



✝ Worship 10am

117 N. 3rd Ave. | PO Box 1 | Kure Beach, NC 28449

Church Office: 910-458-5266

Website: www.kmlc.org | Email: kurememorial@kurememorial.com

JANUARY 2022 – NEWSLETTER

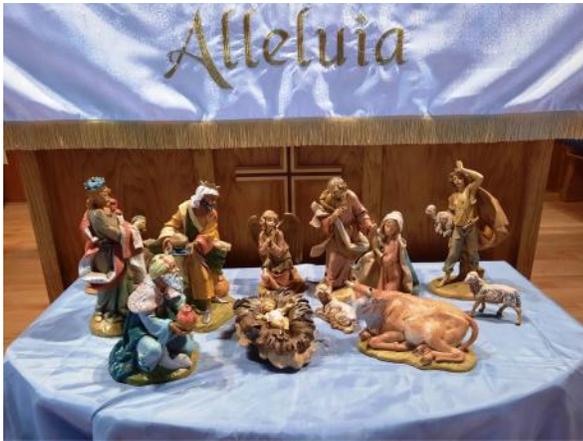
Volume 20, No. 73



Our Mission Statement – As joyful followers of Jesus Christ, we welcome and care for all people. We boldly proclaim the Good News, share our faith, and love God by serving others.

Our Statement of Welcome – Accepting those who Christ has already accepted, Kure Memorial Lutheran Church affirms that all people, regardless of race, national origin, sexual orientation, or economic status, are unconditionally welcome to our community of faith and are invited to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.’ (Matthew 2:1-2)



Epiphany. The word “Epiphany” means, “to be made known”. It is celebrated every year on January 6, followed by the Season of Epiphany that takes us up to the Sunday of the Transfiguration, which this year is February 27. The day of Epiphany is the day that we celebrate the Magi (or Wise Men) traveling from the east to seek out and worship Jesus, the newborn King! We really don’t know much about them. We don’t know where they were from, although historically Magi were Persian astrologers, which explains their identifying and following “his star” (vs 2).

Before I go any farther...I would like to offer my favorite “Epiphany trivia question”! Are you ready? Okay...here it goes: How many Magi were there?

Please take a moment or two to think about it! *You will find the answer on the bottom of this page!*

Anyway...back to the point at hand. What strikes me about these Magi is that they traveled a great distance seeking out Jesus to worship him. They knew Jesus was the one who “has been born king of the Jews.” They knew this was the one who was worthy of worship and reverence. And they went to great lengths...and great distances to seek him out!

Which makes me wonder: As we navigate through all the things going on in our lives that pull us in so many different directions...those things that vie for our attention and make our lives overwhelmingly busy and cluttered...How is it that we seek out Jesus for the healing we need? For the direction in life we are looking for? For the peace we need in the midst of our own times of chaos? For those times of worship to thank him for all he has done and continues to do in our lives? To what extent will we go to seek him out to affirm how he is working in our lives?

Seeking out Jesus. Actually, we don’t even have to go very far. Because he promises to always be with us. We only need to open our hearts and our lives to allow him to work in us and to bring us the peace and care we need. And we only need to lift up our voices in praise and thanksgiving for all he does in our lives...wherever we happen to be at the moment!

Have a joyous season of Epiphany, as each week we will hear and experience Jesus “being made known” in the world!

***We hope you will come and worship with us at our outdoor Epiphany Service on January 6 at 7pm!*

Surfin' on God's Grace!
Pastor Dan

Answer to question above: The Bible never says! It is assumed there were 3 Magi, because there were 3 gifts!

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

The Children's Ministry at Kure Memorial Lutheran Church has grown so much this year! It has been a pleasure seeing the program evolve and I look forward to continued growth this next year. I invite you all to check out the following link to a video which highlights the memories of our Children's Ministry at KMLC for 2021! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvvaxeCQsgw>

Christmas Celebration: making ornaments and gingerbread houses!



Youth Ministry Updates:

Follow us on Instagram! @kml.youth

KML Youth Group needs participants! If your child(ren) grades 6-12 are interested in weekly youth group, we need your feedback! If youth would like to bring back "Youth Sunday Lunches" we can do that also! Please email mcleangrobinson@gmail.com or call me at 704-962-2602 to share your feedback on this Ministry!

