

THE PROCLAMATION

FEBRUARY 2020

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 4

LIGHT OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN
CHURCH

PASTOR JERRY'S MESSAGE



*Trust in the LORD, and do good;
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.*

*⁴ Take delight in the LORD,
and he will give you the desires of your heart.*

*⁵ Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.*

*⁶ He will make your vindication shine like the light,
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.*

*⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.*

Psalm 37:3

Greetings Everyone!

My hope and prayer is that this newsletter finds you all doing wonderful. Truly the recent seasons of Advent and Christmas provided us with many wonderful opportunities to witness the presence of our God!

As I was reflecting on my article for this month's edition of the Proclamation I reread the thoughts that were expressed in our Dec/Jan newsletter. At the time of publication we had not yet voted on the parish arrangement. For those of you who know me well, you would know that I am not necessarily a big fan of "surprises." As time drew closer for the congregational votes to determine the future of the UPG, I think I was a prepared as I could have been in the event that the vote failed. I also participated in a great deal of contemplation about what a "close" vote would look and feel like. The one outcome that I didn't expect? With 133 votes cast that 129 people would be in agreement that Light of Christ and St. Peter's should officially become the UPG!

In the aftermath of this historic vote, I have prayed fervently and reflected upon on simple question; "What do we do now?" I'd like to take a moment to share at least some of my personal thoughts on this subject. While there was overwhelming support for the path that we are currently on; I also am keenly aware that many of our sisters and brothers are lamenting the "loss" of what was. My hope and prayer is that as we continue to move forward together that we remain open to the thoughts, opinions, and feelings of our

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's Messages	1
Deacon's Message	2
GWOH	3
Christian Education	3
Lent	4
Church Activities	4, 5
Mail	5, 6
Golf Outing	7
Staff	8
Worship Ministers	9
Calendar	10

(Continued from page 1)

sisters and brothers among us who have different feelings and that we may find ways to more fully integrate those who desire to continue travelling with us.

I am convinced that God has been “stirring our hearts and minds” on this pilgrimage. I believe that the leadership of our parish continues to prayerfully and faithfully discern what God is attempting to do within our midst in the present. My hope and prayer is that we would all be committed to the study of Holy Scripture, prayer, and open dialogue about how God may be calling us pilgrimage together.



I am also convinced that while we carry our individual traditions into this “new community” that we are now given an opportunity before us to reexamine our hearts and minds and decide how we would like our community of faith to live out its corporate life. My hope and prayer is that many of you will offer your thoughts and expressions about how you believe our community may best live out our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Finally, I place all my trust and faith in our Lord. The Lord Who promises to walk with us, the Lord Who promises to uplift us all. May our Lord continue to provide wisdom, understanding and great joy!



Peace and blessings,
PASTOR JERRY



Dear members of the UPG,

Greetings and Happy New Year! Would you like to know how to be a healthier person this next year without exercising or counting calories? Please read on . . .

The Sunday morning Express-Times on December 22 printed an interesting article entitled: "Will cultivating kindness make us all healthier?" A new scientific study at UCLA concluded just that. This

past October, UCLA launched the first interdisciplinary research institute on kindness to explore how and why being nice to others can reduce depression, the risk of cancer and cardiovascular disease.



The ultimate goal of the institute is to "spread kindness and promote a more humane world." "Cultivating kind thoughts increases the frequency of kind actions," says anthropologist Daniel Fessler. He and his colleagues have begun to study how kindness can be contagious, how we can become kinder in all our relationships, a "kindness revolution" – something our world desperately needs.

The idea that kindness can promote a healthier, more humane society is not a new one. Jesus years ago told his followers to show kindness and love toward others – that this was the way to live, the way to make the world a better place, the way to bring in the kingdom and perhaps the way to create a healthier, more humane society.

A kindness study may be useful but the real motivation to be kind and loving toward others should be because we are followers of Jesus. Violence and hatred will still exist but we can begin in our own corner of the world to promote the kind words and kind deeds that Jesus would have us say and do. All of us will be healthier for it.

In this New Year, may we follow Jesus' example of showing kindness and love to those around us - our family, our friends at work and school, and with those who are strangers. May kind words and loving actions bless others and, in turn, bless our own lives.



