



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Faith Matters

DECEMBER
2023

WORSHIP TIMES

SUNDAYS— 9:00 A.M.
WEDNESDAYS — 6:15 P.M.

CHURCH OFFICE

255 Roosevelt Street
PO Box 369
Valders, Wisconsin 54245
Phone 920-775-4141
Website:
www.faithlutheranchurchvalders.org

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Jill Wittmus, *Bookkeeper*
Ken O'Leary, *Custodian*
Tony Schad, *Custodian Helper & Lawn Cutter*

Sue Riesterer and
Whitney Schamburek, *Organists*

FLC President: Erin Lenzner
FLC Vice President: Bill Riesterer
FLC VP Elect: Larry Burzynski
Secretary: Joan Pritzl
Treasurer: Don Domrath

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The Blessing of Music

One of the great blessings of my life was to become involved in vocal music. I had always liked singing, tho nobody had said "Oh boy are you a good singer!" I got involved in 8th grade with the chorus. By high school my fellow singers were my closest friends. (And a disproportionate number of them went into the ministry. I do not know what that means.) One of my favorite memories from those days was when, at Christmas time we would all get together and go caroling. We would pile into cars and show up at a house and just go up and ring the doorbell and then sing. "Angels We Have Heard on High" with all the parts beautifully sung in perfect harmony is very beautiful any time. But on a crisp, snow-covered night to have beautiful rosy-cheeked teenagers surprise you with angel choruses, it is glorious. It is part of my Christmas joy.

To this day I remember the names of all the eight tiny reindeer from the intro to "Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer" from singing it dozens of times out on the lawn of neighbors houses. "You know Dasher and Dancer and Prancer and Vixen, Comet and Cupid and Donner and Blitzen, but do you recall the most famous reindeer of all?"

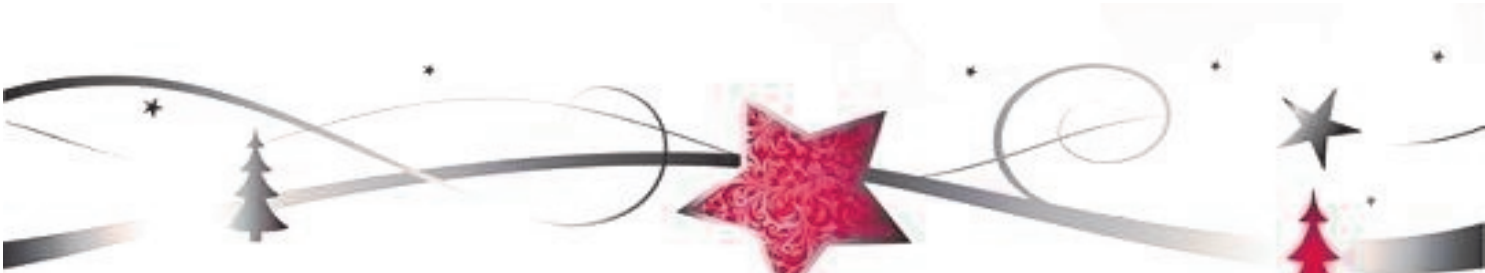
At home from the beginning of the Christmas season, we always used to listen to "Handel's Messiah." We had an album with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir singing it. Then in choir we learned it and sang it. And over the years I have sung it many times. In church we read the assigned scriptures around the Nativity and they are exactly the words that Handel set to music. So every Christmas as I read the words to you I want to sing them in Handel's thrilling tunes. "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God!"

I am especially thankful for the musicality of this congregation. For the depth of dedication to musical excellence Faith Lutheran Church displays.

Sometimes people ask, "What is the best Christmas present you have ever received?" and I have to answer, "The music of Christmas!"

May you receive good gifts and may your heart sing with the joys of the season.

Pastor Dan Lyman



"In As much as you do for the least of my brothers and sisters you do for Me"

In As Much Sunday December 3, 2023

Please consider bringing an unwrapped gift for a child 0-18 years of age to place under our tree in the front of church before or on Sunday Dec 3rd. The gifts will be blessed on the 3rd and distributed to families in need in Manitowoc County through The Salvation Army and Lakeshore Foster Families and Friends.