McLean Robinson
704-962-2602
mcleangrobinson@gmail.com

Epiphany; Come to the Light!: Join us on Thursday, January 6 at 7pm for our Epiphany service to celebrate the Light of the World being made known to the Magi (Matthew 2:1-2). Bring your lawn chairs, masks, hot chocolate, coffee or tea, and gather around the campfires of several fire pits placed around the church yard, for worship and to celebrate the Magi arriving in Bethlehem to worship the Christ Child! It will be a short service, but filled with music and joyful celebration! The service will be livestreamed as well, for those of you who either prefer to stay home or are not able to be here in person!

Monthly Men's Breakfast for January! Pastor Dan is really looking forward to seeing everyone at our January men's breakfast...especially since we weren't able to have one in December! We will look forward to seeing everyone at our January Men's Breakfast on Saturday, January 8 at 8:30am! Please let Dan know if you plan to bring something! We will be there around 8am to begin setting up and get the coffee started if you want to come early to visit or help set up.

Holy Communion on the Second Tuesday of the Month! We invite you to join us on January 11 at 10:30, for a short Holy Communion Service in the sanctuary. There are many folks who are still uncomfortable gathering for worship in person, and worship with us from home through our livestream. This is an opportunity to gather in a small group setting to receive the gift of Holy Communion. And, even if you attend worship and receive communion regularly...it's a chance to gather with others and receive the gift of our Lord Jesus during the week.

Church "Un-Decorating" is scheduled for Sunday, January 9 following worship! Please join us as we take down the decorations until next December. Thanks so much!

Last Call for Attractions Books! If you haven't already purchased yours, here is your chance!! Attractions Books are still for sale for \$25 per book, of which Kure Memorial gets \$10! All proceeds will go toward our next mission trip! Please see Pastor Dan after worship or give him a call at 910-619-8979 to get your copy(ies)! You can also stop by the church office to get them! The last day to purchase them will be January 31! Thank you for your support!

A Huge THANK YOU from Pastor Dan and Chris: THANK YOU so much for the very generous Christmas gift we received from our congregation! We really appreciate all of you as well as your thoughtfulness and generosity! You are all amazing! We are so blessed to part of such a wonderful church family!

2022 Polar Plunge Team KMLC! Yes...You heard it right! There WILL be a Polar Plunge this year! The Polar Plunge 2022 will take place on Saturday, February 19! This event is the major annual fundraising event for Special Olympics New Hanover County! All the action will take place in Kure Beach at the Ocean Front Park near the Kure Beach pier. In the past we've had over 50 people be part of our team and it has been a great time...as well as being meaningful! Our team will take part in the 1 mile fun walk...or if you are more energetic(!) you can do the 5K...or you can do the plunge if you feel motivated (brrrr!)? Or...come out and enjoy the festivities! The KMLC Polar Plunge Team is once again made possible through a \$1000 contribution to the Special Olympics New Hanover County, in memory of Melanie Wetzel, daughter of Becky and Tom Wetzel. Melanie worked with students with autism and this is a great way to honor Melanie. *As we have done in the past, we are inviting anyone in the congregation to donate part or all of the typical fee of participating back to that same memorial fund, which is \$30 for those doing the "1mile fun walk/run or 5K" or \$50 for those doing the "plunge and walk/run". That way we will be able to have a team in Melanie's memory for more years to come! (Please make your check out to KMLC and write "Polar Plunge" in the memo line!)* We will update everyone as we get closer to the day of the event, on the decision to have a "Team Feed" on the Friday night before the

plunge, as we have done in the past! Please contact Pastor Dan if you are interested in joining the KMLC Team! So...come on out and join the fun! It is always a very festive occasion! Plus...you will receive a Polar Plunge t-shirt! Can't beat that! Pastor Dan will need your name and t-shirt size by January 31 (*I will confirm this and update everyone if it changes!*)!

January Rice Bowl Offering: *For those not familiar with the Rice Bowl Offering Ministry, one Sunday of each month, during the children's time, the children circulate around the sanctuary with small bowls collecting pocket change...or any other form of money folks wish to give...which is designated for an organization, usually local, although sometimes global, that focuses on impacting the lives of children and youth. Our children are a big part of the offering that we receive each month because of their participation in collecting and bringing the offering forward to the altar for a special blessing. And your offerings that are gathered each month for these organizations that impact the lives of children, make more of a difference than I think any of us realize!* After putting a hold on our Rice Bowl Offering ministry since March of 2019 because of Covid, we re-instituted it in December to collect for the ELCA Global Barnyard program. We continue this month, designating the funds for the *Brigade Boys and Girls Club* in Wilmington. The Boys and Girls Club provides after school and summer programs in a safe, positive and supervised environment. It is a great organization and they do great service for children and youth (many of them are at-risk) in New Hanover and surrounding counties! Check out their website: <https://brigadebgc.org/> The Rice Bowl Offering this month will be on January 30!

