

ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH

January, 2020

Sisters and Brothers in Christ:

We live in the internet age. I am an internet user. No great revelation here, but it does mean I can now be reached by e-mail. Like most of you, I can send and receive e-mail from all over the world. I go to my mailbox once a day and to my e-mail inbox several times a day.

But I have noticed that a lot of what I get in the mailbox and the stuff I get through e-mail are similar in content. There is good news and bad news, the wanted and the un-wanted, and offers for all kinds of things! It doesn't matter if we are talking regular mail or e-mail, checking "the mail" is sometimes like going to the bus station. You never know what to expect.

Dear Dad – I was just writing to ask if there is a limitation to the number of cars our liability insurance covers

Dear Paul – Remember when you accidentally broke that oil lamp my aunt left me? And I told you to forget it, but you insisted that I get it appraised? Well I am glad you did! The curator of the museum of 13th century art says. . . .

Dear Mr. Rosin – This letter is to inform you that the package you mailed to Texas was inadvertently sent to Zaire, Africa

Perhaps you know what I mean. Doesn't the unnecessary mail outnumber the necessary mail 2-to-1? (Do you do what I do and sort your mail over the recycling bin?) Do you wonder if there really is a catalog for everything?

My point is that most mail (e-mail or otherwise) is unnecessary. But this time of year especially, we can't wait to get more of it. This time of year the mail is fun – red envelopes and green stamps, and Christmas tree stickers. This is the time of year when your old college "roomie" (who married Jill your old college girlfriend) writes from CA to tell you they are about to be grandparents. This is the time of year when newsletters tell about trips to Disneyland, graduations, and gall bladder surgery. This is the time when mail comes bearing tidings of children who are smart, talented, and so involved in everything. Fruit-cakes and gifts and the calendar from your insurance agent or funeral home all come this time of year. And let's not forget the Christmas cards. Some are funny, some are serious, most share the good news of the birth of a savior.

In the days of Herod the Great they didn't have e-mail. The system of mail delivery was not even close to dependable. What they had to bring them tidings (news, greetings, hopes) were messengers. "In the days of King Herod, after Jesus was born, wise men from the East come to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?" Messengers, like Christmas cards, they show up with news of a great happening, a worldwide event. Someone had a child and this child was very special.

When King Herod hears this he is upset, and when he is upset everyone is upset. Herod knows this child is the messiah promised of old, the savior. AND he knows that if this is so, God is in charge and he is not. The arrival of the wise men only signals a savior's claim, which always pits Jesus against the powers of this world. But the story reminds us clearly that God is in charge. The wise men followed the star. Herod calls the chief priests and scribes to find out where the child was to be born so he can go and destroy him. The Herod's of our lives (of our world) always want to be in charge and will tolerate no interference, even from God. Especially from God!

There is much unrest in our world. There is much fear, especially of others. There is much suffering and killing and struggle. I don't know what you want or think you need, in your life today. I can only guess at the pain or fear you may be experiencing. It is possible that the Herod of your life is troubled . . . and you with him. I only know that God is at work in this world and in your life. Today the wise men come like Christmas cards: God's Christmas cards with the message of a savior. In the child born is salvation. In his name your sins are forgiven.

Wise men. Cards. Messengers. Bringers of hope. Reminders of why we do what we do in the first place. Call them what you will. They show up with the news of a great happening, God's happening. God is in charge. God comes to save us. God, incarnate, born a child and yet a king.

Angels still sing and the star still beckons. God's love still saves. Forgiveness is given. Words of promise, words of hope are not found in the mailbox or e-mail inbox on the computer, but in the weekly gathering around word and sacrament. I don't know about you, but my heart can use all those messages it can get.

Servants together,

Pr. Paul <><

p.s. Did you know? Christmas did not or does not end on December 25. In fact, the celebration continues until January 6 when we celebrate the arrival of the magi to the place of Jesus' birth. We will continue on the tradition of celebrating the Twelfth night on ***January 6 starting at 5:30 p.m.*** We will sing the carols of Christmas one last time and enjoy a cup of hot cocoa and enter into a time of Epiphany. Please mark your calendars and join us as we hear the story one more time before we put away our Nativity sets.

p.s.s. - Did you know that Luther said. . . . ??? Peace is more important than all justice; and peace was not made for the sake of justice, but justice for the sake of peace.

Thursday, January 16, 6:30 p.m. – ASLC Night at the Movies presents "The Case for Christ" (See pg. 3.)

Looking For a Way to Deepen Your Worship Experience?

For many people, looking at the Bible readings before Sunday helps put the message in the context of their lives. As you read the lessons, ask yourself: Is there anything in the readings that relate to your life right now? Is there anything that surprises you in the readings? Disturbs you? Try doing this and see if following this on a weekly basis strengthens your personal faith life, and deepens your worship experience.

The Lessons for Worship in January

These are the Bible readings that we will hear during our worship services this month. They are provided that you might use them for personal devotion and meditation.

January 5 - Second Sunday of Christmas

Jeremiah 31:7-14
Psalm 147:12-20
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:(1-9) 10-18

January 12 - Baptism of Our Lord

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

January 19 - Second Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

January 26 – Third Sunday after Epiphany

Isaiah 9:1-4
Psalm 27:1, 4-9
1 Corinthians 1:10-18
Matthew 4:12-23

We are already in the presence of God. What is absent is awareness.

Miriam Circle

Please join us on **January 8 at 10:00 a.m.** for Bible Study followed by our business meeting. We will distribute funds raised from the Craft Fair.



