

# January 2025 Newsletter



## Scripture of the month:

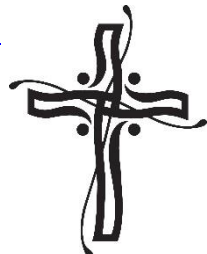
"If any of you lack wisdom, you should pray to God, who will give it to you; because God gives generously and graciously to all."

-James 1:5

## Door of Faith

"...they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles." Acts 14:27

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"What the new year brings to you will depend a great deal on what you bring to the new year."  
-Vern McLellan



The passion of Faith Lutheran Church is to carry out the will of Jesus by being exceptionally caring servants.

# A Few Words...from Pastor

-Rev. Adam Reichart-

December contains the season of Advent in the Church calendar. Advent season emphasizes preparation. Preparation for the arrival/advent of our Lord. We celebrate His coming to us in two ways: in one we meditate on His humble arrival as a babe in a manger – our incarnate God who becomes sin for us; and in the second way, we wait in anticipation of His coming again in all His glory to judge both the living and the dead. It is a joyous time, for as Christians, we long for the presence of our Lord and God. We pray with the same longing as did Job, “I know that my Redeemer lives...and in my flesh I will see God, not as a stranger...”

Just as He has longed to gather us as a hen does her young under her wing, His sheep long to be gathered and protectively surrounded with all that He is. St. John reminds us who God is; He is love. Therefore, we long to be enveloped in His love. Well, what is His love and where is it exemplified? Or, better yet, Who is the embodiment of His love?

Jesus.

The very nature of true love and therefore of God Himself is made known to us in who Jesus is and in the why and the how He arrives. He comes to save, to deliver, to redeem, to gather, to not just heal but fully restore, to renew and re-create, to forgive and sanctify, to defeat death and also secure eternal life. This (all that He is) He gives to those who believe in Him.

And now as we move into a new year of celebration we pause at the beginning of January on the 6<sup>th</sup> (which is the twelfth day of Christmas) and receive a wonderful revelation, an eye opening enlightenment, for it is this day that the Magi arrive at the house which Mary, Joseph, and little Jesus occupy after the initial barn/stable lodgings. The Magi are not Jewish, they are Gentile believers. And the beautiful epiphany witnessed is that their gifts are acceptable to the King of kings for He has arrived for them as well.

We Gentiles can now also proclaim that we know our Redeemer lives and that His birth, death, and resurrection were accomplished for us, and that in our flesh we too will see God, not as strangers – but as members of His holy family.

Praise be to Jesus who comes to us as a babe in a lowly manger, not as a stranger, but as our Redeemer who gives of His very flesh and blood for the life of the world. He fulfills our longing and grants us forgiveness for our sins.

**Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel!**

Your fellow servant under Jesus' shed blood,  
**Pastor Adam Reichart**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Be in God's Word this month.
  - Sunday after worship, we have Bible study over Revelations.
  - Monday at 1:00, we have Bible study over Joseph.
  - Thursday at 8:45 we have Bible study over the Apostles Creed.
- Make it your New Year's resolution to attend a Bible study. The three we offer are above.
- Board of Education will meet January 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00.
- There will be a joint meeting with Calvary this month. We will communicate when we figure out the exact date and time for that.
- The January cleaning schedule is as follows:

January 5<sup>th</sup> – Dean and Marybeth Horton

January 12<sup>th</sup> – Chris Owens

January 19<sup>th</sup> – Ray Owens

January 26<sup>th</sup> – Dee Schwinn

# Happy New Year!!