



Bethany Lutheran Outlook
December 2014—January 2015

Serving God, Community, and Individuals





PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

Three feet of snow in the middle of November has a way of throwing off one's seasonal equilibrium. We're used to snow in November around here, that's nothing new, but the refrain I've heard from many is "Too much, too soon." One of the things the abundance of snow did to me was to make me start looking for Christmas lights. With all the snow it seemed like there should be more of them but then I'd catch myself as I realized it's only November 13th or 14th; it's too early. It threw me off though; it almost seemed like it was OK for the Hallmark channel to be showing Christmas movies (mostly bad Christmas movies) throughout the month of November!



With the First Sunday of Advent on November 30th we do move into the Christmas cycle of seasons. As always during December, we wind up pulled between the church's observation of Advent and the pre-Christmas activities of the wider culture although in reality, pre-Christmas activities also work their way into the church. In the past I've written about how we do better if we just acknowledge that in many ways we're talking about two separate celebrations, one religious and one secular or commercial and leave it at that. In a way that's true, they are separate, but for most of us the two are quite intertwined. Aspects of sacred Christmas impact aspects of secular Christmas and vice-versa and at its best, it makes the time even more enjoyable.



Obviously, from my perspective, the observance of Advent as Advent is important. Marking the time with weekly lighting of the Advent wreath represents one of our richest rituals, emphasizing as it does the themes of waiting and watching in hope. Equally important, of course, is hearing the Christmas story again, not just the familiar birth narrative on Christmas Eve but also other aspects of the Incarnation as we move from the end of Advent through the days of Christmas and into Epiphany and the Sundays after Epiphany. During that time we learn more about the identity of the baby whose birth we celebrate on Christmas.

All of that is important, but it doesn't mean that we can't participate in and enjoy the secular side of the season with the joy and good will it brings. What's sad is when it's only the crassest, most commercial aspects of the season that are celebrated and I fear that for more and more people, especially children, that's the case; Christmas is about shopping and presents and that's it. We probably can't change that except in small ways as in our lives and in our worship we continue to witness to the fact that there *is* more.

You will find the schedule of worship services below and on the card included in this issue of the Outlook. One thing to note is that the late service on Christmas Eve won't be quite so late this year, beginning at 10 o'clock rather than 11.

A blessed Advent and a Merry Christmas to all!

Pastor Geier



Schedule of Holiday Services

November 30—First Sunday in Advent

10:30 Worship Service

December 7—Second Sunday in Advent

10:30 Worship Service

December 14—Third Sunday in Advent

10:30 Worship Service - Sunday School Christmas program

December 21—Fourth Sunday in Advent

10:30 Worship Service—Annual Choir Cantata

December 24—Christmas Eve

4:00 Family Worship
10:00 Candlelight Service
(Bell & Organ Prelude @ 3:45 and 9:45)

December 25—Christmas Day

10:30 Holy Communion

January 6—Epiphany

6:30 p.m. Worship Service—Lessons & Carols



DAILY LECTIONARY



ings.

The foundational premise of this set of daily readings is their relationship to the Sunday lectionary. The readings are chosen so that the days leading up to Sunday (Thursday through Saturday) prepare for the Sunday readings. The days flowing out from Sunday (Monday through Wednesday) reflect upon the Sunday readings.

“The Bible is the cradle wherein Christ is laid.”
—Martin Luther

December 2014

| | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1 Psalm 79 | Micah 4:1-5 | Rev. 15:1-8 |
| 2 Psalm 79 | Micah 4:6-13 | Rev. 18:1-10 |
| 3 Psalm 79 | Micah 5:1-5a | Luke 21:34-38 |
| 4. Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 | Hosea 6:1-6 | 1 Thess. 1:2-10 |
| 5 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 | Jeremiah 1:4-10 | Acts 11:19-26 |
| 6 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 | Ezekiel 36:24-28 | Mark 11:27-33 |

7 Second Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 40:1-11 Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 2 Peter 3:8-15a Mark 1:1-8

| | | |
|--------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 8 Psalm 27 | Isaiah 26:7-15 | Acts 2:37-42 |
| 9 Psalm 27 | Isaiah 4:2-6 | Acts 11:1-18 |
| 10 Psalm 27 | Malachi 2:10 — 3:1 | Luke 1:5-17 |
| 11 Psalm 126 | Habakkuk 2:1-5 | Phil. 3:7-11 |
| 12 Psalm 126 | Habakkuk 3:2-6 | Phil. 3:12-16 |
| 13 Psalm 126 | Habakkuk 3:13-19 | Matthew 21:28-32 |

14 Third Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Psalm 126 1 Thess. 5:16-24 John 1:6-8, 19-28

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|--------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 15 Psalm 125 | 1 Kings 18:1-18 | Ephesians 6:10-17 |
| 16 Psalm 125 | 2 Kings 2:9-22 | Acts 3:17 — 4:4 |
| 17 Psalm 125 | Malachi 3:16 — 4:6 | Mark 9:9-13 |