Yours in Christ,
LINDA MAULE, DEACON

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)



GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS TEAM

CHRISTMAS INGATHERING

Thank you for supporting the Ingathering with your contributions of 269 soap and washcloth combinations and 74 extra bars of soap; they were delivered to these agencies: Safe Harbor Shelter/Easton, Third Street Alliance/Easton, Victory House/Bethlehem, Bright Hope Pregnancy Center, Community Services for Children, ProjeCt/Easton, Turning Point/Bethlehem, New Bethany Ministries/Bethlehem, and the Hellertown Food Bank.

2019 GIVING TREE

Thank you for providing local Head Start children with mittens, hats and books and over 60 pairs of "Shoes That Grow" for children in Kenya.

A special note of thanks to Ingrid Bengston Eberle for providing handmade knitted outerwear for local children and adults; these items decorated the tree at LoC.



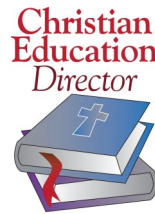
MUSIC MINISTRY

Thank you to the instrumentalists, vocalists and choir members at LoC (with special thanks to St. Peter's choir members who joined us) for their joyful contribution to our 2019 Christmas celebration.



Rehearsals at LoC resume on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 PM.

Rehearsals at St. Peter's resume on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM.



Dear friends,

The night sky was beautiful and the air only slightly chilled as dusk descended upon the participants of WinterFest 2019. This year the weather cooperated, however, we found ourselves faced with many competing events and performances as the first Saturday in Advent of 2019 was the day before the 2nd Sunday of Advent. The activities of the Christmas City were at a high level and filled many people's calendars. Still thirty people; adults, children and youth participated in the Live Nativity in the newly created stable made by Lou Dravec! We further celebrated the Advent Season with musical performances, games, crafts, a visit by Santa Claus and one of his elves, lots of delicious cookies and other food, drink and the reading of the Christmas Story. It was a truly blessed evening.



December continued with a flurry of activities as the Sunday School teachers, Mrs. Schoch, Mrs. Maule and I worked with our children and youth in preparation for the birth of Jesus. Our children and youth learned the story of Jesus' birth through bible readings, songs, poems, art and music.

We celebrated together following our rehearsal for our Family Christmas Eve service with a Christmas party in the fellowship hall of LOC. Santa and Mrs. Claus (aka Tom Seifert and Lynn Malok) visited with a candy cane for each child. Our families provided the food for the party. One large box of baby care items was collected for local families. The children brought these items to the manger on Christmas Eve. Twenty-five Sunday School children and youth participated in our 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Service with many more children joining us from the worshipping families who attended this service. Many thanks are extended to



(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

the adults and youth assistants who helped with the rehearsal and the service.

During the Christmas break a fun event of ice skating was held at the Steel Ice Center and was organized for the children and youth of the UPG by Tracy Haas. This event was very well attended, lots of fun and we are very thankful for Tracy!!



Following the deadline for the December/January Proclamation, eleven children received a bible through our Sunday School. Two children received the preschool bible, two received the story bible and five children received the Adventure Bible. A bible breakfast and an introduction to the Bible program was held on November 17, 2019 for families of our 3rd and 4th grade children. The food for the breakfast was donated by Tracy Haas, Carol Knauss, Ann Nonnemacher, Kathy Pelletiers, Tina Piscitello, Carol Quirk, Karen Schoch and Michele Weierbach. We are thankful for their generosity. Twenty-five people attended the breakfast.

The Sunday School teachers and I will be meeting soon to secure a date for Vacation Bible School, plan for Bishop Zeiser's visit, learn about raising funds for a well for people in a developing country and plan for the Lenten Fair.

We invite you to join us on any Sunday in Sunday School and Worship!!

With thanks and praise for all of God's blessings,
Lynn Terry
Director of Christian Education



JOIN US WEDNESDAY IN LENT...

as we Prepare to live in the fullness of Christ's Death and Resurrection! March 4, 11, 18, 25 and April 1 at Noon – 12: 45 PM and 6:00 – 6:50 PM.

Each gathering begins with a light soup, salad, and bread supper.

