Household Blessings

for individuals and families will take place the weekend of January 4th & 5th at all services. Please join us and receive a blessing for the new year!

2020 Alleluia! Women’s Retreat
“Beautifully Rooted”

Register NOW through January 3rd!
More info on page 7.

Saturday, Feb 8th, 6:00pm
A fun-filled evening for adults!

$25/ticket through January 20th!
See more info on page 9.

See photos from Christmas Eve Worship on Page 2.
2,000 people attended Christmas worship to celebrate the birth of Jesus. Alleluia!

Thank you to each volunteer for serving and helping make our many services possible!
Dear Friends,

NEW SERMON SERIES FOR THE NEW YEAR: BEHIND OUR “FACEBOOK LIVES”

Social Media presents the best of us, most of the time. Social media is an avenue that shares accomplishments over failures, smiles over frowns, celebrations over tears, and “shiny happy people” over the struggles and trials of our lives. This series will go behind the filtered presentation of our lives on social media, and dig deep into the authentic challenges we all face. Each week, we will get real with one another about real adversity in the areas of marriage, parenting and children, trips and journeys life takes us on, and our pain behind the smiles. The goal of this series is to get behind the lives we portray in social media, and see where God is present, and at work, amidst the trials of our authentic lives.

- Jan 4/5  Part 1: Our Marriage Isn’t Perfect – Matthew 19:4-6
- Jan 11/12 Part 2: Our Children Struggle – Mark 9:33-37
- Jan 25/26 Part 4: I’m Not as Happy as I Appear – Luke 18:9-14

SPECIAL THANKS TO COUNCIL MEMBERS COMPLETING THEIR TERMS

Special thanks to Katie Bryan and Mike Raczak for their ministry of three years serving as Council Members. During their respective terms, Katie served as Vice Chair; and Mike served as Council Communicator. The Council and our church were blessed by both of them serving on Council. Please join me in thanking both of them for their three years of ministry.

THANK YOU!

On behalf of my family, thank you so very much for your Christmas Gift this year. It is humbling to serve as your Senior Pastor and I am deeply grateful for your generosity, your support, and your prayers. Blessings to each of you in this New Year!

In Christ,
Pastor Tim

Thank you, Alleluia!

Thank you so much for your generous Pastors’ Christmas Gifts. Our families are immensely grateful, and we are privileged to serve as your pastors.

- Pastor Tim, Pastor Mark, Pastor Tammy & families.
This year’s goal: to pack 1.2 million meals, enough to feed 3,288 kids for an entire year!

Our Alleluia! goal is to have 200 volunteers and contribute $10,000.

CLICK HERE to register to pack meals with Alleluia!

CLICK HERE or scan the QR code for more information or to make a donation.

February 15-16
Saturday and Sunday
North Central College, Naperville

FEED THE NEED FUNDRAISER!

Purchase mini M-n-M’s or get a free empty container at Alleluia! Then, fill it with quarters and feed it to Al, our M-n-M man, in the Gathering Area. All proceeds go to the Feed the Need Mobile Pack!

February 1-2
Monetary donations go to Feed the Need. Non-perishables go to Loaves and Fishes Community Pantry.

Thank you, Alleluia!, for your generous donations of Christmas gifts for children in foster care as well as to our family assistance fund, and local and global missions!

-2020 Budget Hearings

Members of Alleluia! are invited to attend one of two 2020 Budget Hearing Meetings on January 20th & 23rd from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, hosted by Liz Vesta, Finance Director, and a member of the Finance Team.

-2020 Annual Vote on Budget & Council Members

Our Annual vote to approve the 2020 Budget and new Council Members will take place during worship hours on January 25th and 26th. All confirmed members may vote.
What an amazing December of events!
It was great reflecting on Jesus’ love for us!

**KidsConnect News:** We will begin a new rotation on Noah’s Ark, shining the LIGHT OF CHRIST in the DARKNESS! We are in need of volunteers to help lead during this rotation. Please reach out to Ms. Michele or Ms. April if you are able to help.