FAITH ON FIRE

Cookie Walk Fundraiser

Sunday December 10th 10am-noon

Let us help you save some time this holiday season! A variety of homemade holiday goodies will be available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall. Fill as many containers as you wish and pay per ounce. All proceeds go to our HS Youth group.

Faith On Fire
Journey To Bethlehem

ESCAPE ROOM

Come Solve the puzzles to the Holy Night and escape the Room before morning light!

Wednesday December 13th 7:15-8:30

Christmas treats and refreshments will be available. All 10, 11, 12th grade students welcome!

"How the Grinch Found Christ in Christmas"

Our Children's Christmas Program will take place on Sunday December 17th during the 9am service. All children should meet in the Fellowship Hall at 8:30am dressed as Who's from Whoville ready to perform our version of the Grinch. We encourage all attending to also wear fun Christmas sweaters/shirts!





Please join us at Manitowoc Health Care Center on Friday, December 15th at 6:00 pm as we Christmas carol for the residents. We will plan to meet at MHCC and after we have spread some Christmas cheer, will return back to church for pizza and hot chocolate. All ages are welcome! The more the merrier!



Senior Christians will meet Tuesday, December 19 at 9:00 a.m. at Perkins.



Join us Sunday, December 24 for service at 9:00 a.m. Our Christmas Eve services are at 3:00, 5:00 and 10:00 p.m. with Holy Communion.



Kids Night Out Winter Edition

Need a break from your children while they're on Christmas break? We've got you! Drop them off at church on Wednesday, December 27th from 6-8 pm and they will enjoy holiday inspired activities such as cookie decorating, a snowman building/decorating contest or a "snowball" fight. Any children ages 4-10 are welcome. Please contact Erin Lenzner at 901-7089 to sign up.



Finances

Income - October 2023

| | | <i>Budget</i> | <i>YTD Actual</i> | <i>YTD Budget</i> |
|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Envelope Offerings | \$ 26,928.00 | | | |
| Other Income and Offerings | \$ 565.81 | | | |
| General Fund Income | \$ 27,493.81 | \$ 25,883.00 | \$ 248,672.44 | \$ 258,830.10 |
| Dedicated Income | \$ 14,867.88 | | \$ 46,585.50 | |
| Total Income | \$ 42,361.69 | | \$ 295,257.94 | |

Operating Expenses - October 2023

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Benevolence | \$ 2,198.31 | | | |
| Board & Other Expenses | \$ 6,549.12 | | | |
| Personnel Salaries/Benefits | \$ 31,586.08 | | | |
| General Fund Expense | \$ 40,333.51 | \$ 27,954.66 | \$ 255,203.61 | \$ 278,431.40 |
| Dedicated Expense | \$ 16,843.84 | | \$ 61,441.37 | |
| Total Expenses | \$ 57,177.35 | | \$ 316,644.98 | |

Year to Date General Fund Net Income : \$(6,531.17)



Liturgical Roles ~ Worship Responsibilities

Pastoral Acts

BaptismLegend Shaun Bast

Membership

Baptized 811
Confirmed..... 592
Famillies 109

Worship Attendance

| | Sunday | Wednesday |
|-------|--------|-----------|
| 10/15 | 169 | 51 |
| 10/22 | 111 | 47 |
| 10/29 | 113 | 41 |
| 11/5 | 135 | 57 |
| 11/12 | 140 | 54 |

Altar Guild Servers

Communion:

December.....**Bev Torrison, Chair (Committee #2)**

Lectors

12/3 Joyce Sorenson
12/6 Cambria Behnke
12/10 Sheryle Lyman
12/13 Susan Christel
12/17 Stefanie Kaderabek
12/20 Dennis Luckow
12/24 Carol Ulness
12/31 Bob Wigen

Communion Servers

12/3 Audrey Sorenson
12/13 Susan Christel
12/17 Stefanie Kaderabek

Acolyte Schedule

12/3 Ariana Herrick
12/6 Allison Goehring
12/10 Liam Cline
12/17 Ethan Spindler
12/24 Westen Schisel
12/31 Zachary Lenzner

Head Ushers

Glenn Otto and Tom Madson

Greeters

12/3 Carter Kuenstler
12/6 Noah Boll
12/10 Allison Goehring and Cambria Behnke
12/13 Noah Boll
12/17 Carter Kuenstler
12/20 Noah Boll
12/24 Brenda Freiberg
12/31 Bob and Julie Wigen

