

Libertyville Covenant Church

December 4, 2022

10:30 a.m.



Prelude

“O Come, Emmanuel”

Luke Anderson and Su-Yi Su

Advent Candle Reading: Peace

Darilyn and Dave Anderson

Welcome

***Passing of the Peace**

(Take a moment and pass the peace to those around you or through the chat bar).

***Songs of Praise**

For Unto Us A Child is Born/Open the Eyes of My Heart
Holy Spirit

Congregation in Prayer

Choir Anthem

“Soon He Will Come” (Davenport/Larson)

Giving our Offerings to God

(Please pass the attendance pads to your neighbors)

** Please stand if you are able*

***Doxology & Prayer**

***Hymn #135** “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 11:1-10
Matthew 3:1-12

Trevor James

Blessing of the Children

Sermon *Emmanuel, God With Us In Spirit* Pastor Steve Larson

***Hymn #124** “O Promised One of Israel”

Communion “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent” (Smith)

***Benediction**

***Postlude** “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Shackley) Su-Yi Su

Welcome to Libertyville Covenant Church! We are glad that you have chosen to worship with us this morning. We invite you to refer to our website libcov.org for more information about the life and ministries of LCC. It is encouraging to know that many of you are worshipping with us from distant places as we join together virtually as well as in person.



REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Those with health concerns: Amy Keller, Bev Schmidt, Bonita Westerberg, Kay Johnson, Judie Duba, Jerry and Marcia Junas.

Pray for the children and families of Jill’s House during this weekend’s retreat at Covenant Harbor.

TODAY IN OUR CHURCH

9:15 a.m. Sunday School

10:30 a.m. Worship, streaming(libcov.org) and in person. Children's Church will be available for those in K through 5th grade.

12:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Senior High Christmas Party

Thank you for helping with Today's Worship Service:

Sunday School: Pre-School-4: Angela Kocinski and Rachel Couleur, K-2: Maggie Johnson and Karin Lundstedt, 3-5: Merileen Thorson and Jim Gillette

Nursery: Rachel and Joshua Hickok

Children's Church: Jim Gillette and Vicki Herrick

Nursery: Caren Vollrath and Jenna Glader

Greeters: Paul and Karin Lundstedt

Coffee Hour: Tim and Chris Albers

Lay Reader: Trevor James

Tech Team: Larry Cholewin, Otto Glader, Sophia Pas and Grace James

Ushers: Bob Hartnett and Al Nielson

Thank you for helping with the December 11th Worship Service:

Sunday School: Pre-School-4: Angela Kocinski and Rachel Couleur, K-2: Karin and Paul Lundstedt, 3-5: Jim Gillette

Nursery: Rachel and Joshua Hickok

Children's Church: Jim Gillette and Vicki Herrick

Nursery: Ann Frost

Greeters: Paul and Karin Lundstedt

Coffee Hour: Bill and Chris Anderson

Lay Reader: Jackie Splinter

Tech Team: Grace James, Max and Luke Anderson

Ushers: Bob Hartnett and Al Nielson

December Calendar

December 5th through December 11th

Monday	7:00 p.m.	Monday Night Small Group
Wednesday	6:15 p.m.	Junior High Youth Group
Thursday	9:30 a.m.	Women's Bible Study
	7:00 p.m.	Worship Ministry Team Mtg.
Friday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Saturday	10:30 a.m.	Women's SG with Lisa Kindstrom
	6:00 p.m.	All Church Progressive Dinner
Sunday	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	12:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
	5:00 p.m.	Sr. High Youth Group(Last one for 2022)

December 12th through December 18th

Monday	7:00 p.m.	Monday Night Small Group
Wednesday	6:15 p.m.	Jr. High Youth Group(Last one for 2022)
Thursday	7:00 p.m.	Ping Pong Group
Friday	7:00 a.m.	Men's Bible Study
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
	10:30 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal

PICKLEBALL ANYONE?

At our first pickleball event 8 men joined in the fun. We are inviting anyone who wants to play Pickle Ball to join us. Men or women. All skill levels. Right now, we are trying to play Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10:00 at Lifesports in Libertyville. If you are interested in playing, and want to be notified of games, please contact Larry Cholewin and he will put you on our list.



A BIG sincere thank-you shout out to everyone who donated food for the PADS dinner and lunches! And thanks also to the families who came to set up beds. It is always a pleasure to serve those who need our help and to have willing "hands" to assist in doing so.



Children's Ministry and our church family are thankful for the time and creativity of Bob Peterson. The Advent project was enjoyed by all!!

Dear LCC Family,

The Christmas season is upon us once again, causing us to pause to give thanks for the gift of Christ and the abundance of blessings that have been showered upon our LCC family. We have navigated "reopening" after the unprecedented COVID years. Our church community has remained faithful, caring and generous in so many ways throughout 2022.

As we near the end of the year, please consider a gift of appreciation to our staff, who continue to lead us with grace and humility, modeling Christ's love along the way. This is a wonderful opportunity to express our gratitude for their leadership.

You can simply note "staff gift" on your check or online donation. Should you desire to participate, please do so by Sunday the 18th.