**KidsConnect Springtime Leaders are needed!** Two of our spring rotations have no leaders...are you able to help? Please contact Ms. Michele or Ms. April if you can help with one of the following rotations:
- March 14th-April 19th
- April 25th – May 17th

THANK YOU! mnelson@alleluia.church & ablair@alleluia.church

**Created by God PARENT Orientation:** January 9th (5:30-8:00pm) - OR - January 12th (11:30-1:00pm)
Both sessions will be held in the lower level REC Room (please enter DOOR 8 downstairs). This is a very important time for parents to meet our amazing leaders and have your questions answered. This Bible-based curriculum on human sexuality is presented in an extremely engaging format. Open to all 5th & 6th graders!
PLEASE contact Ms. Michele with any questions.

**Student Class Times** (students attend all 3) are as follows:
- January 26th, February 8th, February 9th, all 12:30 – 4:30pm in the lower level Rec Room.

Please CLICK HERE to register a student. The cost is $35. Contact Ms. Michele with questions, mnelson@alleluia.church

**Children’s Choir and Connect45:** Both will resume on January 15th. Enroll your children for more engaging FUN!
CLICK HERE to register for JC Choir (4yrs old thru 1st grade). CLICK HERE to register for Faith Choir (Grades 2nd thru 5th). CLICK HERE to register a 4th-5th grader for Connect45.

**HOPE Marketplace Experience 2020 will Take Place on Sunday, March 1st after both services.**
This hands-on experience for grades 2nd-5th puts students in the shoes of HOPE entrepreneurs and broadens their understanding of global poverty.
- Decide on a handmade product to produce
- Save money to purchase supplies
- Advertise their business to family and friends
- Sell their product at the Alleluia! HOPE Marketplace

All proceeds go to HOPE International to further their efforts to end global poverty.
There will be an informational meeting on January 8th from 5-6pm in the REC Room.
Please CLICK HERE to register a student for this experience!

**First Communion Instruction Retreat 2020:** First Communion Instruction is designed for children 4th-6th grade.
Instruction will be held on Sunday, March 22, 1:00 - 5:00pm. Sessions will be led by Pastor Mark and other Alleluia! staff with parent volunteers as small group discussion leaders. If you are interested in being a small group leader please contact April Blair at ablair@alleluia.church. Please contact April Blair with questions.
To register a student please CLICK HERE.

Please check out photos from the 2019 Children’s Ministry Christmas Pageant Experience on the following page!
Children's Christmas Pageant
Adult Ministries News

Alleluia! Women’s Retreat 2020
“Beautifully Rooted”
January 24-26, 2020

Please join us for this special weekend focused on building our community of women and strengthening our relationships with Christ. All women over 18 are welcome!

CLICK HERE to view the retreat brochure. CLICK HERE for registration.

Join us for Dinner at Alpha! - Begins Sunday, Feb. 23, 6:00-8:00pm

Alpha is a FREE 8-week course that invites you to hear basic truth claims of the Bible. The rest is up to you—you process what you hear and make some new friends along the way. Alpha “meets you where you are” in respect to faith. So, it’s a course for everyone—people who’ve been Christians their whole lives, people who’ve never believed, and everyone in between. The goal of Alpha is to provide a safe and comfortable place to think through what the Bible claims is true. CLICK HERE to register.

We meet in the Community Life Center each week, eat together, listen to a teaching, and discuss what we hear. Come and See! Childcare is available with registration. *There is no cost for the Alpha meals, rather, a $3 - $5 donation is requested each week as you are able to help defray costs.

Do you know someone who is hurting because of a loss of a spouse, child, parent or friend? GriefShare may be just what they need to move through grief. GriefShare is a support group that meets weekly. You’re find it to be a warm, caring environment and will come to see your group as an “oasis” on your journey through grief. Starting January 19, 2020 6:30pm Have questions or need more info contact Jennifer Finnerty at JEFinnerty@aol.com or CLICK HERE to register.

DivorceCare meets on Tuesday evenings starting on January 7 and ending March 31st from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. For more information contact Wendy Daly at wendydaly5@gmail.com or 630-631-6084. You may CLICK HERE to register.

New Member Orientation - Sunday, March 8, 3:30-6:00pm

Click HERE to register.