Lent has traditionally been a time of spiritual preparation for Easter, the glorious celebration of Christ's resurrection! This Lent our UPG will be providing additional resources for study of God's word, meditation, and prayer that can lead us to personal and corporate renewal in faith, hope, and love. Our Lenten focus this year is based on the theme verse:

I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2: 20

The Scripture focus for each week will be available the previous week through paper handouts as well as will be available online. There will be a focus verse or verses you can meditate on the entire week, as well as additional readings that you may want to read each day. There will also be a questions or challenges each week for you to consider. When we gather on Wednesdays, each table will discuss the readings over supper. However, if you cannot attend, you can participate in Spirit through reading, meditating and praying at home. An interactive blog will be available.

It is our hope that everyone will gather in Spirit in one way or the other, as we all seek to grasp more fully the meaning of Jesus' crucifixion and the glorious power of his resurrection for each of us personally, as members of the UPG, and as a citizens of God's beautiful world!

Women's Bible Studies

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY GATHERINGS

Women's Bible study on the St. Peter's campus will be held Tuesday, February 4 and 18 from 9:30 to 11:00 AM, meeting in the Social Room on the Parking lot level. We'll continue the study of "We Are Called," learning what God calls us to do in today's world by looking to stories of Call in Scripture.

(Continued on page 5)

COLLECTION OF PLASTIC LIDS

Thank you to everyone who responded to the collection of plastic lids/bottle caps. The response was so overwhelming that the Boys and Girls Club of Easton had to stop the collection they were so overwhelmed by the community's response. GOOD JOB everyone, thank you so much for caring.

CRAFTERS' GROUP DATE CHANGE

The date for the February Crafter's Group has been moved to February 10th from 6:30 to 8:00 PM on the St. Peter's Campus meeting on level 1 in the UCF room.

B-I-N-G-O!

Get your BINGO stampers ready! Come one! Come all! Join the youth of St. John's Windish, St. Peter's, and Light of Christ for a fundraiser Bingo and Basket Raffle at St. John's Windish on Saturday, February 15, 2020 (snow date – Saturday, February 22, 2020). Doors open at 12:00 noon; Bingo begins at 1:00 PM. Tickets are \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door. The proceeds will go toward funding their trip to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in 2021. The youth will pay it forward by donating 10% of the funds raised to a local charity.

We need your help to make this fundraising event a success for the youth. You can help in many ways! Donate a basket for the raffle. Donate food, drinks, or paper products for the event. Donate your time as a volunteer to help. And best of all, you can help spread the word, buy your ticket, and join us for the fun! We hope to see you on February 15!



You can sign up as a volunteer by going to the following link on SignupGenius: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0444a9ac2caafc1-youth>

You can also volunteer by contacting Gina Brockway in the St. John's Windish church office at 610-868-3282.

BAPTISM

Logan Righi was baptized on January 12, 2020. The parents are Nate and Becky Righi.



DEATH

Arline Snyder, husband of Raymond Snyder, passed away on December 27, 2019. Leona was a member of St. Peter's.

In The Mailbag



Thanks to Pastor Jerry for the hospital visits when Richard was ill and, for the comfort and prayers at the time of his passing.

Pastor Jerry held a memorial service with scriptures that were meaningful and personalized to Richard's character.

We would also like to thank the congregation for the prayers, cards and loving support for our loss. The kindness and compassion from all of you will always be remember in our hearts.

*Peace and Blessings,
Mary Bender, Molly, Joe, Dolly and Ed*

Dear Light of Christ and St. Peter's,

Thank you for your yummy and generous gift for me (and lots of friends!) for Veteran's Day! Your love and appreciation for all Vets everywhere is amazing. Your prayers and especially joyous gifts are welcomed and much needed for all troops.

*Thank you for your Godly patriotism!
Master Sgt. Darlene Brink "Dolly"
alk/a Mary Bender's daughter*

Dear Friends of Light of Christ,

*Thank you very much for the thoughtful care package. Just finished my 1st semester and am back home. Looking forward to seeing everyone Christmas Eve!
Chris K.*

(Continued from page 5)

Dear UPG, Light of Christ and Pastor Jerry,

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers, cards, prayers and support as I recover.

Your prayers and concern mean so much to me.

Thank you to Light of Christ Sunday School for their card, flowers and prayers.

I am truly blessed to be part of such a warm, kind and caring congregation. Thank you again.