Men's Breakfast

Join us for breakfast **Saturday, January 11 at 8:30 a.m.** Call Bret if you have questions.

Bible Study

Join in **January 14, 2:00 p.m.** for a study of Micah. Carolyn Goller will lead us!

Twelfth Night Bonfire

*Outreach will again be hosting a Twelfth Night of Christmas bonfire on **Monday, January 6 at 5:30 p.m.**, in the field NE of the church. The public and congregation are asked to bring their (non-treated) live trees to the church prior to the Monday evening bonfire. Cookies, hot cocoa and coffee will be served. Anyone wishing to help with the event is asked to contact the Outreach committee.*



Council Meeting Highlights December 10, 2019

The December Council meeting was called to order by Don McMillan. Members present: Sharon Johnson, Marilyn Liebetrau, Don McMillan, Don Ranta, Niles Riese and Pastor Paul.

The December agenda was approved.

The November minutes were approved.

Sharon Johnson presented the treasurer's report. It was moved and seconded to approve. Motion passed.

January 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019:

Total Income: \$81,509.00

Total Expenses: \$79,687.00

+ \$1,822.00

November, 2019:

Total Income: \$6,938.00

Total Expenses: \$6,944.00

-(\$6.00)

A motion to share the Fifth Sunday offering on December 29 with the Cedaredge Food Bank passed.



The Case for Christ Movie Night, January 16, 6:30 p.m.

Join us for an experience in film as an atheist journalist wants to disprove his wife's Christian faith. Does Lee Strobel find the answer he is looking for or does he find God?



SONS OF NORWAY

Vestafjell Lodge, Sons of Norway, will meet on Saturday, January 11, with social time at 1:30, followed by meeting and lunch, at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, 3133 F Road, Grand Junction, CO. Enjoy family favorite soups and chilies, provided by the board. Bring a dessert if you like. Paul Cowan will share highlights of his law enforcement career in the National Park Service. Sons of Norway celebrates its 125th Anniversary this month.

Guests interested in Scandinavian heritage and culture are welcome. For more information call 245-5649, or 858-6702. Visit the lodge website, www.vestafjelllodge.org or on Facebook/Vestafjell Lodge 6-146 (Public Group)

JANUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

	5 Communion	12	19 Communion	26
Worship Leader	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul	Pastor Paul
Liturgy Assistant	Joel	Don	Marj	Diane Haupt
Communion Assistant	Claudia		Rick	
Communion Bread	Marj		Marj	
Organist	Don	Don	Don	Don
Pianist	Olinda	Olinda	Olinda	Olinda
Altar Guild	Shannon		Claudia	
Readers	Barb	Sonja	Shannon	Carol
Ushers	Bret	Jesse	Duane	Lloyd
Greeters	Michelle	Carolyn	Sharon	Marilyn
Stewards	Jack/Erich	Lloyd/Janell	Don Mc/ Claudia	Don R/Rick
Fellowship	Alice		Dean and Anna	Claudia

To provide refreshments for Fellowship, please sign up on the white board by the kitchen window or call Janell, 835-3928. To usher or greet at worship, sign up on the white board on the cupboard in the back of the sanctuary. Help your congregation by offering your time.

This newsletter was made possible by contributions from: Carolyn Goller, Sharon Johnson, Claudia Kellogg, Marilyn Liebetrau, Joel Magnuson, Carol Martinson, Don McMillan, Olinda Patzer, Don Ranta, Niles Riese, Janell Riese, Cristi Rivero, Pastor Paul, Marj Seely, and Bret Specht.

All Saints Special Occasions for January

Birthdays: 1/9 Joel Magnuson 1/10 Kishara McFarland 1/12 Brenda Slagg 1/18 Del Miessler
1/23 Elaine Heinz 1/27 Barb Cairns 1/29 Christine Garner 1/29 Claudia Kellogg 1/30 Robert Smith

Baptismal Birthdays: 1/4 Karen McFarland 1/9 Alice Spika
1/12 Brenda Slagg 1/20 Del Miessler

Anniversaries: 1/17 Lloyd and Marilyn Liebetrau



ALL SAINTS QUICK INFORMATION

Church—(970) 835-3667

Church Email: PastorPaul@AllSaintsLutheranCO.org

Pastor Paul Rosin

Cell Phone: 303-564-0265

Council Officers & Committee Chairs:

Don McMillan, President

Don Ranta, Secretary and Stewardship Chair

Sharon Johnson, Treasurer

Marilyn Liebetrau, Outreach Chair

Joel Magnuson, Worship Chair

Wyatt Smith, Education Chair

Marj Seely, Financial Chair

Michelle Specht

Memorial Fund: Executive Committee

Finance Committee: Treasurer, Finance Chair, and Executive Committee

Non-Council Committee Chairs:

Fellowship, Janell Riese

Readers, Olinda Patzer

Ushers and Greeters: Niles Riese and Bret Specht

Altar Guild: Alice Spika, Shannon Fritchman, Claudia Kellogg

Prayer Chain, Claudia Kellogg

Weekly Bulletin:

Carolyn Goller

Joel Magnuson

Janell Riese

Newsletter:

Janell Riese, Carolyn Goller and Claudia Kellogg

Marquee:

Joel Magnuson

Jesse Rosin

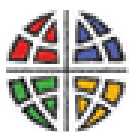
**Please notify Pastor Paul if you or someone
in your family is entering the hospital or needs pastoral care.**

CHURCH WEBSITE

www.allsaintslutheranco.org

CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESS

Info@allsaintslutheranco.org



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.