

## The Shepherd

A publication of James Lutheran Church

INVITING ALL TO LIVE IN GOD'S  
GRACE

Education Hour 9:30

Worship Service 10:30  
PO Box 191  
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JANUARY 2017

From Our Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

"And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth." At Christmas, we celebrate literally Christ's mass (the old English origin of our word, Christmas). The word "mass" itself is an older word for worship in word and sacrament. Christ's mass is Christ's offering himself, God offering God's self to the world. Christmas is the beginning of a journey, God's own journey of giving to us, of opening a way

of mercy, of immeasurable goodness. Yet, we do not always welcome this generosity. Christ's journey that begins in the manger ends on the cross. May we enter this New Year with awareness that the word became a human being and that Christ is present, born over and over again in the lives of our neighbor and within us.

Grace and Peace,  
P. Scott

Dear St. James Family,

Thank you from Sandy and I for the generous gift we received Christmas Eve.

Also thanks to those who sent cards and other tokens. We continue to give thanks to God for His blessing us with being a part of this worshipping community.

P. Scott and Sandy

Reminder of Faith Class beginning January 22 at 6pm meeting at Fellowship Hall.

Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest is excited to be coming to St. James Lutheran of Harper for a round table discussion on planned giving. Anna Livingston will be here on February 19, 2017, to talk about options and possibilities for the future in this place of Christian ministry.

## **Church Council Highlights**

### **Minutes**

The window blinds have been installed in the Fellowship Hall. A big thank you to Bill and Pam Ransleben for doing that job.

The annual congregation meeting is scheduled for January 22 immediately following the worship service.

Pastor Scott will start an Adult Affirmation of Faith class on January 22 and each 4th Sunday thereafter till September. The class will start at 6:00 p.m. and go no later than 7:30. Topics covered will be The Book of Concord, The Small Catechism and a few of Luther's writings.

The council approved the bid from Church Mutual Insurance for our coverage of the church property for 2017.

The council determined that a new roof is needed on the church building and are getting estimates for same.

There will be a potluck meal on January 29 immediately following the worship service.

The January special offering will again benefit Richard and Shirlene Cowie

## **STEWARDSHIP**

### **General Fund**

Nov 2016

#### **Income**

CURRENT OFFERING 7,145.52

EDUCATION INCOME 11.40

MISSION SUPPORT(BENEVOLEN...  
350.00

Total Income 7,506.92

Gross Profit 7,506.92

#### **Expense**

AQUA WATER 49.49

BUSINESS MANAGER 480.00

CHURCH SUPPLIES 152.75

CUSTODIAN 273.58

MISSION SUPPORT (ELCA) 140.00

Office Expense 72.94

ORGANIST 93.48

PASTORS SALARY 3,763.00

PASTORS PENSION 568.59

PASTORS MEDICAL 230.00

Payroll Expenses 87.99

SECRETARIAL SERVICES 303.19

SUPPLIES & MISC. 33.58  
TELEPHONE & FAX 100.03  
Total Expense 6,348.62  
Net Income 1,158.30

### **Building Fund**

Nov 2016  
Income  
MEMORIA... 820.00  
OFFERING 330.00  
Total Income 1,150.00  
Gross Profit 1,150.00  
Expense  
REPAIRS 3,475.68  
Total Expense 3,475.68  
Net Income -2,325.68

### **Designated Fund**

Nov 2016  
Income  
Disaster Relief Hurricane M... 92.00  
Interest Inc 0.34  
Total Income 92.34

Gross Profit 92.34  
Expense 0.00  
Net Income 92.34

### **MEMORIALS**

Memorials for Mike Lerp  
M/M Danny Meyer  
Memorials for Cynthia Kuhlmann  
M/M Bill Dendy  
Karen Immel  
Alice Lerp  
M/M DuWayne Pfeffer  
Gayle Reed  
M/M Danny Meyer  
Janice Spaeth

### **WORSHIP ASSISTANTS**

Council:  
Lay reader: : Nancy Evertson  
Communion Assistant: Eileen Meyer  
Greeters: Jennifer & Reagan Michel  
Alter Guild: Fran Dendy

## **FLOWERS**

### JANUARY

1 Danny & Eileen Meyer

8 Nancy Evertson

15 Mike and Marie Zenner

22 Bill & Pam Ransleben

20 Doris Heuerman

## **ACOLYTES**

1 Kelan Bode

8 Cooper Lewis

15 Whitney Spaeth

22 Colby Brewer

29 Tate Lovell

## **Recent Visitors to St James**

Bill & Sharon Burt Fort Worth

Lorna Donague & Husband Kaufman

Hardin Rahe San Marcos

Scott, Nicole & Emily Vasquez Harper

Beth McMahan Harper

Allen & Julie Tatsch Harper

Ned & Debbie Lea Mt Home

Ike & Mat Parsons Harper

Mr Garza and daughter Harper

Stormy & Annette Maner Harper

Buddy & Jo Ann Spaeth Harper

All are pleased to have so many family members here for our great services around Christmas.

## **BIRTHDAYS**

5 Perry Wanner

6 Livvy Wilke

6 Elva Wilson

7 Justin Marschall

8 Myron Schneider

9 Mike Wallace

11 Ursula Harper

11 Bill Dendy

14 Dan Leyendecker

14 Elvira Bratcher

18 Nicole Gabriel

18 Vickie Honig Ahrens

22 Opal Harper

23 Nicole Gabriel

25 James Wienecke

26 Sandy Ridgell

30 Cliff Staudt

30 James Wienecke

30 Stephen Krupicka

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

13 Ron & Sally Kettler

16 Reagan & Jennifer Michel

### **WELCA NEWS FOR JANUARY 2017**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

The next meeting for the Sarah Circle will be on Wednesday, 18 January 2017 at 2:00 PM. All women of the church are encouraged to attend our bible study. Visitors are especially welcomed to participate in our in-depth bible study. Pastor Scot Hofmann presents our study, taken from the Gather Magazine. After the study, the WELCA will conduct the monthly business meeting. It is not necessary for study attendees to stay for the WELCA meeting.

Hope to see you there!

### **THANKS**

A special thanks to all members of our German choir who performed at the Christmas Eve service. This helps preserve the German tradition in St James.

My appreciation  
Ursula Harper