



The Salem Light

Newsletter of the Congregation of Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

3825 Norrisville Road ■ Jarrettsville, MD 21084 ■ 410-692-6803 ■ www.SalemJarrettsville.org ■ The Reverend Jeanne Larsen, Pastor

From the Pastor's Desk –



Greetings during this amazing Time after Epiphany,

This year we have the longest Epiphany season possible with eight Sundays. Ash Wednesday which begins Lent isn't until March 1.

The time after Epiphany, January 6, marking the visit of the Magi to the Christ Child, is sometimes called the "bread and butter" Christianity. It is the basis of our faith—the divinity of our Lord with his baptism, his first miracle with the turning of water to wine at the wedding of Cana, his teachings in his Sermon on the Mount and ending with Transfiguration. It is a time when our Lord is coming to us and making all things new.

Our Lord Jesus in our Sunday readings is teaching us the way of true discipleship. In the themes of light they point us toward the hope and love only our Lord gives. He instructs us to cast out the darkness of hatred, of selfishness and of fear. The heart of his teaching in Sermon on the Mount is to love all others as we love ourselves. Jesus knows that this is not easy. He knows that we hear it, we read it and we repeat it. But do we truly understand what it involves?

During this season let us all meditate on what it means to love others—especially those different from ourselves. It is so much easier to love someone who looks like us, talks like us and agrees with us. But those others? Jesus even loved the tax collectors and the Roman soldiers—even those who crucified him!

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." So let us bear our Lord's light of love for all into this world. May God bless you.

Pastor Jeanne

Sunday Worship Assistants -January – February, 2017

January 1, 2017

Ushers: Ushers: Scott McAllister, Mike Whitacre
Acolyte: Tessa Grove
Lector: Mike Whitacre
Communion Assistants: Sharon Lukens, Jean Weimer
Tellers: Stearns, Bortmes

January 8, 2017

Ushers: Dennis Lukens, Sharon Lukens
Acolyte: Tim Lukens
Lector: Ruth Phoebus
Communion Assistants: Mark Hoefler, Carol Temple
Tellers: DeMey, TBD

January 15, 2017

Ushers: Ned Cockey, Larry Dreyer
Acolytes: Kylee Niederberger
Lector: Betty Adams
Tellers: McAllister, Lukens

January 22, 2017

Ushers: Richard Newsome, Timothy Lukens
Acolytes: Ellie Maddox
Lector: Jennifer Maddox
Tellers: Dreyer, Newsome

January 29, 2017

Ushers: Scott McAllister, Mike Whitacre
Acolytes: Madaline DeMey
Lector: Carol Temple
Tellers: Stearns, Bortmes

February 5, 2017

Ushers: Dennis Lukens, Sharon Lukens
Acolytes: Thomas Maddox
Lector: Sandra Bail
Communion Assistants: Betty Adams, Ruth Phoebus
Tellers: Stearns, Bortmes

February 12, 2017

Ushers: Ned Cockey, Larry Dreyer
Acolytes: Kylee Niederberger
Lector: Betty Adams
Tellers: DeMey, TBD

February 19, 2017

Ushers: Richard Newsome, Timothy Lukens
Acolyte: Madaline DeMey
Lector: Karen DeMey
Communion Assistants: Sandra Bail, Doris Karoll
Tellers: DeMey, TBD

February 26, 2017

Ushers: Ushers: Scott McAllister, Mike Whitacre
Acolyte: Tessa Grove
Lector: Mike Whitacre
Communion Assistants: Sharon Lukens, Jean Weimer
Tellers: McAllister, Lukens

Worship and Event Schedule

Sunday, January 1

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship with communion
- 9:20 AM
"Name of Jesus Festival"

Thursday, January 5

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, January 8

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with communion
- 9:20 AM Sunday School

Monday, January 9

- 10:00 AM Bible Class

Thursday, January 12

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, January 15

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with communion
- 9:20 AM Sunday School

Monday, January 16

- 10:00 AM Bible Class

Thursday, January 19

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, January 22

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 9:20 AM Sunday School

Monday, January 23

- 10:00 AM Bible Class

Thursday, January 26

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, January 29

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
"Mystery Dish" Brunch following Service in Rainbow Room