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|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| 18 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 | 2 Samuel 6:1-11 | Hebrews 1:1-4 |
| 19 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 | 2 Samuel 6:12-19 | Hebrews 1:5-14 |
| 20 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 | Judges 13:2-24 | John 7:40-52 |

21 **Fourth Sunday of Advent**

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

| | | |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 22 Psalm 96 | Zephaniah 3:8-13 | Romans 10:5-13 |
| 23 Psalm 96 | Zephaniah 3:14-20 | Romans 13:11-14 |

24 **Nativity of Our Lord**

Isaiah 9:2-7 Psalm 96 Titus 2:11-14 Luke 2:1-14

25 **Nativity of Our Lord**

Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:8-20



| | | |
|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 26 Psalm 148 | Jeremiah 26:1-9, 12-15 | Acts 6:8-15;7:51-60 |
| 27 Psalm 148 | Exodus 33:18-23 | 1 John 1:1-9 |

28 **First Sunday of Christmas**

Isaiah 61:10 — 62:3 Psalm 148 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:22-40

| | | |
|--------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 29 Psalm 148 | Isaiah 49:5-15 | Matthew 12:46-50 |
| 30 Psalm 148 | Proverbs 9:1-12 | 2 Peter 3:8-13 |
| 31 Psalm 148 | 1 Kings 3:5-14 | John 8:12-19 |

January 2015

1 **Name of Jesus**

Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:15-21

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|-------------|------------------|---------------|
| 2 Psalm 148 | Proverbs 1:1-7 | James 3:13-18 |
| 3 Psalm 148 | Proverbs 1:20-33 | James 4:1-10 |

4. **Second Sunday of Christmas**

Jeremiah 31:7-14 Psalm 147:12-20 Ephesians 1:3-14 John 1:1-18

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|-------------|-----------------|--------------|
| 5 Psalm 110 | Proverbs 22:1-9 | Luke 6:27-31 |
|-------------|-----------------|--------------|

6 Epiphany

Isaiah 60:1-6 Psalm 72:1-7 10-14 Ephesians 3:1-12 Matthew 2:1-12

- 7 Psalm 110 Exodus 1:22 — 2:10 Hebrews 11:22-26
 8 Psalm 29 1 Samuel 3:1-21 Acts 9:10-19a
 9 Psalm 29 1 Samuel 16:1-13 1 Timothy 4:11-16
 10 Psalm 29 1 Kings 2:1-4, 10-12 Luke 5:1-11

**11 First Sunday after Epiphany - Baptism of Our Lord**

Genesis 1:1-5 Psalm 29 Acts 19:1-7 Mark 1:4-11

- 12 Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 Genesis 17:1-13 Romans 4:1-12
 13 Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 Exodus 30:22-38 Acts 22:2-16
 14 Psalm 69:1-5, 30-36 Isaiah 41:14-20 John 1:29-34
 15 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Judges 2:6-15 2 Cor. 10:1-11
 16 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Judges 2:16-23 Acts 13:16-25
 17 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Samuel 2:21-25 Matthew 25:1-13

18 Second Sunday after Epiphany

1 Samuel 3:1-10 Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 1 Cor. 6:12-20 John 1:43-51

- 19 Psalm 86 1 Samuel 9:27 — 10:8 2 Cor. 6:14 — 7:1
 20 Psalm 86 1 Samuel 15:10-31 Acts 5:1-11
 21 Psalm 86 Genesis 16:1-14 Luke 18:15-17
 22 Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 19:1-15 Rev. 18:11-20
 23 Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 20:7-13 2 Peter 3:1-7
 24 Psalm 62:5-12 Jeremiah 20:14-18 Luke 10:13-16

25 Third Sunday after Epiphany

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Psalm 62:5-12 1 Cor. 7:29-31 Mark 1:14-20

- 26 Psalm 46 Genesis 12:1-9 1 Cor. 7:17-24
 27 Psalm 46 Genesis 45:25 — 46:7 Acts 5:33-42
 28 Psalm 46 Proverbs 8:1-21 Mark 3:13-19a
 29 Psalm 111 Deut. 3:33-29 Romans 9:6-18
 30 Psalm 111 Deut. 12:28-32 Rev. 2:12-17
 31 Psalm 111 Deut. 13:1-5 Matthew 8:28 — 9:1



LAY SCHOOL—WINTER CLASSES



The following are the classes to be offered during the Winter Semester of Lay School. Classes will be held at Bethany and will begin on January 13th. Specifics on times and instructors will be announced later.

Gospels

An examination of the four gospels exploring the common message presented by the four evangelists, but also the unique aspects of each work.

Worship and Liturgics

This class will focus less on leading worship and more on understanding the symbols we use, the church calendar, and the liturgical structure of worship.

