

RESURRECTION NEWS



EPIPHANY

JANUARY 2016



Pastor's Letter

January, 2016

"You Belong To God"

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

"In the beginning, God created..." These five words begin the record that records the origin of life. They are simple words that anyone can understand. And yet, these five words communicate an important and precious truth. Take these five words out of the record and the entire record – from Genesis through Revelation reads altogether differently.

These words are so important because they tell us who the Creator and Owner of everything that has ever been created. **"In the beginning, God created... the heavens and the earth."** With these words we understand that it's ALL precious to God – because He created it and it belongs to Him.

The official record also makes it quite clear that among all that God created, the man and the woman hold a particularly unique and special place in His heart. For all the rest of 'the heavens and the earth,' God spoke and by His Word it was created. But for the creation of man, God rolled up his sleeves and formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils his own, life-giving breath. The man and the woman were clearly not incidental or accidental products of an impersonal force or evolutionary development. God is intimately involved in the creation of man.

Just notice the personal connection that God has with every human being. The Psalmist writes , **"It is He who made us, and we are his, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture."** (Ps.100:3). **"You created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb..."** (Ps.139:13). The Lord tells the prophet Jeremiah, **"Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you..."** (Jer. 1:15) How personal and intimate.

It only follows that men and woman should love one another, if for no other reason than the fear of the Lord. We honor and cherish human life because God does. When we hurt others, the wound is inflicted on God as well. When we take the life of another or our own, regardless of how unwanted or sick or unproductive or bleak it may be, we take what does not belong to us and we rob God as well.

When we support human life and treat it with the respect and dignity that it is due at every stage of development and condition, we love the person and honor God, to whom this life belongs.

And if it were not enough that we are to honor and love one another because each one belongs to God by virtue of creation, we should consider the fact that each one belongs to God by virtue of redemption as well.

There is an old song that has always been a favorite of mine that I used to sing to my children when they still children. It's by Don Wharton who actually came here several years ago in concert. The words go like this:

"A little boy built a boat, made it out of love. Put it in the river and a string tied the two together. But the current broke that string and the boat drifted away. The little boy made a promise with a tear-drop in his eye, that one day he'd reclaim the boat and bring the two back together. Well it didn't take too long till he saw the boat in a window of a store. So he got all his money and he bought the boat and as he walked away you could hear him say:

'Now you're mine, mine – two times you're mine. Once because I made you, once because I bought you. Now you're mine, mine – two times you're mine. And both times 'cause I loved you so.'"

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Nielsen

SANCTUARY REMODELING CONSTRUCTION BEGINS JANUARY 4TH.

While the sanctuary remodeling work is in progress, we will meet for Adult Bible Study and Worship in the Fellowship Hall.

DAY OF EPIPHANY - VESPERS WORSHIP SERVICE - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6TH - 7:00PM.

As we move from the 12 days of Christmas into the season of Epiphany, our attention shifts from the 'human nature' of Jesus Christ to His 'divine nature.' January 6th is a 'holy day' on which the Church originally celebrated Christmas. The 'Day of Epiphany' celebrates the visitation of the Magi who were the first to recognize the divine fulfillment of the Old Testament in the child born to Mary. Invite a friend to come with you.

MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY RESUMES - THURSDAYS, BEGINNING JANUARY 7TH - 10:30AM.

1st Corinthians. All are welcome.

NEW FLOWER AND FELLOWSHIP SIGN UP SHEETS FOR 2016 are posted on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Please sign up now. The cost for sponsoring flowers for the altar is now **\$28** for two weeks.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR JANUARY: 8:45AM.

1/3 The Angel Visits Joseph - Matthew 1:18-25

1/10 The Birth of Jesus - Luke 2:1-20

1/17 The Presentation of Jesus - Luke 2:22-40

1/24 The Visit of the Magi - Matthew 2

1/31 The Boy Jesus in the Temple - Luke 2:41-52

Children will be learning hymn #374 - "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child" and hymn #412 - "The People That In Darkness Sat." The offering for January is diapers - sizes 4,5,6 that will be for the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY FOR JANUARY: 8:45AM.

1/3 **Psalm of the Month:** Psalm 4 - "Be Angry and Do Not Sin"

1/10 **Selected Topic:** Spiritual Gifts - 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

1/17 **Selected Topic:** One Body, Many Members - 1 Corinthians 12:12-31

1/24 **Current Events:** Do Christians and Muslims worship the same God?

1/31 **Selected Topic:** The Practice of the Lord's Supper: Must it be real wine and unleavened bread; common cup vs. individual cups, when does it start and when does it stop being a 'sacrament', etc.

NEW MEMBERS:

Please welcome David, Beth and Cianan Morris into the congregation. They were received into membership on December 13th, 2015. 92 Pine St., Madison, Me. 04950.

MEN'S CLOTHING DRIVE FOR MID-MAINE HOMELESS SHELTER: February 21 - March 12, 2016

The Mid-Maine Homeless shelter strives to assist residents in achieving independence. Clothing assistance is an important part of their mission. They receive ample women's clothing but never have a sufficient inventory of men's clothing to distribute. Bring men's clothing to the Fellowship Hall to the designated tables **beginning February 21st.** **Cut off and delivery is March 19th.** The goal once again is to collect, fold, sort and deliver 100 boxes of men's clothing on March 19th. **Get your friends, neighbors and co-workers involved in this project as well.** Sponsored by the Board for Missions.

THANK YOU FROM THE GREATER WATERVILLE AREA FOOD BANK

Thank you for your donation to the Greater Waterville Area Food Bank. Your gift of \$800 will help purchase low cost food for distribution to our clients. Your donation will help us in our mission to end hunger in the greater Waterville area. Your support is appreciated.

David Dawson, President.



