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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Epiphany of Our Lord
January 6

February Newsletter Deadline: Monday, January 20, 2020

THE MESSENGER



The office will be closed January 1st in celebration of New Year's Day

The office will be closed Monday, January 20th
in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day



The Messenger

St. Peter Lutheran Church – January 2020

A Little Bit of This and That...

As I write this, we have not yet celebrated Christmas and I am like you trying to get prepared. Just this morning I finished putting the ornaments on the tree. I still have some shopping to do, but my focus is really on experiencing Christmas with all of you this year. One of the practices that I requested that we try during the Season of Advent was to carve out some time to wait in the silence and to be aware of God in our midst. I hope that many of you were able to do this prayer practice as it sets us up to quiet our hearts before God to be able to hear. So often our prayers are like a one-way telephone conversation. We recite the litany of requests and then hang up without ever listening to the person on the other end. Have you had friends who barely take a breath and just go on and on, but never stop to ask you what you are doing or what is important to you? I have to admit that I do have some friends who can do this, and it is always so refreshing when they decide to listen.

As we move into the season of Epiphany, the season of lights, I pray that we might have special moments with God as we read the scripture and pray. Some of the most powerful experiences of faith for me have occurred when I have carved out time to sing and praise God and then to journal as a way to listen. Other powerful times have occurred when I have been in small groups and had opportunities to learn and try new prayer practices. I have also had several friends who have journeyed with me and praying together is always a special time.

Because I think that carving out time to pray as well as to encourage others in the practice of trying different prayer practices is important, **I would like to start a small prayer group beginning on the second and fourth Monday afternoons of the month from 2:00-3:30 PM.** The goal will be to connect with each other and support each other on our journeys of growing deeper in faith while praying for others, the town, the church, and ourselves as we try different prayer practices. This is open to men and women and you can even bring a friend. Please let me know if you are interested in becoming a part of this group. Our first meeting will be January 13.

Also, Shelby Koenig and I are excited to announce that we are planning to revive a **High School Youth Group** for students in grades 9-12. We plan to meet for about 1½ in the afternoons of the third Sunday of each month. We will meet January 19th from 2:30- 4:00 and plan to do some organizing as well as to play some games. Students are encouraged to bring their favorite board game or card game. High school students may also invite friends to join in. We have some fun ideas for activities in the future, and also want to incorporate some ministry opportunities to help others as well as to have some activities that deepen faith and help to cope with the stress of being teenagers in this busy time of

life.

On another front, I am still interested in meeting with people to hear your stories and to get to know you more. I can meet for coffee or lunch. The time I have had to connect one on one with people has been very rich. So, if you are interested in getting to know a little more about me and to have me get to know you more, please give me a call. My number is 419-512-4490. We can set something up that is convenient for you.

Also, if you are older and struggling to get to church due to health issues, I would be happy to call on you.

May God bless you during this month of January. I pray that we would have some glorious blue skies with sunshine to break up the long winter. Even as it is cold outside, may you be filled with the warmth of God's love for you on the inside.

Blessings,

Vicar Carol Pretorius

419-512-4490

stpetercarolp@gmail.com

General Announcements



Radio ministry was given to the glory of God in December by:

The Himmeger Family in loving memory of Earl Himmeger

Dave and Linda Mayer

Dan and Judy Staples

Matt and Carrie Calvelage Family, Ron and Sue Kloeppel Family, Martina Himmeger Family and Dave and Linda Mayer Family



The flowers on the altar were given to the glory of God in December by:

Dan and Judy Staples in memory of Don Staples

Kelly Barr in memory of her parents, Bill and Karen Nomina's wedding anniversary

Dave and Linda Mayer in celebration of the birth of our Lord



Readers Needed for the first and second scripture lessons and the prayers during the worship service. Your readings can be emailed to you so you can look them over in advance. Please sign up in the red book at the back of church.



Quilting Day will be Wednesday, January 9th, at 9:00 AM.