World Religions

An examination of the essentials of the Christian faith and then a comparison with other religions of the world including Judaism, Islam and Buddhism.

Evangelism

A course that will explore how sharing the good news is part of discipleship. How can evangelism be done, both as an individual discipline and as part of the life of the community? How can we see evangelism as a natural part of discipleship and not something scary or bizarre?

If you are interested in any or all of these classes, please contact Pastor Geier.



Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.

I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle til morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask Thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.

Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
And take us to heaven, to live with Thee there.



**And she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.
She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger,
because there was no room for them in the inn.**

Luke 2:7

Away in the Manger: Hymn Story and Devotion

The shepherds had an angel
The wise men had a star
But what have I, a little child,
To guide me home for far,
Where glad stars sing together
And singing angels are?



Christ watches me, His little lamb,
Cares for me day and night,
That I may be His own in heaven;
So angels clad in white
Shall sing their “Glory, glory,”
For my sake in the height.
— Christina Rossetti

No Christmas song is more loved than this tender children’s carol. With its simply worded expression of love for the Lord Jesus and trust in His faithful care, the hymn appeals to young and old alike. It is usually one of the first Christmas songs learned in early childhood; yet its pleasing melody and gentle message preserve it in our affections all through life.

For some time “Away in the Manger” was titled “Luther’s Cradle Hymn.” It was thought to have been written by Martin Luther for his own children and then passed on by German mothers. Modern research discounts this claim, however. Stanzas one and two first appeared in the *Little Children’s Book*, published in Philadelphia in 1885. The third verse was written by a Methodist minister, John T. McFarland, in the early 1900s when an additional stanza for this carol was desired for use at a church children’s day program.

How important it is that we take time to help our children see beyond the glitter of the Christmas season and teach them the true meaning of Christ’s birth. The most thrilling story ever known to man began in Bethlehem at Christmas.

—by Kenneth W. Osbeck’s *Amazing Grace: 366 Inspiring Hymn Stories for Daily Devotions*



Social Ministry

A Season for Giving

Many people, including our congregation, give all year long. Our food table seems to magically fill each week. It isn't magic. It is God's people doing God's work. The need for food is a constant nationally and locally.

In the November LUTHERAN magazine one article shared this information: "One in seven Americans (46 million people) rely on food pantries and meal service programs, according to a study by Feeding America, a network of 200 food banks. And 25 percent of military families, 620,000 households, need help putting food on the table."



And more locally, Kenneth Estelle, CEO of our Ishpeming Feeding America Food Bank stated, "During 2013, the CUP distributed over 869,000 pounds of food to its 82 agencies in the Upper Peninsula which amounts to well over a half million meals." He adds, "...we will be striving to exceed that amount again this year."

During this season of giving many people think about helping others:

- It may be as simple as putting loose change/dollars in the Salvation Army bell ringer's bucket.
 - Or picking up a few extra items at the grocery store for the food table.
 - Or providing a home cooked meal or cookies or a fruit basket for a family.
 - Or donating to the many groups collecting food, toys, and clothing for the needy.
- The opportunities are endless.

Another way of giving does not require money. It is giving the gift of time. This gift is very special since our time is finite—when we give time, we can never get it back. Giving the gift of time may include:

- Visiting shut-ins or people in nursing facilities.
- Using your musical talents to entertain at nursing facilities.
- Donating time to be a bell ringer.
- Donating time to facilities that rely on volunteers to help carry out their charity work. For example, Feeding America uses volunteers.
- Donating time to shovel snow or do other jobs for those who cannot do it themselves.
- And last, just greeting people with a smile and a kind word.

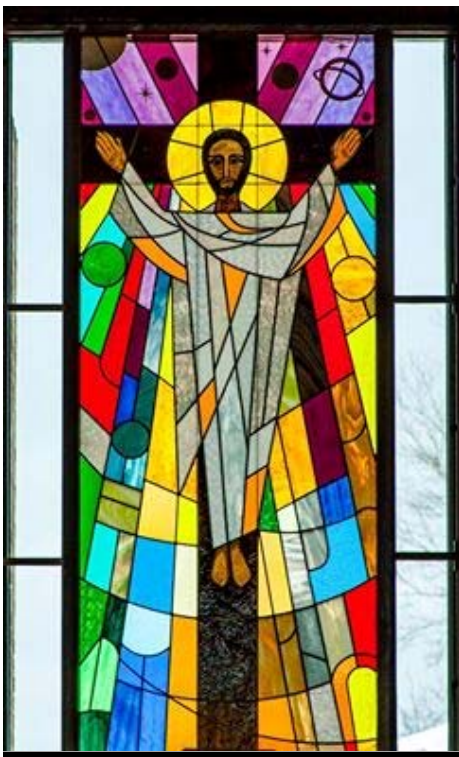
Again the possibilities are endless. We all have different gifts to share with others. Use your gifts to bring hope, comfort, and happiness to others now and throughout the new year.