Ushers

12/3 Marcus Galien, Ethan Ulness, John Robley
12/10 Gary and Linda Heeler and Dean Behnke
12/17 Dennis and Bonnie Gordon and Joan Pritzl
12/24 Tom and Kathy Muench
12/31 Richard and Linda Menza

Sound Operator

12/3 Loren Ulness
12/10 Bill Riesterer
12/17 Lucas Spindler
12/24 Loren Ulness
12/31 Erin Lenzner

Video Operator/Live Stream

12/3 Gage Spindler and Carter Lenzner
12/10 Mikaela Spindler and Bill Riesterer
12/17 Liam Cline and Mike Lenzner
12/24 Loren Ulness
12/31 Carter Lenzner

Projection

12/3 Mikaela Spindler and Carter Lenzner
12/6 Zach Lenzner
12/10 Gage Spindler
12/13 John Schnell and Tristan Teuke
12/17 Liam Cline and Mike Lenzner
12/20 Kerry Schnell and Tristan Teuke
12/24 Travis Schisel
12/31 Carter Lenzner



Thank you to everyone who helped with our first brunch on September 29. We appreciate everyone's help and donations of delicious food.

— Board of Fellowship

Instructions for Ordering

**All poinsettias will be red—6 1/2” pot.
\$10.00 per plant.**

Please make checks payable to
Faith Lutheran Church.

**DEADLINE for orders is WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 13.**

I (We) wish to order a poinsettia to be placed in
church during Christmas.

Name(s) of person(s) ordering:

This plant is (circle one)

IN SPECIAL THANKSGIVING or

IN MEMORY **IN HONOR** of:

 **I will pick up my plant by Sunday,
December 31.**

 Please donate my plant.

World Hunger

I would like to give money to **World Hunger**
instead of a plant.

Amount of money enclosed _____

This is (circle one)

IN SPECIAL THANKSGIVING or

IN MEMORY **IN HONOR** of:

We are blessed to have a wonderful library that has served us well since 1974. Visitors would come and marvel at the depth of our library! Unfortunately, with the technology of computers and smart phones we have today; books, reference materials, videos, DVD’s, CDs — even Bibles — are becoming obsolete.

The library has lost its purpose, so the council has voted to disband the library. Important materials such as some of the Bibles, Norwegian Heritage, the old churches’ communion ware and seals, will be kept for all to view as needed. These items are clearly marked, “Not Available”. The tables and chairs will also be staying in the library.

However, there are two electric typewriters that are marked “Available” for anyone who can use them. The rest of the books and other materials are for the congregation to take for yourself or to find a good home in the community.

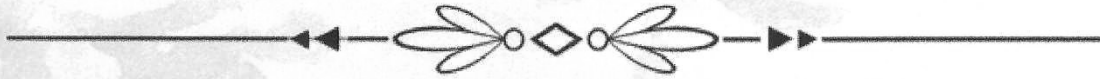
The books are located in the main library and the little library located in the Gathering Space. If you have questions, please call Terry Huske at 920-645-1368. The books are available for the taking through April when the rest will be cleared out.

Hopefully you have had some fond memories of our library with all the adventures that were had with stories, movies, and music; helpful aids to make our life better and those of others; and the most important—to learn more in-depth about who Jesus is and what He means to all of us.



Wishlist for Manitowoc Warming Shelter

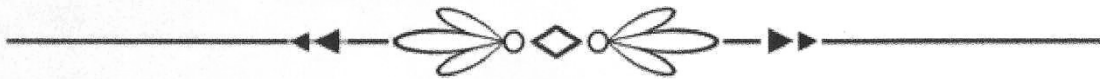
As we gear up to re-open the shelter in November 2023 for our second season serving the unhoused, we invite you to consider these ways to offer your support. Thanks!



The following items can be purchased on our Amazon wish list to ship directly to First Presbyterian, or you can purchase locally and drop off —> amazon.com/hz/wishlist/l/2RAZSMBT64K5Q?ref_=wl_share

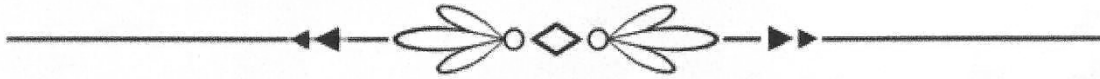
Additional items are listed and updated on the Amazon wish list.

