

St. Michael Lutheran Church

News & Events

January 11, 2019

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK: January 14, Zachary Monteith; January 15, Emily Bugay, Cora Thomas; January 16, Kimberly Saylor; January 17, Leo Chong; January 18, Zane Cooley, Stoney Craven. We rejoice that you are living and serving among us in faith and discipleship!

FLOWERS ARE BEING GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD by Warren and Mary Lee Mowry in celebration of their 34th wedding anniversary.

There is NO SUNDAY LUNCH TODAY! The next Sunday Lunch will be Sunday, January 20, Every Member Birthday Party!

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS: In order to help improve the flow of worship and make more efficient use of time during worship, the Worship and Music team is asking that all news items and announcements be placed in the weekly news blast and on the blue sheet. Any items that need to be shared with the congregation need to be sent to the church office by Thursday afternoon in order to be included in that week's news blast and Sunday blue sheet. Pastor will not be making announcements at the beginning of worship with the exception of updates on the well-being of members of the congregation.

WE WELCOME PASTOR REBECCA LORD PHILLIPS as our guest preacher and presider this morning, while Pastor Robert is at Lutheridge participating in the Council retreat this weekend. Pastor Rebecca is a native of Greenville, a graduate of Roanoke College and LTSS, and previously served on the pastoral staff of Grace Lutheran Church, Rock Hill, SC. She is the daughter of our own Jenny and Robert Lord. Rebecca and her husband have one son not yet a year old and are moving into a new house in this area. Please welcome her warmly, and thank her for her labor to speak God's Word to and for us today.

A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE involved in making the *Epiphany Party* a huge success! We had 18 young children who participated. We are grateful to the members of our LCY who helped lead the stations and created the Star Hunts, combining loving service and faith-forming learning. And, of course, many adult servants supported "behind the scenes." The covered dish supper concluded the day's "treasure hunts" with good food and warm fellowship. What a wonderful and joyous way to begin our life and ministry together in this new year **full of grace!** From planning, setup, dinner, leading stations to clean-up **we thank you all!**

THE EPIPHANY SEASON IS GOD'S "SHOW & TELL" through which God continues showing us and telling us "**Who Jesus Is**" and inviting us to deeper understanding of who Jesus is **for us**. Today we focus on the **epiphany** – the "God Sighting" – of Jesus' Baptism and give thanks for the gift of our own Baptism into Christ. Here we learn each day WHO we are and WHOSE we are.

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!

ALTAR GUILD IS IN NEED of several additional members. This is a meaningful ministry that helps prepare the worship space each Sunday. If you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of the altar guild members, would like to become involved, please see Hannelore Schuetterle or Mary Lee Mowry.

DATES TO REMEMBER

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

I would like to thank the Ladies Circle Groups of St. Michael for the delightful Christmas present of a homemade cake they gave to me. That was so thoughtful and we enjoyed it very much. I'd also like to thank Pastor Robert and friends in the congregation, for their prayers, calls and cards during this time that I'm still recuperating from surgery in August. It's been a tough road adjusting to the new limits of what I can do and not do with the constant pain in my hip and leg. Your calls, cards and prayers mean the world to me, and I hope to be able to come back to services soon and thank everyone personally. ~ Sylvia Goodwin

INTERNATIONAL PEACE LIGHT: The Peace Light, symbolic of the Light of Christ especially evident at Christmas, is meant to promote peace, harmony and unity among the people of the world regardless of race, ethnicity or creed. The Peace Light will be at St. Michael's from January 6-13 in the Gathering Area. You may bring an oil lantern, or a candle contained within a lantern, to receive and transport the light for your family and friends. We suggest lighting the pilot light of your water heater or fireplace to keep the light burning forever in your home. Because this is meant to be a continuous flame, we strongly encourage you not to extinguish the light and relight it.

BACKPACK BUDDIES IS NOW PACKING 24 BAGS EACH WEEK! This is an increase of two from December. Your contributions to this ministry make a BIG difference for children at risk for hunger in this community. We are grateful for your abundant generosity and can always use all supplies. **We are currently in need of white milk, breakfast items, pasta, snacks, and juice.** This ministry partners with local elementary schools to "Serve Christ in the World."