The December and January Noisy Offering will be given to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.

Thanks to everyone for your generosity!

Stained Glass Installed



Thank you Dan Argall for giving your talent to Bethany in this stunning addition to the sanctuary.

Early in November the stained glass window designed and made by Dan Argall was installed in the sanctuary. The installation of the window was done by Champion Glass who were honored to be involved in this project.

Dan credits Keenan Tunnell for the inspiration for the design. Dan began work on the window a year ago. During the process, Dan incorporated salvaged pieces of glass from Bethany's old church on Division Street.

Tom Ryan stepped in to complete the frame after Dan injured his finger while working on the final framing.

Dan donated over 1000 hours of time in the creation of this window. The cost of the project was approximately \$6000. Three thousand dollars went for the new thermal pane window, and three thousand was used for the stained glass window.

Work is presently underway for a second stained glass window with an angel motif.

ROOM AT THE INN HOMELESS SHELTER

By Jill Carter



Luke 2 says that Jesus was laid in a manger when he was born because there was no room in the inn for Mary and Joseph. For approximately twenty people who are needing shelter in the Marquette area at any given time, there is room in the inn.

Room At The Inn homeless shelter began operation seven years ago. It came about because a lady by the name of Helen McCormick had a conversation with a homeless person who was living in a tent in February in Marquette. She was so moved by that conversation that she felt she had to try to do something to alleviate the homeless problem in our area.

She began by writing letters to churches in Marquette asking if any would be interested in getting involved. She received positive responses from five churches. I talked with Lois Stanley, whose church was one of the those first five. She told me that she had wanted to be involved with the homeless since her college years but the right opportunity had not presented itself. She was very excited to become a part of what would become Room At The Inn.



The shelter has grown; there are now eleven churches actually housing the homeless guests. Each church takes a week at a time. The week begins with the evening meal on Sunday and ends on the following Sunday when the guests leave in the morning. The shelter's daily hours are 6 PM to 6 AM. A meal is served each night by people from the host church or others who have volunteered to prepare a meal. The entire shelter must be moved to a different host church each Sunday.



This year has seen the addition of a warming center in downtown Marquette. It opens at 6 AM and volunteers serve breakfast each morning from 6 – 8 for Room At The Inn's guests. The warming center then opens its doors to everyone who needs a breakfast and/or a place to get warm. The goal of the warming center is to be open daily from 6 AM – 6 PM. There are not enough volunteers at present to do that; right now the center is open after 10 AM based on the number of volunteers available for that day.

Room At The Inn is staffed entirely by volunteers except for one paid staff member, a social worker whose title is “Client Advocate”. This person works with the guests, attempting to address whatever issues have resulted in their homelessness. The stories are many and varied. There is a board of directors and an executive director who handle questions and problems that arise concerning the operation of the shelter.

Opportunities for volunteers are many. As mentioned earlier, an evening meal is provided daily. This can be a hardship for very small churches. Sometimes individual families, a small group of friends or churches who do not actually house guests will volunteer to provide a meal. For example, the Assembly of God Church in Ishpeming and the United Methodist Church in Republic are two that I know of who do this. Each night at the Shelter is divided into three shifts – 6 PM – 10 PM, 10 PM – 2 AM and 2 AM – 6 AM. Each of these shifts is staffed by a male and a female. These people need to be trained and there is a training session on the third Thursday of each month at the warming center. Volunteers are also needed to move the shelter each Sunday, to do laundry, to provide breakfast and to staff the warming center during the day.



Donations are always needed for both the shelter and the warming center. Money is probably the greatest need but Lois did tell me that socks are always needed. They do like to keep a few coats on hand (new or gently used) because some people don't have anything that is warm enough. To donate time or resources, call 227-9171.

I became involved with Room At The Inn because I felt a little nudge when I first read about it in the newspaper. That told me I needed to do this. I always think of Room At The Inn when I hear someone wondering what one person can do. Room At The Inn is the result of one person who saw a need and took action!!

In conclusion, I'd like to share a poem written by a homeless teen:

Learn to listen like a teddy bear,
With ears open and mouth closed tight.
Learn to forgive like a teddy bear,
With an open heart, not caring who is right.



Learn to love like a teddy bear,
With arms open and imperfect eyesight.
Do not ask for your life's load lightened,
But for courage to endure.
Do not ask for fulfillment in all your life,
Do not ask for perfection in all you do,
But for the wisdom not to repeat mistakes.
And finally, do not ask for more,
Before saying, "Thank you,"
For what you have already received.
If you're looking for somebody to blame -
Look in the mirror.
There is no challenge that cannot be met,
And dream that cannot be achieved.

ALL SAINTS' DAY



Kids!