Enjoy a light dinner (child friendly option available), and learn about Alleluia! membership. At the end of the evening you'll have the opportunity to fill out membership forms, and you'll be officially welcomed by the congregation during worship the following Sunday, March 15th. For general questions about membership or the New Member Orientation, contact Laura Bowler, lbowler@alleluia.church, or 630-904-3311, x245. We will meet in the Community Room. Childcare available with registration.
January Spiritual Vitality Practice

“Word for the Year”

January often gets people thinking about fresh starts, new beginnings, and New Year Resolutions. While we think about improved eating habits, and new exercise routines, it’s also a good time to re-invigorate your Spiritual life and your commitment to grow in faith and relationship with God through Jesus Christ. One simple way to do this is to focus on one word, which becomes your prayer focus and theme for the entire year.

Your Word for the Year “should describe how you believe God wants to transform you...It can be something you’re asking for your life or a way you’d like to see God guide and direct you throughout the year” (Diana Shiflett, *Spiritual Practices in Community*). Choose a Word for the Year that will help you grow and deepen your relationship with God, a word which will encourage you or stretch you. Choosing a God-inspired word of the year will ultimately direct your attention toward God, stimulate your faith journey, and provide a focus for your prayers throughout the year.

Get Started:

- Take some time to be still, sitting comfortably in the silence. Take a few deep breaths and become aware of the presence of God. A Breath Prayer is a good spiritual practice for this step (see March 2018 Newsletter for guided instructions).
- Ask God what He would like you to focus on in the upcoming year...where have you noticed the need for growth, is there a common theme in the last few days (or weeks) which keeps coming to the surface?
  - Try this prayer (or something similar): “Heavenly Father, I open myself before you. Fill me with Your Presence and help me understand how I can grow and mature spiritually. I want to live and act in the manner You desire of me. Show me an area of focus for this year.”
- Listen for the voice of God. Expect that there is a word from God for you. Don’t force one or casually make one up, but trust that God is stirring your heart. Where do you sense Him leading you?
- Your Word may not come to you immediately and you may have to spend several weeks in prayerful discernment waiting to sense where God is leading you. If a specific word does not come to you after a few weeks:
  - Discuss the word (s) you are considering with others. Sometimes discussing out loud is a part of discovering your word.
  - Read scripture and let God’s Word speak to you. Perhaps your word is a fruit of the Spirit (like patience or joy), or a personality trait (like endurance), or an attribute of God (like forgiveness).
- Once you know your Word for the Year, write it down and reflect on it over the course of the year—through journaling, discussion with trusted friends, or through private contemplation. Journaling, especially will help you see your progression and remind you to stay focused on your Word as your journey throughout the year.

After you have your Word for the Year, let it inspire you to be the person God created you to be in your family life, your job, your health, your relationships in the church and community, and in your faith life.
Announcement/Thank You to my volunteers...

After a lot of prayer and discernment, I have decided to resign my position as Volunteer Coordinator. I’ll hopefully be able to train a new person in January. I’ve worked this job since my children were young and it’s been an amazing experience. I’ve loved serving a long side of all of you and have been blessed in so many ways.

I love my church family and am so blessed to be a part of this congregation. I hope you will continue to volunteer and I look forward to volunteering as well.

Thank you for all your love and support over the years...I couldn’t have done this job without people like you. Thank you for your willingness to serve the Lord and our church. Thank you for each time you were able to say, “Yes” to filling a volunteer spot. I am so grateful for each of you!

Please pray for a smooth transition for me as well as for whoever God sends to take my place.

Blessings to each of you!
Lori Juliot

Saturday, February 8 at 6:00pm
Alleluia! Game Night!

♦ Do you love watching TV game shows? Have you dreamed of being a contestant on The Price is Right?
♦ Do you love spending time with friends and having fun?
♦ Want to support all of the Missions and Ministries of Alleluia?!

If you answered yes to any of these questions, then Alleluia! Game Night is for you!

Alleluia! Game Night is a fundraising event where you and other adults can come together for some entertaining game show type games while supporting Alleluia! This is our biggest fundraiser of the year so we will need everyone’s help and support to make it a success! You will be working as a team at your table and competing with the other tables.

So fill a table with 8 of your friends or sign up alone and make new friends (please email Laura Bowler at lbowler@alleluia.church to make your table request.) Your table will work together prior to the event to come up with a theme (this is optional, not a requirement). You can decorate your table and dress according to your theme. Please bring any appetizers and desserts you wish to share with your table. You can make it more fun by matching these to your theme. Themes can be formal (ex. Gala theme or Wedding theme) or casual (ex. Pajama Party theme or Sports Fan theme). Have fun with it! There will be a prize for the table with the best theme.

