



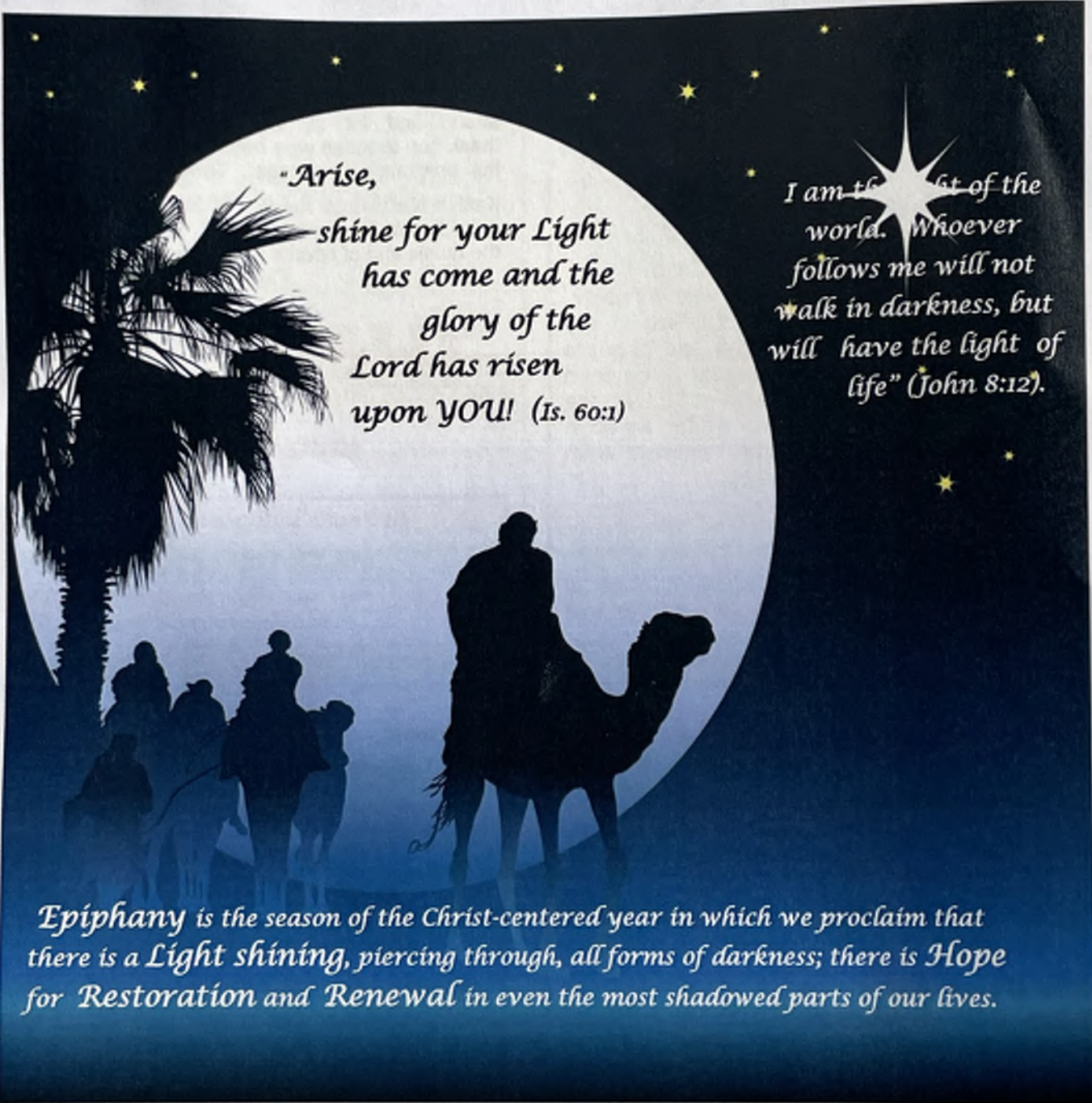
The Communicant

St Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



3328 William Penn Ave Johnstown, PA 15909 | 814-322-1307 | January 2024

*The season of Epiphany
The Festival of Lights*



*"Arise,
shine for your Light
has come and the
glory of the
Lord has risen
upon YOU! (Is. 60:1)*

*I am the Light of the
world. Whoever
follows me will not
walk in darkness, but
will have the light of
life" (John 8:12).*

Epiphany is the season of the Christ-centered year in which we proclaim that there is a Light shining, piercing through, all forms of darkness; there is Hope for Restoration and Renewal in even the most shadowed parts of our lives.