Christian Education News

Children's Program: "God's Story, Our Story"

The Sunday School and Confirmation Class have worked hard on their Christmas program, "God's Story, Our Story." This was truly a team effort: Kathleen Slown and Tonya Perry worked in concert to put the texts and music together, which blessed them both! Students in the 3-5 grade class wrote short dialogs for shepherds and wise men. The adult choir will join in the singing (any so will the congregation!) and Sunday School teachers helped us proofread the scripts and organize costumes. This program is one way for our children and youth to be worship leaders, a goal of the Christian Education Board. A hearty thank you to all who supported and worked on this program!



What's happening during December in Sunday School?

December 7: Dress Rehearsal; rehearse with adult choir.

December 14: Rehearse in sanctuary; Performance in Worship

December 22: Sunday School Christmas Party—Snacks and such (presents?)

Pray for Our Homework Club



Bethany's Homework Club

Please remember to pray for our Homework Club Ministry! The support of this congregation to Ishpeming youth is an investment in their future and ours! We make a difference! If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please let Pastor or Tonya Perry know. If you do not want to make a long term commitment, consider contributing juice boxes or snacks. Also, if you have a skill you can show kids in a large group format, (book talks, a game we could play, songs you would like to teach, especially silly ones. etc.) we have 20 open minutes at the beginning of club

The Inn-Keeper Makes Excuses

Edgar Guest



"Oh, if only I had known!"
Said the keeper of the inn.
"But no hint to me was shown,
And I didn't let them in.

"Yes, a star gleamed overhead,
But I couldn't read the skies,
And I'd given every bed
To the very rich and wise.

"And she was so poorly clad,
And he hadn't much to say!
But no room for them I had,
So I ordered them away.

"She seemed tired, and it was late
And they begged so hard, that I
Feeling sorry for her state,
In the stable let them lie.



"Had I turned some rich man out
Just to make a place for them
'Twould have killed, beyond a doubt,
All my trade at Bethlehem.

"Then there came the wise men three
To the stable, with the morn,
Who announced they'd come to see
The great King who had been born





"And they brought Him gifts of myrrh,
Costly frankincense and gold,
And a great light shone on her
In the stable, bleak and cold.

"All my patrons, now are dead
And forgotten, but to-day
All the world to peace is led
By the ones I sent away.

"It was my unlucky fate
To be born that Inn to own,
Against Christ I shut my gate—
Oh, if only I had known!"

From *Collected Verse of Edgar Guest*
NY: Buccaneer Books, 1976, pg. 614



Annual Christmas Cantata
December 21
During Sunday's Worship Service





Books for December 2014—January 2015

By Keenan Tunnell

First of all, let me thank all those who supported the Library's Annual Sale. As of this writing the results aren't yet final (one more week to go), but I'm sure we've done well. Thanks Again!!

There are no new titles for this month and next. We'll be buying some of the sale books from the profits, but they won't be available until next Christmas, since they're all Christmas titles. Nevertheless, there WILL be a major display of Christmas titles throughout December and January (plus Epiphany titles in January), so be sure to check out the library kiosk.

I'd also like to ask Library users to check around their homes for any books they have yet to return. I know how easy it is to put aside something you've finished or decided NOT to finish. I have quite a stack of unreturned books and videos from over the past several years. Feel guilty?? Have a look around your home and see what comes up! I'd appreciate being able to see some of these items again!

In lieu of book titles this month, I'd like to harken back to the "we are surrounded" theme to bring your attention to some of the capital "S" saints whose days occur over the next two months:

Of course you are all familiar with St. Nicholas (6 December)...he who has morphed into Santa Claus; but his message of gift-giving and helping those in need is still at the heart of Christmas.



Then there is St Lucy/Santa Lucia (13 Dec), beloved of Scandinavians...again for helping those in need.

Perhaps not so well known is St. Stephen (26 Dec) who is known from Scripture as the first martyr...an example of ultimate faith!



St. John, the Evangelist rounds out December on the 27th. He is credited with the gospel bearing his name and the Book of Revelation. Tradition also records him as caring for Mary, the mother of Our Lord, for the rest of her life, suffering a number of persecutions and imprisonments, but still living to an old age, with Revelations being perhaps his last great work.



On January 4th we have St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, a 19th century saint and the first native-born American to be canonized. A convert to the Roman faith, she established the first Catholic school in the nation, at Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she also founded the first American congregation of religious sisters, the Sisters of Charity. Her work was the beginning of the parochial school system in the U.S.

We'll stop with just one final saint, St. Henry/Henrik/Heikki, Bishop of Uppsala, Sweden, missionary to Finland, where he died a martyr on 19 January 1156. He is the patron of Finland and of the national cathedral in Helsinki. You may have heard of Heikinpaiva, which is the celebration of St. Henry's Day in Hancock (and Finland) commemorating his death (originally) and acting as a symbolic mid-winter festival, and way to escape encroaching cabin fever!!



There...enough from the Library...guess who was an avid reference librarian?? Think about these sainted people as you move through the winter months. Look them up online and become informed about them; they were truly exceptional folks and worthy of emulation as part of the great cloud of witnesses....OR....check out one of the Christmas or Epiphany books on display and delve into the beginnings of the road to salvation.