- ◆ Laundry Detergent Pods
- ◆ Boxes of Facial Tissue
- ◆ Dish Detergent
- ◆ Coffee
- ◆ Tea Bags
- ◆ Packets of Hot Cocoa
- ◆ Peanut Butter
- ◆ Jelly
- ◆ Pancake Syrup
- ◆ Waffle Mix (just add water)
- ◆ White Sugar
- ◆ Non-dairy Creamer



The following items should be donated to the shelter as a financial contribution so we can assure the proper items are purchased/subscribed. If you already have one of the needed items, please check with Pastor Matt to see if it will work! Electronic gifts can be made through our website manitowocwarmingshelter.org

- ◆ \$250 for 1 commercial 4-slice toaster
- ◆ \$250 for 1 commercial waffle maker
- ◆ \$1,400 for laundry vouchers for the season
- ◆ ten \$50 Kwik Trip gifts cards for last-minute food needs



We are also collecting travel-size toiletry items (shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body soap, bar soap, shaving cream, lotion, lip balm, combs, brushes, and feminine hygiene products).



**Manitowoc Warming Shelter
Housed at First Presbyterian Church
502 N 8th St, Manitowoc, WI 54220**

manitowocwarmingshelter.org

If you have questions about donations for the Manitowoc Warming Shelter, please contact Pastor Matt Sauer (matt@mcmunited.com or 920-860-6880).

**Volunteers needed! Visit our website for more information.
A new opportunity this year is a volunteer cook schedule.**

Faith Lutheran Church Minutes—October 16, 2023

Pastor's Report: Reviewed his written report of activities in the last month, including hospital & communion visits, visioning event on 10/1, First Communion retreat on 10/8, graveside service for Peggy Madson, Baptism for Emery Ann Ewen, First Communion for 7 students, participation in 10/14 Health Event, and attendance at several Board meetings. Notes were taken at Visioning event and will be taken to appropriate boards for action.

Old Business: Discussed changes included in the updated Financial Policy. Members must fill out a form for reimbursement of expenses incurred on behalf of Faith Lutheran. Committee chairs (directors) must approve expenses that will be charged to their budget before they are paid. Updated financial policies will go into effect as of February 1, 2024, when newly elected positions begin. A motion was made and carried to approve the changes to the financial policy.

New Business: Board of Lay Ministry proposed Holiday Services: During the week of Thanksgiving, the Wednesday night service will be moved to Tuesday night & will be a special Thanksgiving service. Christmas Eve lands on a Sunday – There will be a regular Sunday morning service at 9:00 plus the 3 Christmas Eve services at 3:00, 5:00, & 10:00. There will be no service on Monday, Christmas Day. A motion was made and carried to approve the holiday services as proposed.

Budget: Stephanie passed out a first draft of the proposed budget for 2024 with numbers she was provided from the various boards. The expected budget increase in the budget from last year is \$7,000. Benevolence is currently at a total of 8% & will remain the same in the budget for 2024. **Security and computer updates:** Bill proposed getting cameras for two of the other doors (main upstairs entrance and main lower-level entrance) so Christine is able to see who is coming in. The cost would be \$1,380. A motion was made and carried to purchase additional security cameras for the upper-level main entrance and the lower-level main entrance. Bill proposed purchasing a new Windows 10 Pro computer system to replace Christine's computer at a cost of \$1,568.90. There is a need to update Christine's computer, since it has an outdated operating system that is no longer supported by Microsoft. Motion made and carried.

Evangelism – Walk Through Bethlehem will be included in the services on December 6th and 10th.

Lay Ministry - Live streaming of Wednesday evening services has been discontinued due to a lack of volunteers. Health Day was held October 14th and Opportunity Day on October 15th. October 29th is Reformation Day, 5th Sunday Sing-along and potluck brunch. Veteran's Day will be remembered at the November 12th, Wednesday night service. Advent sing-along will begin at 8:50 before Sunday morning services during Advent.

Fellowship – If food is left in the refrigerator, it should be labeled as to which group or which event it is for.

Property – Parking lot should be done next year – Bid of \$28,000 – Mark proposed taking the \$20,000 CD & put it towards the parking lot when it becomes available instead of renewing it again. A motion will be made to do this at the time the CD becomes available. Other items on properties wish list include window replacement in Fellowship Hall & three upper-level business offices, and lower-level bathrooms remodeling.

