



The Mustard Seed

January 2020

The Monthly Newsletter
of
*St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

47 McLachlin St. S., Arnprior
Ontario K7S 2Z1

Pastor:

Norine Gullons 613-282-5032
Church Office: 613-623-4562

*Pastor's office hours: 9:00-Noon
Tuesday and Thursday*

Church Council

Ryan Zimmerling (Chair)	622-5939
Randy Zimmerling	623-9733
Jeff Kargus	623-0192
Dave Burkett	618-5729
Cory Weckworth	793-3701
Elmer Leeck	623-4306



QuotesIdeas.com

Pastor's Message

Nativity or manger scenes are the focus of the spiritual celebrations of Christmas in many places and homes. During the twelve days of Christmas – from Dec 25- Jan 5 - you might introduce the figures of the magi moving closer to the Holy Family, day by day until they arrive on Jan 6 -Epiphany. Among the earliest Christians in the Eastern Church, Epiphany marked the showing off of the baby Jesus to the magi, who represent all of us from other nations who worship Jesus.

This time of Epiphany is our opportunity to celebrate God's gift to us and the hope He brings into a world troubled by unrest, hunger, and darkness. As a Greek word it means *revealing or appearing*. We think of the star which directed the magi to the stable. Its appearance in the sky drew these astrologer priests as they believed that stars announced great events.

This season celebrates Christ's incarnation for all people of the world, who –like most of us – are not the chosen Jewish people, but who long never the less for God to set the world right. Jesus was sent by God, to bring righteousness into our world and to reveal the unimaginable depth of God's love.

The gifts of the magi; gold, frankincense and myrrh point to royalty. The Romans used myrrh as a perfume, medicine and as incense. We present our gifts in the same way. Martin Luther is quoted to have written, " He who gives of his gifts to help the poor, to send children to school, to educate them in God's word and other arts – he is giving to the baby Jesus."

May God bless us all in this New Year of 2020,

Sincerely, Pastor Norine

January Event Calendar

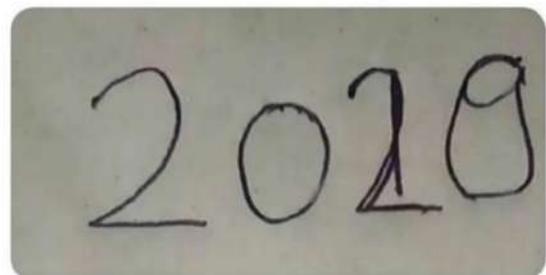
Sunday	Jan 5 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPIPHANY SUNDAY 1030 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
Wednesday	Jan 8 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry Area Team meets at Grace, Eganville.
Thursday	Jan 9 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lutheran Pastors meet at St. John's Petawawa
Saturday	Jan 11 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:30 Men's Breakfast at Jim's
Sunday	Jan 12 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 1030 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
Sunday	Jan 19 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Sunday in Epiphany 1030 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
Monday	Jan 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:30pm Church Council meets
Sunday	Jan 26 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Sunday in Epiphany 1030 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds. But when it is grown, it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches."

Matthew 13:31-32



This will be your first mistake in 2020





Council Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2019

Attendance

Ryan Zimmerling	Pr. Norine
Randy Zimmerling	Jeff Kargus
Elmer Leek	

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 and Pastor opened with devotions and a prayer.

Meeting Minutes:

Two changes were noted in the meeting minutes from November. The first was that the current deficit was \$7000, not \$14,000. A second change was made as there was a missing word in the minutes.

Pastor's report:

1. Pastor reported that Christmas Cards have been sent to seniors and that she has visited most of our seniors.
2. Randy Z noted that the list of our seniors who need pastoral care is growing. Needs tend to be greater at this time of year.
3. Pastor will take a few days off (vacation) around Christmas.
4. St. James is having their AGM on February 23, 2020.
5. The Bishop's Retreat is February 9-12, 2020.
6. Bishop Michael is in area on March 16, 2020 with a very busy schedule.

Finance:

1. The proposed Budget for 2020 was discussed in detail. We are not projecting any significant changes relative to the current year.
2. It was noted that the generosity of our congregation has been incredible, who continue to make giving to the church a priority in their lives.
3. Repair of the basement floor needs a plan. The plan should be discussed at the AGM, so it is not included in the budget, as we may need a campaign to raise sufficient funds.
4. It was noted that we are projecting a deficit of \$3500 for the current year. Benevolence is behind by \$550. Randy Z will make an announcement to the congregation at the next Sunday service so that everyone has the same information.