Doors will open at 6:00 for people to set up their tables. Games will start at 6:30. We will have raffle prizes and a few high end auction items to bid on. For your $25 ticket you will also receive 2 drink tickets. Ticket prices increase to $30 a ticket on January 20. We hope you can join us! Please Click HERE to purchase tickets.

Please see donation opportunities on the following page.
26th Annual Silent Auction at
Alleluia! Game Night
Saturday, February 8th, 2020

Donation Request

Need Ideas? Look below to stir those creative juices!

Time: Could you? Spring clean a yard, paint a room?

Talent: Can you? Prepare a special meal; repair drywall; do an electrical or plumbing project; sew; make custom floral or craft items, help build a deck, put together a “themed” gift basket?

Treasures: Would you give? Tickets to a play, show or sporting event; a gift certificate to your favorite restaurant/store; an autographed item; an antique; a collectible item; a new household item, or something from your business or employer? How about a weekend or week at your vacation home?

We will accept donations through January 31st. Donated items can be brought to the church office.

Questions? Contact Laura Bowler at 630-904-3311, x245. Thank you!

Name: __________________________________________________________
Phone & email: ______________________________________________________

Description and Estimated Value of Donated Item(s):
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________
Please be specific, especially for Service Donations (i.e. 3 hours of yard clean up w/value of $$).

Employment Opportunities at Alleluia!

Alleluia! Seeks a Part-Time Media & Production Director
Who is a member, and embraces our Mission, Vision, and Core Values. This team player oversees, develops, and implements all media and production ministries relating to worship, video, and social media. For more information and a Job Description, please contact Pastor Tim Housholder, Senior Pastor, at thousholder@alleluia.church

Alleluia! Seeks a Part-Time Volunteer Coordinator
Who is a member, and embraces our Mission, Vision, and Core Values. This team player oversees volunteer ministries at Alleluia! including the recruiting, training, and scheduling of volunteers. For more information and a Job Description, please contact Dan Stolle, Human Resources Director, at dstolle@alleluia.church.
Calling all Alleluia! Families: Please consider volunteering for worship!

Volunteer areas include: Serving Communion, Ushering, Greeting, Preparing the Altar, Reading the Lesson, Helping at the Welcome Center.

Winter & spring dates are open. We’d love to have your help! All volunteer opportunities are scheduled weekly. Volunteer at various services depending on what best fits your schedule.

Please prayerfully consider serving. Hospitality areas are great opportunities to serve as a family!

Please click HERE to sign up. Questions to Lori Juliot at ljuliot@alleluia.church

Thank You!

Many thanks to those who served during Advent and the Christmas Season. We greatly appreciate your willingness to serve.

Wishes to all for a blessed New Year!
A-Caroling We Go!
Our Alleluia! Children’s Ministry recently caroled for the 19th year at Sunrise Assisted Living of Naperville North. The children sang carols in celebration of Jesus’ birth, and distributed blankets, Christmas cards, and cookies to the residents. Thank you to all the families who participated and a special thank you to Alleluia! Delivers for providing the yummy cookies!

The Alleluia! Staff Wishes You a Happy New Year!

Your Alleluia! Church Council members may be contacted via council@alleluia.church

Katie Bryan (Term Exp 2/20)  Matt White (Term Exp 2/21)  Liz Vesta (Treasurer, non-voting)
Mike Raczak (Term Exp 2/20)  Kerry Hunnius (Term Exp 2/22)
Pastor Tim Housholder (Senior Pastor)  Bill Cottrill (Term Exp 2/22)

Directions to Alleluia!

From Plainfield
Take Route 59 North. Turn right on 103rd St. Church is on the right at Book Rd.

From Bolingbrook
Take Boughton Rd. West. Turn right on Plainfield-Naperville. Turn left on 104th St. 104th ends in church parking lot.

From North Naperville
Take Route 59 South. Turn left on 103rd St. Church is on the right at Book Rd.

Saturday Worship: 5:00pm
Sunday Worship: 9:15am & 10:30am