

TO BRING GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE TO EACH OTHER
AND TO THE WORLD

THE LIGHT



February 2020

Pastor's Notes

They say February is the longest month - - winter keeps some at home, winter sends some people south, winter is hard for those without the resources of shelter, heat, food. In winter depression can sink in.

Winter is a good time to be the church. It is a good time to visit, bring food, throw parties.

No wonder the after-Christmas season of Epiphany was the traditional time for caring for people, checking on their wellbeing, blessing each other's homes.

House blessings include, in many parts of the world, writing in chalk over the doorway, the date and initials of the three night visitors who came to Mary and Joseph to see Jesus. Their names were (so says the legend) Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar. And so over Lebanon's sanctuary door you will see:

20 C + M + B 20

For the legend says the wise men continue to travel from house to house looking to see if Christ is present there.

Read Matthew Chapter 2 this Epiphany. Ask the questions what would they find if they visited me? And to whom can I go - - or call - - or write - - or tent - - or email - - to bring cheer, hope, joy, life to my neighbor?

And give thanks that your church visits the immigrant; cares for the refugees, locates separated children, feeds the hungry.

And this is my personal prayer, that soon we adopt immigration reform, health care reform, address gun violence, confront racism, sexism; and if as a nation we do not do these things, that I as a person can be better in the place where I am. There are plenty of crosses around us; so we are called to be the resurrection of hope our neighbor hears. This is Epiphany season.

Pastor Ogden

Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A Congregation of the North/West Lower
Michigan Synod, of the ELCA
Craig Satterlee, Bishop
Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop*

1101 S. Mears Avenue
Whitehall, MI 49461
(231) 893-5745

Rev. Douglas M. Ogden

Sunday Morning Worship
8:00 am & 10:15 am—Communion
9:00am - Adult Forum

Office Hours
9:00 am—1:00 pm M-F (Margaret)
6:30 pm—9:30 pm W, Th (Sue)

**Newsletter Editor &
Bulletin Announcements**
Margaret Everling

Church Council

Curt Crouch
Virginia DeMumbrum
Meg Eaton Sheila Fretty
Brian Jaekel Scott Keller
Alan Hinks Kay Snell

**"We are baptized members of God's
Church, forgiven and set free by grace
through faith.**

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

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(ELCA)**

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happy
Valentine's
day



Websites of Interest

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

www.mittensynod.org

www.elca.org

www.whitelakescouting.com

www.whitelakechorale.com

www.hopescarves.org

LivingLutheran.org

Scout Schedule

- Webelos 2 - Mondays @ 6:30pm
- Bears - Mondays @ 6:30pm
- Webelos - Tuesdays @ 6pm
Todd Bowen—231-206-3729
- Tigers - 1st and 3rd Monday @ 6:30pm
Julianna Grabbenstetter - 231-670-4680
- Wolves - Mondays @ 6:30pm
Lewis Sibley - 231-292-6129

Prayer Concerns

It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another. We add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality. This month in your prayers, please remember:

Prayers for those who are homebound:

Our Minister



Helen Bartlett, At home recovering from a mini stroke.
Mary Bernhardt, Robinswood Assisted Living #115 (Kay Snell)
Marcia Eyer, at home (of St. Alban Episcopal)
Lois Hildebrandt, at Bush Creek
Nancy Peterson, at Heartland , Room #415
Velma Roesler, at White Lake Assisted Living Center, #24
Bernie Weidner, at Sanctuary of the Oaks. (Danielle Jacobs)
Mike Szczerbinski, at home.

Special Prayer Concerns:

Joanne Anderson, (Cindy Albert's sister) diagnosed with breast cancer.
Tracey Allen, (Roger Silk's cousin) diagnosed with terminal brain cancer
Terry Beekman, cancer has returned
Jennifer Snowden Bossi, 34, (Ardy Bulhouses' granddaughter) diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.
Mary Carmany, (Elaine Liska's sister) infection from itching
Adrienne Clahassey, back surgery on January 24
Ken Doran, (Margaret Everling's father) with health concerns
Jo Ellen Francis, (Laura Hollister's sister) diagnosed with Parkinsons.
Dave Gelvin, in Florida hospital with health concerns.
Marlene Holmstrom, with back spasms
Val Johnson, recuperating from back surgery.
Lauren Kerkstra, (Darrel and Jeanette Otto's granddaughter), recovering slowly, able to walk and take commands. Remains non-verbal .
Donna Knoth, with heart issues.
Julie Lanning, (Sandy Robbin's mother) @ Heartland after stroke
Linda Lamoreaux, recuperating at home after heart surgery.
Jack Lamoreaux, suffered broken ribs after a fall on ice.
Lara MacGregor, Living life over metastatic breast cancer. New cancer site found.
Dwight Mead (Paula Moreau's brother-in-law), non-hodgkin lymphoma mantel type (stage four).
Payton Silk, recuperating from knee surgery.
Mike Snell, with broken ribs
Bernie Swenson, (Lora Swenson's brother), doing better after cancer treatment.
Sharon Swenson, (Lora Swenson's sister-in-law), in therapy after stroke.
Tammy, (Wietse & Melanie Schaafsma's step-daughter), undergoing treatment for breast cancer that metastasized to her brain and lungs & diagnosed with stage IV kidney failure.
Cheryl Whelan (friend of Doug and Barb Aardema) undergoing clinical trial for cancer that has returned.
Donna Will, following up with injections in her neck.



Worship Notes

Sunday, February 2 - Presentation of our Lord

Musician: Liturgy Instruments

When Jesus was presented in the Temple, Luke gives us the beautiful “Now Lord you let your servant depart in peace”.

Readings

Color: White

Malachi 3:1-4
Psalm 84
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-40

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, your only begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen

Sunday, February 9 - Epiphany 5

Musician: Monica Ogden

Blessed are ...

Readings

Color: Green

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]
Matthew 5:13-20

Prayer of the Day

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



Sunday, February 16 - Epiphany 6

Musician: Ardy Bulthouse

The 10 Commandments
Luther-Style

Readings

Color: Green

Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Psalm 119:1-8
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

Prayer of the Day

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, February 23 - Transfiguration of our Lord

Musician: Aeden McCauley

Mountains & Valleys
as spiritual geography

Readings

Color: White

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Prayer of the Day

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



February



2/2 Sharon Ackerman
2/2 Karl Holmstrom
2/2 Isaac Otterman
2/7 Wendy Shalifoe
2/10 Saige Phelps
2/10 Holly Davis
2/11 Claire O'Donnell
2/12 Ray Veeder
2/14 Beverly Statz
2/15 Trevin Bernhardt
2/16 Mark Coddington
2/16 Emma Greenwood
2/17 Ethen Wendell
2/19 Gregory Cavis
2/19 Dustin King
2/19 Nancy Peterson
2/22 Jeanne Berry
2/22 John Wahr
2/23 Daniel Stanhope
2/23 Donna Will
2/24 Krysten Hosticka
2/26 Frank Hollister
2/26 Allie Ogden
2/27 Dean Hewitt



2/22/02 Jim & Judy Kurtz



Baptism Anniversaries

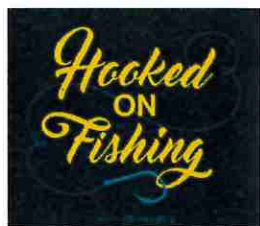


2/1 Barb Brooks	2/26 Barb Aardema
2/2 Amy DeBolt	2/26 Lonna Anguilm
2/5 Joseph Peters	2/26 Brian Holmblade
2/8 Elly Hendrixon	2/26 Bruce Holmblade
2/9 Austin Decker	2/27 Stephanie Honoré
2/10 Larry Holmstrom	
2/11 Julie Holmstrom	
2/14 Franci Chamberlain	
2/15 Ray Veen	
2/16 Lorrie Santos	
2/16 Brian Peterson	
2/16 Joni Will	
2/19 Nichole Page Farrar	
2/21 Brenton Will	
2/24 Steve Albert	



Celebrate your baptism anniversary with a candle a meal or this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism in to Christ.”



Kids Hooked on Fishing hosted by the White Lake Area Sportsfishing Association, will take place at Lebanon on February 8, 2020.

Time: 9am—1pm



North/West Lower Michigan Synod
 2900 N. Waverly Rd.
 Lansing, MI 48906
 517-321-5066

In this Issue:
 Assisting Minister Training
 Mission Partners
 Upcoming Events
 Congregations in Transition

Assisting Minister Training

I am excited that, as a Living Stone initiative and as part of our Equipping Leaders for Mission and Ministry program, Pastor Rachel Laughlin and I will lead a two-part training for assisting ministers on February 7 and March 13. We will review the theology of assisting ministers and provide practical training in fulfilling the responsibilities entrusted to assisting ministers in worship. So that those who train to be assisting ministers will have the opportunity to serve in their congregations, we encourage those interested to have a conversation with their pastor and for pastors to encourage people they believe have gifts for this ministry. I encourage people to participate in this workshop even if they are not part of the entire ELMC program. For further details and to register for the retreat, visit <https://www.elmm.org>. You may direct questions about the program to Rebecca Bossenbroek at administrator@elmm.org.