Thank you for your generosity and being a valued member of our LCC church family. God's peace and presence to each of you this Christmas.

Paul Lundstedt, Chair

Calling all musicians! Have you been working on Christmas music on your own or in your lessons? During the Advent and Christmas seasons we are looking for people to share their musical gifts in worship, whether live or prerecorded. Please let Kris Nikkel (kjnikkel@aol.com) know if you are interested.

Christmas Progressive Dinner

The annual Progressive Dinner will be held Saturday, December 10. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. with appetizers all together held at one home, followed by dinner and dessert at 7:30 held at several host homes. Please join together for a very enjoyable evening!

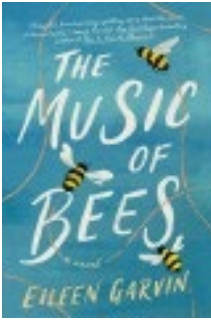
Sign up can be done by clicking [HERE](#) or on the insert in the bulletin and left in the church office from now until December 7th.



Winter Retreat Registration is now open!! **January 27th-29th**

The Junior High Youth Group will be returning to Covenant Harbor for their Winter Retreat at the end of January. We hope that you can join us. The cost for the retreat is \$181. Scholarships and the \$50 rebate are available, just contact Pastor Paul.

Covenant Harbor has implemented on-line registration directly through them by clicking [HERE](#). Payment can either be by check or on-line to LCC. If you have any questions, please call or email the church office.



Our next book club read will be The Music of Bees by Eileen Garvin.

Following three lonely strangers in a rural Oregon town, each working through grief and life's curveballs, who are brought together by happenstance on a local honeybee farm where they find surprising friendship, healing--and maybe even a second chance--just when they least expect it.

Please join us for a fun evening together discussing our book and anything else that comes up! Friday, January 13, 2023 at 7:00 at church. Questions? Contact Caren Vollrath carenvollrath@gmail.com 224-637-4422.



IMMERSE Yourself in God's Word Again

One of our chief ways of knowing God is through the bible, and so every Spring we take part in the Immerse Bible Study together. From Feb. – May, our whole congregation gathers in groups to read, ask questions about, and discuss one particular section of the bible together. Two years ago, we began in “The Beginning”, reading Genesis through Deuteronomy. Last year, we read the Story of Jesus together, from Matthew through Revelation. This year, we will look at the Kingdom of Israel by reading Joshua – 2 Kings together.

Our hope and goal is to have 70% of our adult congregation involved in an Immerse Bible Study Group. This means we need 125 of us taking part in a group. Our youth will, and many of our existing small groups will. Our Sunday school class will. But many of us aren't part of any of these groups. So we want to invite and encourage every one of you to be a part of an Immerse Small Group whether online or in person. The agreement is to read about 10 minutes each day (less time than we spend flipping through social media each day!), and then to gather each week with your Immerse Group to discuss what you've read and deepen each other's understanding of

it. Our reading begins on Jan. 30, and signup for our groups begin with the new year. Join us on this journey, beginning Jan. 31, and see if your life doesn't change noticeably this year.

LCC ONLINE GIVING PORTAL: To give online, simply to go the LCC website (www.libcov.org) and click the "give" on the menu. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Year to Date Financial Statement through October 31, 2022

	<u>2022 YTD - Oct</u>	<u>2021 YTD - Oct</u>
EXPENSES VS. BUDGET		
Budgeted Expenses	\$ 437,412	\$ 468,905
Actual Expenses	<u>402,431</u>	<u>437,351</u>
Cost Savings / (Overrun)	34,981	31,554
INCOME VS. BUDGET		
Regular Giving	380,275	400,535
Special Income	<u>150</u>	<u>42,979</u>
Total Income	380,425	443,514
Budgeted Giving	<u>437,412</u>	<u>468,905</u>
Giving Excess / (Shortfall)	(56,987)	(25,391)
INCOME VS. EXPENSES		
Actual Income	380,425	443,514
Actual Expenses	<u>402,431</u>	<u>437,351</u>
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	<u>\$ (22,006)</u>	<u>\$ 6,163</u>

For the month of October, Regular Giving was \$3.2k ABOVE budget, and expenses were \$6.7k UNDER budget, creating a surplus of almost \$10k for the month. THANK YOU to everyone that was able to provide additional support.

Year to Date, Actual expenses are \$35k less than budgeted for the year and Actual giving is \$57k less than budgeted. This leaves us with a YTD deficit of \$22k, while last year at this point we had a surplus of \$6k.

It used to be typical to have a deficit like this at the end of the summer, but not so much in recent years as more and more people have begun giving online. We made meaningful progress in reducing the deficit last month, but we still have a ways to go, so please prayerfully consider how you can help bridge the gap over the next 2 months.

To contact Pastor Steve: Phone or Text: 815-508-4450 email: steve@libcov.org
To contact Pastor Paul: Phone or Text: 847-331-3640 email: paul@libcov.org
To contact Debbie/Office: Phone: 847-362-3308 email: office@libcov.org

250 S. St. Mary's Rd., Libertyville, IL 60048, 847-362-3308, www.libcov.org