

Quilting

— A note from Pastor Ken —

It is hard to know what to write at this moment. Words are elusive. My mind wanders from one thought to another. Laughter and joy are quickly followed by silence and sadness. Such is the truth as one wades into the waters of grief.

I write this note from my in-law's kitchen. It has been just over four weeks since our lives were forever changed in learning that my mother-in-law, Jane, had a mass on her pancreas. In that moment hopes and dreams evaporated. Future plans were abandoned and laid to waste. To say the weeks leading to Jane's death were difficult might be a bit of an undersell and the truth is the weight of grief has only grown since that evening.

I am grateful that Jane died peacefully, surrounded by family, with *O Come All Ye Faithful* playing in the background. For while it was incredibly painful, it was also incredibly beautiful. The pain makes it a hard moment to relive and yet my mind wanders back to constantly. And I think the reason why is that I can't get over the fact that Jane died as she lived — quilting. Of course, this time it was people she stitched closer together, rather than fabric.

My mother-in-law was a fantastic seamstress. Our home displays table runners, quilts and some other odds and ends all of which came from her handiwork. Truth be told, I have a number of clothing items that would not be usable, if not for her needle and thread. And in speaking with a number of her friends these past few weeks I realize that her gifts were not used solely on her family.

And as good a seamstress and quilter as Jane was, it was her ability to stitch people together that I continue to be astounded by. People from all aspects of her life came by to visit her these past weeks both in the hospital and at home — family, neighbors, work friends, school friends, quilting friends, and others. We as a family tried to impose limits on the visits so Jane could rest, but Jane would have nothing of it. Jane would not allow rest to interfere with seeing someone she cared about.

And even more than that Jane would not allow her rest to interfere with others connecting. When she was in the hospital there were a number of times when her eyes would begin to close and someone in the family would say "it's time to leave" to give Jane time to rest. And each time Jane would stop us from going. In the beginning I thought it was because she didn't want to be alone, but later I began to wonder if it had more to do with simply wanting people to be connected.

Jane loved nothing more than sitting around the kitchen table and talking. Following dinner it was called "fellowship." It consisted of coffee or tea, a sweet

treat and conversation. I have spent hours around my in-laws table just talking about all sorts of things. And as I reflect upon now, it is hard not to consider that it was Jane simply quilting us together.

As my mind wanders back to those final moments spent with Jane, her husband, daughter, son and son's spouse, it seems to me it was Jane putting in the final touches on the quilt of her family — drawing the six of us together for one final time of fellowship — one last stitch in which we were able to share how much we loved one another.

As I reread this article I am caught by the thought that among the many names associated with God in the Bible, several of which were heard on Christmas Eve — Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace — no where do I read that God is fantastic seamstress. And yet, it seems to me in this moment that is exactly what God is.

God has worked through all of creation to quilt us together as God's people. Story after story have God stitching love, compassion, forgiveness, and grace into our story. God seems to take every piece fabric and finds a place where God can stitch it in with the others. God stitches the past with the present and promises to continuing stitching in the future.

As a new year begins, there is comfort in thinking this way for me — I pray you might find some in it as well.

