

# CORNERSTONE

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## "THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU AT ST. PAUL'S"

January 2019

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 25, Issue 1

Dear Partners in Ministry,

As we head into the New Year, I would like to share with you the following message adapted from an ELCA article.

When a baptized Christian affirms the faith (often called confirmation) the presiding minister addresses those making public affirmation of baptism and asks the question: Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth? And they respond: We do, and ask God to help and guide us. And so begins a daily claiming and re-discovering of the God-given gifts of discipleship.

Epiphany is an ideal season of the church year to emphasize living our baptism and to re-discover these gifts of discipleship. Commitments are made in New Year's resolutions, often relating to health and well-being. But what about our spiritual health and well-being? What commitments do we make to claim the gifts of discipleship?

The church celebrates the day of Epiphany on January 6, twelve days after Christmas. This festival day recalls the story (found only in Matthew) of the wise men that came from the East searching for a king born under a star. They met with King Herod in Jerusalem and learned that a king was to be born in Bethlehem. Herod directed them to continue their search for this new king. "When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they

offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road." (Matthew 2:10-12)

The wise men risked much and traveled far to pay homage to the king born under a star in Bethlehem. They came offering their gifts, only to be overcome with joy, not grasping that it was Jesus who provides the greater gift to the world. Aha! God was revealed to the wise men! We experience similar "Aha moments" when we say, "So that is what God is up to!" as we discover and claim the gifts of discipleship in our baptism. *How has Christ been made known to you today?*

In Christ's Service,

*Pastor Jocelyn*



### **The following placed poinsettias for Christmas**

:

Karen & Logan Billingham in memory of Karen's mother, Dolores Billingham.

Karen & Logan Billingham in memory of Karen's father, James Billingham

Karen & Logan Billingham in memory of Marko Kostelich.

Karen & Logan Billingham in honor of Jesus Christ.

Scott & Lisa Cregut in memory of Dan & Joyce Cregut.  
 Scott & Lisa Cregut in memory of Peter & Gloria Karmazin.  
 Aaliyah Gilpin in memory of their "Grandma Molly".  
 Shawndel Kelley in memory of Harry & Carol Lazorchak.  
 Shawndel Kelley in memory of William & Fonya Kelley.  
 Ruth Latta in memory of her loved ones.  
 Ruth Latta in honor of the Babe in the manger.  
 John & Ann Morrocco in memory of Bert & Emilie Barks.  
 John & Ann Morrocco in memory of John & Carmella Morrocco.  
 John & Ann Morrocco in memory of Gary & Patricia Kennard.  
 John & Ann Morrocco in memory of Phil and Jean Zaccarino.  
 John and Ann Morrocco in honor of Jesus Christ, Our Redeemer.  
 Nancy Pollo in honor of all of my Blessings.  
 Bernita Porter in memory of her parents, Pastor Bernard and Viola Wise.  
 Porter family in memory of Jennifer's mom, Anita Trecki.  
 Dennis and Debra Shows in honor of our parents, Milt and Charlotte Stemmler.  
 Aaron, Rachel, Timothy and Eleanor Shows in honor of their grandparents and great grandparents, Milt and Charlotte Stemmler  
 Robert Spittka in memory of Charles & Pauline Spittka.  
 Milt and Char Stemmler in memory of the Kaul family.  
 Milt and Char Stemmler in memory of the Stemmler family.  
 John & Carol Jean Straka in memory of John's father and mother, Ed and Irene Straka.  
 John & Carol Jean Straka in memory of Carol Jean's father, William DePaoli and her mother, Shirley Halley.

John and Carol Jean Straka in memory of Andrew & Bertha Straka.  
 John and Carol Jean Straka in memory of Lewis & Mamie Zanakis.



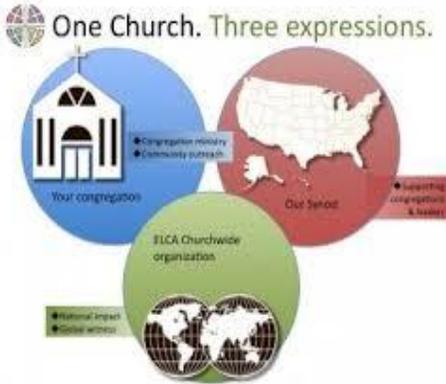
**Thanks** to all who helped in any way with the Christmas Eve service. A special thanks to Peter Dibble for arranging for the Harp Quintet from the Pittsburgh Symphony to be at St. Paul's. Also to Scott Latta, John Straka, Carol Ferens, Corey Ferens, Aaliyah Gilpin, Logan Billingham and all those in attendance. A special thank you to Vicar Brends for leading us in our worship.