Kure Memorial Lutheran's Children's Ministry has been active this past year! We invite you all to check out the following link to a video which highlights the memories of our Children's Ministry! It has been amazing to see how our children's ministry has grown over the years!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvvaxeCQsgw>

The Church Council will meet Monday, January 10th, 2022 at 6:30 inside the fellowship hall.

The Service Team will meet in Tuesday, January 11th, 2022 at 2pm via Zoom.

Book Club not be meeting in January. We hope to resume in February with discussions of the books we exchanged. Let us know if you would like to join the fun via email! Send it to kurememorial@kurememorial.com .

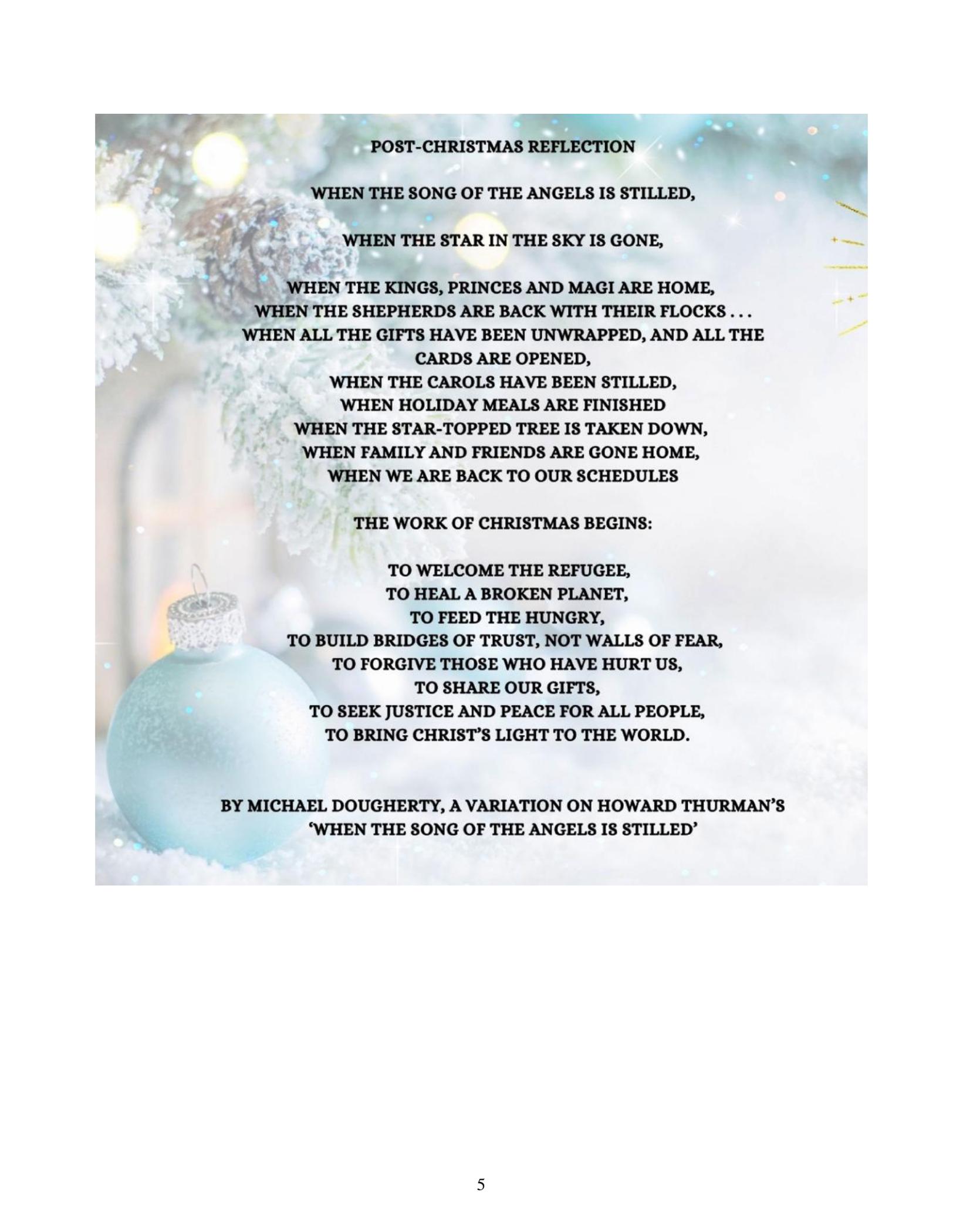
The 2nd Part of the Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, January 16th at 11am.