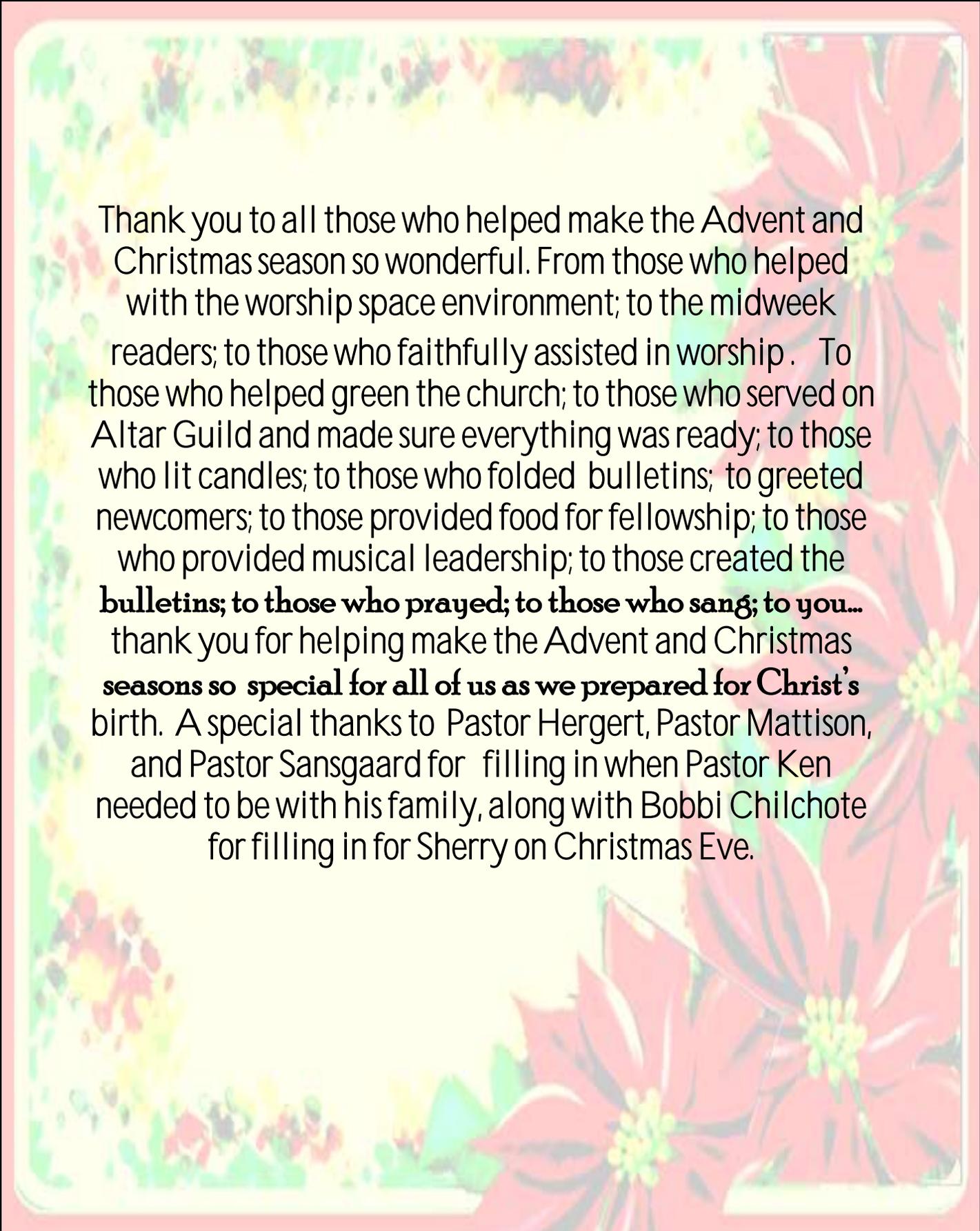
Peace,

Ken

NOTICE OF:
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (PART B)
JANUARY 27, 2019

We will begin with a potluck following the
10:30am service in the Fellowship Hall
A-N...Please bring a Dessert.
O-Z...Please Main Dish, Side Dish or Salad

The Annual Meeting will begin in the Fellowship Hall
around 11:45 -12:00pm



Thank you to all those who helped make the Advent and Christmas season so wonderful. From those who helped with the worship space environment; to the midweek readers; to those who faithfully assisted in worship . To those who helped green the church; to those who served on Altar Guild and made sure everything was ready; to those who lit candles; to those who folded bulletins; to greeted newcomers; to those provided food for fellowship; to those who provided musical leadership; to those created the **bulletins; to those who prayed; to those who sang; to you...** thank you for helping make the Advent and Christmas **seasons so special for all of us as we prepared for Christ's** birth. A special thanks to Pastor Hergert, Pastor Mattison, and Pastor Sansgaard for filling in when Pastor Ken needed to be with his family, along with Bobbi Chilchote for filling in for Sherry on Christmas Eve.

Flowers and Fellowship for 2019

The Flower and Fellowship
sign up sheet is
up in the
Fellowship Hall for the
upcoming new year.