BIBLE QUIZ

Monthly Worship

January 3, 2016

Second Sunday after Christmas

Psalm: 119:97-104

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:4-15

Epistle: Ephesians 1:3-14

Holy Gospel: Luke 2:40-52

January 10, 2016

The Baptism of Our Lord/

First Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 29

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1-7

Epistle: Romans 6:1-11

Holy Gospel: Luke 3:15-22

January 17, 2016

Second Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 128

First Reading: Isaiah 62:1-5

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

Holy Gospel: John 2:1-11

January 24, 2016

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 19:(1-6) 7-14

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

Gospel: Luke 4:16-30

January 31, 2016

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

Psalm: 7:1-6 (7-11)

First Reading: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (17-19)

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 12:31b—13:13

Gospel: Luke 4:31-44

1. Who was Boaz's wife?

A) Sarah B) Rebekah C) Ruth D) Hannah

2. What animal did God provide for a sacrifice in place of Abraham's son, Isaac?

A) lamb B) ram C) goat D) toad

3. Which of Jesus' disciples was a former tax collector (also known as a publican)?

A) Peter B) Paul C) Judas D) Matthew

4. How many of Job's sons died during his trials?

A) all of his sons B) one third of his sons C) half of his sons D) none of his sons

5. Who was the first martyr?

A) Phillip B) Stephen C) Timothy D) Paul

6. Who said this: "How are the mighty fallen"?

A) King David (when King Saul died) B) King Nebuchadnezzar (when Jerusalem was destroyed) C) Queen Esther (when Haman plotted to kill all the Jews in the world) D) King Herod (when he thought he killed baby king Jesus)



- 1/16 Caden Fitzpatrick
Lee Anne Larsen
- 1/19 Vesta Holt
- 1/20 Travis Watson
- 1/21 Steve Love
- 1/26 Deb Nielsen



- 1/1 Kari Farr
Steven Farr
- 1/26 Sherman Hill
- 1/30 Maira Goldsmith
- 1/?? Yvonne Batson



- 1/14 Kenneth Zahner
- 1/26 Sherman Hill

Andy Rooney’s Perspective on Learning

(...written by the late Andy Rooney, a man who the gift of saying so much with so few words.....)

I’ve learned....That the best classroom in the world is at the feet of an elderly person.

I’ve learned....That when you’re in love, it shows.

I’ve learned....That just one person saying to me, ‘You’ve made my day!’ makes my day.

I’ve learned....That having a child fall asleep in your arms is one of the most peaceful feelings in the world.

I’ve learned....That being kind is more important than being right.

I’ve learned....That you should never say no to a gift from a child.

I’ve learned....That I can always pray for someone whin I don’t have the strength to help him in some other way.

I’ve learned....That no matter how serious your life requires you to be, everyone needs a friend to act goofy with.

I’ve learnedThat sometimes all a person needs is a hand to hold and a heart to understand.

I’ve learned....That simple walks with my father around the block on summer nights when I was a child did wonders for me as an adult.

I’ve learned....That life is like a roll of toilet paper. The closer it gets to the end, the faster it goes.

I’ve learnedThat we should be glad that God doesn’t give us everything we ask for.

Bible Quiz Answers

1. C (Ruth 4:9-10)
2. B (Genesis 22:13)
3. D (Matthew 10:3)
4. A (Job 1:18-19)
5. B (Acts 7:54-60)
6. A (2 Samuel 1:25)

The Lutheran Church of the Resurrection

Calendar of Events

January, 2016

Week of January 3

- Sunday - 1/3 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
 10:00am. - Worship - The Festival of All Saints
- Thursday - 1/7 10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study – 1 Corinthians

Week of January 10

- Sunday - 1/10 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
 10:00am. - Worship
- Monday – 1/11 6:00pm. - Elders Meeting
 7:00pm. - Church Council Meeting
- Wednesday – 1/13 6:30pm. - Board for Missions Meeting
- Thursday - 1/14 10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study – 1 Corinthians

Week of January 17

- Sunday - 1/17 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
 10:00am. - Worship
- Monday - 1/18-22 Pastor Nielsen away at Symposium – Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Week of January 24

- Sunday - 1/24 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
 10:00am. - Worship
- Monday – 1/25 - 2/5 Deaconess Conover away at Intensive – Ft. Wayne, Ind.
- Thursday – 1/28 10:30am. - Mid-Week Bible Study - 1 Corinthians

Week of January 31

- Sunday - 1/31 8:45am. - Sunday School / Adult Bible Study
 10:00am. - Worship

Stewardship

January 2016

	<u>Jan. 3</u>	<u>Jan. 6</u>	<u>Jan. 10</u>	<u>Jan. 17</u>	<u>Jan. 24</u>	<u>Jan. 31</u>
Acolyte	Allison Farr	-----	Caden Fitzpatrick	Emmy Carlson	Mia Fitzpatrick	Allison Farr
Comm. Assistant	Glenn Carlson	-----	Mike Hein	Steve Love	Mark Larsen	Chris Batson
Ushers	Chris Batson & Steve Love	Mike Hein & John Ayotte	Moe Cote & Brad Grierson	Jacob Huesers & Bill Jahnke	Don Pryor & Seth Carlson	John Gould & Glenn Carlson, Jr.
Greeters	Brad & Joanna Grierson	John & Esther Gould	Peter & Lois Doran	Moe & Becky Cote	Brian & Andrea Watson	Mark & Lee Anne Larsen
Altar Care	Amanda Goldsmith	-----	Amy Ouellette	Kitty Carlson	Andrea Watson	Esther Gould
Flowers	OPEN	-----	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN
Fellowship	OPEN	-----	OPEN	Vesta Holt	OPEN	OPEN

*Lutheran Church of the Resurrection
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