANK YOU to Connie Bokma for her many, many, many years of sending Birthday & Anniversary cards to our members!! When I asked Connie how long it's been she said, "Well my mom & I sent cards for about 10 years before she passed in 2011. Then I took over and continued while I was a resident at Beartooth Manor!" WOW! Thank you again Connie!

FYI: Since the inevitable closing of BTM, Connie has moved to Parkview Care Center, 600 S. 27th St. in Blgs, 59101 and will not be continuing with sending our cards BUT she would love cards or visits when you are in town!!



Happy November Birthday

*Linda Alton 11/4; Carli Lofing 11/4; Brenna Rouane 11/14;
Stacy Lofing 11/22; Amber Lofing 11/24*



Happy November Anniversary

Bob & Lanita Maurer 11/15

*For new prayer requests, please contact **Pastor Tonia**. Text or call her at (406) 656-9557 or email her at toniafisherclarkmt@gmail.com*

PLEASE KEEP IN PRAYER...

For those hospitalized, in nursing homes and homebound, and those battling cancer or other illnesses.

We offer continued prayers for:

Your healing and wisdom Lord for Steve & Denise Cowan; Bob & Bev Kem; Vi Ekle; Bonny Rouse; Joy Goehner; Pete Hegg; Gary Lofing; Kyme Noble.

Those living with cancer: Bob Rouane; Aracelii Enano; Rick Cox; Ashley Foster; Jenny Hansen Cheff; Shane Fouhy; Jim Wilson and Sandy Yoder's daughter in law, Lola.

Those with COVID, especially Connie Bokma and those dealing with its lasting effects

The children of the world, this is a big request, but God is big. Children who are food insecure & home insecure. Pray especially for a little boy named Luke and a little girl named Nevaeh.

Ukraine and her people

***Please pray for all of those who serve in our military domestically & overseas,
As well as their spouses and children.***

OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES to REFLECT GOD'S LOVE to OURSELVES, to EACH OTHER and to OUR NEIGHBORS

REMINDERS:

➤ **Every Wednesday** Watch Pastor Tonia's "Word on Wednesday" message on FB or open the Word(s) on Wednesday email with a copy of Pastor Tonia's weekly message and two Bible Crossword Puzzles.

➤ **Every Friday or Saturday** The Weekly Preparing for Worship email arrives in your inbox with the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday Worship service and, also, Advent Devotionals.

**The "Children's Worship Bulletins" series for you to open & enjoy and share with your family & friends will now be available on our website during Advent.

Reminder... GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS at St. James



We are again providing the St. James "Taxi" Service from Meadowlark to Church, this time for Jo Lind.

Anyone, anytime, give Jo a call @ (406) 322-4497 to offer a ride to our Sunday service. She is living in Suite #13.

We have members who have moved away from Columbus and members whom we miss coming to St. James:

Please remember them all in our prayers and reach out to them with a card or phone call.



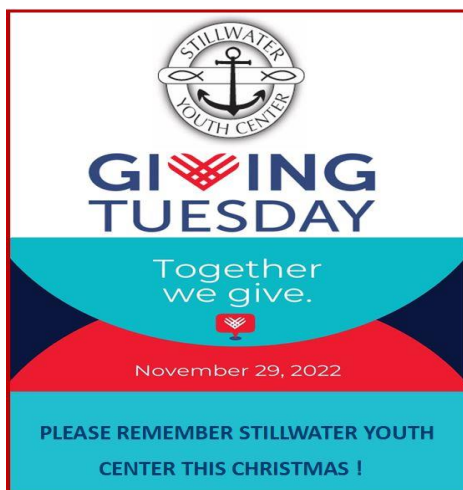
TODAY: Church Council Meeting immediately after Worship

FUTURE DATES:

➤ **Tuesday November 29th, 2022**

Remember "Nonprofit Organizations" on Giving Tuesday"

What is Giving Tuesday? #Giving Tuesday is a day that encourages people to give back in whatever ways they can. It presents nonprofit organizations with the chance to raise even more money than they would on an average day of giving, which is why many organizations create special campaigns to participate in this day of giving.



Lutheran World Relief

Join with friends of faith around the globe to fight hunger and save a child's life.



Or

Remember a "Charity of Your Choice" with an extra gift this Christmas!!

➤ **Wednesday November 30th, 2022 Choir Practice 4:00pm @ UCC**

**Calling all "Lefse making" Ladies & Gents!!
And so, it begins for another year! Uff Dah!!**

Wednesday, November 30th @ 9:00am “Peeling, cooking, mashing” of the potatoes and “making them into balls” in preparation of tomorrows...

Thursday, December 1st @ 9:00am “Rolling and cooking” of the rounds for the parade of lights event, the following evening!



Columbus Parade of Lights

Friday December 2nd – 7:00pm

The theme this year is “Country Christmas”.