The Altar Guild will order your flowers at a cost of \$27 and place your dedication in the bulletin for the week selected. You can take your flowers home after the 10:30 worship service.

Please sign up to provide snacks for Fellowship hour. If you have not done it before, let the church office know. We will be sure you have a partner to help train you, or simply take a simple instruction sheet from the bulletin board.



Our beautiful sanctuary at Christmas.

Photo taken by: Dannette Blakeslee

*Thank you to all
who helped with the
“Hanging of the
Greens” and
removing
the Christmas
decorations.*

Thank You Notes

Thanks to each of you who donated cookies for the shut-ins and the groups that meet in the basement each week. There were many cookies and candies and we were able to fill more than enough tins and plates to distribute. You are very appreciated.

Your donations to the Basin School District needs was awesome! We were able to pack Bundy Moore's car full with all the food, clothing, and bedding items that Redeemer and the Delta Kappa Gamma Boise Phi Chapter donated. Bundy said she wished she could share all the tears, smiles, and hugs she gets when these donations are handed out. God bless you for your generosity!

Esther ~ Naomi Circles



The Esther~Naomi Circle will meet for study in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00p.m on Wednesday, January 9th.

We will use the study from the Gather magazine. If you have a left over Christmas treats to share we would love to share them with you.

RUTH CIRCLE



**PLEASE CHECK YOUR EMAIL
FOR UPCOMING EVENTS .**

If you'd like to be included in the email list, please let the Redeemer office know. Remember friends are invited and encouraged to join any Ruth Circle event.

NO NAME MEN'S GROUP

MONTHLY MEETING: **MONDAY, JANUARY 14TH (7:00 PM)**

WHERE: **SOCKEYE GRILL & BREWPUB
(3019 N COLE RD. BOISE, ID)**

Questions -

Auld Lang Syne is often sung on New Year's Eve. The song begins (in the Scottish pronunciation):

"Shid ald akwentans bee firgot,
an nivir brocht ti mynd?"

1. What memory or acquaintance would you like to forget from last year?
2. What would you like to remember from last year?

Also, any prayer concerns that you would like to bring to the group.

Steve
Re-Acting Secretary

BIBLE STUDY WILL RESUME JANUARY 3RD, 2018

11AM ON THURSDAYS



The format for the study is quite simple. We open in prayer asking for the Spirit to guide us in our study. Then we read a passage and discuss.

- What stood out to us?
- What do we hear God saying to us today?
- What questions does it raise?

As the discussion lessens and time allows we continue by reading another passage. This type of study does not require any prep work to join. Simply come and we will read the bible together. Please consider joining us. All are welcome.

Outreach Activities

Wash, Wipe, & Wear Distribution in December

First of all I want to thank the whole congregation and council for choosing to fund our program another year! Also thanks to EVERYONE who helped make this program run! Your willingness to volunteer is highly appreciated!

Those who assisted in December:

The Picker-uppers: Brad J. again picked up the soap and shampoo, Gary and Ruth the toilet paper, Gale F. for ordering and picking up the diapers.

Sorters: Linda A., Carol G., Martina N., Brenda N., and Ruth M.

Day of helpers: Carol G. walked in the door at the right time! This was a God thing! We were shorted soap and only had 2 boxes! She ran down to the Park Center \$ Tree and picked up 82 bottles!

Map Recorders: : Luanne T. and Becky N.

Baggers and passers: Brenda, Dominique, and Pacifique

Passing out to Children: Leah, Gale's granddaughter, passed out the cheese and crackers or the popcorn donated by Sandy W. and Ruth passed out the stuffed animals from an anonymous donor, along with Disney characters. And boy, the adults almost cried when they couldn't have one!

Clean up was done by all of us!

95 folks were served

95 shampoo

95 laundry detergent

285 rolls of toilet paper

2,095 Diapers

Another God thing happened in December! It was Friday afternoon Dec. 21st and Katherine was still working at 3:00 P.M. on Christmas deadlines. In walked a lady with the question of would we be able to use some sleepers for children? She stated that some organization did a sleeper drive and had some leftovers. She mentioned she had seen a line at our church the prior Saturday. Didn't get her name but Katherine said yes we could pass them out next month when WWW happens again! These were all brand new Carter sleepers! Carol took 6 of the 6 Mo. sleepers for future stork baskets, and we ended up with 46 sleepers to pass out! God continues to bless our program in such unexpected ways!

