

Mission

Contact: Nicole • [NMROCEK@SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG](mailto:nmroczek@southwoodlutheran.org)
To see a full listing of volunteer opportunities, visit
SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG/GIVE-BACK/MISSION

Matt Talbot

Thursday, December 27
Volunteers are needed to:

- ▶ Provide cookies or cleaned, wrapped potatoes for the meal

Sign up at Southwood Central Kiosk or online at
SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.IVOLUNTEER.COM



Interested in Traveling to Tanzania?

- ▶ Trip dates: June 24–July 7
- ▶ Approximate cost: \$4,000
- ▶ This team will worship with our sister church, visit scholarship students, tour a local hospital and orphanage, plus go on a safari to the Serengeti!
- ▶ For more information contact Scott Koehn • lkoehn1@neb.rr.com
- ▶ Financial Aid is available for 1st time trip participants who are members of Southwood.

July 2019 Honduras Interest Meeting

Sunday, January 20 • 11AM in the Meeting Room

- ▶ Join us to travel to meet our sister church in La Ceibita Honduras. You will have opportunities to experience their culture, build relationships, build two houses, teach VBS, host a movie community night, visit homes plus much more!
- ▶ Trip dates: July 20–27, 2019
- ▶ Approximate cost: \$1,900
- ▶ Contact Nicole Mroczek • nmroczek@southwoodlutheran.org
- ▶ Financial Aid is available for 1st time trip participants who are members of Southwood.

Salvation Army Canteen

Saturday, January 5 • 4:10–8:10PM

Help serve an evening meal from the Salvation Army Canteen at the Gathering Place! This is a great opportunity for a family—4 volunteers are needed! Volunteers must be able to stand on their feet for long periods of time and must be 14 years or older. Sign up at Southwood Central or online at SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.IVOLUNTEER.COM

Finding Joy in the Hard Times

On June 1st of this year, my life came to a crashing halt. My five-year-old daughter, Maggie, was diagnosed with very high-risk b-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia. For the following four months I lived in a fog. A fog that shook up my routine. I had stayed home since Maggie was born and we had our little routine from early on. I'm a planner—I planned what days we went to the store, play dates, the library, and so on. But now our lives were controlled by doctors' appointments and our calendar was wiped clean.

In October, we went through a phase of treatment where Maggie was admitted for a week and then we stayed home for a week, repeating this four times. Before this phase, we had been going up to Children's almost every day for treatment and appointments. Having a week off at home sounded like a vacation! We got home from our first admitted stay and I was lost. I found myself worrying about getting the laundry done, making dinner, and the other mundane house stuff. Before I knew it, we were packing up for the second admitted stay. I felt like I had wasted a week. Precious time that Maggie's oncologist told us to treat as normal life. I felt like I had failed Maggie. I realized that I needed to view our days through Maggie's eyes. Maggie wasn't worried about the laundry. She wanted to play, be silly, read books, and know that everything was going to be okay. She needed to be shown happiness because she's the one living with the pokes and the icky medicine. So now when I wake up, I don't worry about the laundry, I think of what joy can I bring to Maggie's day. We play games, bake cookies, and read lots of books! But all these things bring her such joy in a simple way, and her happiness brings me joy.

—Meagan Fritzinger
Jacob and Maggie



Get Connected

December 16, 2018

WORSHIP in December

Sunday Worship Services

Sundays, December 16, 23 and 30

8:30, 9:45 & 11AM Regular Worship Services



Healing Prayer Service

Wednesday, December 19 • 7:30PM

Attend this special service and experience the comfort of music, prayer, reflection and hope. Come to offer prayers for yourself or loved ones unable to attend and feel the healing power of prayer.

Christmas Eve Services

Monday, December 24

2 & 4 PM Festival Christmas Service

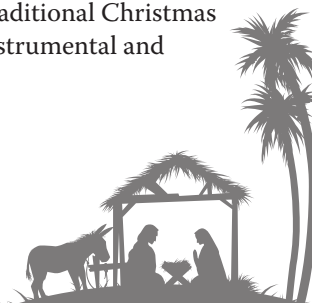
7 & 9 PM Festival Christmas Service with Holy Communion

Invite family and friends to worship with you this Christmas Eve as we celebrate Christ's birth. Sing traditional Christmas carols with the congregation and hear instrumental and special music.

Christmas Day Service

Tuesday, December 25 • 10AM

Worship on Christmas Day is a Festival Communion Service.



Sunday School & DELVE will not meet December 23 & 30.

Both will resume on January 6.



