

## My Thoughts

In an unbelieving world, I believe the glory of God is seen the most when Christians are pressed, but <u>not</u> crushed. When they are hurting and in pain, but <u>not</u> without hope. The glory of God is seen not in the fact that believers never suffer loss - even tragic loss - but in that they are not abandoned in the process. (Ps 34:18)

We grieve with the family of Pastor Bill Lenz and the church family of Christ the Rock. We stand with them in their pain, and mourn the passing of their Pastor who built a significant work for the Kingdom in the Fox Valley.



## **NOTES**

Isaiah 40:1, 28-31

Matthew 2:13-18

Psalm 34:17-18

Hebrews 4:16

James 1:5

Lamentations 3:20-25

Psalm 37:7

1 Thessalonians 5:17-18

# TODAY IS COMMUNION SUNDAY

AAC serves grape juice instead of wine. Please see an usher or deaconess before the service if you would like a gluten-free cracker.

### **CHRISTMAS SERVICES**

Join us for our Christmas series, The Gift Exchange, starting on Dec. 3 and finishing on Christmas Eve. Invite your friends and family!

Christmas Eve Service Times: 9:00 and 11:00 a.m., and 1:00, 3:00, and 5:00 p.m. in the Worship Center. Discovery Land will be open for children ages birth-3 years.

## PICK UP GIVING ENVELOPES

If you use giving envelopes for your offering, please stop and pick up your 2018 envelopes in the Hub. If you give online, you will not need envelopes. Sign-up sheets are available to request a set of envelopes. Thank you for your financial support of Appleton Alliance Church.

## REV. SCHAEFER'S FAREWELL RECEPTION

Today, Dec. 10 | 1:00-3:00 p.m. Reception in the South Hub

Let's celebrate all God has done through Pastor Dick and his wife, Barb, during their time here at AAC. Join us today for refreshments and to wish Pastor Dick well in his retirement.

## STREETS OF BETHLEHEM

Thursday-Sunday, Dec. 14-17 5:30-9:00 p.m. each evening streetsofbethlehem.org

Go back in time! As you stroll the village streets of Bethlehem, you will see, hear, smell, touch, and taste what life was like the night of Jesus' birth. This event is free and open to the community.

Please note these changes in Discovery Land due to Streets of Bethlehem:

Dec. 17 - Open for birth-2nd grade Dec. 24 - Open for birth-3 years

## SENIOR ADULTS

## **New Year's Eve Potluck**

Sunday, Dec. 31 | 2:00 p.m. Register at aachur.ch/samnyep123117

Kick-off the New Year with fun, games, great food, and friends. No cost, but register online or at the church so we know what dish you'll be bringing to pass.

## **ADULTS**

## **Baptism Class**

Sunday, Jan. 7 | 9:30-10:30 a.m. Register at **aachur.ch/abc1718** 

### **Explore Membership Class**

Sunday, Jan. 7 | 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Register at **aachur.ch/aem1718** 

Are you ready to take a next step in your faith? Learn about Believer's Baptism or how to become a member of AAC at one of these "get connected" classes.

## WELCOME We're glad you're here!

Stop by the Welcome Center in the Hub. We have a gift for you and would love to connect with you. Find out what's happening at AAC at appletonalliance.org

## APPLETON ALLIANCE CHURCH — Connecting People with God and One Another

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Sunday Services: 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00 a.m.