

Parish Newsletter

January 2022



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

It is still Advent as I am writing this. The newsletter deadline is December 21, 2021, the shortest day of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. The winter Solstice - December 21st, 2021. We fly through the Christmas season with 12 days, the shortest season of the church year. Some folks are ready to put away Christmas 1 day after Christmas, maybe return some presents on December 26th, start a diet to shed those added pounds from holiday treats and maybe even ponder their list of New Year Resolutions. Advent, Christmas, then Epiphany.

January 6th, the day of Epiphany jumps us half way into the church year which is made up of six seasons in contrast to our 4 equal Calendar Year seasons of Winter, Spring, Summer and Autumn. Our third church season of Epiphany is called the Season of Light, the time in Christ's life and ministry before the cross.

December 22nd starts the lengthening of sunlight to our part of the world. Each day a little longer, each night a little shorter.

The six church year seasons are not equal in length. Each of the six tell their part of our faith story. Advent - a world in waiting, expectant for a savior, a messiah. Christmas - a nano second season of Joy. Of Emmanuel, God's Savior come as a vulnerable babe born. Epiphany means to manifest or appear. We speed walk through 30 years from the Christ child born in Bethlehem to Jesus the God/Man calling disciples and preaching, healing, and teaching, this year spanning all the way through the month of February.

Epiphany - THE appearance of the Son of God - Jesus...God in flesh made Manifest. A short, short span of ministry years for him but the manifestation of God's amazing grace for all time and all folks.

Are there some chapters in your life that feel like a blink of an eye...maybe some days that drag on forever?

Praying for some lightness? Needing some regularity after the ever changing (yet still) of routines post-covid?

As the sunlight increases each day, I challenge you and me to increase our commitment to the Light that we are given through reading scripture. We are in Year C - The Year of Luke started with the beginning of Advent in November.

The Sunday Gospel texts will not always be from Luke for every Sunday but Luke it is until next Advent. In this new year of 2022, in the first month of the year may you find light for any dark days and peace when routine is erratic. For the short and the long of it all.

In the light of the season,
God's grace upon Grace to you,
Pastor Deb

Many thanks from Luther and I and our kids, Kirsten and Linden for the lovely gifts and greetings this Christmas.

P.S. If you would like a pastoral visit whether in the hospital or at home please let me know. My email address is deb.stave@gmail.com and my cell phone is currently 701/550-9830, please leave a voicemail or text if you don't get an answer. There is a message machine at Bethany. There is not a message machine at Mayville U.C.C.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR JANUARY 2022

- January 2nd - Second Sunday after Christmas
 - Jer. 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20, Eph. 1:3-14, John 1:10-18
- January 9th - Baptism of Our Lord
 - Isa. 43:1-7, Psalm 29, Acts 8:14-17; Luke 3:15-17,-21-22
- January 16th - Second Sunday after Epiphany
 - Isa. 62:1-5; Ps. 36:5-10; 1 Cor. 12:1-11, John 2:1-11
- January 23rd - Third Sunday after Epiphany
 - Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 ; Ps. 19; 1 Cor.. 12:12-31a, Luke 4:14-21
- January 30th - Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
 - Jeremiah 1:4-10, Ps. 71:1-6, 1 Cor. 13:1-13, Luke 4:21-30

NEWSLETTER

Newsletter items can be sent to Tracy Foss at Tracy.L.Foss@gmail.com Newsletter deadline is the Tuesday before the last Sunday of the month. February newsletter deadline is 2-51-2022.

Mayville Congregational-UCC News

ANNUAL MEETING

Mayville Congregation – UCC's annual meeting will be held January 30th, 2022.

STONE SOUP POSTPONED

Please note that Stone Soup is postponed in light of the uptick of Covid numbers in our counties. Watch for updates.

Bethany News.

