



**1Thessalonians 5:13-15**

## **Rise and Shine**

*13 and that you esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Live in peace with one another. 14 We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. 15 See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people.*

**Plymouth Lutheran Church**  
11015 County Road 15, Plymouth, MN 55441

**Pastor Joel Baker    December 2021**  
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### **From the Pastor's Office**

God creates life and sustains it, but it can be willfully snuffed out. God willingly lends His hands to those who take care of family or other loved ones, including those who are handicapped, have special needs, or those who are little babies. Infants are Baptized because Jesus does the work of saving them as they are in need of His free gift of salvation like everyone else.

Some don't think of babies as precious or even human, so they turn to abortion. We all know of a couple who found themselves pregnant and felt alone. They were poor. How can they find help, encouragement? If they were desperate, they might have considered abortion. Their names were Mary and Joseph! What if they had turned to abortion (in some form) and terminated the earthly life of the Messiah because of their own pride, selfishness, desires, etc. God has many roles and uses for people in this world as extensions of Himself to bring glory and honor to His name. How many future leaders have already been murdered through abortion? And just because a law may change doesn't mean people's attitudes will change-darkness still finds a way to tempt people and practice sin. What people need is a heart change on a deeper level.

Has your heart been changed at that deeper level where you see things from God's perspective and ways to glorify His name? Where you're putting Him first instead of you?

Shalom2u! God's Peace

Pastor Joel

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Church website: [www.plymouthapostolic.org](http://www.plymouthapostolic.org)  
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# December at PLC

December 2021

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	



## Celebrate Our Congregation December Birthdays:

Larry	Johnson	12/9
Caroline	Clause	12/11
Joel	Hendrickson	12/13
Joyce	Tibbs	12/14
Scott	Maikkula	12/16
Evy	Walters	12/17
Noel	Walters	12/20
Patti	Olson	12/25
Max	Wempen	12/27
Rodger	Foltz	12/30

## December Anniversaries:

Roger & Myrt	12/7
Peter & Asal	12/10

## *Save The Date*

**The Annual Meeting** of the Plymouth Lutheran Church is set for **Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00pm**

All members are urged to attend.



### Sundays:

**5, 12, 19** **9:15am** Sunday School/Bible study  
**10:30am** Worship service  
also via YouTube & FB live  
**11:30am** Coffee Fellowship

**5** **4:00pm** FLBCS Christmas Concert

**19** **10:30am** Worship service with Communion

**26** **No Sunday School/Bible study**  
**10:30am** Worship service  
also via YouTube & FB live  
**11:30am** Coffee Fellowship  
**11:40am** Abbreviated Communion

### Tuesdays:

**14** **5:45pm** Mission Committee meeting  
**6:30pm** Board of Trustees meeting

### Wednesdays:

**1, 8, 15** **9:30am** Women's Bible Study  
**6:30pm** Bible Study @ the church  
"What Jesus Demands from the World"

**22** **No Ladies morning Bible Study**  
**No Evening Bible Study**

**29** **No Morning or evening Bible Study**

### Fridays:

**3** **6:30pm** Movie Night "The Chosen"  
**24** **3:00pm** Christmas Eve Service  
**31** **New Years Eve**

### Saturdays:

**4** **7:00pm** FLBCS Christmas Concert  
**18** **9:30am** Ladies Saturday Bible Study  
**25** **Christmas Day**

We celebrated Pastor Appreciation Day  
on Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021



## FLBCS Christmas Concerts December 4 - December 5

GOD'S GLORY  
REVEALED

You are invited to attend the Annual FLBC  
Christmas Concert!

**This year, to reserve your free seat, we ask that you register online by November 26.** Seats for registered guests will be held until 10 minutes before the concert. After that time, we will open any available seating to the general public.

Concerts times are:

**Saturday, Dec 4, 7:00pm & Sunday, Dec 5, 4:00pm**

Saturday's concert will also be live-streamed for people who cannot attend in person.

Link to register: <https://flbc.edu/events/flbcs-christmas-concerts/>

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**Nicole Bartell is returning to the mission field with YWAM in December.** If you would like to support her, make your donation out to the church and make a note that it's for **Mexico-Nicole Bartell.**

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**NEW PRAYER CHAIN Email-**  
[plcprayerchain2021@gmail.com](mailto:plcprayerchain2021@gmail.com)

Please use this email address for all prayer chain emails going forward. The purpose of this prayer chain is for prayer requests. All prayer chain emails are confidential and will only be sent to people on this email list and should not be forwarded outside this list. If you would like to be added to this prayer chain list, please email the prayer chain email address above and request to be added. All emails addresses that were on the previous list have been added to this prayer chain list.

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**The Difference**

*"I got up early one morning  
And rushed right into the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
That I didn't have time to pray.  
Problems just tumbled about me,  
And heavier came each task;  
'Why doesn't God help me?' I wondered.  
He answered, 'You didn't ask.'  
I wanted to see joy and beauty  
But the day toiled on gray and bleak  
I wondered why God didn't show me  
He said, 'But you didn't seek',  
I tried to come into God's presence;  
I used all my keys in the lock.  
God gently and lovingly chided,  
'My child, you didn't knock.'  
I woke up early this morning,  
And paused before entering the day;  
I had so much to accomplish  
That I had to take time to pray."*

-Author Unknown



# I'm Moving Back to Ensenada! // ¡Me mudo de regreso a Ensenada!

by [nikgwen](#)

**(Español abajo)**

You heard it here first folks- I'm moving back to Mexico!