Project Hope has volunteered their building this year, for sharing warmed lefsa & hot beverages with the public.

SIGN-UP to help with this great event: Bring lefse ingredients; help the “work crew” on Wed and Thurs and help serve to the community on Friday before and during the Parade of Lights.

FYI.....

Help to pass the word to your family and friends, neighbors etc



St. James' Annual Progressive Dinner Sunday, December 11th - 4:00pm

First stop – Pastor Tonia will host at the Parsonage with potluck appetizers, then off to the church for the potluck main course, hosted by Leanne Sekora, Pat Lofing & Merridy Gauthier and ending at the Morse’s for potluck desserts and carols!

There will be an opportunity to sign up for your potluck dish to bring to the appropriate house!!

Join us for fun and fellowship during this Christmas Season.

St James' Christmas Eve Service

Saturday December 24th

5:30pm



Please join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!

St James' Christmas Day Service

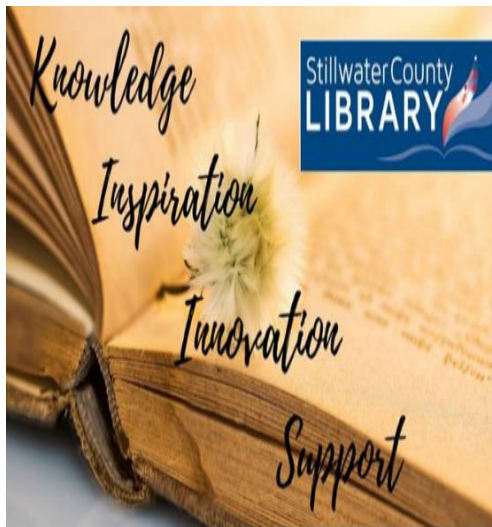
Sunday December 25th

9:30am



MORE Community Events for St. James:

- Every Monday we are invited to join:
 - ~The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-11am.
- Every Tuesday we are invited to attend:
 - ~ The Women's Adult Group at the Stillwater Youth Center at 9:30am and/or 7:00pm for an inductive study on Revelation
 - ~ Absarokee Quilting Group – 10am in the basement of the Cobblestone building. Knitters, crocheters and embroiderests are welcome.
- Every Wednesday we are invited to join:
 - ~ Social Hour at the Columbus Senior Center at 9:30am
 - ~ The Stillwater Youth Center for coffee and visiting from 8-11am



Upcoming Future Library Events:

Dungeons & Dragons- Open to kids ages 8+ 1:00-4:00pm
Saturdays November 26th and December 10th

Write-In! for National Novel Writing Month
November 29th, 3-5pm Only 10 seats available. BUT even if you aren't participating, feel free to come and write in a non-distracting environment.

Saturday, December 3rd, 10:30 – 12:00 @ Palladium Draughthaus
Richard Ford, winning author, and Montana resident will read from his 5th book in the Frank Bascombe Series.



Dwelling in the Word

Join in a 30-minute Zoom conversation with others around the Montana Synod for a time of “Dwelling in the Word”, a practice of listening to a passage of scripture and pondering what the Holy Spirit might be saying to each person during the time together. Since March of 2020, DEM Peggy Paugh

Leuzinger and others in the Synod have joined in this time to pray, converse, and support one another.

The same Zoom link will be used for the rest of 2022.

Please save the link to your calendar to use each week or as often as you are able to join.

Topic: Dwelling in the Word every Thursday 8:30 am

Every week on Thu, until Dec 29, 2022, 18 occurrence(s)

To Join Zoom Meeting: Click on the link below:

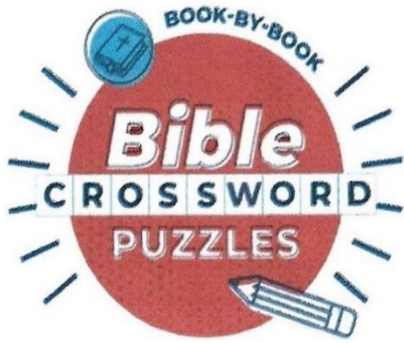
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84336859392?pwd=QXR1ZXNCSjFuZTJQaUZHWVWmK3F6QT09>

Meeting ID: 843 3685 9392

Passcode: 740661

THIS WEEKS ANSWERS:

**** Check Wednesday 11/23 e-mail for these puzzles**



Ezekiel

1. Stone
2. Die
3. Bones
4. Unconcerned
5. Vengeance
6. NONE
7. Human
8. Wheels (across)
8. Wicked (down)
9. Rebellious
10. Sheep

Jude

1. Salvation
2. Destroyed
3. Stumbling
4. Immorality
5. Diotrefes
6. Perversion
7. Angels
8. Scoffers
9. Moses
10. Enoch

Simple Reminders.....

