

First Lutheran – St. John Episcopal

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2016



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Prayer Ventures

These petitions – one for each day this week – are offered as a guide for your own prayer life as together we pray for the needs of the world and give thanks for the ministries of our church.

Sunday, January 17

We give thanks for the miraculous changes that transpire in us as a result of God's loving and merciful attentiveness.

Monday, January 18

On this Martin Luther King Jr. Day in particular, we remember all God's people who have been moved by their faith in God's love for all people to work against injustice and racism in the world, no matter the personal cost.

Tuesday, January 19

We remember in our prayers the network of Lay Schools for Ministry working creatively to equip and support lay leaders for ministry in their local communities and congregations.

Wednesday, January 20

For those who have no warm shelter from the cold of winter we pray for safe places to live, eat and sleep and that as faith communities we will work and advocate diligently to end homelessness.

Thursday, January 21

The heavens and all creation tell of God's glory and handiwork, and we ask the Holy Spirit to infuse our words and actions with appreciation for God's great blessings.

Friday, January 22

We give thanks in our prayers for the ELCA's work with Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to assist, stand with and advocate for the needs and concerns of migrants and refugees of all ages.

Saturday, January 23

The impact youth made in Detroit during the ELCA Youth Gathering continues to ripple through the city. We thank God for this special ministry, Detroit's gracious hospitality and the energetic faith and witness of youth.

Backpack Program



THANKS BE TO GOD!

We are only two weeks into this ministry and we are already getting such positive reports from the school – all the backpacks were returned on time and the children are so excited to receive them filled up with meals for their weekend!

For those of you who'd like to purchase items for our pantry, here are some suggestions:

Single serve **flip top** cans or plastic cups of carrots, green beans, applesauce, peaches; single serve packs of cheese or peanut butter crackers; bulk size of Honey Nut Cheerios or Apple Jacks (or similar cereal- we will bag to single serving). **MORE IDEAS NEXT WEEK.**

Annual Meeting Notice: Today, instead of our usual coffee hour, we will convene a business meeting of First Lutheran Church at the conclusion of the worship hour. We anticipate the only business being the continuation of the meeting to **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14 (FOLLOWING A POTLUCK)**. On February 14 we will accept the Annual Report of the congregation, elect council members and officers, and approve the operating budget for 2016. Please speak with Mary Lee Carlson, Council President, if you have any questions.



Call Process

The Transition Team submitted the Ministry Site Profile for First Lutheran Church on January 3, 2016. It has been reviewed by the bishop of Southwestern Washington Synod and approved for submission to the ELCA. A copy is posted on the bulletin board in the social hall.

Here are some highlights:

THE COMMUNITY CONTEXT:

CHARACTERISTICS OF COMMUNITY:

We are predominantly a low income community. The Hispanic and Asian populations have been increasing in recent years. Current employment includes: school, hospital, city and county jobs, some remaining timber and seafood industry jobs, retail sales and services. We enjoy outdoor recreational activities (birding, hiking, boating, clam digging), community theater, and hunting and fishing.

CHANGES IN LAST FIVE YEARS IN CONGREGATION:

1. Shared worship with an Episcopal congregation which sold its building.
2. Donation of use of church property for community garden.
3. Technological advancements in worship and administration.

CHANGES IN LAST FIVE YEARS IN COMMUNITY:

1. The legalization of recreational marijuana use.
2. Continuing loss of small businesses.
3. Continuing decline of timber industry.

TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK

On the calendar....

Birthdays

- January 18 Bob Udd
- January 22..... Ann Brown
- January 22..... Gabriel Tully

Are we missing your birthday or anniversary? Please let us know and we will update our directory.

AA Meetings Mondays and Fridays at 12 Noon

Diabetic Cooking Class Tuesday 10 AM - 2 PM

Maranatha Estudio de la Biblia Tuesdays 7 PM

Legacy Food Bank Open Wednesdays 2-5:30 PM

Talk about Variety!

Epiphanies don't just happen in church—a sudden insight can lead to a “Eureka!” in scientific experiments, an “Aha!” in a detective’s casework, a “Checkmate!” in a fierce chess game, and even a self-satisfied “Yes!” in Sudoku, crosswords, or finding a set of lost keys. So, too, epiphanies about the true nature of Christ come in a variety of words, actions, and places in our gospel readings during the Sundays after Epiphany.

First wise men from the east, then a dove from heaven and the voice of God, and now water into wine—all pointing to the glory and wonder of God-made-flesh. Just as we have been created and blessed with varieties of gifts, services, and activities, so too has God created and blessed us with varieties of epiphanies throughout human history. In our world that so often relies on an us-versus-them mentality, can we see the rich tapestry of differences as part of God’s glory? Will we be able to look past our traditions, our comfort zone, and our familiarities to see the glorious diversity of God’s revelation? Are we open to an epiphany in any form so that we can in fact “do whatever he tells you” (John 2:5)?

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Season of Epiphany Worship Schedule

**introducing a new “Glory to God”*

^introducing new communion liturgical music

<u>Date</u>	<u>Setting</u>	<u>Musician</u>	<u>Presider</u>	<u>Preacher</u>	<u>Weekly Team Leader</u>
1/17/16	Now the Feast*	Annette O.	Janeen S.	Patricia N.	Kitty Turner
1/24/16	Now the Feast^	Annette O.	Janeen S.	Janeen S.	Patricia Neve
1/31/16	Now the Feast^	Annette O.	Janeen S.	Janeen S.	5 th week – volunteer?
2/7/16	Episcopal/on organ	Mary Lee C.	Gretchen G.	Gretchen G.	Andy Carlson

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 10. We will inform you on midweek service times and the schedule as they develop.