

Peter's Net



January/February 2020

From the Pastor's Desk:

January 6th marks the Feast of the Epiphany. Falling 13 days after Christmas, Epiphany is when the church commemorates the visit of the Magi to young Jesus (as recounted in the Gospel of Matthew 2:1-12). Although tradition places the Magi at the manger, clues in the story indicate that this visit could have happened even up to two years after Jesus' birth. Given this timeline, it makes sense to commemorate this story at the end of the Christmas season.

Epiphany isn't a word we use all that often in everyday conversation but it's familiar enough to us. When someone has an idea or thought that seems to come from nowhere, an especially helpful insight or idea, we might say, "They just had an epiphany!"

Epiphany is a word that comes from Greek and it means "manifestation" or "appearance." We most often use it to refer to the manifestation or appearance of a thought or idea. And so, on the Feast of the Epiphany, what we are celebrating is God's epiphany of Christ to all nations. We are celebrating the revelation, appearance, manifestation of Christ to the whole world as our "Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6b)

As we begin yet another new year, we naturally take some time to look back and to look ahead; to take stock of the past year and to ponder our hopes for the year to come.

As we mark this transition from one year to the next, I invite you to take some time to reflect on the ways Christ has been made manifest in your life over the last year. Maybe 2019 was a great year for you and yours. Or maybe you're more than happy to put 2019 behind you. With the ups and downs of this past year, were there any times when the Spirit surprised you or comforted you or challenged you?

And as we look ahead to 2020, what is it you need or desire or hope from God this coming year? So often we are hesitant to ask God for what it is we need or desire or hope for. We know that there's always someone out there who's got it worse than we do. But Christ came into this world so that each of us might have life and have it abundantly. And as the author of Philippians tells us: *Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (4:6-7)*

My hope and prayer for you in 2020 is that God will continue to show up ("be made manifest") in your life in ways that surprise you, challenge you, encourage you and strengthen you. If one thing is true, God may not always show up in the ways we expect, but God most certainly shows up in the ways that we need.

My very best wishes to you for 2020!
Your sister in Christ,

Pastor Laura

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ANNUAL MEETING – 9th FEBRUARY at 10:00 AM

Again this year we will be combining our Annual Meeting with worship. The purpose of this is to emphasize the relationship between between our worship and our work as a congregation.

We will gather at **10:00 AM** in the basement to facilitate discussion, and as is usual a potluck lunch will follow.

Notes from church council:

- Church Council has set a goal to increase the average weekly worship attendance to 85 attendees in the next twelve months (May 2020). In order to achieve this goal, the “Three Week Challenge” was introduced in August. If you missed this announcement, speak to any council member to see how you can assist Church Council in meeting this goal. Handouts regarding this project are available at the back of the church.
- The Photo Directory continues to be a work in progress as pictures continue to be collected of various church groups and events. Speak to Kim Finlayson if you have any questions regarding the directory.

Maintenance Projects

- Seaforth Plumbing and Heating completed a thorough inspection of the boiler, thermostats and fireplace at the parsonage, as well the church. The boiler in the parsonage needed a new sparker, the fireplace needed a good cleaning and a pilot light replacement; church furnaces received new blowers and both furnaces are working. It was recommended that new furnaces be purchased soon as they are 18 years old and rotted in places. The one damper wasn't working and has been disconnected. It cost \$700+ to fix this damper and it heats only 25% of the church while the working one heats 75% of the

church. The plan is to wait until we put in new furnaces to replace the damper and continue to evaluate until then. This will need to be a budget consideration.

- Council reminds the congregation to keep the doors to the upstairs closed when possible, especially when the church isn't being used.
- The bells have been rebraced and Rodney will continue to monitor them.

Fundraising

- The fundraising dinner will be held on Mother's Day May 10, 2020.

Food Committee

- Two trolley carts have been purchased. One cart was donated by Jacob Auction Centre and the other was partially funded by Carolyn Kistner in memory of her husband Ken Kistner. A thank you also goes to Jake Finlayson for putting the trolley carts together.
- Church Council continues to encourage questions and opinions from the congregation. Please approach any member of council or put a signed note in the suggestion box in the narthex.

Kim Finlayson

Congregational Council Secretary

From the St. Peter's Lutheran Church Archives...