*A Blessed Christmas to you all
and a New Year filled with love and joy!!*



Hanging of the Greens Saturday, December 13 @ 10:00 a.m.

Bethany will celebrate the beautifying of our sanctuary for the Christmas season with a special gathering on Saturday, December 13 at 10:00 am. This year Bethany will be decorating the sanctuary with stars. If you would like to add to the collection of stars for our tree, please have them at the church on or before that Saturday.

Many people are needed to make our sanctuary glow with the light of the Christ child. Please come on Saturday, December 13, and together we will decorate the sanctuary and continue the joyful tradition of preparing for this blessed season.



Lessons and Carols



Epiphany Service

An Epiphany service of Lessons and Carols will be held on Tuesday, January 6, at 6:30 pm.

The church season of Epiphany begins on January 6 each year. The name comes from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, meaning “to appear, to show or to manifest.” The ending date of the Epiphany season is determined by Ash Wednesday, which is determined by the date of Easter.

Traditionally, Epiphany Day marks the arrival of the Magi, or wise men, to worship the infant Jesus. The significance of Epiphany for Christians is that it symbolizes the first recognition of Christ by Gentiles, or non-Jews.

The season of Epiphany emphasizes the divine nature of Jesus, the light of the world. Symbols for the season include light, a star and the color green, which represents life, growth, hope and eternity



Christmas Postcard Included in Outlook



Enclosed in each copy of December's Outlook is the Christmas worship schedule. The schedule is written on a postcard. Feel free to use it as...

- Your special reminder
- A book mark
- An invitation (Add postage and send it to someone inviting them to take part in the special Christmas message here at Bethany.)



Advent Tree

Once again it's time for our annual Advent Tree. Please bring in hats, mittens, toys, books, and gifts for any ages. Place them under the tree, and your generosity will brighten up the holidays for someone else.

Cradle Roll



Welcome Hadley Rose Bess

Hadley Rose was welcomed by her parents Kellie Clark and David Bess on November 4th. She weighed 5 lbs 13 ozs. and was 18 inches long.

Hadley's proud grandparents are Bob and Peggy Clark.



Holy Baptism

During the November 9th worship service, Elaina Verna Ruby Kaukola, daughter of Denise Kaukola, became a child of God through Holy Baptism. Elaina's sponsors were Amanda Whittaker, Noah Kaukola, and Kayla Kaukola.



Congratulations Sara and Alex



Sara Barton and Alex Urcavich were married on September 27 at the First Presbyterian Church in Marquette, Michigan. The ceremony was performed by Alex's uncle Joseph Urcavich.

Sara is the daughter of Keith and Cathy Barton, and Alex is the son of Randy and Laurel Urcavich of Gwinn, formerly of Green Bay.

Sara is an RN at UP Health Systems Marquette (MGH) in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Alex works for Complete Cover MI, Inc and does commercial pipe wrapping.

Sara and Alex are making their home in Ishpeming.





**The Women of Faith Lutheran Church
Invite all women to a Christmas Social on
Tuesday, December 2, 2014,
2:00 P.M.***



“The Act of Giving”

We are asking that each lady bring a new or gently used ornament, which will be given to a charity or needy family.

Refreshments and fellowship will follow the program.

Please come and bring your friends.

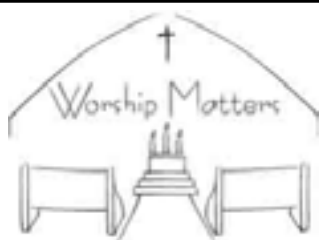
*Please note the time difference from previous years.



On behalf of WELCA, thank you for spreading the joy of sharing God's love with children in need by packing a shoebox or donating money for shipping. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of these precious children. May God bless each of you this Christmas.

In Christ's love
Kay Chartré
WELCA'S co-president



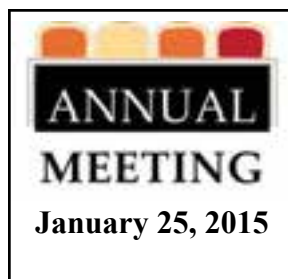


Council Highlights - November 2014

- Received thank you from LSTC
- Ishpeming Business Association is looking for help with living nativity
- Requests for donations from Lutheran Social

Services

- Facility Use Policy was simplified and the fee structure revised.
- Pastoral Acts: Baptism of Elaina Verna Ruby Kaukola 11/9/14; Funeral of Ed Vickstrom 11/22/14
- Annual Meeting will be January 25, 2015.
- Christmas Eve survey results: 10 pm is the preferred time for the late service.



Congratulations Maurice Hansen for being featured on TV6's Upside. Your contributions of our community are greatly appreciated!