A big thank you to all who helped frost, decorate and buy cookies. \$104.00 was raised to go towards the Good Gifts Funds.



Quarterless Auction – Will be March 7, 2020. It's time to get things underway.
If you would like to donate a prize or cash, please see Susan McGue or Angie Miller

Altar Guild

Altar Guild's regular monthly meetings are the first Tuesday of each month. The January meeting is January 7th at 6:00 PM.

Thank You

Thank you to everyone who purchased poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary on Christmas Eve:

Rick, Marla, Emily & Kylee Dienstberger - In Memory of Greg Horstman and Terry Dienstberger
Mark & Linda Downey - In Memory of Caleb Tyler
Jennifer & Matt French & Family - In Memory of Phyllis O'Neill
Jane Gonyea - In Memory of Vern, Dan & Nathan
Martina Himmeger & Family - In Memory of Earl Himmeger
Bob & Denise Kloepfel - In Honor of our children & grandchildren and In Memory of our parents
Ron & Sue Kloepfel & Family - In Honor of our family and In Memory of our parents
Dave & Linda Mayer - In Honor of our children & grandchildren and In Memory of Don & Evelyn Weideman and Norm & Alice Mayer
Kevin & Susan McGue - In Memory of Brad McGue and Bill & Renata Hinton
Ken & Carol Metzger - In Memory of Steve Metzger, Rubene Powell, Ruby Snow, & Vanis Burkholder
Larry & Amy Miller - In Memory of Elmer & Margene Freund and Bruce Clevenger
Sam, Angie & Sarah Miller - In Memory of Nathan
Guggi Mox - In Memory of Herm
Carol Pretorius - In Honor of members of St. Peter Lutheran
Randy & Vicki Rinehart - In Honor of our family and In Memory of our parents and Randy's sister
Ed & Sandy Talboom - In Memory of our family members
Dave & Marjean Warren - In Memory of our parents

Remember our Shut-ins

Vancrest Health Care
10357 Van Wert-Decatur Rd
Van Wert OH 45891
Sharon Reel

Carl Dienstberger
E Fourth Street
Delphos OH 45833



Please pray for the following family and friends: Jim Schommoeller, Jodi Siefker, Doug Butler, Sharon Reel, Rose Hager, Kristin LaSeta, Kyle Baster, Shirley Woodward, Dale Derrow, Marsha Jackson, Beth Gener, Margo and Callie Tyler, Maya Lee-Pletcher, Jim Sanders, Judy Horstman, Gary Turnwalde, Barb Recker, Shirley Turner, Barb Adams, David Thompson, Gwen Simpson, Michael Pretorius, Bev Cross-McNeal, Sharon Calvelage, Beverly Derrow, Melissa Hover, JP Fritz, Jay Vondran, Gary Sroufe, Tom Evans, Vicki Kramer, and Carol Metzger.

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

Good Morning/Good Shepherd Bible Study –

Trying to find a date and time that works for those who like to attend. See Jacquie Fritz if you have a time or suggestion.

The January Devotional is *We are called!* Session one: Hearing God's voice

WELCA The scheduled meeting is Monday, January 13^h at 7:00 pm.



Keep our Military Friends and Family in your Prayers:

Fred Hasting

Navy

Stateside

Dominic Munoz

Navy

Annapolis MD

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

4) Ryan Trentman
 7) Kaiden Trentman
 7) Renee Murphy
 12) Alex Redmon
 12) Sarah Fitch
 16) Carrie Calvelage
 16) Pam Schleeter
 22) Landon Calvelage
 22) Willard Dienstberger

23) Randy Rinehart
 24) Alexandria Brown
 24) Colene Davidson
 26) Robert Freund
 27) Carrie Kramer Lieurance
 29) Sue Apple
 29) Colin Koebel
 29) David Mayer
 31) Rolland Klenz
 31) Kim Perrin



Offering Recap for December 2019

Worship attendance for November 24, 2019	54
Worship attendance for December 01, 2019	52
Worship attendance for December 08, 2019	51
Worship attendance for December 15, 2019	51