Outreach:

1. Jeff K suggested that we should do something (e.g., a breakfast) to thank our congregation. Council agreed and a date will be determined in the near future.
2. Ryan Z will be producing a year-in-review video for facebook and youtube. Anyone who has pictures of past events should send them to Ryan Z.

Annual General Meeting:

1. Our AGM will be February 16, 2020. As per usual, we will have a potluck preceding the AGM
2. Council is to provide their reports to Randy Z for the AGM by the last week of January.

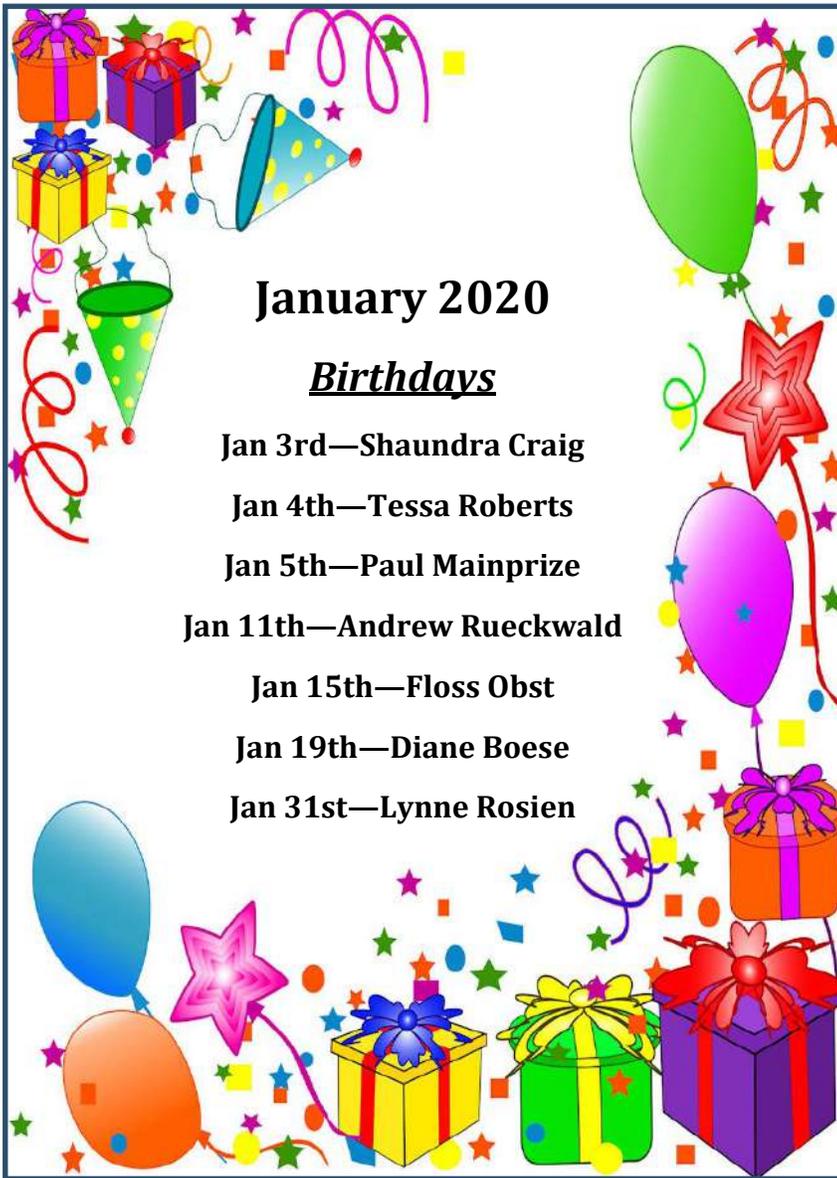
Other Business:

Membership for Council – The current council was encouraged to take a couple of weeks to decide on whether they wish to continue serving on council.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 pm

Respectfully submitted on behalf of Church Council,

Ryan Zimmerling



Men's Breakfast



Don't Forget!

January 11th

8:30 a.m.

Jim's Restaurant

In Arnprior

Please consider joining us for good food

and good conversation!

