

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

These are the days of Epiphany - a time when we reflect upon just who Jesus is and what we are called to be! At the beginning of the season, early in January we gathered at the river Jordan with Jesus and John the Baptist for our Lord's baptism and the voice spoke to him and spoke to us, "You are my Son, Jesus is God's own and guess what? We are his children through our baptisms called to follow Jesus in discipleship, faith and commitment. During this season of Epiphany, we here the voice of Jesus calling us to follow him, inviting us to invite others to also "come and see" what we have already seen and heard - The Good News that God's kingdom, his rule of love, forgiveness and healing come to us in the life, death, teachings and resurrection of Jesus, proclaimed and celebrated each Lord's day as we gather around Word and Sacrament, the bread broken and wine poured for the forgiveness of our sins and brokenness.

Soon we will do a little hiking with Jesus. A little mountain climbing at the Transfiguration along with Peter, James and John. Once again the voice will speak to us, "This is my beloved Son", but there will be more - "Listen to him"! Now here is the challenge. Will we listen to him? There are a lot of other voices in this here world that have a lot to say to us - take up our attention and call to us. So I implore all of us to "Listen to Jesus". He speaks to us every time we gather for worship.

On February 22, we observe Ash Wednesday. We come down off that mountain into the reality of Lent. It will give us a good opportunity for all of us to, "Listen to Jesus".

I look forward to greeting each and everyone of you at his Holy table.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always,

Pastor Klose

FEBRUARY 2012 ♦ Issue 1



Monday
February 20
Office and
Schools
Closed

GIVING 2011

The congregation was very "Giving" in the past months.

World Hunger Jar - \$4,002. Was sent to LUHI for Haiti Relief this past year. As you know, hunger is rampant throughout the world. Please keep giving.

Christmas Fair, 2011- The Fair Committee thanks all who participated, came and bought and all those who made the Fair and our Spring Plant Sale a great success. The proceeds were used to pay for the new lighting in the Parish hall (at a cost of \$5400.00), \$2000.00 was donated to the Organ Fund, \$2500.00 was used to purchase new office equipment and \$2800.00 was divided between the following missions: We were able to "Give" the following - Trinity Lower East Side - \$500.00, Koinonia - \$500.00, and Tanzania Church Building Project - \$500.00. Lutheran Community &

Family Services/New Life Center - \$500.00 and Wilbur Herrlich - \$500.00.

Fair funds raised by the ORLC crafters in past years have also been utilized to help maintain our church home. Some of these past projects we funded include: The replacement of the sidewalks surrounding our church. The repair of the church oil burner. The replacement of broken chairs & tables used in our parish hall & classrooms. We also contributed to the beautiful gardens and shrubs surrounding our church. Fair funds have been used to support our youth ministry, and the aforementioned Lutheran missions are contributed to annually. All these projects, and more, are made possible by the support and contributions of you, our parish family. For this we are very grateful. We hope to see you all again at our annual spring Mothers Day and Christmas fairs. Thank you again to all who have contributed in so many ways throughout the years to help support our church.



INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

On Sunday, January 15 we installed our
Council officers at the 9:30 AM service. Our
2012 officers are:

President:	Ann Dolega
Vice Pres:	Craig Aarseth
Sec/Treasurer:	Christine Jaeggli
Christian Growth:	Sheryl Palumbo
Evangelism:	Margaret Hennessy
Financial Management:	Janette Diehlmann
Pastoral Care:	Robert Kneer
Property:	William Diedrick
Stewardship:	Robin King
Youth:	Kim Albrecht

6th Grade Confirmation Retreat

Scheduled for Friday–Sunday,
April 27–April 29, 2012. Please
be sure to keep this date open. It
is very important that all 6th
grade students attend this
retreat! Sign up
on the bulletin board!
We'll have lots of fun!
Any questions, please speak to
Pastor Klose.

† FIRST COMMUNION †

If your child is in the 4th grade please sign
up on the bulletin board for First
Communion instruction. (If your child is
in a higher grade and has not made
his/her First Communion, please sign up
and let the office know.) All 4th grade
students have been sent a letter indicating
times and dates. If you have not received a
letter, please call the church office. Classes
are on Saturdays February 11, March 3, 10,
17,. And Friday, March 23 -- 7-10 pm.
First Communion will be on March 25th at
11:30 am.