Amount needed **each week** to meet approved budget for 2019 \$2,106.09

Total donations received for General Operating Fund:

11-24-2019	\$ 1,826.00	we missed our goal by	\$ 280.09
12-01-2019	\$ 2,545.00	we exceeded our goal by	\$ 438.91
12-08-2019	\$ 965.10	we missed our goal by	\$ 1,140.99
12-15-2019	\$17,686.00	we exceeded our goal by	\$15,579.91

Year-to-date shortage 2019: - \$ 2,629.99

We love seeing you at our weekly service. If you aren't able to attend please remember that our bills continue to arrive in the mail and your generous donations are greatly appreciated weekly. Thank you!

COMMUNITY

Delphos Rise Against Hunger Meal Packing Event will be on February 23, 2020 We need 300 volunteers and \$11,689.92 to meet the 2020 goal of packing 35,000 meals. This is a family friendly event. All are invited & welcome (Ages 5 - 105. Contact Ellen Ditto if babysitting is needed). Please spread the word. The 2020 Event will be at Delphos St John's High School All Saints building, 515 E Second St. Delphos, OH. Registration/Sign in begins at 12:30 pm. Meal packing is 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Any amount of donation is appreciated.

Registration is required by February 15, 2020.

Use Google Chrome to register and/or donate at:

<http://events.stophungernow.org/Delphos2020>

Donations (no registration) can be made at First Federal Bank through The Carpenter's Ministry account. Any questions contact Buzz or Ellen Ditto 419-233-3524.

- Approximately 795 million people in the world are chronically malnourished.
- One in every nine people on our planet go to bed hungry each night.
- Hunger kills more people each year than AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis combined.
- The vast majority of hungry people, 780 out of 795 million people, live in developing countries.
- 25,000 children die daily from hunger. That is all the school age children of Van Wert, Putnam, and Allen counties combined.
- America disposes 40% of the food we purchase.

Together we can end world hunger by 2030!!!

Buzz and Ellen Ditto

Habitat for Humanity - Lima Area: News and Needs

News: Our most recent partner family moved into their new Habitat house in Elida a few days before Thanksgiving, thanks to the generosity of many people, businesses, and churches. It was a wonderful house dedication celebrating the volunteer hours, meals served, monetary donations, and prayers that offered a new life to this family. The Habitat ReStore was transformed a number of times in the last two months, as groups volunteered for a day offering their energy and time.

Needs: 1. Regular volunteers at the ReStore or volunteer groups to come in for a day. 2. Funds for our next build (every \$62 buys a square foot of a Habitat house). 3. Monthly meal for 30 ReStore volunteers. 4. Affiliate sustaining/ongoing donations of \$10 a month (*No Place Like Home* club).

Please contact us to volunteer or donate: (phone) 419-222-4937,
(website) www.habitatlima.org, (email) habitatlima@habitatlima.org

Servants of the Lord

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 5	10:00 AM	Maliya Hershberger	Dave Stemen	Kaiden Trentman Deb Trentman Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Deb Trentman, Larry Miller

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 12	10:00 AM	Lexie Cheney	Rick Dienstberger	Ron Kloepfel Sue Kloepfel Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Yvonne Koenig, Dan Staples

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 19	10:00 AM	Trevor French	Dave Mayer	Dan Marlow Alan Trentman Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Yvonne Koenig, Dan Staples

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
January 26	10:00 AM	James Hasting	Dan Kramer	Lynn Koenig Eric Fritz Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Rick Dienstberger, Sue Kloepfel

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer

SERVICE	TIME	ACOLYTES	COMMUNION	USHERS
February 2	10:00 AM	Nathan Calvelage	Larry Miller	Rick Dienstberger Dave Mayer Volunteers

MONEY COUNTERS: Rick Dienstberger, Sue Kloepfel

ALTAR GUILD: Vicki Rinehart, Vicki Kramer