Why are we doing this? Martin Luther understood baptism as initiating all Christians into the "priesthood of all believers," and inaugurating each Christian's ministry to the community and the community's ministry to that person. Luther believed that by virtue of baptism, all Christians are called to minister to one another in whatever station they might find themselves placed. Through baptism, all became priests and assumed a priestly role in church and society.

In worship, or, in Luther's words, at Mass, Christians are not spectators who passively participate but play their own priestly role through active participation. Luther therefore intended that lay people commune frequently as priests, who communed and received both elements weekly or even daily. Luther also understood that, for people to actively participate, worship must be accessible to them. The vernacular or language of ordinary people allowed people to pray together so all could hear and speak as one body. Luther also employed music as a means by which all could exercise their priestly ministry. He considered music one of God's greatest gifts.

In keeping with this baptismal theology, Luther initially insisted that ordained ministry is purely functional, "for whoever comes out of the water of baptism can boast that he is already a consecrated priest, bishop and pope, although of course it is not seemly that just anybody should exercise such office...There is no true, basic difference between laymen and priests, ... except for the sake of office and work, but not for the sake of status."¹ Later on, Luther was more inclined to stress ordained ministry as Christ's gift and legacy to his Church. Luther came to regard ordination as part of the divine order. "The public ministry of the Word," he wrote, "ought to be established by holy ordination as the highest and greatest of the functions of the church."² Nevertheless, ordained ministry should never supplant or replace ministry that rightly belongs to the baptized.

Celebrating the priesthood of all believers, Lutheran worship books since Lutheran Book of Worship designate certain parts of the service to an assisting minister or assisting ministers. These responsibilities include leading the kyrie hymn of praise, reading the Old Testament and epistle and leading the psalm, setting and clearing the table at Communion, and leading the offertory and post communion prayers and the dismissal. Most important from my perspective, as the pastor prepares and delivers the sermon, an assisting minister prepares and delivers the prayers of the people. An assisting minister preparing the prayers with the same care of the pastors are expected to prepare their sermons might very well change the church and the world. I hope to see many at this very exciting workshop!

Holding you in prayer,
 The Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop

¹ Martin Luther, "To the Christian Nobility of the German Nations, Luther's Works, 44:128-129.
² Martin Luther, "Concerning the Ministry, 1523," Luther's Works, 40: 11.



We're bringing back a favorite event from last season. Parkas and Plates is an fun night for couples and friends who want to hit the lighted cross country ski trails or snowshoe trails, enjoy some amazing food and beverages and kick back to live acoustic music. It's the perfect Valentine's date night or just a fun night out with friends. Here's how it all

SKIING AND SNOWSHOEING

A five course dinner will be set up at the intersections of our lighted ski and snowshoe trails. Never cross country skied or snowshoed before? That's okay! We have all the equipment you'll need and staff to give you instruction. All you need to do is dress warm, come with an appetite and have fun!

The dinner course is set up on a beginner ski route with small hills and only about 2 km in distance. Along the trails you will receive each course of your meal and some craft beverages. Folks who wish to ski other parts of our trails may do so at their leisure throughout the evening. Participants will take off in flights beginning at 6pm with a new flight taking off about every 10 to 15 minutes. You can select your flight time when you purchase your ticket. All participants should plan on arriving up to a half hour before their flight takes off to ensure enough time to get equipment on and get ready.



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New from Augsburg Fortress:

“Dear Church” in book form or audio “ A love letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the US.”

Look for the on-line ELCA “Seeds Monthly” magazine “Unpicking White Privilege” and presiding Bishop Eaton’s message on the United Methodist Church.



Lebanon Lutheran Church

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Living in God's Amazing Grace

The Light is published monthly by Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. Submissions are accepted through the 15th of each month. Submissions **MUST** include your name and a way to contact you in case of questions.

2 ways to submit your information:

- yellow folder in Margaret's office
(*better*)
- office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com
(*best*)



hello february