Christian Education – Communion Retreat was held on October 8th. 7 students attended and each painted a ceramic chalice that was fired at Glaze & Paint in Manitowoc. They will be on display for First Communion October 15th. The Sunday School Christmas program will be December 17th. Sunday School students will sing on October 29th for the 5th Sunday Sing-along.

Youth and Family Ministry – We have at least 2 youth interested in attending Junior High Blast. Stacy will chaperone for the girls. If no male chaperone volunteers, male participant(s) may join with another group. Lefse sales will be held on 10/22, 10/25, 10/29, 12/1, and lefse will be made on 11/10. Christmas caroling at Manitowoc Healthcare Center on 12/15 at 6:00 with pizza & hot chocolate after at church. Kids Night Out – 12/27 – cookie decorating and snow related activities if there is snow. Faith on Fire event on 10/18 - "Glow Closer with God" including a pumpkin carving contest, a glow game, campfire with s'mores and hot dogs, as well as a bible study. October 21st there are 20 kids signed up to go to the Haunted Golf Cart Rides. November 15th there will be a speaker coming to talk about courage and resilience. In as Much Sunday – 12/3 – WELLS (Spancrete) is also collecting gifts & will bring them to us for distribution.

Endowment Committee - Pastor Dan reported that he attended their last meeting & they have many plans for benevolence.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m. with the Lord's Prayer. Recorded by Joan Pritzl

Celebrating Your Birthday!

DECEMBER

1. Colton Meidl
3. Carter Lenzner
5. Dayton Goehring
JohnMarc Ergas
6. Quinten Robley
Jomarie Ergas
7. Carol Nelson
Landen Pinkerton
8. Elizabeth Robley
Bob Mattern
10. Marlene Evenson
12. Bonnie Gordon
Ava Wenzel
13. Steven Ahrens
Robert Pautz
14. Jerome Hoefner
Ethan Ulness
15. Veryl Hein
Terry Stenzel
17. Randi Hetland
Kristy Wagner
Clarissa Ulness
18. Frank Griffin

19. Robert Wigen
20. Peter Reinertson
Pamela Whitehouse
22. William Zutz
23. Susan Wenzel
Marcus Loritz
25. Daryl Gilbertson
26. Donald Johnson
Holley Jeske
Colton Wenzel
27. Seth Madson
28. Warren Wenzel
Bridget Biely
29. Lana Nelson
30. Parker Ulness
Melissa Boll
31. Gage Spindler

JANUARY

1. Breckin Franz
2. Marcus Simon
3. Esther Halverson
4. Wayne Huske
Jo Jones
5. Jennifer Kiel
7. Ginger Linsmeier
Addison Pinkerton
8. Elma Castro
Abigail Reinke
Tannor Wittmus
Marann Schmidt
9. Susan Jeske
Shannon Jorgenson
Lenka Hougen



Happy
Birthday

December




| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 Office Closed | 2 |
| 3 8:00 Bell Choir 8:50 Sing-a-long 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Hour & Sunday School 10:15 Inspiration Choir 1:00 Advent by Candlelight <i>In As Much Day</i> | 4 5:30 Jazzercise 6:00 Boards of Lay Ministry and Evangelism | 5 2:00-6:00 Blood Drive 3:00 and 6:30 Bible Study  | 6 9:00 Jazzercise 6:00 Card Making 6:15 Worship with Praise Band— Walk thru Bethlehem 7:15 Confirmation | 7 5:30 Jazzercise | 8 | 9 9:00 Christmas decorating and 2nd Saturday Bible Study  |
| 10 8:00 Bell Choir 8:50 Sing-a-long 9:00 Worship— Walk thru Bethlehem 10:00 Fellowship Hour & Sunday School, Cookie Walk 10:15 Inspiration Choir/9th grade confirmation | 11  5:30 Jazzercise | 12 3:00 and 6:30 Bible Study | 13 9:00 Jazzercise 5:00 Board of Stewardship 6:15 Worship 7:15 Confirmation Faith on Fire Journey to Bethlehem | 14 8:30 Secretary's Meeting 5:30 Jazzercise | 15 Newsletter info due Annual Report info due to office from Boards and Committees 6:00 Christmas Caroling | 16 9:00-10:00 Open Pantry |
| 17 8:00 Bell Choir 8:50 Sing-a-long 9:00 Worship— S.S. Christmas Program 10:00 Fellowship Hour & Sunday School 10:15 Inspiration Choir, Board of Youth | 18 5:30 Jazzercise 6:30 Council | 19 9:00 Senior Christians at Perkins 3:00 and 6:30 Bible Study | 20 9:00 Jazzercise 6:15 Worship with Praise Band NO Confirmation | 21 5:30 Jazzercise | 22 | 23 |
| 24 8:00 Bell Choir 8:50 Sing-a-long 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Hour 3:00, 5:00/10:00 Christmas Eve Services with Holy Communion | 25 NO Christmas Day Service Office Closed | 26 Office Closed | 27 NO Worship or Confirmation 6:00-8:00 Kids Night Out | 28 5:30 Jazzercise | 29 | 30 1:00 Kiara Krogh and Tyler Miller Wedding  |
| 31 8:00 Bell Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Fellowship Hour 10:15 Inspiration Choir |  | | | | | Submitted to LPI 11/16 |