PRESCHOOL

If you were hanging around the church on **January 3rd** you would have heard laughter and squeals of delight coming from behind the building. Yes, Preschool was back in session and we took advantage of the of the weekend snowfall! We were sled riding down the hill behind Luther Hall!

It's just the right size for 3 and 4 year olds. They had a wonderful time flying down the hill on saucers and sleds! It was a wonderful start to the new year!



Inside the Preschool room we have some new projects going on along with our regular learning of letters and numbers. There is now a Veterinarian's Office in the Preschool playroom. The boys and girls are bringing their sick stuffed animals to be seen and checked out by the miniature vets. So far, we have saved several animals from serious illness!



Future Veterinarian

Maybe we will hear more about how they are helping the sick animals.

And on that note... maybe a group of folks could organize a **Sunday Sled Party** for the youth and have a hot chocolate bar and cookies.... Anyone up for helping?



Could make for a good time in February.

Hmmmmmm.. Call it a

Hot Chocolate and Sledding Fellowship Festival... and melt marshmallow peep snowman in the cocoa ...
CAN WE PULL THIS TOGETHER...??
CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS..

children's program



Our Children's Christmas Program was "off the charts." We thank everyone who was able to attend and for all the support! A special thank you to those who helped the children bring the program center stage! They include:

Kaitlyn Kieta, Sue Kauffman, Sheena Vorhauer, and Glenna Ditchcreek, Thank you to Vivian for the music and of course all the participants.

THANK YOU

St Paul's Lutheran Church

814-322-1307 (office)



Email:

stpaulsmc@atlanticbbn.net

www.stpaulsevluth-mc.com

Worship Services:

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Forum 10:30 a.m.

JANUARY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS, 2024

GREETERS FOR THE MONTH

Carol Fox

LECTORS

- 7 - Ellen Grace Vorhauer
- 14 - Carol Fox
- 21 - Virginia Ankeny
- 28 - Deb Deetscreek

ACOLYTES

- 7 - Hailey Faight
- 14 - Larkyn Gustkey
- 21 - Leah Rainey
- 28 - Kathleen Hodge

ALTAR GUILD

Jim and Donna Amigh & Ellie Neff

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Ellen Grace Vorhauer

FEBRUARY WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS, 2024

GREETERS FOR THE MONTH

Debbie Deetscreek

LECTORS

- 4 - John Gustkey
- 11 - Jessica Hodge
- 18 - Ellen Grace Vorhauer
- 25 - Carol Fox

ACOLYTES

- 4 - Larkyn Gustkey
- 11 - Justen Vorhauer
- 18 - Leah Rainey
- 25 - Hailey Faight

ALTAR GUILD

Sue Kauffman and Sheena Vorhauer

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Dave Shoemaker



**"BY GOD'S GRACE WE GROW
IN FAITH, and SHARE JESUS
CHRIST, AND SERVE ONE
ANOTHER IN LOVE!"**

**Weekly Worship and
Lectionary Bible Study**

Baptism of Our Lord
January 3, 2024

9:30 a.m. Bible Study
January 6, 2024

5:30 p.m. Holy Communion Worship (cancelled)
January 7, 2024

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

Second Sunday after Epiphany
January 10, 2024

9:30 a.m. Bible Study
January 13, 2024

Rev. Kevin Shock
5:30 p.m. Holy Communion Worship
January 14, 2024

Rev. Kevin Shock
9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

Third Sunday after Epiphany
January 17, 2024

9:30 a.m. Bible Study
January 20, 2024

Vicar Claudia Plows
5:30 p.m. Worship Service
January 21, 2024
(looking for someone)
9:00 a.m. Worship Service
10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 24, 2024

9:30 a.m. Bible Study
January 27, 2024

Gary Mickle
5:30 p.m. Holy Communion Worship
January 28, 2024
Gary Mickle
9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship
10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum
11:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal

Think about signing up to help with the church services, or other capacities that you think you might be able to serve. Many opportunities to help.. More about that next month.