As the 100th Anniversary of the building of this church approaches, we thought the time was right to share some of the interesting items documented surrounding this event that have been preserved in our archives. Over the next year we will include in Peter's Net some interesting articles and photos that detail the great effort put forth by our predecessors as they struggled to build this impressive church. We hope that you enjoy the trip down memory lane.

The following is an excerpt from the Auditor's Report of the Building Committee:

Corner Stone Laying of the New Church, May 22, 1921

In the presence of an imposing assembly of people, the corner stone of the new St. Peter's Lutheran Church at Brodhagen was laid on Sunday, May 22nd. The ceremonies were impressive, and were in charge of the pastor, the Rev. J. Alberti. Shortly before two o'clock a procession was formed at the old Baptist Chapel, which is being used temporarily by the congregation for purposes of worship. Headed by the Brodhagen Band, the six officiating clergymen, together with the members of the church council and building committee, the choir and the Sunday School children marched to the site of the new edifice and took their places upon the platform erected upon the foundations of the church. The sermon of consecration was preached by the Rev. G. Brackenbusch, of Ayton. Following the sermon a beautiful anthem was sung by the choir of Zion Church, Stratford, whereupon the ceremony of laying the corner stone was performed by the Rev. Alberti, assisted by the Rev. O. Klaehn and the Rev. O. Stockman. This was followed by an address by the Rev. John Schneider who spoke on the meaning of the consecratory formula. The threatening weather which soon thereafter turned into a heavy shower made it necessary to shorten the program which was brought to a close by the hymn "Now Thank We All Our God" and the benediction. The new St. Peter's church when completed next December will be a large and commodious structure of concrete foundations, red brick walls and two towers, one of which will be carried to a height of 92 feet. Beautiful stained glass windows, all of which are memorials, will be furnished by a well-established firm in Toronto. The electric fixtures and wiring, costing \$3000, will be provided by the Y.P.S. (Young People's Society) of the congregation. The plate offering amounted to \$800.00.

News from the Pews



Sunday, November 3 – All Saints Sunday. We remembered all those have died by inviting people to bring photos of deceased loved ones to display in the sanctuary. Violet Isabel Rose, daughter of Josh & Krista, was baptised.

Sunday, November 17 – "Awaiting Advent" Lunch followed by making "Crown Jar" Advent Calendars. Thanks to all who came out! Paislee Anne Glover and Thomas Lare Robert Glover, children of Joe & Krista, were baptised.

Monday, November 18 – Tuesday, November 26 – Pastor Laura was on study leave.

Sunday, November 24 – Thanks to Debbie Elligsen for conducting the service.

Sunday, December 1 – Our Music Director Ed and the St Peter's Choir participated in the annual Community Advent Service. It was held at Knox Presbyterian Church in Mitchell at 2:30 PM.

Sunday, December 8 – Prayers were held around the Memorial Tree out front of the church

Sunday, December 15 – 7:30 PM Quiet Christmas: A Service of Healing and Hope

Sunday, December 22 – 10:00 Choir Cantata. In the afternoon Pastor Laura and the choir sang at the nursing homes.

Tuesday, December 24 – 7:30 PM Sunday School Christmas Program

Wednesday, December 25 – 10:00 Christmas Day Holy Communion

Sunday, December 29 – 10:00 Christmas Service of Lessons & Carols

COMING UP...

Sunday, January 5 – Epiphany Party & Potluck to follow worship

Sunday, January 12 – Deadline to submit reports for 2019 Annual Reports

Sunday, February 9 – 10:00 Worship with Annual Meeting. Potluck lunch to follow.

OUR CONDOLENCES...

To the family of Pat Schellenberger who died on November 20. Her funeral was held at Lockhart Funeral Home on November 25. Interment in First St. John's Lutheran Cemetery, Seebach's Hill.

To the family of Don Ahrens who died on December 23. His funeral was held at St Peter's on December 29. Spring interment to come in St. Peter's Cemetery.

