

# Community Connections December 2018

## Mondays

**Gamblers Anonymous** - 6:30 pm Calvary Lutheran Church, 605 Douglas St., Alexandria, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Celebrate Recovery** - 6:00 pm in the basement of Alexandria Covenant Church, 4005 Dakota St., Alexandria. A time of fellowship and support for your hurts, habits or hang-ups. All are welcome! Free meal. Child care provided. Questions, please call Dave 320-250-7912.

## Tuesdays

**Narcotics Anonymous** - 6:30 pm, Calvary Lutheran Church, 605 Douglas St., Alexandria, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**Al-Anon** - 6:30 pm, Bethany on the Lake, 1020 Lark Street, Alexandria. Use the rear (west) entrance door. Please knock loudly if it is locked. Questions, call Sandy 320-219-0413.

(There are more times for Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and AA at the AA Building on Jefferson Street listed below.)

**Depression and Mental Illness Support Group** - 6:00 to 7:30 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Douglas County Library, 720 Fillmore St., Alexandria. Call Missy for info 320-760-7147.

## Wednesdays

**Lakes Area MOMS** (Mothers of all ages and stages) - 9:15 to 11:15 am, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month. Alexandria Covenant Church, 4005 Dakota Street, Alexandria. For info call Nichole 320-4444-6304.

Many area churches have Wednesday evening activities for children and adults. Get connected by calling any one of them for details.

## Thursdays

**Narcotics Anonymous** - 6:30 pm, Calvary Lutheran Church, 605 Douglas St., Alexandria, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor.

**Adult Children of Alcoholics (ACA)** - 6:30 pm, Bethany on the Lake, 1020 Lark Street, Alexandria. Use rear (west) entrance. Knock loudly if the door is locked. Questions, call Sandy at 320-219-0413.

**Amazing Journeys Support Group for Weight Loss** - 6:30 to 8:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month. Alomere Hospital Lobby Meeting Room. Questions, call Betty at 320-304-3444.

## Fridays

**Meal and Fellowship** - 5:00 to 11:00 pm, Sixth Avenue Community Center, 1615 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. E., Alexandria. Serving a free hot meal and fellowship for anyone. For questions about this weekly event, call Christopher at 320-759-0794.

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(There are more times for Al-Anon, Ala-Teen and AA at the AA Building on Jefferson Street listed below.)

## **OTHER GOOD THINGS TO KNOW:**

**AA and Al-Anon/Ala-Teen Meetings** - 1604 Jefferson Street, Alexandria (Across from the Technical and Community College.) Seven days a week at various times. Questions, call 320-762-1116 or 866-423-2969 for outside of Alexandria.

**Douglas County Outreach Food Shelf** - 1205 Lake Street, Alexandria. For an appointment, call 320-762-8411.

**Coats, Boots, Mittens, and Hats** - United Way of Douglas and Pope Counties has gently used winter outer clothing. Call 320-834-7800 or just stop in Monday-Friday at 503 Hawthorne Street, Alexandria from 9 am to 4pm.

# December 2018 Happenings

**Living Nativity** - See the birth of Jesus come alive! Saturday, December 1, Walk-thru 4:30 to 5:15 pm. Drive-thru 5:15 to 7:30 pm. First Lutheran Church, 822 Douglas Street, Alexandria.

**Toys for Kids** - Donate new toys for children age 0-15 in boxes located in local businesses throughout Douglas County. Sign your children up to receive toys by calling Love INC by Monday, December 10. (320-759-3022) Toy distribution for those signed-up will be Wednesday, December 19 at the Love INC office, 44 Glenn Rd NW, Alexandria.

**Small Mall** - Kids 3 years thru 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to shop for their family members. First gift is 25 cents. The next 10 cents. Every gift after that is 5 cents. Volunteers assist the children shop and wrap the gifts. This experience teaches your child the joy of giving. Shopping is December 3 & 4, 4:00 to 7:00 pm, New Life Christian Church, 1910 County Road 82 SE, Alexandria.

**Sensitive Santa** – For special needs children, sponsored by Windmill Project. Cookies, Crafts, and momvie in low sensory environment. Sunday, Dec. 2, 2:00-3:30 pm. Grand Arbour, 4403 Pioneer Road, Alexandria. Cookies, call 320-760-3301.

**Adopt a Family for Christmas** - United Way of Douglas and Pope Counties sponsors this program to supply kids and/or families with Christmas gifts. To sponsor a child or family or to request your child or family to receive gifts, call or visit United Way 320-834-7800, 503 Hawthorne Street, Alexandria.

**Santa for Seniors** - A project of the Alexandria Hockey Association where kids deliver a small food basket to seniors (age 65+). The biggest gift is that one gets to visit with the children and make new young friends! Visits are the week of December 10. Sign-up to receive a visit or to sponsor a senior to get a basket by December 6 at [www.santaforseniorsalex.org](http://www.santaforseniorsalex.org). This is for any senior who lives within a 10 mile radius of Alexandria.

**Jingle Bells** - For the past 69 years, the Alexandria Jaycees have been celebrating the holidays by giving baskets of goodies to families in need. If you, or someone you know is in need, complete an application on-line at [www.jinglebellsalexandria.org](http://www.jinglebellsalexandria.org) to receive a basket of food and gifts. All apps must be completed by December 3, and they are delivered December 9. You can donate money on the same site year round. The telethon is on several local stations and streamed. They are listed on the web page. Or, you can witness the telethon live by going to Lake Geneva Christian Center, 605 Birch Ave., Alexandria, on December 8 from 5:00 to 10:00 pm. It's free and festive!

**Christmas Day Dinner-Alexandria** - Need a festive place to fellowship on Christmas Day? First Congregational Church, UCC will offer free Christmas Day dinner from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Call 320-763-3341 for more info. No reservation necessary. Just come! It's on the corner of 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Elm Street, Alexandria. They will NOT have deliveries to home-bound, but will prepare a take-out box if you send someone to pick it up during serving hours.

**Food Drop** - Thursday, November 29, 11:00 am-1:30 pm, New Life Christian Church, 1910 County Road 82 SE, Alexandria. Open to anyone who eats and lives in Douglas County. Please bring a box to carry your food home. Next Food Drop will be Thursday, December 27, same time and place.

**MNSURE** - Certified MNSure Navigators will guide you through the process of obtaining affordable health insurance coverage. Open Enrollment ends January 13. Call for an appointment at 320-304-3458 or 1-800-492-4805.

**Adult Basic Education** - Get your GED... and then, a better job. For more information call 320-762-3312.

**Senior College Alexandria Technical and Community College** - Don't stay bored. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Winter 2019 program starting January 3. Call 320-762-4510 for info. There is a fee for classes.

And...**Ground Breaking Class 101 and 102** – Two part class talking about family function and answering these questions 1.) How did I get here? 2.) Where do I go now? Tuesdays, Dec. 11 and Dec. 18, 1-2:00 pm. Call Love INC 320-759-3022.

**Have a Merry Christmas from your friends at Love INC !**  
Find the full story of the birth of Jesus in Luke 2:1-20.