Monday, January 30

- 10:00 AM Bible Class

Thursday, February 2

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, February 5

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service
- 9:20 AM Sunday School

Monday, February 6

- 10:00 AM Bible Class

Thursday, February 9

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, February 12

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service – No Sunday School
"I Love You Sunday" Children will sing, and participate in Service with Families - Brunch to follow Service

Thursday, February 16

- 7:00 PM Choir

Sunday, February 19

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with communion
- 9:20 AM Sunday School

Sunday, February 26

- 9:00 AM Traditional Worship Service with communion

9:20 AM Sunday School

Salem Church Council

Executive Committee:
 Lynn Cox, President
 Ned Cockey, Vice President
 Ruth Phoebus, Treasurer
 Larry Dreyer, Secretary

Committees:
 Ned Cockey, Trustees
 Lynn Cox, Elders
 Larry Dreyer, Deacons
 Carol Temple, SLCC Liaison

Members at Large:
 Sam Keller
 Mike Whitacre
 George Woods
 Darla Lynch
 Jen Everett

Events to come - 2017

Please mark your calendars for the following events:



- January 29, at Noon: Mystery Dish Brunch. Proceeds to benefit Welcome One Homeless Shelter **\$3.00 for adults, \$1.00 for children – receive 1 recipe and two tastings. Please sign up in the narthex to prepare a dish that has NOT already been in one of our cookbooks. Sign your name, but not your secret dish (put your secret recipe in the box to be included in our cookbook). It can be a dessert, veggie dish, salad, hors d’oeuvre or main dish). Prepare to be deliciously surprised!**
- February 1: “Souper” Bowl Sunday. Let’s give an even bigger tower of soup this year! The soup collection will be given to Mason/Dixon for their work with the needy.



- February 12: **“I Love You Sunday”**
Celebrate this Sunday at our Family worship service, followed by a pot luck brunch. Sign up sheet is in the Narthex for number of attendees, and dish to be shared.



- March 1: Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 PM



Outreach at Salem, 2016

Christmas Project

This Christmas we were happy to help four families with gifts for Christmas. We had one family of 8, two senior citizen couples, and a small family.

Mason-Dixon Community Services

Mason Dixon thanked us for our contributions valued at \$1,179.17 in 2016

Casseroles for Daily Bread

We donated 20-24 casseroles each month, totaling more than 200 casseroles in 2016! Thank you to all who participated in this wonderful cause.

GriefShare Support Group

We were pleased to be part of this Non-denominational support group program, for those who lost loved ones.



New Outreach for 2017

Shelter for Homeless at Harford County Churches

“Helping Harford Country’s Homeless” has set up a network of area churches as shelters during this winter. Each church will house a maximum number of people of 15-20 from 5 PM to 8 AM. All are adults screened in advance and are transported to the shelter. Many hold jobs during the day and are dependent upon that transportation and thankful for the food and shelter.

Norrisville Methodist Church will host the shelter during the week of March 7th. Ebenezer Methodist in Fallston will host at a date to be announced. St. Paul Lutheran in Aberdeen will host the week of February 27th and Lord of Life Lutheran in Edgewood the week of February 6th. Volunteers from neighboring churches are asked to help with meals—(dinner, breakfast and bag lunches), setting up and taking down cots, etc. and simply visiting with the people. There is also a need for two people to spend the night. Salem does not have space to house people because of our Children Center, but we can help our neighboring churches.

Other church help for needy people includes food banks at Ayers Chapel in Norrisville and at Lord of Life Lutheran in Edgewood. New Hope Methodist in Edgewood collects and provides people with socks, hats, gloves, and jeans (sizes 30-34, some 36). Donations are always welcome.

More information about other participating churches and opportunities to serve will be coming! Please let Pastor Jeanne know if you can help!!

SLCC Corner



Preschool registration for the 2017-2018 school year has started at Salem Lutheran Children Center. We have a three year old two day program, a four year old three day program, and a five day four year old program. There is a \$60 non-refundable registration fee required when registering. Church members do not need to pay this registration fee, so if you are interested in registering for the preschool program, please contact the office at 410-557-6612.

Winter has just begun; however, we are also beginning to think about summer at Salem. During past summers we have traveled to The Arena Club, The Plumpton Park Zoo, Forest Hill Bowling Lanes, and had many visitors come to Salem as well. We will start registration in the spring. Please call with any questions.

