**Announcements**

**Christmas Caroling:** Please sign the sheet in the Narthex if you would like to go Caroling on Sun., Dec. 17th @ 4 PM. We’ll come back to the church afterwards for some chili soup and other goodies!

**2024 VBS Dates:** Mark Your Calendars – The Dates for VBS will be May 27-31, 2024. The VBS Program will be Sunday, June 2nd, 2024.

**Inclement Weather:** We are coming to the time of year when weather conditions may affect our ability to have worship services. If services need to be canceled, we will attempt to notify the congregation through the Prayer Chain, the Sunday School Phone Tree, and the Church Website.

**Cards For Sale:** The Women of the Church have boxed cards for sale in the Social Hall for all occasions – Sympathy, Christmas, Baptism, Get Well, Birthday, Thank You, and All Occasions. The price is on the back of each box, and there is also a box on the cart to put your money in. Thanks!

**Christmas Eve Offering:** Our Christmas Eve Program & Candle Light Service is at 7:00 p.m. The offering received will be divided as follows: 50% to the Abbott House in Mitchell; 30% to the Swan Lake Christian Camp; 20% to Healing Hope Ministries.

**Christmas Day Offering:** Our Christmas Day Offering will be given to the M/O Care Center to assist with on-going needs and upgrades.

**Addresses for those in the Military:** Please consider sending them a special greeting for Christmas!

 Logan Schmidt Travis Gramkow

 210 Prallow St., Unit 118 3320 Sugarcreek Dr.

 Travis AFB, CA 94535-2306 Virginia Beach, VA 23452

PRAYER CONCERNS AND JOYS OF SALEM REFORMED CHURCH

**\*Eloise Hora** (Infant), as she is scheduled for her next heart surgery in Ann Arbor, MI, during the first week of December.

**\*Josh Wilcoxon,** as he is scheduled for shoulder surgery on Monday, December 11th.

**\*Kayleen Aisenbrey,** as she is recovering from a recent knee replacement surgery.

**\***We pray for all of our **Care Center Residents and Assisted Living Residents** as well as the **Staff**who work so hard in caring for them.

**\*Jan Nebelsick, \*Jackie Scott** (Jayme Kocourek’s Mom), **\*Amy Fischer, \*Leland/Lori Goehring, \*Lucille Prehiem, \*Kayla Settje, \*Bruce Kunze, \*Eloise Hora**(Baby)**, \*Dustin Christensen,  \*Kathy & Jerome Nusz, \*Kobee Sherman,**as these individuals are in various stages in their battle against cancer and/or other health struggles.  We praise the Lord for His Power that is mightily at work within each one, and giving them strength!

**\*Travis Gramkow**(U.S. Navy - Virginia), **\*Aaron Helgerson**(U.S. Navy - Rhode Island), **\*Katie (Schultz) Paulsen**(U.S. Air Force - Texas),**Patrick Ireland**(U.S. Army Chaplain - Ft. Bliss, TX), **Tyler J. Brandt**(U.S. Army - Georgia), **\*Logan Schmidt**(U.S. Navy - Ft. Travis, CA), **\*Troy Heckenlaible, Derek Fischer, Dan Wonnenberg, Katie Huber, Trevor Bertsch, Chad Boettcher**(Army National Guard), **\*Lee Heckenlaible, Carmen Taylor, Brett Andersen, Evan Wintersteen**(Air National Guard), **\*Corbin Auch, \*Travis Brandt, \*Jayme Schaaf**(U.S. Army)**, \*Jake Haider**(U.S. Army - Florida),  **\*Alex Olson** (U.S. Navy),**\*Alex Ulmer**(U.S. Marines), **Cameron Christensen** (U.S. Army - Belgium, Germany) **- we pray for God's protection over all who serve in our Military!**

**"JESUS – HOPE OF THE NATIONS"**

**TEXT:**  Luke 2:21-35

**Advent:** The Coming Of; The Arrival of a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Person

 The 1st Advent Wreath was designed by a German Pastor

 in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ . Initially it had \_\_\_\_ candles.

**THE THEMES OF ADVENT:**

**I. WE WAIT IN \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ !**

**NOTE:** 1st Promise of the Messiah – Genesis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **A. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ WAS HIGH!**

 **Luke 2:21-24**

 **B. SIMEON HAD BEEN PRAYING, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ , WATCHING**

 **Luke 2:25-28**

**NOTE:** We wait in HOPE for the \_\_\_\_ Coming of Christ. The Old Testament contains at least \_\_\_\_\_ detailed prophecies about the Messiah! The probability of only 8 of these coming true is amazing! 1 in 10 to the 28th Power = 1 in 10 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

 **C. WHAT DID THE ANGELS SAY AT HIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ?**

 **Acts 1:9-11**

**II. HOPE FULFILLED BRINGS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ !**

 **Luke 2:28-32**

**Example:** In \_\_\_\_\_\_ Israel again became a nation!

 **Ez. 36:24; Jer. 16:15**

**III. HOPE IN CHRIST \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YOU THROUGH!**

 **Luke 2:33-35**

 ***“Falling and Rising” –***

 ***“The Sword” –*** speaks of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_