From the Financial Secretary: During the month of December, we received contributions from 52 families. We received Tithes and Offerings amounting to \$ 19, 694 (We were counting on \$17,260 to support our Mission Plan.) . This month's surplus of \$2,334 enabled us to meet our Annual Goal as outlined in the 2021 Mission Plan! This is a great accomplishment for all of us, especially as we reflect back on the many challenges Covid, hurricanes and other natural disasters continued to bring our way. Thank you all for your generosity this month, as well as throughout the entire 2021.

More information regarding the Offerings we received this year will be given to you in Kure Memorial's Annual Report. You will be receiving this in time for Part 2 of our Annual Congregational Meeting.

2021 Annual Contribution statements, reflecting Tithes and Offerings, as well as other donations will be distributed in the next few weeks.

A reminder to our Congregation Members: your 2022 Contribution Envelopes are available for pick-up on the table behind the last row in the Sanctuary.



POST-CHRISTMAS REFLECTION

WHEN THE SONG OF THE ANGELS IS STILLED,

WHEN THE STAR IN THE SKY IS GONE,

WHEN THE KINGS, PRINCES AND MAGI ARE HOME,

WHEN THE SHEPHERDS ARE BACK WITH THEIR FLOCKS . . .

**WHEN ALL THE GIFTS HAVE BEEN UNWRAPPED, AND ALL THE
CARDS ARE OPENED,**

WHEN THE CAROLS HAVE BEEN STILLED,

WHEN HOLIDAY MEALS ARE FINISHED

WHEN THE STAR-TOPPED TREE IS TAKEN DOWN,

WHEN FAMILY AND FRIENDS ARE GONE HOME,

WHEN WE ARE BACK TO OUR SCHEDULES

THE WORK OF CHRISTMAS BEGINS:

TO WELCOME THE REFUGEE,

TO HEAL A BROKEN PLANET,

TO FEED THE HUNGRY,

TO BUILD BRIDGES OF TRUST, NOT WALLS OF FEAR,

TO FORGIVE THOSE WHO HAVE HURT US,

TO SHARE OUR GIFTS,

TO SEEK JUSTICE AND PEACE FOR ALL PEOPLE,

TO BRING CHRIST'S LIGHT TO THE WORLD.

**BY MICHAEL DOUGHERTY, A VARIATION ON HOWARD THURMAN'S
'WHEN THE SONG OF THE ANGELS IS STILLED'**

A New Year's Blessing - by Joyce Rupp

May your inner vision be transformed so that you can see more clearly your own journey with all humankind as a journey of peace, hope, and bondedness (Nm 24:15-17; Jn 20:20).

May your God be someone you can lean on in your weak or painful moments. May you know God as your rock, your shelter, your strength, your wing of comfort and support (Ps 94:18).

May you be aware of all the places your feet carry you in the new year. May you know "how beautiful are the feet of the messenger of good news" (Rom 10:15).

May you not be afraid of the questions that press upon your mind and heart. May you welcome the questions and wait patiently for the day when they will have their answers (Mt 11:3).

May you be the one with welcome in your smile and hello etched upon your hand, the hand you extend to everyone who blesses you with presence (Lk 7:36-50).

May yours be the gift of reverence for all created things. May you face bravely and enthusiastically the responsibility to preserve and care for the beauty of Earth (Sir 42:15-43:33).

May the wellsprings of compassion flow deep within you until you can taste the tears of your brothers and sisters (2 Cor 1:3-7).

May you awake each morning with thank you on your lips and in your heart, recognizing that all is gift, that all is blessing (Ps 138:1).

May your friendship with God be strong and healthy. May that love be both a comfort and a challenge as you struggle to find your way in the new year (Jn 21:15-19).

May your spirit be open and perceptive in discovering the will of God for you. May your prayer be that of wisdom, guidance, and a deeper understanding of God's way for you (Lk 1:26-38).

