

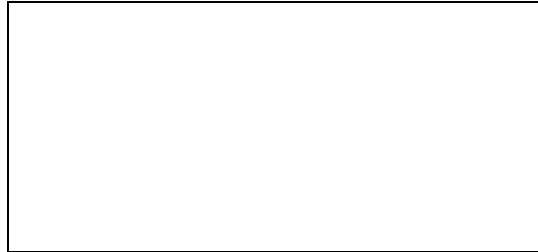
FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

6567 Glades Pike

Somerset, PA 15501

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faith@faithlutheransomerset.org



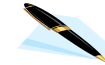
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Faith's Blessings



6567 Glades Pike Somerset, PA 15501 • (O) 814-443-3179 (H) 701-2444

FROM THE PASTOR....



JANUARY 2013

As we begin January, we are still celebrating the Christmas Season, which began on December 25 and ends twelve days later on January 5. Christmas ends with the beginning of the Epiphany Season on January 6, which marks the arrival of the Wise Men. (Epiphany Day happens to fall on a Sunday this year, so we will hear this part of the story in church.)

Our "big picture" of the Christmas story includes pieces of both Matthew and Luke, including the story of the Wise Men. Our understanding of the Christmas story, however, is often influenced by many sources other than Scripture. As we grow up, we learn the Christmas story from "manger scenes," Christmas cards and carols, Christmas plays, and more. That means that we can sometimes be surprised when we discover that the story does not quite run the way we pictured it! For example, the Wise Men were not three Kings, and they did not visit the baby Jesus at the manger, but probably in a house. (How many? Check it out in Matthew 2!) And they did not arrive just twelve days after his birth! More likely, it took them as much as two years to find the child. (Remember how Herod sent men to Bethlehem to kill all the baby boys two years and younger? The age of the children was based on the Wise Men's report about when the star appeared in the East.)

The Epiphany Season is a season of light and revelation. We continue to learn who and what Jesus was born to be and to do. We learn, beginning with the arrival of the **non-Jewish** Wise Men, that Jesus was much more than just a "Jewish Messiah." Jesus came for all of us, to bring us back into relationship with the God who loves and cares for us.

The season includes a remembrance of Jesus' baptism. Jesus' participation in John's baptism of repentance uncovers how fully Jesus identified so fully with us. When we meet Jesus at the wedding in Cana, his miracle of changing a **lot** of water into wine uncovers connections with the Old Testament. Amos predicted that when the Messiah comes, the hills will drip with wine. (Amos 9:13) In the Transfiguration, an encounter with Moses and Elijah will uncover Jesus' purpose and destiny.

Join us at worship this Epiphany, as we let the light shine through to enrich our understanding of Jesus. May you grow in faith as you see Him more clearly!

Your partner in Christ's service,
Pastor Ardelle



FAITH NEWS . . .

BAPTISM:

Charley James Weiss, son of Jay & Arica Weiss, December 9, 2012

BIRTHS:

Clare Elaine Walker, daughter of Mollie and William Walker, born November 22, 2012.

Lakin Friedline, daughter of Mark and Susan Friedline, born December 17, 2012.

NEW MEMBER:

Michelle Mason Custer
406 Bunker Hill Road
Central City, PA 15926
Phone: 814-754-4437

ASSOCIATE MEMBER:

Chad Delancey
1522 Coleman Station Road
Friedens, PA 15541
Phone: 445-5968

A special thank you to the **SUPER STARS** who faithfully every month put the newsletter together. Your help is very much appreciated. If you would like to help out, please call the church office.

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace;
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.

O divine master, grant that I may not so much
Seek to be consoled as to console;
To be understood as to understand;
To be loved as to love.

For it is in giving that we receive;
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned;
It is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi

UPCOMING EVENTS

JANUARY 1	Office closed	
JANUARY 6, 13	Bible Study	ATTEND
JANUARY 7	Committee Night	ATTEND
JANUARY 10	Council Meeting	ATTEND
JANUARY 14	WELCA	ATTEND



BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Jacqueline Kimmel, 1/4 | Jordan Palumbo, 1/17 |
| Matthew Rody, 1/5 | Randall Zerfoss, 1/17 |
| David Delancey, 1/7 | Alexis Trevarrow, 1/18 |
| George Lensbouer, Jr. 1/7 | Janet Anderson, 1/18 |
| Natalie Custer, 1/8 | Rebecca Nist, 1/21 |
| Tanner Friedline, 1/8 | Ardelle Mason, 1/23 |
| Brenda Shaffer, 1/9 | Sean Raupach, 1/25 |
| JoAnn Snyder, 1/10 | Maxwell Trevarrow, 1/25 |
| Mark Trimpey, 1/10 | Austin Latuch, 1/25 |
| Douglas Custer, 1/12 | Brock Bowers, 1/26 |
| Kristen Dill, 1/13 | Marc Fochtman, 1/27 |
| Irma Walker, 1/14 | David Custer, 1/28 |
| Jody Berkebile, 1/14 | James Long, 1/28 |
| Shelby Ream, 1/15 | Beverly Thompson, 1/30 |
| Betty Simmons, 1/15 | Kaden Klotz, 1/30 |
| Jay Weiss, Jr., 1/16 | Elias Tweardy, 1/30 |

ANNIVERSARIES

- Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Walker, 1/6
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Shaffer, 1/8
Mr. & Mrs. Wendell Heil, 1/9
Mr. & Mrs. James Ream, 17
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Simmons, 1/17
Mr. & Mrs. David Walker, 1/17
Mr. & Mrs. Karl Landis, 1/24
Mr. & Mrs. Fred Rhoads, 1/25



SECOND OFFERING: MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA

Our Second Offering in January will support a Mission Trip to Guatemala. Jane Ohler and David Pugh will be participating in the trip. The trip is through Orphan Resources International. Jane and David will leave July 14th and return July 27th.

The first week will be spent working at the orphanage putting a second story room above the kitchen. Small groups will deliver food to other orphanages. Downtime is used just to give children some love and attention that they are very much lacking due to the number of children in the orphanages.

David and Jane have already covered the cost and paid for airline tickets (\$1380). The cost for the week at the orphanage is \$750 each, to cover transportation costs from the airport and to and from the hotel and orphanage every day, as well as hotel cost, breakfast and supper daily. Participants cover lunch. Fundraisers are expected to cover as much of the \$750 per person as possible. At last count there were 19 people going. Money raised above that will buy additional supplies and food for the orphanage and clothing and shoes for the children.

David and Jane will stay the second week in Antigua with over half the group to see some of the country for just \$750 each, an opportunity they may never get again. (They will cover this cost.)

David and Jane will be allowed 1/2 of a suitcase for 2 weeks, the other half will be used to take supplies for the children to avoid additional shipping costs. They will take as much as possible.

David and Jane very much look forward to the opportunity to serve those less fortunate and to try and make a difference for the beautiful children at these orphanages. Those children are special in God's eyes.

Whatever support the church wishes to provide will be greatly appreciated and with God's help, the group can make a difference.

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask David and Jane. If they don't have answers, they will find them.

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council met on November 8, 2012 with 12 member present. Jeanetta Shaffer led opening devotions.

The minutes from the October meeting were reviewed and approved. This was followed by a review of the Treasurers report; this was also motioned, 2nd, and approved. Last the Pastors report was reviewed. It was brought to everyone's attention that the insurance company will handle the copyright infringement going forward. Council person in charge was asked to instruct the ushers to move forward as soon as the acolyte is up front to get offering started, and to wait until the anthem is over before taking the offering forward. A motion was then made, 2nd and approved.

Committee Reports

Finance: Tally sheet was reviewed.

Social: Octoberfest was held on Saturday evening Oct 20th; there was a nice crowd in attendance. On Dec 2 we will have a covered dish dinner (soup is not excluded) at 5pm, with worship to follow at 6pm.

Worship: All Saints Day will be on November 4th, November the 11th will be a healing service. November 18th the ladies of WELCA will have their Thank Offering service and on November the 25th we will celebrate Christ the King Sunday. Advent evening services will use "Flames for the Faithful". Congregational meeting will be on December 9th. Chrismon service will be December 30th.

Education: All classes are going well. The joint closing is going to be revisited (should it be every week). Pastor George would like to meet with the 18 to 30 year olds on Sunday mornings. We discussed the possibility during Lent of explaining the different parts of the service and what they mean.

Property: The lights in the parking lot are not working. We discussed mounting lights on the bell tower to illuminate the parking lots. Getting the church roof painted will be part of the Congregational meeting in December. We will also raise the question of whether we should we paint the interior of the sanctuary. The back screen door at the parsonage needs to be replaced, along with some shingles. (Dave Walker, Richard Walker and David Pyle will take care of this.) The exterior threshold in the fellowship hall is loose. Decision was made to replace the water fountain at a cost of approximately \$450.00. With the winter snow approaching we will ask the men that do the plowing please stay away from the gazebo.