Southwood
Lutheran Church

402.423.5511
southwoodlutheran.org

Address: 4301 Wilderness Hills Blvd., Lincoln, NE 68516

Children

Contact: Faye Koehn • FKOEHN@SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG

Sunday School Mission Offering Update

Building a Foundation for Education

Our Sunday School students are making a BIG difference in the lives of five students in Honduras and Tanzania. They are using their offering money (September–December) to provide high school scholarships.

Current offerings: \$4,381. Goal: \$5,000.

Help the Sunday School reach their goal of providing five scholarships. Give a gift by putting “Sunday School” on the memo of your check.



Nativity Scene and Advent Calendar

Sunday School students are building their own Nativity Scene during the Advent season. Advent Calendars are also available. If you missed a week stop by Education Station to pick up your supplies and/or calendar.

Youth

Contact: Drew Jagadich • DJAGADICH@SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG

DELVE

- ▶ **6th & 7th Grade DELVE** TODAY (8:30, 9:45, & 11AM) we will continue our study on Baptism.
- ▶ **8th Grade DELVE** Wednesday, December 19 (6:15–7:45PM). We will continue the series on Baptized, We Live!

High School Youth Group

- ▶ **TONIGHT 6–8PM** Holiday fun and festivities! Bring food for a community potluck and a white elephant gift for a gift exchange.

Life & Lattes—College and High School students welcome!

Tuesday, December 18 • 2:30–5PM we will meet at Mojava (near 48th & Leighton). Bring your homework and we will provide the coffee and food.

Care

Contact: Pam Dinneen • PDINNEEN@SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG

Renewed Hope

TODAY • 11am • Group Room

The holidays have arrived, along with all of the activities and celebrations that look so different now that your spouse is no longer here. Pam Dinneen will be joining us as we discuss coping strategies.

Take ONE to the streets

Create a Caring Community!

- ▶ How do we take the concepts we learned in *ONE* to the streets?
- ▶ How do we better love all people, knowing we're ONE Body in Christ?



The answer lies in a powerful word: **NOTICE**—then **ACT**!

It's a simple concept. Take a little time to notice others. In church. At home. In the workplace. In the community.

Join us in January as we Create a Caring Community!

Ongoing Care Ministries

Held in the Group Room next to the Nursery

- ▶ **Renewed Hope**—TODAY • 11AM
- ▶ **Prayer Shawl Ministry**—will not meet this week.

3 Tips for Caring Every Day

Family Stress Busters for the Holidays

If you are one who is struggling with joy this holiday season, consider some of the following:

- ▶ **Light a candle and reflect** on what our faith teaches about finding light when we need it most.
- ▶ **Find a way to honor loved ones who have died** by keeping their memory alive and doing something in honor of them.
- ▶ **Write down positive moments**, small steps you can take to appreciate the good in your daily life this Christmas.
- ▶ **Help other families** and focus beyond your own pain to help someone else.

Ministry

Contact: Jo Sheets • JSHEETS@SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG

Southwood Singles: Dinner, Movie and Games

TODAY • 5–8PM • in the Fellowship Hall

- 5:00PM Pot Luck Dinner:** Bring your favorite dish to share
- 5:45PM Movie:** The Best Christmas Pageant Ever
- 6:45PM Board/Card Games**

Register at southwoodlutheran.org/events



Calling All Joyful Volunteers!

Help make Southwood a welcoming place for all who attend Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services. We are looking for volunteers to help with the following areas. Please contact Michelle in the office at msmith@southwoodlutheran.org or call 402.423.5511.

	CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24				12/25
	2 PM	4 PM	7 PM	9 PM	10 AM
Ushers Needed	2		3	7	5
Hosts Needed	2		1		
Communion Assistants Needed				3	
Safety Team Needed		1	1	2	2

Winter Classes SAVE THE DATES!

Thursdays 6:30–8PM, beginning January 10

Warm your heart with a caring Christian community. Join one of these sessions to enrich your faith in the new year:

- ▶ **Alpha** (8 weeks) led by Jo Sheets—for anyone who is seeking answers about Christianity. Aren't we all?
- ▶ **Bridges Out of Poverty** (4 weeks + Special Poverty Simulation Event) led by Alynn Sampson, Lincoln Food Bank—for those with servant hearts seeking to understand those we serve.
- ▶ **I'd Like You More if You Were More Like Me** (6 weeks) led by Pam Dinneen, Director of Care Ministries—for those wanting deeper, more meaningful relationships.

Register at southwoodlutheran.org/events

Cost: \$10 • Snacks and Childcare provided.

Visit **SOUTHWOODLUTHERAN.ORG**
for a complete listing of events and registrations.