## *Adopt A Family*

**A total of \$525.00** was collected and spent on two families (three children) that we adopted from South Central Elementary. The families were also given the items needed for a Christmas dinner. This was separate from the money that was collected for gifts. Again, thank you to all who helped these families have a Merry Christmas.



Anna Mae DeWalt thanks everyone for the beautiful birthday cards that she received in celebration of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. She received 42 birthday cards, 32 greeting cards on Facebook and 5 bouquets of flowers. She had a family dinner at a restaurant in Washington. Again thank you to all of you that made it possible and a day to remember.



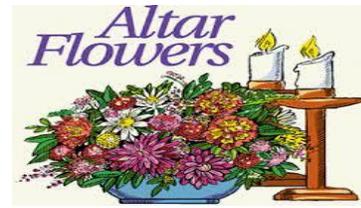
**Congratulations to the members of St. Paul's.**

We not only met but again exceeded our commitment to Mission Support. We exceeded by \$170.00. The amount that was sent to the synod was \$2970.00. Thank you to all who contributed and remember that our commitment for 2019 is \$2800.00. You are awesome.

Mission Support will be our Mission emphasis the months of March, June, September and December. Special envelopes are available on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary for your contribution. Make sure to include your name and envelope number.



Epiphany Sunday will be celebrated during the worship service on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, but a special Epiphany Party will also be held that day. Come join your PLUM friends at an Epiphany Party on January 6<sup>th</sup>. The celebration will be held at Christ Lutheran Church in Duquesne and will begin at 4:00 p.m. All PLUM members are invited for FOOD, FELLOWSHIP, SINGING, and CANDLE AND HOUSE BLESSING. Bring your gifts for the PITTSBURGH FOOD BANK and a special candle that will be blessed to be taken home.



The Flower Chart for 2019 is on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church. You can sign up at any time. If you do not attend church regularly and have any questions on dates remaining contact the church, 724-745-5962. The cost of two vases is either \$20.00 or \$25.00. Payment is due by the last Sunday of the month that you donate flowers



Do you have old prescription pill bottles lying around your house? If you do, bring them to church during the month of January and they will be sent to Samaritan's Purse to be used for distribution medication at hospitals and clinics in third world countries. Please remove the label and glue if you are able. There is a box for the bottles in the Narthex and also Eberle Hall. Other items to be collected are February - broken crayons, March - Box Tops for Education, April - cancelled stamps, May - Aluminum Pull Tabs, June - Brita filters and July - coupons (current or expired). This outreach project is being sponsored by the Stewardship and Mission Committee.



Our monthly mission for January will be the Lutheran SeniorLife. Envelopes for your contribution will be on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary. In February the missions will be World Hunger and Canonsburg – Houston Meals on Wheels.

## January Assistants and Sponsors



### Acolyte

- January 6
- January 13
- January 20
- January 27

### Assisting Minister

- January 6 – Jill A. Shook
- January 13 – Carol Ferens
- January 20 – Jill A. Shook
- January 27 – Ann Morrocco

### Eternal Candle

- Anna Mae Kostelich

### Fellowship

- January 6 – Jill A. Shook
- January 20 – Carol Jean Straka

### Flowers

- January 6
- January 13 – Jill A. Shook
- January 20
- January 28 – Ann Mae Kostelich

### Lector

- January 6
- January 13
- January 20 – John Straka
- January 27 – Mark Pollo

If you are interested in serving as an assistant or sponsoring the eternal candle or flowers, please contact the church office (724-745-5962) or email: [stpaulscbg@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulscbg@verizon.net).

## Worship Schedule

January 6	Rev. John Gropp
January 13	Rev Jocelyn Johnston
January 20	Rev. Blair Morgan
January 27	Rev. Paul Koch

**Pastor's schedule is subject to change without notice.**



Adalae Carmichael	January 9
Ev Gorden	January 15
Bernita Porter	January 19



Keep in your prayers: Ev, Sharlene, Anna Mae, Mark, Albert, Patty, Pam, Virginia, Betty Jane, Rich, Edward, Anna Mae, Eddie, Randy, Steve, Barbara, Charlotte, John, Pastor Wayne, Dr. Wolfson, the Miller, Paulick, Galano, Burchesky, Richmond families, our Bishops, our Synod, our PLUM pastors and members and our church. If anyone should be added or removed, please contact the church office (724-745-5962) or email: [stpaulscbg@verizon.net](mailto:stpaulscbg@verizon.net).



Congratulations to Larry and Natasha (Kelley) Johnson on the birth of their baby girl, Clarke Marie. Clarke was born on Friday, December 21<sup>st</sup> weighing 7 lbs. 11 oz. and 20 inches in length. Congratulations also to grandma, Shawndel!