Peace and Blessings,
Ann Nonnemacher

Dear friends at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Bethlehem Emergency Sheltering Inc., its vast number of volunteers and especially those who will seek through BES, I thank you for your gift of \$93.75 in support of our shared ministry. Please know these funds will be used during the 2019-2020 season to help provide for the needs of homeless men and women within our community who will seek emergency winter overnight shelter, an evening and morning meal and related support services. We greatly appreciate your generosity.

With much appreciation,
Rodney Conn, Chair—Board of Directors

Dear Youth Group,

Sending warm wishes your way for the happiest of holidays! "Merry Christmas" God Bless you, I love each one of you. Thanks for all the lovely cards. They show love and caring. I enjoy them so much. Love my pillow case. Thank you for bringing me so much joy. Love ya! My prayers are with you.

Love and Blessings,
Helen Daniels

I want to give you a big thank you for blessing me and my family for the Thanksgiving and Christmas meal. Have a Happy Holidays!
Maximus Warvaez

Dear Bible Study friends,

Merry Christmas! May the holiday season bring you joyful moments, warm memories, and every special happiness. Thank you so much for all the beautiful cards and prayers. They mean so much. Your love and caring shows in everyone. So proud of St. Peter's Church and friends. Wishing you all a very healthy New Year.

Love and Blessings,
Helen

To St. Peter's congregation,

Thank you for the Thanksgiving meal. Tony and I really appreciated your generosity.

Susan DeAngelis

Dear Pastor Jerry Kulp and congregation of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church,

So grateful for all that you are, all that you do.

Thank you! Our family was so blessed not just once, but twice! Thank you for the turkey dinners with all of the trimmings and dessert, as well. We hosted thirteen additional people at Thanksgiving, so we were so appreciative. Bev and Fred are such wonderful neighbors and reflect well on your impact in the greater community. May God bless your kind endeavors for His Kingdom.

Sincerely,
Ray and Kate Crowell
Troy, Mitchell, Hudson, Seth, Elliot, Colson,
Tessa and Wesley

Dear members of St. Peter's,

Doing what matters for God! Thank you for your continued generosity to mission support. Your giving is helping others in our Synod and the ELCA in many ways. Aging adults, children and victims of disasters are just a few of the people who receive the love of Christ through you.

Blessings abound,
Mission Support Table
Northeast PA Synod

(Continued from page 6)

THE UPG FRANK J. SCHECK MEMORIAL GOLF OUTING



Whitetail Golf Club
2679 Klein Road
Bath, PA 18014

Please notice the date change!

Saturday, June 20, 2020
FOUR PERSON SCRAMBLE

(Continued on page 8)

STAFF OF LIGHT OF CHRIST & ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCHES (UPG)

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OFFICE HOURS AT LOC are: Monday thru Thursday 8:00 AM-1:00 PM
OFFICE HOURS AT ST. PETER'S are: Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-12:00 PM

Pastor Jerry's Cell phone number: 484-333-0433

People of UPG (Light of Christ/St. Peter's)
Congregational Councils
Pastor Jerry Kulp
Pastor Kurt Garbe
Rev. Edith B. Roberts
Rev. Eugene F. Sharkey
Kelly Cascario

Kenda Riley
Josh Gulotta
Sandy Horwath
Deacon Linda Maule
Marisa Deshler
Lynn Terry
Michel Lloyd
Donna Musselman
Al Radtke
Lisa Mantz

Ministers of God's Word
Responsible for Administration of God's Word
Senior Pastor of UPG
Pastoral Care Assistant
Pastor Emerita St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Pastor Emeritus Messiah Lutheran Church
Executive Assistant to Senior Pastor & editor of
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Ministry Coord/Campus Coord (St. Peter's)
UPG Family & Youth Ministry Coordinator
Secretary/Campus Coord (Light of Christ)
Minister of Music and Visitation (Light of Christ)
Minister of Music (St. Peter's)
Christian Ed Director
Minister of Visitation coordinator
Parish Nurse
Custodian
Custodian (Light of Christ)

Congregational Officers
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Financial Secretary

Light of Christ 2019
Nancy Kostas
Lou Dravec
Donna Mackaravitz
Catherine Ziel
Lois Zigmund

St. Peter's 2019
Ted Birchmeier
Richard Hawk
Donna Musselman
Joe Bleier
Richard Elterich

2019 Light of Christ Congregational Council Members: Sandra Butch, Ron Dalla Piazza, Lou Dravec, Teryan Gerhard, Louise Fielding, Bonnie Harper, Charles (Buzz) Heidecker, Tom Seifert, Michael Truchan