Joan Beuermann
Office Administrator



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper – February 25th from 5:00-7:00 PM

You are invited to join us for pancakes and sausages to mark Shrove Tuesday on February 25th. Supper will be served from 5:00-7:00 PM and donations will be received for Janelle Kuepfer and her work with Youth Unlimited, Mitchell.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Date	Service Description	Title	Readings	Notes
January 5	10:00 Holy Communion	2 Christmas / Beginning of Good News	Mark 1:1-20	Family Sunday; Epiphany Party & Potluck following worship
January 12	10:00 Word & Prayer	1 Epiphany / Jesus Heals and Teaches	Mark 2:1-22	Sunday School starts upstairs
January 19	10:00 Holy Communion	2 Epiphany / Parables in Mark	Mark 4:1-34	Sunday School starts upstairs
January 26	10:00 Word & Prayer	3 Epiphany / Jesus and the Gerasene Demoniac	Mark 5:1-20	Sunday School starts upstairs; Hymn Pick
February 2	10:00 Holy Communion	4 Epiphany / Jairus' Daughter Healed	Mark 5:21-43	Sunday School starts upstairs
February 9	10:00 Word & Prayer with Annual Meeting	5 Epiphany / Death of John the Baptist	Mark 6:1-29	Family Sunday; Annual Meeting; Potluck lunch to follow
February 16	10:00 Holy Communion	6 Epiphany / What Defiles?	Mark 7:1-23	Family Sunday
February 23	10:00 Word and Prayer	Transfiguration Sunday	Mark 8:27-9:8	Sunday School starts upstairs
February 26	7:30 Holy Communion	Ash Wednesday / Passion Prediction	Mark 9:30-37	
March 1	10:00 Holy Communion	Lent 1 / First Last and Last First	Mark 10:17-31	Sunday School starts upstairs

WORSHIP LEADERS SCHEDULE

January/February 2020

Date	Acolyte	Assistant	Communion Washers	Projectionist	Reader	Greeters
January 5	Charlee Gethke	Lynn Hoegy	Wayne & Cathy Regele	Sherri Bennewies & Maddy Dixon	Debbie Elligsen	Neil & Diana Rapien
January 12	Sammy Beuermann			Greg Beuermann	Wayne Jarmuth	Jason & Helene Beuermann
January 19	Noah Robinson	Sherri Bennewies	Doug & Sandra Dietz	Joan Beuermann	Amy Lejcar	Dave & Jackie Wietersen
January 26	Avery Regele			Jan Leonhardt	Sherri Bennewies	Adam & Emily Agar
February 2	Hayden Beuermann	Deb Elligsen	Darcy & Angela Smith	Sherri Bennewies & Ava Robinson	Confirmation Class	David Bach & Jennifer Hugill
February 9	Nicole Alexander			Joan Beuermann	Confirmation Class	Gloria Gilbert & Elsie Mogk
February 16	Jackson Dietz	Murray Rose	Don & Pauline Beuermann	Sherri Bennewies & Shawni DeJong	Gerald Neeb	Paul & Diane Dietz
February 23	Ally McMann			Greg Beuermann	Confirmation Class	Judy DeJong & Cherie Gethke
February 26	Shawni DeJong	Sherri Bennewies	Maynard & Lynn Hoegy	Joan Beuermann	Confirmation Class	Barry & Elaine Dietz
March 1	Maddy Dixon	Lynn Hoegy	Brent & Susan Robinson	Jan Leonhardt & Ally McMann	Confirmation Class	Hugh & Doris Dietz

January 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5 10:00 Holy Communion Epiphany Party & Potluck to follow	6	7	8	9 7:30 Choir Practice	10	11
12 10:00 Word & Prayer <i>Deadline to submit Annual Reports</i>	13	14	15 7:30 Church Council	16 7:30 Choir Practice	17	18
19 10:00 Holy Communion	20	21	22	23 7:30 Choir Practice	24	25
26 10:00 Word & Prayer	27	28	29	30 7:30 Choir Practice	31	

February 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 10:00 Holy Communion	3	4	5	6 7:30 Choir Practice	7	8
9 10:00 Word & Prayer with ANNUAL MEETING Potluck to follow	10	11	12	13 7:30 Choir Practice	14	15
16 10:00 Holy Communion	17	18	19 7:30 Church Council	20 7:30 Choir Practice	21 Pastor Laura on study leave	22
23 10:00 Word & Prayer Choir at Nursing Homes 2:30 RV; 3:30 MNH	24	25 5:00-7:00 PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper	26 7:30 Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	27	28	29