

St. Michael Lutheran Church

News & Events

December 28, 2018

Reminder, this Sunday, December 30th -

ONE Service Only at 10:00 AM

Lessons & Carols

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: December 25, Michael Pennington; December 26, Hannelore Schuetterle; December 27, Nicole Walgate; December 31, Carolyn Schultz; January 1, Nancy Adair, Karry Beasley, Ron Carson, Marty Daigle, Shirley Cotter, Charles Huffman, Donna Huffman, Mary Lee Mowry, Kathy Richardson, Louie Smith; January 2, Sean Strub; January 3, Robert Miles We rejoice that you are living and serving among us in faith and discipleship!

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE DONATED POINSETTIAS to adorn our worship space for the Celebration of the Birth of the Christ Child. You may take yours with you at the end of the service this Sunday.

THERE IS NO SUNDAY LUNCH THIS SUNDAY! *The next Sunday Lunch will be Sunday, January 20, Every Member Birthday Party!*

CHILDREN & YOUTH WILL MEET TOGETHER FOR FAITH FORMATION at 9:00 am this Sunday morning in the Grades 3 & 4 Classroom. Adult classes will meet on their own as they decide. We are committed to Faith Formation every day!

EPIPHANY PARTY AND COVERED DISH SUPPER: Join us for our Epiphany Party and a cover dish supper ON Sunday, January 6th at 4:00 PM.

Please bring a prepared cover dish item that falls in the letter of your last name.

A-F: Dessert (yummy dessert or fruit)

G-L: Side dish (vegetable dish, salad, or chips)

M-Z: Main dish (soup, sandwiches, a meat, or casserole)

NEW CREATION WORSHIP WILL NOT GATHER THIS WEEK! We will resume gathering on January 9, 2019. All are welcome to attend. Please feel free to enter even if you arrive after we begin.

WE HAVE ONLY THIS ONE SERVICE AT 10:00 AM THIS SUNDAY! Our regular worship schedule resumes NEXT Sunday, January 6, 2019.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED Monday, December 31st – January 1st, and will re-open on Wednesday, January 2nd.

SAINTS ALIVE WILL KICK OFF THE 2019 SEASON ON WEDNESDAY, January 23, 2019 with a luncheon at 12:15 pm in the social hall. Our lunch will be soups, sandwiches, and salads. A sign-up list will be posted in the Gathering area. Mr. Ed Hunt will be providing a musical program for us to enjoy. We ask each of you to please bring canned soups for our United Ministry mission. Please mark the 23rd on your calendar and join us for our first luncheon of the new year.

THE ALTAR FLOWER CHART FOR 2019 is now posted on the kiosk. Please sign up for your Sunday, or feel free to share a Sunday with someone. Thanks!

SPECIAL THANKS GO TO CHARLIE JONES AND ALL OF OUR faithful and dedicated music ministers for your hard work to provide such beautiful and meaningful musical support for our Christmas worship celebrations!

OUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL WILL GATHER AT LUTHERIDGE January 11 through 13 for their annual planning retreat. Please be in prayer for them, that God will form them into a community of servant leaders and enable them to see and claim God's Vision for our life and ministry together throughout 2019.

WE WILL SOON BE PREPARING OUR 2019 YEARBOOK AND DIRECTORY. PLEASE UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION through the church office if there are changes in your address, telephone number, employment or school. Thanks!

C&B 2019 GIVING ENVELOPES are available in the Gathering Area. Each is labelled, and they are placed in alphabetical order. If you do not plan to use your envelopes, please let the Church Office know.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, December 30	Lessons and Carols at 10 am
Sunday, January 6	Epiphany Day Celebrations 8:30 & 11:00 am Installation of Council Members <i>Epiphany Party & Covered Dish Supper 4:00 pm</i>
January 11-13	Council Planning Retreat at Lutheridge

LUTHER ROAD with "Church Without Walls" June 10 through 14
Vacation Bible School – June 24-28, 2019

YOU ELECTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING ON DECEMBER 16 to new terms on our Congregation Council Liza Anne Cook and Devin Kendrick. They will be installed at worship on Sunday, January 6, 2019. Please pray for them and for our entire Council as they prepare to take up their ministry of servant leadership throughout 2019. Please express your personal thanks to Ronney Dixon and Mike Hutchinson who are completing terms of long and faithful service in this life-giving ministry of providing spiritual vision, direction and oversight to our life together. ***Your ministry blesses us, that we may become a blessing! We thank you, and we thank God for you!***

BACKPACK BUDDIES IS NOT PACKING DURING CHRISTMAS BREAK. Extra food and the gift of hams was given for the holidays. We will resume packing our **22 BAGS EACH WEEK** in January. Your contributions to this ministry make a BIG difference for children at risk for hunger in our own community. We are grateful for your abundant generosity and can always use all supplies. The packing list is posted in the pantry off the Green Room. This ministry partners with local elementary schools to "Serve Christ in the World."

A Tax Note: The IRS states in their bulletin that in order for donations to count for the year 2018, the checks must be received in that year. The Finance Committee asks that members please have their contributions in by December 31st in order for the books to be closed for 2018. **In other words, checks received in January, 2019 CANNOT be post-dated to December — they must be received IN 2018 to be credited to 2018. Thank you!**

WILD WOMEN - February 8-10, 2019. The weekend is almost full! If you have signed up, please send a check to the church office for \$223 by January 15th at the latest. Join us this year at Lutheridge for the annual Wild Women retreat. The retreat consists of women of all ages throughout the southeast gathering to join in fun activities, small group discussions, Bible study, and unique worship opportunities, all led by Pastor Mary Canniff-Kuhn. The theme this year is on life transitions. See Liza Cook (lizaanneballentine@gmail.com) for details and registration information!

