

The

Messenger

St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church

From the Pastor

January 2018

“We Three Kings...”

“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?’”

(Matthew 2:1-2a)

The church observes the visitation of the magi on January 6 (the day of Epiphany), which also marks beginning of the season of Epiphany. Now the day/season of Epiphany is unique: it commemorates no specific event in Jesus’ life, but presents an idea that assumes concrete form only through the facts of our Lord’s life. The idea/theme of Epiphany is that the Christ who was born in Bethlehem is shown to the world as God.

At Christmas, God appears as man; at Epiphany, this man is revealed to the world as God. That Christ became man needed no proof – he ate, slept, cried, and thirsted. But that this man, this helpless child, is God needed proof! And so, throughout the season of Epiphany, our Scripture readings reveal that Jesus is God. Jesus is revealed as God through:

- The manifestation of the Trinity (at His Baptism)
- His teaching.
- The miracles that He performed.

In more recent times, especially in the Western Church, the story of the magi has been associated with this feast day of Epiphany – (the star “revealing” the newborn king of the Jews). As Gentiles, who were brought to faith in Jesus Christ, the magi represent all believers from the Gentile world.

But what do we know from Scripture about the Magi?

- (1) The magi were not “kings” or even wise men. They were court magicians who often relied upon supernatural powers to advise kings (c.f. Daniel 2:2). This role of ‘advisors’ has led to the title ‘wise men.’
- (2) The magi fulfill the prophecy of Numbers 24:17, spoken by Balaam (who owned the talking donkey). The Holy Spirit reveals, “I see him, but not now; I behold him, but not near. A star will come out of Jacob; a scepter will rise out of Israel...”

- (3) The magi most likely were from the region of Babylon (where the Jews were in exile for 70 years). Because of that exile, the magi would have learned the prophecy of Numbers 24:17, and so they would know to come looking for the one who would be born, king of the Jews. They were probably Gentile believers come to find the Savior (though they may have worshipped gods of Babylon in addition to “the God of Israel”).
- (4) The magi brought gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. Because there were three types of gifts, we often assume there are three magi. However, there were probably more than just three magi.
- (5) The three gifts of the magi have often been used as symbols of Jesus’ three-fold office: of prophet, priest and king.
- (6) It has also been suggested that the incense may have been burial-spices, thus foreshadowing Jesus’ death.

As we contemplate the visit of the magi, we give thanks to God that He has revealed Himself to those who knew Him not – and we give thanks to God that He has revealed Himself as the Savior to us.

May each of you have a safe and blessed Epiphany-tide. -- Pastor Lorenz

“The eastern sages saw from far
And followed on His guiding star;
And led by light, to light they trod
And by their gifts confessed their God.”

The Star Proclaims The King is Here
LSB 399, verse 2



News and Notes of St. Peter



Congregational Christian Care

Please pray for, phone, visit, and or send a card or note to the following:

Jimmy Barnhart (cancer), relative of Laurie Trlak; Jay Beekman; Niki Boswell (stroke), niece of Diana Mason; Peggy Broderick (cancer treatments) friend of Larry Baade: Bertie Brooks (cancer), aunt of Leah Hiers; Frank & Nancy Cozzen, brother-in-law & sister of Dewayne Anderson; Carol Dinius, (breathing problems) grandmother of Cindy Smith: Terry Fields, (brain tumor), cousin of Bruce & Sue Holtz; Don Fox (health concerns), brother of Barba Eickhoff; Kent Gremel (car accident), son of Pastor Gremel, Good Shepherd Church Kokomo: Jeff Hammel, (surgery) friend of Marjorie & Lowell Richardson: Pam Hite (terminally ill breast cancer), friend of Pam Wertenberger; Hazel Jackson, (back problems) sister of Ruth Guy: Dolly (Ahlschwede) Kikuchi (cancer), relative of Diana Mason; Terry Kindsvater (cancer), friend of Linda Crider and Mary Ellen Fuller; Mark Mason (cancer), friend of Larry & Susie Baade; Dennis Miller (heart & stroke), friend of Ruth Moon; Adam Neumann, friend of Laurie Trlak; Steven Spear (stroke), nephew of Donna Smith; Susie Sprowl (cancer), friend of Jeff Derr: Geneva Stetzel (stroke), aunt of Leah Hiers; Sue Tatman, (health concerns), sister of Donna Smith: Brent Trlak (health problems), brother-in-law of Laurie Trlak: Brandon Trlak (cancer); Christy Trlak (treatment); Steven Welker (stroke), son-in-law of Donna Dennis: Tom Wolfe, (health concerns) husband of Linda.