WILD WOMEN - February 8-10th, 2019. We are excited to have 27 women from our congregation attend the annual Wild Women retreat at Lutheridge! If you are attending and have not paid, please get a check in to the church office for \$223 by January 15th. Check your email for more details from Liza Cook!

NURSERY UPDATE: The wheels are in motion for our nursery makeover. Please stop by to see our current space that has been designated for our Little Lutherans. We are so excited to make it over! A board has been set up in the Gathering Area with items that are needed. We are asking for a monetary contribution towards our purchases. You can designate "Nursery Makeover" on your check or envelope. Gift cards are also welcome. There will also be a sign up sheet if you are interested in volunteering your time. With help from our village, the Little Lutherans will love their new space! We thank Diane Locotosh for gifting her Thrivent "Love One Another" funds as seed money for this effort.

KATHY RICHARDSON IS STILL HOSPITALIZED IN AUGUSTA as her medical team helps her deal with a series of complications following her kidney transplant. She has gained strength this week, for which we thank God. Rick is recovering well and visits her every day. He is 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 outside visitors at this time. They express deep gratitude for receiving mail at 5050 Fieldcrest Drive, North Augusta, SC 29841. Please enfold them in your prayers for continued healing.

WE LIFT IN PRAYER OUR CONGREGATION COUNCIL AS THEY begin this evening their annual planning retreat at Lutheridge. May God bless them and us with wisdom and insight, faith and courage, as we seek to "Serve Christ in the World" through our life and ministry together.

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! Sunday Lunch will be provided. **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! Happy Birthday to EVERYONE !!!

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.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE? The **2019 Flower Chart** is available on the blue kiosk in the Gathering Area. There is an abundance of available spots for Sunday flowers. Please prayerfully consider signing for one of these open Sundays. We have an arrangement with Embassy Flowers to provide flowers for the worship space. Through Embassy Flowers, the cost for both floral arrangements is \$110. Several families are welcome and encouraged to sign up together for flowers on an open Sunday and share the cost. Although we have an arrangement with Embassy Flowers, you are not obliged to use Embassy Flowers, and can make other arrangements of your own. If you do not wish to use Embassy Flowers, please let Stacey Anders know so she can contact them.

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 Ministries mission. Please mark the 23rd on your calendar and join us for our first luncheon of the new year.

YOUTH MINISTRY

CRAWL Youth Group (Birth - 3 YEARS & Parents)

Meeting Sunday

Young Youth (K4 – 5th Grade)

No Meeting Sunday

LCY (6th – 12th Grade)

**Join us THIS SUNDAY, January 13th for the
Progressive Dinner from 4:30—8:00 PM!**

Y'ALL: Young Adults Living Lutheran

Join us January 16th at St. Michael in the Green Room, 6:00 - 8:00.

We will share a meal as well as our faith together. For the month of January, we are focused on starting a new year with get-to-know you activities and faith talks

All are welcome!

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 January 24th!

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

"And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."
Luke 3:22

Monday, January 14

12- Step Group 7:30 pm

Tuesday, January 15

Prayer Shawl Ministry 10:30 am

Pregnancy/Infant Loss Support Grp 7:00 pm

AA 7:00 pm

Survivors of Suicide Support Group 7:00 pm

Wednesday, January 16

Bible Study 10:30 am

Y-ALL 6:00 pm

New Creation Worship 6:00 pm

Chapel Choir 6:30 pm

Chancel Choir 7:00 pm

Thursday, January 17

Breakfast Together 8:30 am

Nursing Mothers' Support Group 12:00 pm

AA 7:00 pm

Al-Anon 8:00 pm

Friday, January 18

Saturday, January 19

Sunday, January 20

Lutheran Men Meeting 7:30 am

Holy Communion Service 8:30 am

CRAWL 9:30 am

Faith Formation 9:30 am

Holy Communion Service 11:00 am

Every Member Birthday Sunday Lunch 12:00 pm

Lessons for January 20, 2019
The Second Sunday after The Epiphany

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11