May your life this new year be a living legacy to your God. Amen.

FROM THE KMLC RACIAL EQUALITY/JUSTICE DIALOG TEAM:

We will be starting a scripturally based study entitled, *"How to Fight Racism; Courageous Christianity and the Journey toward Racial Justice"* Our theme is "Awareness" and the sessions will be January 19, 26, February 2, 9 beginning at 6:30pm. If you would like to participate but can't commit to all the sessions, no worries! You can drop in anytime for any of the sessions...and we hope you will! We will meet in person in the fellowship hall as well as through Zoom for those who prefer to join in the study from home!

The Help Center of Federal Point has shared its needs for January 2022:

2 Jan....Pasta sauce	9 January.....Canned meat
16 January....Canned fruit	23 January...Hot or cold cereal
30 January...canned fish.	

Please contact Anne Hope & Tim Marvin if you are able to help or have any questions at 910-458-4057.

The Sunday Lunch Ministry: meets at the corner of 3rd Avenue and Cape Fear Blvd. outside after worship service beginning at 12:15pm. If you want to volunteer, contact Jean Graff at kjeb415@charter.net or 309-339-9272.

January Worship Assistants

Date	Assisting Minister	Reader	Ushers
January 2, 2022	Keith Graff	MJ Shalanski, John Ellen, Kristin Woodie, Jean Graff & Chris Keck	Mario Piccinin
January 9, 2022	Keith Graff	Jean Graff	Butch Von Cannon
January 16, 2022	Cory Petermann	Marion Wyman	Butch Von Cannon
January 23, 2022	Marcus Matzke	MJ Shalanski	Dottie Herman
January 30, 2022	Beth Gavigan	John Ellen	Gary Bianchi & Marion Wyman

* Ushers: If there should be a conflict with the Sunday that you are scheduled for please let me know as soon as possible and I will make the necessary changes. Thank you for serving, Jack.

Sanctuary Flowers: Because we are evolving into meeting inside for worship service, instead of sanctuary flowers, we will have “sanctuary plants”. You are able to sign up in the fellowship hall on the bulletin board. The new price will be \$20 instead of \$25. Contact the office for more information.

Sanctuary Lamp: Our Sanctuary Lamp burns continually, signifying the unswerving presence of the spirit of the Lord in our hearts and in our lives. To sponsor the sanctuary lamp, choose your Sunday date and the loved one or occasion you wish to honor and sign up in the Fellowship Hall. The cost of sponsorship is \$5.

THANKING KURE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Today you did something wonderful! THANK YOU!

Dear KMLC,

Together we will work towards a world free from child sexual, physical abuse, and neglect, where children grow up happy, healthy, and safe.

We are so grateful for your support of our agency and of its important mission to meet the needs of abused and neglected children in Southeastern North Carolina.

Your gift will help stop the cycle of abuse AND help our community hold child abusers accountable. Your investment in the Carousel Center encourages healing, promotes justice, and fosters resilience in children victimized by physical or sexual abuse, and improves our community through education, prevention, and advocacy.

Your donation goes to work immediately here in Brunswick, New Hanover, and Pender counties and you will help a young life heal and give back their childhood.

Thank you again for your support of the Carousel Center, thank you for your compassion and generosity!

Sincerely,

Amy L. Feath, Executive Director

Tammy Simmons, Chair, Board of Directors

This email will serve as your receipt. *No benefit was bestowed upon this donor in exchange for this contribution...other than the joy of giving to a wonderful organization that supports programs to help children heal.* The Carousel Center is an exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; EIN#56-2098739 NC Solicitation #SL002152.

Name: Kure Memorial Lutheran Church

Amount: \$400.00



✝ REMEMBER IN PRAYER ✝

HOMEBOUND, HOSPITALIZED, SPECIAL CONCERNS

Eleanor Lundy, Ellen Prevatte, Ted Prevatte, Maxine Jordan, Lisa Lee, Barry Nelder, Emily Barber, Irene Girvan, Bob Stuart, Mina Piedmont, Joanne Adams, Victoria Sanchez, Aris Mora, Billy Ward, John Walker, Morgan Davison, Kaitlin Sprague, Beth Loony, Megan Peoplis, Andra Ciparis, Clifford Johnson, Beth Deaton, Don Bowman, Ruth Ann Getsinger, Herb Flamer, Raymond & Dottie Holden, Gene Miller, Gladys Girardot, Don Smith, Trudy Ford, Ann Scott, Kelly Cahill, Sandra Mullins, Kyra Stratman, Cooper Smith, Isabell Foushee, Tammy Gillis, Diane Stultz, Chuck Shoaff, Jeff Wempler, Charlene Gibbens, Tracy Caldwell, Susan Shearin, Wes Stapleton, Jack Campbell, Beth Wrenn, Mackenzie Clark, Graham Robinson.