January "2024" Birthday Blessings



*May God bless you and may the love
you have for each other keep growing
with time.*

01/14 Stephen & Susan Kauffman

01/27 Rolland & Amanda Toth

Happy Anniversary

Epiphany

The word epiphany has a variety of meanings intimately related to one another. Epiphany means the shining of a light, a shining forth, a manifestation, an appearance, or a revelation.

The Festival of the Epiphany apparently had its origin in the east at the beginning of the third century. By the end of the third century, January 6 had become the accepted date for the celebration of the festival. At that time, Epiphany Day commemorated the birth of Jesus, His Baptism, and His first miracle at Cana in Galilee. At the outset, it was a splendid, multifaceted commemoration.

In the middle of the fourth century, the Western Church moved the celebration of Christmas as the birthday of Jesus to December 25. Therefore, the Epiphany festival took on new meaning for the western, and many eastern, churches. In the west, the visit of the Wise Men came to have the position of prominence on Epiphany day, and, in time, other events of the day were assigned to the Sundays of the Epiphany season.

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

(from Rev. Stephen Preus.) * Luther's use of the Transfiguration to teach the hope we have in the resurrection of the body is truly wonderful, for when you hear the vivid picture of *

how Jesus' "face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light" (Matthew 17:2),

Luther's treatment of the Transfiguration finally focuses on the Holy Trinity. "The whole, holy Trinity appears here to strengthen the believers; namely, Christ in his transfigured form, the Father in the voice, and the Holy Ghost in the bright cloud. "In your baptized life you are learning more and more who your Triune God is, how He works for your good, three Persons in one divine unity.



The red triangle exhibits where we are on the Liturgical Calendar.

January Highlights

Epiphany

The Baptism of our Lord

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany

The Transfiguration of Our Lord

Food Pantry News











Food packing at the Pantry will take place on January 24, 2024 and the distribution will take place on January 27, 2024 at the new facility at St. Vianney.

Lots more coming next month.. All GREAT things... good news to keep the winter doldrums away.... Be Safe and Stay Warm

January

"The month of Gratefulness"

2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Carry with you this month an attitude of gratitude!</p>	<p>1 A New Year ---Make it Exciting.. It is what you make it...</p>	<p>2 Thank someone who has recently helped you and thank them!</p>	<p>3 </p>	<p>4 Start your day with a prayer of thanks!</p>	<p>5 Spend every day listening to some of your favorite music!</p>	<p>6 Be thankful for a positive change in your life.</p>
<p>7 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum 11:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>8 Good Coffee and Prayer - A good way to start the week</p>	<p>9 </p>	<p>10 Thank a friend for listening.</p>	<p>11 </p>	<p>12 Try to visit someone who needs company.</p>	<p>13 5:30 p.m. Holy Communion Worship</p>
<p>14 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum 11:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>15 </p>	<p>16 Reflect on the positive things in your life.</p>	<p>17 </p>	<p>18 The weekend is near, plan to help someone!</p>	<p>19 Send a card and write about something fun.</p>	<p>20 5:30 p.m. Worship Service</p>
<p>21 9:00 a.m. Worship Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum 11:00 Choir Practice</p>	<p>22 Think of how you can help in the Church this year...</p>	<p>23 </p>	<p>24 Think of a day to declutter or clean something out - donate</p>	<p>25  Get outside for a walk in the sunshine</p>	<p>26 Think about that potential sled party for the youth in February.</p>	<p>27 5:30 p.m. Holy Communion Worship</p>
<p>28 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School/Adult Forum</p>	<p>29 Thank you God for my feet on the floor and ready to face another day with your</p>	<p>30 Off to February... and on to new things...</p>	<p>31 </p>	<p>"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name." (Psalm 100:4)</p>		