2019 St. Peter's Congregational Council Members: Matthew Bleier, Stephen Granlund, Harmony Gubich, Tracy Heberling, Cindy Kemp, James Ritchie, Lois Ritchie, Jacquelyn Radtke, Keith Young

FEBRUARY 2020 WORSHIP LEADERS

Date	January 26 Shared Worship St. P. 9:30AM	February 1, 2 St. P. 8:45 AM LoC 11:00 AM	February 8, 9 St. P. 8:45 AM LoC 11:00 AM	February 15, 16 Shared Worship LoC 9:30 AM	February 22, 23 St. P. 8:45 AM LoC 11:00 AM
Assisting Minister	5PM Rosalie Adducie 9:30 Shirley Kulp	5PM Rosalie Adducie 8:45 Michel Lloyd Jelissa Diaz	5PM Rosalie Adducie 8:45 Donna Musselman Rosalie Adducie	5PM Rosalie Adducie 9:30 Tony Villani	5PM Rosalie Adducie 8:45 Lynn Rawhouser Camryn Hasonich
Communion Assistant	5PM Lou Dravec 9:30 Matthew Bleier, Susan DeAngelis, Steve and Bonnie Harper, Tom Keener	5PM Mike Truchan 8:45 Elizabeth Elterich Mike Horwath, Sandy Horwath, Nancy Kostas, Mary Mann, Hannah Nolan	5PM Ron Dalla Piazza 8:45 Josh Gulotta Pat Ousley, Richard Romig, Helga Rimonneau, Susan Schellenberg, Kylie Stocker	5PM Shirley Kulp 9:30 Josh Gulotta, Evan Hawk, Jon Terry, Lynn Terry, Catherine Ziel	5PM Delynn Gerhard 8:45 Cindy Kemp Kasey, Chris, Hannah Bosco, Sandra Butch, Jelissa Diaz
Lector	5PM Tom Keener 9:30 Cliff Ousley	5PM Shirley Kulp 8:45 Elizabeth Elterich Pat Ousley	5PM Lou Dravec 8:45 Josh Gulotta Susan Schellenberg	5PM Lois Zigmund 9:30 Cindy Kemp Lynn Terry	5PM Delynn Gerhard 8:45 Evan Hawk Catherine Ziel
Acolyte/ Crucifer	9:30 Jimmy Bleier	8:45 Ethan Seixas Melissa Harvey	8:45 Douglas Bleier Kylie Stocker	9:30 Sanjay Vaskas	8:45 Shirley Kulp Joshua Weierbach
Baker	9:30 Susan DeAngelis	8:45 Elizabeth Elterich Gene Sharkey	8:45 Cindy Kemp Kylie Stocker	9:30 Shirley Kulp	8:45 Gina DeAngelis Julia Bosco
Ushers	9:30 Ed/Pat Little, Ethan Seixas, Bruce Billiard	8:45 Tony DeAngelis Jr, Gerry Cutsler, Dolores Kennedy, Joan Helman Bosco Family	8:45 Tracy Heberling, Tom and Na Sarver, Mary Bender Lois Zigmund, Jean Finn, Helga Rimonneau, Donna Mackaravitz	9:30 Mike Horwath, George Baltz, Rich Hawk, Cliff Bengston	8:45 Glenn Breidenbach, Rich Hawk, Evan Hawk, Donna Musselman Joan Erb, Sandra Butch, Rosalie Adducie, Bette Kovach
Greeters	9:30 Sandy Horwath, Cindy Kemp Kathy Coffin, Judy Innes	8:45 Bev/Fred Kunkle, Ed/Pat Little Joan Erb	8:45 Donna Musselman, Sue Swavely Jelissa Diaz	9:30 Tom/Na Sarver, Dolores Kennedy Karen Favinger	8:45 Mary Bender, Gerry Cutsler Jean Finn
Flower Delivery	Richard Romig, Kasey Bosco	Karen Favinger, Buzz Heidecker	Lorraine Kalamar, Bette Kovach	Cliff/Pat Ousley, Jack Reichel	Kasey Bosco, Richard Romig
Sexton	Kenny Young	Tony DeAngelis Jr.	Ron Frankenfield	Kim Frankenfield	Kenny Young