Englewood Health & Rehabilitation – Mildred Craig

Heritage of Huntington – Maxine Stetzel; Robert Gernand

Heritage, Warren – Edward Campbell, Jr.

Miller's Merry Manor – Neil & Sandy Stonebraker; Charles Weicht

Markle Health & Rehabilitation – Jean Simmons

Norwood – Wilbur & Ginger Van der Zee

Home – Jason Cozad; Shirley Powell; Pete Weicht

If you discover that the information has changed, please call the Church office so we can update this list.

Prayer List

We have received a number of inquiries about the payer list. Because of the length of our care list, when we receive prayer requests, we typically run these in the bulletin for 1 or 2 weeks. If it is a long term prayer request, the name is then moved to our Care List, provided in the Messenger (newsletter). Each week, we take 5-6 names (alphabetically) from the Care List and pray for them specifically by name in church. The congregation is encouraged to be in prayer for these persons throughout the week. Please do be sure to mention, when contacting the church office, if your prayer request is long-term; and also, please be sure to update the church office on a regular basis with how your friend or loved one is doing. Thank you for your consideration and understanding.

Tape Ministry

If you are unable to attend the worship services for any reason, including short-term recoveries, we would be happy to drop off a copy of the sermon or tape of the service which includes a bulletin. Please call Pam and Jack Wertenberger at 356-8139 or Pam's cell phone: 260-388-2507 to arrange for delivery. If you have received and listened to previous tapes, please place in a bag on your door to be picked up when a new tape is delivered. Thanks for your help.
Jack & Pam Wertenberger



Greeters

Greeters for 2018 are:

JANUARY

Sat 5:00 Lowell and Marjorie Richardson

Sun 10:15 Beverly Webb Family

FEBRUARY

Sat 5:00 Dianne Campbell

Sun 10:15 Jack and Sandy Slusser

MARCH

Sat 5:00 Jim and Barbara Spreen

Sun 10:15 John and Valerie Hughes Family

APRIL

Sat 5:00 Richard and Ellen Prange

Sun 10:15 Harold and Janet Bennett

MAY

Sat 5:00 Richard and Audra Herber

Sun 10:15 Sue Holtz and Gabe

JUNE

Sat 5:00 Diana Mason

Sun 10:15 Anita Prout

JULY

Sat 5:00 Georgianna Bischoff

Sun 10:15 Kristi Thomas Family

AUGUST

Sat 5:00 Jim and Nancy Bowland

Sun 10:15 Rolland and Vel Hoch

SEPTEMBER

Sat 5:00 Donna Smith

Sun 10:15 Karen Smith

OCTOBER

Sat 5:00 Linda Hollowell

Sun 10:15 Mary Ellen Fuller

NOVEMBER

Sat 5:00 Bob and Kris McFarland

Sun 10:15 George and Barba Eickhoff

DECEMBER

Sat 5:00 Paul and Sue Kellam

Sun 10:15 Jim and Peggy Hoch



A Little Heavenly Humor

A teacher was testing the children in her Sunday school class to see if they understood the concept of getting to heaven.

She asked them, "If I sold my house and my car, had a big garage sale and gave all my money to the church, would that get me into Heaven?"

"NO!" the children answered.

"If I cleaned the church every day, mowed the yard, and kept everything neat and tidy, would that get me into Heaven?"

Again, the answer was, "NO!"

Now she was smiling. Hey, they're getting it, she thought! "Well, then, if I was kind to animals and gave candy to all the children, and loved my husband, would that get me into Heaven?" she asked.

Again, they all answered, "NO!"

She was just bursting with pride for them. "Well," she continued, "then how can I get into Heaven?"

A five-year-old boy shouted out, "YOU GOTTA BE DEAD."



Mission Envelopes

Please prayerfully consider using your mission envelopes each month. Mission envelopes are in your pledge envelope box at the beginning of each month.

Organizations

Ladies' Guild: Does not meet the month of January. Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30 pm in the lower level of the education building. Please note this change of day and time. Officers for 2018 are: President, Mary Ellen Fuller
Vice President, Eleanor Smith
Secretary, Joyce Gravley
Treasurer, Linda Crider

St. Peter Association of Retired Keenagers (SPARKS) – The lucky winner of the drawing at the December meeting was Ruth Guy. The January meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 10th at Wings Etc.

Dorcas Circle: Will meet January 17th, in the reception room of the church education building, with Joyce Gravley as hostess. Please RSVP regrets only to Joyce at 356-4652.

Quilters: Quilting will resume on January 3rd after a slight vacation over the holidays.