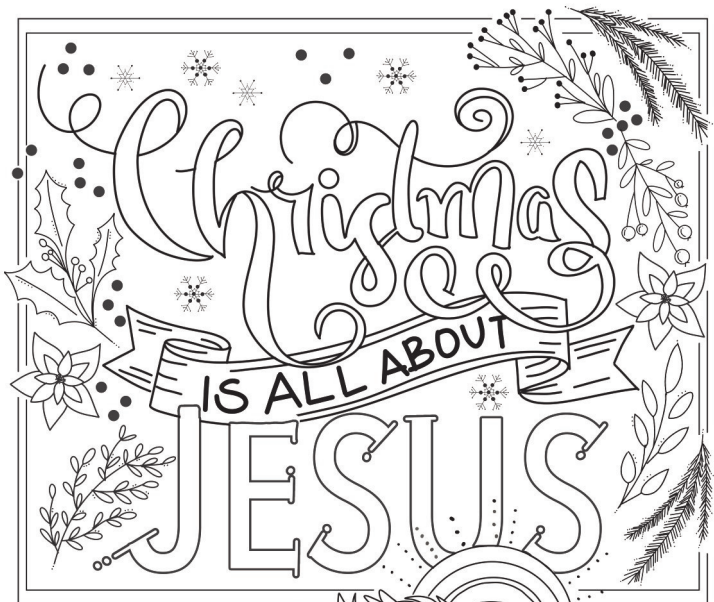
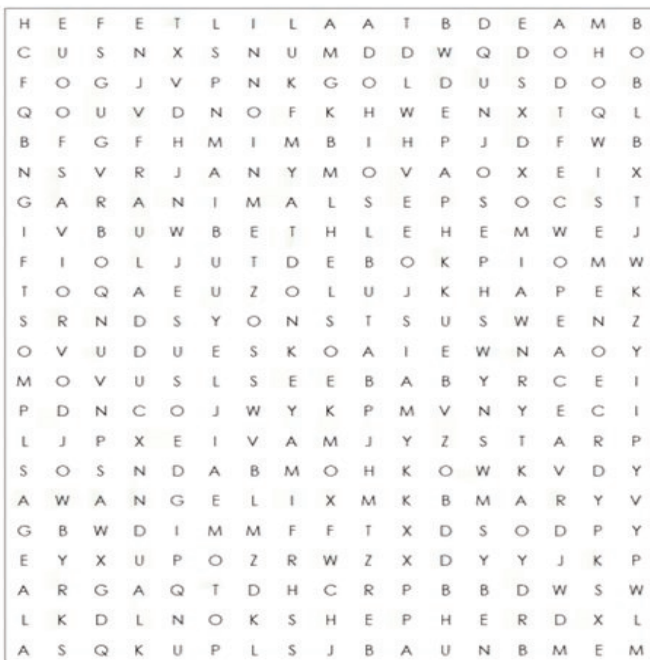
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|-----------|--------|----------|
| ANGEL | STAR | WISE MEN |
| ANIMALS | GIFTS | MARY |
| BABY | GOLD | PEACE |
| BETHLEHEM | JESUS | SAVIOR |
| DONKEY | JOSEPH | SHEPHERD |