I can't believe it's been almost 2 years since I left Youth With A Mission, an organization that grew me and shaped me. The place where I made life-long friends, developed my gifts, and best of all encountered God in ways I didn't think possible. For all these things and more, I'm going back to this organization, to this country, to this city; I'm going home.

I spent this spring and summer in Ensenada helping staff a Bible school there (if you know me, you know this is my thing), and I just really fell in love all over again with our mission. I love our staff, I love what we do, and I love being a part of shaping people's lives, both local and far-away ones.

## About YWAM//Acerca de JUCUM

What you are probably wondering, though, is what exactly do we do down there? Great question! We serve our local community as well as our not-so-local community that come to our base. For our local community we build houses for families in need, minister and evangelize to those in rehab centers and the red light district, and disciple children and teens in poorer neighborhoods. For those who come to us from further away, we have various schools, such as the Discipleship Training School, School of Worship, Disciple Bible School, and more. Those who come to build homes are usually from churches in the U.S., and we serve them through hospitality and doing ministry alongside them.

This time, I don't have a specific goal or plan for what I will do in our mission, I just know that being a part of

what we do at YWAM San Diego/Baja is where I want to be, where the Lord wants me to be, and where I feel at home.

These are just a few brief sentences about the awesome organization I love being a part of. For more, you can go to [ywamsandiegobaja.org](http://ywamsandiegobaja.org).



A few photos from my time this year in Ensenada.

## Leaving MN//Saliendo de Ensenada

I could not be more grateful for my time back in Minnesota. It sounds cliché to say, but the Lord really knew what he was doing. I spend the last year and a half trying out "normal" life for once, and ended up in a great church that I can come home to. I wasn't looking for this at all, but God placed me in a safe and

encouraging place. I am so thankful for New Hope Church, especially those in the Latino Ministry and the staff of the church.

What is even better about my time in Minnesota is getting closer to my family. There aren't really words to express the love and home I feel in these people. Not just people I am related to, but those who love me as if I were. Thanks for making this decision to leave that much harder.

I'm going to spend my last two months here spending as much time as I can with family and friends, really enjoying this season. I am also fundraising **\$3000** for my moving expenses (driving my car, apartment deposit, buying furniture), as well as monthly support.

If you would like to donate to my moving fund, please use my Venmo ([@nikgwen](#)) or my PayPal ([paypal.me/nikgwenb](#)).

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## ADVENT

Advent begins the Festival half of the liturgical church year, when we celebrate what God has done for us. In Advent we celebrate the fact that Jesus Christ came into the world as Son of God and Son of Man, born of the Virgin Mary. We worship Him as He comes into our lives each day. And we prepare for the fact that He will come again on that last day to claim us as His own. May the Advent Season fill you with Hope, Joy, Love, and Peace.

## ADVENT WREATH



The Advent Wreath has five candles, three are blue (or purple), one is pink, and one is white. The four candles, the three blue (or purple)

and one pink are placed in a wreath of Christmas greens - or an ornamented wreath. One candle is lit each Sunday in Advent, with the pink candle being lit on the third Sunday in Advent. The white candle is placed in the center of the wreath. The first candle is the Prophecy Candle. The second is the

Bethlehem Candle - symbolic of the Christ Child's cradle. The third (pink) is the Shepherd's Candle - which typifies the act of sharing Christ. Pink symbolizes the Advent Rose, a time to pause in this penitent season to Rejoice in the Lord. The fourth candle is the Angel's Candle - the candle of love and final coming. The fifth candle (white) is placed in the center as the Christ Candle and is lit on Christmas Eve.

## THE CHRISTMAS TREE

Dr. Martin Luther was one of the first to use the Christmas tree as a home decoration. While on a walk one Christmas Eve, Dr. Luther noticed an evergreen tree shining in the moonlight. He couldn't forget this beautiful picture. He returned home with an evergreen tree and decorated it with candles. Luther told his children that the tree should remind them of the brightness of Christmas and its message of the Savior's birth.

By the beginning of the 19th century, all of Germany had adopted the use of the green "Christmas" tree. They added stars, sweetmeats, tiny toys, and gilded nuts together with candles on the trees. The custom spread to England during the reign of Queen Victoria, who was married to the German Prince Albert. He wanted to have his children enjoy one of his childhood memories. Queen Victoria had a Christmas Tree in Windsor Castle in 1841. The custom of a Christmas Tree soon spread throughout Europe and then to the United States.

Dr. Henry Schwan introduced the custom of a lighted Christmas tree in church, in Zion Lutheran Church in Cleveland Ohio, Christmas Eve 1851. In Germany and in ancient northern cultures, after the festivities, the branches were removed and the trunk was decorated on May 1st as a May Pole, celebrating a rebirth of spring. The tree was then cut up and the largest log was used the next December as the Yule Log.



<https://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/christmas-trees-a-symbol-of-the-trinity/>