Again thanks to all who assisted to help make Dec. extra special for the folks receiving the products! The new sign up sheet is posted in the fellowship hall awaiting your signatures! As we all have been blessed, be a blessing to others! God bless you all and may the New Year be one of health and happiness!

In his Service, Ruth Makovsky

Ministry of the Month Updates!!!

VA Warm Clothing, Thank-You!



Rita Kay Youngblood, with VA Behavioral Health, is pictured receiving Redeemer's generous gifts of warm clothing for the veterans. They do so appreciate these items!

Saint Vincent de Paul, Thank-You!



John Dahl, President, Society of St. Vincent de Paul, is pictured accepting Redeemer's check for the community Thanksgiving Food Baskets. He expressed his gratitude and thinks of Redeemer's kindness whenever he drives by!

Thanks everyone for supporting our ministries once again.

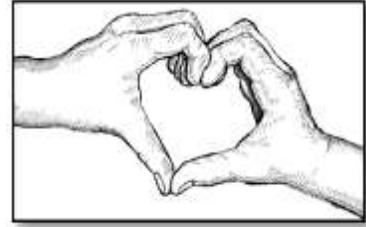
Kari Spencer

***Check out the monthly quilt
in the Fellowship Hall.***

Each month a recently made quilt will be on display for your enjoyment and appreciation of the dedicated work of the women who quilt each week, fifty weeks a year. Let's enjoy their quilts every week, not just on quilt Sunday. **Remember**, if you have no longer used flat sheets, material, thread, or batting it can be donated to the quilters and placed in the basket under the quilt.



Hope Lutheran, Thank-You!



Thank you to all who donated food items or made a monetary contribution to Hope Lutheran's Food Pantry. Outreach will be delivering many bags of non-perishable items for this wonderful service.

Operation Wish Book

The Redeemer congregation donated 25 books and \$80 to Operation Wish Book this past year.

Thank you for your continued support to put a NEW book under the tree for Boise boys and girls.



January 2019

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p>6 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group</p>	<p>7 Office Closed 12:00 NA</p>	<p>8 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA</p>	<p>9 Office Closed 12:00 NA 1:00 Esther/Naomi</p>	<p>10 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA</p>	<p>11 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA</p>	<p>12 12:00 NA 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA</p>
<p>13 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group</p>	<p>14 Office Closed 12:00 NA 7:00 Men's Group</p>	<p>15 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA</p>	<p>16 Office Closed 12:00 NA</p>	<p>17 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA</p>	<p>18 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA</p>	<p>19 12:00 NA 1:00 WWW 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA</p>
<p>20 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Prayer Group</p>	<p>21 Office Closed 12:00 NA</p>	<p>22 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA</p>	<p>23 Office Closed 12:00 NA</p>	<p>24 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA</p>	<p>25 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA</p>	<p>26 12:00 NA 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA</p>
<p>27 8:30 Worship 9:30 Fellowship 10:30 Worship 11:30 Annual Meeting 11:30 Prayer Group</p>	<p>28 Office Closed 12:00 NA</p>	<p>29 9:30 Quilters 12:00 NA 7:00 NA</p>	<p>30 Office Closed 12:00 NA</p>	<p>31 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 NA</p>		
				<p>3 11:00 Bible Study 12:00 1st Thursday Soup 12:00 NA 7:00 NA</p>	<p>4 10:00 Folders 12:00 NA 6:00 Girlscouts 8:00 NA</p>	<p>5 12:00 NA 3:00 Youth Choir 7:00 NA</p>

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Table of Contents:

Note from Pastor Ken	Pgs 1-2
Notice of Annual Meeting	Page 2
Thankyou!	Page 3
Flowers & Fellowship/Thank you	Page 4
Thankyou/Redeemer Groups	Page 5
Redeemer Happenings/Outreach	Pgs 6-9
Calendar	Page 10
Readings/Coffee & Flowers/Prayers	Page 11