We are looking forward to a wonderful second half of the school year.

Elizabeth Smithson

Please contact us at anytime at
noahsrainbow@verizon.net or 410-557-6612.

A Salem Family Thank-You Note for 2016

- To All those who make the casseroles, bake the communion bread, prepare the covered dishes.
- To the people who set up tables and chairs, rearrange the church and rainbow room, help with the heavy lifting in the kitchen at all our (many) food events.
- To those who man tables at our Craft Fair and Flea Market, and donate crafts and fleas.
- To all the willing hands who “sign up” whenever asked.
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Thank you from all of our church family and beyond, who enjoy the fruits of your labor!



Worship Notes from Pastor Dick:

THE HYMN OF THE DAY



At the end of the sermon, the next element in our worship service is the only hymn which is to be seen as an important part in the worship service. This is not a matter of choice, like “Oh, we can leave it out if we want!” kind of thinking. This hymn is meant to emphasize the message of the day and/or the sermon which has just been proclaimed.



Which bring me to this point: all hymns are chosen for any particular service not just because we like them but for the faith they confess. If it's Christmas, you don't expect a Lenten hymn, or if the sermon is focused on baptism, a hymn about Communion. It's not an easy task, no matter what anyone says!



Worship Notes from Pastor Dick (cont.):

I also like to point out that in the Lutheran liturgy there is more singing than in just about any other denominations' services. We not only sing hymns, but the entire service contains responses and songs of praise. Luther said that music was one of the greatest gifts God had given to us. Music helps us express what we think in our minds, our hearts; helps us express the aims and goals of our faith; helps us focus on God.

What's more, singing together [even if one can't hold a tune in a bucket] unites us into one worship community. So you can't sing? Read along as the words are sung and make them you prayer of faith with all others gathered with you in worship.

So far in our liturgy, the focus has been on the Word of God as shown in readings, psalms, sermon, and this Hymn of the Day. It's now at this point that our worship continues but with a different emphasis. The worship of God is still the aim and purpose of our coming together. God has come into our midst to speak to us. Now we are turning our attention to another gift of God by which God again comes to us. But that's for the next newsletter!





Remembering Loved Ones



Christmas Eve



Gifts We Share



GOD BLESS US, EVERY ONE

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2017

Printed Newsletter page 6

Bulletin Bloopers & Other Church Humor

Proverbs 17:22 A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like A Medicine

Some Church Bulletin Bloopers

For our parents:

- For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery down stairs.

Can you spot two problems?

- This being Easter Sunday, we will ask Mrs. Lewis to come forward and lay an egg on the alter.

And for Christmas Eve...

- The pastor will light her candle from the altar candles. The ushers will light their candle from the pastor's candle. The ushers will turn and light each worshipper in the first pew.

We at Salem like our food, but...

- Thursday night: Potluck Supper - Prayer and medication will follow.
- The Pastor would appreciate it if the ladies of the congregation would lend her their electric girdles for the pancake breakfast next Sunday morning.
- You will want to attend the National Prayer and Fasting Conference at First Church. Your registration fee includes three meals

And for our choir and other musicians:

- The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.
- The music for today's service was all composed by George Friedrich Handel in celebration of the 300th anniversary of his birth.

A couple of others:

- The peacemaking meeting scheduled for today has been canceled due to conflict.
- The sermon this morning is 'Jesus Walks on the Water.' Tonight's sermon is "Searching for Jesus."



Other Church Humor

Four weeks before Christmas, Reverend Johnson of Christ Lutheran was leading a children's service featuring an Advent wreath. He had told them what the three purple candles represented, then asked, "Does anyone know what the pink one means?" No one answered. Finally little Sara's hand went up. "Are they expecting a girl?"

And for Christmas: A pastor got this note accompanying a box of Christmas goodies, addressed to him and his wife, from elderly Sister Rose Mary.

Dear Pastor,

Knowing that you do not eat sweets, I am sending the candy to your wife – and nuts to you.

And finally, since we are in the Epiphany season:

You do know what would have happened if it had been three wise women instead of men, don't you? They would have asked for directions, arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned the stable, made a casserole, and brought disposable diapers as gifts!



Remember:

You don't stop laughing because you grow old. You grow old because you stop laughing.