Congratulations Debbie Bussone for being named Michigan Association of Healthcare Advocates Outstanding Volunteer of the Year for the Upper Peninsula District. Debbie accumulated more than 550 volunteer hours last year and is on her way to exceeding that amount this year.



Deadline to Order Poinsettias is December 17



This year's poinsettias cost \$14 and will be ordered from Shelly's Floral Boutique. Please make your check out to Bethany Lutheran Church **when** you place your order. You may bring your own plants if you wish, with your name written underneath so they may be identified. Please have the plants here by Monday morning, December 22. You may take your plants following the Christmas Eve late service. Thank you.



Community Christmas Programs



Negaunee Male Chorus "A Little Night Music"

December 6 @ 7:00 pm - Negaunee HS Auditorium \$10

Marquette Choral Society "Carols in the Cathedral" at St. Peter Cathedral

December 6 @ 7:30 pm

December 7 @ 3:00 pm

Marquette County Chamber Chorale, Marquette Male Chorus, Tintinniere "A Christmas Tapestry" at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Marquette

December 12 @ 7:30 pm Freewill Offering



Thank You from Ralph Goethe

Thank you so much for the cards you have sent and the many prayers that you have said for me during my illness. It has been a difficult time, but it is comforting to know that my Bethany family is supporting me and my family. We hope to see you again in church soon. Thank you.
Ralph Goethe



The Memorial Committee would like to thank
all those who gave memorials in the name of....



Ed Vickstrom



Caroling at Mather Nursing Home
December 14 @ 3:00 pm

Everyone is welcome!



Bethany's Website

www.bethanyishpeming.org

To view the latest edition of
the Outlook in color, please
visit Bethany's website.



Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate
Are Available at Bethany



- Café Salvador Coffee
- Organic Decaf Coffee
- Whole Bean Coffee
- Whole Bean Decaf
- Sisters' Blend, Reg. & Decaf
- Teas
- Hot cocoa
- Baking Cocoa
- Milk Chocolate Bar
- Dark Chocolate Mini Bars



Keep In Your Prayers

- Remember our home-bound and nursing home residents: Teckla Holmgren (Mather), Doreen Brown (Valente), Joyce Lehto (Mill Creek), Marjorie Rosten (Valente), Shirley Sundblad (Valente), Anna Mae Collins (Mather), Jean Anderson (Valente), Allen Maki (Jacobetti), Geri Maki (Jacobetti), Bob Waters (Jacobetti), Ned Johns (Jacobetti)
- Family and friends of Ed Vickstrom who mourn his loss
- Bob Clark
- Tom Brown
- Carl Pellonpaa
- Peter Cain
- Ralph Goethe
- Robert Maki
- Robert Nadeau
- Betty Geier
- Zander Atkins
- Don Doney
- Jim Sodergren, Sr.
- Emilie Brown
- Pastor Marcia Solberg
- Doris Pellonpaa
- Kathy Routhier
- Jim Bjerne
- Nancy Swanson
- Angie Kempainen
- Mary Bertucci
- June Forsberg
- Allen Beauchamp
- Carol and Juan Papaleo and family
- Pam Waters
- Those in the military that they may remain safe



For All Snowbirds....



If you are one of the many snowbirds who head south or west for the winter, please notify us of your new address and the duration of the time you will using that address so you won't miss any future issues of the Outlook or other mail from Bethany. Thanks.



Contact **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

485-1625
linkarzig@gmail.com



Bethany Lutheran Church
715 Mather Avenue
Ishpeming, MI 49849

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Website: www.bethanyishpeming.org

Rev. Warren Geier, Pastor
Home Phone: 485-4218
E-mail: pastor@bethanyishpeming.org

Parish Planning Council:
Exec. Director, Robert Nadeau
Asst. Exec. Director, Ted Swanson
Christian Education, Tonya Perry
Finance, Jim Kinnunen
Personnel, Tom Ryan
Property, Bill Heavyside
Social Ministry, Marie Chilman
Stewardship, Tom Perry
Worship & Music, Keenan Tunnell



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Northern Great Lakes Synod



December Worship Assistants

December 7

Assisting Minister - Gwen Bruhnke
Acolytes - Kyra Holmgren and Kayla Koski
Altar - Debbie Cain
Coffee Hosts - Worship & Music
Flowers -
Nursery - ShyAnn Holm Brown
Bread - Cheryl Frederickson

December 14

Assisting Minister - Robert Maki
Acolytes - Jackson Cardoni and Matthew Skewis
Altar - Pat Liivoja's team
Coffee Hosts - Christian Ed
Flowers -
Nursery - Jessica Penhale
Bread - Kathy Geier & Shirley Tyni

December 21

Assisting Minister - Terra Frustaglio
Acolytes - Hope Kaukola and Garrett Frustaglio
Altar - Pat Liivoja's team
Coffee Hosts - Social Ministry
Flowers -
Nursery - Savannah Marietti
Bread - Kaye Frederickson