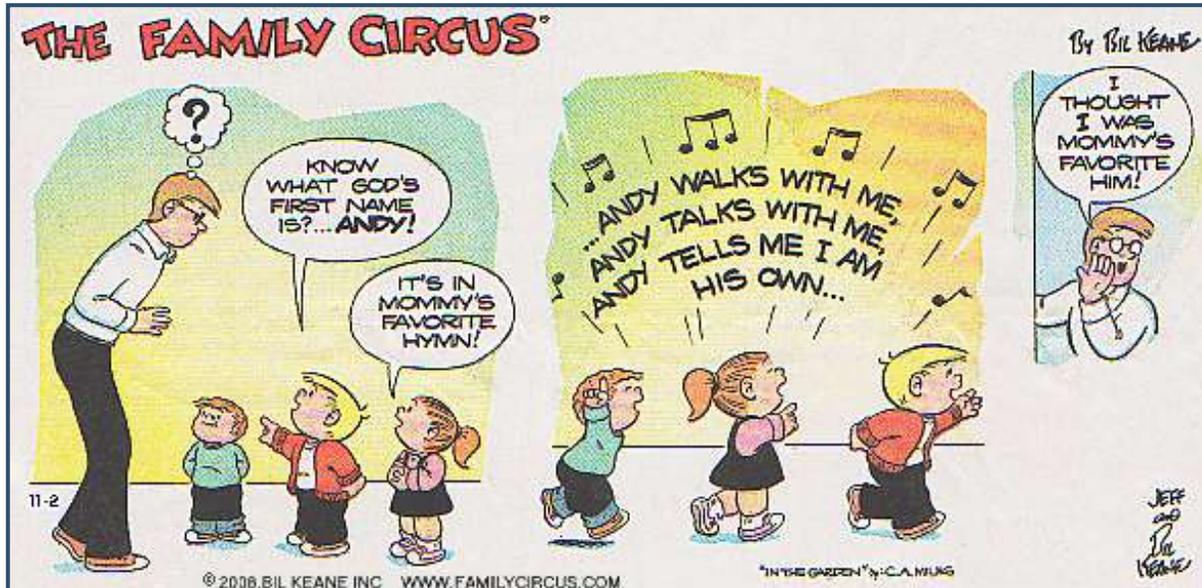


Photo Corner





Chickens for the Food Bank

This year we exceeded all expectations by increasing last year's donations of \$748.00 to just over \$1020.00 this year toward the purchase of chickens for the families relying on the Food Bank to put a Christmas meal on their table .

All I can say is WOW!!!

Your generosity is overwhelming and very much appreciated by the Food Bank and the 50+ families who benefited from your big hearts.

Thank You!

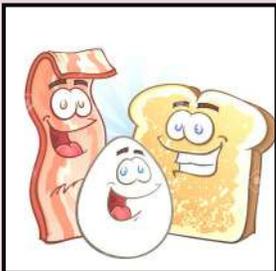
Jeff



COUNCIL BREAKFAST

Sunday Jan 19th

8:30—10:15am



As a way of thanking the congregation for all their support this past year, Council members are hosting a breakfast on Jan 19th. Be sure to bring your appetite!

Scrambled eggs, Bacon, Toast, Coffee, Tea and Juice

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2019 AGM will be held on February 16th following service.

There will be a pot-luck lunch preceding the meeting.



(Canadian Mission \$350,000)

Canadian Missions (\$350,000)

In 2018 the Eastern Synod Mission Committee provided more than \$325,000 in grants to 39 congregations and Ministry Areas to support initiatives that are about increasing the vitality of our church, strengthening discipleship in Jesus Christ and engaging those outside our walls.

Potential recipients can apply for grants in three categories:

Compassionate Justice Initiatives (addressing hunger and poverty related issues in the wider community, through CLWR Funds)

Mission Partnership Support: Short Term and Long Term support that comes via synodical and national gifts and endowments. The grants support applications that:

- a) are exploratory and experimental in nature;
- b) seek to address a challenge being faced in a particular context in relation to the Church's mission
- c) seek to develop relationships with others in local communities and neighbourhoods;
- d) encourage participation in God's mission in local communities and neighbourhoods.



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR January 2020

DATE	USHERS	READING	COFFEE/SOCIAL	COUNTERS
Jan 5 th	Lorne & Joanne	Debbie Kargus	Barb & Gerald	Lorne & Joanne
Jan 12 th	Lorne & Joanne	Maureen Rueckwald	Pr. Norine & Beryl	Lorne & Joanne
Jan 19 th	Lorne & Joanne	Mark Boese	Marion & Elmer	Lorne & Joanne
Jan 26 th	Lorne & Joanne	C or R Zimmerling	Beryl & Keith	Lorne & Joanne