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Greetings from Forest Lutheran, our newsletter for these two months is just a little shorter than usual, but we are busier than ever. I'm still enjoying my decorations as I write this, though when I shopped today, I found the sale racks decimated, and no more Christmas music playing. The rest of the world is getting ready for the next holiday, I know we at Forest are planning ahead also, but isn't it nice to keep our focus on the Christ child a little longer?

Sometimes we forget that the Christmas season lasts twelve days. I took this excerpt from the Lutheran Witness: "The days after Christmas can easily get lost and end up being a letdown after the crowds and enthusiasm of Christmas Eve. Christmas is all about the gift of Jesus Christ, and the 12 days following Christmas all us to honor and remember people and events who significantly impacted the body of Christ. Such as: St. Stephen on Dec. 26th, St. John on Dec. 27th, all the children two years and younger who were murdered by King Herod (but Jesus escaped to Egypt) on Dec. 28th, King David on Dec. 29th, January 1 marks the circumcision and naming of Jesus, and of course January 6th begins Epiphany. There is much to be remembered and much for which to praise God during these 12 days of Christmas."

As we begin 2017, may we be bold in our witness as we serve those around us telling everyone what God has done for us. And making sure that they see the love that we have for the Lord, maybe they will want that too, and may the Holy Spirit open their hearts.

A blessed new year to all, faithfully yours, Joanne

What is "The Epiphany of Our Lord"?

The word "epiphany (pronounced ee-PIF-uh-nee) comes from the Greek word meaning "manifestation." Jesus was made known to all people simply by being born. If we had been alive back then, we could have actually reached out and touched Jesus! He was real, and the evidence was in His birth!

Why do we celebrate it?

Epiphany is the third part of the Christmas season. During this special season in the Church Year, we remember the visit of the Wise Men. Traditionally, this visit is celebrated on January 6. Epiphany also brings to mind many other important events in Jesus' life. For example, we remember Jesus' Baptism, the star that guided the Wise Men, and most importantly, His birth! Wow! There sure is a lot happening after Christmas!

From LCMS, Kids in the Divine Service



An Invitation to Mid-Week Bible Study From John, Our Evangelism Chairman ...

We all believe, trust and have faith in God. We claim Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. We read and study the Bible and believe it is the true, accurate, reliable word of God. Maybe!

Have you ever read the whole Bible? Or have you tried and found it too hard to understand, too complicated, felt it didn't make sense, that there were too many contradictions, and besides there are too many versions and they are all the opinions of different people?

We invite you to attend our new Bible Study series every Tuesday morning from 10:30-11:30 AM beginning January 3, 2017 and we will answer your questions and eliminate the confusion. The topic of study will be an overview of the Bible beginning with a 3-part video series entitled "The Incomparable Book." This will address such questions as:

- * Is the Bible really the Word of God?
- * Can the Bible be trusted?
- * Is the Bible accurate and not just a bunch of stories?
- * Why are there so many different versions?
- * Is all the Bible literally true or are only parts of it true?

Beginning January 24th, we will start with a study series entitled "the Master Plan" which considers the Bible from Genesis through Revelation and answers the following questions:

- * What is the Bible, and what's it all about?
- * What's the difference between the Old and New Testaments?
- * What's the difference between the Major and Minor prophets?
- * What is the Torah or the Pentateuch?
- * Why are there four Gospels?
- * What is a Gospel?
- * Is book of Revelation really about the end of the world?
- * Why is there so much violence in the Bible if God is all about love?



This study is open to anyone, new to the Bible or the Christian faith, or someone well versed in its content. It's open to members and friends of Forest Lutheran or members of the greater community. It's best to attend regularly, but anyone is welcome. It will take place in our fellowship hall.



Many thanks to all who attended and participated in our Christmas Carol Sing-along! Next year we hope to have a bigger crowd, we enjoyed Bob, who played the saxophone, many who sang in groups or solo-ed.

Thank you!

Check out our calendars so you won't forget our Free Community meals on Jan. 21st and Feb. 18th and our Vendor Yard and Bake Sales on January 14th and February 11th

And of course of Ice Cream Socials every Friday from 2-4 p.m.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

January 2017



1

Holy Communion
Pot Luck Lunch

2

3 Bible Class
10:30 am



4

Quilting 10 am

5

Ladies Meeting 9am

6 *Epiphany*

Ice Cream &
Socialize 2-4 pm

7

8

Birthday Cake
Sunday

9

10

Bible Class
10:30 am

11

12

13

Ice Cream &
Socialize 2-4 pm

14



Vendor Yard & Bake
Sale

15

16

17

Bible Class
10:30 am

18

Quilting 10 am

19

20

Ice Cream &
Socialize 2-4 pm

21

Community Meal
3-4:30 pm

22

23

24

Bible Class
10:30 am

25

26

27

Ice Cream &
Socialize 2-4 pm

28

LWML Prayer
Service

29

30



31

Bible Class
10:30 am



EVERY SUNDAY: SUNDAY SCHOOL & ADULT BIBLE CLASS 9:30 AM + WORSHIP SERVICE @ 10:30 AM

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

February 2017

"Jesus said, 'Love each other as I have loved you.'" John 15:12



1

Quilting 10 am

Ladies Meeting

3

Ice Cream & Socialize 2-4 pm

4

5

Holy Communion
Pot Luck Lunch

6

7

Bible Class
10:30 am

8

9

10

Ice Cream & Socialize 2-4 pm

11

Vendor
Yard & Bake Sale
LWML Meeting



12

Birthday Cake
Sunday

13

14

Bible Class
10:30 am



15

Quilting 10 am

16

17

Ice Cream & Socialize 2-4 pm

18

Community Meal
3-4:30 pm

19

20

21

Bible Class
10:30 am

22

23

24

Ice Cream & Socialize 2-4 pm

25

26

27

28

Bible Class
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