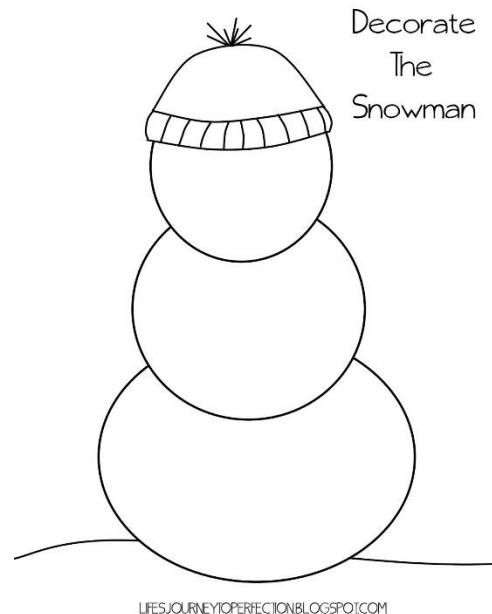
LYF : Will meet on Sunday, January 28 at 5 p.m.

Choir:

Happy Anniversary

January Anniversaries

Date	# Years
1/19 James & Barbara Spreen	38



80 Plus Birthdays this month! January

Date	Name	Age
2	Lowell Richardson	82
15	Ruth McVoy	91
22	Marjorie Richardson	81

Love INC

For those individuals or organizations collecting food to be donated to Love, the following is the list of food items needed by Love INC.

Fruit	Vegetables	Cereal
Rice	Spaghetti Sauce	Soup
Salmon	Spaghetti Noodles	Tuna
Peanut Butter	Canned Chicken	Bar Soap
Dish Soap	Laundry Soap	Shampoo
Toilet Paper	Deodorant	Toothpaste

SERVING THIS MONTH

JANUARY 2018

ELDER

SATURDAY: GEORGE JUERGENS

SUNDAY: RICHARD WINKELMAN

GREETERS

SATURDAY: Lowell & Marjorie Richardson

SUNDAY: Beverly Webb & family

ALTAR CARE: Leigh Ann & Ashton Jones

COUNTERS: John & Jennifer Gunn

JANUARY			
SAT JANUARY 6	5:00 PM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Adrian Brown
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Richard Winkelman
		ACOLYTE	Erika Brown
SUN JANUARY 7	10:15AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jeff Derr
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Harold Bennett
		ACOLYTE	Andrew Crider
SAT JANUARY 13	5:00 PM	ACOLYTE	Jase Gunn
SUN JANUARY 14	10:15 AM	ACOLYTE	Ian Crider
SAT JANUARY 20	5:00 PM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ted McElhaney
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Jordan Jones
		ACOLYTE	Norman Kochensparger
SUN JANUARY 21	10:15 AM	COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Randy Prange
		COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Josh Reber
		ACOLYTE	Drew Dorsett
SAT JANUARY 27	5:00 PM	ACOLYTE	Miranda Spitle
SUN JANUARY 28	10:15 AM	ACOLYTE	Nolan Hughes

If you are scheduled at a time that does not work for you, please contact an acolyte or communion assistant listed to take your place and let the office know so changes to the bulletin can be made. Thank you for your commitment to serve at St. Peter Church.

ST. PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH

January 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 HAPPY NEW YEAR	2 11:00-1:00 Diaper Store 4:00-6:00 Diaper Store	3 9:00 Quilters	4 12:00 Bulletin Deadline	5	6 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
7 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion	8 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 7:00 Council	9 10:00 Chapel@ Norwood	10 9:00 Quilters 12:00 SPARKS 6:00 BPLE	11 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Jr. Confirmation	12	13 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
14 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Divine Service 2:00 Adult Confirmation	15 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton	16 11:00-1:00 Diaper Store 4:00-6:00 Diaper Store 9:00 Pastor Circuit Mtg.	17 9:00 Quilters 12:00 Dorcas Circle	18 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Jr. Confirmation	19 12:00 Bulletin Deadline	20 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service w/Communion
21 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service w/Communion 2:00 Adult Confirmation	22 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton 6:00 Evangelism Committee	23 10:00 Chapel @ Norwood	24 9:00 Quilters	25 12:00 Bulletin Deadline 6:30 Jr. Confirmation	26	27 4:00 Bible Class 5:00 Divine Service
28 9:00 Sunday School & Bible Class 10:15 Divine Service 2:00 Circuit Forum @ Marion 5:00 LYF	29 9:00 Chapel @ Heritage 10:15 Chapel @ Tipton	30	31 9:00 Quilters			

NOTES