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, February 22nd
7:00 am & 7:30 pm
Holy Communion
with Imposition of Ashes

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NEW ORGAN FUND

I/m/o DIANA SCHINDLER
Given by: Gloria Golden

I/m/o my friend, DENIS NELIGAN
Given by: Thomas Wieland

I/m/o WALTER YANNETT
Given by: Margaret & Thure Grannas
Doris Christiansen
Monday Night Crafters
Margaret Hennessy
Kaethe Schroeder & Family
Arline Wood
Eleanor & Charles Schmitt

I/m/o ANN & FRANK SEIDL and
EDMUND & MADELENE DOLEGA
Given by: Ann & James Dolega

I/m/o GERTRUDE MIRABILE and
GEORGE & JOAN BAUM
Given by: Tim & Sandy Baum

I/m/o JEAN CLAIRE DIEHLMANN
Given by: The Christiansen Family

I/m/o HORATIO PATTI
Given by: Doris Christiansen

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
Mr. & Mrs. Richard A. Meyer

Heidi S. Miller
Martin Begley & Louise Allen
Eric & Melanie Seger
Paul R. Schwan
Pastor & Karen Klose
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Buescher
Pat and Bill Diedrick
Margaret Hennessy
Marc and Bridget Karis
Charlotte vonGlahn
Brian & Debra Fick
The Albert King Family
Mark and Jodie Gil
Jeanne Lieberman
Carol and John Langton
Christmas Fair 2011

CHURCH AIR CONDITIONING
I/m/o MAX BRAMWELL
Given by: Monday Night Crafters

I/m/o JANET LANE
Given by: Margaret Hennessy

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
Theresa Lohmuller
Bob & Stella Strohle
The Golden Link

FUNERALS
JANUARY 6, 2012
May Reinhardt-Tietz
JANUARY 19, 2010
Martha A. Petricek

A regular meeting was held on January 12th and, despite there being a number of members who were unable to attend, there was a lot of pleasant lunchtime conversation and we enjoyed the homemade desserts brought by Jean Ott and Kay Baumann. Doris Christiansen was thanked for her usual super preparations for our Christmas luncheon and Pastor stopped by to visit for a while.

Then, being optimistic about not being snowed in, we decided to go ahead with plans to celebrate with a Valentine's luncheon in lieu of meeting in Room 4 in February. Dues collection was deferred and no projected activities were discussed. But, if you have ideas for activities that are suitable for the group, we would like to hear them.

Upcoming Activities

Thursday, February 9, 2011 at 12:30 p.m. Luncheon at the White Whale, 3580 Bayview Avenue, Seaford, NY. Cost is \$17 per person. Sign-up sheet is on the conference room door. Reservations and/or questions to Pat Ronga (516) 796-8331. We hope all will be able to attend.

The congregation is invited to join us for the luncheon and New members are always welcome



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year!! A great BIG thank you to all the children who participated in this year's Christmas Pageant. It was a great success and all the children worked very hard. If you were unable to attend, you missed our special guests; we had 2 goats and 2 donkeys. It really was a special addition to the pageant. Those of you who were there, I hope you agree with me the children were absolutely fantastic!! A big thank you to Eric Groepler who worked with the children every Sunday to learn their songs and his expertise on the guitar. Also, thank you to Leeann Diedrick, Charles Davis and Denise Groepler for all their extra time they put in to help make this pageant a success. Thank you to all the teachers for their support, Nick Groepler on the spot light, Laura Reiderer, Don Smith, and Heather Smith for all their help. Of course, without saying, Thank You to Pastor Klose, Bill Schmitt, Cindy Solliday, and Paul and Jim who set up the risers and props.

January and February are our quiet months. The children went to church to celebrate Epiphany. I believe they really enjoyed the service. Lenten season begins in March where activities will pick up again. Listed below are the Pretzel Sale Dates...notices will be going home a week before the pretzels are due. Please note there have been changes in dates for children to bring in their pretzels.