JANUARY READERS

- January 2 – No Church
- January 16 – Linda Stromstad
- January 30 – Karen Osland
- January 9 – Justin Foss
- January 23 – Joel Foss

JANUARY USHERS

- Ray and Lorrie Aamold, and Richard Moen

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

On December 12, the Sunday School students presented "Have We Got News for You!" They captured the attention of everyone there with their words and song. We were also entertained with lovely solos played on the flute and piano. Thank you to all the students, teachers, and music specialist for the inspirational production! It was enjoyed by all.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/NOISY OFFERING

The Sunday School students will be collecting noisy offering once a month. In January it will be January 16th.

BETHANY CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Dates – Jan. 12th, Jan. 19th, and Jan. 26th: 3:45pm-5:00pm. In case of snow days, class will be cancelled as well.

BETHANY CIRCLE/WELCA

Bethany Circle/WELCA will meet Wednesday, January 12 at 2:00 pm at the church.

THANK YOU FROM WELCA

Thank you to everyone for the generous donations to our Thank Offering. The collection totaled \$472.52. A special thank you to the Sunday school kids for collecting the offering. Your help made the occasion very entertaining and much more enjoyable!

THE WELCA would also like to thank the Bethany congregation for the awesome number of items donated to the Hatton Helping Hands Food Pantry. The total was well over 500 items which meant we met the Thrivent "Give Thanks and Give Back" challenge. Because we met the challenge, the Hatton Helping Hands Food Pantry was given \$1,000 from Thrivent Financial. Great work, Bethany; because of you there will be less hunger.

WELCA QUILT DONATIONS

The WELCA gave out a total of 31 quilts in December. They were given to CVIC, Prairie Harvest, Northland Mission, Traill County Social Services, Churches United, and MayPort Food Pantry.

MUCH SUCCESS WITH WELCA LEFSE/FLAT BREAD SALE AND BAKE SALE

The women spent many hours baking in December. Much time was spent baking lefse and flat bread at the church. These were hours filled with hard work, but also enjoyment and fun. There were also hours spent baking Christmas goodies at home. These were sold at a bake sale at the Winter Fest Sale in Mayville. Thank you Bethany ladies, for your time and effort. The amount brought in by these projects was substantial and gets us off to a great start in the New Year.

BETHANY COUNCIL

The Bethany Council met Wednesday, December 15th. A new downstairs speaker has been installed. We will be looking for someone to mow the church and cemetery next year. We will be giving a contribution to the Hatton Community Center as a Thank You for the use of the building for Confirmation. A reminder request will put in the newsletter for those that want to change the way they receive the newsletter.

MOWERS NEEDED

The Bethany Church Council and Bethany Cemetery Board are looking for someone to mow next year. If you are interested in applying for this mowing position, please contact a council member.

REQUEST

If you would like to update the way you receive the newsletter, or if you are a member of another church and you no longer wish to receive the newsletter, please contact a church council member or Tracy Foss. Your options for receiving the newsletter are: e-mail, hard copy through the mail, or read it on the website.

USED T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS

Linda Stromstad knows of an outlet for used sweatshirts and t-shirts. They are used in making diapers and sent to orphanages overseas. They use all sizes in any condition. If you have any you would like to donate, please deliver them to Linda.

YARN DONATIONS

If anyone has yarn, any type, that you want to get rid of, bring it to church, we will send it to the EaNSWO convention in September, and from there it goes to prisons of ND, where they knit things to give or send away.

QUILTING REQUEST

The quilters are asking for donations of new or gently used pillowcases. They will be used to “package” the quilts before they are given away.

WEB PAGE

Check out our new web page: BethanyRuralHatton.com If you have anything you would like to put on the website contact Mark.

SUNDAY OFFERING

During this time of the pandemic, if you will not be attending worship service in person, you can send your offering directly to Richard Moen at 15159 14th St NE, Mayville, ND 58257.

BULLETIN

Bulletin announcements can be sent to Lorrie Aamold Loaamold@hotmail.com or by leaving a message at 543-3806. Deadline for the bulletin is Thursdays.

BETHANY NEWS

News items can be sent to Charlotte Lee at Charlottelee7@icloud.com or Tracy Foss at Tracy.L.Foss@gmail.com Newsletter deadline is the Tuesday before the last Sunday of the month. February newsletter deadline is 1-25-2022..