JANUARY 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Office Closed 	2 Choir, 7:30 pm	3	4	5
6 <i>Epiphany of our Lord</i> Bible Study, 7 pm	7 Committee Night, 7:30 pm	8	9 Adult Bell, 7 pm; Choir, 7:30 pm	10 Council Meeting, 7 pm	11	12
13 <i>Baptism of our Lord</i> 2nd Offering Sunday Bible Study, 7 pm	14 WELCA, 7 pm	15	16 Royal Ringers, 7 pm; Choir, 7:30 pm	17	18	19
20 <i>2nd Sunday after Epiphany</i> February Newsletter Deadline	21	22	23 Adult Bell, 7 pm; Choir, 7:30 pm	24	25	26
27 <i>3rd Sunday After Epiphany</i>	28	29	30 Choir, 7:30 pm	31	2nd OFFERING SUNDAY IS FOR GUATEMALA MISSION TRIP	

"18 to 30 Somethings"

On January 6 at 10:30 AM, folks between the ages of 18 and 30+ are invited to meet with Pastor George for reflections on faith and life. This initial meeting will be during the Sunday School hour simply for the convenience of having as Sunday School class for your kids and the possibility of a nursery for younger children. (You need to call Pr. George to arrange for care of children under about 3 years of age, so that we will have an appropriate number of caregivers on hand.)

This group will determine whether they want future meetings, and what time and structure will best meet their needs. Possibilities include everything from discussions on how faith helps us in our daily life to financial guidance to parenting classes, to singles, couples or family events or outings.

ANNUAL MEETING ACTION

On December 9, 2012, we elected five new members to serve on Council. Congratulations, and thank you for your willingness to serve! We welcome David Pugh, Ryan Maust, Carl Schrock, Katey Rose and Brittany Will. Brittany will serve the remainder of Mike Sulkowski's term. We adopted a total budget as presented by Council in the December newsletter of \$173,320.88. We also approved the bid for painting a portion of the roof.



Thank you to Richard Walker, Shirley Weimer, Tomalee Will and Dennis Young for your years of service on Council.

COUNCIL MINUTES (Cont'd from page 3)

Youth: Not much going on.

Old Business:

Ken Will repaired the office door. Insurance Company does not want the damaged filing cabinet back. We are still using WPIA's router. Concerning the budget, the Housing Equity line either needs to be removed or broken down. The line for Support needs to be broken down to include the Social committee as separate. It was decided to have a separate meeting to have the financial consultants from Somerset Trust and First National Bank give us ideas on ways to invest the monies repaid from the Sequanota loan. (This was from the Boyd bequest.) This meeting will be held on November 20th.

New Business:

We've had a membership request from Michelle Mason Custer, this was accepted. A request was made for a \$20.00 donation from Camp Sequanota; it was voted to donate \$100.00 instead. Our contract with the Organ Company won't cover major repairs; we will need to have an estimate for the necessary repairs. We are still looking for nominee's to fill the 4 2013 vacancies. Dave Pugh has agreed to be a nominee. Jane Ohler and Dave Pugh will be going on a mission trip in July of 2013 to Antigua and have asked if we would designate a Second Sunday offering to help with their work at the orphanage there. Council chose January in answer to their request. Due to the devastation of Hurricane Sandy it was suggested that our congregation donate cleaning supplies to help with the clean up. The Pastor's discretionary fund is down to \$100.00. We decided to transfer \$1000.00 from the General checking account.

Good of the Order

Next meeting will be held on December 13th with Steve Will having devotions. Motion made to adjourn 2nd & carried. Meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Submitted by: Sandy Pyle/ Secretary

**FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
2012 TREASURER'S REPORT**

	Nov.	2012 Totals	Previous Month
INCOME			
Current	8,515.43	110,563.33	11,147.77
Benevolence	457.00	5,685.00	527.00
Missionary Support	295.00	2,640.00	227.00
Building/Maint.	641.00	8,260.00	750.50
Misc. In/Out	882.08	57,796.21	3,368.77
TOTAL INCOME	10,790.51	184,944.54	16,021.04
EXPENSES			
Total Ministries	276.08	6,241.57	9,550.00
<u>Operating</u>	902.27	15,690.55	20,000.00
<u>Payroll</u>			
Total Payroll	8,840.71	95,129.99	106,476.88
<u>Outreach</u>			
Benevolence	470.00	6,682.50	10,000.00
World Hunger	0.00	510.00	0.00
Missionary Support	190.00	2,968.00	2,000.00
2nd Offering	0.00	2,172.50	0.00
Other	1,123.82	5,477.57	2,850.00
Food Pantry	0.00	529.00	0.00
Chamber Dues	0.00	0.00	150.00
Total Outreach	1,783.82	18,339.57	15,000.00
<u>Maintenance</u>	1,470.30	15,340.60	19,000.00
<u>Misc. In/Out</u>	1,300.45	26,806.35	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	14,573.63	177,548.63	170,026.88
ASSETS			
General Checking			\$47,227.88
Computer Lab			\$50.00
Camp Sequanota Loan			\$0.00
Savings (Emergency Fund)			\$337.49
Savings (Pastors Disc. Fund)			\$1,100.00
CD (1% 19 month)			\$7,350.30
Memorial Funds			\$10,365.81
Camp Scholarship			\$8,610.38

***Sneak Preview
Narrative Communion
February 17***

On February 17, our order of worship will include a "Narrative Communion." That means that instead of a typical sermon, we will explain the how and why of each part of our worship. Why do we do a confession? Why do we collect an offering every week? (Hint: It is a lot *more* than just a way to help the church's "bottom line"!!) What is "The Great Thanksgiving," and where does it come from?

The "Narrative" part of "Narrative Communion" means that explanations will be woven into the worship itself. We will explain what an invocation and confession is about, and then we will do them. We will talk about the lessons and where they come from, and then we will read them. We will talk about the purpose of the sermon, but by that point we will be half way through with the "sermon" for that day. The day's worship will alternate in this way until we finally hear the dismissal.

The intent is that we will go away with an increased apprecia-

tion for worship and an understanding of why some of us insist on coming back every week for more! Liturgical worship is so much more than just "ancient tradition." It gives form and substance to our conversation with our Lord. The more we know about it, the more meaningful it can become for us.

SOME NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS WORTH KEEPING

During the new year:
 I resolve to put Christ before my church and my church before my club.
 I resolve to put the spiritual before the material and the eternal before the temporal.
 I resolve to put God's Word before men's opinions.
 I resolve to put Christ before the Creed.
 I resolve to put prayer before pleasure.
 I resolve to put the Savior before the teacher. I resolve to walk more by faith and trust and less by sight and reason.
 I resolve to live in order to give rather than to get.
 I resolve to strive to be good rather than great.
 I resolve to put more of God and less of myself in my work.

IN MINISTRY IN JANUARY

We thank the following people for their ministry this month:



JANUARY 6

Donna & Jackie Rhoads
 Darren Walker
 Cody Lenart, Katelynn Swank, Joe Swank, Jacob Sheeler, Annalina Brant
 Chris Brant Family
 Kristin Brant—Isa. 60: 1-6, Ps. 72: 1-7, 10-14, Eph. 3: 1-12
 Chloe & Corey Miller
 Chloe Miller

JANUARY 13

Tomalee Will & Ruth Williams
 Brenda Maust
 Brock Bowers, Chris Miller, Corey Miller, Billy Bowers, Tony Latuch
 Clair Weyant Family
 Tom Hill—Isa. 43: 1-7, Ps. 29, Acts 8: 14-17
 Joseph & Katelynn Swank
 Katelynn Swank

JANUARY 20

Donna & Jackie Rhoads
 Katey Rose
 Jacob Sheeler
 Doug Sheeler Family
 Dave Walker—Isa. 62: 1-5, Ps. 36: 5-10, 1 Cor. 12: 1-11
 Travis & Zachary Fike
 Travis Fike

JANUARY 27

Tomalee Will & Ruth Williams
 David Pugh
 Jacob Maust
 Brian Weyant Family
 Arica Weiss—Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, Ps. 19, 1 Cor. 12: 12-31a
 Annalina & Will Brant
 Will Brant

Altar Guild
 Assisting Minister
 Acolytes

 Greeters
 Reader
 Collect Com Cups
 Distribute Bulletins
 Council Person

Altar Guild
 Assisting Minister
 Acolytes

 Greeters
 Reader
 Collect Com Cups
 Distribute Bulletins

Altar Guild
 Assisting Minister
 Acolyte
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