Pretzel Sale Dates	Grade
March 4, 2012	3 & 4 year olds & 4th Grade
March 11, 2012	1st & 5th Grade
March 18, 2012	Youth Group
March 25, 2012	Kindergarten & 3rd Grade
April 1, 2012	2nd & 6th Grade

As always, the funds raised through this program and the mission envelopes are donated to the Heifer Project who provide over 4 million people worldwide with income producing animals and seeds, and provide training in farming. We also donate to Lutheran World Relief. These are two very worthwhile programs. Let's make this year a huge success.

4th GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN: 1st Communion classes will be held on Saturday's at 10a.m., February 11, March 3, 10, 17 and Friday, March 23rd is the lock in from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. YOU MUST ATTEND THE 9:30 A.M. CHURCH SERVICES ON February 12, March 4, 11, and 18. THERE WILL BE A SIGN-IN SHEET IN THE NARTHEX THAT YOU MUST SIGN. IF YOU DO NOT SIGN IN YOU WILL BE MARKED ABSENT FROM SUNDAY SCHOOL. 1ST COMMUNION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY - MARCH 25th AT THE 11:30 SERVICE. - Reminder notices will be handed out. SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES ON PALM SUNDAY- APRIL 1ST

DATES TO REMEMBER:

FEB 5, 2012	SCOUT SUNDAY
FEB 19, 2012	NO SUNDAY SCHOOL/ <u>PANCAKE BREAKFAST</u>
FEB 22, 2012	ASH WEDNESDAY
MAR 4 - Apr 1	PRETZEL SALES
MAR 25, 2012	FIRST COMMUNION - 11:30 AM SERVICE
APR 1, 2012	PALM SUNDAY
APR 6, 2012	GOOD FRIDAY - 5:00 P.M. SERVICE
APR 7, 2012	EASTER EGG HUNT
APR 8, 2012	EASTER SUNDAY - NO SUNDAY SCHOOL
APR 27-29, 2012	6th GRADE CONFIRMATION RETREAT
MAY 20, 2012	9:30 RECOGNITION, CLASS PARTIES IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

Reminder notices will be sent home with your children. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to see me on Sunday mornings outside of Room 4, email rhsdfamily@aol.com or call (516) 752-9789.

Yours in Christ, Susan Smith

Day Care News Happy New Year!

I hope your holidays were joyous ones. Holidays at Day Care are always exciting. From the very little Infants' first glimpse of Santa to the Pre-K children's performance of the First Christmas, we are lucky enough to witness it all! Being around children adds wonder and awe to all of the holiday festivities.

At the beginning of the month we were treated to a Christmas Party by the School Board. The food and fellowship were good. Thanks to Cindy we had many trivia games to test our holiday knowledge. Pastor even treated us to his accordion music to accompany our singing of Christmas carols. Thank you to the School Board for an enjoyable night out.

During our monthly Chapel Time, Pastor told us about Advent and the coming of Baby Jesus. In the classrooms the children were busy making Christmas decorations, creating holiday gifts for their families, and practicing songs for their programs. Santa and Mrs. Claus paid us a visit. The children were excited to see them. Although some were not as eager to sit for a photo, they did manage to reach for a candy cane!

The Toddlers' Sing Along was a wonderful show. We were not so sure of what the end result would be after some of the practices we had; however, we were pleasantly surprised. The children, from eighteen months to three years of age, sat and sang for their families. We had no tears this year! Afterwards we enjoyed refreshments while watching a video of prior practices.

Our Pre-K Christmas Pageant was terrific. The children sang very loud, no need for any type of accompaniment! They were very excited to tell the story of the First Christmas to their families. I was so proud of them. Over Christmas break, I enjoyed spending time with my family.

In the new year Pastor taught us about Epiphany at Chapel time. Dr. Pinto visited us for Music Time where we learned about rhythm. The children have continued their alphabet studies. It's that time again! I am busy preparing for our license renewal, which expires the end of March. One after another inspection has to be completed, from the boiler to the Health Department. I will not rest until I have the new license in my hands!

Soon we will be watching the famous groundhog to see if we are going to have a winter this year (not that I am complaining, I must be getting old!) Then our favorite holiday, Valentine's Day!

Warm Regards,
Melissa