FRIENDS & FAMILY

Sandy Hunt (Buckley), Tom Grady, Pat Hankin (Hambel), Senka Gambino, Jean Behanna, Rick & Sharon Ellis (Lundy), Terry Ford & Carl Ford (Rehder), Arlo Bond (Jordan), Joey (Palamara), Pat Addington (Hearne), Julian, Jason & baby Jackson (Full), Mary Adobato (Vecchio), Megan Manley (Cox), Richard White (Prevatte), Kari Craig, (Palamara), Larry Gilbert (Wrenn), Anne C., Claire Houston, Tammy V., Dave Stultz, Matt Stultz, Belle Hunt, Steve Siferd, Janet Kassor, (Keck), Meghan O'Brien (Campbell), Laura & John McMahon (Lundy), Carter (Graff).

Please pray for the caregivers as they care for those who are ill.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MISSIONS OF OUR CHURCH

Federal Point Help Center / Coupons to Service men's families / KMLC Preschool / Girl Scout Troops #867, #901 and #155 / Good Shepherd (food & supplies) / Trinity Grove / KMLC Youth Group / Katie B Hines Senior Center lunch program / The Lutheran Church of Costa Rica/ Casa Abierta-La Carpio / Seamen's Center

STUDENTS ATTENDING COLLEGE / SEMINARY

Emily Graff-Luther Seminary / Tommy Ullring-UNC-W / Katelyn Copenhaver-Santa Fe College / Jordan Pivik- East Carolina University / Rachel Pivik-ECU / Katie Elkin-Duke Divinity School / Andro Keck-University of South Carolina / Vegas Vecchio- University of Washington, Seattle / Mackenzie Clark-Hood College, Maryland / Matthew Shuttleworth-Cape Fear Community College / Mia Shoffner-East Carolina University / Sydney Maguire-College of Charleston / Preston Gourville-Vanderbilt / Kelsey Bloch-Wake Tech / Kari Bloch-Wake Tech / Jordan Gourville-University of South Carolina / Hawthorne Hamm-UNC Chapel Hill.

MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING

Col Wayne Lett in Frankfort, Germany; John Brandon in Wayton, Utah; Steven Blum at Fort Bragg; Christopher Bennett in San Diego, CA; Marley Von Cannon at a Naval Base in Walton County Florida; Brandon Muehl at Fort Bragg, NC; Jacob Clinton at Fort Geiger, NC; Thomas Stafford at Ft. Bragg, NC, Nick Schwenker-Fort Benning, GA; Rileigh Fortney- Maimstrom AFB, Montana

COSTA RICA MICRO LOAN RECIPIENTS

Rosa Marin, Aida Marin, Raquel Marin: Village of Guatuso / Zoraida Hernandez, Raul Perez: Village of Quitirrisi / Ana Yensi Rivera: La Carpi / Alexa Araya: San Jose / Marta Dodero.

Pastor:	Reverend Dan Keck
Council President:	Todd Vought
Church Office Manager:	Courtney Jalloh
Musician & Choir Director:	Kristin Woodie
Coordinator of Youth & Family Ministry	McLean Robinson

COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2021

Ann-Marie Cooper, Beth Gavigan, Eleanor Lundy, Peter Yandow, Gayle Palamara, Cory Petermann, Roshell Heckendorf, Butch Von Cannon and Todd Vought.

COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Gayle Palamara
Vice President: Todd Vought
Secretary: Peter Yandow
Treasurer: Eleanor Lundy
Financial Secretary: Terry Hambel

COMMISSION CHAIRS

Worship – Kristin Woodie
Resource – Peter Yandow
Nurture – TBD
Service – MJ Shalanski
Discipleship – Gayle Palamara
Preschool– Celeste Carpenter
Property – Peter Yandow

COUNCIL LIAISONS

Ann-Marie Cooper

Roshell Heckendorf
Beth Gavigan

Eleanor Lundy
Keith Graff