December 28

Assisting Minister - Tom Ryan
Acolytes - Kayla Koski and Jackson Cardoni
Altar - Pat Liivoja's team
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers -
Nursery - Terra Frustaglio
Bread - Linda Dahl

December 24

Assisting Minister -
(4 pm) Kathy Harrington & Mindy Harrington
(10 pm) Jerry & Karen Plaisier
Acolytes - (4 pm) Mackenzie Ryan and Morgan Rhoades
(10 pm) Ben Bruhnke and Gavin Argall
Altar - Sue Holmgren
Bread - (4 pm) Kay Chartre
(10 pm) Rae Elliot

December 25

Assisting Minister - Robert Nadeau
Altar - Pat Liivoja's team

December Ushers:

Bruce Bussone
Tom Perry
Ned Johns
Jim Kinnunen
Craig Kitchen
Jerry Plaisier
Knut Strom
Roy Koski



Thank You!

Happy Birthday!

- 2 Kay Skytta
- 2 Lindsay Waters
- 2 Amber Sodergren
- 3 Ralph Goethe
- 3 John Pontti
- 3 Irene Portale
- 4 Donald Liljequist
- 6 Emily Vallier
- 8 Ida Anderson
- 8 Cheryl Sleeman
- 9 Karen Mattson
- 10 Sheree Mariani
- 11 Lynn Healey
- 11 Daniel Kaukola
- 11 Todd Pohlman
- 11 Meredith Seppanen
- 11 Justin Young
- 12 Richard Meyer
- 12 Delanie Rhoades
- 13 James Chapman
- 13 Jerald Hager
- 15 Mindy Harrington
- 16 Christine Jarvi
- 17 Holly Bjerne
- 18 Carol Truscott
- 19 Ann Carne
- 20 Kayla Kaukola
- 20 Knut Strom
- 21 Cheryl Frederickson
- 24 Megan Hough
- 25 Carol Waters
- 26 Travis Wooden
- 28 Lisa Ombrello
- 31 Carl Pellonpaa



Happy Anniversary!

Roy & LaVerne Koski
12/1/1984 30 years

Jerry & Karen Plaisier
12/1/1990 24 years

Joe & Addy Lemire
12/3/2011 3 years

Kimberlee & Bryan Smith
12/4/2010 4 years

Ray & Sandra Sundquist
12/12/1975 39 years

Carl & Doris Pellonpaa
12/16/1953 61 years

James & Jane Anderson
12/21/1968 46 years

Larry & Ann Alexander
12/27/1986 28 years

John & Marilyn Pontti
12/28/1960 54 years



January Worship Assistants

January 4

Assisting Minister - Tom Perry
Acolytes - Matthew Skewis and Gavin Argall
Altar - Sue Ryan
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers -
Nursery - Noah Kaukola
Bread - Marian Medlyn

January 6 Epiphany

Assisting Minister - Keenan
Tunnell

January 11

Assisting Minister - Kris Hough
Acolytes - Kyra Holmgren and Morgan Rhoades
Altar - Clara Carlson
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers -
Nursery - Sabrina Holm-Brown
Bread - Terra Frustaglio

Thank You!

January 18

Assisting Minister - David Leverton
Acolytes - Garrett Frustaglio and Ben Bruhnke
Altar - Marilyn Pontti
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers -
Nursery - Hannah Skewis
Bread - Tonya Perry

January Ushers:

Robert Nadeau
James Anderson
John Carlson
Tom Brown
Maurice Hansen
Tom Sodergren
Greg Stahlmann
Roger Solberg



January 25

Assisting Minister - Terra Frustaglio
Acolytes - Hope Kaukola and Mackenzie Ryan
Altar - Marian Medlyn
Coffee Hosts -
Flowers -
Nursery - ShyAnn Holm-Brown
Bread - Cheryl Frederickson

February Ushers:

Jaak Liivoja
Mike Richards
Tom Ryan
Ted Swanson
John Waters
Tim Grant
John Hansen

Happy Birthday!

- 1 Samuel Stahlmann
- 4 Maurice Hansen
- 5 Ruby Kaukola
- 5 Erick Pohlman
- 7 Jacob Clark
- 7 Daniel Sleeman
- 8 Colleen Sundblad
- 11 Debbie Bussone
- 11 Marilyn Pontti
- 12 Robert Nadeau
- 14 Theodore Swanson
- 14 Mikki Jago
- 15 Elizabeth Aho
- 16 Hillary Bjorne
- 18 Jeffrey Harma
- 19 Matthew Skewis
- 21 Mindy McComb
- 21 Jennie Dault
- 23 Tori Connors
- 24 Brian Ulrickson
- 26 Carl Pellonpaa
- 27 Christina Mariani
- 29 Bernadette Frustaglio
- 31 Sabrina Brown



Happy Anniversary!

Roger & Ruth Solberg
1/2/1954 61 years