WE REJOICE THAT KATHY RICHARDSON'S KIDNEY TRANSPLANT on Wednesday went very well, as did the surgery to remove the donated kidney from her husband Rick. They will be recovering at the home of their son and his wife in North Augusta. Because of her suppressed immune system Kathy and Rick are not able to receive visitors at this time. They will enjoy receiving mail at 5050 Fieldcrest Drive, North Augusta, SC 29841. Please surround them with your prayers for comfort, safety and healing.

LIKE MARY, GOD FILLS US FULL OF GOD'S PROMISES, so that we become "**pregnant with possibility**" as God begins using us **bodily** to bring the good news of salvation to those whose lives we touch. What would salvation look like to those around you this week? How can you begin using your hands and feet, time and talent to bring this good news to them?

OUR CONSECRATION SUNDAY RESPONSE CONTINUES AS FAMILIES continue making financial commitments to our mission and ministry together in 2019. As of Thursday, we have received 77 estimate of Giving cards totaling \$319,990 pledged for St. Michael's in 2019. 35 of these giving units were moved to increase their commitment over last year. Thank you for your commitment!

ALL 2018 ANNUAL REPORTS ARE NOW DUE IN THE CHURCH OFFICE! Please be diligent in celebrating the ministries we have accomplished effectively, and in challenging us to the ministries we have yet to engage.

THE EVERY MEMBER BIRTHDAY PARTY WILL BE SUNDAY, JANUARY 20! Debbie Miles and the team she gathers will prepare and serve the lunch meal. **YOU PROVIDE** the Birthday Cakes!!! Think about your favorite cake and the month that is precious to you and sign up to bake a cake!

THE BIRTHDAY CAKE SIGN-UP IS POSTED IN THE GATHERING AREA!

SPIRIT MATTERS resumes meeting monthly in 2019. We plan to gather on Thursday evenings. The dates we have planned are as follows: January 24; February 21; March 21; April 11; May 9; May 30. This group focuses on spiritual nurture in a group setting, "beholding the One who beholds us in love." Contact Maureen Nelson or Pastor Robert for more information.

*From an email we received in the Church Office from Chandra,
our resident in our apartment shelter:*

Dear Stacey,

I wanted to say thank you again, for the kind & generous gift and Christmas card. It was very unexpected and very much appreciated! Please extend our thanks to the Pastor and to St. Michael's Lutheran Church for treating us so kindly since we have been staying here. We feel very blessed and fortunate to be here. Although we have a lot of reasons to feel sad for our situation, we have more reasons to feel happy and grateful to have been brought here and connected with your congregation. From the bottom of our hearts, we wish all of St. Michael's Church a safe and happy holiday!

~Sincerely, Chandra, (Justin & Natalie)

As we celebrate the gift of the Christ – who was born homeless – we cherish more deeply our ministry to and with the homeless of our community through the two transitional housing homes located on our campus . . .

OUR WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY GROUP will not meet on January 2. We will resume meeting on January 9, and will begin reading the book of Ruth. All are welcome to join us at 10:30 am in the "Green Room" for fellowship and faith-nurturing conversation. ***There is always room at the table! Come and bring a friend!***

YOUTH MINISTRY

CRAWL Youth Group (Birth - 3 YEARS & Parents)

Meeting Sunday

Young Youth (K4 – 5th Grade)

No Meeting Sunday

LCY (6th – 12th Grade)

No Meeting Sunday

***Join us January 6th for the
Epiphany Party at 4:00 PM!***

Y'ALL: Young Adults Living Lutheran

**Join us on January 2nd at the home of Karen Street, please bring
an appetizer to share.**

We will meet again at St. Michael's on January 9th.

Dinner and Childcare provided weekly!!!

See Heather Hester for details and check out our **FACEBOOK** page.

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Thirsty Thursdays

COME. FELLOWSHIP. BE FED.

Do you consider yourself a “Young Adult”?

Are you looking for an intentional faith group & good friends?

Do you need a break from your regular weekly routine?

Do you want a place where you can stay connected to Jesus, have a support network within the church, & have meaningful conversation about faith & life in a casual social setting?

Then **JOIN US** for *Thirsty Thursdays*

Join us again in January!

We meet the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.
See Emily Bugay or check out our page on **FACEBOOK** for info.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

A "FAITH 5" VERSE

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth!"

John 1:14

Monday, December 31 – New Year's Eve

OFFICE CLOSED

12- Step Group 7:30 p

Tuesday, January 1, 2019 – New Year's Day!

OFFICE CLOSED

AA 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 2

No Bible Study

Y-ALL (Karen Streets Home)

NO New Creation Worship

NO Choir

Thursday, January 3

Breakfast Together 8:30 am

Nursing Mothers' Support Group 12:00 pm

AA 7:00 pm

Al-Anon 8:00 pm

Friday, January 4

Saturday, January 5

Sunday, January 6 – Epiphany of Our Lord

Holy Communion Service 8:30 am

CRAWL 9:30 am

Faith Formation 9:30 am

Holy Communion Service 11:00 am

NO Sunday Lunch

Epiphany Party 4:00 pm

Lessons for January 6, 2019

Epiphany of Our Lord

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 72:1-7, 10-14

Ephesians 3:1-12

Matthew 2:1-12